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The New Leland  
Fireproof construction  
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Dearest Daughter:

Howard writes me that Henry and Reba have found a house and that they will move into it soon. Will you not go with Reba, if possible, to help her get the furniture she needs from Coogan's. Do not open any china or kitchen utensils there, as they are to be sent (whatever there is of them) from Baltimore. The last time I was at 1406 Laetitia and I spent the whole evening unpacking the barrels and boxes which you had so carefully packed last November; and I put aside the things that I did not wish to have sent on to Reba and showed Laetitia all the things that I do want her to have.

She has her own sheets and in any event, I could not lend her any linen. I did not offer it to her in my letter. I do not know whether I mentioned blankets or not, but I think it best that she should get her own, which she will now be able to do with the money that was given by Will and Howard when I was in Baltimore, and we had a sort of collection bee. I am sending her by this mail a check for \$35.00 to pay for the transportation of the furniture from the storage place and to mend legs of tables and chairs.

Miss Vernon and I are holding a meeting here at 3:30 and are taking the night train back to Chicago, where I shall remain until next Monday night. Please address me Hotel Stratford, Chicago, Illinois. Mrs. Bertram Sippy has invited me to stop with her and I shall do so for a day or two, but want to spend part of my time in the hotel, where I am more independent. This will reach you on my birthday. I send you loving greetings.

How lovely it will be to bring myself on instead of sending greetings.

Your loving

Mother.

I'm waiting for lunch wh. is frightfully late. Our meeting is scheduled to begin at 2.30 + its 1.30 now. So will have to eat + run. I do want to write you about this absurd house. Its like a bad dream in architecture. You'd think 2 children had built it + just wandered on in the

doing it as the spirit moved them. As you come thro the front door a marble lady faces you. She was an idea of Mrs. Gehrman's (Mr [Cisten?]). She told the sculptor to make the figure rising out of some [taking] a flower to pieces [illegible] life. I asked if the tall thing at her side (I thought it was the Woolworth building) was a building; the figure has a small square piece in her fingers that she has taken from the top. Mrs. G. said no, it was a flower, but the lines had to be made long + the little squares let in (they [strikethrough] were [/strikethrough] are exactly like windows) to match the andiron painting to the andiron in the hall fireplace! Then the fountain that [founts?], when you turn it on, thro' a little hole + drips over into a sort of foot bath. At one end of the hall. And the library in the basement, with lights so dark you'd put your eyes out if you read + books all in glass cases + miles of corridors + different stair levels + the abomination contained in this [illegible]! How absurd to write so much about a house, but I feel all "stuck in a heap" by it. [Ayner Hamilton?] would faint if she saw it.

[Lunch?]

Ma.