

My dear Mamma & Auntie

It is 12 minutes of 7 and I am sitting in the station at Gallena waiting for the St. Louis Flyer which is due at 7:05; so you see I'll catch the train all right, I was so afraid we wouldn't. It's been lurching all the way low nice it was for me to have you come with me to Kellington. It has made the trip lots easier for me & I wish that Auntie must wish you so much, I wish it's the best one I'll have for a mighty long time, I'm afraid unless you come to see me at Christmas time, Auntie. How I wish you could! Perhaps you can. You have been so lovely to me this summer, Auntie, I wish I could ever as much like & sweet. And of course the dear dady - that goes without saying.

How did you find that Ellie & Willie had spent the afternoon when you got back? I couldn't say a decent good-bye to Miss Cuddy writes because I had such a hard time to keep from crying & I didn't want every body to see me doing that. I'm afraid they did, as it was, I hope you gave my letter a good-bye to Cuddy because I didn't see him just before he left.

It is now about 20 minutes of ten and we are stopping somewhere for a while - a train has just passed & we are starting up, so I suppose we were starting for it. I have been sleeping most of the time (lightly) since I've been on this train. It is perfectly terrific, I'm sure I have my \$2.50 reduction. The train is so crowded that until they added an extra car, some people had to stand. Of course you can't think of getting a seat alone. The only seat I could get was with a colored girl, delightful as you may imagine for an eleven hour ride in a close car. I only just now thought me of my

swallowing salts as a little relief, Bob's better than you
but it's the case. I haven't been sick at all. But that
lovely? That cake from Oberlin to Wellington was so lovely
I haven't seen a spud for a long time. His hair runs
so smoothly. My neighbor comes from Cleveland & is going
to St. Louis & so you see I shall have the pleasure of her
Company all the way. I'm so glad I didn't bring a bunch -
I never could have got up my courage to eat it here -
I'm eating a few cheese sandwiches now & they are fine
It's taken me till now to get up my courage to eat
any thing; but I haven't felt hungry. I like being
in one car for a long time - it gives you a sort of
restful feeling. So continue about my neighbor -
I happened to say when that I had to leave school tomorrow
& didn't think this was a very good preparation
for it & she answered quite pretty that "Teachers
get a lot o' money - but it's a right ride in a sleeping
car". I reasoned with her a little as to the facts of
the case; but to no avail. Different classes of

society have such different stand points. My uncle
sally have made & more need the need - what will it
be by morning! At first I thought it was a mighty cheap
looking set in here; but as I look around, it is not
so bad there are some very respectable looking people
& no weekly cheap ones. I almost wish I had brought
a book, Tintin; for this car is so smooth, I could read
all night, I'm sure. Now would have been a time to
read some of Poe's poems - I think I should prefer
them to the Donis just here; the stories are too spooky.

I'm so glad I'm not burdened with baggage; though when
I heard some people remarking behind me just now
that it was going to rain, I thought my baggage might
have had one more article of advantage. The person
to whom she remarks about the rain had made said, "I
"Oh, no, it wouldn't rain because it was too late." I
didn't understand the point of such a scientific
remark. It seemed to me a little in line with

the remark of my colored friend, who told me at
quarter of nine that she thought it must be near
enough morning to begin to get light pretty soon
and that again reminded me of the great tiffin
action into which I was plunged last year nearly
when I took this same trip, on waking at about
eleven o'clock to find the morning apparently
come, & how I called the porter to kindle the tube
as it wasn't quite light enough for me to see my
little watch.

Well at Union City now, wherever that is, & people are
looking for seats in this car. Hallon is quite a big place
I should think by the looks of the station; I should not
you, mamma, I supposed it was a small place.
Goodness, I wish we could have this window open
but miss - objects to the draught. So do I, but - I
well, here, are my smelling salts. I'm so sorry I
didn't think to give them to you coming over to
Wellington. But the car might not have made
you feel so bad. The suit-cases takes up to much
room here that my feet are cramped - worse by far
than they've ever been in travel. Hall & that
saying a great deal.

I wonder what you are all doing now, not working
I hope. I hope you're all getting a decent rest after
two very hard days. It's 10:30 now & you ought to be
in bed asleep.

Has any one returned Isabel Weaver's letter yet?
Don't forget it when Alice goes to see about her
dress. I just happened to think about it & that
is why I mention it. I saw it this morning on the
table in our room.

wouldn't it be fun if I had one of Minnie's little
baskets to amuse me here? It'd be so cunning
wouldn't it just like Minnie?

I guess I'll finish this at Alton unless I have some
thing more to say especially or get in the mood
for answering.

Good-night, Dear Lady & Puit, say good-night
to Miss Panny weeks for me & Willie & give each
a kiss.

Loveingly - Pally - Mary -

First special thing, I have Mr. Bickford
for you & travel air. How lovely for you.
You know he promised a call.

Morning. By my watch it is now 5:30, & I've just
waked up from quite a decent sleep. I've had after seat
to myself since about half past one & it's been such
a comfort.

This train was due at Alton at 6:38 but the conductor
told me we shouldn't get there till about 8 o'clock.
He didn't know why we were so late, for the train was
already behind time when his duty began.

Went had our hair, but it has stopped & so I shouldn't
need an umbrella after all, I guess.

I'll mail this from Alton; so you'll know I'm safely there
& will try to send you a postal from Carlinville as soon
as I get there. But I don't know how soon after I get
there the mail goes out. There are two trains I can take
from Alton, you know, so if we don't get there in time
for the first, I can take the second & still be in
before dinner time.

Mary
Carlinville
Ill