

## Minnesota Historical Society

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October 22<sup>d</sup>[,] 1908

My dear Emily,

It is very interesting to me to hear from you in this country—or I hope events[?] will make more happily for our meeting than while I was in the so formid-able U.S. I am practically at a distance from London—by which I mean that going & coming take from 5 to 6 hours (though I have this autumn repeatedly been called up.) Were I more suburban I would very promptly take the train for the great pleasure of seeing you all. As it is, however, I extremely hope not to miss it. I am in a very great & urgent stress[?] of recup[er]ation & concentration

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—consequent in some degree on rather a distracted & interrupted, though very delightful summer; William & his family having peopled my residence pretty continuously from early till late (I have just heard of their ship's safe arrival in Boston.) [so that?] I can't immediately make my pilgrimage. But if you are to be in town for 2 or 3 weeks shall you not still be there on November 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup>, say, when I shall be able to come up for a day or two? Would you consider your selves[?] in this case engaged to lunch with me there on the 6<sup>th</sup>?—the particulars of which you will then have from me. For this I greatly hope. I shall be delighted to make the acquaintance of my young cousins, & I send you all my blessing on your London adventure. I fear from your address that you're in a Bloomsbury Boardinghouse—which we regard here as rather a cruel & desperate fate—but I hope you bear up under it. And I think that in this splendid weather (as it has been here for long, and still is,) even the great dingy dusky Babylon must have appealed to you. Give my love, please, to Emily and Louise—about

[conclusion to letter continues on the left and top margins of page 1]

the latter of whom Peggy endearingly talked to me—& believe me all faithfully yours and theirs[.]

Henry James