

Washington Monday  
27 Sep '58

Dearest Mary

Yes indeed I was surprised & delighted to receive your nice long extra letter of Friday, which however did not reach me till Saturday afternoon, as we remained all day, as is the Presidents custom in the Country. These little extra morsels only serve to whet my appetite, darling, for more but still I shall never ask or urge it as your good kind Mother seems to have a reasonable prejudice – it seems reasonable to her – against it.

I went around this morning to see your Mother. She looked weary with watching but was nevertheless in good spirits & as your grandmother was improving we had quite a gay little chat – particularly the part about a certain ancient ‘lawyer’ and a fair ‘ladye’. It must have been ever so funny Maimie! I could not help thinking of it this morning, for among other things I received a note from the Sec of State asking an audience from the President for the Austrian Minister to deliver an autograph letter from the Emperor. Poor old man – I guess he went about it in a much more diplomatic way than a certain young gentleman that you know of!

I was introduced to your Uncle Peter’s wife this morning –

I have not yet had time to see either Dan or the girls – I do not feel easy in leaving the office during business hours & as we are still in the Country I do not have the evenings. I shall try to see them tomorrow however. I think we will move in the city on the end of this or the beginning of next week.

I had an extra letter to day from friend Scharff today that he had followed my advice & extricated himself from the blues. He is not troubled by the fear I spoke of – I am heartily glad for the poor boy was very miserable – He was too impatient & did not wish to give her time to think & accustom her mind to what the French call envisager her new relation.

I hope you are very well, my darling girl – for I am in a good condition & hope to remain so until the return of warm weather.

Maimie, I do hope you will come down this winter & go out a little – I think it will be good for you & I long to see you again, as when you first beamed as a blessing on my eyes. I am glad, dearest, this little picture pleases you. I little thought when I painted it nearly 4 years ago – what its history would be.

What clearing cool weather we have. I enjoy it so much\_

God bless you sweet one

Your ever devoted & loving

JBH

mss1996\_388\_A-B\_1858\_JBH\_to\_Mary\_Hagner\_Nicholson



LancasterHistory