

Austin, Texas

Oct. 18, 1909

Dear Mama:

Like this place better every day. Am studying harder too; perhaps that is one reason. The highest grade given here is 97, as they claim no one reaches perfection; I have received three quiz papers back, graded 90, 96, and 97. My work is very long. Sometimes we have 60 pages for a lesson, and cases are assigned for us to brief. These cases require hours of reading, as we must read the statement of the case, the testimony, the law in regard to that case, the opinion of the court, and the charge. We have to know what is held, and why. I always make it a point to read the speeches of both sides; some of them are oratory. Am taking two academic courses, Government and Oratory. Both are good. Counting quizzes, my work is 21 hours per week; normal is 15: quizzes come three times a week, and are lots of trouble, but they impress facts on the mind. I did not have to pay that \$3.00 fine, but would have if I hadn't kept the different notes concerning my matriculation.

The law department gives a banquet and smoker soon. It will be a big affair. This is a society school, and all the pupils are not students. Am getting into Will's habits now; took a young lady 23 years old to the football game. But she isn't fat, and is very pretty. Went to see Emma Saturday night, Hallie and Grace and Mary Sunday aft, and took Janet to church Sunday night. That's taking them all in. Sam is getting on pretty well; altho he gets licked sometimes; I am still unscathed. Was picked today for the team that goes to Houston. There were about 80 tried, and 17 were chosen. My track work takes only an hour every day, from 4 to 5, and is fine exercise. The trip will be a fine thing, as Houston will be full of football, Carnival, and other things. The meet will be a strain on me, though, for I have to carry off two events, and we go against some of the best teams from surrounding states. Have been attending church regular. There is a Virginia Lipscomb here from Dallas, who is said to be a beauty. Haven't yet met her. There are about 30 Lipscombs in school. Wrote to Uncle Dave yesterday. Jo Ed is a very good roommate; he is easily controlled, keeps quiet, and is very accommodating. He is a child. Would leave him, but I have a fine room, and magnificent board, for \$18 per month. The usual rate here is \$22. We are lucky to get it. The board is even better than Mrs. Dever's. My address is 1714 La Vaca. My landlady's name is Mrs. Casparis, a widowed French lady. I like Miss Beck. She is modest, intelligent, and ladylike. She eats at my table. I hope you get a cook by Xmas. Did the hanging create much excitement? Papa and Bella each owe me a letter. Did Miss Annie ever get up an art class? How is Grandma? Are you going to Galveston from Houston? Will seems to like his work. Send me a Crockett paper once in a while. Give my love to Papa and Bella.

Your affectionate Jim