

Tel. Hintlesham 238.

February 14<sup>th</sup> 1945  
~~AAA~~

Hyntle Place,  
Hintlesham,  
Ipswich.

My dear Harold.

I must not delay in  
sending you my hearty thanks  
for the gift of razor-blades and  
shaving soap. Nothing could have  
been more welcome, for nothing  
could have been more timely.

I have been for some weeks  
watching with deepening alarm the  
wastage of my stock, and seriously  
beginning to consider the case  
for those simple beards in which  
our ancestors gloriéd: My

Wife and Miss Booker make demon-  
-strations of extreme antipathy whenever I  
hint at the prospect of my becoming  
bearded; but I cannot readily resign  
the <sup>promise</sup> prospect of relief from matutinal  
itch often in bitter weather, which the  
possession of a beard guarantees. But  
your generous gift silences the  
controversy for at least 3 months ::  
and there it may rain razor-blades,  
and the very thought of beards may  
be banished from men's minds.

The spell of intense cold  
from which we have just emerged.  
was a horrible experience, all the  
more for coinciding with the almost

unimaginable privations of the  
European populations. . The  
immemorial privilege, which the  
English have always valued so highly.

~ The privilege of gambling. ~  
seems almost valueless, when its  
enjoyment must be shamed and  
shadowed <sup>the thought of</sup> by the sufferings of such  
multitudes of innocent folk, who  
have been brought to extreme misery  
& Hitler's criminal ambition.

One cannot escape a sense of  
almost unbearable meanness when  
one "cries out" under every little  
inconvenience, caused by the war,  
forgetful of what might have been  
our lot, had not God been more  
merciful to us than we could have

dared to hope, and our fighting  
men in sea, air, & on land been  
resourceful and valiant beyond  
all precedent.. It does not  
seem extravagant to think that the  
End is now drawing near. The order  
to cease fire cannot now be long delayed,  
and then the jinghells of Victory: and  
then? The opportunities, perils, and  
ventures of restoring a broken World.

Bell: There is always for us one  
certitude to strengthen & illumine —

"The Lord is King, be the people  
never so impatient": and they that  
trust in Him shall not be put to shame.

May God bless you and yours: &  
guide you in the way of His Service!

Always your affec<sup>te</sup> Uncle,

H - Trusty Thomson

Harold Thomson Esq

Bishop