

Dear Dudu -

I thank you ever and ever so much for your Christmas and New Year letters received together. I am so glad you all had a happy New Year together and I thank you for writing to me all about it, it was a real comfort to me to read it and you a dear child to give yourself the trouble to write it.

I'm glad also that your friends remembered you and you liked your things - you can give the photo to Mr. Chaumier and write me which one and I'll get you another - Dewey had another testimonial cup given him last week - it stands six feet high in his parlor window - I guess he will venture to give it away - even to his son.

It is clouding up to rain again but the wall and wood of the sitting room is all finished - so it won't matter so much for the floor. Hank has been faithful in ceiling even when there was actually no place to sit down in - he's blind in the face or sat in the dining room and endured the smells of gasoline, varnish, ~~stove~~ smoke, vinegar, lime, glue, oil and I don't know what else - we had a variety, each man brought a can or bottle box or pail of horrid stuff that penetrated to every room - but it will be fine and clean when finished - and we know now how to do a hardwood floor ourselves - Pa says he did not write you - that Mrs Brainard has lost her eldest daughter Mary Sidia Cheney - she died on the 11th of Typhoid fever - leaving a two year old girl and a two month old boy baby - Mr Cheney's brother in the Army died or was killed while she was at her work - too very

Sad as Helen has not been dead over two months
Mrs Brauward has now lost five children -
I think I wrote you of Mrs Foles death - Mrs Martin
has a sad lonely time - Mr Shelby and his wife
have just gone there to dine I guess - they
live in their own house - it's best as their boy
is extra lively - they can go to see Mrs Martin
everyday - they have a horse and buggy and her Ma
always has a carriage - Emma is good, has a cold
and face ache but clears with unceasing activity
and is not a particle of use as those men
living in lots more - Miss Kibbage is to be married
in April and Miss Martha Alexander as
soon as her young man can get out of
quarantine at Honolulu their wedding was set
for the 30th but his steamer could not get here
in time - I do not believe the Plague will leave
Oahu - as it's evidently headquartered and only
among the Chinese - I am sorry for Agnes - Phil's
mother is to leave on the 24th for Honolulu to live
there - I'd hoped Agnes would not have to
live near his Ma - Mrs Weaver is to have charge
of a Kindergarten School and live in Honolulu - but
she probably will frequently visit Agnes - and Phil's
office is in Honolulu - it's none of my business, any
way - I'm glad you found time to your liking, I'll
be very proud to have him back again - he did
not find you changed for which I'm thankful,
my hand is almost well - Please remember
me to Mrs Brown - hope you got your mention
for your work, and passed a Happy Birthday
I thought of you all day - with lots of love, I am
Sincerely your
Dorothy