

“I asked Straus<sup>1</sup> to bring it me when he came to Mentone in November: he said he’d be damned first. Then I asked Faith<sup>2</sup> (who always travels with piles of luggage, so that a ton more or less would have made no difference) but she wrote that I was “straining a friendship to breaking-point.”<sup>3</sup>

(Norman Douglas, referring to a tin box left behind in London in 1917, which he now required in Florence, in a letter of March 17<sup>th</sup> 1921 to John Mavrogordato).

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1 For Ralph Straus, see letter from Douglas to Mavrogordato of March 17<sup>th</sup> 1921.

2 For Faith Compton Mackenzie, see page 15.

3 A phrase which occurs again in letters to Mavrogordato of July 30<sup>th</sup> 1927 and April 5<sup>th</sup> 1932.

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