

900 St. Louis Ave.,  
October 15, 1905.

" " " "The Corners"

7p.m. Sunday.

J.H.S.Roe reclining on couch,

A.E.Roe at Typewriter.

Grandma and Papa down in the formers room.

Aunty at church.

Mary in Papa's room patiently studying.

Eliga the new nigger has taken Dexter and carriage to get his wife. Some hopes for their return and also the return of the bug. We hear a rattling and mama rushes to window to see if it is they. It is they. We threw down a pink candle (as they could find no lamp) and it has melted through the long hot summer till it has the Grecian bend. Here comes Mary to see what the excitement is.

Dearest:

Our hands as we write and dictate respectively, are shiny and swollen from dishwashing and pot scrubbing after the exit of Molly, the last maid of honor. Oh NIGGERS, niggers?? We began to have little suspicions of Molly's honesty several weeks ago, when sisteen to eighteen pounds of sugar were used in a week and after a ten pound roast there would hardly be enough for a second meal, our faithful grocer, Huber (phone 491) failing to send (seemingly) groceries, duly charged on the bill, G.Y. Smith, the faithful, failing to send goods. Well at last the final parting came. Mary was sent to the office to get the two weeks and over wages, returning from town asked if she should give the dough to Molly. Mama exhausted from strenous labors in the garret, lying on the bed half asleep, said "No", go and tell her to come up when she got through packing and mama would pay her. Mary weary-limbed, with lagging steps, went to molly's room, and delivered the message, when mama was aroused from another nap, by Mar'ys running in saying "ma, isn't it funny that Molly has three pieces of goods in her trunk like you bought this summer?" Mrs. A.J. Roe jumped from her bed (having as usual one garment on her back) leaving on her wedding stockings and slipping on her shoes and Kimona rushes to the drawer where the new goods is kept and finding them nearly empty skinned to Molly's room and said "I have come to look through your trunk". She handed out to me three short pieces of dress goods calling on Heaven to witness That that was all she had. To make a long story short I got a clothes-basket full of things she had stolen. My elegant Mexican laces, she had cut in different lengths, all kinds of embroideries and laces of every descriptions by the yards and yards and bolts, threads, two pairw of scissors, off of every piece of dress goods she had cut, even into yards of velvet,, she had ruined curtains for two rooms by cutting off large pieces, my two dollar kid gloves, (worn once), underwear galore, and stockings, new and old, handkerchiefs new and old, all marked with our names, belts and ties and yards of ribbon, she had been in every box of paper we owned, even through in J.M.'s trunk and stamped and taken piles of paper and envelopes, besides extra stamps, we havent counted stamps but there are at least a \$'s worth, even to 900 St. Louis ave pape and envelopes, each thing we found she d eclared that was all and lieing one lie after the other, there must have been a dozen collars and about 2 doz. handkerchief. One linen pillow pillow case, besides many cotton ones, squares, washclothes, linen sheet cut up in pieces, aprons, she not only took goods but had them made up in to waists, having sliced off yards of new wollen goods and made into a waist with best new pearl bottons on it, muslin, lawn, bolt of 24 yds., lawn, many pairs of kid gloves among them J.M.'s white ones,. If it hadnt been for Mary we wouldnt have gotten much for Mary told her to pull up her dress, as she saw her rapidly pysh up something up her shirt, although she vainly protested that she had no drawers on Mary said that made no difference and she pulled yds. of lace from her skirt and Mama made her change her dress. All the nightgowns and things that were not marked and that mama couldnt swear to, Molly kept. She cried and wept and entreated us not to send for police

as she was fatherless and motherless, and had never had done such a thing before and never would again, and at intervals holding up her right hand and calling Heaven to witness her innocence, yet yet mama still digging down and hauling out new things all the time such as, doz. lemons as they come in the bag from the grocers, chocolate, borax, starch, soap, imported grapes, and paraphened paper lunch, Grandmas change gone out of herppurse Mama has been church treasurer for some time and has had to make up deficiencies all the time. We dont begin to know what all she has taken. She probably had a great deal down at her friends house. We did not send her to jail. We have not had time to count all the silver yet but think it is all here.

I forgot to say Books were taken from library, one of Alcott - The Hestony, a big brown book - Send this letter to Ellie, Ellie send to your girls of they reader like it. Jane