Dear Mamma,

Mr. McCook came home with Sam Daves last week. They had a full day of forty-eight hours only. Many thought he came to marry my niece. They could not imagine what else could induce him to leave on the eve of an engagement and it was reported all over town. He went to Mrs. E. and stated that most of the time but there was no wedding that we know of. I think he will leave later. I wish I could see him. I have been in touch with his letter, always asking after him and if a letter is received one day it is still incomplete. Uncle told me about the other day, I expect you will know the news as soon as they are taken. It will come almost like seeing you home again. And we will have the same money to share from him and the same horse. I say, hurry up, we are all going to be here soon.

Our horse is very safe, but since he knows where to go he will remember when he will come. I think your horse was very happy, his character for safety tells you where he will be most likely to try it again.

Dr. Griff needs love to Mamma, and Mamie's adoration of you all. And if you want to know who you are running back, Isaac Austin. But he says she is pleased that you all remembered her and talked about her. The dear Clarks! He glad.

We all will again, and little Elliott has tried to talk, but cannot quite sound a word. You remember Dr. Adams Hewitt, and how pleasant he was? He tells little Bessie Pierce on his knee short after Christmas and said, "Did you have a merry Christmas?" Bessie answered, "I dreamed about Christmas." And said, "Were your dreams fulfilled?" "My stocking was filled," said she. Pretty good, wasn't it? It is a beautiful day and Aunt Clark looked well in her new black, which I made after the butter. Your Mamma sent us, Aunt Clark is.
is an iron grey cloth, with only brassing on the plants behind and small curtains on the arched holes. I have written for Mammy, and you may also tell her. Holida came here yesterday and said Earnest is very sorry she treated you so badly and wishes to go back to you. She will ask freedom of all, and never do so again. I told her she had better write and tell them to come home. She said she had done so, but she said she only wished to go back to Mrs. Brown, and that it was all her cousin’s fault. Holida told her to go again and ask Mrs. B., as I suppose she will.

Dear little Stella, we all want to see you, and hope it will not be long before your parents will think it right to return. You must let us know a few hours before you come that we may receive you comfortably. I have planted many pretty flowers in your yard, and I intend to take care of them this coming summer, and not plant any at the old place even if we should not sell. Olenna has made no bargain as yet, I believe she still thinks of it.

How do Frank and Robby? I suppose you do not quarrel, now you are so far from your friends. It would grieve Mammy so much for you to do so. And she is so far away from her brother and needs that you should love her and visit her more than one year did when she was here and could visit and see us often. All is very quiet at your house. Nothing goes in the yard from the street, for we keep the gate locked. De Graff’s boys get over the broken fence, but they do no harm as far as I can see, Grandfather surrounded the fence with wire and since that there is no more trouble, they cannot get in to them.

And how is Olenna? I often think of her when I am at your house and see some articles of her cloth. I have put everything of the kind in your drawer, where you will find them on your return. I wish I could be with you a few days, and more still do I wish your Aunt Mary could go and see you. We cannot, and must try to be content. I wish you would take particular notice of everything in print about your home, and the Fort, for I know you will wish you had done so in time to come. If you do not now. When you are old as Grand Mammy, you will like to tell of the time you lived at Fort Hamilton, and what happened then,