



Rosalie May is still a very sick  
child I think to me a miserable  
every way but has no complications  
I have hope she will get well soon.  
Dr W says this is one of the slowest  
cases he has heard. her temperature  
is still 104° today. she won't drink  
anything but milk. I have to force  
some cream today she is or make  
eat nothing at all for a week &  
Helen has not touched a thing today  
I read another case. it is hard  
in all of us. still they are as good  
& little better as possible. I hope M.  
& I must take it at some time & all.

I am writing to Nellie of her sickness  
but am not giving any facts, as we  
hope all will be one soon. Have not  
heard from Miss Lizzie yet of course.  
We are still talking of getting a  
cook, we heard of a good one,  
but if all get sick I will be  
obliged to do more than talk.  
Well now I have written such a  
letter if now I will tell you something  
which sounds a little more cheerful  
if this pen & ink will let me. Tho'  
Dear Mr Peyton today & he told him  
he was going to give him the Nashville

NASHVILLE, TENN.  
JAN 7  
9 30 PM  
1916



Mrs L. L. Spider.  
613 Floral Terrace.  
Louisville.  
Kentucky.

Master F. R. Latham

Rapidan

R.F.D. #1

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IF IT SWIMS WE HAVE IT.

# THE OYSTER HOUSE

C. J. HAGGARD, PROPRIETOR.

HOME OF THE BABY LOBSTER.

SEA GRILL AND RESTAURANT.

INTER-SOUTHERN BUILDING  
5TH AND JEFFERSON STS.

TELEPHONE YOUR ORDERS.  
CITY 3711  
MAIN 830

LOUISVILLE, KY.

Dec 3<sup>d</sup> 1916

Dear Chick:

I take an early start at letter writing today so as to be sure that my letters get in the mail tonight. I read your letter to mother last night, and Marian's letter to mother, the answer to which was already written and it was given to me to mail with this today. I hope you had a joyful Thanksgiving dinner, after all the changes contemplated, which had given you so much uncertainty as to when it would be eaten. Mother, Guiche & J.W. took chairs at the restaurant and said they found the dinner very nice. They ate early about two o'clock, and I am glad they did, for there was a crowd that day, so much larger than was expected that things gave out and substitutes had to be served. Chicken with turkey dressing was eaten, and the difference not perceived by some, while others whose taste was more discriminating made a kick, though it was explained that the supply prepared for the day was exhausted besides all they could buy when they saw what crowds came. Quite a number left without eating, because every seat was occupied and they were unwilling to stand and wait for somebody to finish eating and get out. We had a crowd yesterday too, over three hundred and twenty five, and everybody was kept busy until we closed the doors. Sunday afternoons and evenings are always busy times, and I expect another crowd today as the weather is fine and just cool enough to make people hungry. But all this is of no interest to you although there is not much for me to write about except what goes on down here. A postal from Shibley says that she went over to Kendall Green and doubtless had a good dinner and a pleasant day. It looks very much like there would be a strike on the W.C. & St. L. railroad though last night's paper said efforts were being made to prevent it. I hope it may not come on Theodore's account, for I imagine it is giving him no little worry. I wonder if any arrangement will ever be made to prevent strikes. At present the people here, as in other places are worked over the high cost of food, mainly butter, eggs, and milk, and meetings are being held urging people not to buy until prices are reduced. Nearly all the women's clubs in the city are taking an active part in the matter, but so far not enough has been accomplished to enable us to see what the outcome will be.

Mother and Gercho have nearly finished a dress for Shirley, navy blue serge I think they call it and with the white cuffs and collar, and the fancy work of red silk I think it will be very pretty and also serviceable. Shirley drew a design for it in one of her letters, as well as wrote a description of what and how she wanted the dress made. It will be sent her this week. I hope this will reach you Tuesday bearing my love and congratulations on your birthday, wishing it may be a happy one and that many such more may come to you. - I am sorry to hear that Ted Jr. is having such a hard time with colds. He does not know how to protect himself from them, and really none of us do, but it seems that there ought to be some way to give him more power to resist their attacks. If some one would only find the germ that causes them, and a germicide for it that everyone could apply, what a blessing it would be to humanity. I still have mine though it is not so bad as it was. The conditions here are not favorable for its cure, and I am continually in danger of fresh colds, with no way to avoid them. I get better every night at home, and lose part of my improvement during the day. It is not troubling me much now. J.W. told me that today's paper, which I had no time to read, said that Judge B.W. Bingham and his now wealthy wife had decided to make their home here instead of New York and had bought the Belknap

place in the county, said to be one of the most costly buildings in the county. I may see her some day, and can tell how a woman with as many millions as she is said to have, differs in appearance and manners from ordinary people. Bob made a good "spec" if nothing else. - I will stop here to order my lunch, which will be soup, olives and a piece of pie. - We are still having fine weather though rain is predicted for tonight. I do not remember a pleasanter fall than the one just passed, the only complaint against it being the dew, which makes everything dirty. Even in Eastern it has been worse than usual. There is something out of the ordinary going on in Louisville, not even a convention, and they are nearly always here of some sort. Still there are crowds of people in Fourth St. every day. I suppose some are doing their Christmas shopping early, many attend the picture shows and perhaps a lot of them are merely loafing. When I get a chance for a little walk in the afternoon I sometimes fail to see a single acquaintance, all are strangers to me, and on the cars coming and going home. There are comparatively few people with whom I am personally acquainted, though familiar faces are not so rare, and occasionally a neighbor rides in the same car with me. Our car line is supplied largely now with the old summer cars, converted into winter cars, they are very uncomfortable, and in some lines they were tried on, people made such vigorous kicks that they were taken off and put in the Crescent Hill line where they dump any old car. Last week I rode in one of the old side seat cars that years ago were used on Oak Street. The conductor said it was because three of their regular cars had been smashed. No news as you see  
your loving Dad

with all my strength. Just about midnight I  
happened to look out the front window of our bed-  
-room and saw the covering of snow over everything  
and the clouds having passed away the nearly full  
moon made things look bright as day and very  
beautiful, but it was too chilly to take more than  
a good peep at it. You seem to be getting some  
very pleasant trips in your friends automobile.  
I passed through Baltimore once, walked from  
the depot to a steamer, but I did not see much  
of the city, there were too many exciting things  
happening to attract my attention at the time.  
I was in the way to be exchanged, and then  
was almost a rick because our guards recited  
the friendly words of some citizens, and we were  
looking for a chance to take part in it and  
perhaps escape. The citizens were soon driven  
back and we were escorted to the steamer  
without further demonstrations by them, though  
we were excited and had some saucy talk with  
our guards. Annapolis I have yet to see. I once  
had hopes of getting in the naval Academy,  
but the war came on and I went in the  
other direction. Hugh McKee got the place  
I wanted, and he was killed in Korea, by  
the side of a comrade who afterwards became  
Admiral Schuyler (I have actually forgotten how to  
spell his name, but you will know who it is).  
The man who with Admiral Sampson had  
the dispute over the honor of the battle at Santiago  
Bay. This is one of the war tales that I'd need to  
like to hear, and I would tell him about it if he  
was here although it was not the year that I  
had part in. Bless all the kids I wish I could  
see them and have them tell me of their Christmas  
plans, and a lot of other things I would like to hear.  
Hope you are well. I still have that same coat  
though others are all right. <sup>Very</sup> affectionately  
Your loving Dad

Louisville Ky Dec 10-1916

Dear Chick:  
Yesterday afternoon as there was  
not much doing, I wrote my weekly letter to Shirley,  
expecting to express her with a letter one day ahead  
of the usual time, but just before I finished it  
Gertrude called me over <sup>the phone</sup> to say that  
mother had a note to Shirley she wanted to put in  
my letter, consequently it did not get mailed till  
this morning. As there was little in mine of  
any importance there is no harm done. I was  
late getting down here this morning, and  
so many things had to be done before <sup>being written</sup> I could  
finish I took Shirley's letter to the Post Office,  
then went to City Railway office to get change,  
then went to the Central Police Station to get  
a bunch of Keys back work, which a cop  
found and in compliance with a advertisement  
I put in The Times, brought to this office,  
when I happened to be out. As I know within  
fifteen minutes when they slipped through  
a hole in my trousers pocket, and know  
exactly what I had <sup>been</sup> between the time I had  
used them before going out and missing them  
when I came back, and had two duplicates  
made, there was no difficulty in identifying  
the keys and answering the policeman's questions,  
and receiving from the policeman the keys  
and handing him the small reward I had  
offered for their return. I had paid out  
seventy five cents, but when I reported the  
return of the keys, we said charge it to expense  
so this day has so far been lucky for me.  
Some days are not. The seventy five cents is  
just the amount I paid for having Shirley's  
telescope repaired last Thursday. I hope it  
has been made strong enough to hold out  
the rest of the season, but the baggage  
smashers are a vigorous set and I have my doubts

Gusko handed me, to put in with my letter  
the enclosed note and a dollar bill, which  
I hope will reach you safely. She and Mother  
are working and scheming about what they  
can do Christmas, and I think are enjoying it.  
Mother came down town yesterday morning &  
saw the chiropodist and have her corns  
gathered, then to the dentist who put in the  
upper plate with two teeth to fill up the gaps in  
her grinder. They look very nice and natural  
and she says are comfortable, though she is  
conscious of something against the roof of her  
mouth. She says she can bite all right with  
them, which is something she has been unable  
to do for quite a while. She expects to get the  
plate for the lower teeth Tuesday, perhaps it  
is not a plate but three teeth fastened in some  
way to fill the lower gaps. I hope they will  
be as satisfactory as the upper ones are, and she  
can't help smiling with the pleasure she  
feels as she thinks how nice it will be to  
be able to chew her food. She eats apples some-  
times, not because she likes them but for the sake  
of her health, and it has been necessary for a  
long time for her to scrape the apple with a  
spoon because she could not bite it. Yesterday  
the manager told me that hereafter no liquor  
and delight. It relieves me of considerable  
annoyance. While the restaurant did not sell  
whiskeys, having no license, it permitted  
quite to order from a saloon across the street,  
and the top of my duck was made use of by the  
waiter who brought the drinks, and the but boy  
here who received and delivered them to  
customers. Another annoyance was that for  
every batch of drink that came here I was  
asked to make change, though I retained no

money. I suppose people, ladies especially,  
complained of the man drinking in the dining  
room, though some of them were partakers, and  
when they were, there was apt to be a succession  
of drinks instead of just one around. Of course  
some of the men will, and have already kicked,  
but some so far have left their meals uneaten  
because of it. I am glad to report that I am  
getting a better quality of food since I told the  
manager that I would not eat the stuff they  
had been giving me any longer, and suggested  
that he increase my pay by only half what  
he charged to expense for my meals every day,  
and I would eat elsewhere or pay for what I  
got here. - The electrical manufacturers and  
dealers have what is said to have been a very fine  
display of their wares at the armory last week.  
There was also music by the National Band, acrobatic  
performances - vaudeville, picture shows and dancing.  
I should like to have seen the display and Mother  
talked of coming by for me some evening if I  
could get off early enough, but various things  
prevented. Louisville people seem to be trying to  
do their Christmas shopping early, judging from  
the crowds on Fourth Street last week. The weather  
was fine all the week except that it rained  
most all day Friday, turning cold enough to  
give us a snow fall of over half an inch, and  
some slaty patches on the sidewalks. This morning  
was even colder than yesterday about ten degrees.  
The mercury stood at 21 when I left home  
today, but the sun shone brightly and there was  
very little wind making a fine day. Friday night  
when I started home with Shirley, it rained a little  
it was raining and as I raised my umbrella, the  
wind shoved me forward at a brisk trot  
across Jefferson Street and I could not stop  
until I had passed the corner on the south side  
of the street though I leaned back and resisted



I asked for a carpet, smutting on some thing  
to cover the floor behind my desks and was  
given some rugs which make me much more  
comfortable though they do slide around some,  
having been folded so that they do not lie  
flat on the floor. They were ironing out  
smooth, but it is a great improvement on  
the concrete, and with my feet warm I do  
not feel the cold for I have on heavy warm  
clothes, and my coat has about disappeared.  
I hope you feel about William having me  
have not been realized. Mother was not feeling  
well yesterday was sneezing and had headache  
last night, but seems all right today. I think  
she got too warm in the kitchen and then went  
up stairs where the rooms were not so warm  
as the registers were turned to keep the lower  
floor comfortable. I have not yet been able  
to get a report from the Gas Electric Co  
on my bill for November. They said the  
Electric meter was not registering, and the  
Gas meter registered about four or six times  
as much as the previous month. They have  
put in a new Gas Meter, and are letting it  
to see whether I was overcharged as they said  
the old one was registering about a thousand  
cubic feet of gas a day the first 20 or 25 or  
days this month. That was before it turned  
cold and we were using comparatively little  
gas. They have the advantage and I don't  
know whether they will refund anything on the gas  
bill which I paid under protest. If they keep  
up charging this way I will have to take out  
the gas from the furnace and burn coal. For my  
income is not enough to pay the gas bills as they  
were running last month. Love and a happy  
Christmas for all of you - Dad

Louisville Ky Dec 17<sup>th</sup> 1916

Dear Chick:

Your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> received  
and was certainly enjoyed by all of us.  
Your messages to Mother and Gerche were  
delivered by letting them read the letter,  
and we all agreed that you must have read  
our last letters before you when you wrote  
because you answered all things in them that  
required an answer. It would be good indeed  
if things should turn out so that you could  
come home to live next spring even if one  
more breaking up hour. Nothing must come  
before you can do it. I often think through  
of the many advantages Washington has  
over other cities and wish I was able to live  
there myself provided all of us could be  
together. I had a letter last week from  
Shirley. She is yet undecided as to which  
one of her friends in Maine she will go  
just and where she will eat her  
Christmas dinner. Each of the two who  
have invited her to visit them wants her,  
and she has left it to them to decide,  
though I think she has her preference.  
It is going to a cold country to spend holiday  
in Maine, but she has tried it before  
and enjoyed it. We have had winter here  
since last Wednesday. Thursday it snowed  
and the wind blew all day and part of  
the night. Four or five inches of dry  
snow fell, and it turned colder rapidly after

clouds disappeared, giving us a temperature of 2° Friday morning and a little less than 0° Saturday morning. While this morning it was 30°. Yesterday afternoon it was warm enough to melt a little, making the sidewalks and the streets black and muddy. I never saw the sidewalks on Fourth street look nastier and they were crowded with the Christmas shoppers. At the front of many stores, especially the department stores and the 10 cent stores the crowds were so thick one could hardly get through, and the people seemed generally on the hunt for things as few carried packages. Perhaps their purchases were to be delivered by the stores. - Fall Hawk we are very much pleased with his first school report since he entered the school in Washington and we hope he may be able to turn all those 'G's' to 'E's' in the next. He must practice writing though, and try hard to improve when he does it. Patience and carefulness will enable him to write well and a good hand writing is a valuable acquirement even in three days of typewriting. Most of us scratch away in such a hurry that our writing looks bad and without wetting pens it will grow worse instead of better. Marian must learn to write like her Aunt for whom she named, and Ed must learn to write better than his father for whom he is named. We all get careless, as we write in a hurry and I admit that I wrote better when I had a gold pen instead of the scratchy pen I use these days. - When I used to go out

to Anchorage to work, a boy named Alois Schumann on school days, got on the car at Ridgway the first station this side of Anchorage. He was a nephew of Miss Helen Weber who was for a while my stenographer, and I often talked to him in the back platform of the car so we became well acquainted. This fall the walnut crop was good in that neighborhood, and he sent me about a peck of those he gathered and sent them to his aunt Helen brought them to the office last week. When I got home at night Mother generally has some fruit or something else good to eat for me and for several nights she has had walnuts and apples which are both very good to me. The little Mother cracked her thumb slightly cracking walnuts the first time she tried it, but it is getting well now. She has had to go back to the dentist to get the plate for her lower teeth better fitted. One side was rather too tight and the other was "wobblay". It is to be ready for her next Tuesday and I hope will fit as well and be as satisfactory as the upper plate. She speaks more plainly, at least I can understand her better, and I hope her digestion will be improved when she gets both plates in and can chew her food properly. - When it has been cold last week, I was very uncomfortable at my desk, as the constant puffs of cold air from the revolving door in the next floor came down the stairway, especially my feet were cold as there was no covering on the concrete floor, and I was talking cold right along

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LOUISVILLE, KY.

Christmas Day 1916

My dear Grand-children,

I have been so happy thinking about and loving all of you today that I have determined to fill up my leisure moments by writing you a letter to thank you for the nice presents we found in the package sent from Washington which was received several days ago, but not opened until this morning. Did you each guess just what would please me in selecting the presents sent to me or did mother tell you what to send. That stylish tie is exactly to my taste, and is very stylish, and I wonder if my little girls remembered that I like peanut brittle better than most any kind of candy. I will think of her every time I eat any of it, and will think of the boys when I wear that tie. Mamma, Gerchie and uncle Sam are pleased with the presents sent them, but I will let them write about them. We had a very pleasant Christmas morning, and were so anxious to see what was in the packages piled in the table in the dining room, that we could not wait until breakfast was over to get a look at them. I was much surprised at the number that were marked for me, for besides what you sent there was the beautiful silk handkerchiefs from your mother, for which you must give her my thanks, and my love. There were also new Gillette safety razor blades to take the place of the set I have used so long and which had been nearly worn out, and several were broken. Then I received some applications to remedy the trouble I have had with bunions and aching feet, two boxes of candy, besides the peanut brittle, one from Mother - a kind of walnut brittle, the other fine French candy with nuts in it and on it from the Inter Southern Life Ins. Co. which runs the Oyster House Restaurant, a box of fine cigars from Mr. J. R. Duffin, which was a great surprise to me, and a nice book called "All that's Beautifully" from Mr. John Holland who is now manager of the restaurant. There were all, unless I have forgotten some and they are all appreciated by me, as useful - and all that are eatable good to eat - and they were many more than I expected would be given me. I would like for each one of you to write me what you received and whether you were as happy and thankful to the givers as I feel. Mamma and aunt Gerchie come to the restaurant to eat their Christmas dinner and I was able to arrange matters so I could eat mine with them. It was the first and only time I have eaten dinner with them for more than four months. We planned

for uncle Jim to eat with us, but for some reason he did not come and I have not seen him to ask what it was. I will write just what our dinner was. Cream of Chicken. Savings-Soup, Cherry Olives, Broiled Potomac Shad and Sarapint's potatoes - Roast young turkey, cucumber marmalade - Au gratin potatoes - Green peas - Head lettuce, Thousand Island dressing - English plum pudding, hard or brandy sauce - Vanilla ice cream - Neufchâtel cheese - Toasted water crackers - and coffee of which Mamma and Geche drank but I did not - as I have not tasted coffee for several years, and did not wish for anything to drink except water. We all ate heartily and I shall not need any more food today, though that peanut brittle very tempt me when I get home tonight. It has been a pleasant day at the office, all the guests praised the dinner and from the laughing and talking while they ate and what they had to say to me as they left I think they enjoyed their dinners. Up to this time there has not been much of a crowd here, but we expect a good many later in the evening. I took a little stroll out Fourth street just before I began this letter, and I found the sidewalks clean and dry, the sun shining in a clear sky and every one I saw looked Christmasy. When Mamma and Geche left me after dinner, they expected to go out to 1430 S. First street to see all the Bailey family, as they had received a telephone message to do, though Geche expected to go any way to leave a little present with Evelyn. - How long does your school give for Christmas holidays? Aunt Geche's holiday will end a week from tonight, her school opening again on the first Tuesday in January and I think Shirley Gill will have to be back at Wallasey on the seventh of January. Mine has no beginning this year - and therefore no ending either, because there is none to have an end and it is the first time in my life that this has been the case, unless it was when I was so little that all days were holidays to me, and I did not know it. Tell your mother that Mamma has been looking every day for a letter from her, but none has arrived since the one I mentioned in my last letter to her. The postman was up in Eastover today but left no mail at our house unless he reached there after Mamma and Geche have started to come here for dinner. I am sure you have all had a pleasant day the more so, because you could all be together and enjoy your gifts, and not have to take a short look at them, then hurry through breakfast and run for a car to take you to work as I had to do. A week from today a New Year will have begun. That is the time when many people make "good resolutions" - to be better in some way than they have been in the year just gone by. I wonder if my boys and girls will not determine to be better, kinder, more loving with each other and to Father and Mother, to study harder, make better school records, and many other things which will do them good, make them happier and more than ever loved by all your family. Kindest acquaintances and friends may good health, prosperity and happiness be the blessings for the coming year that are wished for you by

Daddy Joe.