

October 19, 1968

Dearest Nell,

I wonder if you can know how much you are in our house. Mandy constantly carries one or the other of the books you have sent the children, and she either looks at them alone or snags one of us to sit down and go through them with her. This morning, she staggered out of bed, still sleepy and when I found her, she was standing beside Susan's bed, holding her blanket and going through the book you sent about animals and their babies. She will not let that book you sent Gregory, Nature's Paradise, out of her sight and she has learned the names of all the animals depicted. It is marvelous to see her learn, to see her fascination with these photographs. So your gifts have provided an extraordinary wealth of experience for her. She is just simply never without one or the other of these books.

I have been bed-ridden for a week with pneumonia but am getting over it now, though the doctor makes me stay in bed still for a couple more days. I regret it because I have so much work stacked up to do, but in a way it is pleasant since the medication he gives me makes me sleep a great deal.

I am enclosing a little article that appeared in this issue of U.S. Catholic & Jubilee. Krebs did a good job in quoting accurately. I did not even know it had appeared until I got a letter from the Pres. of the American Philosophical Association, jubilant about my remarks about Maritain. Then within a couple of days the copies of the magazines arrived from the publishers.

All for the moment. Our great love to you, dear Nell; and our deep gratitude for your friendship.

John