

Camp Columbia, Luemados, Cuba.  
August 27<sup>th</sup> - 1900.

My dear Jennie: This is mail day and I received your letter of the 23<sup>rd</sup> enclosing one from Hattie. You can tell her that I am not in a position to help either of them; and that if I were able I should hesitate a long while on account of the impertinence, vulgarity, and selfishness shown. I am however not yet able to support my wife and children who do not treat me in that way. I think you had better drop that correspondence.

It was very kind of you to think of sending me these peaches, I fear they will cost a pretty deal when they arrive, because when expressed

charges are paid to Havana  
they always add a dollar or two  
more here. I wish you had not  
gone to the expense of sending them  
because they are very apt to be spoiled  
when they reach here.

Yes I heard or saw in the paper  
that Roberts was ordered to San Francisco.  
Of course he is an acting first surgeon  
but the papers often get things mixed.  
If he goes abroad he will probably  
go to the Philippines and not to  
China and remain there two years.  
But I thought the taking of women  
on transports for the Philippines was  
forbidden. Perhaps he will be kept  
at San Francisco and he will not  
go any further.

I think probably your headache  
is caused by eye strain at night  
about the house and oval and  
now I can hardly advise you

Jamie because you know the situation  
just as well as I do. Increased expense  
and diminished income, all brought  
about by my friend. Do not you  
remember a few weeks before I left  
I told you he remarked when I told  
him about the new baby, that I ought  
to have my salary increased. I said  
then that I expected something was  
coming to reduce my income and so  
it did. This thing puts me out about  
\$60<sup>00</sup> a month and if he can help  
it I will never get as much again.  
Do you know what to expect - \$100<sup>00</sup>  
a month and no more. for it will  
take the rest to keep me going.

And now about Jamie and myself  
You must not expect a man or a boy  
to be like a girl but I know Jamie like  
to be petted and when he pushes you away  
it is not because he does not like it but  
because he does like it and does not

Know what else to say. For myself  
I must say that I here missed the  
kisses and hugs of late, ~~and~~ except on  
certain occasions, and I here often wondered  
about it. You say you have never felt so  
free with me since I turned you from me. When  
was that? I do not remember. I know that  
while I here been using tobacco I here  
purposefully refrained from kissing because  
I did not want to disgust you but you  
should not have cause to complain now.  
There is no reason I know dear why  
you should be so backward in taking  
your kiss whenever you want it. It is a  
pleasure to me to see you take it even  
though I only faint and if you were  
not so shy about it I should be now  
often reminded of it.

Good night dear Jimmie & Ed & Ben  
You, kiss dear Mabel and the other children  
and pray for all you are with.

Your affectionate husband  
James