

3 Centurion Drive Okeola. June 23rd 1940.

Dear Susan & Geoffrey. Thank you for
letter rec'd yesterday. Today is Brian's
birth day. We (Harold, Auntie Dr. & I) went
to see him yesterday. he was veeey
well indeed. I saw the Dr. who said
that he was decidedly better but he
did not consider him fit yet to come
home. & then I asked if he could come
for a weekend but he said it was
better not especially just now. he said
he worked well. he has a great deal of
liberty now & can go to the nearby
shops & take long walks inside or out
- side the grounds or in the Hospital -
he is not nearly as thin as he was -
he must have gained many lbs.
Well, the war news gets worse day by
day - the whole world seems in a fer-
-ment. Nellie (Hayly) Heron talks of
letting her two eldest boys go to Canada
with the scheme. I think one will be about
15 & the other 12 or 13. The scheme is

for children over 5. So far we have had
no air raid here but we expect more fre-
quent raids after France, Germany & Italy
sign peace. There are more Canadian
troops here now & everyone is busy in one
way or another. Harold is on fire duty at
the Bank where there & now he has an allot-
ment which he is digging up with a good deal
of labour as it has lain idle for some years &
is full of coarse grass. his own garden is also
full of vegetables. They cannot decide whether
to come to my house. Geoffrey has not been
so well the last few days. not in bed. we think
he has chills on his stomach. It has been
warm & they turned quite cool one aftⁿ
but the weather has been lovely until
yesterday when we had very heavy rain
& today a cloudy sky. The garden is lovely
with great tall white lilies & roses of
all colours. Poor Jeanne is very anxious
about her sisters, one was ill in Paris &
had to leave in an ambulance & the other
one I believe was in Stralsund.

I have not been to Church for 3 Sun-
days now. but my ankle is being
much better & I can walk without pain
short distances & have given up the
soft slipper. All sorts of precautions are
being taken. No names of towns or villages are
allowed to be shown & road names are all
obliterated or taken down. even the buses have
no names of places on them. as they say they
can be seen from aeroplanes with field glasses.
Alms are still being rounded up - of course most
are friendly but there has been so much
spying & treachery that the innocent have to
be treated like the guilty. So far the rations
have not been altered. & we have plenty
of everything - tho' it must be hard for the
poor - those who only just managed before -
Workers of course are having increased
wages. I am quite all right as I have
been living very well within my income.
I wish for safety I could have sent some

of my principal out to Canada for safe
keeping, but of course that is not allowed.
Aunties have asked the Pyres to come but
they are not moving at present. we don't
really know if this area is any safer than theirs.
All paper is being saved & shops do not supply
cardboard cartons with cakes as they used to do.
M always take baskets & paper bags also when
shopping. All metals, rags, bones, etc are now
collected & sorted. M have been getting in coal for
winter as we have been asked to do. we can take
rather over a ton but many can only take 2 or 3
cwt. I am glad your trees have turned out
so well. They say the English lose every battle,
but the last one! Anyway it's a long road that
has no turning: & now we are more self con-
tained & under one leadership it should be
easier. I am glad you are all in Canada.
With dear love always from
Your loving Mother.

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Geoffrey liked hearing about Tom & his 'boys'