

August 5, 1941

My dear Taylor,

I was glad to hear that the paints arrived safely. I hope they may be more fun than nuisance; the quick-drying property is a grand safeguard with small children.

About my stick, please do whatever is the least bother. I believe it will travel as a parcel, with a label tied on it, which would save the trouble of thinking of it and hunting it up when we have another meeting in sight.

Fraser Roberts has just communicated the rather extraordinary fact that, putting aside Welsh surnames altogether, he finds the common surnames in the Bristol index significantly heterogeneous on the A to O ratio, though this is not true of a similar group of rather less frequent names. I should have expected rather the reverse, as I had imagined the commonest names would be best diffused geographically. However, his name lists may be instructive. Very likely they do not yet ~~even~~ contain any of the really common names except Brown, which, owing to French and Dutch influence, may well be commoner in Southern England than in the North.

Yours sincerely,