

74/16

5461

In replying to this letter, please write on the envelope:—

Number 15399. Name A. Lee
Holloway Prison
8th 3. 1912.

My dear Ones,

It is best to write to you both at once, and not use up ~~two~~ ^{two} of my 3 letters. Only, Margaret, take note of anything I ask you to do, and then it will not matter if you send the letter on to Mary. Did you send the B. M. J. s to Dr. Lunt? You reported having done the other Commissions. I got your letters of Tuesday and Wednesday both together yesterday, so we must count upon de-lay. They are splendid letters, exactly the right thing - starch me up again splendidly if I am feeling limp. Yes, I feel quite happy about you both; I think you will get on all right. Prisoners on remand have more privileges than those who have been sentenced. I may write 3 letters a day, and get I suppose as many as are sent - eventually - but of course it takes some time to open them all, and they are liable to be delayed. We wear our own clothes and get food from outside while on remand. I'll give you all particulars when I come home. Each one has a cell, warm enough, only I get chilly with sitting still, and then I walk,

with all the fancy steps I can contrive, till I get warm again.
I am quite warm at night.

My exercise time is about 3. It is very nice to get out.

We were at Chapel this morning, and had the Litany and 2 hymns. "Praise to the Holiest in the Highest," and "When I survey."

We can get books from the Prison library. I have nearly finished Fitchett's "Fights for the Flag," as well as the private books I have. Lady Conny has just sent me some crochet silk, and I am going to make her a little purse like mine. In that hypothetical parcel which you are getting ready, I wish

you would put a half-embroidered tea-cloth out of the work-drawer in my room - the bottom little one in the wardrobe, you know. It is rolled up in a paper at the back of the drawer, and I think it is labelled. There ought to be a book of embroidery stitches inside it, and also please

put a skein of linen thread, and one or two crewel needles. If there is some thread, it is probably not enough. The cloth is what I began for a wedding present for Aunt Ella! this may be a chance to finish it. ^{Send me also some little split rings, $\frac{1}{2}$ a dozen - only 2 or 3.}

I am very glad to hear about the money - you'll be all right now, only of course, as you say, be careful. I shall like the fruitarian cake very much, but otherwise I have enough for the present. I really don't want "heaps of things" - there is no demand with so little exertion.

*She did finish it - & worked a perfect little in one corner!

I had a letter from Aunt Meta, forwarded from Somerset Ter. She is very sorry for the news in my letter, but says, very wisely, that there is no use discussing it. She also says she grieves over "the check to our Parliamentary success" - poor deluded innocents! But still she wishes me well, and will be glad to hear when I am back to my "deserted home". I think you might tell her that I got her letter; I will not write direct to her, just now at least. The best thing you can both do is to "slog," as you call it, and get on very well. Very glad of your few lines, Baby. What's the matter with the mistresses and the girls? that there are so few, I mean. Who was above you in Arithmetic?

Write to the Ocean Accident Corporation, Lim^{td}. Ocean Chambers, North John St., L'pool, marking the envelope "Accountants' Department." Tell them I ~~have~~ made changes in my domestic arrangements, and have not now got a resident servant to ensure against accidents. Say I am away from home, but that I will call when I get back, and see what fresh arrangement should be made. There is no use sending you back their letter; I have given you all necessary data.

This is the first day that I have not had the sun shining into my cell, so it is good that I was out of it for the time in chapel. I don't think it is raining though. There are pigeons that fly about in the court while we are exercising. One came close to my window this morning. I put out some crumbs, but I have not seen it come back.

I think the sun is shining somewhere, but it is past the time for coming in here. No, I'm afraid it's raining, I see drops on my window. I saw the D. this morning, and asked him if I might have the tooth paste. I suppose forms have to be gone through. He said I might, so send it along, or, if you can't get it easily, send my tooth soap. I have just nearly finished the little sample tube Mr. Mountford gave us. I am glad you did not have a bad time with him. When are you going again?

Why are you so poverty-stricken as to ink? There is a whole big bottle in the Consulting room.

It is the greatest help to me to know how brave and bright you both are. At the worst, if it comes to the worst, we must just pretend that I am in a nursing home undergoing a system of treatment that means not sending or receiving letters. But we have not reached the worst yet, by any means.

I suppose Mrs. Stewart has not paid her bill yet, as you say nothing about it. There are some other bills I ought to have sent out, but they must wait till I get back.

Now I am going to stop and crochet a bit. Somebody else wants the pen and ink.

Lashin's and Lavin's of love for you, as Old Friend used to say. God bless us all. Yours loving Mother,
Alice J. Stewart Ker.