

[?] House

Sunday evening

My dear wife,

I received your postal of Friday morning on Tuesday afternoon where seated [faded] trees with Miss Irving & Miss Ives & we had just [three words faded] I was so [several words faded] that you [several words faded] all right [several words faded] [two lines faded] I took dinner at the Rockwell House & the yacht having started for Caldwell. I took a stroll around [?] Falls. The first thing I came across was that pretty double brownstone house we both noticed, on inquiry I learned that it belonged to a [widow?] Wing, who dwells at the Rockwell, that it is rented furnished, stable and all for [?]. I should say that widows [riches] are "taking Wing." I then dropped in at a [pension ?] store & quote their prices for Aunt Siddy['s amusement. But roast beef 12¢, water 14¢ in Summer. Porterhouse steak, 16¢ [?] 18 Summer, Muller chops 16¢, potatoes ordinarily 50¢ a bushel. Best butter now 20¢ [several words faded], Eggs 15¢ a dozen [several words faded]. Now I [several words faded or missing] Falls too, as [several words faded] Falls of the Hudson (scenes of part of the last of the Mohicans where Cora and Alice were hidden in the cave) and a short wait the stage took me off at 4.15 for Caldwell. On arriving I felt a spiteful joy in telling the stage driver, in sight of the officers, porters at the [?] to take me to the Lake House & seeing how they looked as they lost their prey to [Tuck ?] the landlord of Lake House. I found to be an old acquaintance as he married the daughter of [Sherill ?] the original proprietor of the Lake George host. He now owns the house or his wife rather does. He was quite cordial & gave me his best room & is very anxious to have us come there. He offered me two good [?] rooms & one for Dody & take our party for \$48 a week. I told him I wanted to think of it. [several words faded] I got there next morning. I got some assistance & in 3 hours had the Elf rigged & ready to sail & when Dody arrived at 11 1/2 the [Gaureskie ?] we started & got to Bolton at dinner time. At the Lake House they keep a first mate's table. Now for the other news. I lay down after dinner yesterday not feeling well, but feel pretty well today & hope I can with exercise and outdoor life be able to [report ?] myself all night. The Lake looks as pretty as ever & I see no changes to report of any kind. Both the [Mohican?] and the Bolton House are entirely engaged & not a room to be had & Dody & I are occupying a room on the first floor of the main building. There are now 36 [?] the house & by the 10th [?] expects every room to be full. I think there is no hope of getting a good room in Aug at other hotels as they are doing [?] says replying to applications, unable to give any. I will see Mrs. [Wilson] at the cottage in a day or so & tell you what she says. It is all the more [?] able as all the watering places seem to be indisposed this [several words faded] a surprise to hear that all the Warrens are coming by the 15th and all the [Stevensons ?] are expected this week & that they engaged the nice cottage [?] April – Mrs. De Dauveville comes tomorrow. Miss Stiles

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& niece are here, also the [Herrelydon ?] & the Purdy. The new people I [don't know ?] yet – there are lots of babies & children or little boys as Dody [?] calls them. He is doing very well & getting too fat & his face still disfigured by sores tho' not quite so much. It has been raining with much thunder & lightening ever since I got to L. George; just the reverse of last [?] drought. The Schwedlers – [words missing] at Deerstein. Old Mr. [words missing] & son, wife, & dear [many words missing] They went off fish [several words missing or illegible].

I do miss you my dear wife so very, very much & the dear little “Chillies” & I [words missing] strange not to find you [words missing] when I there & no [words missing] the presence of the little dear [words missing] usual [?] our [?] – nor [or not] [word missing] the familiar the homely diaper hanging up somewhere. I shall look to [receive ?] the pictures of [dear ?]. I am [words faded] anxiously & do hope they do [words faded].

Dodie [several words missing] pleasant [many words missing] his French and addition lessons tomorrow though I [didn't ?] expect to accomplish very much. Gull Island looks so green after the rain. Recluse was sold for \$5000. [Bouvier ?] says he could easily [?] twice engaged [words missing] [?] of his rooms if [words missing]. After all Gull Island may [?] from the “poor [persons ?] we seem to be expecting. I called on Miss [Threats ?] this evening – she -- as [?] she inquired with much interest after you and little Robert Edward. I only staid [sic] a few minutes, as there were other [words missing]

Now, my [words missing] I must close this long letter [words missing] to hear from you tomorrow. [words missing] send you either a postal or letter almost every day. Highest ther [sic] today is 72°. Give my love to Aunt S [word missing] father and a billion dear kisses [words missing] children & regards to [words missing].

Goodbye [words missing] Loulia & believe me your ever loving husband

JBH

PS / Where [many words faded] about Robert. I am sure she would appreciate it.

PS / How about the Richmond Co Gazette. [sic]

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