

Stamford May 1st 1886

Dear Ruth,

It is a lovely day. Lon has been working for Mrs. Reel plowing for her this forenoon & took dinner there so I did not get a regular dinner. Mamma has gone down there this afternoon to call & Son is drawing out manure for him. [...] He has one field of oats sowed. It is earlier here than last year a good deal. We have made one tub of butter & have commenced another. We milk three cows now, expect to milk four soon. We looked for Mr. & Mrs. Wallace all day but they have not come. Last Saturday Fenton & Maud Frazee came & made us a visit. They have a span of black horses & a corral & they are very nice looking & altogether they looked fine & their look were not deceiving for they are just as nice young people as you will find anywhere & they think very very much of each other. Do you remember them? Of course they were little when you saw them May 5th. Well Ruth you see I have not finished my letter yet but will try to now. Lon is milking. I have all my work done for tonight but washing milk pack(?). I milk sometime. I like to when Lon is busy in the field. It helps him. It has rained nearly all day but now it has cleared up & everything looks beautiful, so refreshed. I cleaned my pantry yesterday. Have ironed today. You always iron Monday. I do sometimes but Monday I washed 4 woolen sheets & two spreads & then cleaned out the pantry for Lon to white-wash so did not have time to iron. Mamma fixed & sowed tomatoes, cabbage, turnip, onion, & sage seeds & they are all up & look nice. Lon made her a bed outdoors & she sowed that field to. She likes to fuss with them. We have two calf – one named Junabo & one Elsie Gray. We are going to raise her. We raised one last year. Her name is Topey & she is black all over & her tongue is black. She is very nice & gentle. Osborn & Herbert & their family all but Willy(?) & Chammie(?) were here three weeks ago yesterday. Stayed all night. They came to Mrs. Simons(?) & took dinner & had warm maple sugar & then Mrs. Simons(?) & all came down here & took tea. Dave was not at home. Mrs. S. invited us up there but as they were coming down in the afternoon, we did not go. Little Pohamie(?), Mary's boy, was two years old the morning he was here. He is coming over to stay with us a week for a while. Mary cleans house. We expect to go after him the first of next week, dear little fellow. Hope he will like to stay. We wanted Charlie to come the same time but Osborn & Chrissie cannot make up their minds to spare him. Mamma told Osborn she never killed him & she guessed she wouldn't hurt Charlie. I wish you could see them, Charlie, Georgie, & Polhamie(?). They get along nicely together. I would like to see dear little Elisha. I would kiss him so much he would not know what to do. Does he like kisses. Will he kiss anyone when they ask him? Polhamie will sometimes but not often. Tell Elisha & send him a great big kiss. I am glad you are to have Fannie this summer. I should think you would be sick with so much work to do but you get along with it the best of anyone I ever saw. Give Fannie lots of love from Mamma & I. Tell her to come & see us. Ruth, cannot you & her come next fall or before long. Do come, I would like to hear all about A?nnie & Will. Mary Walker is putting in full time. Isn't she St. Theresa? I feel sorry for her, she suffered so much. I would think they would hold up [...] you. I heard her baby had been dead six weeks in her. Well it is nearly four years since we were married. It doesn't seem it, does it?

It is getting dark, dear Lady. See Mama says tell you not to forget to write to her. We all send love & I send lots of kisses. Carrie E. King

My notes:

Osborn & Herbert are Carrie's brothers

Willy & Chammie are probably Herbert's sons, William & Chauncey

Osborn & Chrissie had sons, Charlie & George

Herbert & Mary also had a son, Polhamie, who was probably about the same age as Charlie & George (~age 2 or 3 as of this letter).