

3816 West Biddison  
Fort Worth, Texas 76109  
November 30, 1966

Our beloved Nell,

I am determined to get a word to you before the surgery tomorrow (nothing grave, just the same old thing) which will put me out of commission for a few days...to thank you for the newspaper clippings about your gift of the woods, hills and brooks to those boys and all the youngster of the future who will attend the school. What a magnificent gift to young people ~~who~~ grow, alas, in society's and economics' demands away from the natural too early.

These have been frightfully busy days. I always feel better about a week before surgery and there has been so much to do. I have worked steadily on the rewrite of my book and on dry-mounting the many photos that have to be sent to Europe - mine and Gregory's for the photo stories that are being carried on Maritain now and Gregory's for a French natural history magazine (his macro work with butterflies, insects, etc.) I will welcome the quieter days of recuperation from this next surgery.

Penn and his wife are in Boston today for a couple of appearances. We expect them back here on Friday, I believe.

All for the moment. Our great love to you and Chris,

*John*