

Whalley Range. (31)

Dec. 24. 82.

Dear Howard

I am sorry
to have to ask you to excuse
a card this year: as I
told you I'm not sending
any which I don't paint
myself - really there has
been time to do nothing save
one or two for home people:
I hope Marvin + Polly will

Inquire one as I see some
 have come from there though
 we are such an exemplar
 family that ~~some~~ on letters
 containing cards are spread till
 Christmas! Emily has apparently
 demanded an envelope for herself.
 I suppose you will be very
 busy: it would really do you good
 to have a week end in Oxford
 before leaving your exam: if you'll
 just drop me a line I shall be
 only too glad to put you up.

During the past day or two I have not
 heard any news of Mrs. Lea: poor Frank it will
 be anything but a bright Christmas to him.

Notwithstanding your work I hope you'll
 have jolly day: in such weather as we are now
 enjoying Alderley will look beautiful: best wishes to
 yourself (+ please give the same to Mr. Mr. Sully +
 Marion + Polly (Emily I have sent them to on a small card in a
 big envelope)) from your sincere friend

U.S.S.