

Jacksonville Ala
May 26th 1912

My dear Josie:

Your sorrow has fallen heavily on all of us. In fact it has cast a gloom over the entire community.

Gladly in our short sightedness, would we have kept him here, but God knows best and for some good purpose He has taken his pure

little spirit to himself.

I know just how desolate life is without him. He was a darling child and you one of the very best of mothers. Oh! the happiness they make in a home. It seems that after our baby's death all the brightness was gone from this world and I have never ceased to miss him. But when I imagine the Holy innocents

around the throne of God in Heaven I feel comforted to know he has one there. One who left this world pure and undefiled. You have always been such a brave sensible girl I know that you will look at this trial just as a Christian should. I only want you to know I love you and sympathize with you deeply. Give my love to Carl. I am so thankful that you have him to help

you bear your grief. Love to Mrs. Lay and regards to the other members of the family. May God bless and comfort you dear child and keep nearer both of you during these dark days than ever before. Mary Emma and Fannie send tenderest love and sympathy. Affectionately

Your cousin

Sallie L. Hoke

Mrs. Carl Lay
Gadsden, Alabama

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Gadsden
May 26
8-30A
1912
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