

January 13<sup>th</sup> - 1923

SUNNY HILL  
WYOMING  
PENNSYLVANIA

Believe  
please to  
M. S. S.

Dearest Aunt Mary. Your Christmas  
letter was so dear - and I have wanted  
to write you this to thank you for it,  
but a day or so after Christmas little  
Scott began what proved to be an intestinal  
trouble, which was complicated a week  
later with a miserable bronchial cold.  
So though I have thought of you often,  
there have been few moments for writing.  
Within the last few days he has begun  
to be better, I am thankful to say, and  
this morning the doctor said his lungs  
were about cleared up - His diet has  
been reduced to barley-water and whey -  
(with what little breast-milk I can give him

as any attempt to go back to milk  
(he was getting fourteen ounces of Walker -  
Gordon's - sent up from N.Y. daily!) seems  
to bring back the diarrhea.

I am enclosing you a very poor little  
picture which Bob took when he was  
here at Christmas-time. I'm sorry  
there is so much room of me than the  
darling baby in it - but you can get an  
idea of his big brown eyes and cunning  
little head - (You see I am shamelessly  
and inordinately proud!)

Dear Aunt Mary, I am so grateful  
for your loving interest in my baby - It  
helps satisfy my longing for Mother's  
love and interest, for you are so near her  
in my thoughts. - You see I am  
still here with darling Liddy, who has

done so much for me in keeping me  
here and supplying me with a nurse.  
How well you understand what  
you say you know I want to do all  
for the dear baby myself. If I only  
could, and as soon as he is well again  
I hope to. - I had planned to be  
back in N.Y. long before this, but the  
coal-situation in N.Y. combined with  
the intense cold we had in December,  
and now the baby's illness, have kept  
me here, where I think I shall  
probably stay until Spring. I do wish  
Bob were not tied so closely to N.Y.  
as he is just now. Have I told you  
that he has taken a studio on 15<sup>th</sup> St.  
(8, E. 13<sup>th</sup>) where he has an evening  
class in drawing? He has seven or  
eight pupils and hopes for more, and is

SUNNY HILL  
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thoroughly enjoying the new experience  
of Teaching.

You ask if I expect to use a carriage  
for the baby in N.Y. I rather think  
so, as I shall have to have some way  
of taking him out - As yet I am quite  
unprepared along these lines -

I do not wonder at your surprise at my  
giving the baby Father's name - but if  
I could make you know how much better  
our whole relationship has been for the  
last few years, and how touchingly grateful  
and pleased Father was when I asked him  
last Summer if he would like me to  
name the baby for him if it were a boy,  
I am sure you would understand and  
be glad. At first I was not very sure  
myself, - one wants a precious name for  
a being so utterly precious as one's baby,

but thus it seemed to me the one  
truest way I could express my real  
affection, and SUNNY HILL  
WYOMING  
PENNSYLVANIA regret for much that  
had happened in the past, - and thus,  
too, I thought it would have pleased  
Mother - She was always glad when we  
considered Father. Now the little name  
is impressively dear to me, and Father's  
joy and pride in his namesake is  
quite pathetic. I was doubly glad that  
I had done it, as Father has been very  
ill since October - a month ago Tom  
came from Louisiana, and Sara &  
Harriet from New England, as we feared  
he might not recover, but he is better  
now, though I think he will never be well  
again.

I have written a long letter, and must  
have quite tired you with my chatter -

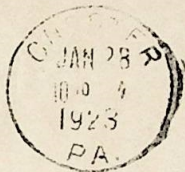
Please give Bertie my love, and  
thanks for her pretty Ymas card -

For you, dear Count Mary, much love  
always from your devoted niece

Ellen.

P.S. Tom & the girls were here only a  
few days, going back to their respective  
families before Christmas - but the little  
reunion was very pleasant. The first  
time we had all been together here at  
home for several years.

FROM  
Mrs. Edmund T. Lukens  
"The Harvard"  
Swarthmore, Pa.



Mrs. Ch. H. Beland  
#287 West Leallege street  
Oberlin  
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Rutten and Carné - Paris