Oct. 2nd.

I am Miss Hanson.

You are very kind to remember me.

I am sorry to lose the trust you have in me.

Since I came from the seaside town, I have had no time for more pleasing.
Next week I go to
The Bellevue for some
months perhaps, a
while in town hope to
see you all & hear of
the various good works
you are interested in.

I am anxious to
get Henry Wheeler, my
poor little neighbor, into
your Taltarni Hospital
(or as we call the Homeopathic
one) Can you tell me if
there is a free bed to be had?
is only chance for him. Meanwhile
from working at his mother's let-
und to go on work. I feel
Bent been to your dear mother
who & note is well. Also the boys &
Edith & her boys, also.
Poor dear & everyone! What can one
say to her? You ever
I will. Be cool.
Dec. 30th

Dear Mrs. Talbot:

Much obliged for your reply on the girl question.

I had already been to Hollis St. to look up a woman who advertised. She was gone, but another was found who had a good character and sent me to her last missus to confirm it. So she is to try for a week and if she suits "all is quiet on the Potomac," for a time at least.

If she doesn't suit and your girl's friend is still to be had I shall be glad to try her.

This domestic upheaval has prevented my running over to see how you were. Better I hope. The weather is not just what one wants for invalids but it's better than the warm, damp days we have had.

Poor Mrs. Willis is enjoying measles and very bad sore throats, and neighbors all about are in like case, so I must guard over the precious baby as I don't want her to add any other worry to the teething trial.

Can't Dr. Talbot invent something to make the process easier?

Wish I had a million for the hospital. Mrs. Wells said yesterday, "Well, if my sore throat does prove to be diphtheria I shall go at once to the Homeopathic Hospital and there I shall be taken good care of." "Hear! Hear!" says I, and Mrs. Willis said no more about her allopathic messes in which she firmly believes.

Mrs. Hosmer dined with me today, looking very tired after a long spell of nursing, for Florence has been very ill with the poor eyes, and does not leave her room yet. A grand coffee party is the next maddeningly exciting event in Concord.

Did you know that Ripley Bartlett was engaged to Myrtle Whitcomb? Also Sallie Bartlett has a son. These thrilling facts are all the news I have to offer.

Hope you like rambling notes for here is a pleasing mixture.

Love to the lads and lasses and much to yourself.

Yours truly,

L. M. A.
Oct. 2nd

Dear Miss Marion:

You are very kind to remember the promised visit, and I am sorry to lose it, but we have been so busy with company since I came from the sea-side that I have had no time for more pleasuring.

Next week I go to the Bellevue for some months perhaps, and while in town hope to see you all and hear of the various good works you are interested in.

I am anxious to get Harry Wheeler, my poor little neighbor, into your father's Hospital (as we call the Homeopathic one). Can you tell me if there is a free bed to be had, and if not, what it costs to put a patient in a paying bed? Harry is in a bad way, and needs the intelligent care, nursing, food, etc., that he cannot get at home. He is in a nervous state, twitches all the time, abscess on ankle, dizziness, and all sorts of woes sad to see in a bright boy of fifteen.

I shall come and investigate if there is any chance for him. Meantime I am working at his mother to let him go and want my facts.

Best love to your dear mother who I hope is well. Also the boys and Edith and the Herr Papa.

Poor Mrs. Cheney! What can one say to her?

Yours ever,

L. M. Alcott.
Dec. 27th

Dear Mrs. Talbot:

Many thanks for the lovely fern and very kind thought that sent it. A pleasant surprise as I came home from my Xmas dinner in the eve.

I have been trying to come and see you, but baby has been poorly and I almost dead with a cold that went from head to foot and used me up. I hope you are nicely again. I never can imagine you ill, and take great comfort in seeing one hearty woman.

Now my woes must find a vent, and perhaps you can tell me where to look for hope and help.

My girl is to be married next week and I'm a lost housekeeper without I can find "an angel for nine shillings a week," as Mr. Emerson used to say.

Where do you get your girls? Is there a place anywhere in which you can hope to find a cook who doesn't drink and steal and all the rest of it?

Cooking, washing, ironing and a little sweeping are the labors set apart for the queen of the kitchen, $4.00 a week the wages, and a missus who can lend a hand at trying moments thrown in.

Can you throw a gleam of light upon the gloom which now envelopes my soul?

Love and best wishes from all to all.

Affectionately yours,

L. W. A.
Oct. 14th

Dear Mrs. Talbot:

The foot is still lame and I can't get my boots on, so scuffle round in shoes.

But I hope by Sat. I can be proper, and will come then and have a dish of the chat I like best.

It is very kind of you to want me, and I'll try to come boots or no boots. Sprains are so slow. I get all out of patience with mine and then it gets the better of me again.

Love to the dear girls and regards to the Dr.

Yours cordially

L. M. Alcott
Concord, Mass.
April 1, 1939

Miss Marion Talbot
5717 Kimbark Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Miss Talbot:

Thank you for your letter. It was a distinct pleasure to have it and to learn of your contact with my great-aunt. Since the death of my mother five years ago, first hand information has become very rare. I hardly need to say that I am grateful for the copy of the New England Quarterly. I have read with considerable interest and satisfaction your article.

Although you may have already seen and read the books, because of your interest in the Alcott family I take the liberty of mentioning to you "Pedlar's Progress" and "Journals of Bronson Alcott". They are the result of long study and patient effort on the part of Odell Shepard. We think very highly of them.

Concord is, as you say, of great interest to us. I say "us" because my brother, my sister, and I with our respective families all live here. It would, indeed, somehow be difficult for any of us to live elsewhere.

With thanks again for your interest, I am

Cordially yours,

Frederic Wolsey Pratt
Miss Hamilton Salbat
66 Mount Vernon St.
Boston, Mass.
Dear Miss Jellis:

Thank you for your invitation. I should love to come but am in the duties of plumbers & carpenters & I shall not be free this week.
R. W. E. is the man I most admire in the world. But I fear I could not add much to the interest of the talks.

With regds to all at home & on cordially yours

[Signature]
Dec. 26th

Dear Secretary,

I must decline as I have no time to give even to the good works I am interested in. Home duties take all the strength I have or I cannot even write things long promised. I will not write for presidential books.

S. S. H. L.
POSTAL CARD.

NOTHING BUT THE ADDRESS CAN BE PLACED ON THIS SIDE.

BOSTON, MASS.  DEC. 26 88.

SHAMON SALLISH.
66 TOWNSEND ST.

Boston.
Dear Miss Marion,

I am very sorry always to say No—but I am not a reader & certainly would not read my own missish.
I will do anything that I am, even get on a stool to revolve, so I tie for the Vassar girls, if that will aid the cause of education. But read or lecture I cannot—much so I should like to oblige you. Sincerely yours truly.

[Signature]
Oct. 17

If rainy Sat. & Sun &
cannot come. Shall be in town all Nov. & will call then as often as you like. If fair will hop along unless some new hindrance comes.
POSTAL CARD

WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE—THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER.

Mrs. Emily J. Alden

66 Lordoro St.

Boston.

Mass.
Dec. 11th

Dear Miss Mason,

I send a copy of the paper. It is not off the wall but from this left it put away so I know it is the same.

I was so tired after I got through with the work whom I found were three I went up the Round Rock and went there.

My speech brain would not come home the brilliance of the echo.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

[Date]
Sunday a.m.

Dear Mrs. Princeton,

Mrs. Pratt & Fred are at your service for gardening & a farm whenever you want them.

If you will let me know just what you will need this week, they will be ready. The girl who plays with me is gone out of town now, so is not as
Monday is before, but Mrs. I. thinks there is no reason that she will play at all. Uncle's wife, or the Housewife, is very short & pretty; little plays, & can be repeated the same one if you like.

I should be glad to help all I can, but if Mrs. I. likes acting & I don't or both cannot be in town at once & I should have this post-over to her.

She Pitman plays one of
16th of Nov. so our trials will be here & ready for the fray.

go for the cause

L. M. H.
Jan. 2 18--

Dear Miss Marion,

I should very much like to meet the learned ladies on both but fear I cannot do so, as a new nurse begins her reign about that time, & the original remainder is needed to keep the gamps & things in order.
If the fates should be propitious I will try to come, devoutly hoping that I shall not be expected to orate in all the dead languages at once, to tackle the higher mathematics, or answer the vexed question of "What shall we do with our girls?"

Father is comfortable, & seems to be resting at a sort of half-way house before it is decided whether he is to stay a little longer...
or to slip away to the longer life which he is so fitted to enjoy.

His right side is still helpless, he takes no solid food, seldom leaves his bed, and talks very indistinctly. He hopes of course to know better than we do, I insist that he is much better. We do not expect miracles at eighty-three, I hope the serene soul will not longer in a feeble body feel life is a burden.
Please accept my thanks for your kind remembrance of me, even if I cannot avail myself of the invitation to behold the blooming rosegay of the new variety of lilies of the field. I long more than I can express!

With love to Dlomina, I send my best wishes for all and dear Miss Secretary, cordially yours.

W. H. Thevitt.

Cannot come Sunday, however.
Nonquitt Beach

Aug 17th

Dear Miss Marion,

The boys & I are very well & cannot leave here as well as we have a cottage or house here. I am no walker now so I
could not join in the party any way.
She boys desire thanks, & I wish you a jolly time.
Affectionately yours,
G. H. J.
Concord, Mass.
March 7, 1939

Miss Marion Talbot
5717 Kimbark Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Miss Talbot:

Some time ago Little, Brown & Co. forwarded me your letter asking about the nephews of Louisa Alcott. I am sorry to find that I have been so slow in replying.

Both my father and my Uncle John have died, the only direct descendent of that generation still living being May's daughter, Louisa, who now lives in Switzerland.

Thank you for your interest in writing and telling us of the article in the New England quarterly.

Sincerely yours,

Frederic W. H. Pratt
Concord April 19th 1874

Dear Miss Talbot,

Your note came to hand too late for me to meet your friend on Friday afternoon. I regretted this exceedingly. And to the my chance may not
deface me of the pleasure
of a future meeting under
more flourishing skies.

I am under no
engagement, previous to Saturday
next, and shall gladly avail
myself of any appointment
you may make for a meeting.

It was my intention to
visit the university on
Wednesday last, but I was
not.
Dear Miss Talbot,

Yes, come from L.M. Alcott's funeral.

All will be
though but for
the relation
one of her girls

to see you

saying a few words on this occasion.

Sincerely yours with it.

I am sure I have asked Mrs.
very simple as she wished it.

Will not the dear mother come also, I can the feel like...
Chenery L. Lawton

to say something.

Dr. Bartle

All will be very

informative, I am sure.
friends here.

But you, now

I shall be

Your,

Alcott

Anna B. Pratt

"Meg"
Dear Miss Talbot:

Yes - come tomorrow. All will be very simple as she wished it.

Will not the dear mother come also, and can she feel like saying a few words on this occasion. Louisa would wish it, I am sure.

I have asked Mrs. Cheney and Livermore to say something and Dr. Bartol.

All will be very informal and we have asked but few friends besides the relatives. But you were one of her "girls," and I shall love to see you.

Affectionately,

Anna B. Pratt

Wed. A.M.
Dec. 26th, 1883

Dear Secretary.

I must decline as I have no time to give even to the good work I am interested in. Home duties take all the strength I have and I cannot even write things long promised. I was not made for presidential honors and with thanks must say No.

Yrs ever

L. M. A.

Dept. 6, 1884

Dear Miss Marion.

I shall be at the Bellevue for some weeks. Go today. Almost always in after lunch and in eve.

Yrs truly

L. M. A.

Nonquilt Beach
Aug. 17th

Dear Miss Marion.

The boys and I are here for the season and cannot leave very well as we have a cottage on our hands.

I am no walker now so I could not join the party any way.

The boys desire thanks, and I wish you a jolly time.

Affectionately yours

L. M. A.
Dear Miss Talbot.

Thanks for your invitation. I should love to come but am in the clutches of plumbers and carpenters, and fear I shall not be free this week.

R. W. E. is the man I most admire in the world but I fear I could not add much to the interest of the talk.

With regards to all at home I am

Cordially yours

L. M. A.

Dec. 11th, 1885

Dear Miss Marion.

I send a bit of the paper. It is not off the wall but from bits left and put away so I know it is the same.

I was so tired after I got through with friends whom I found here that I gave up the Round Table and went to bed.

My feeble brain would not have borne the brilliancy of the Club and H. G. together.

Yrs truly

L. M. A.
Dec. 2nd

Dear Manager:

Miss Coolidge cannot be "M. Bang."
Have you a friend to do it. Just a gay
maid’s dress, fly away cap, white apron etc.? Did you ever see the "Broom Drill"? They
have it tonight at Berkeley St. Church. Wouldn’t it be good Wed.? L. M. A.

Oct. 17th

If rainy Sat. I fear I cannot come. Shall be in town all Nov. and will call then as often as you like. If fair will hop along unless some new hindrance comes.

L. M. A.

Wed. eve.

Dear Mrs. Talbot.

I was sorry not to come and improve my mind, but calling on a cousin this p.m. I found her and her guest in bed after a runaway accident that left them both black and blue and pretty miserable, so I turned nurse instead of listening to the educational prophets and seers.

Yrs. truly

L. M. Alcott.
Dear Miss Talbot:

  Yes - come tomorrow. All will be very simple as she wished it.

  Will not the dear mother come also, and can she feel like saying a few words on this occasion. Louisa would wish it, I am sure.

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Dear Miss Marion:

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Cordially yours,

L. M. Alcott
The following letters written during the last ten years of her life give intimate glimpses of some of Miss Alcott's personal activities and interests. There seems to be no public record describing the funeral services which took place at her home in Louisburg Square, Boston, where her father had died two days before her death. Mrs. Pratt was her sister, Anna, world known as "Meg."
Dec. 30th

Dear Mrs. Talbot:

Much obliged for your reply on the girl question.

I had already been to Hollis St. to look up a woman who advertised. She was gone, but another was found who had a good character and sent me to her last missus to confirm it. So she is to try for a week and if she suits "all is quiet on the Potomac," for a time at least.

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L. M. Alcott.