

one, two years ago, that of course was abnormal
all over the country. So far over hear-
anything about Dr. & Mrs. Woodman, I fear
from Mrs. Woodman's last letter received long
ago, that they have fallen on evil days,
but hope not. Mr. Brewster's death must
indeed have a sad blank in your life,
they will come these heart rending partings
as we grow older, but, thank God, they are not
for always. I have many beautiful mementoes
of that very charming gentleman (there are
not so many today) photographs, his book on
"two England birds", my plumage from trees, but
most of all my recollection of his hospitality, his
delightful conversation, his enthusiasm for all
that was beautiful, and now - "All winds are
quiet as the sea, all waters as the shore."
In him, and there, his not any trouble.
strong before. "Our Christmas too has quiet
but it was a happy one, I am sure say
well now, yet am not in as much pain
as earlier in the malady. Please remember
me to Miss Brown & Miss Gung and her
regards to you & the rest & myself all. With
best love & affection, sincerely yours M. W. Woodman

Calvin. N. Y.
Jan. 26, 1920

My dear Mrs. Leane
We too, acknowledge with
thanks your Christmas thought for us,
& as for say "in spite of all the troubles
that fill the world" we go on pretty
cheerfully though everything is not "as
in mind" as the earlier generations said: but
we are yet together, & have our highly
summy home, much to enjoy, & share.
Far East. Of course, there are many
changes, & pretty undesirable, but not
all, one desirable one is, that our dear
& long time friend Miss Gung, who you
may remember has been once when you &
Mrs. Leane were with us too, (happy days
never to be forgotten) has had to part with
the brother with whom she lived; he died
after an apparently brief illness, ideas of the
stomach which must have been going on for

some time, she is left with very little
of this world's goods and runs no home
some more, some more glad to have
her with us, and she is spared my feeling
of dependence because no man no maids
now, & she helps Thence greatly in her
usual quiet, efficient way. There about
the same income as formerly, but you may
perhaps have heard that prices are higher.
we had a maid last summer at very
high wages who was most extravagant and
lacked except as a cook, she was a good cook,
but we parted with her in October on wages
thus: Thence does all the cooking, she is
a beautiful cook & mercifully likes the work.
Anna Strong does much of the upstairs
work, and I - well, days when I am equal
to it I set & clear the table & do a little dusting
we put out all our laundry work, have a
very capable & nice school boy, before & after
school hours of 2 pages, snow, piazza etc.,
and an ex-cook who is married & lives
in the village once a week for cleaning.

we have many of the electrical appliances
for saving labor & have electricity now in
the house and am very comfortable, more
on my sudden heart attacks which come
mostly at night, Thence has a helper
at hand. Fortunately we never belonged
to the grumblers' clan, so we are saved that.
I have been housed much of the winter
(since real winter set in) because of the
winter cold, but I have more occupa-
tions, most of which I like, than I ever
finish; we read a good deal & many
neighbors come in and out, & if only
our government would once in a while
do something sensible, we really cannot
complain - Thence poor thing, still
has a great deal of neuritis, though it is
I think, less severe than two months ago,
even though the winter is one of such
severity; we have not had such a winter
since 1895/99, with the exception of the awful



Audubon, Maria R. 1920. "Audubon, Maria R Jan. 26, 1920." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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