

X

Tabel Vos
Seneca,
12. 9. 36.

My dear John -

I've been meaning for a long
time to write & congratulate you. As I really & truly do.
One has heard that your wife is charming & perfect & I
hope that all goes well with you.

As I expect you know, Chanda is
in England. He came down here for a few days &
returned to London to find you. Peter was wonderfully unchanged,
bless him!

As for Camilla - you can have no idea
how wonderfully & delightfully she has 'come on' lately.
- Looks, bearing, intelligence, manners, manner. A simplicity
- fixation, a loss of affectations, & finer smoothness in her self.
You have many reasons to be proud of her, & will I hope
be so too -

- which makes it follow more than ever,
doesn't it, that you should pay my Aunt the money you

owe her? No father ever had more to hope for from his child. Her great-aunt has done so much for her; she is getting an old woman now. She needs the money. John. Has ever written to me about it; she asked that I should ask you. If there is such a thing as fairness, John, it should be paid.

Besides, my dear, later on, what will Camilla herself think? She is working as a poet when she will begin to be interested in these things. How shall we be able to answer the questions she will soon put - have a right to put? How well it is - as to the affection she has for you - which we have all done our best to preserve?

Truly, I wish you could see her now. She has so far 'come in' - in sadness as well as grace. It is as though all the things we had wished for her were beginning to 'take'. All her old friends here notice it - not just me!

Then, one thing more. Have no anxieties that she, now she is growing up, may come to know unsuitable people, here or elsewhere; or that any one who might like to, will be in a position to 'introduce' your daughter. This, because settled here & there round the coast, but not in Sevens, there are a few of the people we might meet at the Cafe' Royal in Paris, but not in our houses. Who, if they're staid are in intimacy.

Like - for example - Dr Kapp a Dr Heerdman - You know
the first, & I think you know the other. Camillo seems doubly
to remember her from Savoy when in Essex. (Not been do - 'a
man's put - aside' I heard her described once.)

Now, whatever they may say. (if they say anything)
I hardly know either of them, & that quite by chance. No
wonder I have them within a mile of Camilla, & inside
her hair, whether she was there or not.

So be absolutely sure on that score. No handicap
of that sort will hinder our daughter's first steps in the world!
- I mean from any person of that kind, man or woman.
The only sticking this because you know what people are like,
if - like you & me - our names appear in print, they start
falling over one another, claiming intimacy. Two people, ^{also}
short time ago, shared 'Mary' at me over a hedge, & tried
out to be a husband wife I had met, twice at most, years
ago in Paris. But they did not do it again.

Fortunately there are plenty of pleasant people, with
children of her own age, here for her to make friends with.
David Manning - Sanders is a fine boy. So is Jill Filson
Young & all the St. Hilary people. 'Lady' - Lady?
Russell - what does one call the women? - comes her as

Prayer. From what I saw of the outfit - I went ⁴
out it rather carefully when it was here in the past. I'm
thankful now she never went there.

So is she - for when she was much younger
I let her run round with them for a bit, so as to judge
for herself, & the Anglo-Saxon lemon-yellow didn't
impress -

So don't be anxious as to the side of the
case of her -

Over yours -

Jay

Excuse this vile writing. I'm recovering from a fall
in my elbow, & my hand won't do quite what I
want it to yet.