

December 3, 1941  
William Keister  
College Station  
Murray, Kentucky

Mr. James Still  
Dead Mare's Branch,  
Littcarr,  
Knott County,  
Kentucky.

Dear Sir:

I am a student at Murray State College, Kentucky where I am studying American Literature. I have selected you as the author about whom I am going to write a research paper. The material in our college library is limited to very few articles and a book, Hounds on the Mountain. I also have a copy of the Courier Journal for Sunday November 16, in which there was a short account of your present life. I would appreciate any additional information on your life or works that you would send or an address of someplace that I could write for information.

Sincerely Yours



William Keister

(TV: Littleton, KY)

Box C  
Lewistown, Ill  
Dec. 4, 1941

Dear Mr. Still:

Ever since you book  
came out - and I had it right  
away - I have been intending  
to write and tell you how  
much I have liked it.

Some of the stories I had  
sent before, but I have en-  
-joyed them even more on  
the second reading. When  
the enclosed review came out  
in yesterday's Chicago paper,  
I knew I must send it on

at once, tho' by now you prob-  
ably belong to a clipping  
Bureau and will get it  
eventually. This is one of the  
best in the book section and I  
am sure you will like it.

I was in Chicago over the  
past week end and Sunday.

Mrs. Gunn came in and  
met me and we had the  
whole day together. We  
went to church at the Central  
Ch. in Orchestra Hall, had  
lunch together and spent  
the afternoon in my hotel.

2  
from visiting and - of course -  
discussing Judson, our friends  
and enemies. She gave me  
much news and I gave her  
some as I am now talking  
to Herald and had a  
recent, very newsy letter from  
Miss Standish.

From what I hear they  
must have had a hectic  
time at the beginning of  
school and I can imagine  
how he affected J's disposi-  
-tion. I am told he had

another salary cut.

I hear too that Burkham's friends have made it very unpleasant for Jethro.

You probably have heard of my work here. I like it very much indeed. It is very different from what I had expected, even ~~tho~~ I visited here in June. One has to be here to appreciate what is being done here for these women. It is wonderful.

If you read the description of the similar institution in *Hope* of Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> you will have

an idea of <sup>3</sup> this place. It  
is not in the least depressing  
and one becomes so interested  
in these people, many of  
them here for life. The celebra-  
-ted Dr. Mynors of Chicago is  
here. I pass my attentions on  
to her.

~~Mr. Quinn is coming down~~  
in the near future.

Before I forget I must tell  
you this about Jane Clark.  
One of my friends lives not  
far from her home town of  
Carthage, but had never  
been able to learn anything  
about until recently, when

She found the following in a paper.

"Jennie Clark of Carthage won the prize in a national contest for the inscription on a monument to be placed at Belle Isle, Detroit, as a symbol of friendly relations between the United States and Canada. The inscription is:

"With this everlasting witness, we keep peace with our neighbor, as they keep peace with us, throughout the years."

I still think she was

"you are."

Mrs. Gunn and I both agreed that we miss Hindman. The social life here is practically nil. Fortunately for me, I can always find plenty of interesting things to do in the evening, but I do miss the pleasant get-togethers, discussion of books & reading - up and the Bridge, Anagrams and Cross word puzzles. My surroundings are delightful, however, and the people with whom I work are nice, but each goes his own way when evening



comes.

We are near Chicago, and I shall go in rather often. Heard Blossom Time last week.

Holidays are near, so I shall close this with many good wishes for Christmas and the coming year.

Sincerely,

Clark C. Keegel

HINDMAN SETTLEMENT SCHOOL  
INCORPORATED  
HINDMAN, KNOTT COUNTY  
KENTUCKY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MAY STONE  
ELIZABETH WATTS

December 5, 1961 [41?]

Dear Mr. Still,

Thanks a lot for the list of families. Your comments were amusing and enlightening, and will be helpful. I trust the C.C.C. boy gets his "Purtty christmas Preasan". The other day I had a letter saying, "I sure would preashate you for a Xmas.box"

Since Mr. Loomis sent the money for the dictionary he has sent the Harvard Classics, a number of magazines and papers, and nife dozen small aprons that the girls are using when they wash dishes. We "Sure preashate" his interest and help.

We had such a good time with you the other day, far from the round of problems, and I can't tell you how much I enjoyed it. If you aren't going to any of your family for Christmas, why don't you come over here for part, or all, of our festivities. You could stay with the Amburgey or in the guest room <sup>as</sup> you liked. Our party will be Monday night, the Tree and play Tuesda afternoon and we'll hang our stockings, those of us who are left, Christmas Eve. We'd be glad to have you join us.

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth Watts*

16 Dec 41

MRS. J. B. SNIDER, SR.  
512 CATALPA STREET  
CLARKSDALE, MISSISSIPPI

DEC 10 1941

Dec 6<sup>th</sup> 1941

My dear Mr Still,

Last winter when I saw the book "River of Earth" reviewed in the Memphis Commercial Appeal, I wanted very much to read it, but, it was <sup>not</sup> available at the Library. At that time I wrote to Mrs Holwood Moore of Nashville for your address. She could not do so and advised me to write to your publishers. When the 2<sup>nd</sup> book came out I then ventured to ask the Viking Press Co. to give me the information. They for some reason refused. I'd just like to know why - a code of ethics perhaps. My first question is are you a grandson of John Still of Tuscaloosa Ala. He was a brother of my father William Henry Still of Marshal Co Miss whose wife's history I've written

Because of his early environment and en-  
suing achievements - courage etc. - his  
parentage in Virginia - their success  
and failure - I was 10 years of age at the  
beginning of the war between the States  
and was eye witness to the devastation  
of the Federal Army in the South and  
on my father's estate, where the home was  
appropriated for wounded soldiers and where  
my mother mounted a company of Yankees  
preventing the capture of my brother  
who was ill on a furlough. The cus-  
toms of home life before the war and  
reconstruction period following the  
emancipation of the slaves have inter-  
ested me to the extent that it had to  
come out. I've wondered what the mate-  
rial would be worth to a writer of books.  
Routine history does it appeal to readers

MRS. J. B. SNIDER, SR.  
512 CATALPA STREET  
CLARKSDALE, MISSISSIPPI

so much as a bit of romance inter-  
spersed which may be found on my pa-  
ges.

At my age of 90<sup>th</sup> year my penmanship  
shows nervousness. With my very rapid  
writing I cross my lead dot's and let  
it go at that. If you are interested  
write me at above address or at  
2352 Stratmore Circle Memphis Tennessee

Sincerely,  
Mrs J B Snider

N.B.

My maiden name was Susan Vir-  
ginia Still. For my grandmother Susan  
Pape Bryant and her native state Va.  
Descendants of Alexander Pape and William  
Cullen Bryant.

# DARE-FOSTER BOOKSTORE

NEW BOOKS  
USED BOOKS  
MAGAZINES  
RENTAL LIBRARY

KEN BROOMELL, OWNER  
112 NORTH UPPER STREET  
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

December 8, 1941.

Mr. James Still,  
Littcarr, Kentucky.

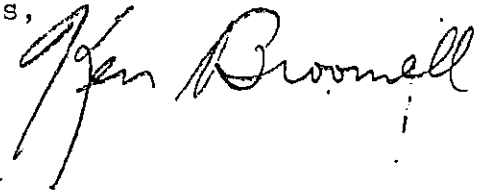
Dear James Still:

I am very sorry that you got out before it got through my dumb skull who you were. I should have realized when you mentioned having received a copy of Sunny Day's book from the publishers, that the publishers don't send the books around to everyone.

I wish you had autographed my last copy of your ON TROUBLESOME CREEK which you may have noticed was in the window. Mr. Brandenburg, who was one of the customers there at the time (and who usually buys used books) said he would have broke down and bought a copy if you had autographed it. But if I talk like this, you'll probably stay away, so if you would rather just be another potential customer that's all you'll be when you come back --- if you so prefer. So please feel free to hang around any time you are in town. Also have plenty of room for you at my apartment at 203 Sycamore Road if you ever need a place to stay when in town.

I get a lot of used books from dealers in other cities, so let me know whenever you are trying to locate a book. I'll see what I can do on the WEEDS. If you remember the author, send me a card as that would help.

yours,



PINE MOUNTAIN SETTLEMENT SCHOOL, INC.

PINE MOUNTAIN • HARLAN COUNTY • KENTUCKY

Director  
GLYN A. MORRIS

Treasurer  
C. N. MANNING  
Lexington, Ky.

December 9, 1941

Mr. James Still  
Dead Mare Branch  
Littcarr, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Still:

Thank you for your kind letter of  
December 4th. We shall be looking for-  
ward to your visit to Pine Mountain  
next spring.

Very sincerely yours,



SUMTER COUNTY  
PROGRESSIVE FARMERS ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEES:

~~PURCHASING COMMITTEE:~~

Chas. Sells, Chm.  
M. H. Sharpe  
C. W. Kiker  
J. J. Dixon  
R. E. Bennett

PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

Ben L. McLaughlin, Chm.  
Herbert Center  
W. J. Platt, Jr.

BUSHNELL, FLORIDA

Dec. 9, 1941

Dear James

Well we are having our first cold and it keeps me fiddling the fire.

Patsy Tommy is with me, as Helen & Earl have gone fruiting for the day. They are both growing fast. Patsy long to get big enough to go to school. She doesn't understand it this ~~age~~ ripe. Tommy said he is going to be a soldier. He has seen so many and heard so much of the war.

Well we listened to the President address yesterday. It certainly a stir down here. Soldiers going in every direction. You see we are in the midst of three big air bases. One at Orlando, on the east, Camp Blanton on the north. McDill field in Tampa. Two Red General's went through at Bushnell yesterday for Tampa (McDill field -)



Some predict we (Florida) are in a danger  
one place. Although that doesn't worry me  
as much as having to send my boys. Let  
hope it will soon be over.

~~We have strawberries blooming. Hope the  
cud doesn't get them. Mel is getting tobacco  
land ready and also seed beds for sowing.~~  
As for myself I'm head over heels at work. I  
They are wanting more baskets than I can  
get made. I have finally made enough  
to get the house covered. And now I want  
to get it ceiled. Hervey estimated it would take  
\$95. or \$30. That isn't bad. But it will take millions  
of stitches. Mel finishes the baskets at night  
that make each day. Our job is as bad as the  
other.

Christmas is just over the hill. I don't  
guess we go any where. Helen & Earl talks  
as if they may go to Alabama for a few days.

Patsy + Tommy has just come in wanting  
me to go see the planes flying over.

They are continuing passing day & night  
I have your basket started and will get  
it off next week. I work on it in between  
-times. I read about Troublesome Creek.

in the Tampa Tribune. Since I got your  
letter I tried to find the clipping to send you.  
But I haven't been able to find it. Always Elmer.

DRESS PARADE, STAUNTON MILITARY ACADEMY  
STAUNTON, VA.

A vision of West Point — Dress Parade at Staunton  
Military Academy.

I have a good position  
at Staunton Military  
Academy. — I wonder if  
you are going to Fla.  
for Christmas. I am  
going to New York City.  
I may see you in  
Ky. during spring  
vacation.  
R. Harsh



TICHNOR BROS., INC., BOSTON, MASS. MADE ONLY BY TICHNOR BROS., INC., BOSTON, MASS.

POST CARD



Mr. James Still  
Dead Man Branch  
Litt Carr, Ky.

Dress Parade, Staunton Military Academy, Staunton, Va.





92 Jane Street,  
December 11, 1941  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Jim:

The papers are on the way - 6 of them. I called the Chicago Daily News (New York office) and they said they would send six copies to you - no charge. Also one to me. In case they don't reach you or the wrong copy comes, let me know.

New York goes about its work as usual, which of course is what it should do, with watchful eye and a little more kindness. There are long lines in front of recruiting stations and churches keep filled. We have had three air raid alarms - all duds, though prompted by a serious alertness. All of us will do what we can.

Jamie's package goes tomorrow. I'm sorry I didn't get her letter answered sooner. So much happened - such sorrow - and strain and letdown. There is still sadness. Marcia got a job but because of her race they let her go. She has another now and the child is fearful that some one will report her there. Her way is hard. She and Tom seem happier since their parting. The way of it all was more strange than fiction.

It's been a hard summer. I thought my heart was done for and was really afraid to go to the doctor. I did go however and found - of all things - that I'm badly enemic, with a most tired heart. Now I'm taking iron and vitamins and feel much better. I'm so full of inner eagerness that it's hard to wait upon the body's slowness.

I'm sending a small gift I hope you'll like. It's a favorite of mine. I wish you a happy Christmas, Jim, as happy as a Christmas can be this year. Let me know how you are and if you are coming to New York at any time this winter.

Much love,

*Pau*

16 Dec 41

Thursday-December 11

Dear Jimmy,

I have a friend here who has been offered a position in the Frontier Nursing Service at Hyden, Kentucky. She has asked me for information and I am not much help, for I have only been as far as Hazard. The following are some of the questions she asked and if you could help we would appreciate it very much. I do not expect a detailed account, for I know you are busy, but any information you may give.

Can you drive a car from Hazard to Hyden?

Should she have any one meet her at Lexington or Hazard? Or would it be safe for her to travel alone in a car? Not at night, however.

She has a position here, would a person from here be very happy there?

Could she go one week end trips in her car very easily?

She will live with others in a cabin at Hyden.

If there is any information you may think of that would be good for her to know about travel, clothing or anything please tell us.

I have a copy of your new book, which I enjoyed and was able to pass on the information in the book to Georgie. She is very much interested in going, but felt she would like to know something about the place if she should go.

She would like this information right away if you have the time. I sincerely thank you.

Merry Christmas!

Sincerely yours,

*Christine*

Christine Innings

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY



LEXINGTON

THE LIBRARY

December  
Eleventh  
1941

Mr. James Still  
Dead Mare Branch  
Littcar, Ky.

My dear Mr. Still,

On behalf of the University of Kentucky Library, I have the honor to return grateful acknowledgment for the receipt of the gift noted below. It will be a valuable addition to our collection.

Please accept our sincere thanks.

Very truly yours,

*Margaret I. King*  
Margaret I. King, Librarian

RIVER OF EARTH (Manuscript)  
RIVER OF EARTH (autographed copy, 1st ed.)  
Photograph of author

ALBERT EDMUND TROMBLY  
SUNSET HILL  
COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

December 12, 1941.

Mr. James Still  
Hindman, Kentucky.

Dear Mr. Still,

Several years ago  
you wrote me a kind note  
about some verses of mine you  
had read in Poetry.

James Decker has just  
brought out a narrative on  
the Santa Fe trail, and I should  
like to send you a copy if  
you care for it.

Sincerely yours

Albert E. Trombly

Have I your address correctly?

Members of Board  
T. C. Campbell, Chairman  
Bent Newland  
Cleve Combs  
Sid Adams  
T. B. Sutton

KNOTT COUNTY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
JETHRO AMBURGEY, Supt.

Board Meets:  
First Monday  
Each Month

9

--

HINDMAN, KENTUCKY  
Dec.12th,1941

Mr. James Still

Deadmare Branch Kentucky

Litt Carr

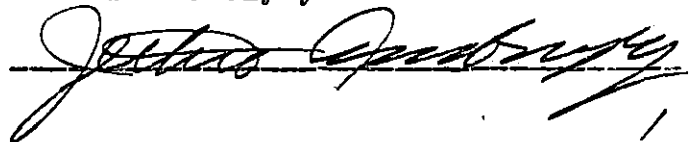
Dear Jim:

The week of April 16th,17th,&18th, is the K.E.A.

If you would like to go at that time I would like for you to try for a reservation.

I knew you were going to have company last night and I guess you did need someone to keep your fire going. I lost one of my new ties. It was the one I purchased last. Maybe it got with your things some way .

Sincerely yours





Fairfax, Va.  
Dec. 12, 1941

Dear Jim!

I have been expecting a letter from you for <sup>some</sup> ~~some~~ <sup>time</sup>, thinking maybe you would catch up for a few short lines on your typewriter.

Many thanks for ("On Troublesome Creek") it was fine. You seem to have some phrase in your writing, somehow, which brings back memories of our lives; when we were at home and all the family intact. Somehow you can't seem to get away from Mama, you keep bring<sup>ing</sup> her back

which is very encouraging  
and fine.

We were never a very affectionate  
family; but we just enjoyed  
having each other around.

The draft age has gone  
up. We can't stay out for  
very long unless some miracle  
is performed. I have always  
dreaded the fact that  
we boys would have to  
go to war.

Papa is doing fine, I see  
all the family very often.

We are expecting you  
home for Christmas.

I am going to have all

the family down home  
one day.

We will be off from the  
23 through 28.

May take a short trip to  
Elmore's.

Be looking for you.

Your Bud  
Comer

Box 241

PS Herman wants a copy of  
"Hounds on the Mountain".  
Can you get him one.  
Ed.

December 15, 1941

Dear Jim:

As you probably decided on Saturday (as we did here), it was too rainy and muddy to come over yesterday. I'm sorry, for we were hoping to be able to.

Instead, I'm sending the book to you by this mail, and would you <sup>to my father</sup> put some personal autograph in, and then send it direct to 589 Osceola? Thanks so much. It will be sure to reach him in time if you send it direct without returning it here.

When I was over in November, I meant to ask you if you had heard of Alena Emmons' death this fall. I don't know anything about the cause, except that the friend who wrote us about it spoke of her being so brave in the face of what she knew was coming. So apparently it was slow in coming. The mother's written us recently, sending us many of her things, saying she knew it was where Alena would like to have them go.

You'll be coming over sometime during the Christmas festivities, won't you? Do you remember my speaking of Victor Starbuck in Asheville? I have his long narrative from our

"Saul, King of Israel" from the Chapel Hill Pass.  
Beth. He and his wife were good friends of mine,  
but they're both died in the past six years.  
He wrote a Nativity play "Come, let us adore Him"  
and it's the one Pauline's chosen to give this  
year, next week Tuesday. I've never seen it  
played, so I'm looking forward to it.

Harris Martin came up tonight for a couple  
of hours while I tried my first ice cream in  
the frigidaire — it was good; Miss Emerson  
was here with Mrs. Burns — and at nine,

Mrs. Cushing and Mrs. Andersen came to listen  
to the President's speech and the lamp program.  
It's now eleven, and this letter is the only  
one of a hundred things I've carried out that I  
planned! What a life these Christmas weeks  
bring — and now with the war begun, the  
world's completely topsy-turvy.

Thanks a lot for sending the book on — I'm  
sorry I didn't get it accomplished yesterday.

Hastily,

Frances —

Did you know our sink and gas plate are in  
at last, and Mrs. Cady tells me today an  
oven I ordered has arrived. So we're fixed as never  
before for any kind of meal that would  
most appeal to you — fried onions, corn bread,  
or what have you! Come and try it!

(Manuscript removed.  
"Jesse Stuart + James Still":  
Mountain Regionalists")

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

Department of English  
and Foreign Languages

BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

15 December, 1941

Dear James,

When I wrote to you the other week, I thought that a great deal more background material would go into the article. When I came to write it -- much, much later -- I realized that my allotted space held me down to a pretty straightforward discussion. Here it is at last. Under the circumstances, there may be nothing that you wish to change, as I've talked about the books and not yourself. If there is anything, will you just jot it in the sentence or paragraph where the change should be made and send the corrected passage so that I can mark the correction on the proof? Don't bother to send back the article; use it to start a fire on these wintry mornings. I have my manuscript and another carbon for myself.

Perhaps I should explain the typing. I finished the sketch at the end of last week, making one copy to get off to Hatfield immediately. I had intended typing another to send to you, but today one of the NYA boys came looking for work to fill his number of hours. I think he was more willing than able. The pages look rather spotty and I haven't read them. Please don't correct misspelled words, etc. They weren't in the copy that went to Chicago.

I think every circumstance was against my writing this piece. First Stuart's books didn't arrive at the library. When they did get here, a stack of test papers had to be graded. Ten sets of papers to be exact, an article to do, and then the war. For two days I couldn't leave the radio except to meet classes. I finished the tests today. Exams begin tomorrow.

Here the war is the main topic, since this is a military school. It interests me personally, for I narrowly missed being born in Nagasaki, Japan, where my father was in government service. I've listened to him fighting this war for the last thirty years. I think if I were to volunteer he would gladly look after my family. We shall all be in it sooner or later.

I haven't read Bloody Ground, my latest being Caroline Gordon's Green Centuries. On January 6 I'm supposed to talk about that book and your On Troublesome Creek to about 200 women. You probably writhe at the prospect of being "done" before the padded feminine flesh and the bony angularities which usually make up a women's club. But in this day and age they are one group of people buying books. I hope you don't mind my attempts to make the few people I can conscious of your books.

**Repetition!** A book went to Dead Mare Branch today. I haven't read it but a Yankee friend says it's good. I hope so.

P.S. I'd also like to know what you think of this just as a job of writing.

Sincerely,

Dayton

MISS HARRIS' FLORIDA SCHOOL  
1051 BRICKELL AVENUE  
MIAMI

December 19, 1941

Dear Mr. Woomis;

Again we approach the Christmas season and hope for peace on earth and good will toward all.

Although it seems remote we must go on hoping I suppose.

It does not seem so much like Christmas because war seems very close to us here. We have had drills for air raids, and the school children are making things for Junior Red Cross. A large number will not return after Christmas as their parents want to keep them at home, and I do not blame them.

The hotel where I had hoped to work has had so many cancellations that I shall probably not have that work. Usually I have book programs there over the week ends. It doesn't amount to much, yet it is something, and is better than nothing. -I have sent letters to Senator Pepper and Dr. MacLeish at Washington and to two small schools in Phoenix, but nothing came through.

In case of evacuation I do not know where I could go or how I should get there. This summer I worked at an Artist's Colony and rented a cabin to live in. It was a nice little community center where I had a small library for the Colony and worked out from it to the country people in that section. It would be a good refuge in case of need.

Jimmie came into the Colony to visit the Grovers who have been very helpful to him, and I had a chance to chat with him for a few moments. He seemed to be doing well for himself. He refused to be introduced with the "ameteures".

At that time I was hoping to arrange a trip to New York to look for work but I could not work it out. I should probably have failed anyway as I have a habit of failure, in everything I attempt.

I hope you are well and happy and that we shall both live to see Peace on Earth.

Christmas day is my birthday and I shall be fifty years old, but I go on hoping each year that the Christmas idea will come true.

Best wishes always,  
*Iris Harris*

C  
O  
P  
Y

December 20, 1941

Mr. Ewing Jones  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Soil Conservation Service  
Dayton, Ohio

Dear Mr. Jones:

We have conferred with Mr. James Still, the author of ON TROUBLESOME CREEK, which you admit that you plagiarized in your broadcast, and he is very indignant, as we are, at your casual attitude about it. He is willing to waive the proposed fee of \$50.00 only on condition that you make a full acknowledgment on the next available broadcast in this series, in approximately the words suggested below. While offering this compromise, we reserve the right to take action to recover the full amount of damages under the law if this is not settled promptly and to our complete satisfaction.

The suggested announcement would run as follows, and we would require that you notify us sufficient time in advance of the hour on which it will be broadcasted from your station, WLW:

ANNOUNCER:

A few weeks ago on this program we gave you a story called "Wilderness Road." It was the story of John Bailey, of Knox County, Kentucky, who took his family from a shut-down mining camp and made a new life for them on reclaimed land up in the hills. That story was told originally in a book by James Still, a book called ON TROUBLESOME CREEK—a book full of humor and poetry and wisdom about the hill people of Kentucky. If you can get a copy of ON TROUBLESOME CREEK, you will enjoy reading more about people like John Bailey and his kin. We now make grateful acknowledgment to James Still, the distinguished young Kentucky author, and to The Viking Press, the publishers of his book.

Very sincerely yours,

(signed) Marshall A. Best

B.s

THE VIKING PRESS, INC.



GUY LOOMIS

Dec. 20th-41

P. O. BOX 98

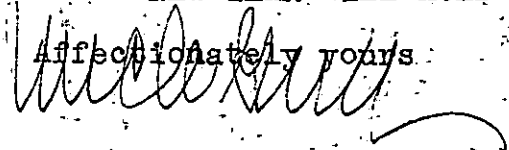
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

My dear Jimmie

A package goes off to you on Monday and in it you may find some things you can use. It also contains a lot of blouses for young boys. Better go over the things carefully and see if there is anything that appeals to you and then pass the rest out to some of your good friends there. Harry gets all this stuff from several laundries here. People will send their things to be cleaned and then never call for them. The laundry holds the goods for a month or two and if still unclaimed they either destroy or give them away. When the laundries found out that the schools down in the mountains, and the orphan homes as well, could use them they were only too willing to let us have them to pass on. Do the mountain people object to having them given to them? The G. N. H. gets all that they can use but as in this case Harry oftens gets goods for boys and men's wear and it is nice for us to know where to send them. Have sent Hindman one or two lots of articles that they could use. Drop the postal as soon as you get the bundle also that we will know it reached you and then write later when you have the chance. Preparations are being made steadily to face any attack that Hitler may make on us but it seems very doubtful to me if he will strike here on this coast. He evidently has his hands full in Russia and the South Seas etc.

Hope your Christmas will be a MERRY ONE and that the NEW YEAR WILL HOLD MUCH OF JOY AND PROFIT for you.

Affectionately yours



Dec. 21st-41

dear Jimmie

Just a line to tell you that part of a line in one of your letters of late did not appeal at all. I quote: I will be alone on Christmas". Why not start something there that will brighten up the day just a bit anyway. You wont be "alone" for I am in about the same box here. My immediate family have all passed on to *the* GREAT BEYOND. Have few friends left here for they have followed suit. No relatives here at all. The nearest ones-three or four first cousins live hundreds of miles away. So while I will have dinner with the Watkins-family Christmas Eve I too will be alone on the 25th. Hope the Berea shipment gets to you in time. Told them to ship it on the 15th. If it arrives it may let you give some of your neighbors a small party at least. Know the boys will enjoy it. Am enclosing a letter that came today from "our friend". Too bad that lady cannot see the handwriting on the wall and cut it all out. Hope she does not get to N.Y. City. If she should wont see her if I can escape. Have cut out all correspondence with her. Hope you do have a Merry Day and a Happy New Year and good LUCK all thru 1942

Affectionately yours

CHRY LOOMIS

Should have added, after the words "you wont be *via* alone"---"on the Holiday"

this year - until February? We just had an examination and I had A-. Lotta, who goes with me, got C+. I would have done better if I hadn't forgotten the Person in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales; and if I hadn't said the Epithalamion was written in sonnet form, both of which I knew better than. Last year I had English Composition, and you can see how well that work.

After you have looked at the pictures you can throw them and the films out if you like. Why I didn't get a picture of Morris I'll never understand.

Merry Christmas, Jim, and the best of New Years. By the way, do you come under the draft in some way?

Sincerely,

Esther [Hill Bean]

P.S. Of course you haven't been in Philadelphia since I was in there. I don't know how you would have

to Littleport, KY

Dec. 22, 1941

Dear Jim

This is a Christmas letter, and if I don't hurry it up it will actually be written on Christmas day.

Never have I been so slow with Christmas. Just this very minute the last two cards on my list were addressed. I like the excitement, rush, and bustle, tho. And I like sending cards to people. More than that, I like getting them, and you are not added on's bit. to that excitement, are you? Every day I look and look - in vain - for a card, at least a card at Christmas time from you.

The last two years I've been on night duty at Christmas time, including this year. In a way it is a good thing, it saves me having to keep with Christmas decorations on the ward; I don't have to get up Christmas morning at 4:30 to start at 5 AM to sing carols; I don't have to be around when Santa comes

1600 and let me know.

tion.

Now it's the next day. I'd planned to finish this letter this morning but was too tired. You put 68 patients to bed and get them up again, and one or two very ill, and see how you feel! Five are babies, three bottle fed, one is an adult. It is no joke to nurse, sterilize, and wipe dry about 80 cups in the morning. Yes, there are only 68 patients, but 12 of them have droopy!

In the morning I run around like a chicken with its head off, keeping them quiet. For a Christmas surprise I think Christmas day I won't say "Sabbath," just let them talk. They are so well trained now I bet none of them will - except the youngest baby. She thinks I'm fooling with her when I say sabbath, and laughs and talks (!) the louder.

Did you know I was taking English Literature at Temple College

around on the wards! Christmas is fine, but the institutional good cheer gets worn down. Also, it gives me the opportunity to get out to a Christmas dinner at friends' houses, which cannot always be done when one is on duty.

Enclosed are some of my vacation snapshots. Picture #1 looks like a native bridge in African jungle. #2 and #3 are pictures of the same bridge, going and coming. Do you recognize the approach to your domicile? #4 is because I thought you might like a picture of Mrs. Cody and Miss Grover.

Mr. and Mrs. Potter wished me to explain they didn't come to see you because they had so little time and you were so far away. They were very sorry.

You are it exactly the glass of fashion and the mould of form, but at that it is probably better than if you hadn't showed!

Isn't the one of Dixie beside your wall idyllic? By the end of the summer your place must have been pretty well surrounded by vegeta.



G R E E T I N G S

DEC. 25th - 41

Dear Jimmie

Thanks a lot for that photo. You could not have sent me anything that would have pleased me more. Will soon have it hanging on the wall with the rest of the "family". Glad the Berea box got to you before Christmas. Am sure you will have divided some of it up with some of your good neighbors. But it wont last long if there are many kids in the bunch. My Christmas has been a quiet one but most enjoyable.

*Mildred*

The enclosed clipping came to me anonymously. Was opening some mail and found it on the paper cutter. Dont know what paper it came from either. But thought you would enjoy it.

Best Wishes for  
a Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year.



LEXINGTON CLINIC  
100 N. UPPER STREET  
LEXINGTON, KY.

SURGICAL SECTION

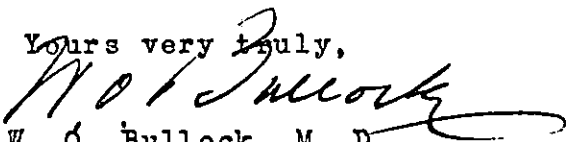
December 30, 1941

Mr. James Still,  
Littcarr, Ky. (Dead Mare Branch)

My dear Mr. Still:

In the first place I want to thank you for autographing my copy on Troublesome. In the second place I want to thank you for the great pleasure this book has given me. When I finished reading it I felt that I had been reading a classic poem and had the same emotional reaction. You are certainly an artist and I wish to let you know how much I appreciate it.

Yours very truly,

  
W. O. Bullock, M. D.

WOB/c



[C. Dec 1941]

Dear Jim -

I hope you've had a most productive year and that the results of the fellowship will soon be on the book stands so I can see what

Christmas Greetings  
and Best Wishes  
for the New Year

you've been writing

Edna

Thursday 11:45 A.M.  
(C. Dec) 1941

Dear Jim,

I was glad to get your letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> of November. We hadn't heard from you in quite a spell.

Papa is doing alright physically. I don't know how his financial standing is.

Alfred & Tom are working now.

Tom needs a bit of encouragement about his well being. He is drinking & playing poker on week ends. Anything I say to him on aggravates the cause.

Alfred needs a bit of bracing up. He has no pride; if so he doesn't show it. A good all over bath would surely help. I have mentioned his cleaning up and making the best of the situation as it stands



Congratulations on your award.

You are doing alright, keep up  
your work; you <sup>may</sup> make a bigger name  
out of Still.

By the way, my call number  
is (1611) and my order number is 529

I have already sent in my questionnaire,  
and received my class card (Class III)

It won't be long before all of us  
will be in the service; if the  
situation doesn't clear up.

When are you coming South?

Your bud  
Comer.

a word or two from you might help.  
at least it cant hurt any.

Lois + Allen are doing alright so  
far as I know. Allen is still in  
that brooding mood, concerning his  
boys, I suppose.

Lonie + Kemben still have their  
troubles.

Inez + Doug + Family were down  
~~a few weeks ago. We are expecting~~  
them again pretty soon.

My troubles are few. I seem to  
sort of coast along; not fast, but  
regular. I have swapped the old  
Lizzie for a new one; so you see  
my financial standing will be  
limited for some time.

We would like to get any books  
you might let us have for reading.