

[October:] 1953

Lemon Grove, Calif.

My dear Laura:—

my long sickness explains the frailty I endure and the reason of my dropping the matter of my mother's lovely picture. Since I write with difficulty & have no all-day nurse to help, I shall need but 50 prints of the little picture.

I hope enclosed sketch will be sufficient for a proof which I hope too you can mail me soon?

Do not have the customary "Post Card" printing for I need the space for a Xmas message — a card is needed to take ink (on both sides) perfectly

I am so proud of the picture I sent you that I have hesitated about the p.e. size lest the picture will lose its distinction, or seem crowded? Could the size be slightly diminished without a loss of character in the detail?

Please send proof — perhaps of two
sizes ^{like} the original and your judgment
on the other? I would gladly pay more
and have it worthy of the subject.
also I wish to give you all the
benefit of space needed. I appreciate
your exquisite photography and very
likely this may be my last Christmas
Cards — the writing that has always
been a joy is now a burden.

Let me quote two scraps of refreshing
Literary sources: —

Christopher Fry : — "I live alone, preferring a
comfortable loneliness to the
suffocation of an aunt."

Wm. Butler Gates : —

"The Land of heart's desire —
The land where even the old are fair;
and even the wise, are merry of tongue"

Sincerely

Frederick Alexander