



San Francisco Cal. 12.25.87.

1611 Howard St.

My dear Lou,

I hope you are having a
Merry Christmas and that the
children are enjoying the day. A
quiet day for me and an
unpleasant one as I am unable
to send any gifts home not
having any money to spare. It
is more than two weeks since
I wrote to you and two weeks
today that I wrote to mother.

I have been busily engaged for
more than a week putting
down carpets for Anna. Had
all the planning and sewing
to do alone and as the
carpets were very dusty I

gave up everything else until
all were done. Your P. L. of
the 1st was duly received. I
was glad to get even a few
words for at that time I was
quite anxious about the children.
I hope they are well and that
today is cloudless. Photo of
Francis received. I think I
told you in my last. Has
been much admired. Your
letter of the 5th duly received.
A sad one with hardly any
pleasant news. "The days are
dark and dreary". You need
not worry when you do not
receive letters from me
regularly as you will
always find in my case
"no news is good news".
If I was sick some one would

write for me. When away I
don't very often find it con-
venient to write as there is
so much demand on our
time when visiting for only
a few days. So Addie has
again been very sick and is
improving. I send yet a
while longer. Am sure they
must all feel very grateful.

It seems our dear little man
inherits my trouble, & later on
a plain diet is the best for
him. Presumably he will be liable
to the same trouble when ever
he takes cold or is over tired
from play, or has too much
excitement. Mr. Hathaway has
certainly been very kind to
Bonnie - she is very fortunate
in having so nice a situation.

I expect to remain in Cal.,
but just when permanently
I cannot tell at present. I
would be glad if I could
get settled so as to have
you and the children with
me. I can only say the
world was not made in a
minute and a change of
this kind requires time. I
presume mother will write
soon and tell me about the
house. John I hope will write
to me before long and let
me know about the store as
I am very anxious to know
how well they are getting
on and if business is
improving. I fear everything
is going wrong. If so it
seems to me it would be
as well to tell me as to
keep me in ignorance of the

true condition and cause me to
 imagine things worse than they
 are. I understood that Mr
 Read had talked of painting
 the interior of the store but
 had not before heard it had
 been done. I am surprised
 to learn that the store has
 been enlarged by the removal
 of the wall or partition at
 end of store - a much
 needed improvement. I wish
 you would ask John if I
 owe him a letter? I am
 not aware that I do. You
 may think so and perhaps
 that is the reason I do not
 hear from him. Don't expect
 to trouble Mr Low as I
 never liked him very well.
 I don't think you need feel

anxious about me for being
in San Francisco as I don't
find the climate so very
trying. It requires a year
to get acclimated though.
So do what you can to keep
the children well is about
all you can do. I think Dr.
Dorwin is right in saying the
children do not get enough
oxygen in a house with
so many grown people. I
have always felt so - but
it must be for a while
longer. As far as I am
concerned I don't care if
the books and stands are
all put away as long as
they are put where they will
not get damaged. You
were no doubt having a
dark day on the 5th - I

hope you found that "behind
the cloud was the sun still
shining" Has Mrs C. Davis
forced Cairn away from home
for a change at last? I
hope she will remain a long
time as she no doubt is
in need of a change. I
called on Chas. Flagg the day
he received Aunt Ann Maria's
letter telling him of the tran-
sition of Mr Thomas Davis
to the higher life. How
sad it is for Mrs Dr.
Bouchet to be so far away
from all her relatives while
being prepared for her transi-
tion to the higher life through
so severe a trial as cancer
in the throat. You see by
this last statement that your

letter of the 11th was duly
received - received with
pleasure. So Miss Mary G.
invited you all down for
last eve - I wonder how
many went. Tell Bert I
am willing to have my
hair stand on end if he
will only write and let me
know the truth about the
house and store. The more
you write about the store
the more anxious I become.

Our dear little Lawrence and
Ruthie - how much I wish
I could have sent them all
they asked for (and more too)
in their little letter to Santa
Claus. The rest of the
Adams family arrived the
13th - have but just got
settled. I cannot tell what

Heiram intends to do - perhaps
he may go to work in the
car shops. I expect to remain
in S. C. for a time, will have
headquarters here. I am not
sure just what my next
move will be. I have been
offered two positions, have
them under consideration but
cannot tell if I accept
either as something better
may be found before I
accept or decline either of
them. If the children only
have a few gifts and a
pleasant Christmas I shall
feel grateful as I am
unable to buy them anything.
Your mother had rather a
sad experience with her
new boarder. I hope she

prospects at #12 are bright.
Am glad Alice is doing
well - she is quite right
in remaining firm as to her
price for teaching. What is it?
A. Givins Ann will answer if
you like it. Does your mother
like it? The photo. of
Lawrence and Ruth mailed
on the 16th duly received -
received with great pleasure.
How tall our dear little
man has grown and our
dear little Ruth too. I
hope they will be spared to
us for many, many years,
these dear little ones. With
love and a Merry Christmas
to all and much love
for mamma, Lawrence
Ruth and Frances I am
Your husband Will.