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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.

January 8th 1914

My dear Son

I was so glad to have your letter & feel that you were safe at home. I was very anxious about your having to spend that dreadful day in Birmingham & wished a thousand times I had not sent that telegram or the crazy letter, (you must have thought it so) but your Father insisted so much on my doing it, if he had not gone off like a crazy man to telephone from Gallien, when he could have done it at home, the telegram would not have been sent, he had worried me so that I had no sense, could not think, when he sets his head on anything he will have it his way at any cost to me. Now I can't find words to thank you for what you did in Birmingham for me, it

was as good of you to take that time & trouble,
& I thank you as much for it. I think I need not
trouble you any more now, I understand the statement
you made out & as you advise will copy & send it to
Chambliss & Mackey. I have heard nothing more from
them, possibly they are waiting for the statement.

B A den Thompson has not written me yet. I will
drop John, will just write him some one else will
give me a better trade. I will be glad to drop him
for I have thought for some time he was not doing
his best, or was a poor real estate agent. How can
he make money for himself all right but I think not
for others.

I am glad you found Anna quite well & wish it
were the same with Boyce, what can be the matter
with the little fellow! I do hope he will improve &
soon be himself again. Tell Maria I fully intended
writing her while you were in Atlanta but some

how the time passed without my doing so. I
wanted to thank her as well as yourself for the
pretty waist. Please thank Maria for the pretty cards
she sent us. I think I sent thanks by you. I look
back with as much pleasure to the time you spent
with us, ~~and~~ short visits now, and 'green spots' in
my life. I am glad you had the chance to become
acquainted with Fred's children & to be with him
at the meeting, he wrote us some nice things about
you, what an important part you took, & compliments
- many things said about you to him.

Frederic & Frances returned to their duties, Margaret
he said improved as much on nutritious home
food that they might keep her at home & have
a private teacher for her. My idea is she is very
delicate & needs all the good food she can get &
not too close application to books, what do you
think? We have had some sunny days but right

cold, white frosts (like snow) for several mornings &
now we may expect rains again as the wind is in the
east. I have been trying all day to get your Father say
he will take me to Laneville tomorrow but he does not
say yes, I think it our best chance for some time if
rain begins again. While you were with us we were
expecting a box of Satsumas oranges, I was so sorry they
did not come, for they are delightful & I wanted you to
enjoy them. I wonder if you have eaten them. In the
midst of the last sentence there was a knock at
the door, I went, found Mrs Darris there, we chatted
some time & some one knocked at the chamber
door, I opened it to find Mrs "Bob Wood", presently
Anna came so it was quite like a reception. I
showed them Anna's pictures & they all said she
was so sweet & pretty. Mrs "Bob Wood" desired to
be remembered to you & Marie. She is a great
admirer of yours. Ruben came up Tuesday to take

JAN. 8, 1914

some 2 sheep that Alex Mc Haddins had left
 here instead of sending them to Van Down as he
 promised. I wish you could have seen him
 trying to pack the two in the buggy, (even tried
 to put one on the seat by him) but he could not,
 had to come yesterday for the other. The first
 trip he brought 2 Norway goats & a little Billy as
 a 7 was present to us. He said they were being
 stolen so often that he was glad for us to have
 them, that he would like to put out all left,
 on shares, I wish he could. I don't know how we
 will keep them from getting out, at present they
 are fastened up in a stall "to get used to things".
 I put the John Mitchell goat in a stall every night
 to keep her out of the porch. Reuben killed his
 hog the week after 7 was, he & 2 other men could
 scarcely manage him he was so heavy. He brought
 the trimmings to me & I made about 14 lbs of

sawage of them, put it ⁱⁿ bags holding about a
pound so he could sell the most of it if he wanted
to. The hams are so large I am very much afraid
they will not keep unless weather keeps cold.

Mr Hatch made us a visit this morning, he told
me that he is 71 years old, I had no idea of that.

Boyer's indisposition interferes with his dancing school
does not sit it. I suppose Lorie continues to go. I hope you
are having some shine like ourselves.

I have been much interested in the Harvester, did
you ever recd it? As much about plants. He was
a most uncommon man -

Your Father writes with me in much love to
you all

Your devoted
Mother.

+
Léon Chami le 1^{er} janvier 1914

Mes très chers amis,

Vous êtes bien bonne de m'adu-
ser encore vos vœux de nouvel an
après le silence si peu correct que
j'ai gardé l'an dernier envers vous.
J'ai bien reçu au 1^{er} janvier
1913 les cartes charmantes que vous
m'avez envoyées, mais à ce moment
mon âme était tellement noyée
dans la douleur que je n'ai pas
eu le courage de vous répondre.
Aujourd'hui enfin, après plus
d'un an, je me décide à vous
faire part de l'irréparable

malheur qui nous a frappés.
Notre chère mignonne, Marguerite
Noëlle est morte l'an dernier, le
19 novembre 1913 à l'âge de 18 ans.
Jusque là elle était une enfant
ravissante, vigoureuse et sa santé
s'était fortifiée en France où je
l'avais eue pendant les 3
mois de grosse chaleur. C'est au
retour qu'elle a contracté le choléra
infantile, une maladie qui fait
beaucoup de victimes dans les pays chauds.
Nous avons lutté pendant 7 jours
avec tous nos soins, les conseils de 3
médecins et surtout avec notre amour,
mais le bon Dieu voulait pour son
ciel cette jolie fleur et il nous l'a
prise. Vous devinez, chère amie, dans

quel abîme de tristesse et de désola-
tion nous a plongés semblable perte.
Notre bonheur est parti avec notre
ange et depuis, la vie s'écoule triste,
monotone, sans aucun intérêt.

Ma santé s'est beaucoup altérée
à la suite d'un chagrin aussi
violent et j'ai maigri avec une très
rapidité que mon organisme affaibli
n'a pas pu lutter contre le mal.
J'ai eu une tumeur aux intestins
et au péricône et j'ai été très ma-
lade. On m'a envoyé aux eaux de
La Bourboule où j'ai fait une cure,
puis j'ai continué par une cure
d'altitude en pleine montagne
et je suis revenue il y a 2 mois,
sinon complètement guérie, du

moins en bonne voie de guérison.
Depuis je fais toujours de la surabondance et mon état s'améliore beaucoup. Les Docteurs espèrent que je serai complètement remise. Dans 6 mois je le souhaite, ma chère amie car je suis lasse de souffrir au moral comme au physique, et de faire souffrir mon entourage, mon cher mari, mon excellent père et mon frère toujours aimé. Ils s'étaient tous attachés à ma chère petite qui était le rayon de lumière de notre existence et j'ai vu que mon père et mon mari allaient devenir fous de chagrin. Ensuite ils ont eu de vives inquiétudes à mon sujet, et ce n'est que depuis que je sais mieux qu'ils reprennent

9 I 1914

une vie normale. Comme vous le
voyez, ma très bonne amie, les joies
et les chagrins ne nous manquent pas
et il serait à souhaiter que l'an
née nouvelle nous apporte quelques
consolations.

Et vous, ma bien bonne amie,
que devenez-vous? Je vois que votre
petite famille s'est augmentée d'une
mignonne Nancy. Vous devez être
heureuse d'avoir autour de vous 3
mignons enfants, ressemblant la
maison de leurs cris et de leurs rires.
Je vous souhaite d'avoir pour eux
tout le bonheur que vous pouvez
désirer. Embrassez ces chers bébés
de ma part et faites-leur mille
caresses.

Comment va M^r Duggar? Je vois
d'après votre carte que votre mari
a été changé de Faculté. Êtes-vous
bien dans cette nouvelle ville?

Je voudrais que vous eussiez l'obligeance
de me redonner votre adresse car
je la lis mal.

Quand pensez-vous revenir en
France faire un séjour? Vous sa-
vez que je souhaite ardemment
vous revoir et faire la connaissance
de vos 2 derniers enfants. Marie-
Louise est maintenant une grande
fille... presque bonne à marier
et Benjamin doit être le plus
espégle des 3 comme sont en général
les garçons.

Écrivez-moi longuement ma

chère amie, comme vous savez,
je comprends très bien tout ce
que vous m'écrivez, mais quand vous
m'écrivez en français, bien que
les termes ne soient pas parfaits.

Vous ferez compte sur mon
indulgence, mais écrivez-moi,
vous me ferez un réel et sensible
plaisir.

Au revoir, bonne et charmante
amie, veuillez être notre interprète
auprès de M^r Duggar et dire
lui les bonnes amitiés de M^l^{le}
Flahault et Bantet. A vous tous
respectueux sentiments avec les
meilleurs baisers et la tendresse
bien sincère de

votre fidèle amie
Mathilde Bantet

P.M. JAN 17, 1914
January 17th
PRESIDENT'S HOUSE
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Duggan,
Thank you
so very much for
your kind and
cordial invitation
to entertain us,
which makes me
feel very sorry
that I am not
coming with
Mr. Schurman.

the members of the 'University -
Gymnasium Club'. Please thank them
for their kind thought of me.

Mr. Schurman is away just
now, and I do not know exactly
his plans, but I think his stay
in St. Louis is to be very short -
When he comes home I shall

give him your kind invitation
with kindest regards to you
to which the family
join me.

Yours very sincerely,
Barth F. Schurman

3414 Huron St.
Cleveland, Park, D.C.
Jan. 31st 1914

Dearest Marie:-

I am going
to begin this letter to-day
even if I do not finish it
until the middle of February.
It is terrible to think of January
passing & your Xmas letter
not-written but such is the
case with me and looking
back since the 25th of December
I do not see how I could have
helped it. I think she says

have grown much shorter
since we came to Washington
& live. Used to be very busy
in Durham all the time but
the life here beats it.

The daisy-basket you sent
me of Texas places my com-
mendations when my hyacinths &
tulips bloom I hope to use it
to send flowers to my sister
& well friends. Thank you
very much for it - beanie and
for the picture you sent
of the of your beautiful baby. We
are all very enthusiastic over
the picture & would love the

Having - little pill & piece -
if we could only get hold of her
Chas. is very proud to think
the photograph belongs to him
and he wants me to
thank you sincerely for him.
Baby Anna looks just like
her dear little self & like no
one else that I have ever
seen & she is a beauty. I shall
be very proud to be one of
her Godmothers although I do
not feel worthy of such an
exalted position. At present
I go to the Baptist Church for
the cordial atmosphere of the

church and the grand old
memories - have pleased us
more than any other church
we have attended in the city.
I wish with all my heart
that I could make you a
visit - and be with you when
the baby is christened but
that is an impossibility this
winter. Several of our friends
have invited themselves to
visit us in February and two
evening by Charlie from
Holyoke Mass. will arrive next
Thursday for a week's visit -

JAN 31 1914 3
and as soon as they leave
Dr. & Mrs. Bogart - say they
would like to come & the
others of Charles' friends come
after that. Lathrop leaves
us tonight for Atlanta after
a weeks stay. He is rather
his father has secured
what - looks like a good
position for him with a new
& progressive business firm
doing a mail order business
and we hope this change
will be good for our only son
in every way. He is glad to
get out of the brokerage business

which he has never liked
& then he does not care
for the cold winter & is better
when the weather is warm
so I hope he will like all
the heat he will get in
Georgia.

I have forgotten, but did
you ask me of Leonora's
address. Well here it is anyway.
198 Lorraine Ave. Upper Montclair
New Jersey. She has a nice new
apartment in a two story house.
She has the 2nd floor. Lathrop
& Chas. have been to see
her & they like her new
home very much. Parrot is doing

JAN 11, 1914 4

so well and is as enthusiastic
over his work. He had a
splendid raise in January
+ now gets \$4.00. I bet you
would have felt rich in
Durham all these years if
Chas. had been paid that.
Keep this store of news to yourself.

Do you remember the
two silver fruit-dishes mamma
used to have, well a few
years ago she gave them to
me and they were a right
+ bettered + back. Ten days
ago I took them down town +
had them straightened + refuted.

and they took quite well
as I have sent me to little
Anna Everett for them
you would like to have
it & the other one I have
given to our Anna Everett
and she is delighted with
it & will use it until she
gets her own home.

I had a note from dear
Mamma Thursday & she
said that Daddy was over his
cold & little Jack much better
of his & that they were comfortable
& had their breakfasts - in bed
every morning etc. The night
that comes looks thinner. I am

JAN 31, 1914 3-
that her divorce case can
not be settled up.

Will dear Muriel have to
stop for awhile as it is lunch
time & right afterwards I go
to a matinee with Anna.

Sunday afternoon.

Chas. is down stairs
working on the Auto and was
enjoying himself until the
telephone bell rang and one
of his friends wanted to
know if we were to be at home
this afternoon so he wanted to
come out to see us. I am dressed
& ready but Chas. has to leave
what he is doing until it is

friendship. Charlie, Emily & I went
to the Episcopal Cathedral
near us this morning. We
stood for communion but we
did not commune for it did
not seem satisfactory after the
individual cups we had in
Durham. There is so much
said about gums etc. - these
days that I am surprised that
any of the date church should
be so behind hand. The
music in the Cathedral is
very fine for they have a
grand organ & splendid organist
& the choir of boys voices is the
most beautiful I have heard. This
is a perfect day & I hope most

This month will be like 1st
then to go down town in the
morning to buy on a suit - &
waist, come back home for
lunch and then down town
again to a matinee with two
friends. Bought a suit - the
8th day of December from a
very small firm & after some
fittings and for weeks I gave
it back to them until to
them disgust - now I am having
another fitted and I hope
it will be satisfactory for I
do want to wear it a few
times before the new weather
comes. I am making a dress
and a skirt for Patsella

and I think they will look
very nice. I am glad dear
Louise liked her coat. I fitted
it on a little neighbor of mine
who is just eleven years old.
The coat is the only piece work
I did for Xmas.

The package got so unmanageable
by parcel post to baby Anna.
We found we had to have
it crated & hope it could
be sent.

Lacking and the good little
Boysie & he hopes he will come
to well & strong. Ever know he
and Boysie were chosen at
Starks Hotel. I have much more

mean to talk to you ^{JAN 21, 1914}
but my time is up & I have
written you a long letter.

I thought Ben should make
us a visit on his way home
from Atlanta. Tell him that
he is a friend to come as soon
as time permits.

With much love for you dear
& each one of the family -
a kinship for the precious baby.

Your ever devoted

Alice.

P.M. Columbia
Feb. 2, 1914
Wednesday -

Ben Dearest.

I came, I saw, I
conquered - or was it collapsed?
If all this gaiety goes on I think
that will be my state. Anyway
I am having a beautiful time
and it is so good to see all
our old friends again.

Mr. Trumbull told me last night
that Columbia looked much more natural
to have me here and Mr. Bulmer
told me all kinds of nice things

and Mr Fairchild came to call
on me etc ad lib. Mr Selden
was going to give me a gentleman's
party on Sunday and wonders if
Mr. Lusk would think it all right
& to be in the same room with me
if he were chaperoned by Dr. Hill
and all the rest of the men!

It is true that people here pleased
parties till the middle of next week
for me but I can't stay away
from you that long - you and
my precious babies. I expected to
leave Friday at noon but Mrs Curtis

is no answer & give me a luncheon that I
cant refuse her the privilege. So I will leave
here Friday at 4.30 reaching St Louis at
10.50 P.M. Will you meet me at the station?

I thought you could go to the Hall's reception
& go from there to the station & meet me &
though it will be pretty late it wont be
so bad for you would have to be out late
any way.

Will you please. Mrs Terry how sorry I am
that I cant be with her Friday afternoon.

also please tell Louie that I am
counting on her to be faithful to her piano.
Everyone here asks after her. Give her many
kisses for her own mother loving mother.

If things are going away please me
& I will come at once. Or if you cant
meet me Friday night & I will come Saturday
— only do it at once as we have a dinner
engagement Friday night if I stay. But I think
it best to get back Friday night & hope you
will make it convenient to meet me. Kiss my little
all our love I must. I am your own mother

P.M. Columbia
Feb-10, 1914

811 Virginia Ave.
Columbia, Mo.
Tuesday A. M.

From Benj- I can't it dear to be
writing to you from here! If I am
not careful I shall make this all
in rhyme! It seems positively
poetic to be here next door to
our little nest of former years
among these dear natural
people. It is like being in

a gently moving side eddy far
from the maddening swirl!

all the time I wish for you.
Yesterday on the trip I lived over
again our first trip to this part
of the world and all sorts of old
memories of half-forgotten things
as well as new-~~t~~-to-be-forgotten
things made the journey very
short.

Frank met me at the station
and brought me up in the
Automobile. Mr. Belden has a

a very badly inflamed eye. However he
felt he had to go out to the English Club
last night. So Ethel Relden & I sat up
and had a regular talk fest. She says
I must send you. Love Love & tell you she
certainly appreciates the mushrooms.
There is a charming ditty the boys have taught
me. Little Willie ^{at} ~~Belin~~
Fell down the elevator
~~He~~ ^{They} ~~may~~ ^{found} ~~him~~ ^{him}
Six weeks later
all the neighbors said Gee Whizz
What a spoiled child Willie is! -

I had to write it down. before I forgot it!

Mrs Relden is giving a tea for me
this afternoon. It snowed during the night
unfortunately but otherwise the day is fine.
I think always of my dear little family
and long to know that you are all well.
This morning, Love Louise the cough syrup
on the Schiffman.

Mail man is coming. Love
& kisses & all. Oh but I love you
every one. Love my babe. Love your
mother & father

My best regards to all
the Bellens, and
I presume thank
you for this holiday
which are here
given us! —
I mean the
chief
members of
our family.

Same old Stand, only dif-
ferent. Feby. 10, '14.

Sweet Love, I am just back from
the seminar after a rushing
day, and the house is
creepy with lonesomeness.
Even the lights are dim
and do not know how
to burn properly — in
the absence of Maiechen.

But how are you, Deanie?
Did you get my telephone
upon arrival? I sent you several

the ink bottle open with
your pen leaning against it,
the hyacinths faded,
in fact, the only thing flourish-
ing is the umbrella
plant which you used to
be so careful of 'member?

We love you, sweet, like
watermelons and icecream in
summer, like hot tomatoes
in winter, and like the
dahl and the daisies all
the time and forever and a-
day. Have a good time, ex-
cept with your old beaux,
but give my love to any
old girl who thinks of me,
don't worry about yours

happy and contented family, don't take joy
order with the champion Columbian dealer
by wireless, only I did not
send the code - perhaps you
had yours. How are we? Happy
as clams who -
er - have lost their one
leidenschaft, the recipe
for clam chowder.

Weren't you surprised at
the goose picking last night?
I hope you were up early to
help the boys shovel snow.
Well, Boyrie spent the day
with Tourmil, and the
snow was so wet they
played indoors or on the
back-front porch, that is,

and don't drink more than two of Dr. Brown's
egg noggs. We all love you to pieces, and there's only separation
you can't sever.
after he had spent an
hour or two decorating my
blackboard. In the afternoon
they had a big time of it
apparently, and we did not
come until 6:10. Then you
can be sure there was the
usual hasty retreat for dinner.
Babykins is as happy as a
lark, and she is the only
one who does not realize
what a terrible thing it is
to have our sweetheart and
mother off on a skylark.
Just think of it: nobody
has been in the front room
since you left. There stands

Bluffton, S. C.

Feb. 12th 1914.

My sweet Marie:-

Your dear letter
to Mama came this after-
noon. And we are so glad
you are on a visit to your
friends in Columbia. I have
fond recollections of your
cellar in Columbia.

Will Marie have a good
time but don't fret. It
is a good thing Bee
isn't like Leah. or he
would be after you in
24 hours. Aunt Minnie

returned this morn
so I found out that Uncle
Ben was a Corporal in
the Ashley Dragoons. in
Captain Geo. Heywards Company
in Charleston S. C. That is
all I could find out. But
it is enough. They will
take you in any way for
they are glad to have Mrs.
B. M. Daggas a Daughter.
If you should meet a
Mrs Wilson now living in
St. Louis, and ^{who} was a Daughter
in my Chapter, ^{in Chicago} Be ware
of her. She was once in
an Insane Asylum and is
a Spirituallist. She was disliked
by everyone for she told such
awful stories. She is a stout-

blonde. I am so ^{fully} glad you
sent me Mrs. Morse's address
I was thinking of her to-day.
Douglass writes that his family
have all been sick with - 3 days
measles, and that he was
going some where on the Hudson
for two weeks, to some place
where they fatten people, like
chickens; and his Doctor
told him it was the place
for him to go, and live
out of doors. Doug. certainly
looks badly, he works too hard.
Mill's family, Betsey included,
have all had Chicken-pox.
So that is the news from
Buffalo. Nothing from Mrs
C.L. only that Lathrop has
taken a position in Atlantic

It is quite cold, to-day and
the wind blowing like sixty.
Jack has a sore throat- so
I dosed him and tucked
him in bed. He has had
so much cold this winter.
I am so glad the children
are well again in your family
and that you still have Noble
and Jennie. I hope you can
keep them both many years.
Tell them not to get married
that is the worse thing they
can do. Mr. S. came over
to-day and brought us some
beautiful Japonicas and ferns.
He is so kind, but we don't
see much of him, the weather
is so bad to cross the River
and then he has been quite-
busy. I have nice books to read

and I saw and ^{Feb 17 1914} ~~20~~ the time
this. I have not heard
when my case is to come
up. Mr. B. just sends the
\$20 every month. Dottie wrote
and begged me to send
her some clothes my old under
clothes or any coats or dresses.
She says her Father does
not hear any calls and he
does not give her anything
She has only had one pair
of shoes in over a year. She
says her shoulders are getting
crooked now. So you know
how I feel. She is getting
on fine in school. got 94 in
French exam. English 82
Phys. 84 Algebra 95 Drawing 80
Decl. Ex. 85 Music 83.

Tell dear Louise and Boyce

that I love them as much
as ever and that they must
not forget me or love anyone
better or I will be jealous.
And kiss that precious baby
for me. I have her picture
on my desk where I look at
her all the time. I wonder
if I have told you everything.
We have had two large fires
in Bluffton, one family lost
everything. Their house burned
down last Monday morning ^{at 5-30}.
It was awful. Mrs Radcliff
Mrs Guilford's daughter. All
the ladies are giving, clothes and
her childrens clothing, they
did not have time to save
a thing. Mama and Daddy
are very well and happy. Mama
looking younger and more kittenish

than ever. They both send^{you}
you all much love. You
must excuse this writing
but the ink is poor and
I write in a hurry. I love you
most dearly and see more
dearly. I often think of my
dandy visit to you in St.
Louis. I am so glad I met
when I did for no telling
when I will go again. I
think St. Louis people
perfectly charming. Give
my love to all the nice ladies
I met. And God willing we
will meet again. I am so
glad Mrs. Hanson wrote to you
she is the most charming
Southern lady I ever met.
She is from Virginia. You
would love her too. Well

Smart sick! Good night
and smart repose. and for
me holi, I need it. Cousin
Alice Heyward comes in
to see us every day. She
is as good as a Circus.
With hugs and kisses to you
all and remembrances to
"Maise" and "Cook". Ever your
devoted. arr.

You ought to see our Janie
the cook and "Maise" the man
of all work. They are certainly
a pair. He looks like a seal
and she like a monkey.

Please send back my little
booklet of the Dang Lees.

P.M. Columbia, Mo.
FEB 17, 1914

Tuesday.

You dear girl

We just finished
drinking in your sweet letter.
It has quite cheered me up
for I have had a bad case of
the blues ever since you left.
Partly because you were gone
and partly because I kept
thinking of the things I might

been dead for you and didn't.
But you're not dead yet and
you are coming back again,
aren't you? I am sure you can't
realize how much people in
Columbia think of you. Your
friends have been urging me
up for the last three days
to say the most lovely things
about you and to thank me
for bringing you here!

Little Henry followed me

around the house all Saturday
morning saying, "when is Mrs.
Duffer coming back? Oh, dear
I had an idea she would!" ^{May}
just when I liked her the best.
Poor kid: his own has made
him very cross and miserable
the last two days, but he
seems more cheerful today.
We were greatly pleased to have
his eyes fixed for you. Aunt's
valentine was much appreciated.

It was the only one he received
and he sends his thanks. You
may be sure that Belden boy
will never forget you.

Poor dear Dr. Duffer! What a
time he must have had waiting
for that train! His afraid he
will never let you come here
again. Won't you be awfully
nice to him and try to make
him forget it? I have not been
out of the house since you left.

FEB 17, 1914

but this afternoon his family
to the city & purchase Allen
some lamp pumps. He is
starting having lessons today
I am trying to get some of
the chimney men out of his
head as Louis will not be
ashamed of him. I am glad
you do not find Reddy a burden,
but I have imagination enough
to know that it ruins your life

The more than a m. Tell Dr.
Duffer we shall ever feel
grateful to him for letting
us have that little visit from
you and you were a dear &
come. Tell all the children
for me and don't forget how
I love you.

Do ever
ask -

it is well but otherwise.
Dank says he hopes you will
take him back this next time
you come. Today is spring like
and the birds are singing in
spite of the snow. It is to bad
you had all that horrid cold
and snow for your first visit!

Aunt and I are sending you
by parcel post some biscuits
which we hope you will accept.
She sent them up lot from

I wonder if you suffered from the
 cold wave that passed over the country. I
 imagine you did, we were fortunate not to
 have such very severe weather but it was
 cold enough. We read accounts of so much
 suffering from the cold. Yesterday the weather
 moderated very much & today we ~~have~~ had
 very little fire, there has been a high wind
 from the east, ^{today} & I fear we will have rain
 & another cold snap.

The carpenters have worked $4\frac{1}{2}$ days on the
 house top, (2 days they had a very cold time)
 would have completed the job today but the
 nails gave out altho' a second supply was
 sent out from town yesterday morning. The
 red tile plastic roofing looks very nice, & there
 is great satisfaction in having no leaks.

Now in the lot to look at.
 It was not so long
 at all. But to think of
 the thing coming along from
 the stomach just with
 the gas in the
 day time, it seemed
 to be eating the tender
 claws is it - came. You
 mother is a good shot,
 killed a hawk a few
 days ago. I told you
 about the 8 persons the
 day caught.
 The boy is quite
 well, the rest of the
 have held on. Your mother
 is just asleep in the
 working chair when I saw
 for the room at 9 o'clock
 he will wake up &

content with. The neighbors admire our roof
very much. To think what hard work Fred
& myself had to get this kind put on that
is so much cheaper & still a good covering!
It was put over the shingles except along the
edges some were pulled off.

Yesterday I had a letter from Alvey telling
us some thing of your aunt A. L. C. death,
she had a sudden & violent throat trouble,
a great deal of pain, "examination showed a
true ulcer of the glottis," consultation with
Dr. Wright (throat can be operated) & Martin
decided the extensive edema might be relieved
by local bleeding, debridement improved that
condition. During the night the "throat
sensation" stopped entirely & she died from
urine poison. Alvey says the baby is a fine
boy, is 12 weeks old & weighs 14 lbs & is fat &
well. They have an old colored nurse, they keep
the baby in the fresh air nearly all the time
in good weather. This morning I heard from

Fred, he seems much pleased that Alvey is
doing so well at school, gets all "ones". At one
time he did not like his books much - Alvey
is doing very well too. Fred is very busy with
bulletins, trips for the college, &c &c. It is about
time for him to be coming to the Cambridge
Station, there are many hope for a night's visit,
he never saw a parent more than.

Reuben stopped in at dinner time yesterday
on his way to Lawrence to make aunt Rebecca
a visit & maybe do a little grading for Mr
Jackson on the Drake place (Mr J. married
Carrie Drake.)

Mr Beek Davis has opened his store, is
assisted by his hopeful son Willie & a negro
clerk who is left in charge at night. I reckon
he will "feather his nest." The stores are
enjoying their furnace heated house, which
in its dress of white can be seen from afar,
how glaring it will be a hot summer
day! One day last week we had some beauty

+ get to work.
I think I think
better say good-
night, hope you
can make out the
dearful writing,
the paper seems
to be greasy tho'
just taken out
fresh here to you
all
Yours devotedly
Mother.

her Mother & the children to make us a visit.
I never heard such a tattle as the old lady
is, & say! what a voice!

Is Marie still "moulding"? Tell her I would
like to have one of her nice letters sometimes.
Every one seems so busy these times, strange, isn't
it? But I am so myself. I am trying to do a
little work every day in my flower garden, have
planted my little space in vegetables, & pick
up the shingles & better the carpenters make,
I mean in places where we have to walk, then
I must plan dinner three or four times for the
work men, & keep a constant watch on the
cook to keep her up to her duties. Today I made
a second batch of pies from ^{half of} a Poundage
lemons Marie Benson brought us, had homemade
tines from the same half, the other half I
sent Mrs Powell to make pies. She came
over yesterday evening, we told her of the

2.30 P.M. - We
have measured the
snow, 6 inches, no
drifting, that is some
thing for our country
isn't it!

Lansville Feb 25th 1914

Here I am snow bound at aunt
Melville's, she is sick in bed, Rich gone to Birm-
ingham & Lucy & I trying to keep things going &
take care of sister Sally, she had a bad
attack of fullness of her heart Sunday night,
Lucy being alone with her & utterlyly miserable
about her, telephoned to ask me to come up,
your father brought me up & left me, there is
no telling when I can get home, the ground
was white with snow when we awoke this
morning & the snow has been falling in
large flakes ever since, I think it must be
over 2 inches deep now. I thought when I

came that I would stay until today if
 sister I improved, she was comparatively
 well yesterday, up & dress ed but this morning
 about 6 o'clock another attack came on &
 we were so uneasy about her, there is so
 little we can do for her, only give a little
 Digitalis, just now she is feeling better (11,30
 A M) & I do hope she will continue so.

The only servant they have is "little Lewis", he
 is hot man, & milker, & as no garden work can
 be done he now, he is helping in the house. The
 Kerosine stove in the dining room is a treasure.
 The cooking is done on it. Every thing is weighted
 down with snow, the joughits, buttercups, &
 look so pretty peeping out of the snow, the yard

must have been beautiful when all were
in full bloom & fresh.

I am wondering how your Father gets along
without me, he has so little idea of what to
do with housekeeping. I hope he won't fall into
the cook —

I expect you are having worse weather than we
are. So fortunate sister S. — has a good supply
of coal, groceries, & horse feed on hand. I wonder
how our stock will fare, a plenty for them, if
it is only given them.

I think there must be a letter from you at
home for me. I would like to have it but
your Father will hardly forward it.

This is cold weather for our incubator to be

running is sit it? due to hatch day after
tomorrow, that is in the dining room too, what
a change from "old times"! Sister I - told an
old darkey who was in the dining room that
she hatched chickens on one side of the
room & fried them on the other -

I forgot to say that "old Lewis" is our protector at
night, he has a couch in the room up stairs,
a fire to make him comfortable. It is a
blessing he is so faithful, as much attached to
the family as ever.

There is nothing interesting to write - Lucy & sister
Sally write with me in much love to you all.

Yours devoted

Mother.

Bluffton S.C. March 9th 1914

My Precious Darling,

What is the reason
that we have not heard from you
since before you left for your trip
to Columbia Md? I have not written
thinking every day we would receive
a dear letter from you telling of
your adventures home etc. I hope darkness
has not tainted your vision. We
have had a Snow Storm also high
wind & rain but now we have
Sun during the day & moon light
nights & we are all well & happy. Jack
has been kept in the Penitentiary but is
better & will be home again. Bluffton -

is very quiet but we manage to
keep comfortable & happy. We have
spent more than \$500 on food
this winter besides the wages of a
man to cut it up & bring it in. he
lives in the yard & brings all the
grain & makes up the fire in the
kitchen & boils the coffee before the
fire. Comes in about a little after
noon & back. He also very often makes
the fire in our bed room. He could
not do without him & he is a bachelor
which makes him all the more useful.
We see Mamma & Alice Heynard
almost daily & Aggie & Mamma & her
and siting together this afternoon. I called
on Edith & her, who thinks you are lovely
so does Mrs Walker. & your "Katie & David",

you both all better. Come down here
this summer & have a jolly time.
We can vary the work by fishing,
bathing & such. you & the child
them, & we can get a good mouse
for money, unless you prefer to
bring Mabel, but she would have
to board out: as you would need
two rooms for yourself, & then
travelling expenses have to be looked
over & that money could get him
a nice little carriage in Saranac,
Mr. Humphreys comes over often
& cheer up Aggie & reads philosophy
to her. The Wilsons have lots of com-
pany just now, but the storm has
retarded most of their flock.
"Papa" is very well & sends you dearest
love. Aggie also sends love & says you

me has a letter. It seems strange
that her case has not been called
up. but I am glad she is better
at home. This told Mike & Jack
had a cold most of the time.

Excuse please the paper as I dropped
a flower's branch on it while put-
ting it in the paper. With devoted love

I remain at me

your own dear
old mamma

Love to Aunt
Hester & the
little ones

birds were to keep up & the little chickens when they come, your Father prescribes to
some porters. I paid rich
candy in of stone berries
back home, & it there in old
stone jars & planted in
them squashes & cantaloupes
I have on the porch.
We have just finished our
little supper in the chamber, & now I must
tell you how glad I was to have your letter
I was getting rather "overcast" as mamma
used to say, at not hearing from you, tried
to think business, & not sickness was the
cause of your not writing. I am glad you
are all well & apparently enjoying life, in
spite of cold weather. Maria must have
had a very pleasant visit to Columbia,
knowing ⁱⁿ what safe hands the children
were left. The tea in honor of Mrs Bailey
must have been a pretty affair. Is Mrs
Hurd a fine singer? What is her name?
Your Father would like to know. Yes, there
were 2 sets of twins in the family, 2 girls &
2 boys & I think several girls besides the

times. It has been so long since Alice was at your Grand Mother's that I have forgotten what I heard of her family, on her last visit she had Katharine, the youngest, with her. Some of the family was with your Father, we used to hear from them through brother Waverly. I would like to have seen your exhibit, have an idea of what kind of flower the Cinerarias is or the Geranium either but something very pretty I am sure.

I wonder if Louise was timid about playing at the recital, is she fond of music? I hope her music will give you as much pleasure as Fred derives from that of his children, in every letter he has something to say about it. In his last letter he said Ambrose plays on the violin at the Sunday night services & that the organist wants Lewis to play the concert but he is too timid to consent. The bulletins came this evening, much obliged, have not read much in them yet but will

enjoy reading them. We take a paper I like very much, "The Kansas City Star" it is republican, but has so many good things in it. There are so many magazines & papers to read that I can't keep up with them, that is, my eyes can't - We read The Kansas City Star by Gene Stratton Porter & liked it so much that your Father sent one for 4 other of her works. I have them yet to read.

Did Louise receive the 2 little boxes I sent her for Lucy Harris? & did you receive a small box of pecans sent by Parcel Post? it was about a month ago I think. I wrote to Louise when I sent the last box. My last letter to you was written at Aunt Nashville's, I think I mentioned the snow was 6 inches deep Wednesday night, but by Friday morning all was melted, sister Sally was then feeling about as well as usual, Rick had reached Kansasdale so thought it best to come home tho' the clouds were very

When a
caval, back butter
cakes + crackers
too, there will be
some for egg cooking
too. I must stop
now, make my
fire + get to bed.
Much love from
one of you from
your father +
myself
Yours devoted
Mother
Don't mind what
he said about the
fire I am confident
that + the chimney
has caught fire!
The window, no of
fire about it then
I should have known
he wants to know
all that is going on.

the buggy, (the carriage was broken) I was
surprised to find the road not wet enough to
stick to the wheels, but that could not be
said next day for at night + nearly all day
we had rain + next day (Saturday) was a terrible
day for wind, right from the west, withing me
in the almost, + coming in such gusts down
the chamber chimney that we had to have
fire in the parlor, the dining room is so
hard to warm. Benben could not come up.
Monday was cold but sunny, since, the weather
has been more moderate.
Ed Scott jr worked here several days trimming
trees + doing various other jobs, one was to
upside up part of the hen house yard for
me to plant in early vegetables, he prepared
it so well, + this place is so rich, that I
hope to have some quick growing crops. He

"Bamboo Hall".

March 5th 1914.

My Dear Son:—

Do yr mother permits me to ^{write} give room in her envelope for one more word or two— I readily avail myself of this pleasure.

I do not write as much now as formerly— then again she always has the first say— and is dutifully entitled, to the last word by ancestral privilege, I fear she has left no ground or ideas for my pen. As to the pen part too— she took such a great fancy to my pet=pen, that when Xmas came I told her "to have and to hold" it as her own. It is surely one of the best that is made— one of Parker's guaranteed.

2

"Lucky carved".

I somehow manage to keep this one going when it is fairly started, but it will blot in a most sinifall way, sometimes —. Whilst I am on the blotting subject, would tell you of my good fortune at Christmas time. A very good friend, thoughtful and kind, sent me a sure-enough blatter, — consisting of only 3 sheets of Blotting paper, — on the front "page" there is a beautiful picture of a young girl, with a most sanctified appearance, self important paise — and the following significant

3

lines =

"Blot, blotter, for this friend of mine,
Blot many a cordial, cherry line,
Blot many a page whose words shall ^{be}
A message of joy and loyalty."

As you perceive our ink has
a drop or two of sweetening in it,
hence it shines just a little and
needs a blotter often.

When I came in tonight from
my out-door occupations and
sat by a good warm, comfortable
fire of half China-berry wood and
Climax coal - I surely appreciated
some of the work I have been
employed at - whilst I had a
good man doing chores - by day
labor - the most satisfactory in
years. Some few old landmarks
cut down & others lapped off to make
better shade for the Sunburnt;
And now we are to enjoy the benefits.
half wood & coal makes for us the hottest
fires - tho your mother often expects the
entire household, when she rushes it

with too much kindlings
and gets the blaze all
the way and out of the
top of the Chimney, then
she calls the cook to bring
the salt in a hurry - &
Calls louder still to get me
up and out to watch the
flames & sparks - a Chim-
ney on fire & blazing and
the vivid scattering sparks
to & fro over the house top
isn't very interesting sport;
especially to a man busily
taking his beauty sleep soon
after sunrise-time. We have
to hustle & hustle & all - even the

day "Hero" rains & barks.
"Hero" is our pet Collie - yellow
or orange & white - shaggy all
over but his bushy tail is just
sublime. It is as pretty as
an egret on a red-haired woman,
and too he is quite vain of it all -
curls up & over so gracefully - I do
believe he is proud of it - for I saw him
looking back at it in the sunshine &
smiling - as well as any dog can smile.
I told gr mother I wouldn't repeat anything
in my letter that she had written about - &
I believe 'tis a fact. The inches of snow did
no harm - it contrasted well, banked up on
the red roofing of our house - which by the way
is a very conspicuous object to whomsoever is
passing our way - one party said he could
notice it 4 miles away, - in fact our fields
now allow long views - unobstructed. I'm sure
that - how gone you all the family gossip. a Kiss &
love to all - and all -
Affectionately gr Father *Wm. Duggan*

He writes, was there for
as meeting of county
commissioners agents, quite
a day he expected to spend in
the morning. I spent in
Landon's trip 40
miles south, making the
same trip, 80 miles
by night. I'm reaching
Arlington he will after a
day or so make a trip to
Franklin, New Orleans &
visit to various, he certainly
keeps "on the go." What
are you all doing now?
Tell Virginia I am afraid
she has forgotten me.
I am very busy & am
surely keep up with
my weekly letters to all

he helped to see him today, & I hope he will still
spring day, no fire until tonight. I made a
letter to warm our biscuits & heat water
to make real hot milk, that is some times
our night drink as we have no milk now,
both cows dry, but if they were giving milk
we could not get any one to milk them.
This morning I tried making the biscuit
with melted milk, did not find it any
better than water, think we will have to
try condensed milk, the kind used for
babies. You wrote once about powdered milk
I think it was, did you try it, or am I
thinking of egg?

This pretty weather makes no room to garden,
I wrote you of planting part of the chicken
yard, the mustard & turnips are up already,

Your Father not to be out done by me, brash
the narrow strip on the other side of the
black hen house yard spaded & planted, then
he had little beds spaded in the hen house
yard & has planted all sorts of vegetables, if
we can get them worked we should have
vegetables enough for the table. He counted
on taking off a hatching of chickens today but
the hen left her nest & all the eggs were
lost.

Saturday was spent as very pleasant day,
at aunt Melville's, she wrote us to come to
meet Benny & Lucy there. I wish you could
have seen the delightful ^{& beautiful} dinner she gave
us, she & Lucy can do more than any two
delicate people I ever saw. Lucy fixed the
table, a large bunch of johnquills in the
center, in each plate was a smaller plate
of fruit salad with a spoonful of Mayonnaise
dressing on the top, & small lettuce leaves
around the salad, there was a real of mms

turkey beautifully baked, at the foot of the
table, a stuffed chicken at the head, a bunch
of celery & 5 kinds of vegetables, Spinach with
poached eggs, snaps, corn pudding (made of
canned corn) tomatoes & rice, now was it that
a dinner to get up without colored help, &
as Lucy Minge said we did not miss them
out of other room any time. The meats were
cooked the day before & the kitchen stove soon
did the rest. We all did justice to their dinner,
& to the dessert of punches with whipped cream
& muffin cakes with raisins. Lucy & Benny
stayed until Sunday evening, Monday they
went to return to house keeping in Dayton.
Benny is thin for him & not strong by any
means, can't walk any distance but has
kept up with his work, (valuing land for
a syndicate.)

You never saw such roads in March as
we have now, trotted all the way to Danville
except a little place in the summer, the roads

time for it. We had
services Sunday.
New House is
looking better, we
had quite a
good very quiet
crow of the new
people. Keep the
children for me,
much love to
you all
Your devoted
Mother!
P.S. I made a
mistake, Fred was
at Bay View,
Hamilton was the
Hotel -

We drove down Sunday evening to see Minnie
Penson, she had gone out "sitting" with the
Staples. She was here one morning last week,
did not wait for me to call. This told me to
tell you if you all go to Woods Hole this
summer to be sure & let her know, regretted
so much not having you all to see her last
summer. She is getting so fat. She will
return to W. by the last of this week.

Ruben was with us Sunday, he too is getting
fat weighs 160. I think he has been living on
mighty nice sweet potatoes this winter, told
me he has bedded out 4 bushels, & planted
1 bu of Irish potatoes, hopes to have some to
sell. I reckon you think it strange not to
have heard any thing more about the sepa-
rator, Fred wrote he was waiting on Henry,

Laddie was pleased on the tree, & the dog told to "go up, go up," he runs up like
 a cat picked the
 piece out & was
 down in a minute
 shaking the basket
 out of him & we
 thought, he was laid
 on the mat, while the
 eggs were being taken
 out he got down the
 steps but was receptive
 himself in the basket &
 we heard, Mattie, by
 & we took him up
 to the Borders for
 their dinner next
 day. He went over a
 piece, it was very fat
 but I will not eat

Sonnie's new letter came a day
 or so ago. I was very sorry to learn from it
 that Maria had tonsillitis in addition to
 the cold you wrote of but I hope by this
 time she has recovered, the sickness entire
 feed with her plans for the week did not
 it. Please thank Sonnie for the letter, I
 sent it to Sister Sally to carry her thanks
 for the beads, she chose the ones I thought
 she would like best. Lucy has sold a
 good many things to make her Easter
 money. I tried it too, but have not been
 so fortunate as to sell any. Speaking of
 selling - as a note I had from sister
 Sally today she said Lucy picked a peck
 of spinach to sell Mary Stoe, she took the
 same amount on Saturday, they must

have a quantity!

This has been an ugly day, quite a high wind & rain all the morning & now cloudy & dark, but the rain makes the grass green & fresh & my peas, sweetened & turnips are showing finely, the squashes in little baskets has come up too, the roses have little buds on them & the peach & pear trees look as pretty in full bloom, your Father says the 2 white frosts we had did not kill the fruit, that is certainly good news, but we may expect cold snaps yet.

We keep busy, but no "social functions" only a few visits occasionally. I think the people around here entertain less than any I know of, & visit less.

We took a visiting turn Tuesday - Your Father was so late getting the buggy & then himself was so busy, that we made only 1 visit in the morning, that to Mrs Bacon (at the George Robert place) he was out but we found

her very pleasant. I like her better than any of the new comers I have seen. After dinner we started out again, called on Willie Davis wife, Mrs Heath & Mrs Douglas (at the Smau place) she was out so coming on back there was plenty of time to make Mrs Stoner a visit, she showed me over the house & I almost envied her the new clean house (mine is so dirty) & all the modern conveniences she had when every thing is complete. He is a coarse, rough, old man but he certainly fixed a nice house & barns. I was real tired that night went to bed early. Next morning I made the kitchen fire but had to lie down felt so weak, & giving away, so she your Father & told him, he said you lie still & I will put on the oat meal & make some tea, we had biscuit in the side board, he was so slow getting at it, & asked so many questions that in desperation I tried again & after eating felt a little better but pretty badly all

it after seeing him
killed. Now eggs
were left whole &
I hardly think they
will hatch after
being so shaken up.
You mention that
I know Christchurch.
I wish I could
know things better
even. I am afraid
if I see objects
I may well not
visit, and a
pity for people to
miss out of their
own church!
I am not out in
this room or would
I am sure I can
do you all
some service.
Dear Sir,
I am not myself today, but better than yesterday. I
am doing as little as possible. I am trying to
get him to say we will make you a visit
but he will not promise. Besides wanting to see
you all so much, I think the change would
benefit us.

Tell the childrens they should have seen us
catching an opossum (I have to help do
every thing) the other night. A hen was sitting
in a log on the mulberry tree by the back
steps, I heard her make a noise & then jump
off, the dog was barking too, I called your
Father to go out & see what it was, "well
bring the lamp" he said & we went on the
back porch & looked, could see nothing but the
dog kept close to the tree barking. I told your
Father to peep in the hollow above the
nest, that he might have seen in there,
never enough there he was, then, how would
we get him? after a little thought the steps.



(THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS ONLY)

Professor B. M. Duggar,
5236 a Waterman Ave.,
St. Louis, Missouri

Waco, April 2 1894

My dear Ben:

I am passing through
St. Louis on my way
to Columbia on Sunday
and should like to catch
a glimpse of you if
you will let me. My
train ought to arrive at
5.50 P. M., and I am
leaving on the M. K. T.
night train for Columbia.
But the train may be late.

With love to you all

Cordially

Thilly

April 4th 1914

My dear Son

We enjoyed your letter to your
Father but were very sorry to hear of Marie's
sickness. I imagine pneumonia is a very painful
disease & to have bronchitis with it must
have been very trying. As she was sitting up
when you wrote I hope she is quite well by
this time, if you have the same mild
weather we have it is a good time to
improve, it is so pleasant that fire is not
needed, only a little at night. The grass is
growing very fast with us too, the green trees in
leaf & other trees budding out. I never saw
vegetables grow so fast, my turnips will
in a few days be large enough to throw out
to use the salad, & mustard & radishes
the same. Sprouts are up & peas growing
nicely. From volunteer stalks of mustard,

most of them in this flower yard, I have picked & put in water enough for dinner tomorrow.

Yes, we have a plenty of eggs, use them freely, they are so easily cooked. I must see about condensed milk, entirely forgot it yesterday when we were in town. We went in on the 8.20 train & came back at 1 o'clock, there was some shopping I had to do; after walking around all morning & having a little cold dinner, at home we made 2 visits in the afternoon, don't you think we old people get about considerably, but when the horse is hitched we must make the most of it, while we take our dinner, this had some clove, cut from the garden.

Your father has gone in a minute, & I must thank you for your letter & the book, will try to write soon, he lives out of doors, planting seeds, grafting, budding, &c, then he must look around at them all to see

how they are doing. I am trying my best to get him to say we will make you a visit, but I can't get any thing out of him. Syd would stay here at night if allowed to ride Annie home in the morning, work in his crop all day & come back at night, but your father is afraid to trust him to take care of Annie at his ~~house~~ place during the day. I thought I was working out a fine plan, then you see he could have his meals at home & no trouble about his cooking. He could easily feed the cows, & the horse before riding her off in the morning.

What time in this month do you expect to deliver the lecture in Iowa College? If you deliver the address at the Ohio A. M. College you can even delay to see us perhaps, we would be so glad to have you.

Fred spent last Saturday night, & until 12 o'clock Sunday with us, was looking very well & it seemed to me that his

I saw such a pretty sight - yesterday evening at Mrs. Burleigh's, 200 little chickens
all about the
same size &
going nicely,
hatched in
March, she is a
splendid hand
with poultry -
voice was stronger. He may have written
to you since he went over from Bay
Minnette to Mobile to see Henry for a
few hours. She did not tell me, but I da
venter that Henry has been suffering with
sciatica for several weeks, moving around
in the day it is not as bad as at night.
She says the baby laughs all the time, so he
must be a good baby. They call him Lloyd.
I am sorry it is not Henry.
Unfortunately we did not know of Fred's
coming until too late to notify Reuben, he
did not come up Sunday as wished
seeing Fred. I don't remember whether I have
written you since Louise's letter, if not
please thank her for it, it is a nice letter
& so well written.
There is nothing interesting to write as with
much love to you all will close, hope all are
well. Your devoted Mother.

Blossoms adhered to April 4th, 1914 letter



Ithaca, April 14, 1914

My dear Ben:

I want to thank
you and dear Mrs. Duggan
again, and that most
heartily, for your generous
reception of me. It was a
joy to be with you in your
comfortable cozy home and
to renew the old friendship
or rather to see it in action
for it needed no renewal.
I had behaved so badly that
it would have served me

might if you had given me
the marble heart instead
of the glad hand, and I
am happy in the thought that
you have forgiven me for
my sins as a correspondent.

Since my return I have
been in a dreamlike state
partly caused by many
sleeping-car nights and
early risings, but I hope
soon to wake up and to
make inquiries about a
house on the campus for you

during the summer. One one will
surely go away and leave a home
to leave you, Frank is already
making plans for June and
Berrie, and Mrs. Tully and I
are the only part of the family that
won't change. Which means that
you will find us here & live in
a welcome whenever you come.
With several thanks and love
to you all in which Mrs. Doug
 joins, I am
travelling you truly

those as there, Walcott is so near the church that if it had suited them would
 have been as likely going
 to church, It seems
 is all the other end of town
 & would have necessitated
 several trips of the buggy for
 them. I was in Saturday
 night & a heavy fog
 until late. The church
 was pretty deserted this
 time & not many were
 there. We saw all the relatives.
 Sister Sally & Mary did not
 come. I but Rich was
 there. I suggest the day
 very much. On our
 way I saw from Collins
 saw called to see
 Sunday as I had not had
 a chance of doing so
 before I wrote you. I shall
 look her mother, Mother.

It seems impossible to get
 around with a letter once a week to each
 of the family, my time is so fully occupied
 with my various duties, but if my letters
 are behind times it is not that I am not
 thinking of you all for my thoughts are
 always with you.

I received the Easter card from Lorien,
 thank her for thinking of me. I am so
 disappointed not to have our visit to
 you this spring but your Father says he
 can't go & I can't go alone, then if I did
 I would leave him without a cook as we
 have not been fortunate enough to find
 one yet. I hope some time during the year
 we will all be together, "some how, some way".
 We would be delighted to see any or all of you

if you find it convenient to come -

The mail has just come, I saw first a photo of 'Lord Stavellyn'. He is a fat little fellow with a good size nose, & a sweet mouth, no likeness to his Father that I can see.

There is a very cool west wind today that is making the chimney smoke. I must let the little fire go out, we do not need much any way. Yesterday there were very threatening clouds but fortunately for Miss Kate's tea party, no rain. She entertained at 4 o'clock tea, 10 ladies in honor of Susan Correll who has been spending a week with her. Tom & then drove me down & he went to the depot until 10:30 for me to leave. The time was spent in pleasant chat & in drinking, but the hostess was there too, a nice plate of cake, kind wishes, crackers, potato chips & pickles for each guest. Tell Virginia I wish this year's winter coat by your bath, with a new black crepe skirt made to wear with it, & a tiny

of very busy beads, what do you think of Mother! With us no one does seem complete without beads. I was dressing to go when Mrs Bacon called, I could not finish as I had no one to "hook me up" in the back so I slipped on my gingham & went out, she is from Ky & more to my liking than any of the strangers in our country.

But I had to make a long stop to get dressed & wash up, & change my dress for the afternoon. Tom's Father has had Ed Scott Jr working here 2 days, that makes a little more cooking, he is a good worker, turns his hand to any thing, is quick & steady at work. He has been fixing up fences today, all around needed mending & cracked staked to keep the goats out of the yard - the wire was no protection from them around the rose bushes, they stand on their hind legs & bite them off, that reminds me they are very pretty now, particularly the Malmaisons, I wish some could reach you

Sanville's death & our mourning she
was friend sent
in her best, her
diamonds about 2000
Ralph Smith, is
in very bad health
so she has had a
good deal of trouble
besides losing their
property. She has
been helping Graham
to help along, I am
afraid you will not be
able to send out the other
side, I send the letter to
you please it since I
think your father has
destroyed this ink some
way as the news, I wonder
if you have been to him.
Must love to you all
Your devoted
Mother.

Several nights ago we had a thunder storm,
the old Chapman house was struck by
lightening & burned to the ground. The old
land marks, people as well as houses, are fast
disappearing from among us.

What sort of an Easter day did you have?
with us ~~it was~~ this early morning was sent
unpromising & we thought we would have to
give up our plan of going our team to Haunalea
for Easter services, but John came, fed & hitched
the horse & we went off in a little sprinkle
but it soon stopped & we had no more rain,
but threatening clouds all day. Louise had
asked us to dine with them & Dr Garrison
was at the depot to take us to his house to
wait until church time but I told him I
would like to spend that time with Melville
Brown & go to his house after services as he

they are all right now so I hope you will share no more troubles with them -
to keep a class from St. Paul
this morning, he had a
pleasant talk in his village
& Birmingham week
before Sunday night, part
of last week was spent
in celebrating Dr. Klem
of Washington, one night
they celebrated 21 of the
senior is multilingual students
in his honor, and of
the Prof. helped enter
him there, all but a
jolly 21st. Many have
given to money, stuffed
others 94 chess dinner, 3
bunch of cake & ice cream
to get it sent just that -

I feel very much like answering
Marie's nice letter that came yesterday but
want to tell you about my Birmingham
business as will write her next time. I
enjoyed her letter so much. I was glad to
hear you had made this trip to Iowa &
was safe at home again. We would have
enjoyed the garden lecture & would have
been proud of "our son" as Marie says -
I hope your horse hunt will be successful
in St. Louis & that you may find one in
Ithaca for the summer, with the children
house keeping is far preferable to boarding
I am sure, so much more freedom in
every way.
I would not be surprised if it is getting
quite warm in St. Louis, we have windless

doors all open & in the sun it is right
hot 'tilts' there is a gentle breeze, every thing is
so green & pretty & the birds are singing for days
lives. The front lot is white with the blossoms of
this clover, the 2 Jersey cows kept there to themselves
have been unable to keep it down. I big that
the others may be turned in to it but your
father has his notions -

Tom should have seen us yesterday afternoon
milking a goat, the children would have
been amused - One of the handies had
3 kids & she would not let one come near to
get any milk, she was getting in a bad fix as
we had to do some thing. We caught, & tied her
to the back being tree near the window, your father
tried to milk her but could not do much as I
got warm water, bathed her bag & was a little
more successful, then we held the kids to her
& each got a little. We ~~fixed~~ tied her in a loose
stall, I had read that was good for such
cases & I am sure it was, for while I held

her by the ears & your father by one foot - she
let each kid get a good quantity of ^{this morning} milk. We
may have to repeat the operation several times
before she gets straight but the kids are worth
savings. I said, "well, I wonder what I will have
to do next." I think we should not keep things
that are likely to give us extra trouble, but
she has able, he is to attend to things, the more
the Dr wants.

Tuesday morning Uncle Ben & Rich stopped by
on their way to Danapolis, the former was looking
better & says he feels stronger since he has been
allowed to eat a little more meat. He saw Oty
not long ago, says "he is the most immense thing
he ever saw, weighs 200 lbs." Sister Sally sent by
them a pack of spinach (we have 2 dishes yet
to eat) & some fine licks. Lucy is a fine garden
-er.

Now about the Birmingham muddle I
am afraid it will be - I wrote you the
terms of the sale, deposited the notes by John's

and are to leave now
again! These times
are very life times!
Mr Barnes has sold
the Western place
for \$12,000 in one
year & gets \$4,000
is it that a profit?
You will say the
other place in the
other neighborhood.
This is beautiful
writing but I can't
do any better these
days, hope you can
make it out.
Would love to go
with you to your
all & kisses to the
children
Your devoted
Mother
P.S. How soon you can
send me pictures!

address in the Jefferson Co Savings bank for monthly
collection, 2 months passed & no money as I wrote
to the bank, no answer, I wrote again, then I
wrote to John. I enclose his letter, (you can return
it some time.) At last the bank wrote that
they had made special efforts to collect the
notes (for Feb & March) that Mrs. Trappin the
purchaser had sold the lot to a man
named West, that he had assumed the
indebtedness, that they (the bank) await my
instructions. I don't know to instruct unless
I say try to get it from Mr West which they
ought to know. Not a cent yet & this is nearly
the end of the 3rd month. Your Father predicts
low prices, & other disagreeable things & I feel
rather worried over the situation. What do you
think of it?

It is after dinner & I must finish my letter.
Your Father went to look after the goat & kids, says