

Rodney
Brendon
North Devon

10th August 1912.

Dear Mr de Laugel

I am at a loss to express to you my true gratitude for your kindness in continuing to take the class until the end of this year. You have relieved me of a great trouble and I feel sure that the Professors, when they hear of it, will be as grateful to you as I am myself.

I shall return to London at the beginning of September to see to the opening of the School and certain other matters connected with the studios and shall remain in London as long as my health will allow me. I am a great deal stronger by my rest in the country, but I found that London does not suit me at all well when I came up to Town during last week for my sister-in-law's wedding.

The junior classes of the school will be reopened on the 8th September; but the school

will not be in full working order until the first week in October, when with your permission I should like to commence your class. I will write to the members of your class to tell them that the class will start on the 30th September which is a Monday and that the studios will be at their disposal from the 8th September onwards if they should desire to be working in London.

I am so glad to think that you are really taking a rest and hope that the weather will improve.

We are living in a little white washed cottage on a steep cliff that drops down to the sea through woods of oaks & pine trees. Only a few people come along the path and the nearest house is half an hour's walk. Looking out through the tracery of the foliage we can see the Welsh coast across the Bristol Channel. The soil here is mostly a beautiful red which with the greens of the trees and the grey of the sea & sky make a splendid colour scheme above, on the top of the cliff, is Exmoor and the heather with valleys of wooded banks and blue atmosphere. If I had the ability

this would be a fine opportunity; but although I can see & feel all this beauty it becomes soiled & crude when I try to express it. It is possible that before I knew you I should have been satisfied; but increased knowledge & insight bring with them, as a spur to prevent a torpid complacency, their own remedy, dissatisfaction.

I must close this letter as the boys tell me that the post-man is on his way down the path and if I do not hand it to him, it cannot leave before Monday morning.

Mrs Helmore send her kind regards to you and Mrs de Laigo and also to her friend Paul, and with most sincere thanks to you for all the many kindnesses you have done me the chiefest of which I now acknowledge
I remain

Yours sincerely

W. Franklyn Helmore