

1 Sunday Morn^g

2

3 My darling boys—

4 How much would I give if you were both with us to enjoy these delicious sea
5 breezes this morn^g— The last two days we have had a land breeze and fancy you must
6 have been uncomfortably warm in Cambridge—

7 Alice had yesterday some unusual experiences— She began the day with a sea-bath, and
8 ended it with a ride on top of the hay cart into the barn— She was the leader in the frolic,
9 which will give you an idea of her improving condition—

10 M^r Gunnison is a model landlord in obligingness, and good manners— Full of activity
11 and good humor— His table is not quite as abundant and varied as we would wish, but
12 he means to do right, and I think when vegetables get to be more abundant we will do
13 better—

14 [^]Your[^] Father seems happy & is an immense favorite among the ladies— As this is
15 nothing unusual, a common experience, I do not so much dread the effect upon him Will
16 took one sea bath, and is going in again to-day— He keeps up bravely which is saying a
17 good deal, when one considers the great change in his habits here— Wendell Holmes is
18 delightful, and will be greatly missed when he goes— He has read Browning aloud to us
19 most charmingly—~~and~~ I hear him now in the next room reading to Will, who will feel a
20 great ~~difference~~ [^]void[^] when he is gone— The Bootts are pleasant, and a great

21 acquisition with their music M^{rs} Lombard writes that she will be here to-morrow
22 Even^g— There is a great charm about this place— It is much more simple quiet and
23 home like than I expected to see it—
24 The walks over the beach & and cliffs (which are not high like those at Newport, but the
25 shore in one direction is more like Bateman's point) I hope you will both come by and
26 by and see for yourselves Tell Lizzie that I will send the soiled clothes next week; they
27 will reach home about Friday I think—
28 Harry sent Bumstead's bill but did not say whether he had sent any one to repair the
29 paper— Whether this was a new bill or the old one left in the hand. Did Tom come and
30 cut the grass as desired and train the Wisteria? If not let him be sent for

31 Love from all

32 Your loving Mother

Notes

Date, addressees, and place of composition assigned on basis of Houghton Library records, of Jean Strouse, *Alice James: A Biography* (Boston: Houghton, 1980), 142-43, 340 n., and of William James's 1 August 1871 letter to Robertson (Bob) James, from Oak Hill, Maine, which indicates that Bob was in Milwaukee and Wilky in New England and that the Bootts and Jameses had been vacationing in Maine

26 Lizzie • According to the July 1870 census, the Jameses at the time had servants named Elizabeth Newton and Eliza W. Smith

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