

December 2, 1947

Mrs. Don A. Freeman
Tree Tops, Route 3
Brainerd, Minnesota

Dear Grayce:

In looking through the Kansas City Times this morning, I was interested in the item, which I clipped and am sending to you.

I knew that mamma had changed her name from Betsy Jane to Jennie Bessie during the show of "The Swedish Nightingale." This item shows that she was in America on a two year tour with P. T. Barnum and in 1852 was married. Also in 1852, mamma was 16 years old, so that she undoubtedly assumed the name of Jennie Bessie when she was in her early teens, from 15 to 16. I knew you would be interested in reading this item.

Gertrude and I are discussing, at least, a possibility of a trip somewhere. Generally speaking, she seems to be in good health, but she tires very easily. She is lighter in weight than she has been for many years. In fact, she took on weight after the birth of our first Charles. While she is no longer dieting to reduce weight, she still finds it difficult to eat meat that would give her additional strength. She has not yet had the final adjustment of her dental plates, which will have to await the possible shrinkage to her gums. She is in Kansas City today with Marie. They went down as a sort of lark to an Auction of antiques.

We enjoyed our children very much during the holiday season and have visited all of them since our return from the lake.