

mediate eye. I know Miss Hillard to be above tempt-
Farewell - your ever grateful
tation

Wm. James

20 Quincy St

Cambridge Sept 16. 76

Dear Ladies

I can't think of replying
on a postal card - My masculine
Curiosity was such that I opened
your package before I got out
of Keene Valley. My auricles
& ventricles were distended well
nigh to bursting by the touch-
ing fitness of your gift. Ever
since I had been at Beebe's
I had been doubting whether
those salt cellars could be found
at Boston, and the thought

had given me many an hour
of gloom and discouragement.
I never dared dream of pursuin-
ing one of the precious objects.
How were my clouds riven
by your daring act. Give me
hereafter those who will com-
mit a crime for one whom
even if they do spell trochanter wrong!
they care for. How could you
be so ^{ingeniously} considerate? As the
salt, once opened, threatened to
invade my pocket and gradually
spread over my whole organiza-
tion, I emptied the little casket
and gave the contents to the
thankful horse. Just then

your beautiful word pterodactylian reminded
me of my cheiropterous pets, and I had a
moment of exquisite anguish as I recalled that
I had clean forgotten them. I hope you will
tenderly care for them - act in a word towards
them as you did towards me - and they will
pass the best hours of their life. But I
hate to lose them, even if they are the gainers.
Do not fricasee them. Rather let them go if it
be too onerous to feed them. I had no ad-
ventures on the road. At Albany I made a

pilgrimage to the house of my infancy and the
haunts of my boyhood. Death & mutation over
all!" Chaos of ruins, who can mark the road?" It
sickened my heart. I took the night train,
and have worked my way now through a "stack"
of letters (sara beede's word for the socks in the
laundry from which you pick your own) journals
&c, and am about ready to begin D. Deronda,
which, it gratifies my prophetic soul to hear,
ends impotently. Pray Miss Cushing act
with regard to cake as if you were under my

Wm. James

BOSTON. MASS.
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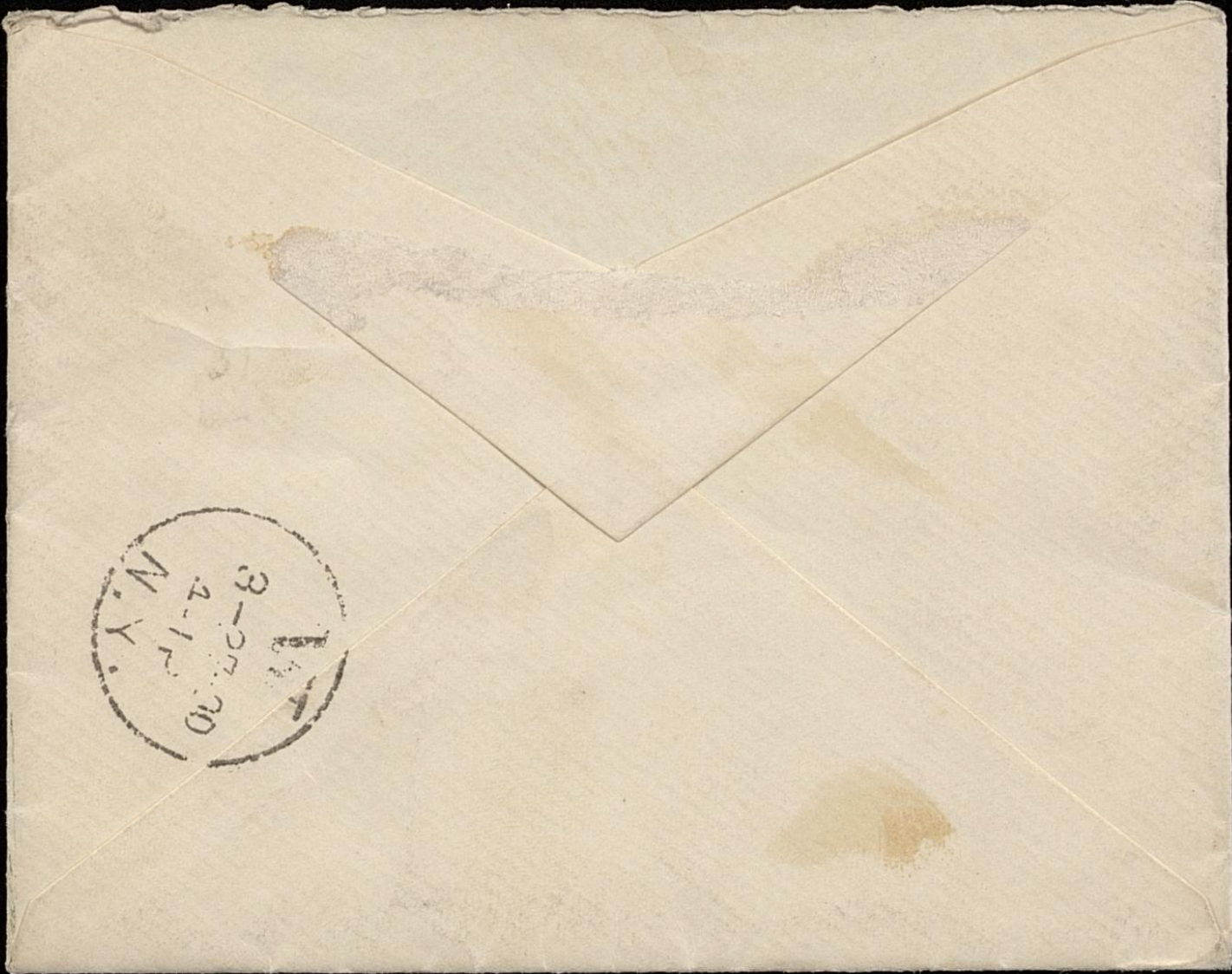


Miss Hillard

177 West 95th St.

New York

N. Y.



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