

Brooklyn N.Y.
Feb^y. 12. 1878

Dear Boy -

I have received four or five letters from you - which I have not been able to answer - I congratulate you on your new outfit and hope you will enjoy it - I know it was needed - It affords me much satisfaction to contemplate your stylish appearance

Julia wrote to you last week and I suppose told you how I'd clapped the climax of the foolish and disastrous actions of this year by setting fire to Father's house - Mother and I saved the house - my first thought was to fetch it out and I did not stop to choose what work, consequently my hands were

burnt badly she left me almost
half off and the agony was
unbearable that night - I'll tell
you about it when I see you
and you can bet I'll never
put out a fire with my
hands or clothes again -

Soon as the fire was out I ran
down stairs and put on floor
and sent Sarah for oil -
just at that instant Miss
Morton the trained Hospital
nurse Mother had in Morrison
came in and I started her
for St Johnson I was in such
agony the skin had slipped
off my left foot finger all in
one lump and the charred
finger and the other hands
were maddening - Sarah was
very kind poor girl - I left

fainting and she held me and
ran five times to Dickenson
Dr Johnson came and stand
an hour and was very kind
he gave me almost a bottle
of opium and Aunt Mary
stand until my hands were
dressed and I lay on the
dining room sofa in my clothes
just as I was for three nights
and two days - I did not want
Mother to know how I was suffering
Miss Norton looks splendid cares
of me and saw up at all hours
to see after me - think of me
with no hands to use look
swapped in oil - It was
terrible - Its now a week and I've
got three fingers on my right
hand I'm busy to write with
the pain in my left is worse

I've no use of my left hand and
it will be a long time before I
can leave - the pain is terrible
I walk the floor all the time
they give me Morphine and
Opium to quiet my nerves and
I sleep nights - but the pain
goes from my hand up all my
arm into my side - Dr Johnson
says it's doing well he comes
three a day and is very
kind to me - So is everyone
Julia is not well yet she comes
every morning and curls Julia's
hair and braids mine - I've
not had my dress off or any
of my clothes yet and am a
disgusting sight of dirt - The
Insurance man gave Mother
fifty dollars for the damage to
the carpets and the blankets -

thirt and fifteen dollars for
my dress - Father will pay
Dr Johnsons bill - the money you
sent in the new purse I gave
Sarah for she has been very
good to me - I've had to get
Miss Norton to stay another
week with me as I am
helpless and she takes care
of Anez at night and all
day except when she is waiting
on me - Its very extravagant as I
have to pay her sixteen dollars a
week - but so is the whole thing I've
already paid six dollars for stuff
for my hand,

This is a shameful dirty letter but I'm
all oil and can't help it -

The children are delighted with
the Valentines you sent them, Emma
says she knows Eddie sent her's -

I received the two Papers you sent and
I am very much interested in
the reason Blanchard left and what
they are going to do. try to find out
and write me all the particulars.
Mother is not feeling well the fire
was a great shock she did not feel
it the first day but she does now.
Emma is the worst child to live with
that ever was - she is such an alarm-
ist - if a spark flies out of the grate
she yells and her cowardice is
fearful. Irving is doing very well
and is very happy with Morton.
Dude runs all night - Sam lives
at Julia's and behaves badly - he
seems to have no honor.
Father was very kind he did not blame
me in words - Johnson was certain
I'd go into a fever from having been
in a fever atmosphere so long and in

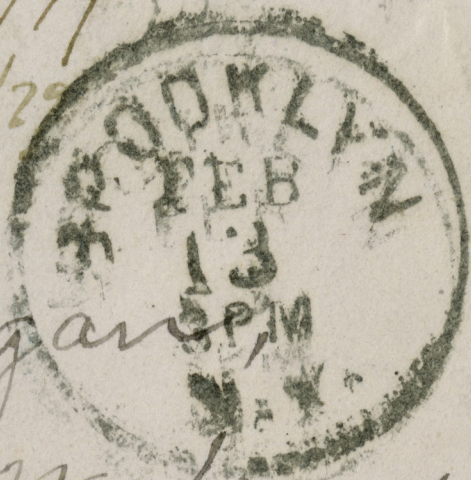
the shock of this burn and the
pain - so far I've not given in
but its very trying not to be able
to do a thing for myself and
to think of wasting so much time
when I've so much to do - can't
wash my face or do my hair
depend upon it that Diamond man is
a villain -

The taking off the rings was an
experience I don't want to repeat
they were so tight when the fingers
swelled that the Dr said the fingers
would mortify and I'd loose it.
as the watch maker from Harb's
came the third night and took
them off - he said he never wanted
to do such a job again - he
had to saw them off out of raw
flesh it was terrible, three days
he was a nice man -

when I get out of this agony
of pain I'll write again

My dear mother
Lizzie

44 Recd Feb 21/79
Answer " 21/79



Mr C. B. Morgan
Care of W. W. Montague
-- San Francisco,
Cal.