

My Dear Little Boy,

Mama Caldwell started to write to Mama tonight; & she saw an envelope with Mr. Carl Lay Jr. on it, so she just decided to write to her little man and tell him how sorry she was to hear he had the whooping cough. Tell Mama not to worry about you for it is better now than any other time, and there's no danger in your choking, it just sounds a little bit scary, but when the weather gets warm you will get along better, a little later and you will be going to school, and if you had it then you would have to stop school, so after all "the sweet summer time" is the best; but Mama must go to sleep and get her good rest; or she will not feel like nursing you, little Shirley's Mama said yesterday she thought she would have to send Shirley to the infirmary, that she coughed so hard she couldn't get any rest at all & that she just simply couldn't stand it. Now see what a good Mama you have, she wouldn't let her little boy go away from her when he was sick. Tell Mama we got her letter last evening. Was glad she remembered where we all lived. Aunt Mary enjoyed her visit so much & is crazy about Gadsden.

Tell Mama this is Commencement day over here & Mr. Patton that once lived here preached the sermon. Grandma Caldwell entertained him at the Lanceford Hotel he had Mrs. Patton with him she said after she left here she found she was related to us, through the Mobile [?]. The girls all looked nice in their commencement dresses and Aunt Kate looked fine in her sun dress. Tell Aunt Cary we want to hear from her, had Miss Watson to tea tonight. Aunt Cary will remember her, the Currier's friend. Mattie & ask often about you. Mama must not forget to tell you about Emms little boys. Well I was going up to grandma C's the other day & met two little darkies, just about your size, they had each other's hands & both were coughing as hard as they could, & could hardly stand up, so I asked them whose little boys they were, & they told me Mr. Arthur Ruds [Arthur Reeds], so I decided right there was where our little boy got the whooping cough, when they came to call on you, & "Uncle Ed" as they called him.

Ask Aunt Cary if she knows positively that she has had it. Mama can't remember, she has so many wheels in her head going round, if she has not, she had better keep in close. Give my love to grandmother, and all at home & Aunt Cary's.

Write when you can one of your sweet little letters, Jessie Dean is here, but we have not seen her yet to ask about you. Be a good boy, & go to Sunday School. Obey your Mama and everybody will love you.

Good night & pleasant dreams
Devotedly
Mama Caldwell

17359- 8.30

Mr. Carl Lay Jr.
Gadsden
Alabama

[back of envelope]

Gadsden

May 20

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1912

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