

1130  
Envelope: Mr. Rufus M. Jones  
Friend's School  
Providence R. Island

Postmark: Newark N.J.  
April 9 PM

Newark April 9th '88

My dear Rufus

Thy letter came to me on Friday was, as all thy letters are, very gladly received, not only because it assured me of thy safe arrival but because I missed thy personal presence so much and was hungry to see anything that came from thee.

It is a lovely bright day, and we have enjoyed it very much at home. It is the conference season in the M.E. churches and St. Paul's new pastor has not arrived, so we did not go this morning, but we are going to evening service elsewhere. We have been reading together and having a cosy quiet time. It is the first visit that I ever made here without "Monday morning" and all its dreadful claims and possibilities hanging like the fabled sword over me. Nothing has happened to mar our pleasure, and I am so thankful, for there were many chances, in the feeble state of both Grandmothers that I might be called home.

After leaving thee I went directly to Macy's on 14th St. and there in the almost crushing crowd near the "historic soda water fountain" I found patient cousin Em. She had been standing there in that whirl, since three o'clock. We made a few hasty purchases, then went home to Newark, and found Cousin Susan, and a nice supper waiting us.

The next day was so bright, and all seemed so propitious that we went into N.Y. for a day of shopping. The samples were a great assistance to us, they helped us to approximate, and we were not so at the mercy of plausible shop keepers. I did not follow my programme in every particular, but I am thoroughly satisfied with my purchases, and I have gotten them upon the whole, for less than I anticipated. I got the white silk, and the crape and they are beautiful.

We had great fun, in our discussions of ways and means in our committee of two. I know that thou will like my trousseau for all is nice and not at all flashy and pronounced, then with the valuable and desirable addition of the remodeled (sic) "bone of contention", how complete all will be.

I am hoping that thy enterprise in the clothing line will be as successful. I hope Rufus that thou will send to Europe for them, for the good quality is so assured, by those thou already has gooten, and it is such a relief to have things good.

On Thursday it rained copiously, and thundered very hard, we staid in all day, and I accomplished a nice

bit of sewing. Miss Smith was invited to a large reception on Friday, so we did not go for any more shopping bouts, but in the evening we read Dr. John Lord's lectures. One on Savonarola is so good. Miss Smith has so many choice books. She has read me an essay of her own, read before the "Bryant Society" on the "Women of Shakespeare" which is a good and very bright effort.

I am interested in looking up with her Queries on the history of the Medieval ages. I am also doing a little reading in Holme's new book, "Our Hundred days in Europe". Last night we were invited out to tea, and had a delightful time at the Rosse's. We were invited to dinner today, but found just in time that the family had the measles, and of course at the present crisis in my affairs, it would not do for me to expose myself, and the other children to the disease.

I shall if nothing happens to prevent go to Brooklyn tomorrow, and then go on up to Pokeepsie on Wednesday and home on Thursday. When I think of all that is to be done in twelve weeks, I am almost overwhelmed, but I shall try and keep a brave heart. How nice it must be for men to have so little to do, on such important occasions. Their hard lines come after I presume when all these discussions about material and manner of making, mean disbursement.

It seems now, that even thy munificent allowance of \$3.00 will not be needed, but there is no certainty, thou may be bankrupt before the first anniversary.

Now I will tell thee about the result of our calander (sic) research and study. School here will close on Fruday June 27th. The Smiths will go to Ardonia in this way. Cousin Susan will go about a week before, to give her kindly aid to preparations. Cousin Em will go on Saturday and as Monday is not a desirable day, everything points to Tuesday the 3rd as the time if it meets thy approval. If not let me know, very soon, so that I need not perfect any arrangements.

Miss Smith hopes that thou will go up on the Powell on Sat., and I hope so to, for I want thee to know them better and appreciate their many excellent qualities. They could not feel more interest in any marriage, even their own, than they do in ours, and they try in every way to make me feel that thou art included in it all, their plans and hopes that all will be choice, and beautiful.

We have talked and planned and tried to settle so many things, for it comes across us with great force, that there is but little time.

I hope that thy term has opened pleasantly, and that thou will not think of overworking. I miss thee very much, and thy libel on Ardonia air. The Smiths append their regards and best wishes. I have a most wretched pen as thou must perceive. With much love and all good wishes, Thy Sallie

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Her Rufus W. Jones  
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