

though only potential) is its main symptom. During this same period of longing fantasies are formed and masturbation is (regularly?) practiced, which then yields to repression. If it does not yield, then no hysteria develops either; the discharge of sexual excitation for the most part removes the possibility of hysteria. It has become clear to me that various compulsive movements represent a substitute for the discontinued movements of masturbation.

Enough for today; details another time when I have heard good and new things from you. That there is nothing wrong I fortunately know from Oscar and Melanie — who perhaps have already learned something new while I am writing, perhaps not yet.

With the most cordial greetings to you, wife, and child,

Your
Sigm.

1. " *Auswarten*," an Austrian colloquialism.

2. Reading uncertain; probably *alte Zeiten*, or possibly *alle Zeiten* (all times).

3. From the Dedication in Goethe's *Faust*:

And the shades of loved ones appear,
With them, like an old, half-forgotten myth,
First love and friendship.

October 31, 1897
IX., Berggasse 19

Dear Wilhelm,

I am so glad to have a letter from you again (the third since Berlin) that I have banished all thoughts of retaliation. And that something whole is shaping itself for you, and biological types are beginning to appear, as well as your parallel between birth and falling ill — all that seems enchanting to me and to hold out a promise of much more in the very near future.

Your nephew — allegedly called Georg, for I have not yet spoken to his father — is all Rie: long, lean, with all the features of the paternal family, not yet masked by baby fat. You must know as much, or more than I, about the details of his birth. Rumor has it that you knew date and sex in advance. I was reassured to learn that her temperature is 36.4[°C] today. On account of my first lecture (eleven students) I could not go there last night; they may, by the way, have been grateful for my not visiting them at that time.

Dr. G.¹ is what you say about him and, above all, still unreliable in his character, made of too poor family material. I have tried to meet in full my obligation as his teacher. He has learned a lot, under-

stands very easily, and progresses well. He makes it all too easy for himself to believe — throws himself into it heart and soul. In view of these pros and cons, I feel toward him as I would toward a wayward son. I wish him the best and must accept his disgrace as mine.

Business here is such that I expect we are facing very bad times, which has been the case in other fields for a long while. Since I have free time, I let myself be persuaded to take on two cases for treatment without a fee. Including myself, that makes three analyses that bring in nothing.

My analysis continues and remains my chief interest. Everything is still obscure, even the problems, but there is a comfortable feeling in it that one has only to reach into one's storerooms to take out what is needed at a particular time. The most disagreeable part of it is the moods, which often completely hide reality. Sexual excitement, too, is no longer of use for someone like me.² But I am still pursuing it happily. As regards results, just now there is once more a lull.

Do you believe that what children say in their sleep is part of dreaming? If so, I can present you with the very latest wish dream: Annerl, age 1½ years. She had to starve one day in Aussee because she threw up in the morning, which was blamed on a meal of strawberries. During the following night she called out a whole menu in her sleep: "Stwawberries, high berries, scwambled eggs, pudding." I may have already told you this.

Under the influence of analysis my cardiac symptoms are now very frequently replaced by gastrointestinal symptoms.

Forgive today's idle talk, which is only intended to stress the continuity of our correspondence.

Most cordially,

Your
Sigm.

1. He means Felix Gattel.

2. The German text reads, "Auch die sexuelle Erregung ist für einen wie ich nicht mehr zu brauchen." It may be that Freud is referring to sexual excitement in the context of his self-analysis. When he continues and says, "Ich bin aber noch immer freudig dabei," this is ambiguous and could refer either to sexuality (that he still takes pleasure in it) or, more likely, to the analysis.