

July 26th - '30

And here I am, Laurie Dear, sweating
& cussing at Baillie, who has not yet
showed up! Found a p.c. saying he was
returning on the 23rd. Called up his mother
yesterday morning. She said he'd not be
back until this morning - & it's now 3.30
P.M. & not a jingle of the telephone
except two wrong numbers & Mary McNeill,
who'd like to borrow a book!

Not that I'd care particularly about
working in this weather, nor that I haven't
enough work right here at home to keep
me busy for a fortnight - but damn it
all - I might be with you still!

Didn't even get in my lick with the
osteopath Thursday evening, 'cause my
extra fare train was exactly one hour
late. I go out to him tomorrow morning instead.

The journey wasn't entirely unbearable,
though St Louis was pretty bad. I had a
bath in the station, though, & that helped.

Mrs Ransom says it was much better the first of this week than it is now, so I'd better be thankful I missed that. She seems delighted with her bracelet. I'm glad I got it.

I have seen Bosley, & he has seen the rough drawing of the cross. Thinks it most beautiful, & is sure the pink Kasota will be just the stone for it. Now the question will be one of price, for he says it must be cut out of one piece, if it is to last. I feared as much. That will of course mean a larger stone & much more cutting. Monday morning I shall get a big sheet of architect's drawing paper & make a full-size drawing for him. He feels, as do I, that the only place we could put ~~The~~ Solly's name & dates would be around the stone at the base. The proportion & spacing of the other lettering is too perfect to tamper with. We shall work out the lowest possible estimate to submit to Mrs Curtis, but I fear the thing will cost between 6 & 7 hundred. Do you think they can manage that? It will be a thing of beauty, & a joy forever.

I'm finishing up the little relief of Mrs.

What is Mrs. Curtis' address, & her husband's initials?

Blake's baby, & am to go out to Myack next Thursday to see them all, (dear people!) & get their respective family crests for possible use on the border of the little plaque.

Last night Mary McK. & I went apresing, & saw "Lysistrata": a delicious B.C. farce. Did us both good.

So much for my news - if any.

And I haven't yet said a word, Laurie dear, about what the past six weeks have meant to me. Of all, your goodness & sweetness, and your Dad's heart-warming cordiality, & Bet's generous friendliness & solicitude - what a brick she is! I long the thought of it all, & the realization of your home & surroundings & friends. How lovely everyone was to me! Can't get over it.

I am constantly thinking of poor Alice Craig. Do, do write me as soon as you can how she came out of the operation. If only it will make her well & strong again. She looked so pitifully wretched. Give her my love & admiration when you next see her.

How is Bets coming out with her insurance?
There's another thing I'll want to know about.
And has "Frederics" yet shown you any samples
of his black-letter Uss.? That was a great
one to pull on him. I'm so glad you did it!
How did the pictures of me turn out? Am
keen to see proofs.

My kid has arrived - safely, I think, though
I've not yet unpacked it. Will rip it open
tonight after the sun goes down. It's the
right life for me, all right, just now! I think
I'll get Bashy to carry on the casting job
from where I left off. Won't he cuss my
piece-mold, though?

I must write Shirley & Dad. Alas! My
air-mail to the Leviathan didn't catch
the boat. Found it back here awaiting
me. So I must write again, pronto.

Please tell Miss Aelberhard that the Cross
Word Book saved my life & reason on the
train. I finished the last one as we steamed
into Newark. Bless her!

And a shower of blessings on you, Darling,
for giving me such a glowing happy month.
I did, & do, appreciate it so much.
all love - Brendie