

4 July 97

Dear Frances,

By now your horrid wart is a thing of the past & I do hope the healing process has gone well. And I hope all the other medical appointments went well, it certainly will be good to have ~~it~~ <sup>them</sup> all behind you.

My little garden on the patio is doing splendidly though the nasturtiums show no signs yet of flowering, but I only sowed the seed in the middle of May. Did you get an Honorable mention this year in the Oxford & Bloom Contest? This morning (Tuesday) was Gaelic day over at the Pottes, & before we departed Beth pressed upon us dahlias & daisies, raspberries, & new potatoes. They have an abundance of everything, so I have eaten far too much for supper!

This afternoon I got into the mood & switched some pictures around.

Our walls are rather awful as, when the spirit moved in, Maurice used to hang things up on nails, or even pins! And if the plaster fell off that was just a pity. But I'm now beginning to see how I can get round some of this, & there need be no hurry.

Picture framing is very expensive.

I'm interested that apple juice is the best drink for you. Of course water is the thing & we are all supposed to drink six glasses a day. I really must get back to that - but a time I did it & had Maurice do it too, & for me it is excellent for constipation & surprisingly doesn't send me dashing to the bathroom. Try it, my dear. I boil all our drinking water.

Tomorrow morning my Hope Chest is coming back from The Cobwebs (the furniture restorer in James Bay). I'll tell you more when I get it.



On Saturday a Grand Opening was held of the restored St. Ann's Academy. I remember showing it to you when you were here & you were rather appalled. It had stood empty for 20 years & no one knew what to do with it, & all manner of proposals fell through. (It had been a R.C. boarding school for girls run by the nuns). Eventually it is office space for the provincial government & they will restore the chapel & have an interpretive centre, and the grounds will be restored & will be gorgeous - a lovely green space within the city. So the Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting was really symbolic; there is tons of work yet to be done, but it is all economically feasible. There were so many people there it was just jam packed. I had Marion & Maxine Bradley here for lunch, & the whole went over together & got in the melée. Then in the evening I put on the TV & found a channel showing the Civic Orchestra & Chorus performing



Verdi's Requiem under a new  
conductor, as our George Corwin  
retired. That was very nostalgic,  
& they've obviously got a very  
good new conductor.

The report on Ed is bad. He is  
a very difficult person & is  
wearing Maria to a frazzle. All  
the things that our little Dr.  
Roback ~~feared~~ <sup>feared</sup> might happen in  
Maria's case (ie lingering on in  
a very reduced state) are  
really happening with Ed. He is  
now back in the high-priced Care  
Home, & rebelling all the time as he  
wants to be at home. That would  
just about kill Maria. I'm going  
over there on Thursday to give a  
hand with all her shedful of rusty  
tools. It is too bad when all this  
money is being barked out for his  
welfare that Ed can't be nice!  
Lots of love Jane