

How happy it makes me to know  
that I can inspire you with more  
heart and courage - if it were only in  
my power to help you to a financial light  
I should be beside myself with joy.

Brother was saying the other day (the  
comes that baby) March 3<sup>rd</sup>, - This  
is really my first opportunity since  
the baby interrupted so I will finish  
what I was then commencing. He  
was saying if you had a little  
money, you could do a good thing  
to come here and purchase a set  
of Abstracts that are offered for  
sale at a <sup>(a few hundred)</sup> ~~low~~ price. - There are only two  
other sets in town and they cost  
about \$1200.00 apiece. He has several  
times referred to the topic of your  
opening an office here, but I have  
not favored it. To be sure, there  
are two new roads building thru  
Clinton which are helping to make  
it a little lively, but I don't think  
you would like to small a place

Clinton, Mo.  
March 1st '85

My dear Charley;  
Your call  
yesterday and brought with  
it comfort and a degree of gladness  
to my heart, which proved its  
mission a successful one.

Thinking you may feel a little  
curious to know why I inquired  
about your state of mind the  
17<sup>th</sup> ult. I will tell you my  
experience. I got an hour's leave of  
absence in the P.M. and ran  
down to see Fannie de la Beque  
who has been sick with low  
fever - after my return a feeling  
of such terrible worry and distress  
of mind, came over me I was  
nearly distracted I could not shake  
it off, I could not reason myself

out of it - and last night after all  
was in bed, I walked the floor in  
agony & prayed. I went to bed in  
distress of mind which gradually  
gave way to sleep. When I woke  
in the morning the burden seemed  
lighted - I have had no such terrible  
pursuit of mind since - I have  
had before, and even worse, such  
a prolonged state of that kind I  
had, before I sent you that five.

It came across me like an inspiration  
to do that, and after it was done  
came a rest from such distress.

My first worry, after learning  
your business affair, was over  
that man, Kelley, I could not feel  
that it was a good man. Yet  
I would not tell you of my foolishness  
- ~~but~~ I was in the least surprised  
when you found him a scamp?

You will call these all notions  
& expect as, has been your habit.

At my elbow, in his high chair  
sits this great big baby boy, of  
course, laughing, crowing, & holding and  
teasing - nine months old today.

All just now, gives his attention  
to our other son who at the end  
of the table is clapping out his  
brain for "Kandah Dity" with  
his jersey cap on he wears  
himself the "Cox duck" and  
is making up a full brain -

This baby boy is getting kind  
and pulling at my elbow and  
calling himself "baba" -

Evening - It is getting late but  
I must have a little more time with  
you - I dream of you frequently. Last  
night, I was in some strange part  
of the world, and I was taking pride in  
watching you ~~over~~ clean out and  
pick up your new office - I can  
but feel that you get ready to meet  
your responsibilities yesterday.

as plain as Lowell could say it  
and tickled him even to death -  
& think he calls him by ba ba  
& poor ba ba. He and Lowell are very  
much in love with each other. Lowell  
will visit with him, and play to him  
and he seems to miss Lowell when  
he is out any time, and gets crazy to  
play with him - But he is such a  
load and so restless to be on his feet,  
my poor back is nearly broken. Sometimes  
I can scarcely get up and down, it  
hurts me so. If there were only some, to  
relieve me an hour or two a day, or  
keep him till got a little rest at night.  
I think his teeth are troubling him again  
- he's not the best night's rest, but just  
restless. too much vitality for his poor  
mother. these two boys consume every  
bit of mine every day. when I want a  
play spell I go into the wash tub. I  
do not leave him a moment - can't  
find any place that is safe to hold

him. Can scarcely hold him myself  
- I would let him creep till too cold  
and dirty for touch. Would give any thing  
for you to see the boys together.  
Our folks think he ought to be called  
Hillard. - Have stopped a time, or  
two already, at the call of this young  
he is sleeping very soundly now. but  
I am in a state bordering on idleness  
to myself - not one thought in my  
head, and only one desire and  
that is rest - Am invited  
up to Dr. Jones's to spend the day  
to-morrow - Up comes that old  
head again - it is plain, I can  
write no more to myself - Good  
night, my own Charles - you  
will be chiefpondlet that this  
letter is such a blank. but  
remember she is so tired and  
worn she hath done what she  
could. God bless and prosper & give  
strength in the prayer to your own

And, do not want a home here for  
several seasons, one of which is,  
its melancholic disease.

Right again. If that small  
boy will decide to sleep till I fill  
this check, then will you be likely  
to get it from. Such a romp as he  
is - can keep up with Lowell, when  
I induce him nights - he has his  
greatest of frolic - what a fine plaything  
he would make for you and Momey  
he could tire us all out, such strength  
and vitality, I think he'd be walking  
by this time, if he'd been practiced.

I take him out to the table in his  
high chair when Lowell and I go to eat  
he enjoys his piece quite as much  
as the rest - and the moment Lowell  
starts for the dining room he tries to  
go too, he can give quite an idea of  
his desires - Tonight he called from  
his high chair to me, as I was dodging  
in and out, getting things together for  
night - O ma' and repeated it - Two