

Dear Bill,

*Necker*

5/2/94

Other side from Preface of Inside, retyped on a computer. And this is in partial answer to your question about the <sup>Bar</sup>Barbehenns. Of whom we feel as though they were our children and they act as though they are.

By prearrangement they came yesterday morning. The previous weekend Rick had driven alone up to Amherst to bring their daughter back from her freshman year there. Cathy apparently did not go because she has been weakened by some lung problem for which she it is to see a specialist soon. They had announced in advance that they were coming to work and at 9 a.m. they asked what work we wanted done. Several flower beds are cleared and planted, with compost fetched, screened and dug in, and with a colorful border of blooming petunias the daughter thought would look nice so she went out and bought. <sup>and brought</sup> Anne is a fine, bright and attractive young woman we have known since she was in diapers. The high-school son Joal (family Dutch) brought his friend Ian. Joal screened the compost while Ian distributed the many high stacks of dead branches throughout the length of the ditch on the back end of our property, eliminating some of Lil's problems in getting to her compost piles. The two of them also skinned <sup>ad</sup> the debris from the top of the pool without my asking it. The vegetables Lil had gotten are planted. (Apparently skunks dug the tomato plants up during the night.) There was considerable weeding done and some mowing, too, where the man who does it for me hadn't. They had said that as they usually do they'd bring lunch. This is the first time they didn't. Anne slipped off and brought <sup>it</sup> back. I suppose that reflects how Cathy felt and did not admit. But it showed when they were finished and left for home about 5. The trio of younger ones had left about 2 to drive to Pennsylvania mountains for a week of backpacking over them. When they were resting before leaving Cathy made it clear that she considers her first responsibility to be seeing to it that nothing is stolen when my papers are transferred to Hood. I tell you this to reflect their attitude. When they learned for the first time how we intend to remember them they demurred and said that money should be used to prepare and preserve the papers for use. She of course knew that <sup>(watching transfer)</sup> would take time. So she was saying they'll take that time. She works in an industrial museum. Rick is a skilled model maker also in a museum with a sideline of doing that on his own for a wide ~~variety~~ variety of clients including museums, Interior, the Archives, etc. I told Cathy I believe that Hood would do the actual transferring rather than hiring it done and would do the supervising. And they <sup>(the</sup> will be able to do and will do what Jerry won't be able to take time for, giving away what we'll leave that can be used by others. And taking anything they may be able to use. When Rick was preparing to hang for Lil a large, heavy, beautiful and quite unusual calendar the only place we have the wall space, where it will not easily be seen, and Cathy saw it she told us what I did not know, never having known her mother, that her mother's PhD thesis was on the Maoris. The calendar had been sent us by a New Zealand friend we've never seen, a history professor. He also sent one to Arone, who told me a week ago that

he and his wife plan to use some of the heavy sheets as one uses paintings in their home.

The first to settle Delaware were the Dutch and Swedes. It is possible that on her father's side <sup>or on her side</sup> Cathy goes back to the earliest ~~settlers~~ settlers there, of the early 1600s. Her paternal grandfather was a fundamentalist preacher who also taught commercial subjects in high school. Alma was one of his pupils. Her <sup>remarried</sup> father, stepmother and half-brother and sister live in or near Frederick.

Cathy, Rick <sup>A</sup> and Joal, who was born after <sup>we</sup> ~~we~~ were friends, are good, loving and caring friends. And we love them.

There are too many small things the college cannot be expected to do, that Dave is too far away to do and that Jerry will not have the time for and would not want to do if he did that they will take care of.

One consequence of our discussion before they left is that <sup>Lil</sup> Lil recognizes she has to find or take the time for us to discuss the questions she had. If she still ~~remembers~~ remembers them.

Her hard cast was removed Friday. She is now in a flexible cast she can removed whenever she wants to and ~~to~~ go without when she expects no strains, ~~ix~~ etc. We see that doctor again in two weeks.

Anne's college fees are \$20,000 a year. She has a small scholarship and one or two small jobs. Then there will be Joal's college fees for them to pay. They do not have the means. Or, it will not be easy on any of them until both are <sup>and working</sup> educated. They also have a mortgage on their home near Baltimore. And I think that the first time Rick's extra work gives them the time we'll see them another weekend soon.

Best  
/ Harry