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[Space left blank on left side,  
apparently for a drawing an older Harry.]

Mad[ison]\_

June 16 [18]85

My own treasure  
My Darling little girl.  
I cast a prophetic  
glance into the  
future & there is the  
result. Here is your

own Harry after twenty years of grappling with the problem how best to make life worth living  
\_ It is a scrap that I drew to while away at one of the Purdue entertainments [ill.] & I found it in  
my porte folio so I send it to you, just as it is \_

Effie Darling I am already lonely for you again but it is nothing like the Purdue loneliness.  
Home & the family take off the keen edge of this loneliness & while I think about you & wish  
you could be here too I don't feel the Purdue complaint. I wrote you last night that I believed  
that here everything is lovely. They haven't given me the least cause to change that opinion  
and every reason to feel stronger in it. Dear Love I believe they feel very tenderly toward you &  
while the girls now & then do make a little fun of me for being "mushy" as they call it they do  
internally feel I think that it is all right & glad we are so congenial & so happy together. They  
think you are a model of propriety in behavior[,] believe the best of any engaged girl they ever  
knew & that I am just the other way. They give you any quantity of credit & I won't say or do  
any thing when we are with them to spoil your fair reputation. I guess they haven't any doubt  
of your fondness for me for they realize the insanity of your loving me from any other motive  
than for myself\_ I feel that we shall not have any more trouble at all and the that you had  
better come up here & that you can help me a good deal about the other matter[,] getting the  
family trouble patched up[,] not by work[ing] openly but as my silent partner by counsel &  
advice. I slept till ~~12:15~~ 7:15 this morning & it was then too late to get your letter in in time for  
you to get it today. I wanted you to have it as soon as might be & was sorry but it couldn't well  
be helped for the mail goes out at 8:10 or so & of course it was about out of the question to get  
the letter off as I had intended. I have been busy all the afternoon working on the lawn. It is  
very hot indeed & I guess that I shall be able to get my weight reduced a little if I keep on\_ The  
lawn has been completely neglected for some time I judge & is high & obstreperous & takes a  
good deal of work to get it in training. It will busy me one whole day more I guess at the least. I  
had rather be busy tho & so guess it is a good thing that there is this to be done. Papa is using  
the horses now so we can't use them for the road & we lose the driving. I miss it too for I like it  
so much in the late afternoon. I think he expects to be done with his present job this week. It  
will make three weeks during which they have not been able to stir away from the house & that  
makes the folks feel shut up & confined & lonely. Papa is at work[,] hard drudgery too[,] for  
very little remuneration & they feel that it is too menial & don't like it & this present work has  
started them up a little more than usual. It is hard toil & uses him up & it don't pay I firmly  
believe too. Besides it throws him so much with boors & ignorant persons & the association is  
bad for him in one respect. It makes him contented here & makes him disinclined to make any  
move that looks toward leaving this place\_ They ought to get away from this[,] I feel sure of  
that. I feel sure that they[,] by their worry[,] make papa as hard to get on with as he is for I

know that he is worried by it very much & he does mean & want to make life as easy & pleasant for all of them as he can. Mamma thinks we had better not marry till I have all paid & say \$500 ahead so as to start off in tolerably comfortable shape. She isn't strong in her position. I mean she won't carry on if we don't wait until we have a lot but she feels sure it is better. I presume we shall postpone & yet it makes me to think of it for I believe we could do it tho we shouldn't be by any means affluent at first any how\_\_ O what is the reason I must let the thing keep haunting me Darling. I have got to stop writing now & go to madison with this & I hope for a note at least from you waiting for me there. I can't tell you now at what time I shall be in New York on Friday but I think I shall get to the house at 10 oclock or thereabouts. I wish I were there now or you here my own Darling Effie\_ O Darling I do love you & long for you now I am not with you\_

With love love love always  
from your own Harry