

754 Fourteenth St.

Oakland, Cal

Dear Jude -

I don't know if Emma told you we are experiencing remarkably cold freezing weather with a searching cold wind from the west - it's clear and very bright day and night - but freezing cold. I had a real hot fire in Pa's room last night - but he insisted he was shivering cold. he is well. Sam and Gene Farnham went to Sam's Winter Exhibition last night and enjoyed themselves. Eddie has a new dress suit and was going but he found their Burglar had taken his new overcoat so he could not go. it was in his room last night. Today at the Guild Annual Meeting I served tea & little cakes to the ladies. Mrs Sherman brought the cream and I had the tea and the cakes (all but 25 cents more) left of Parns Party so that was all it cost me - and they were pleased. - we also had the sugar - Mrs Farnham set out the cakes and helped me dry the dishes - one of the old ladies washed them - Emma has consented to buy a new suit and have Miss Hines make it this week. for which I am thankful, as she has managed to get her good suit all paint spots and shrink up the last could be remedied if she had another to go out in while I do it. Georgie Coker has gone to New York to cultivate her voice - she is a real good girl. Grace is well and looks much changed younger looking in her short yellow hair.

Sam has just interrupted me to know "what kind of meat
for dinner", and he "smelt soup" - "what kind!" Tomatoes, and
mutton meat - then he said he'd have the good jelly
but compromised on Cranberries - we are also to have
Orange Jelly of Emma's make - it's very nice and they
all like it, so none was wasted. Aunt has been very ill
with a relapse from the grippe - had Bronchitis very
bad for ten days. She woke, she was dressed, on her
lounge, with a big log fire and was real snug - she
is real plucky. It is a terrible old winter everywhere
and her cough has most killed her - she says the
Doctor does not think she ought to go to Europe
before summer - but she wants to go in March -
because the girls want to be home in summer - they
seem to be having a very gray winter. Mr Martin
is very ill, has not left his room in his months - most
of the time in bed - Yesterday I went to see Mrs Maybeck
found the house just as you left it - people are
building a home next to them, she was out on the
side porch with the baby in an old baby carriage, he
was covered with flannels and wore a fine long white
cloak and a cap + veil - A man called as I did
to see about the work. as they wish to keep a
Japanese. so she had to leave me with baby while
she talked to the man - Mr Maybeck was not home
nor her ma - it is a very nice looking, good baby - it
looks much like its ma - she sends her love to
you and Avery - says she spends all her time
taking care of the baby. she handles him all
right - he had on his flannels and a little colored
flannel night gown for a dress - he has no

other clothes. She has not decided how she wants
to dress him or can't get the style of clothes -
but he is comfortable enough, though I should
fear he'd take cold - we'll hope he won't - I was
glad to hear directly from you and Arvey -
she thinks you are better satisfied now and
can pursue your work under more favorable
conditions - I had to leave as it was late and
cold - promised to go again - she was only sick
at first on the steamer and so took care of the
baby all right - Everyone sends their love or regards to
you and Arvey that I meet. I hope you are both
well and happy - don't work too hard either
of you and you can stay as long as you wish to
and so take things comfortable - Sam has had
three fire alarms today - sparks on roof - but
he has "turned out" - and had all the excitement
of the run - no one is in Mr. Seefridges and it is lonely
looking - With lots of love to you and Arvey I am

Yours loving
Ma

February 5, 1899.