



Laura Jane Musser and
Family Papers.

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THE CURTIS HOTEL
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA



1529
Miss Laura J. Messer.
101 West 58th Street.
New York. 19.
N. Y.

The Barbizon Plaza.

April 10-1944.

Sister Laura

THE
CURTIS



HOTEL

Lotsie dear:

Well, Easter is past and for once the day was not a rainy one, so perhaps the coming Sunday will be fair also. Saturday afternoon the finge stopped for me and we drove to Little Falls, arriving in time for dinner. I thought we ought not go since Pauline was just back from the hospital but Sarah said, "yes come for I am getting Mrs Wagner for the day". Of course it was a grand outing for me, and while we had no chance for a family talk we were together which means BUY WAR BONDS so much to

"FOR WHAT AVAIL THE PLOW OR SAIL,

OR LAND, OR LIFE, IF FREEDOM FAIL"

Ralph Waldo Emerson

me. Then too, being up there gave me an opportunity to talk with you for a second. I wish you had been home for the day at least, as holidays to me are rather forlorn when in a hotel alone. Your mother told us of the concerts and plays you attended, and the fine time she had with you, so I can realize that you had a very busy week, besides the dinner parties.

I was a little worried about your father while your mother was east. He had a mean cold, and following so close the severe flu case he had, it made me a little nervous. But thanks to his good judgement and the doctors care, he escaped a

³ long sick spell. We all went
THE to church yesterday. The church
CURTIS



HOTEL

was packed and your mother + I
had to sit on the very front row.
We certainly had a good view of
the choir and minister. The
music was very pretty and the
sermon interesting. Stopped in
to see Addie on the way home.
Goodness only knows what she
will do now, being without Dr. Meyer.
To be sure she has two children,
but it is very hard to break away
from the home of many years, and
life long friends, to start living
among new surroundings. She
is very brave and is trying to
meet this sorrow with courage.
The Holsts and Marion Dellermoe
were over for the
dinner and afternoon

"FOR WHAT AVAIL THE PLOW OR SAIL,

OR LAND, OR LIFE, IF FREEDOM FAIL"

Ralph Waldo Emerson

BUY WAR BONDS

4 cards. The time past all too soon, and a little before seven we left for Minneapolis, reaching the hotel about ten.

When I came to my room I found a pretty plant, and a large package, which proved to be a beautiful box of candy from you dear. I surely am thrilled to be remembered in such a grand way by my dear niece, and thank you very very much. The box is so pretty it will be so nice to use after the candy is gone.

yes, ~~later~~ this war is making a mess of nations, business and lives. I think the boys are far from being happy about going into the service, but have no choice in the matter. Some do not feel they should become too much attached

5 to any girl, because they do not
THE ~~have~~ any idea of how they
CURTIS



HOTEL

will come back if they ever
do return. Then others do not seem
to care or take a serious glimpse
into the future. Guess it all
rests with the character of the
person.

You know dear, how I feel
about marriage. There is nothing
more wonderful or lovely in life
than a happy home where
wedlock is a perfect arrangement.
There must be true love first and
then an understanding of loyalty
and unselfish consideration for
each other. Some times it takes
many years before that partnership
is found or realized. But there is
no harm in waiting for
the right person. I know that

"FOR WHAT AVAIL THE PLOW OR SAIL,

NOR LAND, OR LIFE, IF FREEDOM FAIL"

Ralph Waldo Emerson

BUY WAR BONDS

6. you must have had some rather unpleasant experiences, but I do not worry about you knowing what to do when fools, as the author, make such vile advances. These men have very little respect for womanhood, it is only to satisfy a base passion, and after that, the girl can go to hell for all they care.

I am so glad you had such an interesting time in Chicago. Barbara must be a very sweet girl. Expect she did not realize that you wanted to sit well up front when Marion Anderson gave her concert. Then too she may have had a hard time to get the seats. Times so nice you met the Jonases and also

7 that you had a chance to see
THE MISS ANDERSON, even for a few
CURTIS



HOTEL

minutes. You certainly
have a stand in with both the
sisters.

Wish you could meet a sweet
girl with whom you could
pal around, even a young
man would be acceptable. But
I always feel a girl pal understands
our weaknesses which we all
have, and meets them in a
calmer manner. You will be
lucky I am sure.

Your mother felt awfully sad
after talking to you Sunday, and
will no doubt come to N. Y. again.
She does love you dear, and it
hurts her to have you
think otherwise. When you are

FOR WHAT AVAIL THE PLOW OR SAIL,
OR LAND, OR LIFE, IF FREEDOM FAIL

Ralph Waldo Emerson

BUY WAR BONDS

Lopsy, she is on top the world
and a different person, but she is
upset greatly when she sees
that you are feeling low. Oh! I
wish we could all be happy and
well.

At present I am having
an awful time trying to get my
knees and hands as they should be.
Dr Jettel has helped my heart and
colon trouble, but the joints are
acting like the devil.

My hand this minute is giving
out, so I will have to stop writing.
Just heaps of love dear and
many many thanks for the candy
and darling card.

Your devoted
Aunt Laura

I am enjoying the book "Ales the Hell"
by Heyes. Will look for a good mystery
story next.

THE
CURTIS



HOTEL

Here's a naughty story.

A bashful farmer youth, asked a neighbor girl to go for a drive. The evening was lovely, the moon bright and clear, the heavens filled with stars. While driving they talked of things of interest to the farmers and some news of the day. Suddenly the horse stopped to relieve itself. The poor boy was so ashamed, he looked at the heavens and said, "Oh! see there's the big dipper". The girl in a slow manner said, "Oh! Well! let it go on the ground".

FOR WHAT AVAIL THE PLOW OR SAIL,
OR LAND. OR LIFE, IF FREEDOM FAIL"

Ralph Waldo Emerson

BUY WAR BONDS

Miss M. J. Atkins. 726



THE CURTIS HOTEL
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

(ZONE 2)



1529
Miss Laura J. Messer
The Barbizon Plaza
#101 West 58th Street.
New York
N.Y.

April 1st 1944

THE
CURTIS



HOTEL

Dear Lotsee:

This being the first of April I thought I would fool you by writing you just a little note as I have a few minutes before going to get a shampoo.

This hotel is certainly a popular one at meal time. We have to go in to dinner as soon as the door opens at 5:30 if we hope to get a table. A notice was at each table this evening, saying, that from 7:00 P.M. on, a tax of 30% would be added to the bill. This is of course being done every where to raise more money for the government. I am very glad that I do not have to get new furs

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Ralph Waldo Emerson

BUY WAR BONDS

2
or jewelry, as the tax is very high.
Mr & Mrs Lund are staying here
for several weeks. Mr Lund is
not well and some times does
not go to the dining room so
Mrs Lund and I have our
evening meal together.
Mrs King asked me to have
dinner with them and go
to the movie, but I thought I
better not go out after my
phempers. The last time I did
I took cold and had to pay
the price, which I must say
is not so pleasant.

Suppose you had a fine visit
in Chicago with your friend,
also with your mother a few
weeks ago. I am anxious to see
her and hear all about you,
how splendid you look and

of your successful composing.
 THE CURTIS Mary Catherine and



HOTEL

dear little William
 started out this morning, driving
 to Farragut Idaho, where Al is
 in Radio school for four months.
 It is grand they can have week
 ends together for these few months.
 After the first of August he may
 be sent over sea. Roger will be
 leaving for camp before long
 also. It will be awfully hard to
 leave his little family. Mary
 will certainly have her hands full
 with little Sam, he is so active.
 Guess they will spend the summer
 in Little Falls. By the end of the
 season she will have decided
 what is best for
 all of the family.

"FOR WHAT AVAIL THE PLOW OR SAIL,
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Ralph Waldo Emerson

BUY WAR BONDS

4 It was a shame that Pauline had to have such an experience. But I believe she will be very much better than in a long while for this trouble must have been causing a lot of pain.

I hear from some of our mutual friends that you have had attention from a young man whom you found very agreeable. I sure am glad to know that you have a fine

boy friend, one who can escort you and give you some happy times. Tell me about him when you write.

I miss the wonderful companionship I was blessed with and it is not easy to find and realize that the happy days are now only a memory.

5 I am reading quite an interesting
THE book at present, "Also the Hills" by
CURTIS Shaver P. Keyes. It deals



HOTEL

with the Germans who were buying
land in the Upper Connecticut Valley
for the benefit of Germany in case
they come over here. A long story,
622 pages.

Have no idea how much
longer I will have to be here.
Dr Gittel has cleared up the
heart condition and colon
disturbance, but the knees
are so stubborn, just will not
surrender. Of course the damp
and changeable weather has
been a real enemy. But you
know I have a lot of faith in
the treatment, and am sure it
will win out.

Well, dear I
think I had better
sign off and go to bed.

"FOR WHAT AVAIL THE PLOW OR SAIL,

OR LAND. OR LIFE, IF FREEDOM FAIL"

Ralph Waldo Emerson

BUY WAR BONDS

Wish you were here to read
a good mystery to me. We
used to have such fun just
reading ourselves to sleep.

Trust you are feeling very
well, and that your trip to
Chicago was a real bright
spot.

Heaps of love dear
Your "Auntie" Laura

Mrs. Kimbrough
Ht. 9428

April 7, 1944
1 o'clock Friday
At Barclay Hotel
Betty Mitchell
11

Mr. 12/44 -

Laura Jane dear - Just a note to let
you know, how much I am
glad that I will be able to see you.
I am leaving in an early train tomorrow
for Cambridge Mass. to see Harriet
& my Grand babies - Do let me
know when you return to N. Y. for
you are returning, are not you -

Had such a nice letter from your
Mother & it would have been such fun
to have had a visit with you -

Best love -

Aunt Bess Bennett

Bath House Row and Magnolia Promenade, Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas



Mr. - Camp Stanley Bailey.
to you Mrs. May Bailey.
and get the letters addressed
Basley May is now York



GENUINE CURTEICH CHICAGO "C.T. ART-COLOR TONE" POST CARD (REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.)

1529
POST CARD



Miss Laura Lawrence
Up Basley - Plaza
101 West 58 St.
New York 19
New York.

UNITED STATES POSTAGE

GEORGE WASHINGTON 1869-1872

1 CENT 1

POST CARD

1529



GENUINE CURTTEICH-CHICAGO "C. T. ART-COLOPHONE" POST CARD (REV. & PAT. OFF.)

Miss Laura Law Hunter
The Gas Light - Plaza
101 West 58 St.
New York 19 N.Y.
New York

Basclay they in New York
and get the letter addressed
to you there. My mistake.

Res - Aunt Charles Bailey.



1529
Miss Laura Jane Musser
Barbizon Plaza
New York City

Writ-58-3 Sheet-

The Christmas trees were dyed
one tree was trimmed with
little nosegays of pink + red
nest-buds with little paper fills
and honey ribbon streamers. To watch
it was lovely - set in a beautiful
roomed pink + white music room.
Another was a Holly tree lighted
with red candles - and some one
standing by to replace them as soon
as they burned low.

There where I returned I found
my Christmas gifts waiting for
me as well as work - and
among them a most beautiful
bottle of Matchless for you

MARION

My dearest - Lottie -

Christmas was pretty hectic
for me this year - not one member
could come home - so I had left
me all alone - and at Christmas
there shall be a very lonesome state
of affairs - so I accepted a
my nice invitation to spend
it in Seattle with friends -
it was such a completely
different Christmas - so different
it didn't seem a bit like
Christmas - but I did so
enjoy it all so much even

Thank you so very much
every dear - I certainly love
it - and am already enjoying
it -

The Bens will be home this
week for a few days before
separating. I wish you might
see Lee in his sailor suit
it is surprising how becoming
it is to him -

Wick is at sea someplace
in the Atlantic on an airplane
carrier. and the minute I hear
he is in port - I am rushing on
to spend his time with him -
I haven't seen Lee for 19 months
and that's such a long time

Had is a pilot flying B24's
will soon be transferred from
Kansas - but I haven't an idea
when or how he -

And that brings me to letter
of 'lonesome aunt' - who has
ever worked so hard in her life
the surgical dressing room was
closed down + that all had to be
shut off again as well as Grey
Lady ing - The other night at the
annual Red Cross dinner I was decorated
with a 15 year service bar -

I am sending you a letter for
decoration hope you enjoy it
Thank you very dear very very much
and much love
Auntie -

Oct. 23rd 1944

Hi Rosie dear:

You have been on my mind for some time and realizing that I owe you a letter, I shall certainly take time out to have a little visit with you.

We are so saturated in and with paint, I think you will note the order when you read this letter. But some day all will be in order again and the unpleasant features will be only a memory.

This morning I received my absent voter's ballot and must go to my lawyer for his signature as witness to mine. We are

all on edge and will be
until the election is over.

Understand you are going
east just when I am to be
in Minneapolis. That sure
is disappointing to me, but
perhaps you will not be
gone long. I must get the
house in order before I leave
and as I promised Dr Jettis
that I would be back for
treatments the first part of
November, I am bound to be
there to prove that I keep my
word.

Am so glad you have been
resuming your piano work
while home. Can hardly
wait to hear your compositions

as well as being with you, and renewing our
interesting chats and confidences.

We are having very enjoyable evenings playing
Tripoli while the number is six or seven, and
too I am playing contract often. Went to see
"Arsenic and Old Lace" on the screen and liked
it very much, but I will never forget the
stage production.

Heard Marion Anderson some time
ago on the telephone hour. She was very
good as usual, I was sorry she did not
sing a few more songs. Do you still hear
from her sister?
You know

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until the election is over.

Understand you are going
east just when I am to be
in Minneapolis. That sure
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gone long. I must get the
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too I am playing contract often. Went to see
"Arsenic and Old Lace" on the screen and liked
it very much, but I will never forget the
stage production.

Heard Marion Anderson some time
ago on the Telephone hour. She was very
good as usual, I was sorry she did not
sing a few more songs. Do you still hear
from her sister? You know

that Mary Catherine is expecting
the baby in April, I guess. I
She and Mary will be able to
run a race. Little Bill is
growing so fast and I fear
he will not remember me if
I do not see him soon again.
Well, dear, Frank is waiting to
take me to town so I will
have to leave you.

Heaps of love, and hoping
to see you before long.

I am your devoted
Aunt Laura.

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Mrs Laura Jane Inneser
Little Falls
Minnesota

Well at last I caught up
with the unmounted - and after
all these months - we enjoyed
it too Aunt Marian

The Brown Palace Hotel

105 W 12
Denver 2, Colorado

Casper Wyo.

1529



Miss Laura Jane Messer

Barbizon Plaza
W. 58th St

New York City

The Brown Palace Hotel

Denver, Colorado.

My dear Laura Jane

So glad to hear your nice letter
and indeed I do understand a whole lot
of things - my well - and hear them hoping
they would hear worked out well by now

I have taken the liberty of giving your
address to have some mail sent to me
the word I am anxious about is for
Dick - I have written to him 3 ways
and hope we will hear soon when he
will ^{and word} come as far. I haven't an idea
if we will hear before he really lands
or not - but I told him to wire you
+ I will keep in touch with you as
to every where abouts - but according
to the last word I heard from him
it is hard to know - so I am
on my way - I don't know to Denver

on Sunday - & am leaving this car with
Bea - & after seeing my Dr. am
waiting for word from your mother as
to when to meet her in Chicago.
She phoned a week ago waiting me
to make it soon - & I phoned last
Thurs. saying I could leave Sun for Tenn.
but she was in hospital 19th Pauline.
She ^{ma} was to return Friday - I wired her
Sun - to call me in Tenn. - I do
hope she calls tonight -

I am so excited about going east -
I can hardly wait -

I hope you can come out this
summer - you know I have asked
you for the last 5 & you always
intend to but get involved with
studies - I had about given
you up -

The Brown Palace Hotel

Denver, Colorado.

Phoned
Mrs. O. x 0
2

Have staying with my friends
The ^{EB} Enskines 260 Vine Denver 6.
VINE

will be here until Wed. possibly Thurs
or until I hear from your letter -
might hear tomorrow if she phones
tonight. - fee is indulgent.

The weather is good but its cold
just at the between season when
one needs thick & thin clothes to take
& that makes so much baggage -

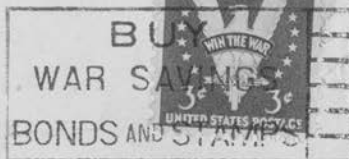
I do hope you hear good news from
me - & am looking forward to
seeing you. - lots of love

Open letter from
Dick - please.

Aunt Hannah.



THE CURTIS HOTEL
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA



1529
Miss Laura J. Musser
Barbizon Plaza
West 58th Street
New York
N. Y.

Mrs W. J. Atkins
608 Highland.
~~Rail-Halls.~~
Minn.

Jan, 21, 1944

THE
CURTIS



HOTEL

Lotsie dear:

Your splendid letter came this morning and it is needless to say that I am delighted. Ever since Christmas I have been hoping to get a letter off to you, but some how luck has been some what against me. Seems I have one complaint after another and when not feeling up to par letter writing is so easily deferred. At present I am

having a bad cold to deal with and Dr Zittel will not permit me to go to Little Falls with your mother tomorrow, as it is so easy to take more and

since I am here for my health
guess I must be cautious.

Am so glad you are feeling
better dear, Hate to think of
you being ill and away from
home.

yes, indeed I was sorry to
have missed being with you
all during the holidays. But
since Al was leaving for
the service I thought perhaps
it was better for me to be in
K. C. The great disappointment
was not being able to have Al
with us Christmas Day. He was
called two days before. He did
every thing we had planned
to do any way which of course
helped the family for the
time being. I wish you
could see little Bill. He is
such a handsome boy and
tries to be good, but as you

know children do get into some
difficulties as they grow. He
THE is just two years old
CURTIS



HOTEL

and is as smart as a
whip. Mary C. is a good mother
and with all her responsibility
does very well indeed.

Your mother has been telling
me of your very happy experience
during Marion Anderson's trip
to St. Paul. Am sure every
one was delighted with the
music and reception. I will
always remember with great
pleasure the times I have
heard her.

Glad you had such a
pleasant time with Mary +
Roger. I know they were very
happy to be with you. I hope
you were not well. Suppose
Roger will be joining the

service too ere long.

Many many thanks dear
for the lovely cologne you
sent me. I do so enjoy nice
odors and will glory in
this one. I love such a
soft spot for miniatures that
perhaps I thrust them on
you when you really might
prefer something else. Well,
just tell me next time.

Yes, I hope we have some
of our interesting talks again,
and that this year will see
the end of war and we the
victors.

Again I thank you for the
Xmas gift, and with loads
of love

I am your devoted
Aunt Laura.



1529

Miss Laura Jane Messer
Barbizon Plaza
New York

West 58th St

N. Y.

Ann.

My dear Leona

Well at last all seems to be
settling out well - a wire from Dick
he was at home + his leave would start
the 15 - for 5 days - so you see had I
written for your mother I would miss
most of his leave - + was I thinking
that Sam asked for reservations for
there all the way through for the
next day, (10) so am leaving w. P.
to Chicago - Penn on to Phil -
how that!

I haven't an idea what Dick
will want to do - what sure it is
I'll do it - so can't tell you of
any plans - except that I will
come to N. Y. and when I know
will ask you to see if you can
make a reservation at the Bowery

if possible - I should like to see
when you are - but - see
I keep in touch with you -

Dicks address is
Lt R. F. W. -
Co Commandant -
4th Naval District -
Philadelphia -

also will see Susan + Drury
have them invited there -

would like to know when
you plans are -

Dicks telling Red to be so concerned
you would have that I had heard of
him last week also - instead of
Christmas -

will say to you.

I'll see you

dearly -



Miss Laura Jane Musses
The Bastion - Plaza
New York City -
N. Y.

1579

Mrs. Alex D. Bailey

114 South Kensington Avenue

"IT PAYS TO REST"

April 20, 1944



The
MAJESTIC HOTEL
APARTMENTS & BATHS

C. EMMETT KARSTON, MANAGER

Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas

DIRECTION
SOUTHWEST HOTELS, INC.
H. GRADY MANNING, FOUNDER

Dear Lotors, Thank you for your dear
card and thank you for giving us
the great pleasure of a little visit-
with you. Next time our house
will be in condition and you shall
pay us a real visit.
Here we are, taking the baths
and being really lazy - a state
of being much less noisy needs.
So far, we have had little sun,
so we just don't - try to get

out into the yard. We walk & read.
Just finished "Peregrinations"
Leslie Ford. Uncle G. is reading
"The dangerous dagger" - Aren't the
high-brow?

June & Truman are moving
back to Jacksonville. Truman is buying
into a business, so now they will be
"fast" for a while. Truman was rejected
for the army - too fat.

- I hope, dear Lotis, you'll find a
friend devoted to you. You are so
superior, he or she will be fine. I know.
Love to you from both of us. Let us
know when you again pass through
Uncle Amelia.