

11 Adams St. Montgomery, Ala.  
Jan. 1, 1917.

My dear Laughter:

I invoke  
the most precious blessings  
of life on you and yours  
on this initial day of the  
New Year! From my view-  
point, Love is the one  
priceless thing that God  
has bestowed upon us.  
Love for Him and each other.

2.  
I trust our darling baby  
boy "is himself again"  
and is smiling as he only  
can. The budget of cards you  
sent reached me today.  
One of them was from  
Mrs. Hardeman, a pleasant  
surprise to me. Let me write me  
the name of the lady from  
Tallahassee, Fla. you met at  
Monteagle, and with whom  
you spent some of the  
hours there. I might re-  
new acquaintance with her  
this winter.

Poor Mary Childers is still in distress. She sent her children here to Sue, last Thursday and wired that she would take Ben to N. Orleans that night for treatment. He had started his stenographer and Chaffee in his car back to Pulaski. Sue telegraphed her at New Orleans of the safe arrival of the little girl. No tidings had come from her until last night (Sunday) at 10:30. Thom received a message from her saying, "Ben critically ill, come at once." He had to hustle to make the train at 11 o'clock, which fortunately was late. Sue received a telegram this afternoon from Mary, saying he had pneumonia, but was doing fairly well. We have not heard from Thom, but suppose we will later this evening. Sue told Ruth about Ben's illness but enjoined her not to breathe it to the children. She is a wonderful



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mature child, and is taking  
care of these pitiful little  
girls, and has not betrayed  
any knowledge of their fathers  
sickness to them. Mrs. John  
Phillips wrote Sue last week  
that her husband was in  
the Baptist Hospital the  
whole of Christmas week.  
He had twenty eight car-  
tuncles lanced, and was  
still in a very weak condi-  
tion, and continued to suffer  
from these, although he

35  
so as at home, and had let the  
nurse go. I conclude that  
Mary L. gave some of the  
robes to her daughters.  
I hope so.

The two days interval in the  
regular delivery of mails  
is tantalizing. I am ~~an~~  
eager to hear from you.  
As you know, I have been  
here nearly a month on  
the same block with Julia  
McKinney and have not  
seen or heard from her.  
She knows I am here.



Did William enjoy his trip to the Country? Sue wishes to know how you make your frozen vegetable salad. She has a craze for salads. I am sure you had a fine dinner. Pat. creams her sweet potatoes, and flavors them and decorates the top with marshmallows. I am glad you enjoyed the pecans. They put them on in everything down here.

Luke is a splendid fellow. I was so pleased by his generosity to Snorr. Well that means to Mother P. and her family also.

I cannot decide the date of my departure for Pauza, until Thomas turns, as it is possible that I might help them by keeping Nephth in the event of Ben's death. I hope he will recover. He made a mistake in going to Pass Christian. It is so foggy and raining there. Give my love to Harry and William, and kiss Robt H. for me. Has Mary Harris gotten well and back now?