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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.

To Marie,
Fredericville

Columbia, Mo. May 5, 1905.

My own sweet Passica, I would write
but one letter last night, but
'here we are again'. Just before
I began my letter to Mother your
sweet little note from Meridian
came to cheer me up and
make me happy. I am so glad
that you had a good trip up
to that point.

You cannot possibly im-
agine how lonesome it has been
on the Hill. For two nights all
deserted to the concerts, and
last night there was not a

and meanwhile be accounted
satisfied.

I have paid all bills, deposited the silver, had the laundry, and am about ready to turn over everything in my office to Mr. Reed.

Today I received a letter from Dr. Farrow. He has been sick. He thinks Mr. Fulton will get within a very good scholarship or a fellowship. Mr. Brooks is not yet positive about remaining with me. He is being nervously sniped and for some work in the Dept. of Agriculture.

Well, the Gordon keeps me living, but I was so tired of it yesterday that I went

down to Long's for supper, and afterwards had recreation at 'Gillies'. Have a bundle for me!

At Greenville?

I wish that I could just in to see what you are doing, and Polakine: I'll bet she has found her tongue and got by the time. Unhanged matters of the

Exchange National Bank, so when we have don't let me forget to show you about drafts for Mr. Win-
ter. (But I don't say Madame Adair)

Anyway, the days are passing, and Wednesday will come. Don't be hazy in St. Louis, - now away, and the

my own 'your own' Ben.

sound to be heard when I came
home at 9 o'clock. On my way
about town, errand-wise, during the
last few days dozens of persons
have asked: "Why did you return?"
Evidently Mr. Mitchell reported us
off for foreign climes. All of this
makes me wonder if I am really
here. Why am I here if my love
and my sweetheart is gone?
Nee Ma yah, — lus Ma-
yah. Today I have had two lectures
and one examination. Tomorrow
I have a lecture, in spite of the fact
that it is a holiday and the time
for the big High School meet.
They expect 1500 visitors in the
town, and the worst of it is that
they must remain over night,

Pm May 3, 1905
To D, Colombia, Mo

Bearsville, Kansas

Friday A.M.

My Darling -

Just as I was
settling myself here & wrote
to the most precious old
Hubbards in the world, the
little negro mail carrier came
rushing upon the porch
with a sweet, sweet letter.

You poor old Ding, what
a time you have had sham-
ing up! I know you are
glad its most over. Do take

things easy and carry an
umbrella to keep the sun off
in walking back and forth to
the garden in the heat.

You certainly sent Baby and
I into midsummer when you
sent us here in May. As soon
as our trunk Mississippi off
came flannels and out came
furs and here at home the
last two days have been so hot.
The day is a little bit better,
but we are sitting still in the
hall with the breeze blowing
through the perspiration drips
Baby isn't like herself at all.

She has lost her appetite and yesterday threw
up again and last night was quite fussy.
She seems all right this morning, but not play-
ful. She is sleeping soundly now in the little
crib you used to occupy. After listening Grand-
ma's rock her - hush-a-ye - hush. I
think it is those annoying old teeth which
with the sudden change have upset her. I
wish you could see her take possession of
things. "Geebo" the dog is her blind playmate.
It is "Rita dogah - fuata dogah - see
honey - see too." She points out to him
all of the interesting things with her arm
around his neck and doesn't mind how
many glances are meanwhile transferred
thence.

Fall of the trees are in full leaf. The
grass is high and runs in profusion. Rose
and brand on the table too, as with the best
I am constantly compelled to remind myself
that it isn't July.

Say Ben will you ask Mrs Spalding or
some one else to buy the cotton or tell you
where to and for it for Mother's shirt waist.

pm May 6/1908

I mean the cotton for the
Italian embroidery. We can't
get it here to save us. Now
don't forget, that a dear try
for mother is anxious to begin.

Mother is making a dear
little dress for Baby. I hope
it will be finished when you
come.

Now, that skirt and jacket
I meant to have asked you
to put in a top and express
to Alice & Anne. They will be
revised by mother if I leave
them (and they may be
deposited to Anne or Louisa.
And say sure, wouldn't

You send for your machine
a portal to the Century Magazine
telling them hereafter to send
our Magazine to Mrs C. L. Parsons?

The "Reader" Mag. "isn't good
enough to send Daisy today. You
can save it for the Charles.
Have they signed the lease
yet. Pray telegraph me when
they do!!!!

That old fruit cake, darling
was to be thrown out. I forgot
it before I left.

I'm sorry you are not at
Mrs St Clair's, but I know you
will have better food at the
London Inn if you do have
a long walk.

How is Mrs Sears? Has the little Curtis
arrived yet? Do keep me posted on all
the current events.

Benjamin left yesterday morning for New York
and we haven't seen him since. I expect he
will come by to-day. He wanted to put
Baby up in front of him on the saddle
but she was afraid. This night of wonder
his nose he doesn't see and he stumbles
in the dark or dark, but a little way off
I think he sees my well. He says Baby has
gone from and he can pick down from her
and tell a hen from a rooster may come
the yard where I have to look through myself
to be sure. If you see Dr. Boyce down at the
Club ask him if there isn't something
that can be done for atrophy. The doctors
say that nothing can be done for him, but
in the eye they say is gone he can tell
light from dark and say the light hunt
him. I don't see why something can't be
done to save his left eye.

Mrs. Lee came out to see me the first
day I was here. I like her. That is the only

call I have had. ^{pm May 5, 1905} Mr. Bob
Collins took up with his friend
nurse & see Father about something
and came to eat on the porch
talking so gaily as you please.
The doctors give him no hope
for the cancer is almost through
the skull. He says he is going
on to New York to try the radium
cure. It is a blessing how he
can keep up.

When will you get here? I can
hardly wait for the time to
pass. I still dream about the
negro looking through the shutter
at me and make it hear the
rats eating their way through
the ceiling! Mother and Father

send you a great deal of love and say I must
tell you how glad they are to have you with
them and how bright and amusing she
is. They long to see you again, and want to
know when to write and tell all the news
to a letter.

You don't know how I long for you, my sweetest.
I love you, love you love you "and if God will,
I will love you better after death."

Everything is beautiful down here and I wish
we could go a - waying together. Come soon.
Don't forget, but love more your Mother.

To Louise, Provasilla
Columbia, Mo., 9 May, 1905.

My dear Louise:

I meant to come down to thank you for the Easter present you sent me but you ran away before I had any idea that you were going to. You must be very clever. I don't remember that in any of our conversations I mentioned that Browning is my favorite poet and Saul my favorite poem. In fact I think my remarks were pretty much limited to calling you a pretty girl. Perhaps you argued from that that I had good taste and

May 7, 1905
Concluded that I would appreciate a beautiful edition of a beautiful poem. Many, many thanks. Have a good time and don't forget that some of your friends won't understand you very well if you don't talk English when you come back.

Affectionately yours,
Harry P. Horton

P. S. I am sorry that I missed seeing your father before he left. I could not seem to find him. Will you please tell him that I enjoyed the *Coferinus* almost-attemptarius very much?

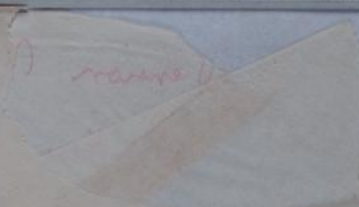


Montpellier 14 mai 1905.

Mon Cher Ami!

Merci de votre dernier envoi, sur l'influence de, tels
sûr la vie de, Alguer! Nous espérons que vous avez
bien passé l'hiver que M^{me} Deggar, son Benjamin
et votre Marie Louise sont bien portants. Paquerette
et petite sœur parlent toujours de leur amie et la
regrettent. Nous partons demain, ma femme et moi
pour célébrer l'anné à Upsala; nous laissons les
petites en Lorraine.

Hommages respectueux à Madame, de bonnes
Carres, à Marie Louise. A vous de tout coeur
Ch. Flahault.



Dr B M Duggan

~~C. American Express Co.~~



~~Has to be~~

~~Prattville~~

~~Alabama~~

Vension Villa Gusten
24 Hess Str.

Munich



over the! How if I should
have to see you back
you must sit & say
nothing while I live! I
think you know enough.
I am getting on with
the Boston work,
have washed cuffs &
back, began on
ports this week.
One Boston exp
he must wait
a few lines as I
will stop, with
a quantity of love
to you all
675
Mother.

I can hardly believe it is just
a week today since I wrote to you & addressed
the letter to the care of that long married Swedish
this must go there as you send all letters from
the 12 to June 2nd must be sent there, then to
care of Americans Exp Co Paris. I mention
this that you may know where to inquire for
letters. I wonder what you are all doing this
bright day, hope it is as with you; a fortnight
from land now, don't you wish for it? I
imagine Louise does, no birds, chickens, or any
thing for her to watch & talk to, from the picture
she has a long place to see. We were very glad to
have your letter written on the steamer & to learn
from it that Louise had recovered her appetite.
I sincerely hope she may keep well & that you &

Thomas will be surprised by the cry, yes, you
will I suppose get some out which I am sure
you need. I am still thinking of a visiting
you all constantly, so many things I might have
done & visit which you were here but this winter
is gone. I should have been more thoughtful -
I hope you are well from this dining can did without
trouble. It is indeed pleasant to visit friends and
just at home with. I wonder if there were any other
at this time to answer dinner -

We have had a great deal of rain & probably some
this first day I could get out to visit Thomas with
for him at New Orleans, the ladies reported not
seeing news of him. Miss Wright said she felt in her
luncheon the sweet little lady. Mrs Davis went to
Thomas's school building & attempted a description
of it, but if I had not heard of it from some
one else I could not have been made aware there
before. John Kelly wrote there were 200 pupils &
very thing perfect off so nicely, and a little very
valuable, with hands, doing. Mary & her day & some

others equally so efficient than I should not have
been a little, in party & dining room. How we must
wonder one else. I should have been there that night.
We have some very beautiful vases just now, or
for her we were getting flying about one the
big window & going through water & hot beds in
the water looking some of the most beautiful scenes
in & have them just finished. I don't imagine
how we will get rid of them, it may happen we
if the use of the furniture, if Henry comes I shall
have to divide the family just now in the first
room & some see the chamber, I intended giving
them the opportunity. After some first
getting my suit also now with it also cannot be
convenient would us to go up, but we want
do it, the rest of the family were well. Of course
in pleasure was excellent & few might say by
the boys who visited one time. There is abundant
circumstantial evidence & this page has been
excited. Just did not say why he killed him but
for nothing I suppose, it must have visited guests
as when we returned. Just said nothing of his
plans for the summer. I have not seen Thomas

since you left, as how he is trying to find hands
to "chop cotton" I heard they are very scarce, not to be
had at 65^{cts} a day. Friday was too wet to do any
planting work so we were able to get a mowing
the day to cut with a scythe, the Johnsons grass, in
the upper part of the garden, now we can see some
corn & potatoes we have planted there yesterday old
John Olley housed part of it, it is a relief to have
it down. I am writing with a beautiful bunch of
Verbena's now before me, so much prettier than
any that I owned while you were here, I wish you
could see them. The Danville folks are still ailing,
indigestion, sore throat, &c, we will go to see them just
as soon as we can drive over the roads are very
rough, they are very rough.

You may be glad to know that my foot is much better,
feels much easier, from that I feel sure it was a
sprain, not old age affecting me as your Father suggest-
ed. Of course we have not been able to make Johnny
a visit, I am afraid he will leave for Biloxi before
we can go. I have not heard from Waver since you left.
Did Minnie want to go to Europe with you? I
envied her better to you. Kiss the dear baby for me,
how dreadful to have the ocean between us for 16

May 28th 1905

To D.
Vienna

Dear Ben!—

This is Sunday
& M-L has preceded me
in a good letter, but I
couldn't let a transatlantic
mission go to you without
some few lines from this
part of the House.

We are all much
puzzled over the long name
which is a part of the
address—(Here comes the
Preacher Mr Harris so I must
stop off short.)—for church.

A few only a very
few attended, no encouragement
to minister.

Since you left we
have had continued rains,
nearly every day & the crops
of cotton about here are in

had five & more negroes are
leaving for City work. The
price of cotton is better —
now over 8¢. Sold 3 Bbls
at 8.-10 yet on hand which
I think I will hold for here.
My trip to Christiana College
in a visit to Harkness, &
needed home on Saturday.
Mr. Proctor preceding me just
an hour — she had visited
the old Lodge in Uniontown,
nearly a charitable association,
for she, a ^{first} Christian society church,
& some vegetables, she knew would
be acceptable. — Sheed a Chm.
oil, I hope never to see again.
Turning the page back I saw
your name & names — I was
entertained at the "White Starline",
& but no "stick" as Mr. Johnston
vice Company was there, only 22

amount 2 days. Our friends in the
town were & wished to be remembered
— Mr. Lockman & Elvira married
when you were last together babies,
and almost another.

Mr. Harris says John Prince looks
wonderful & he will go to Dixie's for
a fortnight or more. He hopes
to go to Vermont tomorrow.

We are anxiously awaiting
a combined letter telling us
how you get on, & how, & how,
dear child — we were glad to
know she got better as she
wrote me; & of course your Mother
gives her visitors better than I can.
No change here occurred. Your
last lunch was found dry after Mr.
was up to you. This all twice &
more for me —

Yr Affect Father

~~Wm. Harris~~
Wm. Harris

his heart, next his day
 Labors, heart & soul
 My idles for want of means
 to follow. Now the moment
 please he has hands &
 is doing better. Dr. H. P.
 Fred has been busy getting
 ready for Commerce, and
 we have not been found
 any of them. Some have
 lately from New, his is
 working day at a better
 of every thing very true
 when the night comes,
 is at a pity well
 have to this we have to
 much the little time we
 have to live! With much
 love to you all & kisses to
 Anne, your devoted Mother.

This is another of our quiet
 Sunday's. I have read the service & many of
 the good old psalms & hymns, in the old
 prayer book. I like them so much better than
 the hymn collection the I have some favorites
 there. I wonder what you all are doing today
 I hope you are comfortably fixed in Wisconsin
 ready for the Congress. How does our dear baby
 like a foreign country, & how did she stand the
 long sea & R. R. trips? but perhaps these questions
 are already answered & the letter is on the way.
 I think I mentioned the cablegram & that we
 were so much obliged to you for it. We hunted
 all the maps in the house for December but
 could not find it, we are rusty on geography &
 wished to be certain. I can't help telling you a

wrote of our visit to Greenwood, I am anxious
now to know how Hilary agrees with Johnny.
Oh my! I will have another long, rough, ride ^{there}
today, the Co. Association meets in Greenboro & I will
have to go with your Father or be left at home. I
really think I should go to see Green's family & your
aunt Sally too, but I dread the ride, your Father
has not been to a meeting in more than a year.
This hot weather makes me feel so sleepy & good
for nothing, but the berries I have managed to
get on right well with the ~~current~~ ^{current} ~~would~~ ^{would} finish
it. I dread my if I was not going from home, all who
have seen it think it very pretty. I preserved a few
plums last week & made a little beautiful jelly, I
have so much on hand it is useless to make more.
I had not heard from Henry in so long a time I was
getting uneasy, a letter came yesterday saying he had
been very busy, & after long drives over rough roads &
burning coal he was too tired to sit by a hot lamp
to write, he goes such long distances frequently 15 to
20 miles. Father has not been down since you left,
Sister Sally says he is afraid he will not make

June 7, 1905

I have been reading over Warr's letter I see she says I did really expect to write some messages to Ben, Marie & baby but was so busy I took no notes of time, being very tired was unfit to write a decent letter at night.
Mother.

I S No 2

Since writing the above Rebecca has dropped in took dinner & goes on to Wintetoe, not feeling well & in poor spirits, so much goes & no hands to be hired to clean it out.

June 11th 1808.

My dear Son

I was truly glad to have your
letter this morning, & send back for
me early about the 12th & 13th of that month
the news to learn by this with your threatened
voyage was safely over. I am very sorry
suffered from sea sickness but what a blessing
having such a little heart, how I
would like to have had a ship at her wheel
she enjoyed this winter & liked about it. I
expect she liked the large steamer that was
as good to go for another. I am so glad you
felt benefited by the trip & hope you will
feel improved when you have been on land
some little time. Perhaps by this time you
have settled down some where for a portion
at least of the summer. We are beginning to

feel summer has come here enough, the sun is hot but this morning we
 have a fine breeze. It was our divorce day, the whole baptist school turned
 out, for another year, to our church, I have not been back as usual but in
 money as day, but what do you think, Bro Joe "look up collections for us!
 Your Father was too unwell to go to church & "Bro Joe" asked him to do
 it he was quite lively about it. The preacher & wife dined there today,
 told me they had much rather stop with us, neither feeling very well.
 I don't want to write you a few lines for the pleasure, but you know
 we left home, I thought you would expect it, well never mind we thought
 of you all the same & we still think of you all. I was so provoked
 about my last weeks letter to you. I wrote Sunday, had no stamps in
 the house & your Father was feeling too badly to walk to the office so I
 snatched a nibble in paper, pinned it to the place where the stamp
 should be, wrote ^{to} you that comes & coming, whoever needs up the
 mail that it would take 5th to carry it. The mail man instead of
 turning the letter over to the P M as it was, unpinned the paper, broke
 stamps, & took on a 2 ct & off the letter went. I found it out by the
 3 ct. being returned, went next morning to see Mr Woody Davis but he
 was out at the store I left a message asking him to write to the dead
 letter office, asked the stamps to be put on so the letter could go from
 there but would you believe it, he did not do it so you are out of
 a letter I know you were expecting. Your Father was very unwell all last
 week, felt much better ~~than~~ yesterday, & this morning, so as John feared to
 suppose he went out to feed his horse, moving about brought on his bad
 feelings & he was unable to go to church, he had bowel trouble, a slight
 attack pulls him down very much. He & I were going to Greenboro Tuesday
 if he had been well enough for to the local meeting & I to make

some visits. We have planned to drive to
Mrs. De Boer's this evening, she is sick,
if I can catch up any one to get the buggy
he may be able to go late. When he was unable
to feed John would feed before & after, some
times, he had a very pretty last night,
must have made himself sick eating or
perhaps broke my ice cream feeder & does not
want to see me.

Yes, I will give you the news from the boys
as it comes to me. Henry wrote he was busy
during the day, 15 miles drives, but not out
much at night, said he was very well.

Waver says as to, busy as ever & too tired
at night to write often. Reuben spent one
night last week with us, not feeling very
well & much worried at not being able to
find hands to clean out the guano, it took
Hercules during the worst spell, yes if there
is any thing you can do to relieve his eyes &
and some of his aches, I hope Fred will be down

June 11, 1905

room & I will talk with him. I heard Tob
 Gly of Danopolis who suffered some time with
 his eyes was cured by Dr Knapp of N Y, I
 wrote & asked Mr Gly if it was so, he wrote
 a very nice letter in reply & begged I would
 let Reuben go to him. I thought but to write
 write to Dr Knapp first, took a great deal of
 trouble to write a nice letter to him, your
 Father was to write more about the case
 than I could tell, said he would put a
 note in mine but the letter has been
 waiting more than a week & he has not
 written a line yet. I don't believe it would go
 to him but he might treat him from an
 accurate description of the case. There will be
 a Farmers meeting & barbecue at the Mansford
 place Tuesday, I think Fred will come down
 to it, some noted speakers are to be there.
 "Mr Proflant" did get off to Tuckalona & Ben
 Dick Hoar is has been spending a week there
 will be home tomorrow. I am afraid you can't
 read this writing this is from a humble, much
 love to you all from Father & myself, Love for a new
 one, & a paper. Your devoted Father.

Sunday morning - I
 did not find my
 letter in time for the
 mail last night, all
 a few lines to say I am
 ever from Ely, am
 ever night, that
 Cathedral is a
 splendid structure -
 What do you do with
 Spring when you
 visit each place?
 She can't keep
 up with you
 can she? This is
 a beautiful morning
 the birds are
 pouring forth their
 sweetest songs. The
 16th was the day with
 day 68, he kept it - we
 are getting along very well -
 off interesting letters, nothing of interest going
 on, but I am sure you will be glad to hear
 from us this there is nothing very interesting
 to relate. I am constantly thinking of you all,
 wondering where you are & what you are doing.
 I hope you are not travelling around if the
 weather is as hot as with us, it has been very
 dry, but two days ago we had a heavy rain
 which was gladly received, the crops & gardens
 needed a good watering, our little grass patches
 of a garden has nearly dried up but I must
 say has afforded us two kinds of vegetables every
 day & that is enough for two little people, we
 seldom leave any one to dinner. With as much
 good weather I hoped sister Sally & Lucy would
 have been down but they have as much going
 to Winton & Farnham they can't come this
 way, they have not been here since the day they

come to see you, we have spent a day with them.
I expect that a day down last week, there
was an especial trial meeting & perhaps at the
Newport place, I thought he must get off at
Lewiston & read the letters on to us as he spoke
of doing when he left us, he seems to the meeting
but did not come home, nor did we see a card
to say why he did not bring the bags, I had been
saying my children for them, but that helpful
day continues to kill them & they descend upon me
day by day, if that continues to keep me I will
not try to raise any more.

I have been saying so good deal, perhaps the visit
or saying one word it was so pretty I said it to you
by this morning mail, some of my friends express to
me, perhaps will make you happy, I have gone
around next house train to work on & I cannot
you to know it. I think the work will be full
enough, you could sit down to work for this week. The
first I think will allow of two medium size
trucks between the working & a new lot, by putting
one or two flat you may & having the other side you

will have a little bundle of getting pictures put up
the first. I have now found that very. I would
a whole bundle for my self, one some of the same
material I used as little train one cotton for it
then I would say another sheet, one waiting for
myself pattern for the visit. I have nearly finished
yet the little one I cut out for the baby. I expect
to take the measure of that big visiting dress
too, with I was at a forgetful, I try to find the
track of every thing.

For this last two days I have been making
"Sunday" was at the one important fellow! I did
not find it so surprising as the last days. I think

you don't know how quiet this day was down, with
me one to talk to I almost go to sleep every day.
It sits off & sends all day, some hardly want to
I find any dinner before he is up, & back to play
& books, this hall is always with them now, ready
to dance to let us but they must not be moved
The two are working away, the first one having
the piano up to them, just it is pretty! Well down
I remember people have & your down as good as

-being, he is a "nice dog" now, you cant imagine
how much better he looks. I think I will repeat the
scrubbing once a week.

Our Hairs preached for us Sunday we heard things
which that Johnny improved at Gooden (or was
Biloyi) one of his hands was hurt for medicines
Wednesday said he was expected home that day.
I have not seen Reuben for some time, I know he
has been very busy trying to get the grass out of his
crop, the farmers have had hard work but are
getting straight I think. His recent letter from
Wave. I forgot to say one of Reuben's hands at
Winnettoo has had small pox, is up & no more
cases yet, she was right in the yard & he stayed
in the house two nights & rode right by her door,
doesnt he run risks!! I must hurry & close this
for the post man if he hasnt part. Dont let
Ben work too hard & take good care of my precious
little girl & yourself too, with much love & many
kisses to you all

Your loving Mother.

Do is at the store or might have a nice age.

June 27th 1905

My dear Son

I had no idea more than a week has passed since my letter to Maria, so I must hurry & get one off this evening but really there is nothing to write except home details. I have been writing to you on Sunday, that was our service evening consequently my Sunday letter was not written, while on this subject I will say Mrs & Mrs Harris came over, when they left home as cloud was to be seen but before they reached here they had two showers on them & it was very cloudy so no one came to the church but Mrs Collins & Drew, they came around here as the sexton had gone & church not open. Mrs & Mrs Harris were

nothing themselves & their house, for awhile we
kept quite as pleasant, parent chat, but
you & Maria put out your father for
not letting the church be painted & still
you also made it poor, she was so much
& let off so much steam we were utterly
amused, you father felt his own & that
it all, but Maria looked sad & solemn, she
made a statement of what his opinion was &
also his house it was for her, her mother spent
his month, it was, or would have been perfect
by accident to see not wish to know more
of it, I think just a certain something
to Maria, to keep from putting out her &
but this seems ridiculous & she then talked
on very pleasantly for some time before
as the both say we must spend her, she has
been so much troubled. Well, I would like to
know what my dear children are, & what

they are doing, I try to imagine but can't,
perhaps Maria is trying to find amusement
walking around & walking right over to
her, I wonder if she is out that morning about-
I am sure little was written from Maria, I
think I remember that. Now is it you that
went go to Vienna to the Congress? Maria
was how disturbing for your father to provide
for her body, would she was to say she could
not come over to see Maria when she was
with us, her body is getting up & down with
her so thin & badly. We still see Dr. G. long
tried with actions they say, the length of
time he was to be treated of spinal some time
ago & I believe he is just staying there being
a "good time" Maria told me her own set a
little, but this name seems with him he had
at home. You say I must tell you about this
day, well to begin at the top of this list, we

can't give an account of Fred, he has
not written for so long. Harry wrote he
received letters from Washington telling him
to buy cattle, for their experiments I suppose
by July 1st so that would prevent his taking
advantage of excursion rates to Cornell, Harry
expected to go with him. He had not entirely
given out the idea of going later. The other
children could not come down to see us because
he must save the expenses to help him out
on full fare, so I am disappointed, I can't
help feeling it is right hard to see so little of
the grand children, we must have but a few
more years to live. Rainbow was here last
week, had been to Minitoc altho there are
& have been several cases of small pox in
the cabins in his yard. Waver writes his luck is
always poor, he saved his peas from the gophers
to be destroyed by plant lice & his approach
had not come up. Henry says he wrote him

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he had any idea of going down on some
desert & staking a claim, this land he
expected would be irrigated in the
future. I wish he would leave off staking
claims; to him it seems an unprofitable
business, & he is far enough away now.
Slippy was enjoying a new buggy, a high
one to keep the water from coming in
when creeks run high. I think that young
man had an idea to "style" too when
he asked it. That young lady wanted a
first night, aimed but was expected.

Monday I think it was, we spent at Johnny's
all better, no word of another visit. Johnny
feels much better one day & worse another,
he is thin, weak, & looks very badly, as usual
when we go down there a heavy rain fell
& it was slow work getting home.

The dance called folks were on the ground
when I heard from them. Saturday there

was a Minnerney meeting & paragoned in Danvers, of course
your Father must go. I was much afraid he would have to stay
all night on account of rain but for a wonder he takes home in
good time, enjoyed the epistle by Mr Cunningham & directing
many as usual.

Now I sent a bundle by registered mail to Virgil, about
the 15th. I hope it was all right as to postage. Mr. Davies said
it was, if not, please tell me so I will know next time. We
continued the same address (Care, Amherst Express) as we have
no other. Your Father sat up late last night writing, as he is
taking a nap, every thing is as quiet as possible, it has been
cloudy all day, no rains, but I hope the showers have saved the
corn crop. I wish you could have eaten some fried chicken

with us today, all of you — with much love to all & a kiss
to Louise.

Your devoted
Mother.

Do pray excuse this writing, there never ~~was~~ such a collection of
pens, ink, & paper, as we have.