

May 22, 1940

Dear Julia:-

I have received your good letter of Monday and shall send it on to Grace after Gertrude has read it. I had a good talk with Mac Sunday, or rather Saturday night, and find that the thing that is often used and which seems to me to be best under present circumstances is to have you appointed as her guardian. This does not require her to be adjudged of unsound mind, but simply implies that she is not able to look after herself nor her financial affairs. Under such circumstance all financial aid to Joe could be shut off, and perhaps recovery might be made, if he had any thing for money she has been sending him.

Of course she would not like it at first, but I think she would accept it when she came to the realization that it is for her best interests. In fact to preserve her life and what little she may have for her own support. Mac says this is frequently done and often at the hearings the party will talk as sanely as anyone.

Mamma looked after Grandfather Gowdy when he was no longer able to care for himself, and Etoile gave such care to Mamma and to Dr Gowdy, and knows that it was for their good. Making you her guardian now would be for the same purpose.

This action would protect our keep sakes from going to Joe, and if he could not get them, he might not want to be bothered with the rest of the stuff. You talk the matter over with Charlie and discuss it with a lawyer. Perhaps some one else for a small fee would do the work as well or better than Avern, who has his own practice to look after. I am really anxious about your health. You must have a wonderful constitution to stand up under so much.