

June 28, 1934

14 Kan Yu Hui
Reiping

Dear Nannie

This is a late date to be thanking you for yours of May 11, and for the watercolor by Mother which arrived safely. You are quite right in not sending the picture of Sligo Abbey. I suppose it doesn't belong to me tho' promised by Mother. Maybe I'll be able to wangle it somehow in some kind of trade or bargain. In the meanwhile you had better keep it. I find that the paper of the picture you sent is cracking with age, and Sligo Abbey is almost three times as old! When I come to America we can go into the matter again.

There have been among a number of recent arrivals from the U.S.A. so many who have advised me against returning because of the still poverty stricken conditions there that I have practically decided on a postponement of another year. In that case I would remain longer, which is some consolation. Perhaps it will be India instead. After all I've been on my way to India for the past 3 1/2 years, and some Hindu Princes are still rich!

As for the mandarin coat. I would be more than happy to send you something to drape yourself in, if I had any idea if it were usable or not. But you don't give me any clue as to type or color or quality. There is no mandarin coat in existence that you could wear. They are much much too large and done with symmetrical patterns so they are spoiled if cut down. A woman's coat would

be more suitable, even that would have to be trimmed a lot. Do you want it Pull, $\frac{3}{4}$ or short length? Do you want light colored satins, with embroidered bands (these are always double breasted or do you want buttoning straight up the front. Do you want an embroidered coat or a brocade one? You never told me if you could wear the brocade coat which I sent you. I think it best if I send you several inexpensive things to alter yourself, than one costly garment ~~can~~ made up for you here? Dealers often come to my house with nice things but I do not yet know whether you are daring in color or very sober.

Aunt Florrie too asks for a "mandarin" coat, which is only confusing to me, as I am pretty sure that that is what you do not want yet you don't say what your conception of a "mandarin" coat is.

The nicest pigskin boxes, I think, are the red ones, with ~~gilded~~ bronze ornaments on them. I think one could get something large and good for about \$10⁰⁰ gold. The shipping might be more so I'll send one "lay hand" when there is a chance.

Madge has written me nothing concerning the said "Beans" so I am trying to reach her thru Royal 4, which I suppose will do.

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Tsing Tao to cruise about among the pirates on a thirty foot motor yacht. I hope to get some intimate impressions of their private lives. At present I am recovering from a motor accident which happened three weeks ago when a taxi I was in with a friend going to the flying field rolled off a slippery road, turned upside down and stopped with me sitting thru the window with my right bottom nearly cut off. Eleven sutures were required to hold it on, also three sutures in my knee. The sewing job is to be photographed and I shall send you a copy. My friend broke the end of his fingernail and the chauffeur nothing!

Nevertheless art seems to thrive. I make lots of pictures and sell some. I've just held another show in my house. Some clippings enclosed. I am still wondering why people will spend more on my sort of art here than they are apparently doing in America or do my acquaintances there paint the picture blacker than it really is? Do you come in contact at all with the art buying public or have they all turned to supporting slum children? I don't think that I told you that I recently won another ^{purchase} 1st prize - this time in Seattle from the Northwest Print Makers for a lithograph called "Motherhood". But I didn't get even an iron candle stick so I advise you to stick to doing artistic May Breakfast Tables!

Hendrickson has only now sent me another document to sign and it is now in Tientsin for a Consular seal, so there will still be

more months before a settlement.

Peking is hot these days but more lovely than ever. I have recently had the opportunity to visit a number of fine princely houses, and as ever I am continuously surprised at the beauties one discovers behind the grey walls of dirty alleys. As far as I am concerned the word "inexhaustible" still applies to the wonders of this city.

A Chinese musician is now coming to pose for me with his lute so I must close

Yours with much love and many thanks

Schu.

Jan 1934