

Redfield Dec.19, 1916

*You may keep this for your records - J.S.S.*

My dear Niece:

I am so glad you wrote to me telling me how nicely my dear sister, Mary, was laid away. That is very comforting to know but the best part is to me that she was a good christian mother. Dear soul, she was always good in my remembrance of her.

After our mother died, Mary and I stayed with Mrs. Wedlock,  
a cousin of my mother's, and my sister Eliza kept house for father, but father took both of us home, he couldn't live that way. Father never worked much, he was what is called a gentleman's valet in England. I would laugh at him so much, I would bet 10 cents with him I could split more wood in 10 minutes than he could. I would always get the 10 cents.

Dear old soul, I guess he thought it the best way to get wood.

My mother, she was Lord Wedlock's daughter of England, so  
you see dear, my dear mother had committed a terrible thing, accord-  
ing to old Lord Wedlock's idea, and they never treated her kindly,  
but an old aunt of mother's followed them she had lots of money,  
and she lived with my mother, and I am so glad to know they always had plenty and to spare.

So we children got a nice bit of money and some from our brothers out of father's property. But my dear, easy got money always goes easy.

My both children <sup>Jennie</sup> ~~Jennie~~ and Wes are both living at Tacoma,

Washington; they went 3 yrs. ago. I went along but could not stand the climate, the doctor said I have cancer of the stomach and it was nothing but the things they have to eat. Everything tastes of the ocean fog, especially meat. I stayed 1 year and 1 months. I was terribly run down when I came back but I weigh more now than I ever did. I weigh 1 hundred and fifty four but I feel the ravages of old age and I am so lonely. I am keeping house and I have an old lady and her husband rooming with me. They are going away soon but where there's a will there's a way. God never leaves us alone and he always provides. Write soon to your old Aunt Jessie, love to you, dear. Jennie's name is Fassett McKay, died and my husband is dead. If I could live west it would be better but the climate is not right for me.

*(The letter is in the files)*

COPY OF A LETTER WRITTEN BY JUSTINA SUTTON ("AUNT JESSIE") TO SARAH HOLLWAY SMITH OF FONTIAC, MICH. THE LETTER EVIDENTLY IS IN REPLY TO ONE NOTIFYING HER OF THE DEATH OF MARY ("AUNT POLLY"), HER SISTER. MARY DIED IN 1912.

LETTER FROM FILES OF MRS. JOHN G. (ELIZABETH DEMPSEY) SMALE.

*Note: Justina Sutton died in Redfield, So. Dak. in 1918. She was the youngest daughter of James - Sally (Whitlock) Small.*

*- J.S.S.*