

"the notion" by which my photos
are being to remind me of my
very dear & beloved family whom
you were - you - my know
that if not we will see them
be thinking of you, speaking
to you - in imagination
of you - with loving
papers. My very best wishes
to you - I all things
to make this time
a realization of the great
of it - while that is where
my day commences - Come
to me - to all who love me
I wish all my love
from your father & my wife & I
love you affectionately
Grattis

ago I find it a venture how far
back in our journey to begin, but in
one thing I cannot make a mistake - to
thank you for all the trouble you
took in N. Y. to make such arrangements
as will be likely to secure ease & safety for
our start to the South, for without such
preparation I think we should have been
exposed to great risk & certainly have had
more anxiety. Here we are now in a happy
university hotel without having had any
bad consequences or even mishaps except
to find there a heap of fingers intended for

you on your way has been carefully
 brought here. The first few days after
 our arrival were sunny & warm, after the
 most perfect kind of our summer weather
 the fifth day the rain set in & has done credit
 to Canada & as paper says it, as is stated, 4.
 in. of rain fell in the evening here per hour
 we had help of that on Thursday & it has
 continued to rain ever since altho' as
 I write the rains increase of clearing up.
 it is not cold & we walk for a hour ^{at a time} ~~hour~~
 on one of the galleries. We are told that
 a few such storms & sometimes even pass
 may be expected during next winter for the
 1 of June fine steady weather may be depended
 upon. at its best there are always mists,
 this hotel site has however been chosen wisely
 as it is on one of the highest & driest parts.
 The water is really pure & good & the drainage,
 so far as we can judge, excellent. We have
 got an excellent & large room on the 2nd
 floor looking out upon a pretty square about
 an acre in extent & having a number fine alleys

live oaks of several varieties, showing
 distinct differences in shape of leaves & shades
 of green. Interspersed with these are fan
 palms & trees unknown, the leaves of which
 are fallen & swept away. There are no flowers
 in this square, but other places we see Cam-
 elias, roses & blue jessamine & every where
 indications of the richest abundance of creepers
 shrubs & flowers in their seasons. It is what
 may be called a swamy city - broad streets
 with shade-trees in all except the business
 ones - these are asphalted & the suburban ones
 only sand & these loose & like a sea shore.
 The place is beautified also with rails &
 on these run electric cars then to quite distant
 points. The track runs to the Banaventura Cemetery
 4 miles, & it can run 4 miles farther. So we
 can have long cheap excursions & only take
 Carriages to a few (off-the-route places) as they cost
 \$2 per hour. I dare say before this reaches you
 you will have got the news of a third big boom
 to Marene & Will. He writes that W. B. Beal has halves
 to its being a fine healthy boy & it is recovering most

satisfactorily. ~~Anna~~ now, I hope, rid of us
 & our unreasonable claims upon his time,
 I wish I^r in charge of a trained nurse will
 be able to catch up with all his neglected
 back-work for his own family & that with
 any unfavourable reaction, altho that I think
 she in a great measure is exempted from
 by her cheerful acceptance of every duty as it
 presents itself - Still I trust sometime, in the
 near future, a time of ease & variety of some
 kind awaits her - One will be tempted to say
 that his unselfish devotion to others merits
 such a reward. We look forward with long
 ing to hear something of your arrival & some
 thing of your work in London. See to it that you
 get Ample exercise during the gloomy cold
 of Dec. - Construct fire in your room, wear
 mules flannels & every comfort that can ward off
 bronchitis & other diseases brought on by damp cold.
 These will give you an Xmas day & Christmas
 if the sun shall be, as at present, occupying his
 dipping-tables. I have got your flash light photo of the
 Xmas hanging by the side of our mirror here & I will
 enclose as my Xmas present to you a specimen of