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GRAY'S CLOSE,
UPPER BODDINGTON,
RUGBY.

Nov. 17th 1930

Dearest Pernel,

Please excuse delay in answering, as I have been having a hideously busy time lately, including a visit to Welbeck.

I could hardly contain my joy at the thought that you really might be able to come; it was ~~a~~ quite a forlorn hope & I am enchanted you think it possible. You must come, having encouraged me so far, or I shall give it up.

I enclose an itinerary by which you

will see that we get ~~to~~ a week at Khartoum & can be back in London on Jan. 14th. You will also see that the sea voyage is very short - only just over 48 hours - I had meant to go 2nd Class but perhaps we had better make it 1st - however the difference in cash is considerable. 2nd Class to Brindisi with sleepers is exactly the same as 1st in comfort, & in Egypt we must go ~~just~~ 1st. The bit on the Nile between the 2 Cataracts is one of the pleasures of the trip. I propose

breaking the journey at Luxor as I have never been there, & I think you haven't; but we can stop at Cairo if you prefer it.

Well. Send any more questions; or better, authorise me to go ahead with tickets.

The visit to Welbeck was incredibly amusing & most exhausting. All the younger generation are very nice & as for Titchfield I really adore him. The Graces are a bit too Ducal for my taste, but amusing to inspect. The house passes all belief. We took an hour going over it, & then only saw about half. It is completely full of hideous family portraits going from Van Dyck to Lazzoli.

The comfort is colossal - millions of
super. efficient servants none of which
are ever seen. However, as the Duke
of Devonshire said, There's no place
like home, + it was a relief to sink
back in my squalor.

Your letter goes to post with a
Collins to her Grace - Torture to
compose!

Yrs,
hes.