a fearless enemy of cant and humbug, and in his queer way, a highly respectable though strictly uncanonical saint.

On Being Shaw's Secretary

ANN ELDER

From a letter by Ann M. Elder Jackson to Archibald Henderson, 5 May 1955, in Henderson, *Bernard Shaw: Man of the Century* (New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1956) p. 807. Ann M. Jackson (née Elder) succeeded Mrs Georgina Musters as Shaw's secretary in 1912. She had been recommended by Mrs Musters herself, and remained in the position, with one interruption of service in 1918–19, until 1920, when she married and left to join her husband in India.

Later, when I was properly installed as his secretary, . . . he taught me how to fill in cheques, and insisted that I always put stamps on letters in the extreme top right hand corner of the envelope 'or the good angels will not love you'. Then I was handed a bunch of little hand-made green papers with one word 'Pygmalion' written at the top in his own beautiful longhand and underneath the beginning of that play in the leisurely Pitman shorthand which he consistently used for plays, letters and articles. This was the first play I had to transcribe for him. Then came *Overruled* which it was his intention to call *Trespassers Will be Prosecuted*; but the title was already taken, as was also *Keep off the Grass*, another choice. Very happy years they were. The last big play with which I was concerned was *Back to Methuselah*.

I do not think I ever enjoyed any part of my life . . . more than my years with GBS. He was a most delightful and unexacting employer, thoughtful and considerate. He enjoyed sharing his enjoyment; and, when dictating a letter, would glance across at his secretary to make sure that a point which merited appreciation was receiving it. I admired him very much.