

Berlin 8<sup>th</sup> January 97,

My dear Kelly

AZ/3782

Your nice long letter was  
in itself the best Xmas. gift, but after  
that I also had the pleasure of Mr. Lewis'  
call and your kind presents. Let me  
say in the first place that the book is  
charming. My mother and myself  
have been delighted with it, and now  
my sister Ellen is reading it with  
equal zest. I feel almost sure of  
Mr. C's <sup>Felix Cornford</sup> lasting success as an author,  
for he strikes out quite a new line in  
the literature of fiction which has grown  
rather staid of late years in England as  
elsewhere. But "Captain Jacobus" has

the true ring of narrative art, concealed  
under seemingly naive simplicity. With  
regard to skilful adaptation of style  
and language to the character of the  
series it reminds me of Mary Ermond,  
though of course it deals with a  
much simpler subject and therefore  
is more unsophisticated. <sup>and less pretentious</sup> In fact its  
great charm lies in the freshness and  
simplicity of diction besides the "go"  
of the narrative. I should not wonder  
if the author's books became great  
favourites with the English public  
and with all my heart they may

make his fortune soon enough for you  
to have another wedding in the family.  
You must indeed have had a busy and  
a merry time with this one, so that  
you will rather have lingered for rest  
during the remainder of the holidays.  
Mine have already come to an end last  
week, but they were a great comfort  
in spite of their shortness, chiefly through  
my mother's speedy recovery. She was able  
to spend some time with us much as usual  
and has since then been progressing very  
favourably, so that at present she is much  
as usual again. She sends you her best love

and thanks for the pretty bronze plaque  
which has taken the place of a big old  
can't-basket on her table. Altogether we  
were quite touched by your having thought  
so kindly of every one of us, & especially  
by your remembering my needs in the  
way of pins and pens. I was just commen-  
ding my not having asked you to send a  
fresh supply of the latter, when your men-  
tioned Mr. Lewis's visit in your letter, so  
you can imagine how welcome they were.  
My sister Ellen is still with us at present,  
which is a great comfort. When she leaves  
at the beginning of next month, we will  
try to get a "help" to take care of my mother

QWV

12/3782

My mother sends you the little quilt for her and her children. I hope you will like it. I have not had time to write you more. I have been very busy with my work. I have been doing a good deal of needlework just before and after I was just while keeping company to my mother, and have only just begun to devote myself to reading and writing again. We have also been to the theatre to see Gerhard Hauptmann's new play "Die versunkene Glocke" which is quite the rage here at present. I sincerely hope you will have been to it also, and

and attach her in some household. mothers. I can find a suitable person it will be a great relief, especially to her.

I send you a small neck huching with little embroidery, hoping that you can make use of it. I have been doing a good

deal of needlework just before and after I was just while keeping company to my mother, and have only just begun

to devote myself to reading and writing again. We have also been to the theatre to see Gerhard Hauptmann's new

play "Die versunkene Glocke" which is quite the rage here at present. I sincerely hope you will have been to it also, and

was Colton.

may tell you about it.

I enclose a printed account of some resolutions about the German Peer-  
Lehrerinnen-Prüfung<sup>3</sup>, arrived at  
in the sittings of a commission  
appointed for the purpose and of which  
I have been a member, as you will  
see. I hope you may be interested in  
the matter, though at present it means  
nothing more than the *pia desideria*<sup>4</sup>  
of a small community of people in-  
terested in the advancement of German  
women-teachers. Of course we started  
from the plans of study which are com-

monly followed at the Victoria-Schule,  
but checked by the knowledge of  
Latin and mathematics and even a  
certain amount of Greek for the study  
of what you would call "Divinity"<sup>4</sup>  
we call "Religion"<sup>3</sup>. At present our  
students do without these elements in  
the majority of cases and in that respect  
cannot claim perfect equality with  
the men. But all this is a very com-  
plicated matter, of manifold bearings  
and aspects, which I cannot discuss  
with you in writing. Let us hope for  
ample opportunity to do so viva voce  
in the summer holidays. Perhaps

you could come over for a part of  
your visit to Brunhensen, supposing  
we were and my mother well enough.  
The journey to Hammer is neither  
long nor expensive.

Meanwhile I wish you all manner  
of success in your business - and private  
affairs, and beg to be kindly remembered  
to your mother and sisters. By the bye  
I also had a New Year card from your  
aunt and uncle Russel Westman,  
which I thought a very kind attention  
indeed. Please to tell them so when you  
see them again. Goodbye, dear friend,  
with many more thanks for your letter  
and presents. Yours very affectionately  
Alice