

5066

FLAT G,
42, ELM PARK GARDENS,
S. W. 10.
FLAXMAN 3969.

27.10.58.

Dear Philippa,

I have been away since Thursday, or I would have written to you before, to tell you how very sad I was to hear of your bad back & that you were in two much pain & that you enjoy your bed.

But I have really rather mixed feelings & feel a hypocrite when I condole, esp. of you had not had the bad back I would not have seen & thoroughly enjoyed the wonderful show at the House of Lords on Wednesday.

I had never been inside that chamber & it was a wonderful treat. It was like a first class coloured ivory - the chamber itself is rather breath-taking & the Lord Chamberlain too good to believe - I really didn't. He seemed a cross between a Gilbert Sullivan creation & Dr. Johnson & I could almost smell his greasy stained clothes.

Then the ritual was amazing, all dumb show, except for the reading of the warrant & oath. Then the pantomime of sitting herald, with his "wand" The directed by the beautiful lady lords Keeping their men dipping their hats, the lady lords Keeping their panned (was it elastic?) nicely on their perms. - It was rather like a village pantomime of all Baba & the more, (but always less) fathers, for as each of the 7 groups passed into the distance behind the L. C. & Black Rod, the herald & the Duke must have raced round behind do come in again with

the next eve lamb.

The red cloaks, except
which were well salved,
crumpled. They looked
sent of Santa Claus,
bundles of theatrical props
mansions of the Peers of the
It was also a great

those worn by the women
were trailing &
had been found in
in the attic of the
Realm.

of both women, Ravensdale & Elliott (peers are known
by surnames only) looked
look at. I could not judge the hats, as I
was in the gallery - but they looked becoming.

historical occasion.
dignified & good to
the day before Lady
"my dear
another odd thing,

Norton tells me that
Reading, in the warrant, was called
"cousin" - I wonder why.

another odd thing,
was called "my dear
another odd thing,

according to Hansard, in the
the new "Lady Lords" - I should have thought
it would have been "Lords & Ladies" in
members of the House of Lords

embraced in
Lords & Ladies in
sitting

my back acted as I watched the L.C. - sitting
when he stood up at the end of the
I realised he was leaning against a wall
questioned back = but he still lacked an
rest - so provided for the speaker of the H.C.

after the "do"
admiring friends

Lady Elliott was so excited
I felt I could have joined her
been kissed, & invited to tea, - but I refrained.
how you know why I have mixed feelings.

admiring friends
but I refrained.
I have mixed feelings.

about your book
I shall have your dictation
up & about again, for
even

you so much for suggesting
& hoping to well soon be
we miss you so much
even
Ave. C. Tranham