

[Printed letterhead]

THE JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL

Winford H. Smith, M. D., Director

[Seven other physicians listed]

July 19, 1929

Mrs. A. K. Hostetter  
10 South Queen Street  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Dear Mrs. Hostetter:

I am sending you under separate cover a booklet called "The Lives of Children", [sic] which will explain to you the purpose of the Harriet Lane Home and tell you something about how it functions. The Home was erected by the Trustees of the fund which was left by Harriet Lane Johnston to found a home for invalid children as a memorial to her deceased husband and issue. By special arrangement with the Johns Hopkins Hospital and University, this home was erected on land furnished by Johns Hopkins Hospital within its own enclosure and was and is used as the hospital for the children's department of the Johns Hopkins Hospital and University. The University furnishes medical staff for the home and the hospital furnishes nursing force, social service group and other employees. The Home, having its own endowment, is run as a separate institution carrying an account with the Johns Hopkins Hospital of which it is, nevertheless, an integral part, the Johns Hopkins Hospital having the option of purchasing the building erected by the trustees of the fund left by Harriet Lane Johnston at any time it so desires.

The only member of the Lane or Johnston families now on the board of trustees is Mr. Graham Bowdoin, who is related through marriage to the Johnston family. I suppose you are aware that during the American Civil War, a small gun boat was in commission in the United States Navy called the Harriet Lane, after the lady in whom you are interested. I believe it saw service in blockading some of the Louisiana ports. Further information about this vessel could be obtained, of course, from the records of the Navy Department. The name Harriet Lane, used by sailors in the British Navy to designate salt beef, has nothing to do with Harriet Lane Johnston.

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If I can be of any further service to you in the preparation of your paper, I shall be only too happy to furnish you with any information that you may desire.

We are forwarding to you, also, a copy of the inscription on Harriet Lane Johnston's tombstone.

I am enclosing herewith a newspaper clipping which was given me by Miss Bond of our Social Service Department. I may be of interest to you.

I have the honor to be,

my dear madam,

Your most obedient servant,

P. G. Shipley

PGS:R

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