This is a letter dated Aug. 23, 1897. It is written in cursive and contains various dates and references. The content appears to be a personal message, possibly related to a project or event, with some references to a Mr. Gillingham. There are mentions of dates and events, and the writer expresses appreciation for something. The handwriting is difficult to decipher in some parts, but it provides a glimpse into a past correspondence.
With infinite delight.

Tom has the power to make truth cut to the heart: but the lesson taught lies in the same place where to few the scanty few have learnt, a man learns, how to treat Earth's crammed with people.

But he mostly stands around to see only blackberries.

I am faithfully yours,

J.W. Leeper.

Mrs. Putnam printers the house for us.