No 80

10 Grosvenor St.
Edinburgh.
Sept. 14/16.

Dear Mother.

To you realize your daughter is actually in Scotland — for I don't believe it. This little extra splurge is really Mildred's treat, tried hard to say I am quite excited, for we have only just arrived. & are staying in the same lodging house as Mildred did on her visit here 6 or 7 years ago. But I imagine in some ways it is vastly different. There are practically no hotels in the ordinary sense of the word, although one comes in contact with plenty of English people on their holidays. This place evidently was originally an exceedingly nice residential place — their probably one expensive lodging house, for the furniture is beautiful old mahogany the curtains good old stuff, & the rooms most spacious. Now there is a little fuss that as things wear out they are not replaced — yet the general

air is awfully good. Fortunately for us the people who evidentally took the rooms permanently are away, & so for a fairly moderate price (7 shillings a day each meals inclusive) we have a large bedroom, & tremendous drawing-room on the first floor, where our meals are to be served – & far we have not had any, as we only arrived late one night ago.

I intended writing you again when in Norwich, but as hindered sent you a few lines, sent off one or two notes to Aunt Nora etc. announcing my arrival in England.

Sometimes my conscience pricks me a little at enjoying myself so much these hard times, & yet I had to have a rest, & felt for very little more, & this good an opportunity to see a little more of this wonderful country, for any time I expect it will be a long time before I travel again.

I can't help but feel once the world is more or less normal again, & the war is over, hard times are ahead of us – & of course I'm not getting any younger.

Just imagine in another hour we shall be fairly there, & certainly I look a good five years older than when I left home. Never before did I think of myself as a nearly fully "old maid" — but has I been Jane!!

When we started if we were so doubtful as to what we had better do — but the trip to the Lake District has been a wonderful success. Scenery like yours has been lifeless in it, & the contrast after coming from a further early business part of the East is more marvelous than I can describe. The greenness of these Cumberland hills, then Cumarians growth, the fulness of the streams, & general air of comfort & prosperity has done us both more good than I can say.

We left Keswick @ 9.38 this a.m. & arrived here @ 4 p.m. Keswick is further out of the way, & we had to change @ Penrith Junction @ Carlisle.

We intend staying here four days, spending one of them taking a trip through the Trossachs, but otherwise just seeing the sights right in

Edinburgh; then we go back to Keswick stay the night, coach the following day to Ambleside on Lake Windermere, where we thought we would stay for a week or just rest, as it undoubtably is beautiful country, where there are endless walks etc — Then on our way back our tickets allow us to stop at York, (Mildred has never been there), Lincoln, Ely & Cambridge, giving us a chance to see a great deal of interest.

Just before leaving London I rec. your letter no. 78 — but so far 77 has not turned up. It seems just ages since I have had any news, but until we reached London our mail had not been stopped being sent to Salonica, which means another long trip before I get it. Then was fearfully disappointed when I reached England to hear Temple was in France, therefore no chance of seeing him. I sent him a line from Malta, but so far have had no answer.

Am enclosing a few snaps some taken in Salonica, the others in Keswick just before

you an idea of our new clothes. The hat is just plain navy blue silk, soft full crown, & the flower varies shades of blue.
Mildred's coat looks too flame in the picture but not in reality. Her hat is a gorgeously rich shade of dark purple, with small softly shaded flowers on one side. The sash of mine in our outing costume is awful. The hat looks weird — but might as well send it along.
Well here I left off to go to the "Movies". There are no less than three houses for movies, right in the best part of Princes Street — it just shows what money there must be in this business. The pictures were poor, but the subjects most interesting. Edinburgh is even darker than London, but the streets are so broad one doesn't mind as much. Even in Keswick every length in church for instance. Has a dark shade, & the law is most strict about having all blinds down. Here outside the picture shows only one candle is allowed, & even it is shaded by a pillar. However it took people a long time to really realize the seriousness of air raids, & now I think everyone does what they can to help.

hundred leaps it's time to close so au revoir for this present. Love to Uncle George & a whole leaf for your own dear self

Yours lovingly

Lelie.

P.S. Expect you are back home again. The meals have proved a. 1.