

Adyar, Madras, India,
April 25th, 1913.

My dear Fritz,

As to legal matters, there is not much to report. The appeal has been filed, but it will be some time yet before we can say any more about it. Justice Bakewell seems to have blundered very curiously--^x ^x so curiously that a strong suspicion is growing up that some unusual influence has been brought to bear upon him. You probably know that that does happen sometimes here in India. There are occasions on which the Government interferes to a certain extent in what would otherwise be the course of justice, in order to avoid giving offence to the orthodox community at moments when relations are strained. It has been suggested that this may possibly be such an occasion, because of the secret unrest which came to the surface in the attempt not long ago to assassinate the Viceroy. The theory is that perhaps the extremist party (whom we know to be at the back of this villainous father) may be representing the case as a diabolically clever effort to take away Brahman boys, give them an English education, and then send one of them back to pose as the Christ and thereby lead into Christianity a number of orthodox Hindus. I am loth to believe that there can be anything in this; but I mention it to you now because if there is truth in it, I shall probably have to pledge myself not to say anything about it later! When the appeal comes on, we shall know for certain whether this is so or not. Our case is so absolutely clear that we must win unless there is some undue influence. If we find that there is, we shall appeal to the Privy Council, where Brahman influence does not count; and in any case, you may be quite certain that under no circumstances whatever will the boys be given back to the father. With very much love,

I am ever,

Yours affectionately,

E. Leadbeater

^x in drawing up the decree

I enclose a crumb for the Magazine.