
Graham Mo May 4th 1902

My Dear Father

You are no doubt beginning to think before this, that I was not very hungry for "taters," or showed very little appreciation, by remaining quiet so long: But such was not the case, for they were highly appreciated, they were so much nicer than any we have had, I have enjoyed them baked so much. I will plant about half of them: Now I will finally thank you for them although I have been a little slow, yet my appreciation has been so great as if I had written the day they came: I know it would have been much more polite and genteel for me to have acknowledged receipt at once: Again I thank you for the, and sincerely hope you will overlook the delay of duty on my part. We have been quite busy planting corn the last two weeks, will get through this week if the weather is favorable. We had a very nice rain Thursday, which helped the grass very much: I am in hopes the drought is broken: We have had it quite dry here this spring the hay crop will be short, oats and wheat are very backward and stock water has been getting short. The ground is in fine condition for working. I have not sold my hogs yet, but will soon.

I received a telegram from Prof Roberts a week ago today, stating Cousin Sallie [*Sarah, Luke and Charlotte's daughter*] had died at Neosho [*a town in southwest Missouri*] and would be buried in Parris [*Paris*] Tuesday. I went down Monday night and came back Tuesday night and saw Aunt Linda [*Malinda, Uncle Louis' widow*], Rena [*Cyrene, daughter of Aunt Sarah Louise*], George, Dr. Vaughn [*Oliver, husband of cousin Lillie Gex*]. Uncle L [*Luke*] and Aunt Charlotte were grief stricken and took her death very hard. Poor Cousin Roberts noble high minded man was almost prostrated with grief and felt the loss of Cousin Sallie keenly. He showed his gratitude for the love and respect I had shown him and his beloved little wife: I was glad I went. Aunt C [*Charlotte*] and Uncle L [*Luke*] will locate in Parris [*Paris*]. Prof Roberts has no plans for the future so far. I enclose one of the funeral notices.

We are all well except Willie he has not been very well for several weeks. John and Fan [*Francis*], Lutie, John [*Anthony*] and Loretta are well. Love to Lulie, Ollie, Paul and Will also Ed and Ike. Tell Will to write and tell me what all you are doing: For the present will close Now believe me to be as ever your loving and devoted son

RBGex

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