

Bethesda, Friday, Dec.-
Ye Gods, it's the 17th!

Dear John and Dona,

4-78 p.1/1

Herewith the latest of father's letters to arrive.

Also there arrived a mysterious package from Clan Campbell, for which I thank you in advance only being a great one for saving my icing till the last I haven't opened a one of them to see what's inside. The packages are deposited for more or less safe keeping up in the top shelf of the guest room closet. Since they have not been opened and investigated by Laurence John as yet, I assume the chair he stands on to investigate most things wasn't tall enough to permit his reaching up to that shelf.

So thank you, my dears, very very much for your kind thoughts. I hope you all have a fine Christmas and that old Father John will be able to emerge from behind his apparatus for the celebrations. "hat a shame we aren't nearer to you, so that Dona and I could get together after the small fry are in bed and have ourselves a quiet, comforting drink or two.

Oh dear, there goes L.J., sounding off after his nap.

With all my love,