

St Anne's College  
Maritzburg Natal  
March 5th/95

My dearest Mater & Chick

I am glad the letters turned up that you thought were lost,  
I knew I had never missed a mail so I knew they would  
come unless at the bottom of the briny.

What do you think of this for eras? They troubled Minnie  
Strachan's brother one night until there was hardly  
anything left of him, then he slept. Awaking in the  
morning he found his feet on his pillow & his head where

his feet should have been, he cannot account for it in any

way except that the eras pushed him round. Minnie wrote

to ask him to inspan some & send them here it will be nice  
to go for a drive sometimes.

We had visitors on Saturday. It was altogether a surprise.

Susan came to me in the afternoon &

said "the Mr Mackenzies". I found Tom & Mr Alec in the drawing room. They had to come in on business & had come up to see us with Gerty Pascoe. Was it not nice of them. I made some tea & gave them a little symposium as I was preparing it outside I could not but think I was Martha "cumbered with much serving"& that the others who remained to talk had chosen "the better part."

They were driving so they were not splashed, they looked very well indeed. It was very nice seeing them. Tom told us Jack was to leave on the following Tuesday & that he was coming in with him so we reminded him that it was a promise that Jack would come to say "goodbye" On Tuesday afternoon directly after dinner we made preparations for a symposium in the Hunts' sitting room - the drawing room was sure to be full of visitors for L.

Warden. First I had a surprise: Just as I was changing my dress that I might be decent Grace & Gerty came into my room. It was such a surprise

seeing Grace we had not known that she was coming in. A few minutes later Mr Jack came & he was taken down to the Hunts' room whither we followed. Then Mrs Sutton came & said she had walked boldly past the drawing room that she might come & join us. Finally dear old Tom came looking as sweet as you make them. We teased them & caked them & talked to them.

I have been doing some business later.

Mr Alec & Mr Harry had their photographs taken about a month or two ago - but I did not like to ask for them - however - Mrs Hunt & Lance expected to be going home & I had said that if I were leaving I should insist on having all the Mackenzies' photographs - so Mrs Hunt said as she was going (only for 6 months) she ought to have them & on Saturday she probed Mr Alec then proffered her request - it being granted or rather promised - I said I

thought as a relation (Aunt) I had a prior claim - and I was

promised too. We mean to attack Mr Harry on the first

opportunity. Then I

told Tom he ought to be taken & Mr Jack too before he left.

Well yesterday (to'day is Wednesday) when Mr Jack came he had a certain look on his face that I knew came from being either at a photographer's or a dentist's & I teased him with having been to Sherwood - he pretended he had not for a time but hnally he confessed - & I believe I am to have a copy - when Tom came he had the same look - he confessed too - and I am to have a copy. So I shall be able

to let you see what they are like someday. I know you will

be charmed & fascinated. They stayed yesterday until Tom

declared Mrs Mackenzie would think them lost & even when we had all said "goodbye" Mr Jack lingered so long that Tom presented him to the Lady Warden as a free gift for St Anne's & went off with Grace pretending he could not wait for Jack - however, Jack followed then.

He said he should be away 4 years. He has a medicine chest filled with fever remedies & he declares it is not the fever season - but if he has fever down here what will he

have

in a fever country exposed to all weathers.

How very nice for Flo to have won another medal. She had one before had she not? I hope her work will be well received at Kensington. If she goes on she will be able to have a necklet soon made of gold medals.

Did you & Flo go to see Mrs Teddy? You said in one letter you were going but you never mentioned having been - if you did what is she like now? What is he like?

I think I told you that Miss Stoward was to sing on Saturday last at the Orchestral & Choral Concert. Well she took the people by storm. They roared & yelled, encored & applauded to the skies & now the notices that appear in the papers are most complementary. Liken her voice to a "golden clarion", say she is the star of the colony etc. etc. I hope it may be a good thing for St Anne's & lead to more pupils. Really everybody was enraptured. I did not go to the concert but nearly every body from here went even Miss Heaton who has never been known to go out in term time before except to church or to a missionary meeting.

On Monday evening I had a letter from Mrs Leuchars she said that her husband had just gone into the cottage (a 3 roomed cottage in their garden used as bachelors' quarters always & containing Mr Leuchars private room) to write to me.

I was astonished rather & thought it a joke especially as there was no letter from him & I thought I would send a postcard asking where the letter had gone - still I never expected one. However about an hour later the L. Warden came to me with apologies & another letter she had thought was meant for herself. It was a letter from Mr

Leuchars. He said he had to address his constituents on

Saturday & he thought I would give him a few hints from my

original brain but he hoped I would stick to the truth. He also asked for definite knowledge of the points we wished to be brought before the government.

I at once wrote a list of things we want - & I made a noble offer I said I would go to Bracken & take care of it & Mrs

Leuchars & address

his constituents if he would come here & take my girls for the month & give my promised lecture to the Guild.

I am so glad to be able to say they are coming into town for 2 months but unfortunately the house they have taken is a very long way down Loop Street quite 2 miles away from St Anne's - fortunately the cooler weather will be coming on. What do you think Miss Heaton suggest? You would never guess, it is altogether beyond the realms of probability at present. It is that I should follow her example & take 6 month's holiday. It could not be until next July twelve month, which is nearly a year & a half from now - so there is no need for me to hurry about

packing. I simply said I could not do it. She held out hopes

that the College might pay a part of the expenses,

however there is plenty of time yet before thinking of it, at present it is not at all possible & I should never have thought of proposing it. - We shall see what we shall see. What if our ship came in & got over the mud banks in the

harbour!

Thursday I have had a farewell letter from Mrs Rorke she and her husband are off. She told me a school in Pretoria needs a Head Mistress & told me to apply. I do not know whether I shall - it is under Bp Bouslaeld & he is not at all nice - he has a bad character rather - the school has 150 day pupils & 6 boarders. I never thought of applying but L Warden says perhaps I ought to inquire - if it were a good

screw of course I ought to take it - but it is nearly a week's

journey from here - it would mean no Cramond holidays in

future & only strangers up there because Peggy will not be there for 3 years - if she were there it would be different. I called on Mrs Paton this afternoon, I had not seen her since I left Riet Vlei. Frances Frampton is staying with her. With much love. Your loving

Mary Moore