

*Bacony*

LONDON,

24th July, 1931.

I have just received your letter of July 18th, and am pleased to know that you are well and that you will be shortly joining your family in St. Moritz. I wish we could have been there at the same time, but we have already made our plans to go to the Tyrol where we hope to have a good rest after the strenuous season here which closed yesterday with the Royal Garden Party - a very brilliant function at which we were honoured by both the King and Queen who addressed a few words to us. Next week I am going to paint the charming Duchess of York again.

Now, dear friend! in regard to the Duke of Sutherland, I am writing to him to-day and giving him your address so that he may let you know when he will be in Budapest. No doubt he will communicate with you from somewhere on the Continent where he is motoring and will let you have his address. I am telling him that you will be in Budapest from September 10th, and as soon as you hear from him please do your best to let him know where and when he is to be invited through your kind introduction, as you will understand he would like to be "au courant" before arriving in Budapest. I should be indeed grateful if you would not mind doing this, and I am sure it will be successfully arranged in your hands. He will be hoping to meet the Regent, and no doubt the Prime Minister, and it would be splendid if you could arrange for him to shoot with Prince Festetics and Count Karolyi. The Duke is a charming man, and I am sure he will have a very successful visit to Hungary.

I have to give you now some rather distressing news, which relates to one of our family. Stephen was operated on last Monday for appendicitis and trouble in the gall bladder, which had to be removed; this, as you will well understand,

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has caused us much anxiety, but I am glad to say the operation was successful and he is so far making good progress. It is very bad luck on him and his wife, and he will not be able to do any work for the next two or three months.

Lucy leaves with Patrick and John on August 10th, and I will follow them about a week later on account of Stephen.

I much hope that the arrangements, which have taken place here regarding the economic situation in Germany, will have a beneficial effect on the whole of Europe, and especially on unfortunate Hungary from where I receive so many depressing letters.

Have you seen Marcel lately? and when you next see the Prime Minister kindly remember me to him. I am hoping that this year will allow me to spend a few days in my native country.

It is possible that I may have to go over to America this winter for a short time.

Now, dear friend! I must close. Do not keep me so long without news of you as I always like to hear from you. Please remember us very kindly to Edith and Charlie, and with best wishes for a nice holiday.

Believe me,

P.S. When the Duke of Sutherland is in Budapest please do not forget to arrange that he sees the National Museum, and the pictures in the Prime Minister's Palace.