17. Jan. 96

my dear wis Riggs:

at didn't come by the next host " nor yet the next at les that but it has come in a most scent tweed get up and I thank you hearly tor it. Tom a' the Blueleny places is an own friend of mine . The others 2 Thenk are need to me and heart of them I like the" Fore-worn reeq" which goes to the heart, but why overwhelm one with inscriptions? I can't write one to match your any way : The gift is not in one I believe Polly divers pussem to be your best - because I like That even more han a care tral courtship. It seemed sweeter and tresher (in the English sense of the wood) Than anything I'd come across in a long day - as I believe I told you at The time. However, I have done my little best overleaf. There aint no charge : we being of the projech. I do hope and pray that with your Sales have a good sorend breschers eye oreclooking the contracto. Ever saicerely yours Ausard Kalling.

RUDYARD KIPLING, A. L. S., 17 January 1896, to MRS. KATE DOUGLAS WIGGIN RIGGS.

[diagonal top left, engraved:]

TELEGRAMS AND EXPRESS, BRATTLEBORO'.

[top right, engraved except for date:] NAULAKHA, WAITE, VERMONT 17. Jan. 96

My dear M^r.^s. Riggs:

It didn't come by "the next post" nor yet the next after that but it has come in a most sumptuous get-up and I thank you heartily for it. *Tom o' the Blueberry Plains* is an old friend of mine: the others I think are new to me and best of them I like the "Fore-room rug" which goes to the heart, but why overwhelm one with inscriptions? I cant write one to match yourn anyway: the gift is not in me. I believe *Polly Oliver's problem* to be your best—because I liked that even more than a *Cathedral Courtship*: it seemed sweeter and fresher (in the English sense of the word) than anything I'd come across in a long day—as I believe I told you at the time. However, I have done my little best overleaf. There aint no charge: we being of the profesh. I do hope and pray that with your sales you have a good sound business eye overlooking the contracts.

> Ever sincerely yours Rudyard Kipling.

ALS, 1 page. Single sheet, 17.5 x 11 cm. Laid paper. No watermark. Provenance: As for Mrs. Kipling's letter to Mrs. Riggs. Unpublished.

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Transcription from:

Kendall, Lyle H., Jr. A Descriptive Catalogue of the W.L. Lewis Collection--Part One. Fort Worth: Texas Christian University Press, 1970.