



Gratia A. Countryman and Family Papers.

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2130 W 43 Ave,
Vancouver, B.C.
Aug 4/1953.

Dear Mrs. Buffington,

The tears are in my eyes still, as I write. Not for her, bless her, but that I had not sent the letter I had so long intended to send, before her illness. That hurts. The 'world is too much with us,' and the things that really matter are pushed aside. I did indeed regard Galia as a close friend - and was her sincere and faithful admirer. What a wonderful woman she was. Her memory will be a precious treasure for her friends as well as for you, her family.

It has, I know also, been a long strain as well as grief for you and your husband to see her safely 'out upon the tide' - you have been truly wonderful, too, and will have the thought of your selfless devotion to comfort you in your loss. I knew Wellington only by hearing Galia and Vicke talk of him, but I grieve for him also. Yet when you are rested, all of you, you will be able to enjoy quietly the sweetness she has left behind in your hearts. I shall phone Mr. Stevenson in the

Morning. Kay has just gone off to Edmonton for a holiday at home and Cornelia will, I think, return here with her for a little holiday after her term at Summer School is over. I shall send them a note at once.

MADE IN CANADA


 You are so kind to ask me still to come and I still hope to do so, but it will be a year or so away. I am planning to go this fall to England and on round to S. Africa. Australia, New Zealand, on research for a book I am to do on the Commonwealth. It will be a wonderful trip, but hard too. And I shall be glad to get home again I know. I shall keep in touch with you - I have your address - and let you know where I am.

Greetings to Virginia and family.
 Sincerely yours, Donald Dickie



J. Effie Smith

Geraniums and Petunias

August 4, 1953.

Dear Constance:
As a member of Miss
Countryman's Libany Family
I want to join with the
others in telling you
how happy we have been
that she has had you
during these years to
give her the loving care
which she received.
The services were beautiful

and most of the people
there were those who
had their start with
her, learned from her,
and loved her. That,
in it self was touching,
but sweet.

I am sending this check for
the Library Memorial to you
as I am sure you are
receiving the others.

With sincere good wishes
and appreciation to you
and your family.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Thorson
601 E. 14th St. Apt. 31
Minneapolis 4 Minn.

Dear Mrs Buffington -:

There are very few of us left in the library, who had the privilege of being trained by your Aunt Gratia. And I assure you it was a privilege.

She and my mother were about of an age. They were about of a size and colouring^{too}. You don't know how many people told her - how much she resembled this Countryman

She felt the companionship
was a real honor and I do
too.

It was fine for her that
she had you to look out
for her - one of her real
family - in her declining
years.

Sincerely

Therese G. Greenwald

Saturday
August 3rd 1953

Dear Mrs. Buffington:
So our dear Miss
Countryman is gone.
What a loss to those
of us (oh, how many!)
who looked to her
for inspiration.
Here was a rich

Love now must seem
very great. My sym-
pathy is with you.

Sincerely,
David and Buren

August 2, 1953 (Owama)

and useful life.

I had hoped to see
her this summer
when my plan for
a trip north might
become a reality.

Having had Miss
Countryman with
you so long, your

[August 1, 1953]



My dear Mrs. Buffington,
In behalf of the Daughters
of Liberty Chapter, Daughters
of the American Revolution,
I wish to extend to you
our sincere sympathy for
the loss to you of your parent.

Miss Coker-Tyman recently
lived a wonderful, useful
life and we shall long
remember the most in-
teresting account she
gave to us of her early
experiences at one of our
meetings -

It was indeed a
privilege to have
known her.

Sincerely,

(Mrs. C. J.) Marie D. Hartley
Chaplain
August first.

Modesto, California

Aug 4, 1953

Dear Constance:

Will has recently sent me the newspaper account of Miss Countryman's passing and altho it is late I want to send you my heartfelt sympathy. You may know that she started both Will and me on our library careers and spoke of us as her "children". You may recall that I lived with your Aunt and Miss Todd one winter in their home at 4621 So. Girard and I knew your Grandfather and Grandmother Countryman and also your dear Mother. And I remember you - quite vividly.

When I visited briefly two years ago with Miss Katharine Patten she spoke glowingly of your devotion to and tender care of our Aunt Gratia. When Will called on her at your home later that same year he also spoke of your thoughtfulness and devotion.

She was universally loved and
honored as you know. Someday
perhaps you and yours may be
in Dayton or vicinity and we
would be happy to have you
visit us. Both our boys are libra-
rians, Carl here in Modesto and
Phil in Evansville, Indiana.

I shall be returning home after
my older sister's 45th wedding
anniversary in Mill Valley, Calif.
on Aug. 18th.

Affectionately
May Weisberg Hamilton



Dogwood Blossoms

EDPR. SCENIC STATIONERS

Aug 5, 1953

Dear Constance,

Apparently you haven't heard that Mother Knapp died last January. I'm very sorry that I didn't think to call the library for your address so that Gracia could have known about it. Mother Knapp didn't had replies to the last of her letters to Gracia and she spoke about it several times - wondering if Gracia wasn't as well. But after the funeral we couldn't find your address among her records and then so many things happened to us that I just forgot about it.

Father Knapp was taken to the hospital with a heart attack during Mother Knapp's last illness so he couldn't even go to her funeral. Then Father didn't take care of a virus which he contracted in January, and after going to Florida to try to recover from it finally

had to go to the hospital and was
out of the office for two months.

Then we sold 1538 Hellsuck for
Father Knapp didn't want to go
back there to live and we hope
to live at Christmas Lake the year
round. We have been living here
summers for some time.

Disposing of two families accumu-
lations of twenty-eight years was
quite strenuous, so you see why
we didn't do more about writing.

Father Knapp is living part of the
time with Meland Jr. and the rest
with an office girl who has been
with him for more than twenty five
years. She and her husband live in
a house which belongs to Father Knapp
next door to his office building so he
can go up to the office for a few hours
work a day. He really enjoys that.

Leslie and my address now is Box 69A

Route 4, Excelsior, Minn. If you
should forget that, just Christmas
Lake, Excelsior, will reach us.

If you are in Minneapolis any
time we would like to meet
you. Our number out here is
listed under Mennetonka in the
phone book and is a toll call,
Excelsior 1124
but you can always call
Tester's office, Cherry 4826. We, too,
like to know our cousins. I
remember meeting your mother one
time at Hastings before Tester & I
were married. She was a charming
person.

Sincerely,

Maymie Knapp

Los Angeles Aug. 5 - 83

My dear Constance -

Your letter came yesterday -

I am glad we can all feel
glad that our wonderful Gratie
is through with all her suffering
and at rest with the Heavenly
Father whom she loved and served
so faithfully all through her long
life. It is a great joy to have
had her for my friend since 1881 -
and I shall miss her and her letters
you have been so lovely to her
and she said both you and
your husband were so kind to her
She loved Duluth and all.

It has all been so hard for
you and I hope you can rest
and live a long time to enjoy your
children and grand-children -
Can't you come out to Calif for a
while? I should love to see you
once more - I keep well for my
age and still interested in life and
all it gives -

Much love to you all -

"Aunt" Emma



MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

GLENN M. LEWIS - LIBRARIAN

MINNEAPOLIS 3, MINN.

August 6, 1953

Mr. and Mrs. G. Buffington
2502 East Superior
Duluth, Minnesota

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Buffington:

I received a very heartfelt letter from
Dr. Herbert Putnam and thought you would appreciate
receiving the enclosed copy.

Yours sincerely,

Glenn M. Lewis

Glenn M. Lewis
Chief Librarian

GML:mli
Enclosure

Cape Porpoise, Maine
July 3, 1953

Dear Mr. Lewis:

You are kind to write me as to Miss Countryman, and I am glad to know that her last hours were so peaceful.

It was some years since I last saw her, but her qualities have been unforgettable. I had the fortune to be in office when she came to us from the University of Minnesota, and during the many years of our cooperation had every reason to admire, and be grateful to her. I rejoiced in the successive recognitions accorded her, and was proud of her success in meeting them. As the head of the Library she held the universal respect and confidence of the profession; and to all of us - as emblem of the simple, the clear-headed, the steadfast, the staunch and the loyal - she will long endure.

Very sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Herbert Putnam

Glenn M. Lewis Esq.
Librarian

How is Virginia? Wish I could see the baby - make
the most of the time when he is little - He will
grow up
too fast and be
a lieutenant, as my first grandson is -
August 7, 1953

JONES BOOK-A-DAY TESTS
BOX 41, HILL CITY
SOUTH DAKOTA

Dear Constance:

Thank you for your beautiful letter
about Aunt Gustia's passing - I really expected to
go before she did, for both Hal and I have been
failing rapidly this past year - I wish I felt
as sure of meeting Maude as Gustia wrote me
that she was -

"A staunch little Christian soldier," she
was, indeed, and so kind and generous.
I have deep gratitude for the help she gave
me all these recent years -

One of the book-test-customers who
used to work in the Saint Paul library
asked me to give Miss Cunningham his
sincere regards - (this must have been
about the time of her stroke in May.)
but she written almost no letters for
months and I'm ashamed I did not send

her his respectful and admiring words -
(His name is Brother-John of the Cross, C.S.C.
Lakewood, Ohio. I don't know what his
name used to be in St. Paul.)

My reason for not writing is that I've had
a bronchitis in my right arm. Doctor B. J.
forbade me to write or use the typewriter,
hoping it would get well. But he thinks
there's no use waiting longer and has made
appointments for four X-Ray treatments
in Rapid City, beginning tomorrow -
I'm disobeying orders in writing this, but
I want you to know how much I thank
you for your letter, and how happy I
have always been for Gratia that she had
your beautiful home to go to in old age,
and your loving care to depend upon -

Manian is going to be like you,
I think - She is taking me to R.C.
tomorrow to the X-Ray doctor - I'll
give her your letter - She will grieve
at Gratia's loss for she always loved her
better than she did her own aunt -
Sincerely, Edith Jones

19 Sixth Street N.W.
Mason City, Iowa
August 7, 1953

Dear Cousin Constance Buffington,

Thank you for your fine letter of August 4th. Naturally we were genuinely grieved to receive such sad news as the passing away of Cousin Gratia Countryman. We realized that she could not have been in very good health, and that her eyesight had been badly failing, when we failed to hear from her in nearly two years. But I am glad to know that she was able to hear the contents of my letter through the kindness of your reading it to her. I only wish we had known more about her exact condition through the winter of 1952-1953.

I wish we could have attended Gratia's funeral services at Westminster Chapel in Minneapolis. However, I had had an operation in June, and was confined to a hospital for a time, and have been slowly recuperating ever since. Now I am fairly well again, and hope to be in perfect condition by the time school starts on August 24th.

It is certainly true that Cousin Gratia lived a good life, a full life of faithful service, a life full of action and industry, and a truly satisfying life not only to herself but to her many friends and acquaintances everywhere. I always counted her as a true friend, and always enjoyed writing to her and hearing from her from time to time. We surely shall miss her.

Sincerely,

Orville A. George

Aug. 7-53

Saint Charles, Ill.

My dear Constance: I am
deeply grateful to you for your
letter of Aug. 4 - I had not heard
the word of your loss - and
the world's loss too - For I admired
and loved your aunt very
much. I am glad to hear that
Mr. Lewis will try to keep her memory
green by scholarships - a very fitting
method - I cannot do much but
I will send him a small amount.
Gratia had lived a long and full

life - was she 88 years old? I can
only estimate - but I know that
my sister Ina was born in '67
(1867 of course I mean) & that Gratia
was a year or two older - was she
not? But her "Thanksgiving Day"
birthday had not come yet in '53 so
she may have been only 87 - I
hope Mr. Lewis will keep track
of all the old Delta Gammas - She
was so wonderful in doing that.

You say you have your
Mother's pin - do you mean her
Delta Gamma pin? The gold spoon
I know nothing about - but it may

has been a wedding gift from the 15
chapter - but what the "Sigma" on it
would mean I can't imagine.

No, Mr. Grant & I were not members
of the "Little Six" - we weren't in college
together - I wonder if Belle Purdy &
her husband weren't the other couple.

Please tell me who your "cousin"
is the daughter of; Lina Harris Mahan
Linglad Wellington came to see her
& he did a great deal for him.

I have happy memories of Duluth
- when I visited my girlhood friend
Stella Stearns, Victor Stearns' sister
& daughter of Judge Mrs. Stearns.

Again many thanks, Avis Grant

HSG

University of Minnesota Alumnae Club

To the Family of
Miss Gratia E. Countegnan,
The Alumnae Club
of the University of
Minnesota wishes to
express its sincerest
sympathy to you at
this time of the passing
of your Loved One.

With all kind thoughts

Sincerely
Lydia B. Christ
Marie Christ Nehls
"Good Cheer" Committee

August 8th, 1953

1535 NORTH EUCLID AVENUE

DAYTON 6, OHIO

9 Aug 1953

Dear Mr. Baffington,

I was so kind of you to write us personally when you must have had so many tasks to look after. I have sent your letter on to May who is still in California and who may already have written you as I sent her one of the clippings which came from Minneapolis. Your aunt played such a large part in the decisions which influenced our lives, and we are all so appreciative of her kindly advice & counsel. She never spared herself with the young folks who turned to her and we felt a strong affection in our town. I will never forget her quick smile, her friendly glance and the lovely golden hair in those years now so long ago when she was making decisions and guiding others. I am glad I had that little visit two years ago. Even tho' her face was changed her spirit made no concessions to the weaker flesh. She was a wonderful person & we like you cherish her memory. We drove out to the

Los Angeles meeting with our younger son
Phil who has charge of Young Adult work
at Evansville P. L. ~~He~~ had been married
only a few days before to a nice college
friend of his who had worked in our Dayton
library. After the conference at which our
elder son Carl had a part on the program
we went up to Modesto near Stockton
where he has charge of the city county library
and visited with him & with Mary's sister
in Mill Valley.

Carl has a little daughter who is six
and ^{they} are very happy with an adopted
baby boy of four months. Of course we
wish they weren't so far away.

Did you get over for the wedding
in St Albans in the fall of '51 and
where are your young folks now?
It was such a disappointment to Ethel
Rachwood Phillips to have her trip cut
short by illness before she got to Eng-
land where she had hoped to see the ceremony.
We will of course be in Minneapolis
for the A. L. A. next year and I hope we
can get up to Duluth where we can
drop in on you.

I'm deep appreciation of your writing

I am yours sincerely

Will Hamilton

RUSSELL L. COUNTRYMAN
779 MANDANA BOULEVARD
OAKLAND 10, CALIFORNIA

Aug. 10th 1953

Dear Constance:

Many thanks for your letter of Aug. 3rd and for the parcel containing Dad's memoirs, which arrived this morning but which has not yet been opened.

I'll send your letter and clippings along to Alta and Ralph.

It has always been a source of regret to me that I could not have seen more of Aunt Gracie than I did. She was an exceptional person in any society and I have been proud of my relationship to her.

Walter and David have their attractions but they are different from Ralph's ~~from~~ and from each other. About the only characteristics the boys have in common are brown eyes and sweet dispositions.

kindest regards to you and Buff as well as to Irma if she is still with you. Had a short but pleasant visit with her and Bill a few months back.

Affectionately
Russell

MRS. FRANK MALOY ANDERSON
1862 MINTWOOD PLACE N. W.
WASHINGTON 9, D. C.

Hanover
New Hampshire

Dear Constance —

Your letter was very much appreciated both by my husband and my self. We had received clippings from the Minneapolis papers but it means so much to us to hear directly from you who had given her such loving care in your home. We can only be glad for her that her physical limitations are over but how we shall miss her!

Gratia had just finished college when I entered and what an inspiration she was to a little country girl who was fortunate

enough to win her friend ship!
That memory means much to me.
I remember so well Gratia's devotion
to her beautiful sister too.

The Delta Gammans who sent me
the clippings were Roberta Pratt Locke
who entered college with me and Irma
Hastorn a much younger woman.

I am so glad that National ΔΓ
honored her as they did. She so well
deserved their recognition.

We are sending the notice of Gratia's
death to Mr. Herbert Putnam. It was
under his guidance that she began
her library work.

My thanks to you, Constance, for your
note to me. Very sincerely yours
Heard Can Anderson.

August 10, 1953.

1852 San Antonio Avenue
Berkeley 7, California
August 10/1953.

Dear Mr. Duffington

I was so sorry I could not attend the services for Miss Countryman. You see I was leaving for California that day and there were so many last things to be cared for.

She died full of grace and achievements. She will be long remembered for her good work. I was very glad to read the splendid praise she got in the Minneapolis paper.

I remember with great affection for her many kindnesses to me when I came a stranger to Minneapolis. "May her rest be sweet and may perpetual light ever shine upon her".

I am sure you are going to miss her. Such people always leave a gap that never gets filled in our home.

I wrote to Virginia just a few days before I heard the news about Miss Countryman. I know she is busy and I am sorry I have not kept in closer touch with her.

With all kindest regards to you and your husband.

Sincerely yours,
Alice Mansfield

Dear Connie

I should have written you about
Miss Countryman.

She was such a remarkable person,
I am proud to have known her and to
have had Virginia know her.

Perhaps it was a welcome release
for her but she will be missed by
members of your family and her many
friends. You will be missing even the
serving of her in her illness, and will
be thinking "Oh, I should do this for Aunt
Gracia" or "I will tell her this, or
that" I know because I've gone thru
that aching word with my mother, then
Henry and with two sisters. Little
things, perhaps so seemingly unim-
portant that mean nothing to anyone.
But the departed do come into one's mind
and leave a lump there.

Time is a great healer but one
never forgets.

Most sincerely and in deep
Sympathy

Etta Lee

Wednesday

August 12, 1953

Mrs. Henry Orlando Lee

Pats &
Pharaoh!

300 check

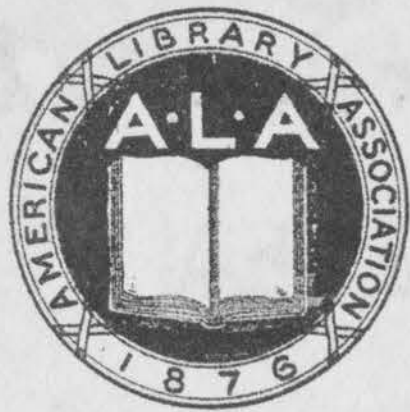
Jim and I wish to express
our deepest sympathy.

Sincerely,

Jim and Pat Van

Ans Aug 11 [1953]

Mr & Mrs. James Van Valkenburg



AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE OFFICES: 50 EAST HURON STREET, CHICAGO 11

August 18, 1953

Dear Mrs. Buffington:

On behalf of the officers and staff of the American Library Association may I extend to you our sympathy on the death of your aunt Miss Gratia Countryman.

As a former president of this Association and a recognized leader in her profession, she made notable contributions to the library world which will long be held in grateful remembrance.

Sincerely yours,

Grace Stevenson

(Mrs.) Grace T. Stevenson
Associate Executive Secretary

h

Mrs. Gilbert Buffington
2502 E. Superior Street
Duluth, Minnesota

Lake Hubert, Minnesota
August 24, 1953

My dear Mrs. Buffington:

I felt very sad indeed to be away from Minneapolis when the time came for us to gather around our beloved Miss Countryman for the last time.

I wished so much to be one of her "family" to stand beside her at the last - for her "family" we always were and always will be.

But since that could not be I have gotten the greatest kind of comfort and inspiration from going over the years we spent under her teaching and inspiration - they are priceless years and so

much the happiest years of my life.

How much she gave to us and to circles that widened out and out, far beyond the library building and the City limits.

It was very wonderful indeed that she had the last years in your home, with all of the love and devoted care that you and Mr. Buffington gave to her. It had great rewards for all of you, I am sure, and such unending gratitude from her Library "family" in Minneapolis. You will always be very much a part of Miss Countryman to us.

very sincerely yours,
Ruth M. Hall

August 21-1953

Dear Constance;

It was good of you to write and tell my brother and me more about Ina. We had heard of her death through Mrs. Sewall but had not realized she had had to go to the hospital.

Like Mrs. Sewall I think we cannot regret her going - crippled as she was life could give her little joy and I think she was glad to leave it.

Not only was she at Wild Haven a number of times but she and Marie Todd visited us for two or three weeks on our little farm near Tacoma and

and much later she went to the
Yosemite with us for a two
day stay before going farther
south.

One by one the old friends
are going and there are only
a few of us left.

You will miss your aunt
greatly. she was so vital a
person that she leaves a
great emptiness.

My brother joins me in
sympathy and best wishes!

affectionately

Ella Keasey

[Aug., 1953]



Deepest
ympathy



Lorena Jepson
Wayzata, Minn.
Box 393

To the family of dear Gracie Countryman -

The sympathy of others

and the wish

that you be granted comfort

and courage

are with you on this day.

from the members
of Minnesota Branch,
National League of
American Penwomen

[Aug., 1953]

Dear Mrs Buffington,
I am writing
in behalf of Lambda
chapter of Delta Gamma,
to express our sorrow
in losing Gracia Countryman,
one of our most distinguished
and outstanding members.
She had contributed so
much to so many groups
including ours, that
we know her passing
will be deeply felt
by the many who

knew her, worked with her and loved her.

although she has lived away from here for many years, we still felt close to her. We always enjoyed her notes at banquet time and knew she was thinking of us then.

The Delta Gammas here are planning a small memorial to

we given to the library
in the fall. We
want to do something
to honour one who
has given so much of
herself to Delta Gamma.

Our deepest sympathy
to you all -

Sincerely,
Jean Leighton Hendrickson
(Vice President)

[Aug., 1953]

Dear Mrs. Buffington: I
cannot refrain from
dropping you a line at this
time.

While we have not met
in person we have had some
little chats on the phone and
you were so sweet to invite
me to call.

I had hoped I might run
in sometime and see your
little lady, too. Many things
change quickly for us - do they
not? When one has sickness
in the home - one's duties are
quite involved so we can
only reach out to others by
card or phone. Mrs. Hogan
spoke so lovingly of your little
patient.

She lived a beautiful
full life and truly a useful
one. Great will be her reward
You will all miss her I
am sure as I shall my dear
little lady. She is 87 Aug 10th.

Words have so little power
to give consolation but I just
wanted to let you know I
thought of you, too.
Florence B Macdonald.



Poetry in Motion

[Aug., 1953]

Dear Constance:

There must be something in telepathy because I've been intending to write to you ever sponce I read about Miss Countryman in the paper.

She was the most remarkable person I've ever known. I remember so many things about her, her vision, her warmth, her practical intelligence, her wide interests, her gallant bearing, her pretty hair, her fun--

When I was Miss Bartleson's assistant in the Children's room, Miss Countryman, with her social consciousness, made library work more than a matter of stamping books.

Later, in '22, I think, I did a house organ, The Community Bookshelf, for her, to acquaint the public with the many services of the library and stressing self-education. In this project, I worked directly with her, which was a great privelege.

It must have been a great comfort to her for you to care for her these years, with such loving devotion. Even though her passing came as a release, I'm sure that you miss her.

At our age, we winter vacation instead of going up North, so I never did get a chance to stop over in Duluth. I'd enjoy seeing you again. Wellington, too.

I'm writing Glenn Lewis, next. Thank you for your lovely letter, Constance.

Affectionately,

Sda May Owen

Chance now got a good head. I
have thought. This of the afternoon
Mrs. Ballare and I spent with
Katie and you.

If ever you and your husband
drive to Cloquet, do look us up. I'd
like to show you our little home.
Or come a - purfore!

Yours affectionately,
Bertrude J. McKearie

[Aug., 1953]

518 CARLTON AVENUE WEST
CLOQUET, MINNESOTA

Dear Constance,

I was so sorry to learn of
Katie's death. And still, I suppose,
there is one of those cases where
her friends cannot wish her back.
She was so alive in her long
period of usefulness that it must.

have been hard for her to submit
to a long illness.

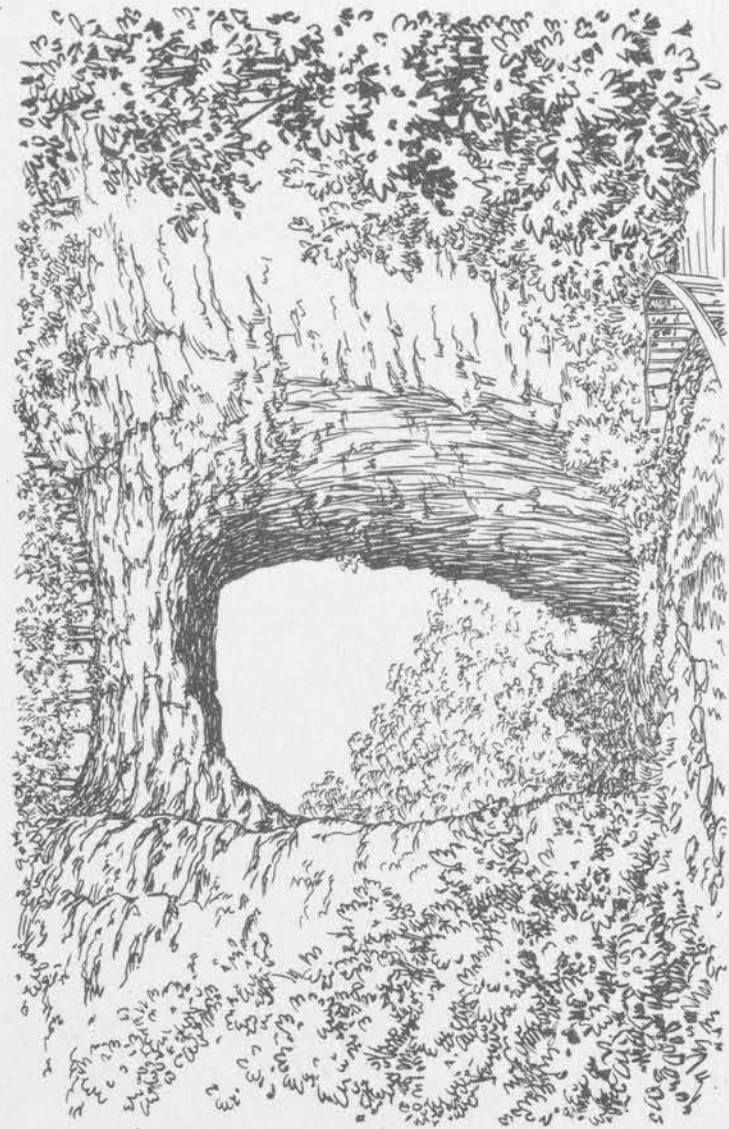
Matia was a wonderful
woman - no one can fill her
place in the community she served
so long. And you gave her such
wonderful loving care. This must
have been very hard for you and
I do hope you have time and

dear Mrs. Buffington, I
have been thinking so often
of you this week. You
will be going through a
difficult period of re-
adjustment. It always
comes when you lose a
member of the household
and especially when they
have been a care. Even
though you expect it, yet
there is always that loneliness
which time alone can soften.
Aunt Gracia leaves a
wonderful record of
achievements. You must
be very, very proud of

her. I am sorry we
were distant and could
do nothing to help
you.

I had a note from
Virginia this a.m.
I wish they could
come for a visit.
Little Robbie is growing
so nicely.

I hope you find
time to write me
a note - Lovingly
William Shant



The Natural Bridge of Virginia

[Aug., 1953]

[Aug., 1953]

160 Senator Street
Brooklyn 20, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Buffington -

Thank you for taking the trouble to tell me about Miss Countryman. I was very sorry to hear about her death. I was one she helped put through high school and the University of Minnesota by giving me evening work and Sunday and holiday work.

I will miss exchanging Christmas greetings with her.

I will indeed forward your letter to the two of my sisters who also worked for Miss Countryman. Thank you again for your nice letter.

yours sincerely
Samuel A. Berg

[Aug., 1953]

3545 Colfax Ave. So.
Mpls. Minn

Dear Mrs. Buffington,

Just the glimpse of Aunt Gracia
I was privileged to have
gave me some insight
into the depth of your grief
over so great a loss.

She must have enriched
the lives of many many
people by the good, rich
and full life she herself
lead.

The sermon last Sunday
dwelt on the necessity of
preparing for life with
God. I thought of Aunt Gracia
then. Her loss is Heaven's
gain!

Please accept my
sincere sympathy.

Sincerely,
Lee Cavell



With Deepest
Sympathy

[Aug., 1953]

May it comfort you to know
that others share your sorrow.

Staff of the
Hennepin County Library.

[Aug., 1953]

My dear Mrs. Buffington,

Many people
throughout the country
honor Miss Countryman
and her achievements —
and her staff most of

all! She was always an
inspiration to the staff.
If ever her aims for library
service are approached
democracy will be richer.

Most sincerely
Isabel McLaughlin

[Aug., 1953]

With Sincere
Sympathy

Thinking of you
and extending
heartfelt sympathy

Florence E. Gray.

Sincere Sympathy



[Aug., 1953]



Whatever comfort
there may be in friendly
sympathy
is extended to you
in deepest sincerity

Lois Bakula

be great in Heaven.

Take a good rest
now, Connie so you
can be back with
us all in fall. I
do hope I see you
a little often.

Again my most
sincere sympathy

Vandoren.

[Aug., 1953]

Dear Connie,
I want to
extend my most
sincere sympathy
to you in the death of your
dear Aunt Grace.
She has had such
a long full life

that she will linger
in the memories of
so many people for
a long time. You
have been so wonderful
to her and made
her last few years
so pleasant. I
know what a great
care she was to
you and what a
great deal of your
time was given
to her. Her passing
is not only a great
loss to you but to
the many organizations
for which she did
so much. I know
her reward will

[Aug., 1953]

With
Sympathy



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May it comfort you
to know

that those who love you
share your sorrow

and

mourn with you

With deepest sympathy
And love. from

Blanche Button-Lee

Dear Constance,
All these years since
that of you as Constance Conger and it
is only now that I'm not sure of your
name. My address book says Hale.

We saw the news of Aunt
Matia's passing in the Sunday Mpls.
"People in the News" column and of
course that carried no details. It
doesn't matter. I hope it was without suffering.

My thoughts have been with
you, of course, but I sometimes have
felt that she probably was ready
to go, so many of her friends had
preceded her, and she had been
unhappy about her eyes, I should
think, tho I don't suppose she complained.
A wonderful woman to
have known! marian Jones Foster

Although the Curtain Falls



[Aug., 1953]

There comes a time for all of us
When we must say good-bye
But faith and hope and love and trust
Can never, never die;
Although the curtain falls at last
Is that a cause to grieve?
The future's fairer than the past
If only we believe
And trust in God's eternal care--
So when the Master calls
Let's say that life is still more fair
Although the curtain falls.

[Aug., 1953]



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There is so little we can say . . . So little we can do . . . When God has called a loved one home . . . Who means so much to you . . . When smiling eyes are closed in sleep . . . According to God's will . . . And that dear voice you loved to hear . . . Has suddenly grown still . . . But there are those who think of you . . . And those who always care . . . And who would help your heart to lift . . . The burden you must bear . . . And so this gentle message is . . . Sincerely meant to be . . . A prayerful thought of fond regard . . . And heartfelt sympathy.

*From the writings of James J. Metcalfe,
Author of Poem Portraits.*

Blanche Holman

[Aug., 1953]

Dear Cora Lauce & Betty -
Our deep sympathy
goes to your folk - You
have been so splendid
during these past years,
and I am sure
your Aunt has
blessed you for it.
I am so glad I
knew her even slightly

affectionately

Elizabeth & Richard

Mrs. R. W. Northup

[Aug., 1953]

Dear Constance-

Each and every one of the members of Chapter A.S. wish me to extend ~~their~~ sympathy to you at this time over the loss of your Aunt. We know you will miss her, as you had given so much of your time and affection to ~~her~~ her.

Such devotion on your part was appreciated by her we know and she always spoke so lovingly of you whenever we had a chance to visit with her. With deep sympathy from us all Sincerely
(Courtesy chairman) Lillie Taylor.