

* F. SCHUYLER MATHEWS *

* EL FVREIDIS *

* BLAIR N. H. *



P. O. Plymouth, N. H., R. F. D.

May 31/22

Dear Mr. Druce.

Just a line to let you know that we arrived in good order & on time, also with the "colored party" to take charge of the culinary dept!!! Not a small surprise for us. We arrived at North Sta. of course by Auto. & there were to find the efficient but doubtful "Julia" I chased about & so did Mrs. M. for quite a number of anxious minutes. but C. found her O.K. We had left Mary & little Carolyn & Nellie in the Pullman; - Mary of course in a nervous tension lest she should "go off" & we get left!! I was relieved when we all got into the Auto at Plymouth in route for the Cottage.

Immediately after unpacking I tackled the smashed kitchen window which the kind housebreaker left for me to amuse

myself by mending. I said that yesterday
& bought the big pane of glass in Ply. 4 x 5
7 years ago it would have been \$25. Now I
used up about \$10 = worth of time doing the
job! The housebreaker stole absolutely nothing!

Birds are many; among them Rose-br Grosbeak,
Dove, Purple Grackle, Indigo Bunting & Phoebe,
(Mrs has her nest & 4 young ones hatched out
since we came, within 5 ft of the Gloucester
hammock! she doesn't seem to mind us. What
absolutely noiseless wings she has — so differ-
ent from the Finch Tribe!

Letters this am. come from Guinever. They
are now in Milan. All well, en route
just near arrival at latter town an Italian
with an abettor attempted to pick Frank's
pocket just as he reaches up with both arms
to get down shoulder-strap bundles etc. in the
compartment. F. yelled "Nothing doing" & smash-
ed down on the head of one man a 30 lb.
bag: he staggered & shot away! — got nothing!
No use to call police — no time, & Italian language
limited. Well, I might have had sense enough
to shout out "Gendarme, presto!" & the rest
of the little Italian I knew, but I doubt

it, as Lie slower to act in an emergency
than molasses in January. But no doubt
F & G. will know more Italian than I do
before they get home!

They left London at 10 a.m. reached Paris
at about 6 p.m. passed right on by "sleeper"
to Lake Geneva. & then thru the Simplon
Pass! Raine that a.m. until they reached
the Italian frontier, but cleared enough to
see the Alps before the electric engine
carried them thru the tunnel. I went thru
the St. Gotthard Tunnel - a wonderful loop-
the-loop experience & almost at the same
time of year when the narcissi were
in full bloom!

Baby Carolyn got this letter before I had
put it in env. & put it in herself. Hence
the 1st pg. is a bit messed. Memorial
Day is Carroll's birthday & mine. C & I went
to Cemetery only 10 mins walk, & set out a doz
Jacque Red geraniums - not yet in bloom. As
usual the lot was a mass of crimson
pink *Phlox subulata* & here & there is a
plant of *Cypripedium acaule*, *Vaccinium* is
in full bloom. White Lilac, & Gaultheria.
No "Hermit" music yet. They never sing up

here before the 10th (or thereabouts of June).
I do not see how I'm going to get time
enough to band birds this year! Im-
possible. In more than 1 hour work to do
each day for 2 weeks & more, & they have
not yet plowed up my garden.

We shall miss Genevieve, Edwin & Frank
greatly - for it year G. hasn't been here since
she was born.

Carrie sends her love. She is yet
unpacking, & I have just out of my trunk,
with rolls of yellow-papered proofs to
be looked over & corrected.

The weather is good: no rain, & road
is very dusty - Autos pass constantly.

Saturday night was cold - mercury regis-
tered 33° ^(on my piazza) - so it must have dropped
below 32° in fields nearby.

Let me know when you reach Shel-
burne. I'll spare a few minutes to
collect the T. blanda? or, what?? It
is about the cottage in bloom now.
With best regards to Miss Brown

Ever yours
Vern Schuyler Mathews



Mathews, F. Schuyler. 1922. "Mattews, Ferdinand Schuyler May 31, 1922."
Walter Deane correspondence

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