

14 Kan Ya Haling
Peiping

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[Feb. 1937]

Dear Nannie -

I have the feeling that you've been impatient for a letter from me for a long while and I have on hand yours of Feb. 9 still unanswered. That one even surpassed your usual vivid newiness - I wish I could do a quarter as well. Your Florida Trip interested me especially. I should some time like to discover America with you if you don't insist on motoring to Boston in January! There must be at least a few charming spots in Florida that haven't been overworked by real estate agents -

but it would take time to find them. I hope you continued to explore that part of the country. Seashells by the way are coming into fashion again as mantle piece etc decoration. Why not have yours mounted in formal sets. You can even have them painted if necessary!

Your house sounds grander and grander with each writing and I'm glad your getting so much fun out of it. I'm sending you now a set of 6 doilies and napkins. I had them made, but

now am not sure that I care for the material. If you like them I can have more made. If you use a runner the length or breadth of the table, how long should it be? And how long a side board runner? I haven't yet ordered the iron pictures because I haven't the nerve to ask any one to ~~bring~~ ^{lug} ~~bring~~ ^{such} heavy stuff to you. I guess it won't break us if I send them by freight so I'll rush out and order them made to dimensions tomorrow!

Life has been quite uneventful with me. A son and daughter born on Feb. 21st! The lady is black with a fine white necklace, and no nose at all. The gent is pinkish white and has an equal lack of nose, & both have very promising fur coats.

I've been working steadily on my book (only too often interrupted by lady tourists who want to be shown the sights of the town). It is still only about half done tho I had expected to have it finished by now. I do think it will be one of

the knock-out picture books of next year.

I had expected to go to Hanking to have an exhibition in a few weeks. But will probably cancel the engagement as I do not want any interludes until the book is off my hands. I've had on my hands for several days a certain Henrietta Ely of Philadelphia and Versailles, She is the witliest woman in the world, but seems to leave me the reverse as far as letter writing goes. Did you ever hear of the family -? Both money & brains?

Thanks for all your enclosures. Hsing the author of "Lady Precious Stream" recently tried to produce a new play of his concerning a recently deceased courtesan, who was the mistress of a German General at the time of the Boxer trouble, It was banned by the government, but the German Embassy made no objections. He will probably be able to put it over in America.