



Horatio P. Van Cleve and
family papers.

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The four seasons

Spring is the first season of the year when the little birds begin to praise their God for the pleasant days and the trees and flowers and the merry little children sport in the green meadows or over the hills gathering the wild flowers the blue violet and the yellow buttercups and daisies and making crowns of dandelion stems. They think there is no time so beautiful as spring.

Summer next comes in its robes of verdure and wreathed with flowers and the golden grain and all the crops are good. The farmer does not always thank even as much as the little birds do to thank God for all that he has given him and often grumbles if his crop of corn is not as good as some others but the little child and birds and beasts and insects are more thankful than he.

Fall comes next with its pleasures and pain and winter too with its robes of white and its gems of ice children love this too and ought not we all be thankful to God for all his blessings

At A

Composition

No 2

Dec 19th 1851

Dec-19-1851

Composition

Aug 20th 1852.

Soon after my sailing and the children left home
to day, I heard of another heartrending ship-
wreck. The Atlantic steamer Albatross was
run into this morning at 2 o'clock by the
sloop Albatross; and sunk carrying with her
250 of her passengers. How true that in the
midst of life we are in danger, that a few
hours before these shortighted mortals we have
retired to rest; not dreaming that the
powerful and terrible forces of nature were
rapidly & silently working upon us.
The calm surface of my sleep, which I had
safely been destined for, was broken by the
awake in the morning in the city of
the Straits. Suddenly I awoke in the
hallway of the Engine Room, and saw a
light they were descending from the deck,
of friends from whom they had just parted
they soon would meet them again, and
they had just parted from them, and
in this world, and in the next. They were
to meet them in the next world. They were
there was a great crowd of people, and
tumblers, followed by that an awful
flood. They were, but in a moment they

discovers their horrible situation. Instantly
more dreadful shrieks of despair. Husbands
and wives, parents and children friends,
suddenly separated - together. And husbands
and wives were suddenly separated, leaving
I believe, their sisters, and friends and
friends. Happy they who had made their
peace with their God. Miserable are they who
seem to lose love. Wretched survivors! Long
will you ever tangle with the sorrows of
these wonderful nights.

May God watch over and protect my
loved ones, and restore them to us in health
and happiness. And when he is pleased
to call us home, may we be received in
the arms of our Saviour.

In the setting of the sun, showed the
dear little ones that were with me the picture
of their mother and after saying their prayers
to their God set their feet to their Rest. And
may I protect these dear children and those
who are absent, and their dear dear mo-
ther, may I protect them all, and may he
bless them with his choicest blessings.

August 1st. The Lord has taken care of us another day.
The little ones have you to rest in good health. May
their dear Father take care of them and of their

about ones. I saw some friends from the Rock, that
coming who met my dear wife & children in the road
and brought from them a good report. When I was
in I say quite pleasantly but from the very people
they went down town to look for a Sunday room, from
me in Mr Goodrich's, that might be used for a Sun-
day arrangement. - I asked to the paper will
to make some inquiries respecting Cast-iron
frames for School room desks.

The Lord has been pleased, to send his
rain after a great drought. We thank thee
our God for all thy mercies & for teaching us our
dependence upon thee.

Aug 2nd. The Sabbath was a beautiful day. I
could see this Holy Day! I saw God's love about
myself. When I look within all is unclean and im-
pure, and I am compelled to cry God be merciful
to me a poor, vile, miserable, unworthy sinner. When
I attempt to lift my heart to God
his weight is down, then I turn to lift my
eyes towards him, his arms between and re-
ceiving him of my prayer. When I attempt
to leave my thoughts towards him, he takes hold
of them and binds them as strings. When I attempt
to rely upon him, he binds my tongue and
seals my lips. Wretched man that I am, who
these actions are from this body of sin.

Aug 23rd Another day has past, and what have I done, Have I made any advances in knowledge? Have I grown in Grace? Have I accomplished any good? Have I loved, trusted, served & honored my Maker & God? Has it been my aim to promote the welfare & happiness of my fellow men?

From conversation that I have had with several individuals I feel somewhat encouraged respecting the project of building a school house although no offer of assistance have been made.

Aug 24th Expected my wife and children this evening but they are not yet returned. I find they are tired and comfortably lodged for the night. If I cannot see her I must content myself with looking at her sweet picture which I have by me. Have nothing to boast of this day. The heat for several days has been very oppressive & I have been in bed.

Noticed a hawk in the direction of Upper Court Street flying over from there was a pair there.



For Mr. D.

H. P. Lane Clerk

W. H. [unclear]

Chapman Ohio



My dear Husband,

I wrote to you yesterday from Mrs. Dr. Cook's where I happened to be visiting but was obliged to hurry my letter so much in order to have it ready for the eastern mail, that I determined this morning to take my time and write a letter which should be ready as soon as I hear of your whereabouts. I told you that Anna had gone to Leonie. I feel almost lost without her, but she will be home this evening or tomorrow morning and perhaps bring company with her. She is a very dear child, and I was glad to have her go for a little recreation, but we miss her very much. I wish there were so much to say about her new half as conscientious and as pure-minded as she. - Just then the baby cried and I had to take him then followed various interruptions until the whole day had passed away and I find myself pretty well fatigued, endeavoring to rest myself by writing to my own dear husband. The children returned from Leonie to night, but the cars were very late, and Michaela has gone to hear the address before the young men's literary association by some body from Detroit. So I have had no opportunity to give out any thing yet except that Providence interfered

to prevent Malcot's Latin Spontaneous by send-
ing him a large tile on the tip of his shoulder
and how could any one be expected to deliver
or a Latin oration without the full and free
use of their ^{right} arm? Susan seemed much pleased
with her trip. Malcot owes \$3.50 to Mr Sullivan.
I sent word that I should probably be able to
settle it soon. By the way, whom can I depend
besides Irish? Everett and I are after him, and
he has promised it to-morrow morning. I will
let you know if I get it. I have rec'd Mr Popper's
bill and that came very opportunely. I can get
along well if I can get Irish's, that will enable
me to get them and keep a little for contingen-
cies. Everett is one of the best boys in the world
he has been very attentive and considerate
since you left particularly. He will probably go
home in a few days but Malcot is here now
and I think I shall get along very well.

To-morrow is the great day for the Seairs.
They will probably have a fine warm time.
We have had nothing yet which we can
call rain but just as I write this I hear the
rain pouring down. I hope it may prove
to be something worth while. Mark left on Wed-
nesday evening as he expected, his mother heard
from him at Detroit. So Susan had been very
kind to him, insisted on his taking \$5.00 on the
miserable account and gave him an elegant meal

keeping. The Dr is a noble fellow, worth having
for a friend. I must say Good-night now. Oh!
how I want to see you, God bless you my darling.
July 11th
Another letter from you dear and you have not
heard from me yet. You may think the Post-
master for the detention. Do you know it is my
35th birthday? Do you remember where we were
nearly 20 years ago? How many changes in that
time. My scholars made me a beautiful
present to-day a very handsome pair of corals
to loop up his shoes, with his name "Sammy"
engraved upon the clasps. Very gratifying and
quite unexpected. I wish if you get business, you
could find something for Malcot to do near
you. I am afraid that it will be hard for me
to keep him busy here. I am especially neat yet
more so than ever, and I cannot watch him
with as much vigilance as with, I fear, he needs
it. I shall try next week to get him to stay in
and I will tell you how I succeed. Mr Irish paid
Everett \$3.00 and says he has mistaken the bill
and forgotten the amount. I think he has done
it on purpose. So you remember the amount
I shall do very well till then gets next wrong.
I get nothing more than we need to keep our
silver alive. Susan Seair's girl arrived yes-
terday morning. She will come at Mr Lill's
and I will give her some letters. She is quite
a person. I like her, and Susan much pleased

with her prospects, and I am not at all to my con-
viction with the school, I must break off at the
end of the term. I do not think Miss Cox
is satisfied with my having had a baby, but
all I can say is I should ^{have been} quite willing she
should have had it, it is steady at the thought now that
it is here, I could not give it up to her upon any
consideration, some things she has done do not
suit me altogether but independently of all that
I am not physically able to teach any more and
feel that it is not my duty to do so, for if God want
ed me to teach, he would certainly give me strength
to do so. Some persons have found out that it was
very imprudent for me to let Harriet go out to learn
alone among a parcel of boys, but she went and came
safely and a great deal of Malice, very much by going
Miss Cullinan told him she did not consider that he was
noticed by her, and I am not at all to my conviction
her going alone the less little it is to set people
talking if she had gone with some of the boys, for
there would have been some thing said. Never mind
let people talk, they can not well talk about a baby
and better behaved family than ours. I feel
differently now, since what I saw and before this
condemned reputation have so much improved my
health and spirits have had the good effect to keep
me very much from the world, and I do feel that
it is not an unpleasing place. I do not now want
to buy a house, and where it will suit me just as well
to rent a house as long as we use one and if we
do not own a home we shall not become so attached
to it that it would be hard to leave it. I am all praise
and joy, and a few years hence what will it matter
that we were poor and despised, but we shall then
be singing our Redeemer's praise, and here parting
I do not know, and when we are all together, I shall
be troubled, and I shall get along with me.

[June 18, 1853]

I should have written if I had
not supposed you would be
in Cincinnati before this time.
I have spoken of my physical
weakness about 100 times to you.
It is what I must expect
when I am reading you to be
hope as we get older it shall be
better. I do not know what
share of the money made from
the sales will come to me. Probably
little if any. You ask me the state
of my funds. I have at present
not \$1.00, but I have a barometer
of how much I shall get. The value
of it I get just as little as I can and I
do not know how much I shall get
at all. I am now God bless
my dear husband, I am now
back to Georgetown. I shall write
you a letter early next week.
I do the same as before. I am
trying for me that I shall be
well. Ever your affectionate wife
C. C. Williams

Write to me very often your letters
do me much good. I hope you
will soon get business, then we
shall feel a little more independ-
ent. I am better from time to
time, but not as usual,
I write as usual, but I am
of course, I am sure he can
do some thing for him. The chil-
dren are as usual, I wish
you were here all. The baby
is just as you thought of and
I am for him yet? I want to
send his picture as soon as you
write up your name, but we had
better wait till we see each other
After you write again I will
have the letter and I am sure
I must stop now as the mail
goes out soon. Can't you
write to the Committee at first and
be with them while you have leisure
I am so busy I scarcely get a
moment to write, but I will
be glad to see her

Wilmington
Apr 10

Handwritten

I found the house at 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 8



Cleveland Tuesday Morning April 11th 1854

Dear Husband,

Here we are safe and sound, after a delightful trip across the beautiful Lake Erie. I wish you had been with me. That we might have gone on deck and gazed by the light of the silver spangled Heavens, and talked of the times long gone by when we were young and full of hope.

The world have felt ourselves young again, and then as we looked in the pure air of Heaven and looked out upon God's glorious workman would have felt a thrill of joy as we realized that the Maker of all

these glorious beauties was our
Father and Friend, nor would we
feel tempted to murmur that He
had deprived us of some blessing
or that He had led us through thorn
y paths, for we could not but be
sure that He had ordered all
things for our good, and that what
we do not now know concerning
these dark dispensations we shall
know perfectly hereafter when our
ransomed spirits shall soar even
high above all the visible Heavens and
rest forever in the New Jerusalem.
How did you find the darlings?
Kiss them for me over and over
again. Mother will come

home soon and bring dear Lizzie
and we shall have such a pleasant
summer.

Cleveland is a beautiful place
it is raining so we could not walk
about and see it. Mother
is ten years younger since her
first touch in Ohio soil this morn-
ing - I shall try and drop a line
from Pittsburgh - Take care
of brother John make him stay
at our house, and console him
He is one of a thousand. I can tell
you. I have never seen more deli-
cacy or refinement of feeling displayed
by any one - Tell Walter to be
a good boy and do all we

to have him - He shall have
the first ship when we get home
to pay for the one he lost yesterday
May - A thousand love God.
Keep you - Ever yours
Thos. A. Van Allen



Jonathan P. Van C...

Black Oakland April 11th 1867

There are a great last after periods
and water that would make this
most quiet but having got safely
with all we can both back with
a great heat, and add to our long list
the last thought that
being permitted to ascend the
and arrive at our desired
The Mcclendins sister
being unexpected
in Cincinnati and
"having gone to Portsmouth"
to embark in a freight
was not prepared for the transport
being. However as it
only hope we tried it and tried
at a rate of a mile in an hour
until we got within five miles
our patients would be

out no longer and taking one of the hands
to carry Sam, we came on shore, and char-
tered our own locomotives - for Louisa -
Now you know I have felt for a long
time as if it was quite a long walk
up to the University, what would you have
thought to have seen me setting out for
a five miles walk over the highest
between this and Battleburg? But we
did it and arrived at Mr. Moore's
just the other side of Louisa town and
near, but alive and hungry, as we
had fasted from early breakfast till
five o'clock. Mrs. Moore a true Virginian
lady, received us so kindly and ministered
to our wants so cheerfully bringing us
water and changes of raiment, giving
us a glorious Southern supper and
such smoke comfortable beds that we
almost forgot our weariness in the
pleasure of getting rested. The next
day we set out in a canoe and
made about 7 miles half the distance
when I was so perfectly uncomfortable

trying to hold Sammy to keep him from
getting onto the river, and from being
met completely through the whole length
of my back (for our canoe leaked and
we sat directly in the bottom) that we
came ashore again, and came across
on foot, by a short cut of five miles
I how hot it was and how hard it
was to climb the steep hills down to
the creek, and face the wind but
at last we saw the white houses, and
our hearts rejoiced. Ellen had taken
a horse at Louisa and arrived two
hours before us. Lizzie was on the bank
out and came bounding down the
path to meet us, and then Annie and
she and I lifted up our voices and
rejoiced and we could not speak, and
our joy was so intense that it was not
again. When I felt my arms around
her and knew it was not a dream
I almost made a vow that none of my
little ones should be ever so far away

from me again, so long as God would
let me keep them under my own wing.
She is very well, and does good consid-
erably. Her eyes fill when she speaks of home
and dear father she sends a heart full of
love to you and her brothers also to Ellen
and Chick. We are all well, notwithstanding
our unusual exposure. The baby was
very much exhausted, but is now quite
himself again and is so happy to be where
he can have all his little wants attended
to. He is about the color of a well-
rubbed Mahogany table, and is quite
taken some deep to restore us to our pristine
beauty but never mind we are well at heart
and need care little for external things
among the Moravians. What a beauti-
ful spot this is. It seems like enchantment
when you first emerge from the hills
and behold such a beautiful and highly
cultivated valley. One cannot but think
of the Happy Valley of Lapland, and cannot
but feel too as its inhabitants felt, that it
would be quite as pleasant if it was easier
of access. Mr. Mellen is expected daily. I
shall write again very soon, a boat goes down
to morrow and affords an unexpected opportunity to
send news to our friends. Love you all, and what
are you doing? How are you getting on? How
are the children? How are the friends? How
are the friends? How are the friends? How are the friends?

Reacts Orchard 3
April 27 54 3

Paid 3

Noratio P. Van Cleave
Ann Arbor
Mich.

you heard any thing yet about these
ne p.? If Engineering fails suppose
you try a clerk ship some where for
a year? Ask Sam or Mort if there is
any thing to be done in New York
suitable to one of your abilities.
Should be a fair day for it I think, the
mode ones of a living, and you
can get it in some month's time.
When Railroading gets to be the
you can go at it, but don't waste
too much time waiting for a situa-
tion. Tell Malcom that he need
not fear but he can get a situation.
If he really means to be a merchant
he can get time to place in New York.
Only let him study the world as it
before him. God has given him health
and talent, it will be his own fault if
he does not succeed. But will he now
he will do well. I am sorry Seymour has
been sick, if he is troubled with heart
at the stomach after eating prepare to
give water for him at night for Malcom

to make him more
or less a clerk. I think it best to make
him a clerk for some time.

Black Orchard April 24th 1854

My own dear Husband,

I rec'd several letters
from home this morning. One from
you, one from Mrs. Thompson and
one from Everett, as this was the first
intelligence I had from home
I may readily imagine it may
readily devour it, and you can
guess how pleased I was to learn that
all the dear ones were well and happy.
I feel as if I should like to go
for Mrs. "my soul magnifies the
Lord", and I feel that "my cup runneth
over with blessings". We are all
well here, and having great times
walking and climbing about

happily.
The hydrophobia is not such a very
common disease in this
We have been to the coal bank twice
and have walked over the tunnel
mile over, besides going to all the happy
points around, the view from the table
mountain is so magnificent that
I want to Mr. Hallen to call it.
Mount Dingake I never saw anything
so beautiful as the view from the
summit. The flat country around
them a few miles back mighty fine
to me after spending a month
among the mountains.
Mr. Hallen has at length purchased
a Steam boat the James Paul to ply
on this river, it will be a great ad-
vantage to him no doubt. He gave \$1000
for it. Of course he is not the sole owner

well known to them or few
ex. I suppose we shall go down on
it in the week. Mr. Hallen is go-
ing with me to Cincinnati and
we shall have a nice time. The children
are very happy but anxious to see
you all again. I am delighted to
think that brother John spent some
time with you. I think he is a very
fine fellow, and trust he will be
very happy yet. God bless him where
he goes. Tell Mrs. Brown I will write
to her again soon, and only hope
she will not get entirely weary
of the new job. The children
are all good, and little Mary
the rascal sends me word that he
is the best. I hope they will all be
best, and I will give them a good
hugging when they get home. Love

PAID

3 PAID

Mr H. L. Van Cleave
Ann Arbor
Mich.

(H. S. M.)
Cincinnati May 19th 1854

My own dear Husband

I am coming home next
week and will you be glad to see me?
Your letter made me very sad for a few
hours, to think that we are still strug-
gling on with such poverty and so many
disencouragements, but I tried to pray to God
for patience and submission and I feel
now that all will be right. I have a
plan in my head to earn some money
by and I will talk it over when I come
home. I shall probably be here on
Thursday morning, at all events I shall
go as soon as Friday, and shall be at
home on Saturday. I think we shall
meet West at Sandusky which will
be very pleasant for me, for I shall re-
joyce in seeing the Lake much better in
company with some one whom I know.
Can speak of coming to Detroit. Of course
I shall be glad to see you as soon as possible
but it will trouble you I am afraid to

spare the means to come, and do not
ful that it is necessary to do so unless
you feel that you can do it just as well
as not — I am not indulging in purcha-
sing any thing but the things I am obliged
to have. The little folks will find they are
not forgotten by their friends here, and
they will not realize that I have not bought
the little mementos for them myself —
Why did you not get up early this morn-
ing as ^{did my heart to market} Annie and Fizzie and I did, and
go to market and see the beautiful straw
berries, and the Pease and the Radishes and
Beets and Dutch Cheese, and the Roses and
Geraniums and all kinds of flowers, and
then the fine Meats, and the handsome
butchers, were worth a long walk to see,
But perhaps after all I would ^{have} given you
my chance at all these rights for your
place in bed between the two little rogues
that keep you warm and keep you in bed
too I need — Tip every body for me and
squeeze the children to pieces. God bless you all
your dear wife C. A. VanOrden

New York. October 25 1844.

My very dear friend -

Your last letter came when I was out of town, and since I have been home I have been, on account of the illness of one of the young men employed in the office, too busy to write.

This morning too I received a letter from Mrs V. C. in which she says that no letters from me have been received in Ann Arbor for over a week; this has occurred through no neglect of mine, as she will find on her arrival at Cincinnati, where there are three Epistles from me awaiting her advent - two to her and a long letter to Anna -

When I read your letter, it was not with dry eyes I assure you - what I have ever done to merit the almost unexampled kindness and consideration which have been ever accorded me by yourself and your dear wife, I am sure I cannot tell - You have ever treated me as a son, and now more than ever I am under obligations to you; for you have given me the dearest thing you have to give, and the greatest blessing I could

ask. I can say nothing but, I thank you, and will try always to deserve the confidence and trust you place in me.

That it is possible for a young man to love a child with the purest and most devoted love, you know by your own experience - that it is not impossible for that child to give in return, an affection which, ^{may} be as enduring as her own life, you are well assured by the example of your own best wife - and that a marriage founded upon such love as this, will be truly happy, you need no assurance - Should Anna and myself ever become man and wife, our union will be one of love, for there are no inducements in the world sufficient to cause either of us to marry where we do not love - I have no doubt that my darling child will be a good wife to me, - I know, for who could fail with such a teacher as her mother - You have given her to me knowing perfectly my circumstances - You are aware that I have my own fortune to come out - and that my father and mother will also depend in a great measure upon me for assistance, so that I shall never be a rich man, but you have not hesitated to trust me

your darling child, because you know we love each other - I appreciate your generosity, and the desire to acquit myself well in your eyes will be only one more inducement to me to do all in my power to deserve the good opinion with which so many of my friends now regard me - I am aware that Anna is now but a child, but I think she knows her own heart well enough to be certain of her love - Should her feelings ever change towards me, or should she ever find that this youthful preference is overcome by a deeper love for another as she grows older, I shall be the last one to hold her to her promise - I only ~~can~~ ^{can} feel sure that, if her present love remains unchanged, there will be no impediments to our union, and nothing to prevent our marriage after she has outgrown her short dresses - I will try to be a good husband to her, I will try to find a pleasant home for her; and I hope to be able to support her without having her take in washing, or beg for cold victuals - Keep her to yourself, Educate her, love her as much as you can, do with her as you please for four or five years, but then I hope to supersede you and take command myself - And if she prove as amiable, and as estimable

in every respect as her Mother and I trust
am to be no more of a harsh conflicting husband
than you have been, I do not see why our marriage
may not prove as happy as yours has. I am going
to love Harriet with all my heart any how, for I
can't live without love, any more than I can with-
out Eatables, and if at some future day she sees
fit to stop my rations, why I suppose I must
either starve, or love some body else's daughter -

I find that, on account of Mr. Kellogg's death,
I cannot be spared from the office, and so shall
not be able to make my usual winter trip -

This is a great disappointment to me, but I hope
to make it all up by a long visit in the Spring.
I trust I shall be able to spend four or five weeks
in the West with my friends early in the sum-
mer. Meantime we must do the best we can by
keeping up a correspondence - Please write to me as often
as you can, and you will find me a pretty prompt
correspondent - Yours, now more than ever
M. D. Thomson -



J. D. Lincoln, Mich.
For Mrs. C. O. Van Cleave

Cincinnati

Ohio

Amherst Feb. Eve. Oct. 29th 1854

My dear wife

The children have retired to rest and no doubt are snugly wrapped in the arms of Morpheus; the girls in the kitchen have a merry company, and appear to be very jolly; I, alone am in the enjoyment of my own delightful Society. I have attended Church twice to day, and no doubt have had an opportunity of hearing two excellent discourses from Mr Carter, but my mind was not been in a good listening frame. With my eyes on the preacher, my thoughts have been all over the State of Ohio, to Cincinnati, I forgot I know to finish. I took charge of your class in Sabbath School; have heard Seymour, Morse, Lizzie & Ellen read at home; have read by myself; and after all have not been able to spend the day as I wish it had been spent. I have felt anxious and worried about you, not yet having learned whether you reached Dayton in safety. I thought I would hear from you by Friday evening, at the farthest by Saturday morning, and yet last night's mail brought no letter.

Monday morning. When I had written thus far last night, the baby awoke, the jolly Dutch men rather bristled in their smocks. — Malcolm has just been to the office and brought me two letters, one from your own darling self & one from Mat. I need not tell you that I read your letter over twice before I could stop to take breath, and that I was highly delighted with it all its contents; perhaps I should except the Rail Road Coach widower. I will have to attend to his case. Now did you learn so soon that he was a widower? That's the question. Perhaps he thought you were a widow. I see how it is, the next time you go on a journey alone I will have to keep you company.

dearly, and miss her very much. May God bless & keep her. She must be a good girl when you leave her and not her kindred. If she seems to be doing well, we will write every day and let her know how much we love her.

I am very glad you had so pleasant a visit in Clayton. And have no doubt, but that you left a favorable impression on all the widowers & fast bachelors. You said nothing about Uncle Phillips. - I should like much to have been visited there during the holidays, as I wish him to become acquainted with our country there. I hope she will do so for my sake, as well as for her own, and I should like her to make her home at Vicks for there the children that is the girls are near of her age. But more of this when you come home. I have tried to thank my God for his kind care over you during your journey. I had felt very anxious about you and perhaps was too impatient to hear from you. Every paper I took up seemed to contain an account of some dreadful Rail Road accident, and I could not rest till I had heard of your safe arrival at Clayton. May God bless and keep you my darling and restore you soon to your husband who loves you more than his own life.

I was much delighted with Minto's letter. He is a good boy, and has my warmest regards. I will try to answer his letter today. - M. P. S. Your letter came by the last night's mail. I was not aware that any mail came on Sabbath evening, but it did appear.

Doesticks letters appear to be highly commended by our most respectable journalists, notwithstanding some consider them highly objectionable & others condemn them as trash. People view objects through different colored glasses, of course they cannot suit all tastes.

Malcolm has been a very good boy since you have left, and is trying to do his best. Mr. Mc Cracken has just called and wants his assistance for a few days during election times, and I could not refuse as he is certainly in a good cause. We hope Anti-Slavery will carry every

thing in the State at the coming election. Still we may be disappointed. The great mass of the self styled Democracy are men who vote as their leaders command them and not from principle; for these leaders may advocate a certain principle to day and its opposite tomorrow and with the Democracy, it is all right. To day they cry Vice & Empire and to-morrow they carry him to the Guillotine.

Malcolm saw Mr. Thornton in town yesterday, & also on Saturday evening; and says that he looks very well. I have not seen him, and do not know where he stays, but have my fears.

Mr. Carter gave notice yesterday that next Sabbath would be our Communion. Preparatory lecture on Friday at 1/2 past 2 o'clock P.M. All persons who wish to unite with the Church by profession or letter will have an opportunity on that day to do so; and parents who wish to offer their children for baptism ~~may then bring their~~ ^{may then bring their} ~~children~~ ^{children} ~~to the~~ ^{to the} ~~church~~ ^{church} ~~at 1/2~~ ^{at 1/2} ~~past 2 P.M.~~ ^{past 2 P.M.} on a week's notice. If so would they take to be taken to preparatory lecture for the purpose, with Dr. & Dr. Yarnes, and thus might it not create some confusion in the Church, and interrupt the regular order of exercises. We would be curious to know whether the dear little fresh arrivals were boys or girls. And then again the new boys might cry as they are apt to do when they first breathe the vital air. Taking all things into consideration, I doubt the propriety of expectant mothers accepting Mr. Carter's considerate invitation.

Malcolm brought three lamprey eels home this morning and has just started with one to give to Miss Clark. I met the said virgin in the Postoffice this morning and she inquired about you. I expect Malcolm will soon have his heart with his lamprey. Just think of a blooming virgin caught by an eel. Malcolm intends to pickle the remaining two in whiskey.

Malcolm sends love to you & says he is well & happy

Malcolm sends love to you & says he is well & happy

P.S. This is wash day and it is raining.

I trust you reached Cincinnati in safety on Saturday; and now that I know where to find you I will try to keep you regularly posted in the state, condition, well fare & prospects of the family. You found, I trust, a letter from me awaiting your arrival, on Saturday. I would have directed it to Dayton if I had been sure you would have remained there till Saturday. To-morrow I hope you will receive another. This I'll reach you on Wednesday. You may expect another on Friday & another Sunday. I may possibly write again to-morrow. If I do, you must not say I am love sick; but darling I do love to write to you. You are such a sweet girl, and so kind some of your home grey hair, and notwithstanding you bite your lips. You calculated to be back in two weeks from the time you left. Let me know if you change your mind; And also let me know exactly the day you will start and the route you calculate to pursue. ~~The weather is fine~~ I don't you would find the Detroit route both the more pleasant and expeditious; Use your own pleasure. You need not hurry home on account of the children. They are getting along very well. — You ask if they miss you. Lizzy sometimes says, she wishes mother to come home; but I think the other little ones do not require much. Of course they miss mother, but they are well, enjoy their school, enjoy their plays and are very happy. Your husband misses you. If you are out of the house ten minutes he misses you. Let I wish you to take your time and enjoy this visit with those you cannot see every day. I am not selfish my darling. God bless you my love. With his choicest blessings may he bless you.

Now my darling child must not think I have forgotten her. I will expect a letter from her in a few days and then will try to be a good correspondent. Father loves her

Mr. Horatio G. Van Clee
Ann Arbor
Mich.



Mr Lincoln advises me not to send
the packet until Spring.

Cincinnati Nov 10th 1854

My dear Husband,

It is Friday night, and I have not heard from home since Sunday and although I have your letter I did not expect one again very soon yet I feel a little anxious, I find, when I hear Mr Lincoln say "nothing for you to night Charlotte" when he comes home to tea. Your silence however leads me to conclude that you are well, and when I retire at night, although it seems sometimes, as if I could not wait the next week to see you all, I offer up a prayer to my Heavenly Father to protect you all, and preserve you in health, and immediately my burden of anxiety is removed and I feel that his almighty arm is around you and that you are safe. Ah, when we have real wants, wants that no human power can supply is it not the greatest of blessings to feel that we can ask God with the full assurance that he will answer our petitions as far as he can consistently with our good - I often see poor Mary on her knees clasping herself, and saying her formal prayer, I believe that she is sincere and conscientious in what she does, but I feel so thankful that when I want a blessing, or when

I want to confess my sins, I can go right
to the Almighty without the intervention
of any saints or priests, and that I can
ask what I want with the confidence
of a child. Never fear that Anna will
become a Catholic this winter. There is
so evidently something wrong in the
whole system, that it is very perceptible
to her, and she reads her Bible. I think
with a great pleasure, because it is so plain
in its teachings, and is not beclouded by
mystery and superstition. I do feel dear
husband that with all my unworthi-
ness, God does own and bless me as
his child, and this thought makes me
happy that it lifts me up from the earth,
and I feel that nothing has power to harm
me so long as I have so powerful a
friend and Father. Tell the children
that when they pray to God at night
they must ask him to take care of mother
or and sister with just the same confi-
dence that they would ask you for any
thing in your power to bestow. He will
hear them for he listens to the smallest
child that prays to him. Dear children
I have said but little about them in my
letters not because I have thought but little
of them, but some now when I begin to
write of them the letters become indistin-

and the gas almost goes out, so that
I cannot see what I am trying to
write. But tell them that if God spares
my life, I shall be with them one day
next week and O how happy I shall
be. I have just got through with my
preparations for Anna's winter arrange-
ments, and have got all her sewing
done, and herself nicely started at
her studies. I want now to leave here
on Tuesday, spend one or two days in day-
ton, and then go straight home. I must
stop in Dayton for I feel under obligation
to Mary Anna, she was very kind to me
and seemed anxious to have me visit
her. I have seen Uncle too, but for a moment
and want to have something of a talk
with him. Then on Thursday morning I shall
probably start for Sandusky and be home
on the Friday morning train. Tell Sophia
to have the tea kettle on and have the
children's faces clean - for I shall want a cup of tea
and some number of kisses. If I make any
different arrangements, I will let you know.
I wish you would write to Anna when
you receive this and send her a few post-
age stamps. She is nearly out, and my
pocket book is flat. But don't be alarmed.
I have taken care to secure enough to pay
my way home. I want you to try and do this

because I hate to have her troubled
the moment of them and I don't like to have
her ask her Aunt Mary, for these little
things as she has already seen who has
been with her before. You know how
of such hard times as they are having
these now. Some have been broken
to pieces - merchants who have stood
firm for years, tottering and falling.
One brother Kottland Ellis had tried to
kill himself (although this is a secret)
but did not succeed another friend
of the North bank of Kentucky, who
died in escaping ruin in that way by
seeking sure destruction in another way.
It should seem for you with the papers
that he threw himself in the street
on open day this week in London and
had his head taken off. Thousands of
poor people have lost their lives in the
great smash and it is going the matter
to come - don't you feel thankful you
have nothing to lose. I do, I do, I do.
I strut with my head up and say don't
my self satisfy (look I can't be angry and
I have lost nothing by these new fashions)
from a letter rec'd from Mr. A. the other day. I shall
expect to find Ed still in Am. or to return
me back. Give my love to him. The fact
is not dangerous by it. Poor Mrs. Gregory, from
her if Gregory has any heart left to be moved
by affliction - Anna may be near death
yourself it is late and I have sent her to bed

451th Nov 24th 1854
 What you wonder, but it is not a comfort
 to have you any so. Good bye my darling
 forever & for ever are little girl
 May for me a great deal. Love

My own dear precious father,

I rec'd your dear dear letter
last Tuesday evening, Oh! father I was so glad to get it,
it has been such a comfort to me. You told me
in your letter that yesterday would be your birth-
day, I thought of you many, many, times and
wished so much, that I could be with you. I
suppose my little Lizzie will be eight years old
in a few days but I do not remember exactly the
days you must kiss her nine times for me and
and you and mother must kiss each other forty-
six times for me, but do not talk about your
being old, for you are not, yet, and you will make
me feel badly. Mr Samuel Wilson (the son of
the man that baptized me) with a Mrs Jonson
(a Presbyterian lady that lives opposite here)
called on me this morning. Mrs Jonson has offered
me a seat in her pew, she goes to our Church,
Mr Wilson said he would be very glad to

see me there. I think I shall go next Sunday
I think Mr Wilson is very pleasant indeed. I
am glad he called. He spoke of you and
Mother and said he wished he had known
when Mother was here. He would like to have
seen her. Father, darling you know you
promised me ^(I think) that I might come home if I was
home sick, well, I would not be so ungrateful
and foolish, after all the and expense of getting
ready and coming down and every thing, as
to think of turning around and going back
again before I get through with all my lessons.
(No indeed!) I should be ashamed to be so
wicked and ungrateful, so you need not
be afraid of my wanting to do that, but
one thing I want you to do. You see I will
be through all my lessons in nine weeks,
after this week, and I want you, to come
in eight weeks, then there will be time to
make a nice visit and then take me
home, there I will stay my own, precious

father, until some one else, comes for me.
Father, darling, don't laugh at me and think
I am foolish but do please promise me that
if possible, you will come for me in eight
weeks. I know father dear, that if you could
feel, for one minute, what it was to have
-sick you would promise me. I do not feel
very home sick just now, but I do some times,
~~and~~ I do not think I should if you would
only promise me. Then you would not
have to send me any money but could
bring it your self, when you come. Do not ^{feel badly}
darling father, that you cannot send me
any. ^{now} I do not want for any thing. if you
could only promise me that you would come
in eight weeks I should be so happy. Then if
I had to stay a week longer I would not feel
badly for you would be with me and we
could go around together and have such
nice times. I wish you and Mother could
both come do try, but at any rate, one of

^{you} come in eight weeks, bring one of the little
boys when you come, if you can. Mother has sent
me a beautiful little horse pin, not quite so
large as my masai, it is a dark blue stone,
not a thick blue like Aunt Mary's with
little spots like gold stone, in it, the setting
^{really} is like my masai. I wish mother had one
of them, and if she would like it now, I
will send her the one she wants. The pin
has come out of the cuff pin she left me
but I have both parts safe. Miss Sarah
Lincoln, and little Lillie Weston, are here
they got here ^{last Friday} the morning after Mother left. Miss
Lincoln is to be married in a few weeks
to a Mr. Hale (I cannot spell his name) a
Presbyterian Minister. They will be married
here, I do not know whether little Lillie will
stay here or go with her Aunt. Aunt Mary
and I have had an invitation to one of Mrs.
Collier's ^(to morrow evening) ~~musicals~~ ^{at} but I do not think we shall
go. He says that ^{at} the next one I must sing,
that will be in a month. Good bye now
My own precious father I love you so much and
father it comforts me so much to have you say
that you pray for me every night ^{and day} I love

Cincinnati Dec 8th 1854

My precious, precious father,

I rec'd your dear letter and one from dear Mother with it, last Tuesday evening. I am so glad father dearest that you have concluded to have Mother come for me in seven weeks (it is only seven weeks now, not nine days, and perhaps less. You can't think how much I want to see you all. I shall be so happy when darling Mother comes and I can be in her dear arms (father, you know how sweet they are) again, then when I get home, oh I shall be you don't know how happy dear father, you none of you know how dearly I love you, but I suppose you all love me just as much. I thought of you many many times Thanksgiving day and wished so much that I could be with you all. I am glad you had a pleasant time. It was almost too bad for the poor students to be found out after they had got all the turkeys and chickens skinned so nicely, but I hope they won't trouble Malcolm's pen cross. I expect I shall get a letter from Aunt Mary this evening, and I wish I could get letters from you and Mother too. I hope I shall. I know I am a "great little Grackling" but how can I help it when I am away from home and your letters are all such great comforts and it makes me so happy to get them. Aunt Mary and Miss Lincoln will just come home. Aunt Mary has given Miss Lincoln a beautiful cashmere bonnet lined with white satin ribbon, with a lovely white feather on each side and pink flowers beside it (I gave this evening). This morning Aunt Mary bought me a beautiful set of lace (under sleeves and collar). Tea is ready so I must go down. After tea I found under my plate at the table a long letter from dear Mother with a note from you my dear

I shall have a piano to practice on, and can study
 and every thing but he must wait until next
 spring to talk about it. I do not say much like
 you do. I am not so much of a talker. I do not
 think I should be homesick if I was with him, but we
 will talk this all over when we are all to-
 gether next spring. Dear Mary, Aunt, the sweet and
 good and she loves me so much and I love him
 so much. Aunt Mary said that she wished some-
 one would give her a black crucifix (any thing
 but gold) for to wear on a chain round her neck. Now you
 know most perfectly that I must crop for her and
 and I better ask him to send me the crucifix and
 give that to her instead, or, had I better ask him
 to send her the crucifix as a present from himself
 and she give her the crop, or still. I just give her
 the crop and say nothing about it? Write to me as
 soon as you receive this and tell me what to do
 so if I have to make any change I will have time
 to do it before Christ mas. Mr. Hall is coming
 next Tuesday evening and I suppose they will
 leave early soon after. They are going to Detroit I
 almost wish I was going with them. It will
 be much pleasanter to have you here with me
 for a week or two and then go home with a joy.
 When you write you must tell of what we will
 do when you come, it will be so pleasant to
 think of. When Miss Lincoln goes away Little Sally
 and I are going to have the room that you and I used
 to sleep in. When you come Sally can sleep in Parker's
 room. Tell me when you write how long it will be
 before you come, from the time you write, I hope it
 is only a few weeks now. I want you so much. I wish
 you could bring Malcolm with you we could
 have such nice times. I do not think I had better

but Auntie is taking it going to use it for a spare
room, if we had it I should have such a nice
place to keep all my things, but, never mind in
five weeks you will be here and then I can
sleep there with you, can't I darling? Auntie told
me the other day that she did not think I would
have any lessons which is a week but I do not
know yet and I do not think that the same old school
part will come again. The end of the last year,
before I ever came, but, another Christmas, you will
come just as soon as you dear, in five weeks
you know. Whenever you write tell me how long it
will be before you come. (I have for time you write.)
Wednesday evening I asked Auntie if Sally could not
sleep with me in my little bed but she said
no, she did not like to have little girls sleep
in there, not but what she thought I was a very nice
little girl, and Sally was a very nice little girl
and little girls could say all they wanted to in the
day time and at night they must go to bed and
go to sleep, (or some thing like that, she said.)
Now I cannot have Auntie at all, I know how
little girls will like it. Mother, I could not help
telling her, you know Mother darling, I would not
say about any thing I ought not to, Sally said
most of all when I am away from you, for
I am with you I tell you when I go
but I never would now with or without
talk and I ought not to if I had it
I would not say any thing. I take all the letters
have got (read) all to bed with me every night,
also my dear little Bible. We are great campers
in this house. I am reading my Bible
in my little room when Auntie came in and
saw me, she had been speaking to me a little
while before for about 10 minutes more.

Cincinnati - Dec 15 1854

My precious, darling Mother,

I need not say dear, after
Tuesday evening. Miss Lincoln was married Sunday
about one o'clock, I believe. I will tell you about
the wedding. (You know I never saw any one mar-
ried before.) In the morning some flowers that
Aunt Mary had spoken of were sent - there was
one beautiful bouquet for the bride - then the other
flowers were all together. I helped her in dressing
them for the pastor and one bouquet for the min-
ister. They were married of course by a Methodist
minister Mr. Swann. (I suppose I have written
his name right.) Soon after they were married
had dinner. We had oyster soup and fried
oysters - ~~oyster leaf and~~ ~~oyster~~ ~~oyster~~ ~~oyster~~
was a beautiful cake, and ice cream.
Mrs Hale was dressed in a moiré travel
dress with the beautiful set of Maltese lace
that Auntie gave her. There was no guest
but Mrs Knoll and Mrs Fred Lincoln
came home of course. Right after
her Mr and Mrs Hale went a way they are
going to Detroit and will be there a week or so
then are there now, but I do not know whether
they are going. I wish she would go to visit
her for so that you could see her. They are
also going to Chicago. I saw my baggage
with the little sack at the wedding. Aunt
Mary did not at first appreciate
about it until Tuesday ^{evening} - we did not know
that Mr Hale had got here and I suppose she
thought they would not be married for a week or
two yet. I thought that they would have
gone to have the big party after they were gone.

Concord, Dec 26th 1894

My dear, darling father,

I rec'd your dear dear letter
Thursday. I am very sorry to hear of the trouble
of Mr and Mrs. Woodhewer. I am sure they have
lost their youngest child. dear little thing just
two years old. I am glad you all think I am
improving so much in writing. It comes much easier
to write than it did and I love to write letters
to you at home and to Aunt Ellen. I wrote a letter to
Aunt Ellen I promised to write to her on the
2nd of December, so on the 6th I wrote a little and
last Monday I copied it and wrote more but
have never sent it and do not think I shall.
I do not know whether there is any room for
sending it or not. Father I want to ask you
thing of you. If it is convenient perhaps I
would like to have you send me one dollar
and a few letter stamps. I have a few left after
I send this letter but if you could send
eight or ten they would last me until mother
comes and then I would like to get some paper
and envelopes. I have some money but not enough
to last until mother comes. I have just about
enough envelopes directed to you at home, I have
fewer but I have only one envelope directed to her
and one besides. If you could send me one
dollar I could get along very nicely if you could
just as well as not tell me and I will ask
money for a little. I think half a dollar would be
enough but I do not like to ask money for anything
I had spoken to you about it. You said in your
letter that possibly mother might go to Beach, Ireland
when she comes (in five weeks) if she does go
will she take me with her? I hope she will but

If she can't never mind. I do hope that Malcolm will
come with her, dear boy, I want to see him very
much. I hope Mother can get Betsey Emrick from
Cincinnati, then she will not be in a hurry to get home.
I am sure I shall be very glad to get home.
Tell Mother that Mrs. Collier sends his respects to her
and he wants her to get a very nice little cat
go out to teach singing when I go home. he says that
the cat could sing very well but he don't know
the music. I am glad to hear that my dear little
Sister is getting along so nicely. Dear boy, I wish I could
see him. Tell all your family Mother, Malcolm,
Lizzie, Emma, Mattie and little Henry, also Ellen
and Dick. I hope they are all very good. I hope in
a few weeks I shall see them all. So send my
dear Mother to me in five weeks every time you
write tell me how long it will be before I see
her from the time you write. I hope she will take
me to Kentucky when she goes (if she goes) and
hope she can. I am sorry to leave from Mother
after that Mrs. Malcom is sick. I hope she will get
well. For Mrs. Brigham, how much trouble she
has had. I don't need bid you good bye dear
father I am unable to write this letter down when he goes
write very often. Oh my father, how good God his things
have, see how he gives us each day our daily bread. I
hope you will get some permanent benefit from it.
I am very well and happy. Tell Malcolm to write
to me. Give much love to all my friends. I love you
all so much. Send Mother in five weeks. I shall
be much obliged to her when she comes, and then
if Malcolm comes with her we will have
such grand times. He must come in five weeks.
Good bye dear father. I love you all so much.
God bless you all and keep you all well.
Your little girl, Annie

[Dec. 16, 1854]

I have done lately, for it is hard to find time to practice much, and when Auntie saw me reading the bible she spoke to me about sitting in the corner alone. I was not at all cold, and a fine opportunity myself, and feeling so unhappy, I told her that I wanted to read my bible.

And you wanted me to read it every day, and she said she did not like to see me reading my bible. I was not disagreeing with her, she said, but even if it was something like this, that you would not spend so much time reading and praying, and would practice more. It would be better. She was very kind, but I was so unhappy with every thing like that, but Mother, darling, you know you told me you would like to have me spend an hour with my bible every day, so today I did it, father, and it is a good deal every day. I have I think been a little happier for a day or two, and I am afraid Auntie saw it. But now I will tell you the rest of my story. After I had finished reading I went down to practice, after while Auntie came in, and took all the things ready to go with her, and she asked me about some handkerchiefs, but she thought mine were better, and she liked mine, and she said she would like to have me to live here, I told her that I did love her, for mother it made me feel so much happier after she spoke to me that way, she said she liked to have me read my bible, and she said a very nice thing, so good, but she did not like to have me go off alone, as the other, and that we must be better friends, not that we are not always very good friends, but we must see more of each other. So after that I felt very happy. I shall try not to be unhappy any more, and make her unhappy.

darling to have you correct me, I am falling. I wish you would always do so, when I make any mistakes, I think it will help me a great deal. I did not go to see the doctor, as he was not very well the night they were at the doctor's, I might

after I wrote to you, I should like to have seen you but
much but never saw you. I had gone perhaps I should
not have been able to go to my dancing lesson the next
day and then I should have lost that lesson as
I should as it was I was able to go to my dancing
lesson getting along quite well with my Marie and
singing, and my dancing too. I practiced five hours
every day. I wish I could get time to
do every day. I have also practiced my singing
and clubs and have written a copy-
book. I wish you I should like to
to see him and we could have such a nice time
together. I should like to see you now my darling I wish
you was here to sleep with me that I love you
much. I wish you were with me and I wish
to see you.

Saturday Morning Dec 10
Dearest Sweet Mother, Auntie was here yesterday morn-
ing and when she came back she said she had
seen Mr. Dutton (you know we have heard Aunt Ellen
speak of him, he is bald and has red hair). Well, he
was coming to see me, he was sorry that
I was engaged. I believe Auntie told him to come
and see what he could do. If he should come
I will let you know and tell you all about
him. I am well now but it was very
bad indeed after you left. Mother darling, I am
glad you all think that I am improving so
much in my letter writing, I hope after while I
will be able to write almost as good and beautiful
a letter as you. Now Mother darling, you
will come to me in five weeks, won't you dear?
I should feel so happy if you did, do not wait
because I said that I did not think we would
take lessons which was week and that I did
think that there would a party until the end
of the next quarter, you will not write you ring
dearous darling, I am glad you are to have
such good company when you come. Good bye
my dear darling Mother I could write always
I love you very much to mother you and father. Yours
Dorothy

2
Mr. Wainwright gave Anne a little gold
pencil so Uncle got one for Sally and one
for me. Wednesday, about eleven o'clock ^{last} Mr. Lin-
coln sent me a note by Mr. Andersons man,
telling me that Mr. A. said that one
(Lucy Eliza, Lanie and I) could not keep
together and start together while I
went to his house to dinner, I could
send my little trunk by the train and
then get ready and go myself. So I
did so. I gave Aunt Ellen the cross
on Christ mas morning, first I asked
Aunt Ellen about it (as I did not know as
it would do, when ~~it~~ more morning
Aunt Ellen spoke to Uncle Miller and
he thought it would be a very nice
thing to do. I showed both of them to him
they thought them very beautiful but liked
the small one rather the best so I
gave that one to her, first, she thought
it was beautiful, and I think she said
it was the prettiest Christ mas present
she had ever had or the prettiest
one she had got for a long time. Then
I showed her the largest one. They

both so pretty. She hardly knew which
she liked best. While she concluded
to keep the largest one - before I came away
on Wednesday I gave the other one to dear
Aunt Ellen. She said she would give a
great deal of it. She told me about a
picture in that post sent her, it is coal
on the outside like a picture. Marys is blue
then the inside is black, and the
figure is a man with plaid pants and
a neck and kerchief and every thing. (most
said it was a likeness of himself - I
should like to have seen it, but she
did not have it with her. I have not heard
from Mr. Miller a week ago yesterday.
What can be the matter. Oh I hope he is
not sick. Why dont I hear from him - Aunt
Mary told me that if she got any letters
for me before Saturday she would send
them to me, I hope I shall get one from
home and one from Mr. W. this evening.
I got your last letter last Sunday and
the little and little gold pencil that
dear father sent me. I have not seen
any of the money yet, as in one of your

letters, that I got them. I asked you for it, and
told me to have Aunt Mary get paper
and envelopes for me if I wanted any
so I got some that way. Aunt Mary lent
me three dollars and three quarters, and you
know I have one dollar of my own. She did
not think I would need any money except
perhaps to pay back hire of something of
the kind. Mrs. Anderson went to the cars,
mother darling, the other girls did not offer,
I do not think, to pay for their tickets and
so dear I did not know what to do. So I said
nothing about it. I hope it was not wrong my
darling mother, but Aunt Mary told me
that she did not think I should need
any money, as ~~soon~~ Dick had in mind
me and even things, but I thought I should
feel safer if I had a little, I won't use
any of her money I have to use it going
back to Lincoln - but I can tell you
if I should want any thing, but I do not think
I shall. I am glad my precious little
boy now thinks so much of me and loves
me so much, the little darling, I love
him just as dearly - I wish I had him in
my arms - he is a precious child. Dear
I know he is a good boy tell him so.

[Dec. 24, 1854]

I wish I was in your aid. I shall be
in four, (only, four) weeks. I shall be
happy then. I have so many many things
to do. I told you in my last letter
that dear Aunt Belle had left all the children
to Aunt Ellen. She said she wanted
every thing to go on just as it should, of
if she had lived. She spoke about having
Chick and Ellen, go up there too as they
best thought of doing. Aunt Ellen and
all of them want us to go up there if
we can when you come for me. I hope we
can go. Mother dear I wish you would
tell me if I could visit Aunt and Grand
mother with a large ax and go. I think
dear Grandmother bears this great trial better
than you would expect. Dear Grandmother.
Mother darling, was it right for me to come
to Dayton and be happy while you were
suffering so badly at home? But I know you
always want me to be happy and not
suffering with my sister.

we stay of the
little someone I hope
try to be happy." and only think
how happy she is now. (We hope
I have so many things to tell you.
Aunt Ellen gave me a box of dear
Auntie's hair for you also a holly leaf
that had been in dear Auntie's hair
the time, the language of holly is "Remem-
ber your vows!" Don't you think I had
better keep them for you until you come?
I will take good care of them! I brought
them with me also the many letters
and James's letters. Auntie has one now
so she left yours with me. she has a very
good one. You know Mary Anne always
goes with my things, so I thought I had
better take them with me for fear I
forgot to bring my dear little bible. I am
sorry, I read one here of course, but I would
rather have mine. I must say good
bye my own darling precious mother I
want to write some to dear father & our
little girl that loves me so much. 1st Page

My dear, precious father,
I have just written quite
a long letter to dear mother, and now I will
write some to you. I rec'd your dear, sweet,
letter last Sunday. I was so glad to get it
and I always ^{gladly} ~~love~~ to hear from home, my
own dear home. I am going to answer
my dear brother Malcolms letter, as soon
as I can; he is such a dear good boy he
does not know how much I love him. I
hope he will come with mother. I shall
be so glad to see him. Louie is going
to have a party this evening. We must
go out in the carriage to invite the
people - we went to Cousin Mary Anne's
and saw Mother and Dick and Bidie
and the children and Cousin Mary
Anne. Gates was here to dinner. It was
little Chigas birthday. I would love to
write more now but I suppose I must
sleep myself. We are going to Cousin
Mary Annes to spend the day tomorrow -
Good bye until tomorrow morning. Love you
much Your little Nannie. Saturday 30th
My dear, darling father. We had

more of all the children and mother, life there
was so much to be done - I was not
a pleasant party last evening, I have
a good deal ^{did not} worry on any thing like that
both gentlemen - Father darling, was it wrong
for me to be gay and happy here, while
you and dear mother are feeling so badly
at home? but I know ^{you} would feel a great
deal worse if I was unhappy - Can you
cousin Mary Anna give me some very
pretty dresses that Kate and Nettie
she told mother not to say any thing
to cousin Lucy about it and last evening
(Kate and Nettie had dresses alike) I had
on a dress that cousin Mary Anna
gave me the waist had been Kate's
cousin Lucy had given it to cousin Mary
Anna - Kate and Nettie were made alike
low neck and short sleeves Mother will
remember it. Well some noticed it and
said that I had dresses just like Kate's
I did not tell her and then about them
and I want to know, darling, was it wrong
for me not to tell her? I wish mother was
here - Monday morning Darling father got
to (Kate and Nettie had dresses alike) last
evening when cousin Lucy told me that the
latter could not go out until this morning -
Love to page 5-