

1862
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he was mistaken, I believed she had
got the diphtheria. He asked me what
made me think so I told him about
her throat and ~~was~~ gums and he said
that might all be. So he got a spoon
and looked ~~at~~ her throat and said
there was no diphtheria there, and made
me look and I could see that the
tonsils were swollen and inflamed
but could see no false membrane

How differently I looked upon her now
she was mine a little longer. Why I went
so far as to suppose I could smell the
real putrid smell. Indeed I was positive
of it. And now after he has assured
me over and over again that she has
not got the diphtheria anything that
appears one might-like it will make
me tremble. I can't help it Oh if you
were only here to talk with me about

Transcription:

[fragment letter, no salutation or date, f. 32]

[written upside down along the top of the letter]

A word or two more and then I will close and write again Sunday. I never saw a person grow so much better as Josie has in so short a time.

She has had an inflammatory fever and the Dr says they dont last over a week. Hers lasted just three days before it seemed to be a little better. But she has sufferd a great deal of pain I tell you. E

[written normally]

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it - and reason me out of it.

She has been so good ever since she was sick. I believe this worries me as much as anything. She told me to night - that - I must tell you that - she drank the same right down when she was first - taken sick.

The poor little darling hasn't - taken any sort of nourishment - since she first - said "Oh how my head aches".

Her flesh is very hot - and she is in pain all over ~~her~~ especially her head and bowels and she is so sore she don't - want - to be touched. She didn't want - to sit in my lap to-day long enough to have her feet smelt and so we let - her be.

I suppose you wonder how I have had time to write all this. well I will "ha'il time" to write all this. well I will tell you I am sitting up with her and I get - up and go and wash her in alcohol and bath her head in

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I suppose you wonder how I have had time to write all this. well I will tell you I am sitting up with her and I get up and go and wash her in alcohol and bath her head in warm water and talk with her and

quiet her a little and when she goes
to sleep I write a little. I laid down
to night and slept a couple of hours
after the Dr. come and relieved my
mind a little and after I laid down
I happened to think I hadnt eat any
thing since breakfast. I didnt think
anything about it before. I knew I
knew I could not swallow a
mouthful one meal but could not
remember when. Poor little Annie
says she felt as though she had a
nutmeg grater in her throat.

She haent played around the house
since Josie was sick. She will sit and
read a spell and then ask about
Josie. She seems almost lost

The Dr. says Josie is not a very
sick child.
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Her grandfather bought her some candy
today and she likes to take it and
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She hasnt played around the house since Josie was sick. She will sit and read a spell and then ask about Josie. She seemes almost lost

The Dr. says Josie is not a very sick child.

Her grandfather bought her some candy to-day and she likes to take it and hold in her hand she says it smells good. She broke one of the sticks and I

heard her munching away as though she had a right to eat candy. I asked her what she was eating and she said "why it is a little piece of my candy it was so small I didnt know what else to do with it." She asked for some water sweetened with molasses tonight but I did not dare give it to her.

You said in your letter awhile ago that you supposed Josie was as smart as common children. She isnt perhaps what you would call smart but she has an uncommon judgment. She has had a very bad pain in her bowels and I told her I had done all I could for her and could not think of any thing else that I could do. She says if we had some balsam of gilead it would help it wouldnt it mother? but I believe we havent got a anight. I told her we had a little and it did help her. I asked her tonight what the Dr said about her and she said he said I hadnt got the diphtheria and tickinous better than you do. Annie was out in the kitchen when the Dr said she hadnt got and she laughed out loud, for joy partly, and partly to laugh at me. No more to night E.

Feb. 4th Josie is a great deal better to day. The

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Feb. 4th Josie is a great deal better to-day. She will laugh and play and is cross as a bear. So dont worry about her will you darling. E.