

Spring Villa

195 Springfield Rd.,

Belfast.

18th Nov. '42.

My darling Frank,

How are you? Can you imagine how I long to hear from you? I am still wondering have any of my letters reached you. All my prayers are for your peace of mind, your safety and your early homecoming. I pray too for ~~the~~ God's blessing on our love and our marriage. Only recently Frances said to me. — "Frank and your preparation for marriage has been such a hard one that your happiness together afterwards is assured." Do you believe this Frank? I do.

The year 1942 is coming to a close — a year neither of us shall ever forget. It has seen my love for you grow stronger and more sincere. I realize now just what you mean to me. I need you darling and without you and your love I am lost. So take every precaution with your health.

For some time I had been contemplating resigning from Omagh and taking some job — other than teaching at home. Mother Teresa was at a Headmistresses meeting last Friday in the Dominican Convent, Falls Rd. She asked me to meet her and made me promise not to resign but to take the year rest at home and return to them in September, that is if you do not return in the meantime to claim me. You may wonder that I have not returned to work long ago. My main reason is that I want so much to be at home now. However there is another reason.

My substitute whose home is in Omagh is more than delighted to be at home - She had been teaching in Wales - as her father is very ill and I am afraid from which ^{illness} he will not recover. She urges me not to let this affect my decision, but it has.

Strange to relate, your father too, is anxious that I stay at home. I gave him my confidence and he is in agreement with what I am doing. Aint the Omagh nuns very considerate for me, darling? Thus, should the war last much longer I am to rest at home - learning to housekeep - and return to harness Septimber 1943. Wont you return to me before then?

Gerry Murphy, Felix's best man has started up for himself in Millough. Felix is delighted. Gerry is expected to become engaged soon to a nurse O'Doherty. She is from Ballyhoran quite near to Millough.

Anne was up for the week-end and I met Margaret and ~~her~~ at the convent on Saturday. Margaret has just completed a beautiful picture for our home - dedicating it to the Sacred Heart. Your father is having it framed and presenting it to me as a Christ mas present. They were both so kind and thoughtful that I am overwhelmed. When I say our home, darling I mean yours and mine. Aint you pleased?

I spent Sunday evening at Beechwood. After tea your father took me up to Ardoyne for devotions and we heard a wonderful sermon, preached by Fr Hilary on the Holy Souls. You should have heard us both (father and me) singing the Tantum Ergo and the hymns. Afterwards we walked back to Beechwood together by some brick yard. It was a glorious evening. I want to write on for ever but alas my limit now is 2 pages

God bless you my own dear Frank, wont you write to me soon??
All my love, darling, Eileen.