

Pittsburg, 12 June, 1933.

My Dear Friend,

I thank you for your letter of May 7th, post-dated May 11th, that came here on the 9th. Of course, all that you say about God being all goodness and perfection, hence cannot and does not send His children any evil in any shape or form, is quite true, and knowing this, we also know that whatever appears to us as evil has no mandate or right of existence and passes and we therefore know that it must - in God's own good time - disappear. What evil does come to us comes in various forms, for various reasons - In the first place, I think, our own wrong thoughts, words, and deeds call down punishment on us, and this, I think, does not only apply to our present life, but, as we take our mentality with all its shortcomings with us into the next life, so we, when we come into this life brought with us, the faults and failings of our previous existence or existences, and we are paying up - in the shape of sorrow and suffering - not only for this life, but also for the many previous ones. This is the only reasonable explanation that I can find, when I see so many good and worthy people, suffer more than their apparently less good and worthy neighbors. That is one reason for suffering, another may also be that suffering, trials and tribulations may be a hind. in our mental, spiritual development forward and upward. This, I also believe is a reason, why we have to go through so much.

Now, take the present depression that affects the whole world; what

is the reason. I should say the so-called "Great War", and all the hate and wrong thinking in that direction, that it creates, and which has not, as yet, been eradicated from the mind of man. - think. When we all have good, nice and only kind, helpful thoughts for our fellow-men, we shall have no more depression. This depression is the enemy and destroyer of egotism and selfishness - every person, every nation, only thinking of itself, and its own seeming interests. Unfortunately, it is easier to start a wrong thought, than to stop it, regret it, and eradicate it. It takes effort, good, nice, and kind, and these things have first to be provided, before we can reasonably look for any improvement.

There was a ray of sunshine in your letter that gave me great pleasure. You say, you will pick the thing you want, when you come to the thing - Hurrah - hurry up - and come, please. You cannot come soon enough, and as I like to write to you, I am writing to you, and telling you that that is the best news I have had for many a day. You have said so, my dear Friend, so that is a promise, and I am surely only too keen to keep you to your word. There has been no regular service in Peeling, since I gave it up to the others, some 3 years ago. I am looking forward with the greatest pleasure to having services again with you - and you say how precious.

I am grateful and thank you for all your kind thoughts for me, and I thank you for sending you my way, and for our mutual friendship, and so I send you the best of all good wishes: may you be ever with you, and bless you.

All kind and helpful thoughts and wishes to you, my good Friend,
 Yours and friend,
 Norman Macmillan.

