

March 31, 1907.

My dear Mary,

This is Sunday & I am going to write to both you & Willie. Yesterday morning when Mrs. Hawkins was up she said mamma was better. She did not come last night for she was here in the afternoon with Dr. Dudley Allen of Cleveland. We asked her to send for a specialist & she said she had already thought of it & mamma & she had talked it over but that mamma didn't want her to say any thing to us about it. They had not thought though of having her come down here. But mamma was so thankful that he came Mrs. H. said. No one told her that he was coming & when he got here Mrs. Hawkins went & prepared her & took him in. He advises an operation & says he thinks mamma will get through it all right. That he has performed this operation a very great many times successfully. I don't think mamma would like it if she knew I was writing you this, but I think you will feel that we haven't done right not to tell you. I know for me thing that you will want to pray for her. It is not going to be done till she is a little stronger and then I will not

be here, unless I come at that time. I don't
know as I'd better, for it would not
do mamma any good - only as Mrs. H.
say I'd be here to help Evulvia worry but
I'd be wiser. She will telegraph or tele-
phone me the results & she is going with
mamma and going to stay until the
operation is over. She is just lovely.
Evulvia might send for Aunt Jannie or
Aunt Mary if she felt there was any
need, but I don't know as there will be.
Now, Mary, don't worry. I think Mrs.
Starkins is hopeful and the best is
being done that can be and what ever
happens will be for the best - I don't
wonder all I feel for you would cry,
but I feel calm & more so than I could
expect and things may go fine after she
has been to Cleveland. She will have to
stay in the hospital four weeks. But you
know that there she will have the very
best of care and you know what my
ne here has implicit faith in Dr. Allen
so that I think mamma has. Miss
Poppy, I hate to tell you all this &
worry you, but I know you want
to know. If you don't want to, tell
me in your next letter. Mrs. Wagon
is a new woman since she went to Dr.
Allen this winter & maybe our da-

better than she had been. I spoke to Mrs. Taylor - the family sit in the pew in front of us. And I spoke to the Garricks & Seymours & Prof. Root & that's about all. Mamma of course asked me if I had spoken to people.

You can't think how different things are with a girl. If mamma weren't sick it would seem as if there was nothing to do except that then we should be doing some thing like sewing or something but it is such a joy feeling never to have to attend to meals or dishes or rooms. If we only had had a girl, a good one these years, mamma might never have come to this, but then we couldn't. I don't see any thing we could have done very differently and that is a comfort.

Are you getting any spring things made? I was hoping that maybe I could get us each a dress made, but that was before I came home or heard from Carolina. Of course after that I didn't.

I was talking to mamma about you this morning and she said as she has said before that she was so glad you were coming home in the summer - that she agreed with me that ~~it is~~ staying away from one another was not the way for

~~are~~ economy. She said she was
having such pleasure in my visit. She
said she didn't think you ought to
teach this summer. Write her some
cheerful letter and maybe she can read
it. Write the other things to Squitier & me,
mostly me & don't stop writing any of
your troubles. If she can't read your
letters Evulnia can tell her some of the
things that are in them. She can't hear
any thing very interesting.

Well, I have done & seen so little since
I came home that there's not much to tell.
I've been here three days & have two more.
I'm worried for you & have worried you
in this letter - but don't be. I'm not
so awfully so - that is she ~~not~~ not agitated.

Since I've been back I've seen some
of your letters - some written long ago & to
be sent on to me, and some of William's.
What interesting letters he does write. I
read yesterday the one ~~about~~ ^{from} Julia's father
to Miss Livingston. I was of course specially
interested in that. I shall try again to find
out me of the music teacher. I hope you
haven't been awfully put out about it.
Are things going a little better, this
Poppy, with you? Pray for you
Miss Annie