

Group of letters from

Princess Matilda Sapietta

Wife of Prince Ladislav Sapietta of Lvov, Gov. of Galicia, etc.

Villanova Jan 30th.
Pa.

1842 - 1843

Dear friends,

I have not written because my husband was very ill with an angina heart attack, and I was nearly off my head of worry. He got the heart attack in the train and the train had to be stopped at a dreadful place called Elkten, and he was carried off the train in a little local hospital where the head nurse was a perfect fiend. One was perfectly helpless, and my husband was in an awful state of pain and suffocation. We managed to get out of the hospital and then finally landed in the Hopkins where he was treated for a week. It was all a terrible experience, especially with such small means as we had it was still much worse. Now we are back home and he must be very careful and have special diet and rest all the time.

Nothing is worse than to be taken seriously ill and not to be able to afford the right thing to get better quickly. The climate here is of course so vile that one can't have much fresh air. We are at present all snowed in and on the surface of the snow is ice, -- so we practically can't move.

I think that if we had been in a milder climate, all this might have been avoided, -- but we could not get South this year, so what could one do?

I am quite downhearted now, and one must only pray for this war to be ended this year. Thank Goodness it looks as if there would be a great chance that the Germans collapse. We got news from Poland that the Germans are exterminating the Poles entirely, and in the 24 Concentration camps they have there which hold over 80 thousand each, they are dying by the thousands. It must be a perfect hell there for these poor people.

Do send me your news, -- and I do hope you are both well. I am still

working with my piano, and shall give recital for the N. Hospital
in Philadelphia, but dont get paid for it which is ofcourse of no
profit to us, however I like to do it because it helps the Hospital.

This letter is sad and short, but you can imagin how upsett I was
and how I am worried over my husbands health..

I only hope when the spring will come soon!

Thank you so much for interesting letter we appreviated so much.

I cant find your new adress and hope this will reach yuu.

All best wishes and many greetings from us both

yours very sincerely

Lada Picha

Villanova Feb 12th.

1943

Dear Friends,

I have meant to write longer for some time, but between mopping the floors and practicing the piano, and looking after my babies, I had no time.

Your letter arrived this morning, and I decided not to mop and to sit down and put down my thoughts. You are one of the very few people we have met, whose mentality and philosophy corresponds to ours, - meaning that I have the feeling that we can write and talk to you as to a brothersoul. To start, we certainly dont belong into this present world. We like walking, whereas everybody else runs we like contemplating, whereas everybody else has a preconcue idea that they must do something all day and so on .Ofcourse money is at the bottom of everything but I am begining to think that the uncivilized human beeings who live in jungles and enjoy their primitiv freedom in the remotest parts of Africa are much more to be envied and are much happier that this socalled civilization. Once the greed for money and power is eliminated the whole outlook on life changes and becomes nobler and closer to perfection. It was Rabindranat Tagore who once came to USA and was taken to a football match. Somebody asked him what he thought of this wonderful game and his answer was: "Il ny'a pas de repos ici!" There is a lot of deep truth in this. How can there be any repost in this frantic chase for money and ambition. I know all the logic answeres one gets if one would dare ask anybody what the object of all this energy was. The sacrilage of resting after lunch when one ought to be doing something, - the sins one commits when one has not a permanent "job", - day and night shifts etc. The proletarian spirit of geting somewhere. This energy is fed by emotions of greed, envy, hatred, jealous of anybody having more than the other etc. We are in the midst of this so called evolution, which first wants to nivelize everybody, - We have the best example first in Russia who did this job in the simplest and most barbaric way by making everybody who was no a bolshevik one head shorter. This task was accomplished and everybody was a camerade, -- and now they start all over again, by creating new classes. Their great triumph over the German Army will proove now, what an example they are. Their greed will be now satisfied for a while, especially if the price is paid for their victories, and they can spread their wonderful theories all over the world. We forget that Russia has a population of 190 Million people. The German disaster is the result of allowing a gangster sadist of a paperhanger with all his murder gang to lead these people. The world is the sacrifice of such ambitious lunatics who get into power and destroy every fundemental principal of civilization. God preserve us of these ambitious men! What have human beeings made out of this life. If they had remained sitting in jungles, ~~and~~ eating grass and selected a nobler sport, everybody would be far better off. All these inventions result in the most ferocious wholesale killing there ever was. What is the good of all these factories turning out modern implements, worldwide competition, massproduction of humanbeeings who arive into this world imbibed with the idea of making room for themselves, pushing the other one aside with the spirit of selfpreservation which prevents them from relaxing one moment from the day they are born until they fall over dead. So few really succeed, and the rest is a hungry disatisfied mass, hostile and discontent. Everything is called progress, and God preserve us from all this progress, - as what does it mean? I dont know of how many millions and millions of human beeings this world consists of, - but it makes one shudder to think that they are all after something, these wonderful reforms that promis and never fullfill, - only one thing is certain that the destructiv element will survive.

When I think back of the peasants lives in the country, even the poorest country laborers , they were healthy, content, always singing when they returned from the fields, always had good food, good air, and the comfort they had for generations and were content with. Good beds, with goosefeather pillows, a good fire in the winter, oil lamps that maybe primitiv, but put them to bed instead of roaming around in pubs etc. They believed in God and the products of nature. It was more rehxing to go behind a plow with a pair of oxen, at a very slow pace than any industrialised town, where they swallow the coaldust all day, rushing

into those factories, curtailing their lives for the sake of more money. I can understand the first settlers here, pioneers who came over to this rich un-exploited country, enjoying freedom and having all the chances they did not have elsewhere. The remnant country homes in the South show the traces of happy days and a gentlemans life of leisure. After all there was always one gentleman leader in his home, he had brains, - not too much brains thank God, as we see where this surplus energetic brains get us too, - but there were not those terrific problems which the world is faced now with. I think it is a beautiful illusion to believe that this will be the last war, and there will be paradise for everybody after this massacre. Another beautiful illusion some people have about Russia. How can people understand Russia at all. To start with the Russian laughs and looks down on every foreigner. He will use them like a sponge, he will promise anything when he needs something, and then he will snap his finger at you. He can afford snapping his finger too if you look at the map. The English Delegations in 1939 that knocked and knocked at Russias door were sent home with their tails between their legs, -- and ofcourse now they need English and American help to fight the Germans. They always have been good fighters, because they Asiatic has a different conception of life, and is wild and hard and phisically very strong. If you put a European beside a Russian Cossack he can hold at least 3 of them in the palm of his hand, and the Russian is a great patriot, -- but all this has nothing to do with the fact, that Stalin has them now in his grip and the Bolshevib Commissars hold this enormous monster of a country in their grip. They will never feel kindly toward their fellow neighbors. Russia is for Russia, and if one knows history as you do, one cannot have any illusions. But this is not all. The Bolsheviks are not only for Russia, but they are for international Bolshevism, and that is the tidal wave which will spread everywhere. This poison, which carries now the lorrels of defeating the gangster of Europe, will spread the strongest dose it ever has spread. Here in this country it will be mostly the jews who will do the work, -- as we all know from the past that most jews are in favor of Bolshevism and it is through jewish channels that this poison was distributed. I believe that Roosevelt and Churchill are aware of this dangour, but now they have to be very diplomatic to cope with the whole situation. If Russia throughs the German Army over before the Allies enter Europe, then God help us all. It is a very dangerous thing to let Russia do the work, and I only pray that the Allies will be successft in Africa and push into Europe soon. When I read of Russia demanding the Baltic States and Lithuania, Estonia etc. it just makes me shudder. These poeple there have gone through absolut hell since the Bolshevivs grabbed them, and now they had a ray of hope, just enough to have it destroyed again. Ofcourse Russia will demand more and more, and just to satisfy her one will enslave again countries and through them at the mercy of these Bolshevics. How can there be peace and happiness when already now thousands of people tremble of their fate. Ofcourse this all means so little to English and Americans, as it is so far away, and they cant know about the heroic patriotism these people have shown through centuries sacrificing everything they had for the love of their soil, - and now it loomes in front of them that all this bloodshed will mean another enslavement to Russian greed. Take a country like Poland, and what they have endured and sacrificed for their patriotism. When they asked England for a loan to arm themselves against Germany, this loan was sqabbled over for Months and then did not come off. With bare hands they confronted the German tanks and Smal children helped to defend this doomed country, - which was mercilessly stabbed in the back by Russia. What both those monsters did to Poland and the Poles we all know, however their hope for justice and a new life makes them continue the fight in all parts of the globe. Only today England has learnt to appreciate Polish courage and endurance but what will all this tragedy be for, if Russia starts claiming parts of Polish territory. I cannot yet believe that the Allies will allow this, as even the Polish population over here, who at hearts are all good partiots would be up in arms; however the thought of it just makes one shudder. The Poles are and were a bulward against Bolshevism, although ofcourse like in all countries this poison is present, and encouraged by the jews, and jewish representatives, who try to eface the nobility there who gave all their power, money and blood for their country.

To speak about America I ofcourse know so little about it. I love the people of this country as there is this spirit of kindness,- but I am sure they are faced with terrible problems. The wages above all. How can these wages go higher and higher, and at the same time the rich people taxed so heavily that they will disappear. Wilky does not seem to have any idea of international politics and is a local man with a big mouth, probably he means very well, but is not big enough to be a leader. I dont envy any leader nowadays.

If there is a chance of a real peace after this war, I should like to live somewhere, where one can listen to the birds singing, and keep far away from all centers, noises and hustlers. Where this place can be God knows. We still hope that privat property in Poland will not be Bolshevised,- and if we go back to the place my husband owned for generations we can raise cattle, and have plenty of space to create something worth living for. Perhaps you will come and join us there,-- or do you think we shall end on the Fidgee Esland looking for peace?

To tell you something about us: The climat is so vile that it becomes funny. We have snow, rain, ice and thaw weather all within 24 hours. We feed the birds and have 12 pheasants who sitt around the various feeding places we made for them and even crows come and chase the squirrels away. One great big rat joined the party, but we got some poison, and now she has not shown up lately. The roads are so icy, squashy that we are isolated on this lane. But we have plenty to do and I play the piano, although all the work does not bring me in a penny. If I am asked to play it is for charity, which I love doing, although I often think that nobody thinks that I must also pay to live. We are hoping for spring to come as my husbands health would improve if he could have more fresh air.

I wish we were in Florida and had a bit of warm sun, but we cant moove without a car anyway. We dont know where to go in the summer, as the heat here gets terrific and both my Mother and husband cant stand it with the heart. I might try and find a shack in Newport, which sounds snobby,-- but at least there one sees remnants of happy prosperous days, although all the owners are in a panic of money. Probably in ten years or so, they will also be cooking their own meals and mopping the floors. I wonder if the world will be happier when everybody has the same mop, the same house, the same frigidare, the same cloths, face etc.

and a clock routine. No individuality, no art ofcourse, just robots from the day they are born until the day they die. I think in that case we can go to Africa, where one can see the natives just sitt on the sand, beating a drum and taking donkey rides perched like ghosts on these clever little animals through the misterious desert. One can raise there those measly small chickens that lay tiny eggs, and if we go further South we can shoot ferocious animals before they eat us,-- the only trouble would be the heat, which we could not stand.

If I had any money I would settle down here somewhere where there is sun and a better climat, and raise animals and farm, but how can anybody cope with the wages. When I think of the Portugese who are a lazy happy go lucky mixture of mourish spaniards, they get 3 Dollars a Month wage and there are no such problems there as yet. A Secretary of State gets probably 100Dollars a Month salary, and this is in proportion with their life. They love flowers, and have time to enjoy gardens, sitt in them and listen to birds. Well everything is relativ in life, but to come to one conclusion MONEY is not everything in life. We just happen to live in the Era where it is the God on Earth, and people believe that one must hustle all day and possibly night to collect as much as possible of it.

We met an old sklerotic man the other day, who sadd that work was the only thing living for. What work I asked. "To make lots of money" was the answer. Then he said "I made a fortune, and then I lost it all, and now I am beginning again" What was the use of it all I thought, and then looking at him I was certain he will be in the grave before long, so why worry!

Now I must close all my radicolous theories,- but I believe you understand what I mean, and perhaps in 500 years from now people will have enough of all this and invent something new instead of rushing from morning till night after something, and go back to Diogenes example!

With lots of greetings to you both from us both and best wishes yours V. sincer

Villanova March 24th.

1942

Dear friends,

We appreciated so much your most interesting letter and also your kindness in sending us the newspaper cuttings, which are very interesting. After Churchill's speech it seems clear that he has forgotten Poland and the guarantee which was given when the war started and Russia was Germany's Ally! I don't think for a minute that the Poles will take it, and at least the great consolation will be that it won't be England, but it will be America who will have the most say after this war. How can there be a real peace after this war, and what is this war being fought for, if the only profiteer will be the Bolsheviks? This world is in such a mess, but there is still hope if America is alert to the problems she will face after this war. The English diplomacy wants to postpone disagreeable subjects, and of course she wants before all to protect her Empire and her interests. I remember an English diplomat in Portugal saying to us that they hope the Americans won't come in to spoil their peace. Well times have changed since, and the small nations, as we must call ourselves, hope in America's justice and promises. There are 4 million Poles in this country who are all attached to their Mother country, and are outraged at the idea that some of their country should be handed over as a bait to the Bolsheviks, or bartered with. When Russia grabbed that part of Poland as Germany's Ally in 1939, she deported 2 Million Poles from there, and has up to now not released them. The devastation she made was terrible, amongst other things my husband's family estate was burned to the ground. This news we got a few weeks ago. If England presents Russia with part of Poland, there will certainly be no peace and no justice and it will lay the stone to another war. Well, the Russians at present are not doing so well, and the old saying "malheur au vainqueur" always proves true. If the Russians are beaten back --- and the Allies are able to beat Rommel and get to Europe -- it would be certainly more advantageous than Russia swarming into Europe and establishing their bolshevik regime, which is just the same as Hitler's system. Isn't it incredible in what a world we live. It just makes one shudder what devastation there is everywhere and where and when will it end? All these lives lost, and all this terrible suffering. I remember after the last war was over and one started to breathe again, I always prayed that I may never see another war, and now we are in the midst of the worst war in history. How are you getting along with food? I am now the cook and general in the house, as we have no help at all anymore, and I must say I like it, because I feel that I am doing my best, -- but of course I am learning my experience and just now it is harder with all the rationing. I have an awful time with sugar, as that we need most and have too little, otherwise I am getting along up to now alright. Yesterday Senator Pepper and his wife came to tea, and I wanted to make them egg sandwiches, however I forgot the eggs on the gas stove when they arrived, and after an hour the whole house had a terrific smell, as the water had evaporated and the eggs were coal black and crimated, so everybody knew what had happened. The Peppers sent me 2 dozen eggs next day, which was very kind of them. We also had the visit of Countess Széchényi which we enjoyed very much. We have terrible weather and at present an icy wind, snow yesterday, and winter all over. We won't have another winter here, as we got so rheumatic, and we very much want to get to Florida next winter. I hope we can get a house there for next autumn. At present we are faced with our summer problem, and we yet don't know where we shall go. We must leave this place on the 15th. of May. My husband is better, but has to be very careful, but I am so thankful he is better now, and I think when the weather gets better he will get stronger. What are your plans for the summer? I am very worried over my son, as he is in the Montgomery Army which is fighting so hard now. I can't get any news now at all, but no news is good news I pray. I wish I could write a longer letter, but I have so much work still to do and I did very much want to thank you for your interesting letter and say how much we appreciate your news and interesting views.

With many greetings from us all to you both

yours very sincerely

Matilda Papich

Villanova April 10th 1947

Dear friends

Very many thanks for your interesting letter received
+ very many thanks for your great kindness + con-
fidence, sending me the sugar card - I shall
send it back to you (I mean the ration card)
+ shall be more than delighted + thankful to
purchase the 5 pounds of sugar - It is a real
great help + so very kind of you - as we have
so little sugar + I have been trying to use
honey, but it works not well - These 5 Pounds
from your card will be just grand! -
Your letters are so interesting always +

I love your cooking description as it reminds
me of my self cooking - Well instead of
more intellectual occupations we shall all
have to do domestic work - not that
I mind but the level of intelligence
will slowly sink - as our self preservation
instinct will force us to do all the sort
of work to keep ourselves fed - I get so
tired as I really work hard + never have
time for anything - Always some thing
to clean wash etc etc - + the only thing
I can't complain about is that my hands are
fight full aching - I think it is a mixture
of these vile climat + the constant contact
with hot + cold water - My fingers are
quite stiff - bones ache, + when I
wake up in the morning they are quite
numb + I can't close my hands -
Well one thing is certain that we will come

To Florida next winter - even if we walk
on foot - we cant stand this damps
cold & we are perfectly stiff from it -
Imagine today 9th of April there is not
one leaf on a tree - only a few shrubs
make a small effort of a few tiny leaves.
We had icy weather up to yesterday &
may have it again tomorrow
We are determined to come to Florida
in September & would love to find a
house in Palm Beach if possible -
We stay here until the 10th of June
in this house - & then we shall
most probably go to Newport for the
summer months as friends want
to arrange a house for us there - I think
it will be nice there & not so damps
& hot as here -
The Pepper was George Pepper - he was
a Senator but now he is retired & a
very nice man who was a lawyer too -
I wish I could write more - but
this is only a hurried note - We are
reading the book you suggested about
Europe ^{from Shean} it is most interesting -
but we have not the Prokosh Conspiracy
which Daniels also most interesting.
I shall try to get the books - but we
cant from a library as we avoid Philadelphia
because it is a dreadful town & we
are ill every time we go! -

Mother broke my typewriter which is very bad & it will take weeks to repair - therefore excuse scribble! I shall try your meat loaf receipt - I have wonderful receipts from famous french & Viennese cooks & I sometimes make some marvellous concoctions - but this cooking takes time & concentration which I lack. What is your present opinion about Russia? I believe it is a good thing that the Polish questions are being discussed as the Russian demands are outrageous & most unjust - & I am reassured that America will see to a juster peace than any other ally - I wonder if the Pepper you mentioned only learnt folk song from Mrs. Finkelstein. I am not yet acquainted with synthetic food - has it anything to do with synthetic rubber? I was told we shall wear Glas suits after the war & wear nicks & coal stockings - It all sounds too complicated for my old-fashioned brain - How long will the war last? Excuse this mixed up letter

I want to thank you again
for No 12 on your ration card,
which we all appreciated very
much

Many hearty greetings &
best wishes from

Yours very sincerely
Matildadajoba

I hope your military work won't
take you away from Florida —

Villanova May 14th.

Dear friends,

I wish I could write more, but I have to work so hard all day, and this climat is so dreadful that I got the most awful pains in my hands. I went to see a docotr who gives me Vitamin B injections and iron And liver pills, And bromide, so with all that I think the best thing will be when we leave this place, which we shall do on June 8th.

Our Newport address will be Bellevue Avenue "Wayside" c/o Mr. Bruguiere /Rhode Island./

Your letters are always so interesting and we do appreciate hearing from you very much. We are sure that if we had spent the winter in Florida it would have been so much better, but then we could not have the gasolin to come. We will certainly come this winter to Florida, and it will be so nice seeing you both.

The warnews is marvellous in Africa, and the collapse typically German.

Once the goosstep order cannot march on weaker oponents, and finds real resistance and fighting, then they quit and wheep, and are so dissappointed and helpless. We went to a very interesting lecture on the Polish Russian question the other day. It would be difficult for me to remember the details

but it was very good. First, that the policy of appeasement to Russia and allowing her to grab what pleases her for the moment, like all these helpless smal States, like Estonia, Latvia Lithouania, Finnland, and now a big chunk of Poland, is like the appeasement policy toward Hitler when he started grabbing countries. Hand over anything for peacesake, -until somebody or something has to stop it/. Poland will fight to the last man for every inch of her country, so there wont be any peace after this war if Russia is not dealt with and put in her place.

Benes the Check man is a paid agent from Moskou, and all this pro Bolshi propaganda is very dangerous to the whole postwar problems. Exchange Hitler for Stain is not a liberation of smal countries that have Also a right to live and be free. Once, maybe in a few years Fussia will find appetite in more evaluable countries, like part of India, China, Turkey etc, and maybe str@ stretch out her hand towards Sweden etc. then the whole bloody war, and a far worse one, will have to recommence. These prospects are very sad, and one must only hope that something will happen before this war is over to

stop Stalins ambitions for "Lebensraum"!

Did you ever read the book about Marshall Pilsudski? It is written by his wife and it is a ma vellous book, and would interest you I am sure.

I wish I could write longer, but I must go and cook now.

Lookinf forward to hearing from you and that you are both well and let me kno your adress please.

With many greetings yours very sincerely

Martina Lapicka

Villanova
Broughton Lane Pennsylvania.
Nov 6th.

Dear friends,

I have not written as we were very busy, and now we are settled in this house in Villanova, which is country and agreeable, near the railway station, 4 miles from the shopping center at Brynmar, and a very comfortable house, with rooms nicely furnished and spacious. We have a garden and many birds and squirrels, and a family of wild pheasants that sit on the fence sometimes.

We left Westport the first days of Nov. and our Saint coloured cook did not come with us. She found a coloured widower with a golden tooth, who was earning 80 Dollars a week, and had a new car, took her out very often and the result was that she wanted to remain near this goldmine. However we hear from her since that she is back home in Florida and her family and longs for us again. For the time being however we found a nice old white help, who is very polite but fragile, so I have to do much of the work, what I don't mind so much. We have this house for 6 months, and up to now the weather has been cold but sunny and cheerful. I feel my rheumatism in the arm, but what can one do. We never would have got the gasolin to come down and now we did get the gas to come here. We came here via Newport where we spent 10 days with my friend Gladys Széchanyi Vanderbilt, and we really enjoyed our stay there tremendously. The houses there are really the most lovely buildings, and it seems such a pity that these places should be so taxed and probably shut down if things get worse. I am always for preserving everything that is lovely, and it is always a pity to have nice things to one grey mass. But this is the tide nowadays, everybody will be poor after this war. We met very nice and interesting people in Newport and they were all very benevolent. We had so many invitations that we felt like having a Derby season,-- and living as we do, in a very modest way, it was rather like fairy land to see huge English butlers and beautifully set dinner tables again. It was nice to see this life, although of course everybody realizes that it will not last,-- houses will be closed, and all splendour will be done away with. After all culture and beauty was never invented by the grey mass. What has France produced since the revolution. Of course it is envy which arouses this everlasting hate against everybody who is not alike. Even the barnyard cock is envious of the Peacock,-- yet God created Peacocks and they don't do any harm inspite of being beautiful to look at!

Maybe after all these mass experiments of Bolsnevism, radical socialism etc in another 200 years these same people will start the same thing all over again, and there will be a new breed of Peacocks. We are just living in the worst years, where envy and hatred rules, and all energy is spent on destroying each other,-- but after this war people will be tired and settle down to something more constructive.

I read that the Germans are making soap and lubricant of the Jews in the various concentration camps. This, typically German organization, who want to exterminate the Jews, but want to get some use out of their bodies. One talks of a civilized age, but the greatest savages did not eat their victims or use them in a chemical way. I don't take the part of the Jews, because they are only out for their own profits, and they are a terrible race, but I do think some human solution could be found for this problem.

Maybe even the hospitable American will get slowly fed up with certain Jewish influx and influence, as they are like Thermites chewing up invisibly everything, using the Christian for their aims. My experiment with this refugee Jewcouple this summer was so typical. I took all the trouble to get them nice rooms in the Inn at Westport, where they don't take Jews. As I felt sorry for them I persuaded the proprietor to take them, and so they both came, and met nice people through us, and had a lovely time. After I had the conversation with him that after this war maybe the Jews will become Christian, and amalgamate themselves, he grew purple in the face, and said this will never happen, and practically explained to me what a superior man the Jew was etc. then they left and never even took the trouble to thank me for what I did for them. Later on I heard that this very man, had already established big business connections with other Jews here, buying cheap land in the West, buying up patents, amongst others all the permanent waving washings, etc. and doing themselves fine. This is the poor refugee Jew!! The great excitement in England about Darlan is of course very much influenced by the Jews there, as de Gaulle is a friend of the Jews, and Darlan hates them. Of course Maisky and Bronstein will hate Darlan, -- yet Darlan has been a good patriot and a great help in Africa. Certainly Blum and Mandel were no Patriotic Frenchmen, and the corruption in France when she collapsed was worse than under Louis sixteen.

We were so sorry to read about the death of the writer Sales. You sent us this excellent book of his, and we loved it. There is a book out from Dorothy Thompson, called something like "Listen Hans". Did you read it? It might be interesting. Also a book about Russia.

What you wrote about the Republican party is very interesting. Certainly Roosevelt is a marvellous diplomat and leader, and everybody must admire him, and it would be tragic if America would go back to isolation after the war. The Army will have a great say, and getting acquainted, as they will be with Europe, they will see that it is impossible to leave Europe to herself with all her problems, as it would only lead to another war again.

Germany must be divided up somehow. In the days before Bismark, it kept quiete and was perfectly happy. They must goosestep around somebody, and the Baverians are absolutely different to the Prussians. I wonder what the outcome of Otto Hapsburg will be, -- he is not sympathetic, and has this awful Braganza blood, and does not look Hapsburg like, and his Mothers ambitions prevented him coming to Austria in the Dollfuss days. On the other hand he may be better than some newbaked radical. It is all like a boiling pot, with all these refugee representatives trying to get at the ham first. I cant imagine a country like Poland which is going through the worst hell of cruelty, extermination, and suffring, -will wellcome a bunch of wellfed Jews who represent Poland in London and Washington, arriving in Warsaw escorted by their Jewish proteges. Mr. Ciehanowsky has here as Presschief a woman called "Ashkenase". It is a funny world, and God knows what the outcome of all these problems will be.

The two books you suggested, Rise of American civilisation, and American Government, would be very interesting, but we are not members of any library and books are so expensive to buy. We have not one spare penny left for anything, and we would love to be members of a library. Have you any idea how we could arrange to be members of a good library either in New York or Philadelphia? This would be so wonderful for us.

I have been working hard on my piano, and now can do the Liszt Concerto and am learning the Tchaikovsky and Grieg. There is of course one sad fact one must face, and that is that I am a Christian against all this Jewish clique who only help each other. When I went to Columbia and Victors for making

records, I was told that they will make difficulties as they have all their Jewish proteges. I went however to Vicotr, and they were very nice, but said they don't make new recordings for the duration. Of course we all know that they make recordings all the time, but I had no pull with these people, which makes it hopeless for me. Old Rubinstein will always have plenty of engagements, as well as Rosenthal, -- even if they are already 150 years old, but I can stand on my head before I can penetrate into this ring!

We are going to Baltimore to see our friend the teacher of the Peabody who is one of the finest musicians we know. He is no Jew, and therefore has never made a fortune. They live extremely modestly near Baltimore, and he has to get to the Peabody every day for his school there snow or rain, and his scholars are wonderful, as he inspires them and is a genius. He wants us to play the Concert at the Peabody.

Well, I live in hopes, and go on working.

I gave a few recitals in Newport, also on two pianos, and it was a good success. My husband and I were asked by the "Brush and Pen Club" in New York to perform there; but they are so poor that they can't give us any pay, therefore we can't go, as we can't spend that money, and I am not sorry for this.

We hope you are both well, and will send me your news, and some warm Florida Sunshine.

With best greetings from us both and best wishes
yours very sincerely

Helene Spieker