

Old Lyme, Conn., 8 June 1935  
White House

My dear Dr. Nathan,

Yesterday we received a greeting from you in the form of the sausages I had asked you to send to us. That was at least a sign of life from you.

Bermuda was fantastically beautiful. That island is a dream land. Here at the White House, there is peace and quiet, an uncanny stillness. Only on quite out-of-the-way paths in high mountain regions does one sometimes experience such a deep silence as here. Particularly at night it is almost uncanny. We are still entirely on our own, no people far or wide, apart from the caretaker. But in the next few days, two houses near here will be inhabited and then it will probably be less desolate and lonely, but not peaceful anymore, either. We are living wonderfully, so elegantly that Albert is embarrassed and until now we have always been dining at the so-called servants' table in the kitchen. In such a noble house one doesn't eat, one dines! In the dining room, Albert ought constantly to be strutting about in patent leather shoes and a white waistcoat. That room looks like it belongs at Count Metternich's. Although we've never been there, that's what we imagine it to be like.

Lindbergh rented this house two years ago. It cost 10,000 dollars for three months' rent. We got it for \$750 rent, which is also quite a lot for a summer place but is nothing considering the beauty of this house. It has 20 acres of land, a tennis court, a swimming pool, all sorts of summer pleasures that we do not desire and, nevertheless, now have at our disposal. There was surely always a butler in this house, and a personal maid for the lady. All of them are now combined to perfection in Miss Dukas. There's a giant garage next to our house, in it, room for eight vehicles. Our Kittie is replacing the purebred dogs and our saddle horses.

Come and see us sometime and gaze upon our nobility. Probably once and never again, because next year we won't be allowing ourselves the luxury of such a large summer house because we are living much more expensively.

[TLS. On letterhead: "ALBERT EINSTEIN."]

Margot stayed in Bermuda. She couldn't part with the beauty of that island. I hope it's not too hot for you in Princeton and not too lonely. If you feel homesick for us, then don't hesitate, sit yourself down on the train, and come straight here. But a telegram before your arrival would be desirable.

Most cordially, yours,

Elsa Einstein.

[Verso. Handwritten closure.]