

I am having the Belize papers sent to you
first. After you glance through them
please forward to Dr. Gentle. This do every week.

WY Belize 12 Dec 1905. ^{wed}
My dearest Annie, Tuesday night.

On Sunday afternoon
I received your letters of 19th & 22 ult.
Mr 4/24. also Berta's letter! I am
so sorry to hear she has been ill,
and altho' your latest report was
that she was better, still I shall
feel anxious until I get next
mail's news. It is such a long
time to have to remain a whole
week in suspense. I had
hoped my message from St. Y
wd have reached ^{you} Saturday
morning. Possibly your father
did not wire it on. Since I
began this letter Sandy C. has
been in gaunting for 12 hours
Jones was at home this evening
He seems to spend a good
many evenings at Landdale
Takes her regularly to & from

Church. Their Boxes at the Golf Club
are side by side. The ^{troubles} are still going on, altho not so
frequently owing to the ^{days} evenings
being so short. J. & Mrs. C. always
play ^{as} partners. They go to Grand
occasionally, play cards until
very late. Everything points to
an engagement, still people don't
know what to make of it.

C. & C. left, of his own free will, to
me this evening that he could
not make it out, & that he had
not bet on a "hitch up" (marriage)

Grant & Porter are doubtful
which way it will go. Dizzie's
opinion is that "when J. gets
ready he'll pick up his bag
& go on board the steamer!"

I can't help thinking that
they fully understand each
other & that I am the cause.

of this dark game; that they are hanging out for me to show my hand. Well, I intend to do so soon. By next mail I shall perhaps be able to tell you the result.

I am still pondering over the matter & the manner of handling him.

I recognise that I must take the risk of his buying me out, but even so it would, I shall see, be on a basis more favorable to me than will be selling off the stocks. I shall trust to Providence to rule for the best.

I spent Friday eve with the Porters. They were enquiring for you all & Mrs P. sent her love. On Sunday I attended service, morning & evening, stood at the door & took round the collection box. The ladies of the congregation are getting up an Ice Cream Social for Dec 29th. The

Church funds are at present abt
\$300. behind. Last evening I
spent reading the 2 D.T.s you sent.
I do wish you wd wrap up the papers
neatly. One was folded about 16
inches long & being so pliable the
wrapper was almost torn off. This I
all got spread out the paper & get
the edges even & then fold up tightly
- the packet shd then be about 9
inches long. It is so simple, I
showed you how to do it. Please try.
I am not surprised to hear that the
back bedroom is very cold. I
suspected it. You are right to use
your own bedroom as a Nursery
I doubt if B. got her chill in the ^{galleried} Partry
just as likely to have been lying
in bed uncovered. You shd make
her a flannel sleeping suit,
pantaloons, with feet too. From
what you say, I am not favorably

impressed

with Dr Godfrey. Had indeed am I
that you did not intend to follow his
suggestion re banana. How absurd!

Smell or arrowroot at bedtime
& once during the night could
not possibly know the child. & don't
give it to her. See that she does not
go about (as sometimes happened) with
her drawers not buttoned behind, & the
drawers should be thick & warm.

Why should you be flurried by a call
from the Vicar of Christchurch? Tell
him straight that you were in the
habit of attending Presbyterian or Congregational
places of worship. If Mr Cooper asks
you to take sittings, say it is not
worth while for the short time you
are likely to be in Trichley. However
you can take a sitting for 6 months
& it is not very dear you might
stitch to that. I just paid \$12^m
today to the Ice Mill - July 16 Decr.

Wed night - It is very close & muggy tonight & I feel quite fatigued, altho I have not done any hard work today.. By the way, while I think of it Mr Leitch married Burke on the Thursday before I returned. How foolish of me, I told you this in my last, of course! Elsie is not fit for work yet, so on Sat I engaged Emma Dyer for a week. That cook whom I engaged promised to come here at 10 o'clock on Sat m^g to see if all was in order & to get money and instructions for marketing. She went to Mrs W's before I tell Mr W told her to come to me at 10. I remained in the house until 10:30 but nobody came. Yesterday (Tues) she came to the store, & when I said, why did not you come on Sat m^g as agreed? her answer

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10.20 but nobody came. Yesterday
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was I never feel well on Saturday?
I told her to clear out. So I have
not got a cook yet & I fear I
will have to wait until Elmos
A.Year are over. Y'day received a
note inviting me to the Frasers for
Elmos dinner. I accepted. Today
I had an invitation to dine with
the Cutters on Elmos day, to which
of course I replied that I was booked.
Sandy C. is engaged to a
Sc. girl. I don't remember the
name. From the photo I think
she must be quite as old as he,
and rather plain looking.

The Franco baby is quite a
pretty child, blue eyes & rosy
cheeks. She is 5 wks younger than
Dorothy, but sits in her pram.
Looks around her like a child
of 12 months.

Many thanks for your birthday greeting.

Jemimie ell's birthday was on 18th; X
 Jones was out one afternoon buying
 toys for him. Tonight J. is off
 to Riverside Hall treating the
 youngsters to a cinematograph
 entertainment. You ask who
 shd pay for cleaning the Cistern, Mr.
 D or you or the landlord. Remember
 that you have nothing to do with
 the landlord. Mr. D is the only person
 with whom you have to deal. I shd
 expect her to pay for the cleaning but
 rather than have any argument
 on such a small matter you'd
 have it done at your expense.

As regards the tiles, you have more
 than once notified their bad state
 to Mr. D, so that the responsibility
 is off your shoulders. You are right there.

The L'pool which left L'pool 2 days
 before me. & was due here last Sat.
 has not arrived yet. Mr. Knight

is here to meet his daughter.
Took him for a walk this afternoon & brought him in here and showed him this property inside & outside, & in a quiet way enlarged upon its good points. I carefully pointed out every piece of furniture & said that possibly the whole establishment might soon be for sale. and I should like, if possible, to sell house & furniture en bloc. There is some little excitement at present over the discovery of gold-bearing quartz in the hills behind Stann Creek.

An expert sent out by an English Co. arrived by this mail & is going to examine & report to his principals in London. Several Belize people have had claims staked out. Grant Grant & Jones staked theirs personally when

they made that trip a few months ago. I expect it will turn out that the gold is not in paying quantities Friday evg. It is calm & sultry. one can hardly breathe tonight & the mosquitoes are very bad. Really you are more comfortable in cold London than we here tonight. I am just in a bath of perspiration. I picture Marion sitting opposite me so cold, & complaining of heat & mosquitoes. I am still in the wood that perhaps after all my wisest course is to sell off & get home to Old England, even if the only occupation I can find is to play golf. That should be a very healthful life. I played one round with Jones this evg. all square, but I am playing a stronger game than I used to & never. The L'pool St. arrived this am. The 3 Wolffsohns & Pamela Knight are all at the Mission

I'm at top of Barracks. Dr. W. went into
Quarantine with them. The Slacks ret^t
by the Mobile st^r this week, & Peters by
the N. O. st^r. Mrs Peters & family remain in
England. P. has been ill in England &
is very much thinned - Kidney trouble I hear.
Now dearie, you don't know how anxious I
am to receive your next letter. I earnestly
hope it may bring absolutely good news
about Bertha & all of you. I hope Ellen is
still giving satisfaction & that you are
managing your household with consummate
tact. I have not done any visiting
this week. I am keeping pretty much
to myself for the present. I have no
more news at this writing. Perhaps my
next will be longer. Ta ta, darling, keep
bright & cheerful & trust that we shall
meet within 6 or 7 months. Kiss B & D for
me. Love to Marion & yours dearest.

Take every care of yourself & the Kiddies
Ever your loving Hubby,
Willie
(This finishes the Book)