May 4, 1940

Dear Julia:

I had your long letter yesterday and was very happy to get it and will preserve it for the information that it contains about grandfather Simons and the Simons family. I think you are correct in that Calestia Simons could not have been the daughter of the fourth marriage, as that marriage occurred very late in the life of our great-grandfather and I am quite sure that no children were born to that union.

I am very sorry indeed that you have had such a burden and it must come mighty near wearing you out. If you can get some competent person to take care of Etoile, I wish you would so that you can come here or go somewhere else for an absolute rest. I think you need it and doubtless Charlie does too.

We had an offer the other day for an exchange of hotel services in Mineral Springs, Texas, for advertising. If you would like to go down there, which is some miles west of Dallas and Fort Worth, I would be glad to make the deal and let you have the hotel accommodations without charge. We might make a deal for some other place if we knew where you wanted to go.

I think it would be fine if Etoile could go up to Grayce's, because I know that Grayce has been wanting her there for several years and I feel sure that Etoile would enjoy it. There is so much perfect freedom there that she could do pretty much as she pleases. She could sleep as late as she would like.

We took Gertie home this morning in an ambulance and she is resting very comfortably in the room that was Mother Reineke's apartment. You always have wanted us to have a downstairs bedroom and it is very fortunate for us now that we have it. A mighty nice practical nurse is with her.

I hope you will find someone quickly because I don't want you to go to the breaking point.

With lots of love, I remain,

Your brother,