

Letter from C.C. to Rosalie. (Property of Miss C. Roberts)

"New York City, Sept 20th 1874

Dearest Rosalie -

Your most welcome letter of the 30th of August -

from Craig Oban - came to me by the hand of
dear Ned - who returned to us very safely & very
well last Monday morning - rather a long passage
for the Brittonic - but he came safely - & that
was the best for us. He has got very stout
during his trip & his English frock coat made

him look stouter still. He seems quite delighted
with his trip & was of course quite full of the
wedding & all the steps leading to it. as it
was the most important thing I sent him to do -
of course it was the most important to be ex-
plained to me in all its preliminary ramifications.
Before he left - he came to me at Newport. & I
gave him full & particular instructions as to how
he was to proceed & I feel as if the result was
well worth all the expenditure of means & brains -
for you are made happy - & funds are I hope

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buried & animosities smoothed down. Mrs. Muspratt seems to have behaved much more liberally than you gave her credit for - & I cannot help thinking we have misjudged her - she has not had a bed of roses - poor soul - & perhaps we ought to have had more patience with her. From what your uncle Richard told Ned - I imagine you will get more than \$200 a year from your share of the estate - over the £1000 a year which she reserves for keeping up the Hollies. You say, about ^{\$200} a year - but Ned says it will be nearer £300 - I am sure I

hope so - for though with Mr. Roberts income from the business - you will not need it still - it establishes your right in your fathers will - & your inheritance - & this is a great point gained. Ned told me about your house which you had rented it is where your poor mother longed for a house when she first married your father - when old Mr. Muspratt straightened them down to living on £1000 a year - & "keeping up an establishment on that - carriage & horse &c &c". Ned told me of all your beautiful presents & how handsome you looked at

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your wedding & how very happy you seemed. & of all the flags flying in the village - & the wedding breakfast & I could only cry at the account - in thinking of your poor dear mother and grandmother - & all that they would have felt & done on the occasion - They were with you dear Rose - unseen witnesses of your first real true happiness - God send you many days happier in every way than even that one - & may you prove all your anticipation in your husband - I suppose by this

time - you are about ~~to~~ returning to the little nest you have made for yourselves. I only wish I could see it - & all your pretty things about you. & above all your "master of arts" - I hope very earnestly - that you & he may find it among the possibilities of your - to come over to America to see me next year.

I do hope dear Rosalie - that you and Mr. Roberts will let bygones be bygones. & accept the state of things which your relations have established -

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by their behaviour at your wedding - keep up in all ways your relations with Mrs. Muspratt - she cannot help what she is - nor what your guardians forced upon her - & from all she said to Ned - I am sure she means kindly - dont cut yourselves off from your family - in any resentful remembrance of their opposition to your wishes - they thought they were acting for the best - & perhaps they were. and dear old Uncle Charles - cranky though he seems - is as sweet and kindly as he can be at heart.

& we must not mind his queernesses. He has had a life so much separated from all of us - that we must not wonder - that he dont seem to care much for our desires & requirements. He means to be good & sweet & that is all that is necessary - so that at the last moment he dont fail us. He likes to agreeably disappoint us - we rather prefer that he should do it in another way - but it is his way & we must not mind it - keep up your relations with him - & coax him down to visit you - when

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he can get a holiday & ask her to come with him - whether she comes or not - the asking will please him - & you must begin to think of living more for others - dear Rosalie - than you have heretofore thought of doing - more than two thirds - or even nine tenths of the true enjoyment of life is in thinking for & doing kind offices by others. It is the most compensating life in the world - This very matter of your marriage & happiness - ~~compensation~~ me entirely for all the trouble I took for it in sending

Ned out & you must try & think for others & do for the happiness of others - losing yourself - you gain in every way. I was so pleased to get some of your wedding cake - & have shared it with some friends already - The Cushman children were delighted to hear all about your wedding, & taste the cake -

Ned did not unpack his trunk here but Emma scuttled him off to Newport to the children - for she was anxious about them - & Mrs. Crow who had remained with them during her absence here -

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was anxious to get to Mr. Crow at Cambridge - so
Sallie did not get her present of the dress but she
says ^{we} thank you ~~just~~ ^{all} the same. A young
friend is sailing for Liverpool on the 10th of October
& she will bring to you a present from Sallie - a
work basket, ^{made by old Shakers - which} she bought for you at Lenox this
summer. It will be forwarded to you by
parcels express. & I shall let you give her also
as you can afford it. the stockings ~~that~~ & hats
you sent out to her before -

I was pained that Mabel could not have

been with you at your wedding - but from what
Ned told me it was quite
not brought home.

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"that I have not been able to call on them - but
Emma went & made my excuses - I sincerely
hope that Mabel will be kept to her promise to
Mr. Dorwood - she does not know what she wants, &
must be guided. You must do what you can -
dear - to keep her true & right [?] but she is too like
her father & her aunt Mary not to require a steady

(over)

was anxious to get to Mr. ...
I will be forever ...
I was ...

hand upon her, & a steady pair of eyes too. As all
you can for her dear - & remember how little she
has had of a mothers love & example to make
her strong & right.

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that ...
I ...
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