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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

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Columbian
Pro.

Diggs 2.58
Cash 25.80
Payne 8.79
Stedman 25.00
Kline 11.10
Chick 35.00

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2

409 Virginia Ave.
Dr. Wm. Duggan



To D. Columbia, Md.

Oct 6th 1908

My dear Son

While sitting on the porch watching for the post man to give him a note, & waiting for aunt Melville to come I will scratch off a few lines as I may not be able to write while she is here. She wrote she would come today & stay until Friday, a very short visit, I wanted her to stay long enough to improve from the change but the teacher is coming & she wants to be there to receive her. They have had such a time getting one. I was glad to learn through your letter to your Father

that Maria has improved so much & hope she will soon be off the diet, that reminds me, did she ever try "Malt-toe"? I should think she would find that a pleasant change from toast, we like it very much. I think it is made from wheat, crisp little thin flakes that are good dry with a little sugar, or eaten with sugar & a little cream or milk, nice for any meal, no cooking - we take it for supper, (nothing takes the place of butter cakes for your Father at breakfast.) The taste of Malt-toe is something like pop corn. We have had quite a run on grape nuts for supper,

I like them too, but the other is easier to chew. I hope Louise's teeth are through without trouble.

We are having fine weather now, rather cooler this morning than has been, the road has been quite lively with cotton wagons, people are buying it off as fast as possible, there was a little rise in prices a day or so ago, 9 & some thing. I would like to have about 100 bales to hold, think prices will go up when the rush is over for certainly the crop is not as large as expected, some are waiting now for frost to open the late crop. Your Father

was in Davenport Friday, stayed
 out until 8 o'clock & I have with
 only "Tipt" (the dog) would have gone to
 Mrs Browder's if I had thought he
 would be that late. After night a
 man came with a load of corn but
 I tell ^{you} I did not go out to measure it,
 told him through the blinds where to
 put it. I lock myself in & think if any
 one tries to come in at one door I will
 endeavor to make my escape at another
 there are so many. Mr Gilder said he
 would attend to the business for your
 Father at Linden & save him the
 ride so he did not go yesterday.
 I think the boys have all forgotten me

no letters from any of them in some time. Reuben did not come down Sunday as I hoped he would, finds it so pleasant to be over at Aunt Melville's, & it is a short ride too.

A woman promises to help me with dinner while sister Sally is with me, I don't mind the breakfast cooking so much. I am very much in the notion of having a Blue flame Kerosene stove, no soot & dirt & no cleaning out the stove & getting in coal & chips. I see them coming good bye -

4 o'clock - Aunt Melville is looking much better & feels stronger, sends much love to Marie & yourself says she would give any thing to

see you with that baby. It is
mail time - please excuse this
penel scrawl, with much love to
each one of you & a kiss to the
baby Your devoted
Mother.

Chicago

4056 Indiana Ave.
October 10th 1913.

Dearest Marie:

I know you all think I am a fraud, but my dear I have not yet got my pass. I told Anne not to say anything to you all until I had received it, but the very day I wrote for it, she wrote to you that I was coming. I never like to tell anyone I am going to visit them unless I am sure for it only makes disappointments all round. I am just dreadfully disappointed for I am all ready, but Jack cannot

spare the money just now,
but if my pass comes it would
be all right, otherwise I never
would have dreamed of making
you a visit this Fall, for I knew
we could not afford it. I don't
see why Mr. Bird has not
answered my letter for he
told me that any time I wanted
a pass west, to write to him in
Omaha which I did. Jack
says it takes time so it might
come at any time and then
you will see me. But don't be
too disappointed if I can't come.
If you can make us a visit
do so, and perhaps I can go back.

OCT 10, 1903

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with you. We are all crazy to
see that dear, sweet Duke.

We are having beautiful weather and
I suppose you are also. I wish I
could help you celebrate your sad
anniversary. I have been very busy
for the past three weeks house-
cleaning and sewing, I am now
making "Dad" some night drawers
and she looks so cute in them,
she is wild to see "Marie Louise".
Mama and Papa are reading they
send you all fond love. Jacklin
not seeing patients. Her Club
opens on the 23rd with a large
dance, but I don't know if I will
go. Last night Dor and Gus & Helen
came in and we played cards and
then had a little lunch and they

did not go until half past one
so I feel pretty tired to night.
I am too happy my dear, that
you are feeling so much better
and I hope you will improve
all the time and never have to be
sick again. You are a darling and
I love you most dearly, also Ben and
Shuck, and that little ball of goodness.
Tell Shuck not to work too hard for
his strength. He is a dear boy to
help himself, and we are all so
proud of him. Mrs. Chatham is com-
ing over to see us this afternoon she
is going to visit her Beards Mother
and Father next week. She won't be
married until next Fall.
With dearie, good-nights and much
dreams, love and kisses to you all
ever your devoted Agnes.

Oct 10, 1903

P.S. I don't go out very much as
have no jolly news to tell.

A. M.

The New Globe,

H. C. THRELKELD, Proprietor.
W. C. THRELKELD, Manager.

PM Oct. 14, 1903
To Mer. & Columbus

CENTRALIA, MO.

190

My own sweet Madrie,

It is eight-fifteen,
and here I am yawning
away - that is, I was yawn-
ing until a minute ago;
and our train does not
leave until ten-fifteen.
However, Deanie, it will not be
such a hard trip after all.
We should reach St. Louis at
about 1:30 A.M. Then we get
immediately into a sleeper
for Williamsville, arriving at
the latter place at eight
twenty tomorrow morning.

I actually took a little
doze coming over from Colum-

via, and I think that I am
in good condition to sleep
much of the time while en
route to St. Louis tonight.

I hope, my own Persi-
ca that you are feeling better
than when I left. I wonder
if you are already tucked snug-
ly away, sailing hither and
thither in dreamland:
if so, then float along with
the cars, Sweet Love, and I will
join in your Morphean mo-
noeuvres.

The train was reached
in plenty of time; and as
yet I can think of nothing
else which has been left
behind.

Oct 14/902

The New Globe,

H. C. THRELKELD, Proprietor.
W. C. THRELKELD, Manager.

CENTRALIA, MO. 190

How sleeps my Little Baby, sweet
one like her Mama, and, dear
as the sweetest ones are? I
almost envy her that she
has the right to remain so
near where I must away
for some whole days. Still,
I will not, for can't my old
sweet Doodle feel my love
through her always? I love
you - 'deed I do, my own
Brunetta, ma Mye.

Do you want to know
what we had for supper -
quite a repast, I assure
you? There were grapes and
skins, smothered chicken

and boiled steak, succotash
and sweet potatoes, toast aux lait
et pommes à Charlotte (sans sucre).

Since the munching Mr.
Reed and I have talked over
botanists and things, and now
he sits opposite - perhaps
writing to Madame de
l'Avenir, n'est ce pas?

all kinds of joy and
happy dreams to you my
Bonnie sweet Dwife, and to
my Chickie, and a bumper
to Chuckie, tra la,

Au revoir.

Votre Benj

Oct 14th 1908.

My dear Lou

I had to delay writing a day because we went to "Mettle Loc" yesterday, spent the day cleaning up & I came home worn out. At breakfast time I cooked breakfast enough for us & our man (hired on Saturday evening) he was to go with us to help, but when ready for the buggy he was no where to be found so your father hitched up & we went hoping to get Coliza, we met her in the road & she promised to come over after dinner which she did & brought a girl with her, by that time I had picked up every thing off the floor in three rooms & they turned in with their brooms, took out carpets & shook them & such a cleaning those rooms have not had in years, then many old cions were gathered up &c &c until time to leave for home. Friday we go again, the two worst rooms will have to be cleaned, dining room

room & middle room. I am pushing matters all I can so the sale may be over before cold weather, not a thing is done unless I remind, & insist upon it, your Father is so bound to work & I must put my shoulders to the wheel. He has gone to see a patient this morning & I am alone, the birds seem to be keeping me company with their incessant twitter, I love to listen to them. The weather is beautiful, no need of fire & last night we slept with windows & doors open, I say we slept, but I did not get to sleep until after one o'clock, I don't know why.

Well, now I must thank you for your interesting letter which we both enjoyed. I am glad Maria was able to go to a "well reception," suppose you were at home with Louise, by the way, tell me more about that little lady, how she is progressing in every respect. I wish I had her to keep me company right now as Frederic used to say. Aunt Melville will appreciate a picture of her when they are taken. I remember the Club House, am

OCT 14/00

you are a director, but it will give you
some thing now to do. President Jones will
have to run over to Hot Springs for his
lectures. I remember Prof. Manly, in fact
I think I remember all the Columbian people
I met.

Aunt Melville stayed three days with me,
Wednesday I secured Sadie's services in the
kitchen & had Mrs. Hostels to spend the
day. Miss Lou & Louise Garber insisted on
taking aunt Melville to Denzopolis Thursday
to spend the day with Mrs. Garber. I hated
to give her up but thought she would enjoy
the visit & seeing the improvements in the
town since she was there 20 years ago.
She said she would hardly have recognized
the place had she been put down there
respectfully. Friday she spent in Hannasdale
& Saturday met the teacher at the train &
took her home, so far they are pleased with
her. She wrote me the change improved her

very much she is growing stronger every day. In my last letter I failed to tell you of Mrs. Minnie Walker's death, he has been in bad health some time but Mrs. Harris spoke to him on the street in Uniontown Friday before last, he was walking with a stick & said he felt about as usual. Saturday morning he got into his buggy with the nurse Mrs. Walker always tried to keep with him, at the gate he made the nurse get out & told him to stay there until he came back, some where in the road a negro man saw him, he had stopped the horse & was holding tightly to the sides of the buggy, he told the nurse to go to his house & have his carriage sent for him that he was very sick, when the carriage came to him he was in a convulsion, they took him home & he died that evening. Isn't it strange how much opposed invalids & old people are to having some one with them all the time! I have noticed it so often.

Eliza told me that Reuben, your Uncle

Ben & some others were at Mistle toe
2 nights ago porcupine hunting, went in
vehicles to the house & then took to the
woods on foot, I don't see how Reuben could
get about among the bushes, she did not
know what they caught. Reuben did not
come over to church Sunday. There were only
4 of our congregation at church, the others
were baptists. Mrs Collins was in Weimung
ham. The witnesses went up yesterday for
the slander case, Mrs Cook & Rob Collins
I am anxious to hear how it comes out, the
Collins family will have it put off if possible.
Lenny was well & seemingly in good spirits
when I heard from him. Fred seems to have
dropped me from his list of correspondents,
very busy I suppose. Tell Marie I am trying to
do some silk embroidery at odd moments
but my old fingers are so rough (in spite of
rubber gloves to wash dishes) the silk catches on
them & I make slow progress, kiss her & the

belly for me, with much love to you all &
kind regards to Mrs Robertson

Yours devoted

Mother.

Oct 27th 1938.

My dear Sam

I enjoyed your letter very much, it came two days after mine was sent to Maize. I love to hear how Louise is progressing, hope the teeth are through at last, sometimes they are almost in sight at long times & it is tantalizing to baby & parents. I certainly would love to see her now, hope you succeeded better than you expected with the pictures of her, her motions are so quick it is hard to get her even with a snap shot.

So Maize gave you quite a surprise on your anxious errand, I believe she is fond of surprising persons & manages well, I wonder if she had any cotton (bolls) for decoration, of course cotton grows in Mo. You are early with your nut cake, our nuts are not dry enough yet.

About the sale at Vinita too. I thought I wrote that the furniture & every thing was left to Warr, but the Executors have to pay the debts, & can use any thing they think best for that. The office lot will

not pay the debts & they thought it better to sell
the furniture than some of the land, tho' they
may have to do that too, still they will try to hold
to it. Mother's estate owed brother Waver a good deal
& if that is settled partly they can meet his
indebtedness but bills keep coming in, if they were
ever paid by him there are no receipts scarcely to
be found in the multitude of papers looked over;
there are as many more not looked over, but
medical accounts must be made out now. We
spent Friday at sister's too & I hoped we would
finish up but there will be several days more of
work there. If your Father would work as I do we
would soon be through but he can't. About a sofa,
there is a sofa in the hall up there, perhaps you
remember it, it is very much like our parlor sofas
but longer, I don't know whether you would like that.
It is in a pretty good state of preservation except the
marble cut seat. There is only one large chair, I can't
say that is mahogany but it looks so, I saw it
yesterday in the office in Danvers. Mother's parlor
set, very much like our sofas & left by Mother to Alice.
Ms Duggan is still in his office covered with dust.
We must soon find out if she wants it shipped or
will sell it. I don't think she feels able to pay the

Oct 23 1903

freight & might sell it but that is only conjecture. The sofa I mentioned is the same color of wood & very much the same make as ours, you know whether they are ours or not.

Today your Father went to Spring Hill to see Wm Skinner's farm, he returned late had hardly finished his dinner when Mrs Meriwether & Louis drove up, Mrs Meriwether came to make him an offer for the office lot, he is connected with Mrs Bouley of Turkey, he is very wealthy, wants the lot to put up a 15 000 dollar stone front building. His offer was 3750 dollars, he paying all expenses for the drawing up of papers. Gives your Father the office building & allows him until Jan to get it off the lot. I think your Father will accept his proposition as he was advised yesterday to take 3500. The office will probably be moved to the plantation & put up a cabin as soon as they find what center there will be & where it will be needed. It has been years since I saw Louis, she has faded so much, looks thin & delicate, has three children, the youngest 4 years old. I went to Decopolis with your Father yesterday, had 3 plugs put in my front teeth, bought a pair of shoes & then amused myself looking at the pretty

things in the store, Mrs. B. as well has "spread himing"
around the open house; one side hard ware & the
other china & glass. A large store next to Mrs. Meyer
has a fine stock of the same sort. We had a nice
dinner at the "Riverside" kept by two widows,
there I send Mrs. Greene a visit until time to
leave, ^{for} home as you see we keep Annie pretty constant
along the go. Our Minnie will probably take
Flores at 20 dollars, we must get rid of her she
has been here nearly 10 months & never used.
I don't know whether you are interested in all I have
written but thought you would like to know how
matters stand.

Mrs. Harris & wife made us a little visit before
several times. Last evening, she said they had a
very sweet quartette that morning, Lucy Miller, the
governess & Mrs & Mrs Walker. Did not I write you of
Mrs Minnie Walker's death?

We have not heard from Fred or Henry lately, had
a short letter from Waver. We are having beautiful
weather but much rain to lay the dust it was terrible
yesterday, it is cool enough for fire, we had ice Saturday
morning. Oh! I almost forgot to say I have a woman in
the kitchen, can't call her a cook but she serves
me a good deal. It is sleepy time, with love & kisses to
all Your devoted mother.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,
B. T. GALLOWAY, CHIEF.

VEGETABLE PATHOLOGICAL AND PHYSIO-
LOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS,
ALBERT F. WOODS,
PATHOLOGIST AND PHYSIOLOGIST.

MUSHROOM INVESTIGATIONS,
B. M. DUGGAN,
COLLABORATOR IN CHARGE.

P.M. Oct 21, 1903

Columbia, Mo., Friday P.M.

My own darling & husband—

I do miss you so.
I am never going to let you go away again.
And you are getting to like it too well!
So well that you don't even think of writing
a line to your loving wife. But you
do like me a little, don't you?

This morning I went down town and searched
for something for a bed valance & roll like
our mattress. I think it is so pretty and
I haven't enough of my curtain material
left after all. I could find nothing of the kind
in town. Can you get me some in St. Louis?
I also saw Dr. Levens and he wanted very
much to see you as Marshall Field's man
had written that he was to come either to-day
or to-morrow for a conference. It is such a
shame that you won't see him. I have

my crate all ready also my rooster &
Valligator for to-morrow night. All yours
upon the hill are to go as one big family
Mrs Spalding as mother, Mrs Selden as
father, Mrs Green grandmother, etc, and
I am to be baby. I have been sewing all
afternoon on my costume and you ought to
see it! etc "the tackiest thing ever!" They
are going to draw me in an express cart!
Walter Walliams has written that he will talk
about his book with you Monday afternoon
Will that make you come home in a
hurry? I do hope so for I want you so badly.
Chuck and I always fight when you go
off. Its like suddenly letting go of a balloon
and up I fly into the air. Your baby's mother
than ever. Would letter come and see her.
I love you, my own blood. With a thousand
loves, most tender, I am
your loving partner.

overlooked & there are many
things I would prefer to do,
but I am the only way to
get through is for me to
help. It seems he will
never get ready for the
sails, I can't get him to
appoint a time, getting off
is a slight bit! I am
getting sleepy as good-
night, with much love to
you, Annie, & Lewis &
say adieu to Mrs. Robertson.
I have directed
Mother.

3rd 1903.

There we are and the chamber over our
couch side of the little table, your Father reading our
old rusty book of some sort, & I will thank you for
your interesting letter which I have read over several
times. I hope Annie enjoyed her story in Harper's.
You mentioned having read as previous mistakes that
had impaired for a time I suppose the sensitiveness
of your fingers, when at such work why don't you
wear seamless rubber gloves, they fit so nicely I don't
think they would interfere with your work & would
be such a protection. I have a pair for dish washing
& like them as much, the only trouble is they come
up high on the arm & are hard to get on & off. I
have thought of cutting mine off just at the wrist.
I bought mine of Bregent, 1.00 a pair. Much obliged
to you for sending my letter to Warren, they must be
careless at that office, if he was on a trip might
have saved it for him for he does not stay long at a
time. The Rob Collins trial was put off, I think his

lawyers will continue to do that hoping finally to have
the case thrown out of court.

This is about the time (Tuesday) you expected to leave
for the southern part of the state. I hope you will
have good weather & enjoy the trip. We have had a
showing day & expected a cool change, but it has not
come yet, no fire needed tonight. The rain brought
quite a disappointment to me. We had made our
arrangements to spend the day with aunt Beabille
& the it was an extraordinary morning (early) we hoped
the sun would come out & we could go. I have
not called on the teacher yet. The rain was not enough
to make the roads heavy & if your father was as anxious
as I am we could make the visit tomorrow.
Sister Sally wrote me they had a really bad harvest
but did not get many acres, altho they had 2 boys
to work them down. Reuben was with the stream, the
teacher thought it fine for to ride his horse about
in the woods. Reuben did not come Sunday, too much
like mine I reckon. The evening Sunday is our day
for morning services. I would like to tell my fat goose
& have the Lanesville folk to dinner but the weather
may be too uncertain for them to turn out.

I know Maria will enjoy having her Mother & Father

make her a visit, & won't they enjoy the baby! kiss
the dear little one for me, I almost envy Mrs
Robertson the pleasure of being with her. Ned
wishes his children are all looking as well he would
like us to see them. Harry teaches them at home &
he says they are getting on finely. The head of some
Sunday school associations that met at Oleytown center
& offered to pay Harry's expenses if she would go over &
teach the model lesson & assist other wives in the
meeting, of course she went. Fred thinks he will go to
Washington sometime this month to a meeting of
Experiment Station officers, was asked to leave a paper
but had to decline on account of failure of his
voice. He has a vast deal of work on hand, says he
never was so pressed with work.

Henry took two days holiday & went on a camp hunt
which he very much enjoyed, they fished, & hunted,
ate all they wanted while there & had a large trout,
2 wild turkeys, & 19 squirrels to take back with them,
had a very good quantity to sleep in & plenty of bed
clothes. Henry noted no work, he said his corn bread,
fried fish, & fried potatoes & coffee were much prized &

that food seems tasted as good to him as that eaten around their camp fire. Dr. Webb looked after his patients for him, he lived a short time before death the same for him.

I tried this morning to do some work in my flower garden but did not accomplish much before the rain came, have been trying to get John for that job but he is waiting on Peter Brown in Decapolis. I suppose the next thing he will have a hatchet & saw & call himself a carpenter.

I wrote you of New Minnieton buying the office lot I think, 3750 dollars, he also bought "Flora". Parker Shuman is willing to rent the 320 acres if your father will let him have these rooms in the house, I suppose he will do it, but I can't bear the idea of having a negro occupy the house. We wanted him to see the two rooms that New Minnieton put up near the store but Shuman said they are so far from the well, stable, crib &c. He has the dwelling house at the Robinsons place. Last night we looked over New Gown papers, I tried to get your father to work on them while I was writing but he has gotten so spoilt about help he won't touch them unless I help, there are many more to

Nov 3/903

Dearest Grace

I mailed to you yesterday the little Remover, it is the worst job I ever did & I felt like not sending it but concluded I would, hope it will do for every day wear. I had never seen one the pattern was sent me & in spite of all I could do the seams did not set to my liking. Maybe sometimes I can show you I can do a better job. I hope you are feeling quite well now that you have your Mother to help you with household matters. I also hope Mrs. Esperson continues to please you, cooks generally are trials are they not?

This weather reminds me so much of your visit to us & I wish we had you now, of course I mean to, it is really hard to be separated from all our children. Oh! I forgot to tell. We've received an invitation to Willie Leland's wedding to take place in Chicago on the 21st, our connections keep us occupied with their marriages, engagements &c., I wonder what next! I had a letter from Home not long ago, many have mentioned it. Tell them to kiss you for me & quote this card for them

Yours loving Mother,

On Train 7:30 A. M.
Monday Nov. 9. 1903.

Dearest Divvie,

We are just pulling into the suburbs of the city, and I am as homesick to with my family for breakfast as ever a duck was for any kind of water.

We had a nice evening in St. Louis. Our Mr. Lock, a St. Louis Bro., Dr. Greeley (who visited Columbia last year), Lefevre, Dr. Hicke (formerly of M. S. U.) constituted the party. We had dinner at the Terminal. Blue points, Boiled Live Lobster, and a Grand Steak constituted the dishes divided amongst us. After that we sat and chatted until nearly ten.

I certainly did miss you, my

own Sweet Honey, and I wanted you
to have some of that Lobster. It was
fine. How are my two little
girls. They have all my love
all the time.

After dinner Mr. Greely
took us down to the well known
Cafe "Forst's" and then we had
schnoners (one each) of
Kurzburger Hof Bran.

With all love, Peris, and
a nose for ~~Saddy~~ Nance I am
your Lonesome
Hubbons

in debt, your father will go over, he asked Parker to come & stay with me. I hope
 they will be there & can
 spare time to hear some
 new ones if only for a few
 days. We have not even
 heard from your father for nearly two
 years I think it is
 time he was with us for
 two days. I hope your
 keep well this cool
 weather, the baby pattern
 lady has been for some time
 much to your &
 your mother's
 Nov 10th 1903
 I wish I had
 time to keep an
 company today.

It is eleven o'clock, a bright but
 rather cool day, not for Nov. 10th. Your father
 has just started for Danapolis to attend to
 some of the estate business but as usual I
 think he will accomplish very little, it will
 be nearly dinner time when he reaches there &
 the evenings are so short. Yesterday he went to
 Spring Hill to collect if he could some old
 debts, went to Mr Jones for some ribbon cane
 syrup, bought in the buggy 4 gallons (very cheap
 his says) & some fine sweet potatoes from Henderson
 Carter. I enjoy the potatoes so much, we have
 about 4 bushels on hand waiting to be packed
 for keeping. I might have had it done yesterday
 but hoped your father would be home & have it
 done after dinner but he did not come until
 night. I had appointed a guild meeting started
 to the church & met Mrs Collins, pinned into
 her buggy & we drove around, we sat on the

church steps in the house for an hour or more, as we came & we adjourned, that is the way the Guild members do & I am thoroughly discouraged. I wanted yesterday to get them in the notion of making some money to send for help to help with the large church they want to build. I think every parish should contribute some thing, all Episcopals in the state should be interested in having a pretty large church there, all the other denominations have good large churches, perhaps by making the church roomy & attractive there would be a larger attendance of college boys. It certainly is hard these days to get people to work for the church. I believe in working with our own hands, not giving alms & getting it out of other people.

Friday at one o'clock we started for Mrs. Harris' had a cold ride for the wind was in the north & the curtains were not down, no one was at home but aunt Michelle, she was as busy picking gobies off the crabs that I had to go through the house & into the back yard to find her. Lucy, the teacher & Mrs. Harris had gone to

Nov 19 1903

3

Fanned also, the girls were to stay to practice for
the concert & Mrs. H. was going to Minneapolis.
Pauline was to stay all night with her but did
not come in before we left, which was about
noon, don't we ride about in the night more
than any old folks you know!

Lucy Briggs is getting up the concert, all the
real old music & the performers are to dress in
the old style. I certainly want to go to it.

We thought we would attend Mrs. Latta's
wedding at the Fannedale Methodist church
tomorrow we are to dine over in the morning,
dine with Rev. & Mrs. Harris, go to the wedding
at 5 o'clock & then come home but your father
has a bad cold to be out after night as we
would be, as I wrote Susan she must excuse
us, it is cold riding these nights.

How are you getting along with your work?
as much as usual? I suppose Maria
is by this time happy in entertaining her parents
& I hope everything is favorable to the enjoyment
of the household. I hope you have much fun.

weather as ever here. I stopped to go to the gate for
the mail, found a note from aunt Charlotte, she
mentioned Helen had written her of being invited
to dine at Hollings' with Fanny Duggan, I suppose
she was in Berkeley once to some club meeting, is
always running around some where to something
of the kind, we saw by the paper she had been
made one of the vice presidents of the "Woman's
Federation of Clubs."

We found Reuben here when we came from church
Sunday, he had a very bad cold & his eye sight is
very bad, I am as distressed about it. How much is
at all out of his right eye & badly out of the other,
oh! if I only knew what could be done to mend
that eye. He says it is worse because he had to
weigh cotton at night, & use his eye too much
other ways, he has more as young man with him
as he could be absent from home, spent Sunday
night with us, has rented the Harris place for
next year. No definite arrangements made yet
for Willie too. Monday & Tuesday show will
be a meeting of a good many Medical men

Nov 17th 1903.

Dearest Frances

Your letter was greatly appreciated & I must not send off my letter to you without at least a note to you, & some time we will do better.

I know you must be very happy to have your parents with you, & quite proud to have them make a baby as Annie, of course they could not help being delighted with her. There must also must be in her high chair at meals, I am glad to know you are giving her something to eat & will better agree with your father about the next meal.

Several times I thought of suggesting it to you but concluded I had better not. You are ahead of us with the high chair, we intended sending her one for some time. The idea of not thinking she is not play things! you and a grand mother to make suggestions some times don't you? but it is hard to select for so young a baby I think. I am sorry you have had neuralgia, hope

it is better by these times. I used to suffer so much
with it on my head, & now now know to be any
particular about to wear a veil or cover thing on
my head when passing about in the mornings.
I would like to have seen you in your lady costume,
I don't know what Harry would say but I think
it was an innocent sport time - the gentlemen
must think the ladies rather selfish to exclude
them from their entertainments. Would it you
have enjoyed looking over those crops with them?
but you will see the \$50 dollars worth very soon.
Aunt Valérie wanted me to stay with her while
the D. is in Selma & longer, but I am to
arrangement to go for some in hopes Henry would
come to the meeting & mine over to spend at
least a few days with us. I have not seen him
in two years. I would like to go to Laneville for
a good visit before the roads are bad. Sister Sally's
day is so much about making pretty things &
want to get some ideas from them for some
things. They have made them to articles in the, for
the bazaar. Lucy makes her Guild members
work! I wish I could manage mine as she does.
It is getting late as I must say good night, but

My father had a
letter from Mother
the other evening
engaged about you &
your family, about if
you were about to go &
you would return in
the autumn, then I wrote
you a card. She told
me about for 40.00

16th March see this
morning &
last night
wind

Nov 17th 1908.

I enjoyed your letter so much, and was much
interested in your trip, & those suggestions. What a right
they would have been to give but I would not have
 dared to be the one to select, it must have been
him to decide which to take from such a large
number, but I know you made a good selection.
I like to hear of everything that interests you &
you need never be afraid of tiring me with
short-fencing or anything you have a hand
in. 3500 some quite a large sum to invest in
furniture, everything must be very good value
& no doubt you will have some satisfaction in
looking over at all when first and place, certainly
being so. Are you having much success in
your change?

If you have had such a change in the weather
as we have, I reckon you are glad your trip
is over with, when I began my letter this morning
(I wrote three lines) it was very pleasant, but

there had been a little rain & it has been turning
cold since that time, now we have a good fire
to keep us comfortable. I had prepared for company
today, Mrs B. minister, cousin Jerry, Mrs Hatfield & Mrs
John Walter Collins, I thought the little snow would
prevent Mrs B. & the others from coming, thought
cousin Jerry would come. I seated myself to write
& was surprised when your Father came in &
said Mrs Bowden was with cousin Jerry, the
other two did not come. I tried to have a nice
dinner for you know Mrs B. has such a good
cook. I will give you the soup, soup, turkey, &
birds of vegetable pickle, jelly &c, for dessert I had
a nut cake, ice, kisses made from the left over
icing, lady's fingers (broom apples) & jelly; coffee in
the parlor after dinner, a little while afterwards
your Father handed his addition, nuts and wine,
the three picks coming into view, just as they were
being handed Mrs Tucker came in for an afternoon
call, say! how fat she is!, she could span you
50 lbs. I was sorry to learn from her that our
minister contracted a cold the last time he
was over & has been sick ever since. That
reminds me of another thing, Harriette had a

Nov 17, 03

3

first several days ago, Ben Brown's ginney was
burned, only a bale of cotton lost but there was an
insurance on the building, he had had a great
many losses. It was a great fortunate thing the
winds carried the sparks away from the store,
you know John's store had only the iron sheet
between it & the ginney, had the wind been in
that direction the whole of Main street would
have been consumed by the flames.

We will amuse about the sofa & chair for you
but would like to have some idea of what you would
be willing to give, while on the subject of furniture
I will say, I was thinking the other day that you
might like to have 4 old mahogany chairs we
have, that have been waiting to be wanted to
these many years. I think they are sure enough
mahogany & not very much injured, the only one
we are, sets by the big entrance in the back
hall, do you remember it? I hardly think so.
I will have them gotten out & let you know more
of their condition, if you had not asked oak for
your dining room we might have given you one.

of one or two very old fashioned tubs & the little
side board. I feel like giving away all we can do
without in the house for we can't have many games
& I don't rather see the children make use of our
things when they come the thing is better worth
having. Oh, if you were only a little more.

We have an invitation to Gertrude Brichault's wedding.
Ann Schuman and of course, all the children are
married now, & father will be after the 26 of
this month. We will hardly go so far to witness a
church wedding & know to return after night set in.
The Brichaults live with cousin Dotie now.

We hope this cool change will cause a rise in
cotton, as much that is in the stalks will not
open after this. Perhaps I hope will be down
tomorrow to stay with me the two days gone
father will be in Salem at the annual
meeting. I must stop now & write a note to
Marian, with much love.

Yours devoted

Arthur.

EO-41-11

Cashe, O.T.
Nov. 20th, 1903.

Dear Ben:

I know I am due you
a letter long since, yet as you
are away I have not had time
my old fault - few of us do.
So you must know that something
out of the regular order has happened,
so it has. There has been a discovery of
natural gas made near our camp, just
what the outcome of it will be I can't
say yet I want to be prepared - I have lost
the power of atty. from Father, Mother & Ben
for over a year, this gives me the power to
not only locate claims in their names - as I have
done - but give me the power to all orders to
and see fit, now I want you & Maria to
go before a notary as soon as possible have
the paper made out & sent me.

Nov 29, 1920

Excuse this in any way, to be
made - I don't like for the time to show
it, for I don't think any of us are too
well fixed as for as I know.

From what Mother wrote I don't expect
you will suffer from this bad and
sudden spell of bad weather - from one
extreme to another - summer to heat & of
winter in twelve hours.

Hoping some day to be able to see you
and the interesting ones I am,

Yours aff. bro.

you failed to put in the program I must
 send you a program of the old time concert,
 which I could remember all the different ones who
 sang & put their names down. I enjoyed it so
 much. I left home Monday for Brimstone, at the
 depot I met Mrs. Gholson, who kindly took me
 up town in her carriage & invited I should
 dine with her which I did, after dinner we
 walked to the Society & church. Mrs. Wren &
 Miss Mary, of course I spent the night, took
 the freight for Hannadale Tuesday morning, Mrs.
 G. came in her carriage to take me down, as
 usual the time was late, as it was very cold we
 went back to Mrs. G.'s waited an hour & a half,
 then went down & had a long time to wait so
 that I did not reach Hannadale until one
 o'clock, Mr. Horne & his brother walked down
 to the cars where the "caboose" stopped & I walked
 with them to the Par. Mrs. Horne, then I
 found Lucy Bealville, Miss Berwickley & lots of
 others all in a row about the concert, after
 dinner all went to the hall practicing & I
 sat with Horne & Mary, sister Sally soon
 came in & all her family, some others, & myself

Nov 27 '83

3

I went to supper at Mrs Harris' gone & then
 drove up after everyone had finished & were
 dressing for the concert, a regular frolic they
 made of it, trying to imitate costumes of years
 ago, at last we were all ready for a forward
 march to the Academy, away across the town.
 After some delay Henry & Mrs Harris (on which) took
 up a march & the music scholars (it was supposed
 to be a surprise class) marched in two & two each
 carrying a candle which they blew out when they
 reached their places on the platform. Mrs Harris
 called out the pieces & had many funny remarks
 to make, but his voice was so low not much
 was heard. Mrs & Miss Phil Nelson sang "The bottom
 by the sea", "See & See Gaele", "What are the Wild
 Waves saying". Lucy Harris "Then you'll remember
 me". Hattie Clarke & Harry Mrs Henderson
 acted "The Gypsy Countess" it was admirable,
 she danced as a Gypsy; it was all fine &
 carried me back many years when I sang the
 same old songs. Tickets were only 25-cents & yet
 they took in over 50 ^{dollars}, it was good considering
 the cold weather & no moon. R & myself spent

11-27-20 4

the night with Uncle Harris, Lucy, George and
the other family of Harries. Next morning it
was cloudy & cold & we had some little rain
so we remained home for fear of some but there
was none. Tomorrow's day promised to be
bad one but by breakfast time the sun began
to struggle out & we decided to risk going to
Dumfries as they were expecting us, the ride was
a cold one but good fire awaited us & we
spent a very pleasant day would have spent
the night but your father had an engagement
to visit some Dumfries ladies at Van Dine
to look at the furniture to be sold, only Cousin
Mary, Cousin & Louise Wickham came, but
Cousin Jimmy up in the buggy, about half past
one when they all came I thought to dinner
but Cousin Mary & Louise said they could only
stay a few minutes & could not be persuaded to
take off their hats & let me have dinner coat
had to wait. Louise wants our old buck
hall ride board says she will give 20 dollars
for it. She bought a feather bed, pair of pillows &
an art square from Mittie's. Your father will
not appoint a date for the sale & bad weather



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IN EVERY ROOM.

St. Louis, Dec 4 190
9 P. M.

My Sweet Bonnie Marie,

It is no fun
to get away on a trip when
you cannot be along. Do you
get very much fun out of being
all alone? All alone with Daddy
and Nance and Marie Louise and
Chuck? Nevertheless, it is all alone,
and I am very different from all
the others being your Hubba —
what loves you right smart.

How are you tonight, my lit-
tle Girl? Don't sit up too late!

Well, I will tell you what the
happenings of the last twenty-four
hours are. The train from Colum.
bia was on time, and as soon as
I reached McBaine I tucked myself



12/4/03

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St. Louis.

190

away, - not being able to tuck
you away, - and I was very soon
asleep, for I was truly tired. My
sleep was very good, and only once did
I awaken. Finding no Honey to cuddle
up to in the cooler hours of the early
morning I did not sleep so comfy.

I breakfasted at the Terminal, having
previously eaten your pomme Califor-
nienne; and then I hustled to the
Garden. There I made some cultures
of the mushrooms desired, and secured
some spawn of the same species.
Then after chatting a while with Prof.
Trelease and others I settled down to
library work. I saw very little of
Professor Trelease, however, for his
boy is still very sick.

The library work was as suc-



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St. Louis,

190

careful as could have been expected,
and it kept me busy until 4:00 P.M.
It was nearly five o'clock when I reached
Simmons Hardware Co to look over
china for the club. Very little of interest
was found, and then I went on a run
to Barre, where I was able to get a
new tie and collect your money before
they closed.

It was then too late to look up Dr.
Greely or any other acquaintances,
so I went to the American restaurant
and had half a boiled live lobster
and a stein of Hatzlunger Hof Bräu.
I would have given many a stein
and many a lobster to have had my
darling with me.

Do you love me, Sweet? Then come
join me quick, for 'ise so sleepy."



124/03

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St. Louis.

190

I am due at the Missouri Athletic Club at 8:10 A.M. so that means early rising.

I cannot say anything without you any more, so I have left everything until Christmas, night.
Oh Sweetheart, I love you, and I would kiss you both - you and my dear little chick too. Kiss both for your
Ala. Hubbans

with talk to you, now he is sitting around in the drawers, working about & shaking
my floor until I can hardly
write. We have all had

very bad colds, Benton
particularly. Sunday is our
service day but I am
afraid we will have rain.

With much love to you &
Minnie, kiss to the baby
& kind regards to the

Roberts family
Love & respect
Mother.

4th 1903.

I am feeling quite achey tonight
but must endeavor to thank you for your
very interesting letter. You all are quite gay
this winter parties, Thanksgiving dinner &c.
Minnie tried herself on that dinner did not
she? she is a long way ahead of me in getting
up a fine dinner.

Was not it peculiar to have the cook for
musician? I can't say I like that, the
new (colored) musicians I am accustomed to
we have had them. Now Steadman can't be
a doctorman. I wonder what cousin Jepp
would say to that, she hates the sight of a
negro almost. She came over Sunday evening
& stayed until Wednesday morning, was to help
me sew but the days were so dark & cold we
accomplished very little & if I do all I want to do

before as usual I will be rushed. Cousin Jenny
is more of a curiosity than ever but talks very
interestingly. Tuesday we had snow, it fell
nearly all day in large flakes but melted as it
touched the ground, we thought we were in
for a bad spell & were glad to see a little sun-
shine next day. Reuben came Wednesday evening,
left this morning, poor fellow his eye-sight is
so bad, I try my best to get him to go again
to the Dr but he says he must get hands,
siding is much and the cold must be bad for
his eyes. In addition to the Harris place, he has
rented Mitchell's farm (320 acres) for next
year. If not for the extra work just at this
time I think it a good arrangement, he
will be able to enclose a large pasture & raise
hogs or sheep along with his cows & heifers. Cous
Father lets him take all the wire, there is
a good deal, & use it as he thinks best. They
are trying to have cabins repaired & chimneys
put to the unfinished house in the yard.
Reuben & your Father were riding all day to

get hands to do that work, the negroes will
not work now. Yesterday we all spent the day
at the house, I moved things around generally,
cleaned the dining room, put in a double bed
bureau, wash table &c, cleaned the lower part
of the book case of Hobart's medicines, to be
used as a side board. Uncle Waver had
kept them just as he left them, many ruin-
ed by age. R - prefers to take his meals out
there in cold weather. I fixed the hall too
but had not time to finish the middle room
we worked on some time ago, you can't come
of the work to do there. I don't think your
Father will have a sale for sometime will
try to sell off privately. Louise Mercier &
cousin Mary brought some things, tonight we
have a 20.00 check from her for the old big
sideboard in back hall. I want to put the
money, or some of it, in a book case. I will
move the old thing, it is such a good place
to put any & every thing. Long before your
Father returned a telephone message came for him

12-4-53

to go to Lucy Ouellette, he had telephoned a
prescription for her yesterday. After making 2
trips to Mrs. Benoit's & I was to the store to find
out if anyone was going that way who could
carry medicine he made the prescription & Lewis
took it up, he will go himself in the morning.
It seems to be intercostal neuralgia, my friend
I have it a little tonight.

As glad Marie Louise is doing so well. I
wonder what "Mrs. J. B." would say to her
diet, now if she only had a little of my
rice batter bread in the mornings it would be
fine for her. I suppose we may soon expect
some teeth. Ned enjoyed his trip to Washing-
ton consulted 2 specialists, each one told
him about the same Dr. Thigpen did, they
advised life in the open air, say there is no
tuberculosis. His work seems to increase, he
has not had time to get his place fixed
with tenants, I am disgusted with this
letter, hand writing & every thing else, goes rather

Dec 10th 1963.

My dear Son

I feel all out of sorts tonight,
worried to death & ought not to write I
know but I will have no time tomorrow
& you may be anxious if you do not have
a letter on time. We went to Brattleboro today,
I was to complete arrangements for Reuben &
your Father to attend to our side matters.

As usual he was as contrary as could be
& Job could not have been patient with
him. I don't think I will ever try to do
any thing more there except for Reuben
no use worrying ones self to death & get
no thanks. I almost wish the old house &
everything in it had gone to ashes long

ago, but I must not worry you with any
 trials, no one can form an idea of them
 that is all - Ruben left us yesterday much
 worried that no work had been done on
 cabins, he ~~wants~~ to move while the roads
 are good but cant come until cabins have
 their roofs put up. It is hard for any one to
 get work, ^{even} especially a persevering slow
 man like your Father. Ruben's eye sight is
 so much worse that I am miserable about
 it, he will be compelled to have a young
 man in the house with him, has an old
 man at the Harris place.

Fanny & Fred have written asking your
 Father, Ruben & myself to spend a week with
 them. R - says he cant possibly go, I cant
 say what your Father will do but I think

I will go, tho' I hate to leave R- to have a
lonely 4 mus, tickets will be for only 2 weeks
& I expect he will be busy getting in hands.
What have you & Annie been so busy
about? We have had no letters this week,
any more dinner, or parties? Perhaps
Annie like myself has been trying to make
some 4 mus presents. I have so many inter-
-ptions & the days are so short I can't do
much, have been sewing on the dresses for
the little girls, have not finished one yet,
thought I would have a good sewing day
tomorrow but Bessie telephoned she will
be over to spend the day, of course tho' I
will be very glad to have her, but so
ashamed of the disorderly house, she can't
realize the difficulties in my way. Annie

Miner then bought the back hall side board, last night after supper I wrapped up & transferred most of the things to the Duggan side board so as to be ready to send it when we can get a wagon, we will miss the old thing, it was such a place to hide away things.

This was a beautiful day, I hope we will have many more, not very cold.

Did you see in any paper an account of Col. Amitsburg's son Ralph shooting his cousin because she would not marry him? This trial came off not long ago, the death sentence was passed on him, Jan 8th set for the execution, his lawyers will probably take an appeal, how they can do any thing but hang him I can't see, they

say he was drunk, but he had said he would
kill her & took the whiskey to nerve himself.
What must his poor Mother suffer! you know
his Father is dead & his brother died in the
Philippines of small pox two or three months
ago, pity he had not died in the same way
or some other. The paper spoke of him as a
"spoiled boy."

How is our little girl? still thriving? &
no teeth yet, his her many times for me.
Fanny says Louisa is much troubled about
her baby he is very much emaciated & she
thinks he is on the verge of starvation, if
as it seems to me the only sensible thing to
do is to feed him. Your Father was at Aunt
Melville's Saturday to see Lucy, it was a
dreadful morning, cold, & raining, coming

Dec. 10, 1923

home the road was so heavy he was into
the night getting in. Some one is nearly always
sick there. It is my bed times so good night.
Please square this letter, with much love to
your Maria & baby.

Yours devoted

Mother.

Dec 21st 1908.

My dear Son,

I must be getting very careless for my last letter to you as my last was the 11th & I think I must have written since that time but can't say when as if I repeat what has already be written you please excuse it.

I enjoyed your letter of the 13th very much suppose you did not mind another trip as you were so well treated & had a chance to see so much, it was fortunate the cold weather did not come until you were home. Speaking of weather, this has been a remarkable season, as little rain, good roads, & clear cold weather, Nature has been fortunate to be able to haul winter as little trouble brought down 2 more loads of corn today

& a load of hulls from Hamedah but he had
 quite an accident near Mrs. De Rose's a drunken
 negro wagoner came into his buggy, twisted the
 axle, broke the shaft & did some other damage.
 Your Father had been to Mistletoe all day, was
 coming home & found him in the road trying
 to tie up, he gave him his halter & everything
 he had to help tie up & saw him start off.
 A boy was driving him as it was late because
 R- could not see, but just measures in the
 wagons; they all get drunk in town & come
 by here hooping & making the greatest to do.
 Your Father will take his saddle up in the
 morning for R- to use. Mistletoe is far from
 the Harris place but I think Reuben wishes
 to raise stock, & there is no pasture nearly
 where he is, then too the Harris place suits
 for a good deal & all should be cultivated,

Dec 21/1903

Negros are thinning out in the country & the
chances are planters may be short of hands in
a year or so, I think he considered that. There is
much wine enough at Muelle too to enclose a
good deal of the wood land near the house,
in addition to that the R. R. will furnish
wire to fence along the R. R. free of charge,
but if your stock get out you can't come
against the R. R. for damages if any are hurt
or killed. Of course your Father is willing to
fix up more for Pauline than any one else, we
want him to feel that he can have a home
there as long as he wants it & be more comfortable
than in the cabin he has occupied for several
years, & out of the malaria that they say has
affected his eyes.

Yes, I do miss the old side board, which you &
Marie had proposed to take it, then I would

have given you my old style mahogany table under the stairs case & the furnishing of your dining room would not have cost much, so next time you want anything don't be so backward about it. I am very apt to think no one wants our old things & hesitate to offer them. Your Father must look over those old chairs when we return from Auburn & write you their conditions.

Yes, indeed! I would enjoy seeing Maria Louisa take her toast or short when she sees the out meal, but is it toast very hard for her gums, & does it she get choked with it? I wanted to send her my silver cup for 4 years, it was left with the paraller some months ago to have a little place fixed & he has not returned it, with me about it in passing through Auburn. I will send by tomorrow's mail some

28 XII 1903



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St. Louis, Dec. 28, 1903

My dear little Dollie,

I have just returned from the smoker (so you smell it?) at the University Club, and it is half past eleven o'clock; but I want to send you a few words of love and greeting, old sweetheart.

You don't know how much I disliked to leave you and little One this morning, and I would give a great deal to be with you now.

I think that the arrangements for this meeting are absolutely hum. There is no general reception, and there seems to be no meeting of any public

28 XII 1903



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NO EXTRA CHARGE
FOR BATH
BAGGAGE
DELIVERY FREE
ELECTRIC LIGHT
IN EVERY ROOM

St. Louis,

190

sort; except the presidential address tonight which ladies are especially urged to attend. It stirs up all of my crustiness to think that even if you could have come with me you would not have gotten much pleasure out of the meetings.

How are you, sweet Love? I hope that Minnie has turned up again, and that you are relieved of the kitchen work. Sleep good and long tomorrow morning and think of your old Husband what loves you, and who would get your breakfast for you if he were there.

I hope that Babykins is getting

28 XII 1903



THIS HOTEL HAS NO EQUAL IN THE UNITED STATES
FOR COMFORT, CONVENIENCE, CLEANLINESS & RATES.

TERMINAL HOTEL.
EUROPEAN
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NO EXTRA CHARGE
FOR BATH
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ELECTRIC LIGHT
IN EVERY ROOM

St. Louis,

190

along nicely and sleeping better to-
night. Please telegraph me if she
does not get better, and I will come
right away. As at present arranged,
I will leave here Wednesday night
at the latest. I don't see any way
of remaining longer, and I want to be at home.

Yes, the afternoon was pleasant
enough. We arrived on time, and I was
at the School Building at 2:30 P.M.,
just in time to present my paper;
and by the horticulturist it seemed
to be better received than I had an-
ticipated.

The smoker was also a lively one.
There was a big crowd out; and first and
last I have shaken hands with many old friends
and cheered many.

Adieu, sweetheart, with all, all the love from your old
husband.

PM Dec 29, 1903

Columbus, Mo.

Tuesday P.M.

My own Darling -

How many ages
is it since you left me dear!!
Think of it! It will always be us
now and me, again! I hope
you had a pleasant trip and reached
St Louis on time and not too
faint and hungry to rush up to the
High School to deliver that famous paper.
I expect to see a verbatim report of it
in the Republic this afternoon. Have a
good time old Dolly, you need it.
And have an extra good time for
me. How I wish I could be with you,
beside my invitation to dinner & night
at the McKays! Don't worry about

The baby, I don't think she has
measles at all. I tried to roast her
all day yesterday and I put her in
a boiling hot bath this morning and
all the measles I can raise is a little
pinkish heat and a profuse perspiration.
She is just full of the sickness and
doesn't eat the least bit milk. She
slept in my bed last night and had
a fine night. How will you be good?

Mrs. Mason sent her a cute little
alphabet book which arrived yesterday.
I also received a book from Blanche -
The Odes of John Keats. It's a very pretty
little edition.

Daddy came home yesterday with
the sad news that all of Mrs. Marshall's
goods, the pictures & the carpet were
in the wreck of the 24th and all

Dec. 29, 1903

Turned up. Don't it a mean shame!
I feel so sorry for both Mamma and Papa
as well as for myself for it is a great
disappointment to them and nothing can
we make good the dear old associations

Nothing interesting has come to you
as yet in the mail. Mother's bundle
hasn't arrived either.

What shall I tell the Porters about
New Year's Dinner?

Mamma and Papa have decided
to stay until your return. Thank the
Lord Winnie arrived late last night
and our troubles seem to be ended
in that direction. She looks as though
she had had an awful time!

By the way bring home a lot of whiskey
with you, won't you dearie?

Darling, I love you devotedly. The nights
are Oh! so long and the house is
so sparkling without you. We will welcome
you with gladness when you return.

can tell you. Save a few min and
come home refreshed and young
again to meet a most and d'loving
d. Wifri -

With all my love, Darling. I love you and
embrace you.

All send you much love and
Baby kisses you a hundred times.
Dear little soul! she looked all about for
you this morning.

Happy New
Year to you all.

Dec 30th 1903.

My dear Son

Your Father took your letter from the office this morning as he went by taking Henry to the depot & tested it around all day, but I had the pleasure of reading it tonight. I am so sorry our little beauty had a fever, hope there was no return & that she will not take measles, Arthur too is full of measles. Fanny is anxious to keep the children from it because Marynet is so delicate. It is in the house just across the street. We heard of the express boy in time to get it before the train came, opened it & took out the presents for the Auburnites. I think we should have had your letter

too. The 4 mus. gifts from you all are so pretty,
 & highly appreciated, my little girls present
 will adorn the bureau, the box is so pretty
 I hardly know where to put that to keep it
 out of the dust & still have it in sight.
 I think the parlor table would be a good
 place & put phs too in it.

I know if baby was int sick you all had
 a many times 4 mus day. You should have
 seen & heard Fred's crowd, one the 4 mus tree
 there were 5 hatchets & 4 mus morning by
 sun rise the whole crew were on the another
 porch hunking away on green chain boy
 (it was raining) you would have thought
 the house was being pulled down, then they
 had drums, horns, whistles & all sorts of
 contrivances for making a noise, they certainly
 enjoyed their tree, Fred danced up & acted

Santa Claus. Saturday ^{evening} ~~night~~ Fanny had
the same tree fixed over (a beautiful
holly) for her Sunday school scholars,
Freddie acted Santa Claus & Frances was
the snow queen. Christ was right the
large box of fine works sent by Fanny's
brother were fired off, many grown people
& children were there to see them, they
were very pretty, the children were delighted.
We enjoyed seeing them as happy but poor
Father did not stand the running around
& noise as well as I did. The same held
up in time for us to walk down to church
4 o'clock day, we also went on Sunday, the
minister Mr. Peters called to see us Saturday
night, Dr. Peters on Sunday.
By some misunderstanding, & as usual I
wrote not reaching sleep, but came up

4 was eve night to Fairview, finding
 no one here he managed with some of the
 keys that had been left at the store to get
 into the house, but could not find the key
 basket so he went supperless to bed, next
 morning used a screw driver ^{of the store}
 to get something for breakfast,
 had Annie put to the cart & altho
 raining went to aunt Melville's where he
 stayed until Monday, telegraphed us he
 would leave Tuesday so we hurried up &
 left Auburn Sunday evening for Selma,
 came out on the freight ^{Monday morning} reaching Gadsden
 about mid day. We had to go to the
 depot at 5 1/2 o'clock & I tell you it was
cold & there was no fire on the train
 until we reached Marion's Junction, there
 we breakfasted & felt warmed & refreshed.

Leury had sent John to Gallin for us & he went to Mitchell with Reuben. We found no John there as the only conveyance we could find was a wagon with a very high body, I climbed in & off we trotted, when near the church who should we see but John driving up behind us in the buggy, he had gone to Peter Barrow's & as we missed him, I felt like taking the buggy whip to him. Leury consented to stay until this morning. I regretted so much not being here when he came. He writes so doubtfully about coming that your Father insisted I should write him I was going to Auburn, that card he did not receive, he said he had a nice time at Aunt Melville's liked Miss Beinsley very much, went home back riding with her one

evening. Reuben was there with him, he
was particularly anxious to see about his
eyes, wants him to go to Dr. Martin of
Mobile as soon as possible, he will join
Reuben at Calvert & go down with him.
Alway looks very well & is doing well
financially, but says it is very expensive
living where he is & he can't put by as
much as he would like to, he is carrying
heavy insurance (life) & has made some
little investments in Gulf Port, says he
must stay in the Indies as long as he can.
If the mill is enlarged as they think it
will be, his salary will be increased & he will
still have the outside practice. I hope you
enjoyed the meeting, but of course you did.
Your Father writes with me in thanks & love
to you all, regards to the Robertsones.

Your devoted Mother.

Dec 30, 1903

Dearest Marie

It is sleepy time but I must put in a few lines to you. I wish you could have been with us at Auburn we would have laughed in our sleep at some of Fanny's ways but she was very kind & hospitable & I wish I could close my eyes to defects. Fred seemed very happy & looked well. I am sorry you could not take the trip with Ben but think it well for the baby you did not, if you were going to leave her, for she will need you when teething time comes, dear little thing! why don't those teeth come! She will soon be 10 months old I believe. Kiss her for me many times, the little pink tray is as pretty & the boy beautiful, you & Ben can always

find some thing pretty & appropriate. I hope
my little boy reached you safely. I found the
silver cup in Selma but could not fix it up
there to send, left it with the jeweler expecting
to get it on our return but it was too early
in the morning, the cup was given me when
a baby by my grand Mother Margaret Adams
I will send it when I can get it from Selma.
I had a good many gifts, a set of cruppers for
Fred & Fanny, brass ornament from Fanny,
picture from Margaret, book Frederic (Black
Rock) gloves Ambrose, fascinators Alwilda, he
chose one white & pink. Sister S- gave me a
wocket shawl, Lucy a piece for the table, braided.
Alwilda brought me a beautiful pair felt slippers &
some one from Howard sent a yd long piece of
I have not found out who, yet. Tow table must
have been very pretty with those mats, & glass candle
sticks with red candles. I know the ice cream
was pretty & good too. I would like to see the blue
house. "Opening Night" My lamp is about to
give out & Dr D- has gone to bed so I must
close with much love

Yours affectionate

Brother.

is attending to the house some little things got to eating out. The hotel must be so close to the creek with it that makes it even the creek. I don't suppose you are trying to have the house, it costs us more to have them than to buy them, but we want always buy them.
 Just was with Jack & was about 2 hours when he passed through. I knew, say the latter talks of coming over, but he thinks with the lack of will power that it will be some weeks before he will be able to do so. Dr. Bates to get him to make an effort to get about some but he looks the most to make an effort, that is a fact. I am on the Duggan family farm that he owns when the Dr. gets sick he says is willing to try to get up the & at out 26 acres of plants, yesterday evening out, they had got them, & so many pretty and good.
 Please come to your letter, with much love to him & yourself kind regards to his family & friends to the lady.
 Love to all
 Mother.

I have not written to you in some time as well begun a letter this evening but it will be too late for the night mail. I had all sorts of odd jobs for today & am just through. I am the only person on the place & will have quiet enough for writing but my head aches badly & I have been a little feverish, very few days I am that way, can't imagine why unless I am just failing. I sleep up. Dr. D. went over the creek to see a patient directly after dinner, it looks now as if he might have seen our him unless he hurries back. We have the most singular weather for the season of the year that I ever saw, so much cloudy weather & so cool, yesterday morning a little fire would have been pleasant, then about the middle of the day the sun was hot.
 At about 8 o'clock yesterday I had a telephone message that sister Sally's family would be down to spend the day, they sent it as they feared the store men are down they were here, isn't that a coincidence? I had time to arrange for dinner, set the table & dress my self before they arrived. I was so glad to have them, it is the first time they have been down this spring, they are looking well, but have gained some grey hairs this past winter, as have I.
 We were very glad to have Ben's letter to your Father, I was surprised to hear a house is being built for you. How had not mentioned it before, when will you get in? not before Sept I suppose. I am very sorry you all will not be

able to make us a visit, if I am continues as it is the weather will be more
pleasant than usual, but I understand how he feels about saving the travelling
expenses as he will have to furnish his horse, travelling costs a good deal, some
times I want to see you all so much that I am almost tempted to go alone
but to me it would be dreadful to be with entire strangers for the trip. Mum
wished, I hope something will turn up & I can yet make you a visit before
the winter. I am so anxious to see our little girl, you & Ben too, of course.
Till I can not to say you would be more of a burden than a pleasure, her
mother better than that. It is always a pleasure to have our children with us
& I regret that they can't be more at the old home. I try to think of it!
Paid spent Friday at the same brake station, worked all day & could not
lay aside business on time to take the evening's train & spend one night
with us. We did not know he was expected there. He spent the night with
Mrs Hollenback, & next time the David can have spoken for him. He
mentioned a serious loss, the burning of the big corn barn on his Ardmore
place, fortunately there is a 2 room house on that place that has never been
crowded into, he wants Fred to be built but Fred says he is financially
unable. There was no insurance, the company will not insure country
houses occupied by tenants, that's a strange thing I think. They said the
house caught from a spark that lodged under a shingle, there were no men
about the house at the time.
I have 62 little chickens, they take a good deal of my time feeding, watering
& putting out shavings for them, there every evening I must put such old hens in

My Dearest -

Your sweet little letter was received this morning and I was glad to know that you still think of me although you are travelling westward to the Golden State so rapidly. Laurie is as happy and playful as a little kitten and Hanna is feeling fine, but does not dare venture out yet.

I can't imagine why when you go off on a little jaunt he awakes in the middle of the night and can't sleep for a long, long time. Now that is a curious phenomenon, isn't it? What can be the cause?

I enclose a letter which came for you yesterday
after-noon. I note the man what I found in who
who is coming as I thought he might be in haste
for the information and suggested you might
make any additions or corrections at your leisure.
You'd better borrow a copy of who's who and see
what you wish to change and write it on to
Mr. Howard J. Rogers.

Dear if you should happen to wonder what Helen
wishes like you to bring her and you have a few odd
cents in your pocket, what you may me a tiny bottle of
perfumery - just a tiny bit of something nice - distilled
from the lovely California flowers which you will so
soon be enjoying.

Devoe predicts a blizzard over all the country from
6th to 10th and I am getting ready for it by
eating all the rich food we can lay hands on.

Mrs Read and Mrs Mary Walker called yesterday
also Mrs Childers came over. I found nothing
interesting down town altho I spent all morning.
I am going to make some wine jelly for Mrs Brown
and Mrs Spalding this afternoon. They are both still
in bed, Mrs S. with a bad cold and a boil!! on the
bottom of her foot.

Mrs. Childers does nicely and is very quiet & gentlemanly.

I do hope you will get your Coarse from Salt
Lake. If you meet any of my friends there
remember me to them. I wish you would

call on Mrs Mendel, California
St, in San Francisco and give her
my love to Mamma's and tell her
what a nice baby we have

I long to hear from you and
some day I am going to write you
a nice long letter and tell
you a little bit of a love story I
know. Is it such an old one
that you wouldn't care to hear
it?

Remember me to the ladies.
do Arnold a great big boy now?

With a heart full of love
for an old sweetheart mine
I am his very own
Freddie Radrie.

My own Boy -
 Your letter has
 just come and as you wished me
 to answer by return mail I take
 my pen in hand immediately
 if not sooner. This afternoon I hope
 to go out to call on Mrs. Barnes.
 Agnes said she would go with
 me, but as it is very cold & she
 has sore throat she has just telephoned
 that she will not, so I will

anticipating for so long.

Now then you will leave Wednesday night,
& arrive here Thursday morning. If you are
to stay a day or did you say two? I will
get the trunks ready to pack but don't have them
finished by the time you come. We would reach
Ethaca Saturday or Sunday & stay at the hotel
until after the Craig's leave. I appreciate the
invitation but I don't want to do the shuffling
act. I know what it means in the matter of
leaving. I will make her to that effect to ^{just} ~~the~~

The servant Ella here doesn't want to go to
Ethaca & I guess you didn't want to advance
her money for her passage any way; did
you?

Sure I got the \$15 back from Mrs Vandewater.
What do you think I am! I think myself
that she makes that commission but she
will have to wait for it. I haven't paid it
to her yet. I have to use it for car-fare.

Coil up your nervous energy & keep it for
your own use in Ethaca & taking up
of new duties! Don't worry about people
keeping me awake. I am used to it &
getting just on it. His ear has stopped

take Laurie & venture forth.

About leaving here:.

As you say you have lots to do
and in Ithaca before Feb 2nd
& want all the time possible
it seems to me the sooner the
better. Every thing has its compensations
& we won't be too uncomfortable in
the Clinton House. I haven't been
keeping any track of the time and
a week from to-day seems very near.
It will be hard to part from home
& Daddy & Agnes but I will be so
glad to see you & to begin ~~the~~
new life which we have been

1903(?)

discharging & I hope that this
time it is all right, He is
getting tremen- dously strong and
also says Da-da-da which
Louie translates into "Father", "Good-
bye" and "I love you".

I had a nice letter from dear
Mrs Brown this morning & Louie
had one from Clifford. Mrs B.
says "I wonder if Mr Duggan knows
how much Mr Brown & I love to
have him leave." I guess you
will have to tell them good-bye,
oh?

We enjoyed the matinee very

much yesterday. the play was
very lively, the scenery beautiful
the music sweet & C. Sullivan
"a fine figger of a man":

As for usual business at
8 P. M. Good - bye, you old
smut! Cheer up & don't wear

yourself out. I want to see you
Thursday looking even fatter than
you did before. Keep your energy
for silencing & your temper to
knot on your poor Loooon

want to be fun to go to 2
I feel young miss I have
under 30 the ay-ter

[1903?]

Dearest Mame,

Get some aromatic Symp of Blue
 Peas & take a Tablespoonful 3
 times a day. as long as there is
 blood in the venous; at night take
 with the Rhubarb. but a few drops
 of Laudanum. & you will find
 it most soothing & beneficial,
 Let the Emmet alone for a time
 & try this. It once cured you
 when nothing else did when you
 were a little baby. It cured me
 as Dr. cured not stop the hoarse
 & your Father considered an emi-
 nent Dr. in Savannah. who made
 to me what he do, & you were born
 a nice child. These Emmets
 are very loose. & not soothing.

Dearest, I want to beg you also not
 to drink Ice in the water or rather

put pieces of Ice in the water you
drink as 'Sark' thinks that if the
water in Columbia is not pure
the Ice cannot be so, These little
things are sometimes all important
& you can bottle the water & put it
in the Ice chest: I surely make
these suggestions, not that I think
I know better than you Dr. Don't
say I'm wrong. I will send you
some Quinine in a few days. Yours
ever loving Mamma

Wm. Brown

Dear Sister. [1903?] Wednesday
We have just returned from
the wedding, & I enclose a note from B-
& a letter for Brother, B- stayed with M. & G.
last night & sent them over to me, thinking
you were there, & I ought to have mailed
them there, but every thing was in such a
str. I just felt bewildered, one of those pla-
ces on B- has broken & is running, & he wants
to know what to do. I was so puzzled that
you could not come, it was so bad & said
it was a sin for us to make the poor mules
take the horrible, horrible trip, I never saw
such awful roads in my life, I would have
come back before we got to Danville, had I
consulted my own wishes, but on his account I
endured the torture. We all decorated the church
very prettily yesterday eve - considering every-
thing, so few flowers, & roads so bad to go over
to get evergreens, we put sheets over the altar
rail, & pinned on vines, had banks of ever-
greens, in corners with branches of Red bud
some vases of white flags, & put plants on
communion table, vines, wreaths in differ-
ent place with paper flowers, after this
work was completed, there was a rehearsal
repeated several times, the ceremony this mor-
ning was beautiful, 6 brides maids, Mercer,
Sestina, Miss Pruitt, Louis Barber, Lizzie W-
& Lucy, two maids of honor (the twins) two matrons
(Aie, & Annie) two little couples, & little ring

bearer, all these, come from the vestry
room down to the door, where the girls
each met a young man, then they all re-
turned follow back by the bride & then the
girls all looked so nice, each in a different
white silk waist, carrying wreaths of
similar tied with pink ribbons, the bride
& doz pure white roses & ferns, tied with white
satin ribbon. Mo's dress was simple & sweet-
creased, trimmed in lace & sweet peas
(while) she wore a lovely white hat, went
home & put on her suit of blue cloth, & pretty
hat, the whole crowd waited at depot near
by our house, where I suppose 10# of rice
was thrown very rudely around! Mo's ^{son} ~~son~~
specially persecuted, finally raised her
umbrella before her face, when they came
in behind her, & in front & throw it under.
The presents were numerous, & many were
beautiful, 5 doz tea spoons, 1 1/2 doz little spoons,
not a knife or fork, & a great deal of cut glass,
\$125.00. We stayed with Lucy, & so did Tom-
ie, we went to depot to meet you & were so
disappointed, Bessie had a horse full, only
4 babies in the crowd, Fie's, Katie's, Alma's, &
Harriet's, I can't write more now, this must
go to the office now. We got a pretty olive fork
for Mo's present \$1.50. All your met in best
love, As ever your aff Sister Melville

Alma & Bessie are the Bangsford girls, you
know of them Ben -

Dear Mr. Anthony, Type pieces
Dated Feb 10

Send the photos to you & expected
to send a word with them but
my moment has been crowded
full. We are just out of
guarantee. Bessie had a
case of scarlet fever (intended
my birthday) & soon after you
left & we have been in
guarantee ever since.
We have stayed two after-
effects & the other children
didn't get it so we have had
a hard job.

In regard to the photos they
are as you say very poor, only
amateurs. My sister & I
would be glad to send the payment
on to you. Her address is Mrs. C. L. Harris
3414 Nevada St. Cleveland, Ohio, O.

The College Club of St. Louis

PRESENTS

"Green Stockings"

By A. E. W. MASON

Saturday, April First, at Two-thirty

Yeatman High School Auditorium

CAST OF CHARACTERS:

Admiral Grice.....	Miss Caroline Morrell
William Faraday.....	Miss Marie Watkins
Colonel Smith.....	Miss Margaret O'Leary
Robert Tarver.....	Miss Marguerite Bittman
Henry Steele.....	Miss Lucy Mills
James Raleigh.....	Miss Lyda Long
Martin.....	Miss Alice Butler
Celia Faraday.....	Miss Genevieve East
Madge (Mrs. Rockingham).....	Mrs. George W. Pieksen
Evelyn (Lady Trenchard).....	Miss Olna Hudler
Phyllis.....	Miss Sallie Lee Sparks
Mrs. Chisholm Faraday.....	Miss Edith Glatfelter

The scene is laid in Mr. Faraday's country house. Eight months intervene between Acts I and II. Miss Elizabeth Hays will provide the vocal and Mrs. F. N. Jewett the instrumental numbers between the acts.

I will write & tell her that ^{1903 [27]} you
may wish them & you can just
drop her a line direct.

The paintings are Primitive
Italian in style though they may
be Spanish. They are in tempera
on wood and were left to my
aunt by my father. He was one of
the Commissioners of the first
Paris Exposition?

It is kind of you to
help us about them. ~~I will~~
Say my love to Mrs. Anthony
& tell her I hope to write to
her soon. I so much enjoyed
her letter & portrait.

Mr. Mathews whose one man
about you said told me he enjoyed
meeting you so much. He may go
New York my soon & hopes to look you
up. I wish you could see the ^{United}
States in mind like the last year.

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BIG FIRE SUNDAY MORNING

DESTROYED HAWKINSVILLE'S SPLENDID HOTEL.

Rev. 10.5.20
Brown House, Which Was Built Three Years Ago at a Cost of \$20,000, is No More—A Number of Occupants Suffered Losses—Origin of Fire Not Definitely Known.

It was just awful.

The Brown House is in ashes. About 1:45 o'clock Sunday morning the alarm of fire brought out the citizens of our fair city to ascertain that its big hotel was doomed. After years of suffering for the want of one, and having it handsomely supplied in this structure, every heart was filled with dismay.

No satisfactory solution has been definitely given as to the origin of the fire. Some say a defective electric wire, others an over turned candle, but like nearly every other fire, conjecture does not settle it. But it burned and a great fire it made. It was a handsome modern structure, erected about three years ago by the individual enterprise of Hon. J. Pope Brown, and contained 51 rooms. It was equipped with water and electricity throughout, and having had splendid management it was universally considered a first-class place. It was a very popular stopping place with the commercial travelers, who generally crowded it.

It was valued at \$20,000, and Mr. Brown carried \$13,500 insurance on it and the furniture.

Mr. T. W. Hooks was the lessee, the management being in Mrs. Brannon, who made it a very attractive place. Mr. Hooks had \$1,650 on his furnishings.

The greatest concern was felt for the handsome residence of Mrs. B. F. Parsons on the west. The wind favored her home and with heroic work of the department her building was saved though badly scorched. Much of her furniture was hastily removed and of course damaged. She is protected by the \$6,500 insurance which she carried.

Across the street on the east side the Dispatch and News building was made to feel the intense heat, the wind in this case adding to the danger. But here the plentiful use of water manfully given, stemmed the tide, and the damage was not extensive. Mr. Fred Saussy's plumber's supply storage was muchly charred and his damage is protected by insurance.

Among the losers were the following boarders at the Brown House: Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Taylor lost their valuable wedding presents, her diamonds and much, in fact nearly all their wearing apparel besides \$125. Mr. H. A. Coates and Mr. Mack Bryan, and W. T. Connor also lost their wardrobes. This is Mr. Connor's second fire in a short time. He lost heavily in the hotel fire at Sylvester recently.

Aside from the individual losers, of whom Mr. Pope Brown is by far the greatest, our city has suffered a great blow in the loss of this fine hotel, a loss she must and we doubt not will seek to recover.