

Denard
June 23^d 1914

Acc. 1211

Dear Mother
I have not seem to hear any
little of you all, but perhaps you
are all hungry for home news.
We have been here a week, &
are living in the odd little
Villa Indira. I spoke to you of
Villa has a room at the Villa
des Bain just next door.
rather a satire on a gentleman
who would enter the sea. There are
hot salt baths, but not yet in
operation - I have had one sea
dip & the water was much less
startling than I anticipated & the sand
perfect for bare feet. People be-
gin to arrive - We have a house
with 25. & a good few children, but
only two little boys, both
under 4. & the father is a Russian
she may be also - but she speaks
French fluently - The 2 ladies have
their heads shaven, as she says
their hair is poor & must be
cultivated. They have rather
large heads in any case - I love
dark eyes - These meals, as served
by mother & a "brown" eat right
through every course of the main
meal & including, soup, 2 courses

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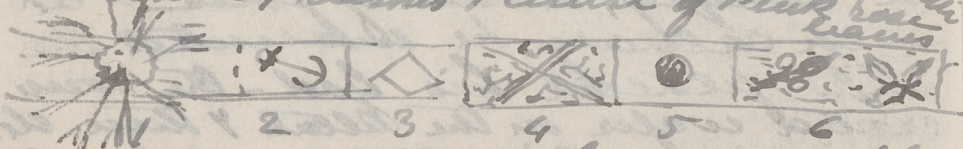
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of meat, several of vegetables &
eggs - poached, scrambled & omelette
pastry pudding, salad, fruit &
helpings of the most generous
They are well-mannered handle
their table implements & assemble
very well, never whine, follow
the wishes of their elders with a
desire to imitate. & I am quite
relieved when they walk away
from table apparently untroubled
by the cargo they bear away -
& on the other side an English
governor - a trained nurse &
sometimes the mother have two
little girls of 5 & 3. & they are fed on
hard fr. bread & butter - & milk
or some messy fare, especially
boiled Eggs - & no meat, or a
stingy dose now & then - They are
ordered, & managed, & punished &
familiar & taken up & put
down. on all occasions - They
submit - to it - pretty well, but
when the elder does get a chance
she is pert & ordering - & now &
then the little one wails & cries
just - from suppression & misery.
The English are indeed a restless
people - They love to lord it - over the
helplessness of childhood - & being
tough, the children receive & when
at last - they win free - They cannot
but rebel in turn - & hurtle forth
to conquer anything they can over-
come & down - It is just - long
suppressed vigour - expending itself
& always "shall" - & "shall not" utterly
they do -

Weather has been tiresome, showery & sunny with much uncertainty & we have found our quarters here "deceivable" but I don't think more than similar weather will impose on us at Inetis. The Swiss lands have had much worse weather in Switzerland - I wish each day will decide to clear up -

On Sunday there was a grand procession in the village steps & a platform were put up before the various "Calvaires", one in the "Place" - one on the St. Lemaire Road, & one opposite the Michelt Hotel. These stations were decorated with branches, flowers, boughs. Then sand was sprinkled all along the route of the procession, it was smoothed & the edge defined making a path 4 ft. 8 in. along the middle of the road, & then green grass-like leaves of the hollyhock - were laid along its edges & baskets & baskets of rose leaves & flowers of all kinds were used to make it a path covered with blossoms - 1 rusks & centre of pink rose leaves



1. Anchor in blue blossoms & plucked grass as a bed. 2. Diamond. 3. Diamond with cross. 4. Diamond with cross & plucked leaves. 5. Circle. 6. Circle with cross & plucked leaves. 7. Design in blossoms.

5 & 6. likewise. Sometimes a jet.
turn was made like a length of carpet
but in sawdust variously tinted.
The people made these in an in-
credibly short time, supplies of
blossoms & flowers constantly
arriving. - Also sheets were
being up from the upper windows
& little bunches of flowers pin-
ned to them, sometimes one here
sometimes all over. In about 2
hrs, all was begun & ended, then
the procession issued from the
church. A banner on wh. St. Rogas
was embroidered, in a Bishop's
robes - gold & a high mitre. - Then
rows of children with little
pendants with pans moltons
then two children one in pink
with topknot, & a little blue
sheepskin sack - with bare
anus. he was John Baptist. & an-
other with a little person was
clothed in a white garment to his
feet with a cord for a belt &
a gilt cross borne on his
shoulders. The band from
Dinard played gaily, the Curé
in splendid robes marched under
a canopy, borne of four & at
each calvary he descended the
steps placed his God - the cross
on the altar & then de-
voted it while the people knelt.
A number of boys in red, & girls in
blue with crochets of roses also
marched, & a few nuns - & devout

women not-a few. These all were
black & many wearing brittle caps
It was a great day. It was the
Fête de la Vierge. The people were quiet &
respectful - & some of the women in
a tender & reverent spirit - we saw
one cutting off every rope rose into
great tin basins with a face that
might have been Mary's as she bore
the heavy costly burden to Jesus.
Only at the end shall we know
with what judgment all will be
judged. - Those who do evil & teach
men so: & those who following
not after a living & healing Christ
yet wd not lightly speak evil of
Him. such have healed & helped.

It was the curious haste & at the
last minute that impressed me
It gave the air of a sudden in-
terprise a hurried greeting prepar-
ing for an expected arrival.

It was at St Enogat-ck in the A. S.
a little less formal - than in Cape
Blanc. A choir of fresh young
voices sang every now & then res-
ponses & once to French hymns
& the faces of the peasant women
the old ones so marked with the
pain & patience of life - got more
easy & hardened by the open air.
Hair always nicely combed & plaited
& the fresh caps. some still with
the lumpy gutta serena. short & showing
the strong brows - neither they or their
men wear trash - good about stuff
that will last unembellished with
a hard & simple life! I would do

their eyes see clear than those who
hardly can attend to anything but
the complexity of houses & clothing & food
They are the retail people - & I do think
they have more kindly & tender
hearts & more genuine sympathy
than often attends riches - but
God's spirit can be a dweller
in any humble heart.

I am hoping that this will
find you at Meltham. & that you
have got there without much
trouble, or finding the journey too
short. We have been longing to
hear far what seems a long time.
Tell me of Harriet & Mrs W. I hope
all is going well with them.

& you can't tell us too much of
the dear little girlie - How many
times, & what does she now do.

There is a crib of mine & a mattress
at Birkenhead, in the upstairs
wing. I meant to write to Muriel
about it. I don't know where the
clothes basket went - with rocks
I believe the rocks are still in the
attic. Clare & Will went to Dinan
for a day & saw many wonders
Eva is quite keen now abt. sketching
has taken to birds & is doing re-
markably well with them
Wd. weather rather a hindrance
I like this place & wd. stay on for
some weeks, but Clare seems to
want to move on - to another
ground - if she & Eva agree I don't
mind. We had just arranged for
Will to have French - but if he gets on