

No date – Envelope says “Had fallen from hammock and sprained my arm - Mary B.R.”

To Miss Mary W. Bates, Sheldrake, New York

Wednesday Eve

My darling Mamie,

Aunt Ella's letter just came since tea and you cannot imagine how your Mother feels – to think her darling child was so badly hurt and I not there to help her bear it. Auntie says you are very brave and just as sweet as you can be about it – just as I knew you would be. But oh! I am so sorry for you. I do hope you will all be careful. Your Father is going to see you and I shall feel better about you. I wonder if you slept well last night or if your arm pained you so that you could not rest. How I long to see you tonight – it seems as if I must fly to you, my darling. The hammock is a dangerous thing – it ought to hang low. I am so sorry I did not tell you so before and caution you about it. I feel very thankful that you are not seriously injured more than you are. You might have been injured for life. If your arm pains you very much you had better come home and stay till I go, and then go back with me – then you will be where Papa can take care of you all the time. Aunt Ella did just the best thing she could, we all think. Grandma sends love to you and says she shall not sleep as well as she should if you were not hurt. Good night, my precious child. May the Lord bless and keep you. And restore you, is the prayer of your loving Mamma. Love to all and Love and kisses to my precious Rossie boy.

Note on envelope: If you have any soiled clothes you had better send them home. Mother