

Devon

Nov 25, 1902

My dear father

You are so kind to trouble as you evidently are doing to get the tickets for the great game.

Yes dear, I should like very much to have them but we cannot get any here at all. If you cannot secure them do not worry for me that would be a very small disappointment not to see the game there are so many grave matters in my life to face that such little affairs seem as nothing to me. But I should be most delighted to go for I believe that a certain amount of social effort is necessary to keep [?] happy & bright. If you do have the tickets – send them here at Devon as we shall remain sometime longer in the country- We all love it.

Let me know when I can see you in Devon when you come over to the wedding. I received the cards for ceremony and reception both – but I do not believe I will go. Jessie is so impossible to manage- When you live in the same place write her and she has the access to your house. I have suffered once from the [?] & now that we have drifted apart I think it much best that I do not open up our intercourse again. Dont [sic] you? I shall send my card-

My dear I do appreciate so much the dear letter you wrote me and have been trying to find time to really answer it. – So much of my time is spent with my father who is such an invalid and then I do a good deal socially -- tis so pleasant the society in Philadelphia.

Now as to Jack's future- I quite agree with you as to the advisability of not starting in practice in too large a place. The successful physicians that I know in Philadelphia the ones of Jack's age have been pegging away at the same work ever since they graduated- They have done hospital work & all the disagreeables- have made themselves solid with older men until today many of them are conspicuous and in the past 5 or 6 years feel that they may count themselves as successful physicians – and are just now becoming rich.

My desires are very modest indeed I am willing to go anywhere in the country or small town or country just so I wont [sic] be very far from Papa or Lily—for I must be within easy reach of them if possible. Of course I do not mean that I would allow that to stand in Jack's way of success – if he found any work anywhere. I should go with him – but I dread the competition

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of a big city. I want a quiet peaceful life where Jack will not be on such a strain. What I most would love would be to secure a position a Professorship in some College & let Jack have practice in a country place near the college. Well so much for my ideas about the practice. My real desire is to keep Jack in the army in some way, for I tell you dear, I am very much afraid that our boy will find the quiet of civil life most irksome. I do not believe he will have the patience to sit & wait hours –days—weeks—months & years for a practice to come to him. If he only had a salaried position and the active life of the army he also loves the devotional life of the army. So I think we must make every effort to secure him some place under the Government.

I appreciate all you say so much and with your valuable help I believe we could succeed but if you go South we will be helpless – there would be no use our going to Annapolis if you were not there! Please do not go without seeing Jack. Just when he will arrive here we cannot say yet. I assume he will telegraph me as soon as he reaches S. F. & I shall notify you.

I am anxious to see you and have a talk with you.

You must advise Jack and me dear father and help us to arrange our future as best we may.

Thank you for your letters and your good news & interest in us.

Believe me most affectionately

Alice Hoyt Henry

Would you like to write Jack at S. F. [sic] I send you his address which he gave me last spring when he was going out. I have sent my letters & Welcome Home to our boy – to the following address

Major Joseph T. Henry  
C/o Chief Surgeon  
Department of California  
San Francisco  
California.

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