

**Mccall, E. M.**

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your staying in London.  
Meanwhile believe me  
with very kind regards,  
Yours sincerely  
J. MacCall.

STATION, RICHMOND.  
ST MARGARETS 89  
TELEPHONE 89  
58, POST OFFICE, RICHMOND.  
TELEGRAMS,  
BENMORE, TWICKENHAM.

"BENMORE,"

RIVERDALE GARDENS,

ST MARGARETS-ON-THAMES.

24-7-10.-

Dear Dr. Pierce,

I have indeed been  
unfortunate with my attempts  
at making arrangements,  
which always seem to be at  
the wrong moment. It has  
been such an old wish of ours  
that Evan should go to see  
you; and such a satisfaction,  
when he himself wished to do so,

that it would seem a pity almost, to hurry his visit in the few days before your departure. This is at least how he feels it, especially with his dread for an unknown & fashionable Scarborough. —

May we put it off now until your return after a month, and then ask you to give him at once, not only the advantage of your valued

advice, but also if it can be arranged, of your observation and intercourse, which will require a longer and closer attention perhaps than you could spare him now? —

Perhaps you would kindly communicate with me, shortly before your return from abroad, and let me know if there would be a chance of



either, who could advise him, and now that my great hope that he might at last come under your influence & guidance has failed, I seem to have nothing left but the prayer & hope that Christ, who stirred the pool, & raised the sick, - may Himself send light & help to this dear son yet. -

The thought however, that we are doing nothing to help him, and may even be doing him harm in our wrong tho' loving treatment is very painful & distressing. And if perhaps some new & practical idea suggested itself to you, which we could work upon, or put before him, I shall be truly grateful. Believe me, dear Dr. Pierce

Yours very sincerely  
J. M. A. C.

TELEPHONE,  
58 P.O. RICHMOND.

BENMORE,  
EAST TWICKENHAM.

2-10-10. -

542

Dear Dr. Pierce,

I must apologise for not writing sooner, but I have felt very troubled of late, and did not know what to say. Evan's homecoming was a terrible disappointment to me. I had set my hope for such a long time on this meeting, praying that he might be influenced and inspired by you to a different view & mode of life, but the result of this hurried trip has of course not been satisfactory. I feel that if only he could have been guided by you long ago, all would have been so different; but I don't know what to do now.

He has come back more than ever convinced that he knows his own condition & cure best, and that all



our worrying & interfering only fatigues him & puts his recovery back.

Consequently he has resumed his <sup>same</sup> selfish, independent life, & habits, & the slight change & stir which yr. words suggested to him, have made room for a fit of moodiness, & injured sense of being misunderstood & coerced.

You know Dr. from all my former letters that I entirely agree with every word you say, & that I have felt and known all along every fear & danger you express, but I personally am quite unable and impotent to change the conditions and exercise my influence. His father and elder brother, who are very busy men, are more easily talked over by his arguments, & do not as yet share my fears, but I <sup>who write</sup>

him daily since a year am only too sadly aware of the weakening effect of this enforced idleness and want of self discipline & ~~want~~ <sup>of</sup> moral effort. But how to alter it now? Your suggestions of bringing him under more encouraging influences, either in a Dr.'s home, or with a young medical man as companion, are the very things I have been wishing and wanting for him, <sup>all along</sup> but how to find such a satisfactory solution as to win his consent and submission? Of Dr. Harmer's place in South Beacon you know nothing personally, you say Dr. Francis Rutter's home, which I visited 1/2 years ago seemed to me most unsuitable in every way for a nervous patient, & I am sure would not hold my son very long. Unfortunately he has <sup>had</sup> no medical attendant here yet.

inducing him to come and  
spend a few days near you  
in York. Of course you will  
know best how to deal with  
him, and I hope you will  
forgive my persistence.

Believe me

Yours very gratefully  
J. MacColl.

truly believe sometimes that if he knew his services  
could be of real use to some one, his spirit & energy  
would rise to the occasion at once. If your im-  
pression of him is in every way favourable, perhaps  
you might open a door for him in that way also. His  
father would only be too pleased to pay any <sup>expenses</sup> ~~thing~~  
that wd. help him, altho' he might be made to believe  
that they were being paid for his services.

STATION,  
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BENMORE, TWICKENHAM.

"BENMORE",

RIVERDALE GARDENS,

ST MARGARETS-ON-THAMES.

13-9-'10. -

Dear Dr. Pierce,

Many thanks for your  
kind reply. - My son is ready to  
go this week, but unfortunately  
thro' appointments with the  
dentist, - not before Thursday  
morning. He will then go straight  
to the Prince of Wales Hotel,  
and if perhaps you could make  
your visit to Scarborough this  
week late enough to give him



a chance of meeting you, then already. I shall be very grateful; as I should like you to see as much of him as possible during the short time he will be in your neighbourhood. - I feel so confident that your personality and advice will do him good, & perhaps stir or suggest him to life and work again. - The wish & the hope are all there; but he seems

Cannot conveniently go to Scarbro till  
Monday writing  
Perce

to be waiting until his ~~old~~ spirit returns to him; and I believe the spirit is all there too, only waiting to be roused & guided in the right direction. Might I ask you to let me have a short word from you after you have spoken to him; and will you kindly plan and arrange as many meetings & consultations with him as possible, before y<sup>r</sup>: departure for Berlin, - perhaps even by

7th September, 1910.

Dear Mrs. McCall,

I must only attempt quite a brief reply to your letter. I have returned from a very pleasant holiday, and shall be glad to see Mr. McCall either next week or the following week at Scarborough. It would seem to me better to see him twice, either on two separate visits, or one evening and again the following morning. Wednesday and Thursday are the most suitable days in the week for me, and on the whole the 21st would be rather more convenient than the 14th, but I could arrange almost any time that would be convenient to him.

I would suggest that he arranges to spend a week or two in Scarborough. There is plenty of interest in the country round about, and the change of scene would be pleasant, and at this time of the year Scarborough is quite an attractive place. On the whole the Prince of Wales Hotel is perhaps as satisfactory as any other; rooms could easily be secured if wished.

I am very pleased to hear of his improvement, which seems to me to be quite encouraging. I will gladly do all I can to help, and hope the visit northwards will prove to have been well worth while.

I am expecting to go to Berlin for a week in the middle of October, and consequently the two weeks mentioned seem to be most convenient.

With kind regards,  
I remain,

Yours very truly,



OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

that while waiting & working  
for this perfect cure, the right moment  
to take up active life passes by, and  
many helpful principles may be ne-  
glected, & wrong habits formed, which  
it will be difficult to retrieve again.  
He will have to go slowly of course; & altho'  
I believe that he is certainly more able than  
he fancies himself to be, yet the slightest  
over exertion or worry seems to tell, & he loses  
& gains weight easily. A few weeks ago  
when he was both worrying & overtired with  
strolling, he got visibly thinner in a few days.  
You see Dr: I have troubled you with a long  
letter; but you also see that our hope and  
confidence are in you, & I hope you will forgive  
me. And oh Dr: if you could, with God's  
blessing, assist and animate that <sup>dear</sup> boy  
into a noble life of purpose & prayer  
and ~~work~~ again, no sacrifice w<sup>d</sup> seem too  
great, & our gratitude would be for ever with you.  
I hope to hear from you soon, & remain  
Yours very sincerely  
H. MacColl.

TELEPHONE,  
58 P.O. RICHMOND.

BENMORE,  
EAST TWICKENHAM.

5-9-10.

Dear Dr: Pierce,

Once or twice during  
the last month I have been on  
the point of writing to you in Wales  
to suggest a meeting with my son  
there; so anxious was I that you  
should have an opportunity of  
knowing him thro' daily intercourse  
& observation; but although I  
know you would have found him  
a pleasant companion, I dreaded to  
disturb your holiday rest, & felt that  
you could not welcome the suggestion.  
Now however I hope very soon to hear  
of your return, & your readiness to meet  
my son, & before that I should still  
like to say one or two things, which  
I know you will understand all right,  
& <sup>which</sup> may be of assistance in your dealings  
with him.



My son's own need and desire to consult you, which he felt very strongly 6 weeks ago, when some new mental & physical strain caused great depression ~~for~~ <sup>the</sup> time, has gradually passed off as he began to feel better again. He is perfectly willing to fulfill this plan of going to Scarborough and consulting you about himself, ~~at~~ <sup>our</sup> request, but feels confident that on his explaining everything to you you will agree & approve of all his past and present methods & plans ~~towards~~ further recovery, in which case one single interview might be sufficient. This is not our idea, as you know, and I earnestly hope that you may be able to devise and arrange some nice plan which keeps him a little while under your observation & guidance. He is far too well & independent to be treated as an invalid; & yet how will you be able to judge, & help him,

unless your presence can get well acquainted with him, & inspire him with confidence & submission. He is certainly very much better lately, & he seems to be waking up in different ways. - Only a few days ago he turned to music again, & it is really wonderful how it all seems to come back to him naturally. Still the process is very slow, and Dr. Spink's method of perfectly free outdoor life, without any fixed and regular, or rather disciplined occupation, leads to far too much solitary rambling, & leisure for broodings & meditations, I believe. It may be that his introspective nature needs this more than we can realise; but too much of it, might be hurtful to all awakening ambition & energy, & I am sometimes afraid

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"BENMORE,"

RIVERDALE GARDENS,

ST MARGARETS-ON-THAMES.

17-7-'10.

Dear Dr. Pierce,

My son Evan has agreed to go to Scarborough for a short visit, & from there, to go and see and consult you about himself. May I know from you if leaving in the course of this week or the next, he is sure to find you at "the Retreat"? And I do not add the prayer, because I know, - that you will do every thing in your power to advise him in the right direction. - Confidence



self assurance, and a proper system to start working upon, seem to me his greatest need; and, with God's blessing, only an authority like yourself, can give him these.

Believe me always, with true regard and gratitude

Yours sincerely  
J. MacColl.

P. S. I remember hearing once that you also have a Home of Rest in Scarborough; do you think Evan could put up there; or is it perhaps too much a place for Invalids? Evan is not at all an invalid in reality, & you might know of a better place, <sup>moderately quiet</sup> Hotel or boarding house for him. for which suggestion I should be very grateful.

AND

6, PARK SQUARE,

LEEDS.

BY APPOINTMENT.

TUESDAY, } 1.30 TO 4 P.M.  
FRIDAY }

TELEPHONE { YORK N° 1112.  
LEEDS N° 391X.

THE RETREAT,

YORK.

June 3<sup>d</sup>, 1920

Dear Mrs. Macgill-Mercier,

I fear there is little prospect of my going to London soon as I have only recently returned from a short visit there. I can quite understand your anxiety in respect to your son, and the query arises in ones mind how far he is capable of throwing aside this invalidism, even if sufficient stimulus is given. However, I do not forget that Dr. Spaight assured me that there were no signs of a serious malady which often begins with neurasthenic symptoms, and his letter certainly satisfied me that he was competent to form an opinion. Should you wish to consult a physician in London, I can give you one or two names, and would be glad to forward some particulars of the case which I have.

With kind regards,

Yours very truly,



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"BENMORE,"

RIVERDALE GARDENS,

ST MARGARETS-ON-THAMES.

Dear Dr. Pierce, 1910

If there is any chance of your coming shortly to London again, I should be so very thankful to hear of it, & to try, if possible, to arrange a meeting with my boy. You took such a kind interest in his case last year, and altho' he has greatly improved since then, he still leads more or less an invalid's life, and keeps postponing the effort of taking up an active, useful life again. - Often I think it is ~~more~~ lack of self-confidence & energy, besides the

your opinion & advice. -

Forgive me for troubling you again, & if there might be a possibility of your coming to London soon, do write & let me know, and arrange to be our honoured guest to dinner any day which would suit you. -

Believe me always, with very kind & grateful regards,

Yours very sincerely  
J. Maccoll.



habit of indulgence & invalidism,  
more than insufficient recovery, that  
stand in his way; but it is so dif-  
ficult to judge for him, & he him-  
self hopes & trusts in fuller recovery  
by leading the outdoor life, & healthy,  
but aimless pursuits he is following  
now. - In any case a talk with a  
great authority like yourself, & some  
practical suggestions from you, would  
do him a world of good, I am sure;  
\* especially if this could be arranged  
without his suspecting a premeditated  
plan. Now & then I have proposed to him

to go & consult you personally,  
but he dreads that effort also, &  
declares that realising his own condition,  
he is sure that he is following the  
best method for himself. - I am  
so very much afraid however, that  
the effort constantly postponed  
will become more & more difficult,  
and believe that only a strong influence  
or powerful motive outside the home  
circle, can stir him into action and  
practical life again. - I should be so  
very happy & thankful therefore if  
he could meet you at last, and gain