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3 Centurion Drive Woods. Sol. July 27<sup>th</sup> 1940.

Dear Susan & Jeffrey, I am still having eye tests every month  
papers, it is quite good to write on - the 'deedlede' shop drilled -  
Thank you for your letters, I am sorry you are so anxious about  
us - we will send you a cable if anything unfortunate should  
happen to us. We have had two air raid warnings this week &  
but the All Clear signal followed in less than 2 hours & I  
believe in each case the raiders was shot down - No damage -  
was done; probably they were so nervous they were lagging -  
As just described quickly & drive down into the hall by the pantry  
door or out there as this opinion is that is the most protected place -  
Wanted has filed teachers with sand & fish bones in front  
of their Rikley windows & also on the projecting roof - they  
forgot the two children & charged themselves in the Rikley &  
Big Daxwell (Ryplie's headband) in air washer & has to  
patrol me street during the raid - each washer has a street  
allotted to him - mostly in case of fire Steink & Stinson pump for  
use: emit a fine spray or full current as desired are allotted to  
each road - householders subscribe to the cost of water meter - it takes  
3 people to work there - one holds the hose pipe & draws the

current & one pump (the heavier one) & the second one keeps  
refilling the bucket; they have been being very impolite or rather  
everything has to be cleared out so that it need be, the pumps  
can be used without obstacle. They have had a time as you can  
imagine - it is very dirty up there - all sorts of things were underneath  
Grandfather (Major W. S. T. S.) grand uniform - full sized scabbard  
fine cloth with small gold braid & high silver collar - also his  
short sword & enormous hat bordered with gold decorations &  
his military coat with Cape & gold braid. also a little  
money bag (Chinese) with money drawn swinging on a cross bar - all  
wonderfully made of ivory - this was given my father by Uncle  
Sam (Susan's great grandfather) - there were also two little  
Indian canoes made of tree bark & decorated Indian fashion.  
with brass & an Indian Synam with basket in it - also  
one of small snow shoes (top) these were brought by Mr. Gilpin  
(they Gilpin's husband) many many years ago & took quite well -  
they were put away so carefully. lots & lots of pieces of all  
kinds. Auntie S. is very much better. Sam had to say - we still  
do not allow her to get up to her feet. She is getting  
rather rebellious. My heart. There had several summer beads  
out of the garden & there will be lots more - also a few peas;

3.

the lettuce are delicious so crisp & <sup>solid</sup> such hearts  
we do enjoy them - I never thought they would  
grow so easily - We have now also carrots & spin-  
age-beet, & will sow also a few onions tho' rather  
late. Harold has holiday week week, Monday  
they plan to go to S'porth to see Mr. & Mrs. Dulle & we  
will look after Elizabeth. & on Wed? I think they  
will go to see Brian & we will look after the  
children - & one day they may go to Wales taking  
Elizabeth with us. This, of course if circumstances  
allow. Wales is pretty full of elderly people & children.  
We have got all our windows now decorated with brown paper  
or curtains material stuck onto the glass - it takes a  
surprising amt. of time, paper, & paste. I am having  
the house painted after all as cost will be greater  
the longer it is left, & paint probably inferior.  
Wages keep rising. So bad of the Germans to sink  
the ships with so many French who were returning  
to France & not joining us against Germany; you would  
think those saved by England would give their lives to fight  
for her. Brian Survey came over for the day on Thursday,  
he was staying a week with a boyfriend near S'pool.  
Jeanne cannot get word of her sisters & is afraid she will  
not know until the war ends where or how they are.  
I hope to get off a small parcel towards the end of this  
week. Geoffrey is much better, & falling up a little. but still  
thin. I hope you don't mind my using up this old paper -

How glad we are your garden is so good + the crops.  
I hope you got the steering of your car well fixed.

~~My dear~~ Weather pleasant - cool breeze, sun  
+ shine + showers some days. not too hot. Garden  
very pretty with red, + white phlox, roses, Candy  
tuft, violas, honeysuckle + ~~many~~ ~~others~~. Grass +  
hedges so green. We are not short of food - some  
things are rationed - tea, sugar, butter, Bacon +  
meat but the amount allowed is quite sufficient.  
Lungs, liver hearts etc, also fish are not rationed.  
Bread is still 5/- for 2 lb loaf of flour 1/6 for 1 lb.  
Soft fruit has been dear, we were allowed 2 lbs  
(each person) sugar for preserving soft fruit but it was  
too dear (1/4 per lb) so we are saving it to make  
plum jam for they say there is a plentiful crop of  
plums + apples this year. We have plenty of coal in  
to last us the winter - people were asked to stock up so  
that if communications were difficult ~~the coal~~  
supplies would be ample. It was hard on the Chert  
- not Islanders having to leave home immediately - when  
cattle but they brought off the cattle after ~~the~~  
cargo boats. they are dried cattle. Some of the people  
are from ~~Sextland~~ ~~going~~ at Oreston. Thank you for  
your letter + offer to send food but we dont need  
any more ~~from~~ ~~you~~

Your loving Mother

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