

4-11-1915

Letter from Eleanor Blair, to Mr. D.C. Blair, Montour Falls, New York, 1915 April 11

Eleanor Blair

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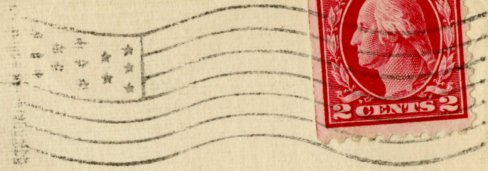
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1916 in former
Lynn + great walk

A/11/15 ✓

WELLESLEY
APR 12
-30A
19 15
MASS.



Mr. D. C. Blawie
Montour Falls
New York.

Fiske Cottage,
Wellesley, Mass.,
11 April, 1915.

Dear Dad and the rest,

I don't blame my family one bit if they discover me entirely. Not a single word have you heard from me since I came back to Wellesley and work. But oh! the excitement of the few days since we returned. Yes, forensic burning and ghost walk have taken place though we Sophmores grieved that the latter could take place. One of our class found out before vacation that the challenge was to be given the first Thursday after our return, and so it was.

Wednesday there was a meeting of the heads of districts for final plans. I guess 1914 was surprised that we were aware of her plans. We even found out their password & the costume they intended to wear. When we discovered that they were to wear muddy blouses & bloomers, we Pops made off with all the bloomers. Some of them the juniors found, but those we put under their own mattresses, they didn't succeed in getting.

We did our best to get hold of their masks and the candles for their ghost walk but they were too smart for us. The burning could take place any time between 4:05 P.M. & 8:00 P.M. It seemed during that time that most of the college was masked. Elderly ladies, any one of whom might be a junior, were conducted around campus by their spies. It would take a

volume to explain all the doing, so I'll
leave details until I can tell you.

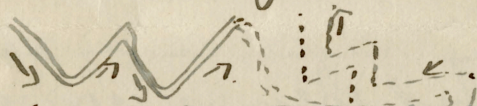
I hope the pictures I took are good.

The one of me upon the tree putting
up our banner opposite the challenge
ought to be a beauty.

Friday morning, we had all kinds
of crazy signs up in "center" - hits
on the juniors, you know. Then,
of course, there was cheering.

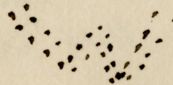
Saturday night came the great
walk, and when if 1916 was our
deadly enemy during forensic hunting,
I must say that that great walk
was beautiful and a credit to any
class. They had a social at the barn
so many sophomores gathered outside
to bother them. Just before they came
out, we formed in two lines on
each side of the walk and they
had to march between us. Then
we scooted for College Hall Hill where

1915 and 1918 were waiting. The goats
 came past the library, up thru the
 hollow and past the post, ~~collect~~
 the hill, then snaking all over the
 green. It was weird to see these shales
 figures slowly marching to the
 tune of the Latin dirge, candles in
 hand. After curling around in
 various figures they formed the "W."
 - a rather wobbly one - like this.



We thought that would be the end of
 the walk, but they kept right on
 going until they had made a heavier
 block letter like the dotted figure.

Then they stopped, all squatted down
 each line leaning toward the opposite
 line. For a minute they stayed
 that way, then all got up & moved back
 in a circle leaving a ^W of candles.

 on the green, ^{Each H} ~~the~~ the genuine

now had in ~~their~~^{her} hand, instead ^{2.}
of the candles, a ~~search~~ flash light
with red cloth over the globe, so the
whole effect was beautiful - a
great circle of white figures with
little red lights and in the center
this beautiful, gemmering W.

^{We} They cheered and they cheered in turn,
all waving their bug lights up and
down in time to the cheer.

It would be an endless task to tell
you how we tried to get the food they
had ordered for their class social,
how we searched the campus high
and low for their candles, getting
the faculty to help us, looking thru
the society houses, how we followed
Lord Ward, then U. P., lost her as she
was getting in a boat, found her
again on the lake, etc. We had wild
times, and I have been so dizzy
since that I can hardly get up & down

stairs.

The warning bell for breakfast just rang. I have been up since 6:30 and enjoying the out-door air from the front porch.

Before I forget it, I did receive the \$5.00 and also the gloves, though I have a sneaking suspicion I didn't even thank you, Mutter, for the latter. Truly it wasn't because I didn't appreciate them, but when I wrote last Sunday, as I said, I couldn't get my photo collected.

And if you will send me such a shower of Easter gifts, you can't blame me if I forget a few. Thanks for the gloves now anyway. I guess I will have to send them back to be changed, for they won't go around my wrists. The fingers are all right but the wrists lack an inch or least of making connections.

Just in from church so will finish
before dinner. We are having our Easter
services today. The chapel was beautiful
flowers and palms everywhere, a great
white azalea in the center, orchids on
the pulpit, huge bushes of hydrangea,
and lots of other flowers. Most of the
music comes tonight. We are to have
several choruses of mixed voices, our
choir and men from Boston. Nolly
Chambers is to be up in the gallery &
take the part of the celestial choir,
and a trumpet is to be in the anti-
room so I imagine our listeners
have several surprises in store for
them. Also we are to have a cello, a
violin and I don't know what else.
We rehearsed from 9:30 to 11:00 this
morning and have to go up at 4:00 this
afternoon so I will spend another of

those musical Sundays like I had
just before going away.

I am going to write to Auntie
this afternoon and thank her for
the Easter gift. I know just what
I am going to do with it. Set book?
did you say? Yes, that is it. I am
crazy for some of Kipling in the "woj"
Edition - limp red leather with
an Elephant's head in gold on the cover.
My, but they are fine! As the ex. \$1.50
a piece I am going to put some of the
money she gave me in the fall with
this last gift and get the two
Jungle Books. I love them. After
I get those I am going to save up for
"The Just-as-Stories", "The Right That
Failed" and "Under the Deodars".
I guess the more books I get, the more
I want.

Aren't the pictures of the Miners
 good, and do you blame me for
 being crazy-over Norton? I will
 label them so you can make the
 acquaintance of the family.

I have an awful week ahead of
 me so must start some other letters
 so I won't have to sit up late, have
 a quiz, a history chart, a short
 story and a long Bible paper line.

Love to all of you,

Clara.