

Thursday July 11th

George, dearest,

These last few nights have been so cool that it was necessary to use extra covers on our beds. We're eating, sleeping and feeling very well since we came here and as I've reiterated many times it would be heavenly if you were with us. Jimmie looks great and his hair is turning lighter again because of the sun. He's due for a haircut and will get one this Saturday. Hope he likes the barber.

Thursday mornings in town are very busy and people from miles around come here to shop. I left Jimmie with our upstairs neighbor who is very nice and intelligent and did my shopping most of the morning. Jim behaved well and the reason was Rhoda, a six week old baby girl. Babies fascinate our person and I promised him a baby if he didn't say fresh things. He promised.

The postman brought your June 25th letter and two regular ^{mail} letters with some newspapers and articles. Also received one first day cover with a block of 4 two five stamps and its a honey, 9 more are due me.

My dear friend,
I have just finished the first
part of my journey to see
you. I am now in the
city of London, and I am
very glad to hear from
you. I am well and hope
this letter will find you
the same.

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2
Your letters continue to be optimistic
and your assurance that you're fine
and happy makes me feel good. Stay
that way, darling for me! Worst years
are behind us. Our future looks rosier
and more wonderful as the days go by.

Last night I wrote you a short v-mail
and hope you don't mind. I started to
read Herman's "Green Glass" and couldn't
take my eyes off the book. His style of
writing is beautiful and so much to the point.

Had a lovely afternoon with Jim around
the house and walked the two blocks to town
for ice cream cones. We had a nice supper
and Jim went to bed immediately after.
I expect Mom and Eleanor to-night and
hope Mom has settled all her affairs
concerning London. As you know, not
too much damage was done by the fire and
London plans to build one of their newest
stores on Piccadilly Avenue. They signed for
eight more years which makes the lease
run for 10 years in all with an increase
in rent. Of course, my mother is
elated and all we have to say is —
so what! Now don't get me wrong.

My dear Mr. Garrison
I have just received your
kind letter of the 10th inst.
and am glad to hear that
you are so interested in
the cause of the colored
people. I am sure that
your efforts will be
successful in securing
for them the same rights
and privileges which we
as white people enjoy.

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2

As yet my allotment check, your
allotment to me and your \$10.00 bond
hasn't arrived yet and that totals \$200.
I hope it hasn't been misdirected, stolen
or returned to the office of Dependency.
I wrote to my f. o. 2 times and expect
an answer soon. All other mail has
been forwarded to me and I didn't want
my address changed with the Office of
Dependency because that screws everything
up into a real mess. Don't worry though,
I'm sure it'll come through and
meanwhile I'm not broke.

To clarify the situation on the
car. Only the 4 doors and 4 fenders
were repainted the same color and
that cost \$55.00. I was supposed to had
the radio repaired too and got an esti-
mate for \$13.75. That totals \$68.75 and
that was the amount I received from
the insurance company. As yet I
haven't had the radio repaired but
will take care of it in the near future.
The car looks good and runs fine.

[illegible]

Before I left for⁴ Monticello I tried to get covers for the car but the place I was recommended to didn't have the covers to fit our car at the time. I'll try them again when I return to the city.

Just had a call from a neighbor across the street and she spoke to me for 20 minutes. She seems like a grand person and keeps our meat in her refrigerator. We have an ice-box which is sure far from what we're accustomed to but for the next few weeks it doesn't matter.

Wish I could send you a statement of our gold, stocks and bonds but that too will have to wait until I return to the city. It'll be hard to save too much this summer, if anything. Prices are high this year and the black markets are cleaning up in Monticello. Here's a partial list of prices of necessities.

eggs — 75¢ doz. (ordinarily 46¢ to 55¢)
tomatoes today — 31¢ lb. (usually 12 or 15 per lb.)
Chicken — 65 to 85 per lb. (" 36 to 44 ")
berries — 75 to 80¢ per qt (" 39 to 44 per qt)
butter — 60¢ per lb (" 45 to 50 per lb)

[The page contains extremely faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]

The cakes in town are putrid so we buy
cookies, Drabe's are' bake over oven. Sometimes
clearer as men bring cake from Ebinger's and
Shroff's. Hope they bring something good tonight.

I wrote to your folks last night and
hope they'll be able to visit us this week-
end. I've also inspired some other women
whose husbands are in the service to write
more of these letters. As yet the news-
paper dealers haven't any papers and the
strike might be settled to-morrow. Heard
on the radio that people are paying 50¢
to \$1.00 a paper in New York city. (blue
market.)

As always, I continue to worship you
and love you with all my heart. You
mean everything that is worth while to me.
and I hope and pray that I'll have you
in my arms before this year is ended.
Good night, dearest sweetheart, and
Jim and I send you hugs and kisses
and oceans of love.

Lovingly,
Florence

The letter in this the first of the series
which, I hope, will be of some use to you.
I have not time to say more than that
I am, dear Sir, your obedient servant,
J. H. P.

AFTER 5 DAYS, RETURN TO

Mrs. Florence Staff
41- Sandfield Ave
Monticello, N.Y.



7/12

VIA AIR MAIL

Cpl. George Staff 42050100
CoA- 735 RWY OPN BN
APO# 350 c/o Postmaster
New York - N.Y.

Baby
Rob
Car
Chick
Platform
Paving
Pavico
Kittens
dog

Dear Mary
snaps.
puppies
Miss