

Left Mand July 10 1879

Dear Bessie would you like a birthday letter
I send it for want of something better
From the Rocky Mts that far off land
Where the air is so pure & mountains so grand
When the sun is so bright as to dazzle your eyes
And the moon makes daylight when she beams from
The skies

Now shall I tell you what we all do
The story is old for we haven't much that is new;
Aunt Sarah is busy from morning till night
For in keeping house nicely she takes great delight
She sweeps & she dusts she cooks & she sews
Ducks chickens makes beds & then mends the ^{clothes}
And some of the time she is waiting on me
As good and as kind as she well can be
But how many slices of good bread & butter
She would eat in a day my lips ^{utter} dare not
Uncle Charley brings water saws & splits wood
Smokes & reads & does what ^{ever} he should

fern

When the snow is not deep and the weather is
He goes up the mountain to look after the mine.
Thomas the cat lies & sleeps by the fire
But if much disturbed it wakes his ire,
The chickens go early to bed but are up in the morn
And always seem ready to pick up the corn
The magpies are round & so is blue jay
But from Grandpa's gun they would fly away
He wanted to shoot one as proof of his skill
But is wanting, & wishing & waiting still
As for me in the drone in the hive
I only exist am not truly alive
But am hoping & praying I soon may be well
And go home with glad heart the Lord's goodness to tell
Now Bernie darling how is your dear mother
Your papa & sister that sweet little brother
Whose coming was hailed with delight I ween
That precious little baby whom I have not seen
I hope he'll grow up a very good man
And comfort his parents all that he can,
You and Alice I suppose are still in school
Learning to walk both by plummet & rule

Trying to climb the hard hill of knowledge
Hoping ere long to be fitted for college
I trust you'll be trained to do good in the world
that when the end comes & your banner ^{furled} lies
You may hear a sweet voice in accents of ^{love}
saying "Well done faithful servant" Come to
my mansion above.

I will write a Bible acrostic on your
name and you can learn the verse
if you choose.

Be not overcome of evil but overcome evil
with good

Every good & perfect gift cometh
from above

Set a watch upon the door of my lips
that I sin not with my tongue.
Shew me thy ways O Lord

I have been young and now am old
yet have not seen the righteous
forsaken nor his seed begging bread
Even a child is known by his doings

Watch and pray lest ye enter into
temptation.

I said I will take heed to my ways
that I sin not with my tongue
Seek first the kingdom of heaven and its
righteousness

Wait on the Lord be of good courage
and he shall strengthen thy heart
As cold water to a thirsty soul
So is good news from a far country
Let love be without dissimulation
Like as a father pitieth his children
So the Lord pitieth them that
fear Him.

Grand mee

GEO. SCHNEIDER, Pres't.

W. H. BRADLEY, Vice Pres't.

H. H. NASH, Cashier

The National Bank of Illinois.

Nephew

Chicago July 29th 1879.

Dear Aunt Lizzie:

You may perhaps remember something about the saying that "Still waters run deep", and also another very much like it relative to the "quiet pig", and will either of the above offer an excuse for my long silence to you? Hardly, but I have tried to content myself with sending you tender messages through other channels, until now my overcharged heart refuses to be comforted any way but the direct way, and so here am I.

You will rejoice with me
in the fact that I have once
more opened communication
with dear Mother, and tis
the old story of the Prodigal
return, as her letters to me
are filled with loving kindness
and I haven't any doubt of
her inclination to offer several
fatted Calves if the occasion required
it. Judging from the appearance
of Mother's letters no one could
suppose that she is even old
much more showing any
symptoms of decay, but she
seems to think the lamp has
been trimmed nearly the last
time, and that the oil is getting
low. I trust not, however, and hope
she may live many years yet
to gladden the hearts of her children
who all ought to love so good a

Mother. You have your ups & downs
I learn, dear Aunt, but don't
strike your colors or give up to
^{the} enemy - though he is a hard
fighter - and I believe you will
conquer. Gamboling on the
green is rather frolicsome
amusement for you now but
there may be health in it for
all that. The weather here so
far this summer has not been
good for people with unruly ^{stomach},
as mine has a war dance
^{often} enough to tell me so, but a little
hard coaxing from Mr. Peter Hyman
(I don't know how to spell the Podo business) puts
new life into the liveried servant,
and he attends to work quite well
for a while. That great organ ^{requires}
more blowing, or causes more
than even the great one in the
Boston Music Hall

Dear Mattie keeps up wonderfully
well though some days she will
do more than she should do
though we try to keep a little
check on her inclination to work
But what can a man do with
a woman's will; ah how they
do twist us round their little
finger and for me I rather
enjoy it. Sarah is full of life
and fun and lets sunshine into
our hearts every ^{day} of the week
and no family should be without
such a source of joyousness when
possible to so ornament their home.
It will be very very pleasant when
you are here again Aunt Lizzie
and I hope so much that you will
be well & strong so as to enjoy life a little.
I have a little young mother tucked
away out there somewhere - just hug &
kiss her a little for her orphan boy and
say that I love her still & bestow tender
regards upon Charles - accept my dear
Aunt my grateful love and believe
me always affectingly yours, John -

Sister Sarah
Boston

Boston Sep. 2. 1879.

My dear Hattie;

I thank you most
sincerely for your letter of Aug 25th.

Nothing would give more pleasure,
than a visit to your dear home; again
see your dear Mother, Mr. Hammond &
the dear William, your own darling girl;
the long, lost precious son & your own dear
self. What a weight of gratitude I owe!
& if the greatest kindness and affection
that ever were shown to any human being
can make me happy, I shall be so.

It is not possible for dear Sam to leave
his post of business, then are but two left.
Sam does the head work & Mr. Cowles
the out side. I said, if you will go I will.

His family are tired; hardly willing
to have him gone a night. I presume he
has answered your letter Hattie for it
deserved a good one. I do want to see
your precious Mother - how she has suffered.
I do hope she will remain better & have
the enjoyment of her family.

I hope Hattie your health is better.
I did not know you had been so sick.
You are an important spoke in the wheel
to keep things moving

Would it not be well
for your dear Mother to come this way?
How glad we should be to do something
to benefit her. I will write to her soon.
A Postal has just come in from Mr W.
saying the family will return tomorrow
morning from Hotel Wellesley, where
they have been for several weeks. Mammie
still keeps better. We have interesting &
amusing letters from the boys. How I
wish you could read them. How John

would laugh over them. I wish he could see them & some of their descriptions of the places & people they see. Fred. is 22 - feels his dignity somewhat. Frank is the balance-wheel - keeps watch over the younger boys who are full of humor & fun. Frank has chosen 'that good part which will not be taken from him'. He is a member of Dr. Webb's church.

Tell dear John I had a visit yesterday from Emma & my namesake Sarah Moody, now five years old. Sam's youngest, a darling little girl with a bright mind. Their Father teaches his little girls at two years. O! if his two boys could have lived. God's will be done.

Thus far I wrote dear Heather when Mary & little girls came home, the mother somewhat wearied - Mamie still coughs, is thin, but good spirits & a strong resolution, which gives courage she may outgrow her trouble.

Daisy Maud, is well & smart - loves Music & will excel if she continues the practice. Mrs. ^WWadley sends love to all & says she shall write. Mr. Wadley is well as ever & absorbed in his business. You ask, if I do not remember William Hammond & sister? I surely do. I have their Photographs in my book & often look at them - with many others - dear ones gone. Have you told your dear Mother that Caro' & I think Daisy looks like Sybil.

I hope & trust yr. Mother is keeping comfortable & able to enjoy the open air; & that your souls all prosper - that ~~you~~ you have often such times as Jacob had at Mahanaim.

I thank you dear Hattie for all your kind love & wishes but am too old to think of such a journey much as I long to see you all. My heart is often with you. Say to dear John I thank him for his last letter & will reply soon. 'The Lord feed you sweetly, as he feeds the flowers, by silent-drops of dew.' Aunt Sarah.

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Boston Col. Con. Sep.^r 19th / 49.

My dear sister Lizzie,

I was very sorry to leave town before writing to you, but was sent for, from Cambridge just as I was adjusting pen & paper. I am delighted to hear you are at home & in better health. I have been greatly pained to learn of your suffering & fondly hope the dear Lord may restore you to comfortable health, and enrich you with the unsearchable riches in Christ. I hope all your dear family are well & how can I be grateful enough for your great kindness to my dear, dear John. My heart is full of gratitude - dear Hattie has been so good to write to us &

my dear John. You can understand with what joy and thankfulness I learned he was in your family. So write to me dear Linnie & tell me of your health & visit at Colorado. From report it must be a fine healthy region. Friends & neighbours of Sam' and Amy (Mr. & Mrs. Cross) start for Colorado next month. Please tell John his brother Sam was here at tea last ev'g. Looking finely, and in good spirits.

You have heard I presume, Mary's four boys are in Europe - just now in Paris very much delighted. They start for home the 25th of this month & Father & Mother go to New York to meet them. They will have much to tell, that will be interesting. John & Caro' are still in New-Hampshire, after spending four weeks at the beach, Lynn. Caro' writes, we are at Eaton Grange. This is an old house built in 1770. and the windows, wood trimmings, doors etc. are just as they were then, although there has been

some alterations of walls & additions in the rear.
Out-of-doors, they have the old ^{1 printed text} iron kettle
that swung in the great fire-place, a
hundred years ago, painted red, & hung
by its chain to three poles, gypsy fashion.
These Caton's are a large family - cousins
of George & John. Another item of interest -
the great-grand Mother's name was
'Sarah Sawyer' the same of my own dear
Grandmother.

My visit with Anna was not long
this time. Her health very good - a pleasant
situation Main St. the Cars passing every
few minutes. I wish you could come & see us
all round. Marion is 9th in the Grammar-
school. Robert Loujoy just spelling 'Cat'.
& Willie Lee, grand ma's pet, just sweet as
he can be, two years old. Two little ones in Heaven.
Dear sister, Anna often reminds me of our
dear Mother Loujoy, her form & her loving
disposition, & her thousands of friends.
Her husband kind & indulgent always.

Sister Sarah

I must tell you of our dear little Mary¹¹ here, who has been so long a suffering child: a heart trouble which produced cough & difficult breathing. She is now recovering from a second attack: is very quick and bright & of good courage - expects to be well & we all hope & trust she may outgrow the trouble. Daisy Maud just nine this week, is going to make a good player on Piano: already plays duets with her Mother.

Miss Thompson of Princeton is just now with us for a few days; thinks of teaching Elocution in New York. She is a pleasing young Lady. How much I should like to see you, dear sister. I long to see you & all the family and a beloved & long mourned son one of the number. My heart is full of gratitude & love to every one who has shown him kindness. My love to Hattie who has been very kind in writing. I hope her health will be restored - she is ever so active & reliable & good - Give love to John, (a mother's love) to your kind Husband, dear William & Hattie's darling. Is her name Sarah? Many thanks for yr. kind wishes. My infirmity makes me timid & fearful: I am deaf & awkward - I can only go to visit my children, who are about me - will write John soon - Yr. sister Sarah