

Envelope postmarked Boston, Mass Jan 12 1AM 1932
Cancellation says ADDRESS YOUR MAIL TO STREET AND NUMBER

no return address

addressee

Mrs. C.M.Hardenbergh
1788 Freemont Ave. S.
Minneapolis
Minn.

Envelope embossed behind the flap Harper W. Poulson
284 Boylston Street, Boston

DUNSTER HOUSE
CAMBRIDGE

Jan. 11 1932

Dear Ma:

Many thanks for
your very gracious letter,
which I have just opened.
At present I am at the
top of the world because
I have just finished writing
a 2800-word theme for
this Italian ptg cours, and
therefore feel relief no end.

Well that's a swell story
about Aunt Bessie's present.
I saw the Hutchins yesterday
for the first time to really
speak to, and Aunt Else

(paper folded into four sides, letter skips to back)

said she had not given me
this red white and blue
tie. So then I said "Oh well
this this is what A.B.
gave me, I'll write her at
once." So as I came upstairs
to write her upon getting work
out of the way, I got your letter.

It now seems that this tie
belongs to A. Ellen. I never
did know what she gave me
so consequently have never
written her. Now everything
is straight. —

It seems Benny is retiring [Bennie Nichols]
this week from Pinkham. He was
up there paying for his board and
doing odd jobs. Larry saw
him, said he did not
enjoy it, so I guess grand-
pa's little scheme was only

(to inside folds)
good while it lasted. Larry
says Gogo says that Grandpa [?]
was looking pretty rotten.

It's good to hear that you got
snow at last. Ours came Satur-
day night, must have amounted
to a good four inches. Down to
13 last night so we have a
touch of winter too.

That license is under the
back seat, I saw it there
just last week when I
turned everything upside
down looking for tools.

Gret and I arrived about
ten minutes late in Newtonville,
she got off there, I said hello
to the other three but went
on to Boston + Dunster. Tell
Dad that as to checking that
box the fellow on this end

(final inside fold)
of the line said I was lucky to
get it through even wrapped
in burlap, for regulations say
it must be wooden.

There was a big reception tea
for Gret yesterday afternoon and
quite a crowd turned out. They
seem to like Lite Moffat more +
Maisie]

[could be 'Lila', definitely Moffat not Moffett, see

more. Rog incidentally passed his reading German, proof of his really studying here during vacation.

[Roger Lee]

My thesis was comparing an Antonio Pollianola and a Poaolo Mello [??] portrait in the Fenway Court. I now have to turn around and write twice as much on a French thesis!

I had a good bit of fun last vacation, and I'm all thanks to you for the Play and parties ad general hospitality. One more word: I hope you weren't unpleased by Al's present. Rest assured it is used on only special occasions, and then in moderation.

Yours with love,
Cog

Questions for Maisie and others

1. "Benny retiring" Who he?
2. I assume "Al's present" was alcohol?
3. Moffat might have been Moffett, one of the Lee relatives?
4. A. Ellen must be Auntie Ellen, a Nichols relative? Was living in Salem, gave Peirce-Nichols house to Essex Institute?
5. Please remind me about Gogo and Hawkeyes...
6. Why would Gret have a reception tea? A coming-out party type of thing?
7. Any idea about Aunt Bessie's present?

Maise response

Questions: This Benny is the same Benny Nichols. I would surmise that HPN, after the big 1930 Glacier Park gathering, which included his good climbing friend Joe Dodge, prevailed upon Joe (Grandpa's little scheme) to have Benny at Pinkham doing odd jobs, but Benny didn't like it.

Grandpa (HPN) looked rotten that winter, sick, eventually had hernia trussed.

I wish that the reference to "Roy" said Tom! Tom Moffat was class of 32 at Harvard and

probably stayed East during vacation to study German instead of returning home to Kansas. Roger Lee from Mpls. was class of 32 at Harvard and eventually married Louisita Moffet, called Sita, Zita (maybe Lita?). Roger's sister, Francis married Tom Moffet. As you know the Moffets all ended up back in Kansas.

Auntie Ellen was HPN's older sister by 2 years, never married, often in Intervale stayed in Salem room or Bellevue hotel, helped HPN in NYC, helped care for MBN as child, Nichols boys when mother died, wrote humorous poems, clever, fun, loved games; yes Salem as you say.

Gogo was Mildred Sargent who worked at Holy Trinity Church for HPN in MANY capacities when MBN was helping after college at HTC. She married King, an assistant minister to HPN, although both knew he was dieing. She and MBN great friends from 1905 on; after King died a rich Mr. Patterson wooed Gogo unsuccessfully, but he and chauffeur drove her to Concordia and lots of us around the mountains over the years. Gogo was Alee's godmother, introduced Kleenex to Concordia, helped Maisie preparing her trousseau in NYC, always a dear friend to all of us. She and Hawkeyes always came to Intervale each summer.

Hawkeyes was Alice Hawkins from Germantown, BMC '07, never married, athletic, climbed (with 1930 group in Glacier) worked at college, lived with Lily Ross Taylor on campus, always good to Meggie and Avis Putnam children and grands.

Can't answer about Gret; she was year younger than Collis, always pals, went to newish unusual Bennington College which had winter semesters off to pursue special student interest. I think in Gret's case, music. (Maisie wanted to go to Bennington but had no talent to pursue during winter period). Possibly as Chalmers suggests coming out party type, but also possibly some sort of musical reception. Don't know at all. Cheers from Maisie 28 January 2009.