

Dec. 20th. 1924.

Dear Julia and family

I have been expecting to receive another letter from you since you received letters from Gertie and me. I still hope you are going to come as our family gatherings have been growing more and more distant. I do not think Etoile has any excuse whatever for not coming as Louis and I were ready to stand the expense, but I have learned with sorrow that when Etoile makes up her mind nothing on earth can change it. I think that she feels herself to have Spartan courage because she is not amenable to entreaty or argument. This may hurt her feelings but it has not made me particularly happy to have her refuse to remain my guest while here, ~~and~~ to decline invitations to spend the holidays with me. As Louis said in a letter received today some of these days there will be but four and then three etc at our gatherings. We have remained a family of five children for nearly fifty years and that is wonderful.

Your Christmas trees arrived today. Thank you very much. Please wire us so we will know what to count on. Grace and Don and Louis will be here anyway and we hope you and Vera will come.

Please pardon me for not wiring you regarding the death of father Reineke, I should have done so and I know you would have liked to have shown your sympathy and love to the family

Lots of love for you all. Please let Etoile read this

Your loving brother

Collin