

[May 1929]

Dear John,

I've been down to Darent, &  
 I hope with all my heart you'll go there too.  
 It seems to be what we both want, as  
~~long~~ <sup>near</sup> as we can get - at least I feel that  
 the delay has been justified - The happiest  
 place, in a pine-wood high up, looking out  
 straight over Poole Harbour to the Purbeck Hills.  
 Class-rooms flooded with new equipment very  
 like the ones we saw together - At least they  
 were full of everything I remember to have  
 wanted as a child - models made by the children  
 of interesting things in the past - A Museum - Cuddy's  
 favourite curiosity - etc. etc. Near to it is the  
 Laurence's old home, full of lovely things,  
 - she would live there with their young niece,  
 whose mother, Laura Laurence is in India  
 I was welcomed like a lost child, &

They hope so very much to see you.

In comparison with your choice — the pros seem to outweigh the cons.

Pro

Don't

Con

further from London, —  
You & mother & my  
friends

(More expensive journey.

Costs rather less.

↓ But Mother is not  
constantly interested, you  
said you only expected  
to see her 6 times a year.

The varied natural  
beauty, hills & the sea.

Climate preferable  
for throat & chest; pine-wood  
& sand & height.

An atmosphere of  
work, enthusiasm & liberty — a  
warmer, more organic place

The Laurence are a distinguished  
family & life-long friends — I was  
astounded at my welcome — (they  
have no lack of pupils!)

There is Miss Gray next door,  
& my aunt whose devotion is  
unquestionable very dear

In all fairness, John, you should go & see  
it. Let them know, — you're expected.

Miss Grace Lawrence

The Haven School.

Parkstone - Dorset.

return

9.30 from Waterloo — week-end ticket 17/9  
— walk up from the station — about a  $\frac{1}{2}$  of an  
hour, it's a turning off Sandchester Rd.

It is only starting as a boarding school,  
so Paddy would be living at the house with a  
child of the family, aged 10 or 11.

Miss Gray, an old lady, who thinks  
it rather 'advanced' said that the children  
from there were two years ahead of the ordinary  
trained child — & the Datta plan delighted  
me, just in theory & even more in what I  
saw of the practice.

Don't let it down without  
looking for yourself. Did you not get my  
letter when I told you I was going down & asked  
you to come? You never answered, are

way or the other ?

I've strained my knee rather badly,  
knocked it <sup>to exact</sup> ~~rather~~ against an invisible taxi  
seat. So I left the dentist last time. It's no  
better, so I am going away to rest it for a day or  
so. We'll carry on next week.

Let me know -

Jay.