

Arches Hall
Standon
Herts

Nov. 2nd. 1958.

my dear Bob.

How can I begin to thank you for your delightful present,
& how rude of me to be so long in writing to thank you for it.
It is entirely your own fault though, for every spare minute I could find, I was glued to your book ; it was enthralling.
I knew A1 had progressed very considerably, but that you could escort a stream of bombers & pick out the jerries from such a mass without any help from the

ground, completely baffles me.
My son was here yesterday to see
us, & promptly seized it from me.
Perhaps it was just as well, for
I had got under way with a
second reading, & goodness
knows when this letter would
have been written.

I knew of your crash old lad,
& felt at the time that you had
been at the wicket long enough
to retire, & let the next man
have a knock up.

I did not know of the bomb incident,
& trust your mother & sister
escaped any serious hurt.

It is good to hear you are married;
my rather belated congratulations.

You + George a hat trick apiece;
could anything be ne'er.

I am not sure if I told you that
there is a stud here, + in the
Spring we are hoping for six or
seven foals to be born.

If you + your good lady would
care to bring your kiddies along,
I expect they would love to see them.
I shall be only too happy to give
you all the information I can
about the first scrap, + feel
that I may be of some more help
to you than I can be to Collier;
for I have an uncomfortable
feeling that having taken such
an inactive part in the last show,
he will leave me with the feeling

that his time has been rather wasted,
at all events, I will do my level best.
most of all, I look forward to our
meeting again, I hope in the very
near future.

Will you convey my kind regards to
your wife, & say how I hope one
day we can meet, when I shall be
able to tell her how you were the
one man to get me out of a hole
seventy feet deep, & gave me a
glimpse of the real thing.

Get a move on with your next
book.

Yours ever

Lemon'