

Oxford Friday 6 Aug

Dearest Lulie,

Think of my writing you at 6 o'clock [sic] in the morning!! I duly received your most welcome letter on my return yesterday from the city & was glad to hear that you & dear baby were well & that you had enjoyed your ride in [?] in the morning.

I am pushing the yacht ahead pretty fast & I think she can be started for Staten Island on Tuesday but hardly before so, so I fear I shall not have the pleasure of seeing you darling before that day or Wednesday. I think she will be everything wonderful in speed. – tho [sic] I may be agreeably less than predicted. Thus far, they have all seemed willing to do what they can to satisfy me which is better than I expected.

Uncle seems pretty well – Aunt is at Lodi's country place Harleysville as I have not seen her – cousin Alice seems about the same & looks their state – all the rest are well. They all regret that I did not bring you and baby.

I expect to have dear Dody here tomorrow to stay with me until Monday morning. I spend all day at the yacht in Phila & have to leave here at 7 ½ on the stage & get back at 6 in the evening & generally tired. Last night there was some company & I can hardly keep my eyes open – in fact I think I had a wink or two of sleep on the sly.

I hope Frank told Jas Davis of her wish to be at his wedding but of my absence in Philadelphia. I'm safe home [words faded] is [words faded] wonderfully & [words faded] leave one before [words faded].

I have not yet heard from Mr. Parker, but I wrote to him again today after my arrival. I suppose there will be a letter from Mr. Magruder today or tomorrow – I hope you will gratify your curiosity by reading it before sending it on to me.

The birds are all in full song around the house at this hour & the morning mists are still hanging in the fields.

I miss you every so much my darling Lulie & shall be so glad to have you & dear baby again soon.

Give my best love to Aunt Sidney & regards to all.

Yours lovingly

J Buck Henry

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