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Dearest Little Love

Your precious letter of yesterday is at hand. Glad to hear that all is well. I am afraid that I shall have to give you a little household bother. Cecilia is as you know not very strong and complains a little now and then. She gets nervous and upset very easily and this morning suggested that it would be a great relief to her if we could get our cook for the winter. She says that Mrs. [Toafer's?] ironing is very unsatisfactory as [marked?] it is from the specimens she shows me and finds the work a little too much for her to tackle single handed. Bessy Devlin has told me that Becca will come to us at any time upon a week's notice. Shall we employ her now? Please write at once what you think so that I can act accordingly. In my judgment we had far better do it as the expense will be increased very little and my darling will be saved the worry of a brand new servant on returning home. Cecilia will of course stay with Becca so that we may know that everything is all right.

I am very busy today with [notering?] and proof correcting which will take me all day long. The Racket has arrived and will go in the basket. The weather is horrid. I am, like Mr. Mantalini, "a dem'd, damp, moist unpleasant body" so is everybody else. I see the quarantine regulations are very strict. Ten days quarantine in Spain against

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all persons arriving from France or Italy. I fear there is poor chance for the travellers. God bless my own precious darling and dear little blue-eyed Tots.

Your own Loving  
Larry