

Watch Hill, 10 July 1879

My dear wife,

I received your card of 9th this morning.

I sent you a card yesterday rather brief and not in very poor spirits. Day before yesterday I received from [?] Dody's semi-annual report & at the end of it Mr. President Garrett the enclosed (copy) telling me no effect that the poor boy was dismissed as [??] his [?] that the faculty had decided the he "could not return" next year. Of course I have feared this [?] from his previous experience at St. Stephens – still it has been a great blow to me – for besides the mortification of the thing – it shows that Dody has neither the brains nor the industry to ever become a professional man – & it is doubtful after his dismissal from St. Johns is all so strange & contrary to my expectations. I begin to fear that I must regard him as I would an imbecile or crippled son to be cared for as an unfortunate with little to be hoped for or expected. It is my duty of course to care for him just as I would if he were an imbecile or deformed child & perhaps pity him & try to excuse his imperfections. I trust God will guide me in doing what is best for him & doing my while duty to him, since he is my son. What do you think of it all – you have much good practical common sense & I would like to hear your opinion.

Robby & the baby are very well & give very little trouble & Ellen – get along nicely & takes them both to table with her. I feat she is getting lonesome but I tell her when I tell her when you come she will like it. Try & send her some news of her baby as she has not heard a word.

There are about 120 people in the house & many children. They [are]

[Written horizontally across page 3 ,does not go in order]

Whether I can get him in any other school. I have written to his aunt asking her advice & wishes in the future disposal of him. If she desires him to go to school I suppose I might try to get him in the Steward School at Garden City & in that event it seems as if there was no alternative but for us to go to housekeeping there in the Fall. I have suggested to Mrs. Magruder the trial of the Drug business. Dody seems stoical & [?] about it all as I have not even [?] myself very agreeable to him [?] – in fact I have sent him off from all boating & yachting & treat him very coldly. I have not a very gay time as you can imagine or I have not felt like making acquaintances & say much to any body [sic] – in fact have been very wretched as the sight of the poor boy irritates & worries me all the time. He promised so well as a boy, but his [sic] seems a case of arrested mental development -- even physical as he has grown painfully coarse & ugly –



[continued on fourth page]

nice people & several very fine musicians among them but not much beauty.

I fear Schell had a disappointment this noon & when I reminded him that our agreement was that he was to feed himself – (I have been doing it since we left SI) or he might not stay – I told him to ask his father’s advice – He and brother are good industrious boys but great eaters & would cost me \$20 a month to feed. If they go I will try to get a good man here & perhaps at no greater expense [?] experienced.

Who is it [Loisy ?] [Brauck ?] – Miss “Ive” or who? I have not yet read the AU S Document from you or callers from the office.

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I am glad Mr. Devis has sent you some money – keep it for the deal –

Today it is cool again 70 at 3 P M – yesterday (Wednesday) with a north west wind it was 85 – the only day over 71 since I left New York.

With love to Aunt Sydney, Dr. Anderson, & Frank & kisses for Willie & Junior.

Your loving husband

JBH

[copy of letter of President Garrett]

“Failed in all studies except French and Natural History and in recitations in Nat. Hist. He has an excess of demerits. I am requested by the Faculty to say that under the rules he cannot return. Many of these demerits assigned for wilful [sic] from recitations & College duties were during the last months of the ~~term~~ session. He has certain books from the Library still out, which have not been returned – Regretting that he has not done better. Yours very truly

I U Garrett.

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