

Roll: **19130218-0703**

Camera: **Document: DOC**

Subject:

Letter to Elsie from her Uncle in Camden

Notes:

On February 18th 1913 my Nana Fulford, Elsie Hannett as she was then, received at least two communications from London. The first was a **postcard from her eldest sister** Florence in Brockley and the second a letter from her Uncle St Luke in Camden. Both were in response to Elsie's own correspondence. Elsie would appear to have made reference to her own and her Mother's poor state of health.

The letter from Uncle St. Luke is postmarked just 2 1/4 hours later than than the post card from his niece Florence, cost just a penny to send and undoubtedly arrived at Queens Walk bright and early the next day. It is postmarked:

"5.30 PM FEB 18 13".

You would think it would be easy to find birth records of a man with such an unusual forename as St Luke (I can find only 3 of them in the hundred years between 1837 and 1937) but so far I have been unsuccessful. I do not even know if he was a Hannett or a Booth).

I can find nothing to suggest that a contraction was used to pronounce his name after the manner of St John.

Much of the letter is about his and her health and whether or no he will make a visit to Nottingham the "Saturday after next" on 22nd February. St Luke has at best an ambivalent view of doctors and medical diagnosis.

*How do you feel about next Saturday week? do you think you will go.
I have had 2 or 3 good days, but if I am no better on the 22nd than today
then you must not expect to see me, although I certainly shall come if fit.
I hope dear girl you are feeling better, you know doctors like to
take a Gloomy view if possible to make a big bill.*

In 1913 the Suffragettes were engaged in a nation wide bombing campaign in order to obtain female suffrage. There were bombing and arson attacks every month in 1913. In January there had been 5 bombs addressed to the Chancellor, David Lloyd George, and put into pillar boxes around the UK. All ignited prematurely. On February 8th the Orchid House in Kew Gardens was attacked.

St Luke writes:

*I suppose you have read of the latest suffragist tricks, damaging
plants in Kew Gardens etc. One vile bitch was putting something in a pillar
box close to us and it ignited too soon and she got badly burnt and had to
have the attention of a Dr. close by that I have been fool enough to see,
unfortunately she did not get blown to atoms.*

People:

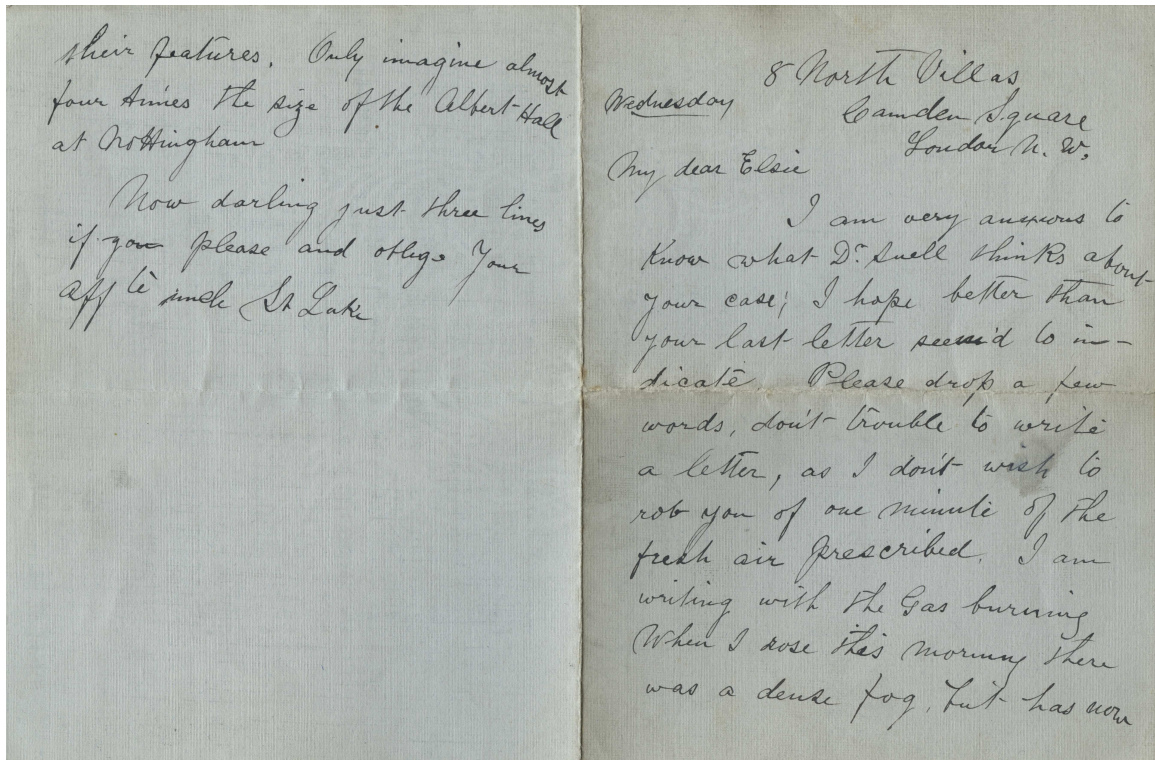
Elsie Hannett, Uncle St Luke, Lizzie, Florence, Leslie.

Dates:

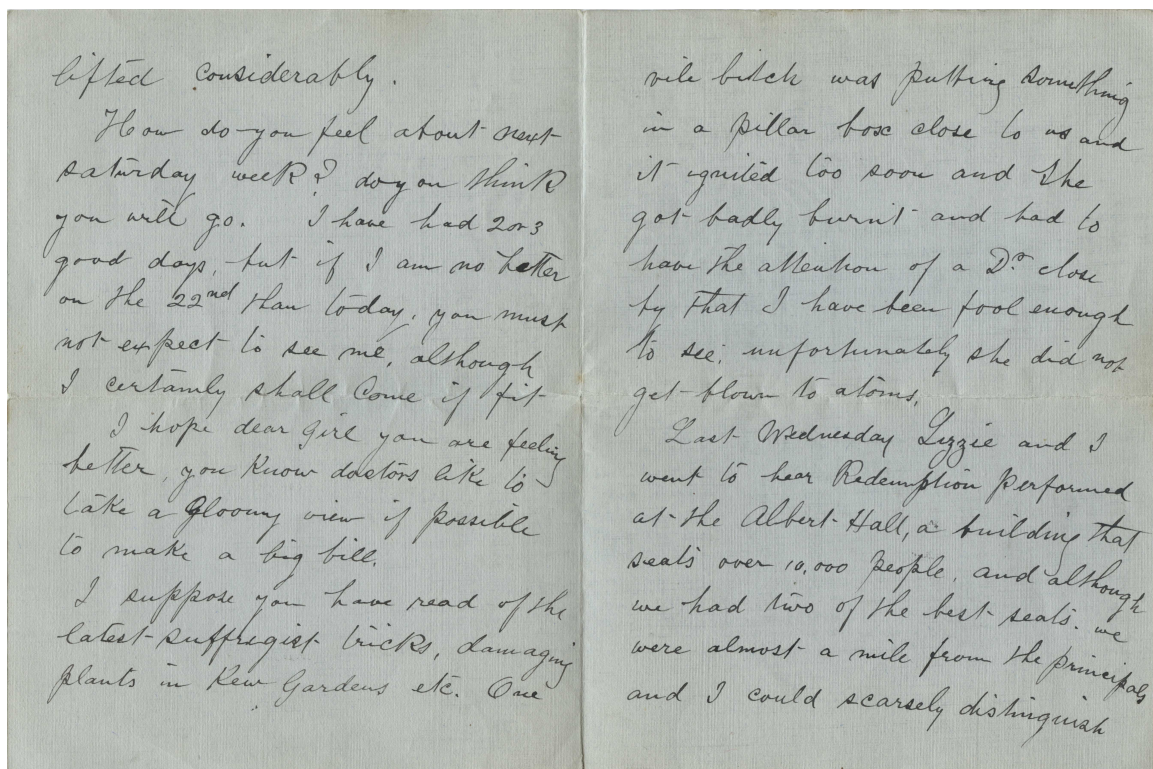
Dates and times are taken from the postmark and verified by recorded historical events. Leslie was born Friday 23rd February 1900

Frames:

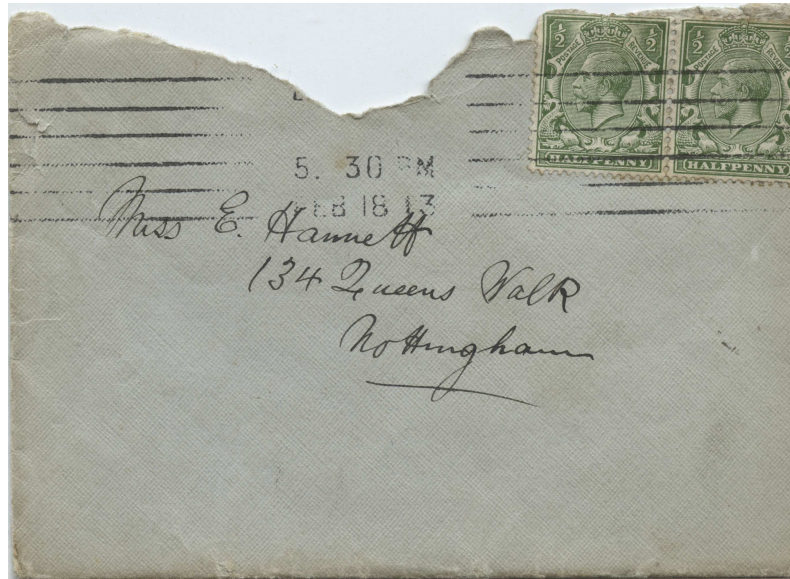
DOC-0001 19130218 17:30:00 Letter to Elsie.
DOC-0002 19130218 17:30:00 Letter to Elsie.
DOC-0003 19130218 17:30:00 Envelope to Elsie.
WWW-0004 20230228 19:00:00 8 North Villas.



DOC-0001 - Letter to Elsie from Uncle St Luke.



DOC-0002 - Letter to Elsie from Uncle St Luke.



DOC-0003 - Envelope addressed to Elsie.



WWW-0004 - No.8 in 2023.