

"851" Acc. 1211

Feb. 10th 1916

Dearest Lois,

A beautiful day which after so much blizzard weather we much appreciate Johnny is gazing & gurgling in the next room. He certainly is a charming little fellow & I can just see him a little further on, dashing into every attractive mischief. The way he strives to have matters order his limbs & body & make them do his will, is most instructive, you can just notice his daily gain, in that how he can grasp more surely & raise himself better. Alice Kessel was charmed with him. We expected Evelyn yesterday - but she did not come. Dr. Shepherd told Clare he was coming up to see him - some day soon, in the morning, which is when he passes over here. Poor man he can only see with one eye now - & the sight is fading from the other - as it is cataract he has hope he may recover it later - but it is a great affliction. We are glad to hear that you

hope soon to get off & we will
very gladly welcome you. in
deed your bed is already
made up -

We are still looking
for a nurse - heard of two quite
likely ones, but Sherbrooke was
too remote for them - are in-
vestigating a third - I have
thought over the whole matter
in detail - & do not think you
sh^d make any definite ar-
rangement - either Emily, sh^d
might do for Alice, if you were
prepared to do as Clara does &
note yourself to baby - but I do
not think this wise, & as a
young & small girl is quite
inefficient to manage two - it
w^d be a risk too great to run
to have a heavy active young
baby - in charge of a girl so
immature as Emily - when a
little active Alice is about &
might require all her strength
at any minute - you w^d
risk Johnny being held back
or meeting with some mishap
Indeed, the one who needs your
most is Alice - to whom your
companionship now is most
important - This is the time you
sh^d teach her to be aware of the
Father in heaven - to recognize
Him as the giver & maker of things

& the ever ready help in trouble
as well as the Holy One who
abhors all evil - If you
accomplish this - the child
will never quite lose the
impression - whatever comes
later - I see with concern
how many of our younger
writers & thinkers, let alone
young & heedless pleasure
seekers, seem totally unaware
of any "Holy One" - or of any
spiritual connection with
or recourse in the great-
Father of all - & it makes a
terrible thick darkness over
them, which makes them was-
shes the little sparkles of their
own minds, as if they were
real light.

But this is going on too
far - I sincerely hope that we
will find the right person
to relieve you - & give you
enough freedom to rule
your household well & be
a support to your hard
driven husband.

You do not know till
you try how a sensible woman
makes a foundation that you
can build on - but she will not
try to take the rule out of your

hands. I have rarely met with
that difficulty.

Tell dear little Alice
that a nice train is getting ready
to bring her to her little brother
& he will be very glad to see
her come to him.

It is very good of you to see
to Will.

His blue suit - was a good
one & he took the second pair
of trousers, brown new out with
him at St. was time - Try if
cleaning w^d put it right - I
can easily get him shirts too
if he gives me the number - Is
it - 15 -

I am sending him by
this mail two Pyjamas - one
that was in the boxes & one
new. I also parted him a
perfectly good & very nice one
he left behind. The other two
were old & may be worn
out.

I wrote to him a week ago
telling him to order a new
tweed suit, wherever you
thought best - & let me know
the price & I w^d remit at
once. Also to send me his
doctor's bill, or bills - if any.
I have to see to that

get him anything you think
he needs - & I will rec-
to you at once, or pay
you in here if you prefer. I
have also his black evening
suit dinner jacket - & frock
coat - I don't know if he has
white shirts, he had two
but they may be gone. I will
look if I can find them here
he certainly had one on at
D. mas dinner:

I am quite anxious to
have a photo of you & the two
children - I always felt badly
that you had not one at the
time of your marriage. I don't
quite know how it happened

all over, & I am so glad
that you are dutifully going
out & trying to recover your
strength. I am working up
the same problem, & begin
to see I am getting on - tho'
not up to my usual
love to all

Mother

Have not time to read over. Tell W.
to look in pocket of his Pyjamas -
& do send P.C. at once as to size of shirt