

Nancy to Helen
Graves



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P

Keep -
the Peace Celebrations
in London
for little Britain

Queen Anne's Mansions

St James Park. 16th July 1919?

My dearest Grammy

I will just tell you things as they have been happening. Lieut Hutchings came to see me last week you know who I mean he is the one Mr Paves spoke of in her letter & he also wrote that letter to Major Manning.

He is a very nice boy & most interesting and was out there with the 33rd in March, he said what an impossible job it was & how wonderful all the men were & how proud the Ball was of Jack, when one hears it described one wonders how the attack was ever carried in the face of such odds.

I have all the things here now & have been through them & everything is correct except the gold locket & chain that he always wore, it seems such a nice thing to steal a thing like that, & I wanted Bess to have it, if he had so.

There are letters in yours & kids hand writing which I am returning & some photos but practically no personal things that you might like dear there seems to be nothing but clothes.

The Paris time has been very wonderful yesterday was the first day + coming back in London at 6 pm we happened to pass Buckingham Palace & found a huge crowd waiting for the King to come out on the balcony all the Royal family come out & received a great welcome.

I had a victory dinner that night & I dined with the Purves at her club & then took her to the Military tournament at Olympia - things were very quiet but town was very excited when the others were flags are everywhere - after had gone to France the day before so had all the Paris celebrations which I mean were wonderful.

on Sunday I went out to see my old headmaster & I had came too - took Bus - after dinner he & I went for a walk - after waiting 1 1/2 hrs outside the Palace with a big crowd saw the King & Queen so it was worth while.

Last Friday we had a car - left early after lunch & took the Purves & Adam to Henley had such a nice time having late afternoon tea by the river & getting

back here for 10pm Supper a picnic in the flat.
 Yesterday we spent the morning trying to see a
 procession of all the London territorial -
 they marched past the Palace where the King
 took the salute & then down to St Pauls.
 we were nearly killed by squashing in the
 crowd - had to get out as we could not
 see & then made friends with a little lad
 & his small son & we all went by underground
 to the mansion & managed to find a stair
 so we saw beautifully.

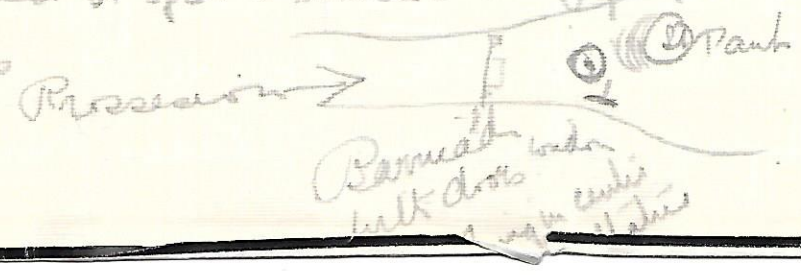
Yest. aft. we went to Richmond horse show
 just for an hour I took Baby knowing he would
 love the horses we had to stand on the lawn
 & that meant holding him - he got so excited
 & loved it & then he squeezed he was to the front
 where they were sitting & passed through an
 officer who was sitting in the front seat took
 him on his knee & was awfully nice to him.
 Burns comments were too funny for words.
 He came to me the other day with a book in his
 hand saying when my glasses mummy when by glass

So I took him quite seriously & handed him mine & he
 sat down with the book on his knees & tried to
 keep them on his ~~table~~ & look at the books
 & often hear him speak of Granny & Auntie Nell
 when he is making up a story & wants to say that
 people were there you are always in it its lovely
 to think he doesnt forget

He has got his knife in an important man who
 sits at a table not far from ours & Baby keeps
 saying important like that but me Mummy why
 that man got ugly face - most upsetting

Today we had a wonderful morning Bow
 came at 9.30 & left Baby with Ade & we
 went to St Pauls to try & see the procession to
 Church well we got there after & found
 the street was barricaded with a door to hold
 the crowd we go inside that & there were thousands
 & no chance of getting into St Pauls we stood on the
 pavement I held dear it & the I told Bow & Mamma
 to wait till I tried to get a window - by good luck
 got 3 standing places

where I have marked
 windows & we saw
 wonderfully



The crowd was immense the steps were piled with young sailor boys on each side of the main entrance & there were many on the outside there was the Guards band at the foot of the stairs & people everywhere we had a wonderful time

at 10.30 the Lord Mayor drove through from the Mansion House to meet the King at the City gate & present a wonderful sword the all the time Carriages & motor cars were driving up with important people and at 5 to 11 the Royalties came in Carriages the King & Queen & Prince Albert Prince of Wales & Prince May - & members of the household - the Queen Mother

went in at 10.45. The clergy were in the most beautiful robes & they received the Royalties at the door & then the crowd moved up & absolutely filled the whole place it was a sea of faces we sang a hymn & had a fine service & the presentation of the sword was wonderful to see the King & Queen & all the people when that was over

After that we sat down on our benches & it was a very fine service & we had a very good time

bananas - we were in a fruit shop. at 11-45 the
crowd was pressed back to the pathwaage
& then they began to faint, & at 12. they all
came out & the R & Q stood on the steps while
we were singing God save the King & the Archbishop
blessed the people & then they cheered.
The carriage came up & they all drove
right past us. I have never seen such a light
in my life and I don't suppose I ever shall again.
we go to Edinburgh in August & have secured rooms at
the Com. cut so shall see more of Phyllis, & hope
to get a good deal of golf.

At the present moment I have strained my foot, its
not painful - the cause being too high a heel -
I had to walk the other night quite a long way.
The shoes are not at all suitable - later.

9th July.

tomorrow I am having a little party to Olympia
Mr Purves & her Mrs & Brian are coming also
Pete & Maria & Fred I do hope the show is good.
The price of clothes is awful I have just ordered a
coat & skirt very plain for the winter at Braaley
who used to make for 8 qm. & have to pay 25 qms

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Please excuse change of paper. My temporary nurse is here aged 60 I should say but quite nice to Baby. He took to her at once she is now putting him to bed for the first time & I don't want to appear to upset things so can't get my own writing block.

We spent the aft. in the Kensington Gardens it was a lovely warm day & we enjoyed it. I feel so rested having someone again. I did miss Nanny so much.

We are moving into a charming flat at St James Court just near here. When we come back from Scotland we shall be up there a month & I do hope Phyllis will come down when we do it's a long way with two babes & a nurse.

I am so pleased to be little Anthony & John. God another sweet & I want to want me. It was so wonderful to hold a tiny baby again. I do love them so & so often wish Brian had a little brother or sister, & have often seriously thought of adopting a child for his sake, but it's so risky & I know I could not love another child in the same way.

Had another letter from you today it is good of you to write so often. Will you be wondering why

why I did not visit again but it was when
Nurse was so ill outwards but of course you
will know by now. I was so sorry at the time.
we went down to see Beamy Paquod at
there last Monday she was quite fascinated
with Brian & did everything he demanded
all day he was very sweet with her.
Her home is so homey & charming nothing
too much but beautiful what they want & the
garden is lovely also the drive down.

Must just say goodbye as the mail is
going am thinking of you always dear
you are so brave & sporting about this
East blow. how I wish I were there.

We so much love to you both

Maury