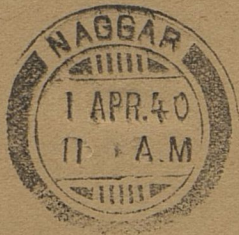


Rotagiri 1
26/3/40

Many thanks for
the two packets of
printed matter safely
received also previous
letters. Will write soon.
Love from us both &
good wishes for health.
D. E. C.



POST CARD

ADDRESS ONLY



Madame Roerich

Naggas

Dulu Valley

Punjab



2
"Ghat View,"
Dhotagiri
Nilgiris.

22/9/40

Dear Madame Roerich,

Greetings from both of us
to you and yours!

Somehow the time races by and we
did not realise that it was so long
since we wrote to you till Father's letter
came some days ago. Please excuse us.

I wish your health was better. I am
sorry you have to be in such tension
about your heart & that you have to suffer
pain. There is a queer feeling for all of
us who are not in the middle of the warring
lands that we also are imprisoned in
self-expression & that there is constant frustra-
tion of our full usual selves. Our friends
writing from Ireland & England saw the
country-side these past months has never
seemed so lovely. Is it the balancing of the
horrors of mutual bombing & other war
activities? The more one is in nature the
more certain one is that Law, Justice, Beauty
& Goodness will never be defeated. These ideas
have also been beautifully expressed in your
books into which I constantly dip. We have
been reading together a chapter each night
of A's "Song and its Tomtoms," a very inspiring
book. Have any of you read it?

how about news - I must go back a little. Some months
(May, June, part of July) were foggy & dull here, abnormally
so. I got a badly relaxed throat from want of sun &
shine. Jim spent July in Srivandavur. I went for a
fortnight to his place. The change did me a power of
good. I enjoyed contact with my very full life there,
it shook off my poor state of health. Then I had
three full days in Madras city & gave a radio broadcast
one night. Jim had the peculiar luck to be spending a
week at the Govt. Secret Quarters just when
the Maharajah passed away so he could attend the
funeral ceremonies. I hope you saw the beautiful fore-
noon article he wrote about him later. It was very
much.

He met me on the road home on 7th Aug. & busied up
together for the past 5 years Jim was not in such
good health as for the next fortnight
everything right & strong & full of vitality. But he worked
his poor brain - part too much with proofing & improving
his collected poems too intensely & one morning he first
slipped into a state of mixed consciousness without any
special reason. In and how he had lost his memory
& became automatic in a sequence of questions. It was
fairly brightening but our Doctor quickly came & treated him
very wisely. Thank God in two days he had made his complete
mental come-back & his mind has linked up the lost part.
He is taking time though to recover self-confidence from the
tendency to giddiness. His blood pressure, tested twice, is
quite normal. D. has cut down 40% of his usual industry.
Now after one relapse from flatulence & giddiness he
built up again & we have no more anxiety. But we
were both disappointed at the sudden break-down.

We are now having ideal weather. I'm wearing
thin dresses, short sleeves, no stockings. For three months
it was quite chilly. He had neighbours who were theosophists
& enjoyed their company for the season.

Have you had any visitors? I expect to see Dr. Suet
along portrait of H. # in Durbar Hall on 30th Oct. I go there
with Jim this time.

It is easy to believe that a great Plan under a Great
Law is being worked out through catastrophes, when one
lives close to Mother Nature in delectable hills & colours &
growths. So we are not worried by the wars & rumours of wars.
It is all within the justice of Cause & Effect.
Our affection goes to you four great people & the faithful
girls. Jim is writing soon to father.
Loretta Cousins

3
Ghat View,
Ratnagiri, India

4/12/40

My dear Madame Perich,

Many thanks for your
kind letter. I enclose an article
which I think may interest you
all. It links on with 'Hierarchy'.

My arm is almost normal again.
At any rate I can play the piano
again in time for my broadcast
in Madras on the 20th. Jim also is
better, but not happy in the cold
& wet which we find here on our
return after 7 weeks' absence. The
house is completely water-tight
& we now have electric lights
but he finds moderate warmth
more congenial for creative work
than either cold or Livandran humid
humid heat.

We're happy that the Collected
Edition suitable to India & published
in India is safely through the Press
& a piece of beauty. We're glad to
know you people also like it.
World affairs are indeed strange.
I wonder if you will get your books
from New York. Dr. Shriyager was
in Bangalore while we were there
but we did not meet.

How are you & your son? We hope
you & father will both improve in health.
We send good wishes for the success
of the Lahore Exhibition.
Yours affectionately
Aretta Cousins

I shall be in the U.S. Adyar for
a week before Xmas, & spend
from 25th to 31st at the all-India
session of the Women's Conference
which is being held in
Bangalore this year after
that we return here.

I enclose a letter from
S. America that may interest
you. Please return it to me
when read.

"GHAT VIEW".

KOTAGIRI, NILGIRIS,
S. INDIA.

Dear Friends Poerich ^{5th} Nov. 1941

How are you 'all? I have been alone here for the past 3 weeks & very often I have sent you my thoughts & hoped things were going well with you all.

Our sympathies are very deeply with your people. How wonderfully determined they are showing themselves & very clever & skillful, but still that awful force keeps pressing, pressing.

I experienced something new when I was in Srinagar recently. When there before ~~me~~ our houseboat was anchored in a canal on the lakeside. This time we had four days in a houseboat on the Jhelum river itself & the never-ending pressure & movement of the float along our windows & the snoring noise it made against the wood sewed to int us interiorly with the pressure of the ceaseless flow of eternal life. I still feel it strange & great,

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"GHAT VIEW".
KOTAGIRI, NILGIRIS,
S. INDIA.

Every now & then I dip into
your "Ann" & enjoy its deep
& simple wisdom & its
power to widen horizons.
The fierce midday sun of
Kashmir took toll on me in the
last week of our stay in Kashmir.
It just sucked all vitality out
of me without pain & left me
unconscious for 3 or 4 hours at
a time. It also was a queer new
experience. Finally they pushed me
into a Nursing Home where the Eng.
Doctor had the X-rays to see if
something in the influence of the
city that was troubling me & happily
told "I will send you off as quickly
as I dare & every mile you go from
here you will improve." It was so
to an extent, but I was utterly exhausted
physically when I reached home, so glad
to be here. I should have gone this
banding with Jim for the Royal Birth-
day week functions, but I was too
weak. He returns here tomorrow
& we should have a happy time
till we move again on Dec. 21.

"GHAT VIEW",
KOTAGIRI, NILGIRIS,
S. INDIA.

I was looking up some references in "Clothed with the Sun" & felt so spiritually excited the same evening to come across your magnificent affirmation of the continuance of their prophecies of the coming Era as that of the Woman.

If we look only on our contemporary women it is disheartening to see how supremely they are allowed themselves to be made in the image of men - one hardly ever finds a woman challenging the idea of "might" as the solvent of evils & ills, and that a merely militarist might stronger than that of the aggressor.

The Master of "Might" commanded failure by the sword - & suffered seemingly his still superior, death & his tomb is the richest in the world. I think there will still be strange changes within the next five years. But with long view we can be calm & full of faith.

It is good to have you people as our friends & comrades in the long happy trip to where we even now are.

Cheers - Yours affectionately
Loretta Cousins.

GHAUT VIEW.

KOTAGIRI.

THE NILGIRIS, S. INDIA.

11th Feb. 1941

Dear Friends,

Heartiest congratulations on the splendid publicity your pictures & work & selves have got in the Illustrated Weekly!

Col. Mahon's article is masterly. We were delighted with it. It must also have given you much pleasure, as intelligent & informed criticism always does.

And now Dr. Suetoslaw is again in Sriwardrum & again he & you will get appreciation. How delighted D. Somersell will be to have a chance of seeing more of your glowing wafers!

My husband writes me daily & in one letter he tells how he & two helpers opening the cases of pictures gasped as they saw the glories of new

pictures. Our enthusiasm for
your works only increases
never lessens. The heat of
Trivandrum is very stiff of
head. He plans to be here again
by the 24th. I am fully occupied
finishing a book "Indian Woman-
hood Today" which was ordered
from me by an Allahabad publisher
tomorrow. I begin its last
chapter.

May I say that the general
English of the last book Madame
so kindly sent me is greatly
improved as compared with
the earlier publications. One
Persi lady was so gripped by
your book "Anni" that she
stripped me of it. I suggest that
you send her an autographed copy
direct - she is a soul worthy of
it. Mrs. Camp, "Belmont"
Ostacaminid. She is the heart of
the women's movement in Cochin.
I hope your health has greatly
improved. We are both now in AT
to father, dear Madame, D. George.
Yours appreciatively
Margaret Cousins



Shab View
Ratagiri,
13/1/41

Dear Friend

We are most grateful to you for sending us "Anni". How perfectly packed it was - an object lesson to our Adyar publishers. We are keeping its wrappings intact to show its Manager as his people sent out Jim's book so unworthily & inefficiently. I am reading only a few pages of it at a time so that the ideas may sink in & be assimilated. I never open any of your books without finding a treasure of a sentence & thought. I am very glad to have the series on my shelves.

We now have electric light all over the house & it makes us bright & good cheer. I won't give up the special of mighty wood fires, the sunlight by day is almost too warm but in the shade one feels cold immediately. I suppose you have snow all the time now.

We send you congratulations on the success of the Svetoslav figure had in Lahore. You should try to get more gain than I India just now & reap the gain of further Press publicity which

also fine ^{last} letters.

has not even filtered down here.

I am sorry to hear that Father's health still gives anxiety.

We two are now back to old form pretty well. Jim has got back to writing poetry again also - but the ~~poetry~~ flag is till the myth is finished + my promised book for "Listen" Press.

But someday it will revive again. Why not write your lives? They would be precious.

Both of us send you loving greetings + good wishes for the New Year which bears so much of good + evil possibilities in it.

Yours affectionately
Loretta Cousins

P.S. He spent the week before Xmas Day in the Y.S. Adyar + had our Xmas Isala dinner there with 30 others (tho' many were away at the Convention in Benares) before leaving by the night train for Bangalore where the Women's Conference was a fine success. My arm is quite better.



9

" Ghat View "
Kotagiri,
Nilgiris,
29/2/42

Dear Madame,

During the railway bits on a short lecture tour I'm on I am reading a book about Russia and the tragic ending of the "Little Father". It sends you people very much to my mind as also do the heroic deeds done by your wonderful people during the past year when their unstinted self-sacrifices for the forces of freedom and light have saved the situation.

I often thought of you while I was at the Annual Session of the All-India Women's Conference just after Xmas. You would have felt the prophecies in your books coming true if you had contacted the new spirit of adventurous, courageous life that is showing itself in the younger generation of women, those between 30 and 50 who are now taking the 2nd era of the women's movement into their control. One is a lawyer, another a Muslim-Bombay woman through whose capacity and devotion as an organiser 2,000 Muslim older women in their homes have become literate during last year. Mrs Vijialakshmi Pandit is quite remarkably able. Also Kamaladevi and the Sarabhai girls, and lots of others. These are becoming responsible for working up new constructive Projects.

One of these is for linking up our A.I.W.C. to the Village Reconstruction work throughout the country which has been entirely masculine so far and needs the complementary services and vision of women. Another is a scheme for training women to be Provincial Organisers of Women's Emergency Committees, Volunteer Corps, Co-operative Industrials, etc. I am largely responsible these days for women's interests in the large half of Madras Pres. known as Tamil Nad and we want one paid organiser for it who has been in touch with this new Training Centre. I am out with a begging bowl to collect Rs 2000 to guarantee the salary and expenses of a trained Organiser for this area. Others of our members are doing the same for other areas. I hold out my bowl to you. I have not before approached you or Father for a gesture in a financial way to the Indian women's cause in its many needs, but today some inner urge forces me to request you to give as large a donation as you can spare for these two Projects which will go through me to their special Funds.

I feel the more emboldened to ask this because of the considerable extra sales of Roerich Pictures which have been made in Trivandrum since the first Roerich Exhibitions there and in Hyderabad from which through the kind arrangement made by Professor Roerich with my husband we were able to help Madanapalle College in a critical period. Now I want to help this new women's activity

and I should like your help in a similar way to enable me to do so—we have no money of our own beyond our narrow margin of maintenance. Anything which deals with the progress of women is as dear to your hearts as to mine. Please wire me some figure which will link you with this movement. I was happy also to hear that your pictures had been generously bought up in Indore specially, and in Lahore and other places.

I was most distressed by the treatment meted out to our good Svetoslav by those in high places during his last days in Trivandrum. They are very changeable without due reason. But your pictures are continually uplifting and inspiring influences in the galleries and palaces. I have seen the poorest of people being visibly moved by them.

March 24 I am sending you a book which is much in line with the desires of the Masters that the medical profession should study influences of etheric and subtle forces. I hope you will like it.

I have the good news to give you that Jim has (through his helpers) brought his Irish myth epic to a rounded completion. He has some polishing to do on details but it is finished in all essential planning and formulation. We are very relieved at this though of course far from satisfied that it rises to its ideals and prototype in the inner world. I know you will rejoice with us. I also enclose a lyric spark from the hot anvil—founded on fact.

I hope this letter will reach you safely and bring you our love. Svetoslav was longing to be with you again but I don't know if he has arrived.

Every good wish for the happiness of your four selves and your complete menage.

Yours affectionately,

Margaret E. Cousins

"Essendene", 10
Trivandrum

2nd Jan. 1943

My dear Madame Roerich,

The first letter I am writing in this new year is by a happy "magnetisation of circumstances" to you. I think that is an auspicious sign for the future! Also today I have seen the collection of Roerich pictures as permanently placed here as they will be until a newly built Gallery materialises in this city, and I was once again moved very deeply by their ever-fresh and inspiring beauty. Jim and I are so happy that Trivandrum has the honour of possessing 20 Roerich creations, including Svetoslav's great painting of Father, in it there is shown the tension of his spirit striving for the victory of Beauty and wisdom over the grossness & stupidity of today's stage of humans. A self it is so poignant a portrait of the daily condition of today's most spiritual artist that my eyes filled with tears as I gave him my reverence & I thanked Svetoslav also for not

withholding the pain of such a battle
from us. In the new place in which
my husband's portrait is now shown, I
recovered the glints in his eyes + a thinning
of the line of his chin which I had loved
in the portrait when it was on your ^{memorial} ~~memorial~~
verandah, but had lost after it came here,
+ I am very happy about it too.

We thank you gratefully for the
contribution you have sent me. It will
be used to carry on projects which
are tottering in these days of
hardship + especially those con-
nected with the Women's Movement.

A fine Indian woman here, Dr.
Pooner Sukhose who was given the
honour of appointment as Surgeon-
General of the whole Medical Depart-
ment of the State has asked me to
perform the unveiling ceremony for
a oil portrait of her in the Women's
Hospital in Durgamcherry before I leave.
I greatly appreciate this compliment
she has paid me. She had a year
such intimate training in Dublin
countries makes one glow.

I enclose you a copy of an address
I gave recently at a Women's Conference,
for which a young Indian friend
and I did most of the organising.
The unity in it but Muslim, Hindu,
high + lower caste, + women of East +
West, was full of blessing to us all.

It is a pity you live so far away that you cannot enjoy any of these gatherings. How is your help keeping and Father's? Has the cold been very intense? We had a few weeks of unpleasant dark, damp, foggy weather in Kotagiri before time, but on Tuesday the sun burst forth & the weather has been ideal since. I expect to get home again by the 17th inst. We are both in good health tho for some weeks we wrestled with bad colds.

On what subject are you now writing? I always carry about one of your books with me & read it on the "put in the thumb" method. I had great pleasure and profit a couple of months ago in reading "The Memoirs of Padere-weski". We progress very slowly in the writing of the Duo. Gahny! Please give my greetings to all your family. May all of you get all you wish for! Again thanking you for the money safely received.

Yours affectionately
Margaret F. Cousins

May I add my cordial
good wishes to all your
revered friends for this year,
and the hope that 1943 will
bring humanity through its
present agony to a new
era of "Knowledge and
beauty."

J. H. Jousma

12
"GHAT VIEW."

KOTAGIRI,

NILGIRIS, SOUTH INDIA.

3/7/43

Dear Madame Roerich,

How are you all? We often think of you & talk of you & father's Monograph by Conlan is always on loan & being appreciated by visitors here, by soldiers, by our Indian friends. The latest person of that kind was the writer Paul Duntun, who spent a day with us on a journey to Ootacamund. I was unexpectedly attracted by him. He was freer with us than Jim had ever seen him in State Guest Houses, etc. I felt we could click on the things that are more excellent as one does very rarely with those whose writings show them to have experience. Caution, or shyness, or self-consciousness often prevent nourishing exchanges of knowledge. Jim is just off the end of 4 months continuous stay with me up here. Tomorrow he starts for a month's absence. Madras & Travancore I have promised to give a fringe broadcast in memory of Rachmaninov on Aug 3 in Madras. Please tell me something about him, if you see, met him or his wife. The more one knows the better one can interpret. I wish you would write to me often. Is there a new book being written? How is your health, precious one? My - our - affectionate regards to you & yours.
Margaret E. Cousins

Some printed matter
arrived safely some days
ago from father. I hope he
keeps well & uplifted.