

Garden City August 22nd 1881

My dear Husband

[First nine lines extremely water damaged] – alarming must have been [? ?] uncomfortable to find after your experience on the Narragansett. I hope you were fortunate enough to have pleasant weather for your trip in Scotland and that you enjoyed it as much as you expected.

You will have received before this reaches you my letter which I sent by last Saturday's steamer, a copy to Paris and one to Geneva. As I told you in that I was so very sorry to have to write you anything that would worry you, but there seemed nothing else to do. Cousin William thought you should know that John Ross [next eight lines extremely water damaged] of your advice. I feel as if I would give anything if I could only hear that he would not arrive in New York for a month or six weeks, when you would be here to help and advise me. I still have a faint hope that something may have prevented their getting off in that steamer. I had a note from Cameron & Co. saying that they had drafts drawn on for [?] £23 and some shillings, but I wrote that I would have to communicate with you and Frank before doing anything. Cousin W. said he would send me as much money as I wanted so it will be enough to pay the drafts now, but the question is now how to repay him. It will be pretty hard [five lines extremely water damaged] which had been placed on [?]. He said it was impossible for Pa to have him make [?] with any less expenditure.

I have not a great deal of news to tell you so I am afraid I must send you a stupid letter. We are all getting on about as usual and are well. Robby has had quite a sick turn since I last wrote to you, but seems quite well today though I am keeping him as quiet as possible. Saturday evening about nine o'clock he was taken with vomiting and purging and kept it up so bad I felt quite uneasy. When Joe came in about ten I got him to see what he thought. He said it was nothing. [ten lines extremely water damaged] a pair of night drawers I could find in his passages ran from him just like water. The Dr. ordered [?] and gave him some medicine which seemed to stop the vomiting and after an hour or so he got better. Yesterday morning he seemed much better and had but little return of his troubles during the day. He slept most of the time either in his bed or on my lap. Today he seems all right, it might have been from cold. We had no corn or no fruit on Saturday. Of course I had to sit- oh all night so I did not get to church yesterday as I had hoped I would.

mss1996_470_1881_Louisa_Anderson_to_JBH



Joe seems to like his doctors at the hospital [six lines extremely water damaged] The last time Willie [?] was here I kept a pretty sharp lookout on him and spoke to him two or three times when I found him putting James up to mischief. So I think he prefers playing when he has more freedom. At last I have got a girl, but only one. She came last Friday. She takes care of the children and does the chambers. I was writing only for the day after you went away and all that time I had only the cook and wet nurse and she is not so much fond of the other children. I hoped to have a waitress today but she didn't come this morning perhaps she may this afternoon. The one I have seemed rather green at first, but she [half a line extremely water damaged] good natured and she has great patience with the children and [four lines extremely water damaged] The baby is better I think than when you went away [most of line extremely water damaged] are in good order and he doesn't [most of line extremely water damaged] wants to nurse all the time. Willie and James often talk about you and wonder where you are. Willie and Sydney have frequent battles and each resort to their favorite weapons, nails and teeth. Jamie had a very bad cold and has for some days after you left and I felt quite worried but he is pretty much [over?] it now and is very well. I did not say much about it in my first letter for I didn't want to worry you. Don't you think by this time I should see something of the Tenneburgs? I haven't seen her mentioned in the papers.

I saw [most of line extremely water damaged] the Greenfields [six lines extremely water damaged] They stayed at Richfield [rest of line extremely water damaged] longer than expected and [rest of line extremely water damaged] much later in getting to Salem now they do not expect to return to New York before Sept. 13th at the earliest and I doubt if they will feel like going away again after it gets to be so late in the season. I had very hoped [three words unreadable] be here before Pa's arrival and wrote to Mrs. Proudfoot about it.

I suppose you [three words unreadable] if the President from day to day. Just now there seems hope for him again.

I am quite anxious to hear the result of your investigations about prices and so on, and accounts [ten lines extremely water damaged] and as you may [?] is not much pleased with the invitation. I hope though they won't last many days. I met Mrs. Buchanan at Poole's. She said they had a good many last Summer but as they were beginning it late they thought it would not last long [? ?] the middle of August tolerably early.

mss1996_470_1881_Louisa_Anderson_to_JBH



Then came a letter for you a few days ago from Mr.[Kreakis?] and as you told me, I opened it, there was nothing special it. He is at Haddenfield New Jersey where he was last year teaching school and expects to remain there next year with the same [nine lines extremely water damaged with parts missing]

I had a letter from Mrs. Proudfoot this morning and she sent me her letter to Pa it is well expressed [? ?] and had in some ways. She [?] with much pleasure of seeing [two words unreadable] himself very affectionately. Mrs. Proudfoot says she thinks it [four words unreadable] if he found there was [four words unreadable] he could not come here. She says she fully realized the [two words unreadable] thinks there is nothing to be done but today I will be glad to have him come here until he can decide upon his future movements trusting in God that all will be well. He says in his letter “I can hardly [?] that I [?] [?] look [?] dear on Ireland [?] in many [ten lines unreadable with parts missing] be able to react quietly [?] [?]. His mind is not affected in a way I think to prevent his feeling keenly all his disappointments. I shall write to him in London he says his address will be at the Lang [?] if he does not stay there he [four words unreadable] letters.

Write whenever you can, though I know it must difficult [sic] for you when you are travelling so quickly so I will not mind if my letters are not as long as I should like, but I look forward and am sure in knowing that you are [?] [?] enjoying yourself all [?] [?]. If the [most of line unreadable] and have a [line unreadable].

[Louisa Anderson]

