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July 3, 1897



My Dear Cousin Princy and Loulie

I received your letters yesterday and must say I feel ashamed that I have not written to you before now – but I have had so many thigs to take my time. Jimmie's sickness and Florian over run with work and all kinds of worries and Georgie left right in the midst of it all. We didn't have any falling out – she just got tired and wanted a change – and I think she will get it this hot weather in Cincinnati. I have the girl that slept here with Georgie and cooked for Jane Pulliam she left them sometime before Georgie left here. She had a very good idea of how to do things from helping mornings and evenings she tried to make herself useful to pay for having a nice place to sleep but she don't stay here at night now said it was too lonesome after Georgie left. She does my work very well – that is cleaning and cooking. I have the washing done away from home.

I want to see you all very much but the weather is too hot to think of leaving time now. I guess we will have to give up our annual trip to Minnesota on account of Jimmie's sickness – he is better than he was but far from him being well – he don't seem to take any interest in anything seldom goes to the store and when he does he just looks around awhile and leaves. He complains of his head hurting him and can't sleep much. Florian feels very uneasy about him. We take him a drive every evening and he enjoys it. He don't like to talk much. Lilly is not feeling well but Sallie [James' wife?] is looking well and is much better than usual. I think Loulie might come up sometime and see us – of course I don't expect you this hot weather. Yes I know you miss your dear boy. I think of him so often and it is so bad for you to be without him – but "God" knows best -

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