

Wheatland  
Near Lancaster  
July 3, 1881

My dear Mary,

I have received your two welcome letters, & you know we were all glad to hear good news of you, & of your dear Papa. The white puddings came safely. Many thanks. I have enjoyed them, & have wished for you, then, & at all times. Exactly how does your mother have them cooked? None of these uneducated people here, like them-so I have them all to myself. I think if I had the man's name and address, I might suggest some improvements. They are not quite so highly seasoned as we used to have them. Mr. Johnston declares I only think them good because I eat them when I was young!! but it is not so - they are delicious. Harry Morris tried to like them, because you sent them- but he gave it up, & so did little Harry, and big Harry. We all miss you very much, & talk of you constantly, & hope that your father will soon be well, & that we can have you back again. Harry seems to be slowly, but steadily improving. He & Harry Morris are out all day in the goat wagon etc., & he never complains of feeling tired. DaCosta is coming up this week, & I hope we may then have great improvement to report. The weather is perfect. We have had no heat, & I have wished that you and your good mother could have been here instead of suffering with the heat as you seem to have done. They have all gone to Church this morning, like good people. There was no early Church, & I could not summon up courage for the late one. Mr. Chan Black spent a day with us this week, & reported all blooming at Willow Bridges & Brockie [?]. Micha[el] continues his Irish exploits. The last thing was more wonderful than anything before & between him and Corbett never will be straightened out. Corbett came up with some horses & when he was returning to town I thought I would send some fruit by him. I ordered & saw a basket of cherries picked & covered & arranged nicely for Maggie Johnston & a large basket of currants & cherries for Mary & Bessie. Those I saw. I then ordered a basket of cherries for the housekeeper Carrie. I thought I saw them all off in the carriage- but lo & behold the next morning I found Maggie's & Carrie's baskets empty in the little dining room. As I had written to them all about their baskets- etc I waited to see what Corbett had done but that "no fellow can find out." Joe wrote thanking us "for the currants." Mary wrote saying the currants came to her (five hours after they were picked) so mashed & mussed that she could do nothing with them. Of the cherries we have heard nothing & we can understand nothing from Michael!!! Don't think of the wrapper until the autumn or until your return- that will be plenty of time. Harry is now as intent upon the papers & news of the President's assassination as he was about "Harper's Young People." He wants to see Louise & Charley & wishes he ever with them "on top of the cherry tree." He expects to have another goat before long. The sulky is put in the garret since the arrival of the new wagon. I am sorry to say that after all your trouble the samples of linen etc never reached me. I will send a



postal to Miss Birchfield telling her they have failed to come. I agree with you in thinking the Markey [?] a fizzle, & think it would be a good rule never to buy anything in that way. I received your \$1 all right. Nails are difficult to cultivate. They are one day & then are not in several days. I do not remember Mrs. Hampton at Bedford or anywhere, but I think I have forgotten everything lately. We have a lovely bed of geraniums & coleus on the mound where the old stump used to be: I must stop. All send love, & we must earnestly hope your father is better & will under no circumstances think of business before the autumn. Don't forget the quiet of Wheatland & the good it will do him. Henry & all of us say come back as soon as possible. Let us hear all about your dear father. We are most anxious to know about him. Love to your mother. All the Harrys send you bushels of love, & I am

Always affectionately

H L J.

You are a most proper little traveller [sic] in spite of the handsome New Yorkers!

