

I read this over and it sounds
as tho' Margery wrote it. Looks like
"Shep" walked on it.

BALTIMORE, MD. Sept. 17, '22.

Louise dear,

This honestly is the third letter
I have started to you. The others are
at the office unfinished. I am very
glad that you had a pleasant trip
home.

The shoes come o. k. Many, many
thanks for your kindness. I will
send you a belt to the sweater very
soon. Mamma has been away &
I have been cook. I know you are
glad you weren't here then. Papa
is in Chicago attending the Illinois
conference.

Baltimore is a little more
lively than when you left. There
was a very nice dance Friday
night & I had company from Washing-

(2)
- Ton, (The Garwins whom you met while in
Washington - I am sure you can't remember
every body tho.) for the weekend.

I have been taking it easy since
Mamma came back Sat.

"Bill" Andrews asked for you
twice since you left. Don't laugh.
Your third boy Warren is sick. I am
sure he eats too much.

Gibson said he is going to
"lay you out" when he sees you.
Says that he came in to call
and we weren't in and nobody
knew what time we would be
in.

What you can't read send
back to me and I will type
it and return to you. I don't
write like a teacher either.

Mamma and Aunt Julia

BALTIMORE, MD.

Send love to ³your mother and
Grandmother. Mamma says she'll write
soon but that may mean Xmas.

We are very much alike.

Must hustle on to work.

Oh! I bought two very pretty waists
the other day. One tan not quite
like yours but with the round
collar & a very pretty blue cotton
blouse. I also have a long black
dress. Send me some snaps of your
mother & grandmother. Is your father
as fat as ever? I lost 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds
under your prescription. Are you
gaining.

Blanche is having a party Tues.
(~~tomorrow~~ night.)
tomorrow
With love
Florence.

not intend to write this much. Its time to
go down to bed.
Love to your mother and father and yourself.

Florence.

P.S. - when I am able I think I shall go to
Hopkins and possibly they can give me a tonic
or something. Hope you are gaining.

1528 McCulloch St.
Baltimore, Md.

Dec. 11, 1924.

Dear Louise,

I know you think
we are the worse gang
you ever came across.

I'm sure when you have
heard that I have been
ill and that this is my
second day out of bed
you'll forgive me. I am
only allowed to be up
for a few hours.

Well, Louise, I had hard
luck. My baby was born -
a seven month one - and
did not live, and to think
it was a little girl. We
were all very disappointed.
The doctor and nurse say
I am getting along o. k.
but believe me I feel
like a weak kitten. Of course,

I'll be myself again soon. ² The whole trouble I think was that I over estimated my strength. The girl who did my scrubbing etc couldn't come over for two weeks before Thanks - giving and I polished furniture, cleaned up after paper hangers and did things which I was unaccustomed even when normal. I am hoping for better luck the next time however. Will let you hear from me.

Papa is in Bonita, La. will be in La. until Xmas eve. Mamma wouldn't go this trip. I'm surely glad too. I don't know what I would have done without her.

³ Mamma told me she had heard from you and your mother.

There's address is 1509
David Hill. She is ill too.

My pen went dry and I don't know where to tell anyone the rest so please excuse this mess.

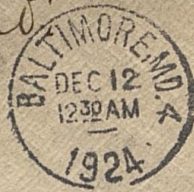
From all accounts the game was a wonderful society. Cecil went over for the game but came home in time for Thanksgiving dinner.

Quiter told me of the lovely gift you sent her.

She seemed very appreciative. She has a left pocket in the skirt.

Write when you can. I must really stop. I did

1528 McCulloch St.
Baltimore, Md.



Miss Louise Matthews

2121 W. Chestnut St.

Louisville, Ky.

1528 Mc Culloch St.
Baltimore, Md.
Dec. 30, 1924.

Dear Louise,

Just a line to tell you that we received packages. Many, many thanks for the gloves and believe me they were certainly needed. I have not been able to get out but twice so far and have not had chance to wear them.

My first day out I must have caught cold for ever since my eyes, ears, throat and teeth have been wearing me out. I have not been out at all during these holidays. My friends have certainly been lovely to me, however. I have words of beautiful presents and no end of cards.

I did not forget you but I am sure that you and Cousin Ophelia understand

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how I am situated.

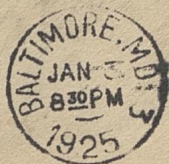
Papa made it home in time to spend Christmas. He arrived at 3⁰⁰ A.M. Christmas morning. We had a regular reunion. Sing has been home since Christmas eve. Sing sends love to you both.

Many, many thanks for your beautiful and useful gift. Let me hear from you. I had a Christmas tree about as big as my arm. Cecil even put electric bulbs on it. I wish you could have seen it.

A very happy New Year to your father and mother.
Write me when you can.

Love,
Florence.

BISHOP A. L. GAINES
1522 MCCULLOH STREET
BALTIMORE, MD.



Miss Louise Matthews
2121 W. Chestnut St.
Louisville, Ky.

why I said don't drop dead.

Ever since our visit to the High School Prof. Harkshaw (as the children call him) has been unduly pleasant - even going as far as to send Cecil and me an invitation to a dance of a Club to which he and his wife belong. I guess he has an axe to grind, however.

Pop says he told you and Corvina Ughelia that Margery was too much woman. You have no idea how she is growing, she is almost as tall as Margery. Anita Thomas has two of Jack's children with her now and they are Margery's best buddies.

John's kids make Xmas merry for all of

1528 McCulloch St.
Baltimore, Md.
Jan. 4, 1925.

Dear Louise,

Don't drop dead from shock.

I warn you this is going to be a greater surprise than you think before it is over.

First let me tell you what a hit the beautiful bath salts made. The human question box - Tiddy - saw it - and knew not what it was, for I would not take it out of the box - it was too pretty and attractive - asked what's in the blue box and when I told her

opened and inspected with characteristic
care. One-by-one they came and
always the same "What's in the box".
We began to wait for it and Mary, Perks
Cecil and I made a chorus of it. We
enjoyed seeing them wait to ask, and
wouldn't but finally would succumb.
You know how I love pretty toilet articles.
I received some very pretty gifts. Cecil
gave me a beautiful orchid quilted robe and
Donald & Margery gave me slippers to match.
I received four nightgowns, one bed
sacque, pair sheets and candle sticks.

I suppose you are wondering why so
much bedroom attire. Well the truth
is I am hoping I'll soon have need for
the little comb and brush you gave me
while you were here. Contrary to the last
time, I have so increased my size and
shape that every body about knows it this
time and had my coming illness in ~~mind~~ ^{mind}
when they selected my gifts. If all goes
well I think it will come off in March. I
will let you know how things turn
out. You understand, now, I suppose

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order for any.

looks like I just can't get finished. I heard
from Mildred Gaines - just a note.

Write soon. Love to all.

- Brennan

11
us. They had the place looking like
a toy shop. Deschle had an express
wagon large enough to haul the
Truid laundry works in; Gaines has
a Packard 8; Warren a scooter and
Austin a kiddy car together with
an enormous tree and loads of
small toys. They are, if possible,
worse than when you last saw
them. Austin is a dream, tho'
fretful and cute as Cupid himself.
Hattie Mae Harris from
Athens, Ga. married a Baltimore
boy and has been spending some
weeks here. I have seen her a
couple of times but am really
ashamed for not having called but

v

I am a little conscious of my "disfigurement" and have been almost nowhere except market and church since October.

Theresa gave a party for her and I saw her there. She is some fat - I suppose she weighs nearly 160.

Wesley is doing fairly well - but like most young men, feels he isn't doing what he should. He is raising over some senior at Howard this year from Georgia named Geneva Dough. Do you know her?

I'm writing a long letter for I may not get a chance to write again soon but write and let me know whether you have gained any or not.

You must come up this summer and see my daughter. (If everything goes well.)

Tell Cousin Ophelia we received her card and appreciated it very much. Every year I seem to let the time slip up on me before I get down town to put in an

1528 McCulloh St.
Baltimore, Md.



Miss J. Louise Matthews

212 W. Chestnut St.

Louisville, Ky.

We were all glad to learn that your dental troubles were over so successfully.

I'm snatching this few minutes between Carl's naps. So excuse scribbling.

All send love!

Do ever

D Lounce,

1528 McCulloch St.
Baltimore, Md.
October 11, '26

Dear Louise,

I am positively ashamed of my self for not having written sooner, to thank you for your kindness to Carl. The cup is beautiful and you know how it was needed. He doesn't have to use the old broken china ^{one} any more.

Alice says Sykes is coming up by Thanksgiving. I have not been able to

learn the where-for, but something tells me there's an Ethiopian in that woodpile.

There is a girl living here from Jersey City who says she has a brother who knows you quite well. She is a Mrs. Marion ~~James~~ Ginn. I don't know her maiden name but will let you know in my next. Her husband teaches here in one of our vocational schools.

Everybody is preparing for the Game. I'd love to go but a coat seems impossible. My friend from Philly sent word she would be here en route - but I can't see how I can make it.

I am writing your mother to thank her for the baby dresses. They are real sweet. I am going to take good care of them for you.

1528 McCu
Baltimore

Oct 11, '26

Miss Louise Matthews
2121 W. Chestnut St.
Louisville, Ky.

¹⁴
She went to Normal School and did splendidly. She is leaving for Asbury as soon as Manner returns from Chicago.

We all miss Grandma so much. She was so much a part of the house. They have a very good housekeeper now tho'.

I know lots to tell you about your cousin Wesley when you come up. He is a typical Saines. Easter Monday he brought the girl he was supposed to be engaged to over. I was still in bed so saw very little of her. They have since, I think, become less friendly. I do know he has his frat pin now and

1528 McCulloch St.
Baltimore, Md.
June 7, 1926

Dear Louise,

Since the arrival of Cecil, Jr. I am, if possible, an even worse correspondent. I sent word to you by Pop to by all means come up this summer and see my son. I can't tell you just yet whom he resembles. Opinions differ. He is very cute tho'. I know school will be closing soon so we are looking for you up. Try and get your mother to come with you. As soon as the baby is able to sit alone I am going to have his photograph made, but

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living in the country - Arnold, Md. about
a mile this side of Annapolis - I know
you recall Annapolis very pleasantly -
ha - ha. Jack has started a poultry
farm. He has his two little girls with
them here now.

Louise, you should see me now. I
am weighing 119 and the pathetic part of
it is that because I'm nursing Cecil Jr. I can't
diet. I'd love to send you about fourteen pounds.

Sing spent the winter here as she said
she could not stay in Asbury Park another winter.

112

you must come and see
him for yourself. Papa
wrote that he didn't spend
any time at your house
so I know he forgot to
give Cousin Opie his very
message.

Everybody is busy

giving Alice Showers now.

You know I wish ~~to~~ was

gone back to Deater. His

father died in February

and he is in charge of his

father's underlaying business

there now. Alice is leaving

for Deater to be married

some time this month.

Quida has closed their

house on Penn still well in

she was wearing it when she was over.

You won't know Joe's kids. Austin's looks like an eight year old kid he is so large. Joe is getting to be a real flapper since she has no more babies.

Cecil, Mary and Perks send love.
Write when you can to

Florence.

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I'm trying to watch television and write this, too. I found we were compelled to be home so much that we needed something to pass time. Now I find myself becoming a slave to the things. Cecil is crazy about the fights so that is how we pass the evenings.

Louise, by the way, do you belong to the Links? I understand there is a chapter in Louisville. We have one here to which I belong, and I have heard there is one there. They organize so fast and in such a peculiar manner I wonder sometimes how they go about it. Do you know any of the members?

Everybody is about the same. Let me hear from you when you get a chance.

Love,
Florence

MRS. CECIL GLOSTER

1522 McCULLOH STREET BALTIMORE 17, MARYLAND

February 22, '53

Dear Louise and Cousin Ophelia,
Thanks for the booklet on Louisville High. It must be the last word. Teaching in such a building must be a real pleasure. Altho' Baltimore is putting up some fine new buildings, particularly elementary and vocational, the one I'm in was built in 1869. Can you imagine that? It is quite near home, however, and enough for me to handle at my age and with all the other things I have to do.

Joe's girl, Phene, was here today. She seems to be adjusting quite well. Joe left her the house they

lived in and ² she and her youngest brother Al live there. He is quite a problem. For some reason, he would never attend high school as he should and became greatly retarded. After Lincoln was inducted in the service, Al joined the air force also. He received a medical discharge from there after a few months and since has been at loose ends. He is very interesting in undertaking, and has a job with Mrs. Hollands funeral home just across the street from his home. He has been fooling around with the business for years, but without a high school diploma he can't go to any school of embalming. Phere

is lovely to him but I think ~~she~~ she is too young to be burdened like that. She takes it in it's stride however. I think she eventually get adjusted. I'm trying to get him to go to night school. All the others are fine and there are so many little ~~things~~ things that I can't keep track of them.

Mamma has good traps and bad. On the bad ones she talks incessantly about everything. Physically she seems in fairly good condition.

We had a letter from Jack Saturday. He is getting a furlough March, and wants to go to Italy and Switzerland. I think Eddie and Betty would have gone and had he learned we knew the furlough was coming through sooner, Betty wrote me that she has bought a car.

his equipment to Washington. These
DC niggers are impossible.

Had a letter from King last
week. She was planning to be
here when you came back.

Mary thanks for looking after
a place for me in N. Y. but since
you won't be there I know
a few people there I'll postpone
my trip.

Love to your mother and dad.
I'll write you again soon.

Robingly,
Florence.

1528 McCulloh St.
Baltimore, Md.
[1945?]

Dear Louise, -

I fully intended answering
your letter before this, but
we have had such very hot
weather that I have done
absolutely nothing. The snaps
were great and very much
like all of us. When I saw
Blanche last she had
not taken her's out of the
scodax even. Frances Gardin
and Esther Taylor came over
and left the films to those
which Gardin took. As
soon as I get them I

shall send you a set. Incidentally when they came to my house I did not let them in. Perhaps went to the door and according to instructions told them I was out.

I can't begin to tell you how I feel about Aunt Belle's death. Some how she seemed to have, as I remember, the personality that would overcome any thing and wipe out of your mother's letter I was shocked beyond words. When I got the impression that any one

near to me ³ couldn't die, I don't know but never the less I have it and can't overcome it. I hope you will be able to come up as usual next year and we will have our usual visit. I'm sure your mother can't spare you any more this year.

Everybody is well at present. Cecil is suffering from a severe cold. I do hope it will improve soon. His father spent a day & a half with us and during his visit Garwin dropped in for a day. He is moving

7.9.4
1528 McCulloch St.
Baltimore, Md.

Miss F. Louise Matthews
2121 W. Chestnut St.
Louisville, Ky.

students to take to the games, then
afterward he went to a dance. He
likes Balt. very much better than
Washington.

(^{is in speaking is delicious})
Do you belong to any ^{clubs} ^{clubs}? There
is one convening here ⁱⁿ ^{two} ^{week}.
I can't keep them apart as couldn't till
you which. If you happen to be one
of them come on me.

Tell your mother Donald and Mary
are enjoying their books immensely.
Donald is about ready to read Marguerite now.
Love
Florence

'20'

1528 McCulloch St.
Baltimore, Md
[1920?]

Dear Louise

The package came
O.K. The Bridge set was
beautiful. I haven't used
it as yet as my card
club meets with me
Dec. 21 and I am saving
it until then. Many thanks
for it. The Choker came O.K.
also. You need not have
worried about wearing
it, for you couldn't hurt

4. The Howard-Lincoln game
is over & I sat in Balto. waiting
to hear the news. We decided
that there were so many things
to be done and that we had
spent so much money this
year to stay home. I surely
was sorry to miss it.

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I suppose "your cousin"
Mildred told you all about
"Dr. Beautiful Frazier(?). We
were her out about him.
By all means stop by this
summer there'll be so
much for me to tell
you. Little Wesley, another
of "your cousins" came
over and attended the
Lincoln-Hampton game.
He had one big time, too.
He had a girl, one of the

good to you.

I am absolutely the dumbest person on earth. The Sunday after you left a Mr. Savoy of Washington called you - From Washington.

I promised Faithfully to tell you. I hope you didn't tell him what a poor messenger I am.

My was down last month.

She only stayed a few days but we were all very glad to have

her. She³ is thinner than you if this is possible.

I surely wish you could be up here now. We are having some fine dances, one nearly every Friday night - by some club or other.

I am sending you some snaps of my and me. I hope you like them. They were taken while she was here. Papa is in Columbia, S.C. and expects to leave there for Fla. and stop by Atlanta

TRINITY A. M. E. CHURCH PARSONAGE

REV. A. L. GAINES, D. D., LL. D.

1522 McCULLOH STREET

BALTIMORE MARYLAND

1922?

Miss Louise Matthews
2121 W. Chestnut St.
Louisville, Ky.

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poor struggling married woman.

Every body is well and Papa is quite out that go. He expects to go to New Orleans this week. We have had more South American and monkey chasing ruggers here than I have seen in a life time.

The Hursts have James equipped in a new Cadillac sedan. Jim using Beck's paper so I'll have to ring off. Love you as usual better than ever. Lovingly, Florence

1528 McCulloch St.
Baltimore, Md.
Sunday.

Dear Louise,

We were all very sorry when we learned that you would not be able to come up. We had expected to see you and have you here over the Fourth. We had a delightful picnic in a real country spot - bathing, baseball and a real country dinner. I had been invited to Arundel

to a house party but we had already planned our picnic.

Social life here has reached its usual summer dullness and everyone is planning to go off somewhere. I have had a very cordial letter from Alice West, the girl ^{with} whom Frank Sykes is smitten, to spend the month of August. She lives in a little country town not far from Philly. Fiddy is there now and writes glowing accounts of the charm of the place. I haven't given them any answer as yet but I suppose I'll go up for a few days - but no country for mine for a month, I was born reared and still live in a "heck" town.

I hope you aren't thinking of summer school. The rest will do you all sorts of good and when you come up this way later will have one big time. Your mother suggested that we take a trip to New York and Niagara. I know Cousin Ophelia has forgotten that I'm a