

I won't send any
kisses since you
don't like them cold.

M[adison]_
Wednesday Evening
[June 17, 1885]

My own Darling:

I am too tired & lame to write a letter but I will send you a note for tomorrow. I wish I had tho't in time to tell you to come on up here on Thursday from Orange & spend the night but that way of relief didn't suggest itself to me till today. Do you know Darling the two days wasn't long enough to make more than little impression on the big longing & I have been homesick all day for you. I have spent all my strength in getting our grass in order & my wrist is so lame I can hardly use it at all. I am ashamed to be knocked up by such a little work but it is because the motions were so unusual. We are going to Madison directly after supper & I will mail this then so that you will get it on Thursday sure. I will be with you again on Friday my own & I hope that after that we shall not be apart any more this summer.

With fondest love
Your own Harry _

Darling don't be angry with me for sending so short a note but indeed Love I can't help it. My wrist always gets so horribly lame when I use it for hard work that requires its constant use__

My own I have gotten your Darling letter and think there will be no reason why I cant come as I planned. I do feel so home sick for you & want so to put you to sleep again[,] if you call it sleep. We won't fight over the word you call it by. You know what I mean_ O my own it was not a dream or else all life is a dream for no experience of my life was ever so real as to feel your precious form in my arms & your kisses on my lips & to have your voice full of love for me. How I have longed for that[,] how I had wanted it to confirm my faith[,] not a fainting faith[,] O no Effie Love[,] not a fainting faith but a genuine belief[,] but I couldn't be happy until we could know each other better than we did. Still & Deep[,] that is your love. I have as yet hardly explored its depths at all. It will take years to do it. No I shall never reach its bottom for it has none. It is in trial time[,] in sickness[,] in need of your sustaining hope & trust as well as in our great happiness[,] that I shall explore it & I know I shall never meet with you any adversity where your love will be wanting or falter. Darling I too thought on Sunday night. I had thought the same thing over many many times & always the same answer but never before were you there to nestle up to me & show how you felt over such a renunciation were it ever necessary. O Effie Darling we are so very happy in finding such love. Very very happy in finding such love for it is the truest happiness. As mamma says[,] I am a poor young man in one sense & yet how rich in my treasure. In one of George Eliotts novels[,] you remember I wrote you once about the man who used to shut himself up & count over his treasure[,] & so do I shut myself up & count my treasure. Do you think I am a sort of miser & don't want to give you away a bit[?] Is that why you say I am a little jealous? It is a dreadful weakness[,] this weakness of mine. Maybe you are right & I am jealous. I didn't think I was so _ O Effie Love how I wish I could be with you now. I wont stay over Sunday. They are good about it & planned this themselves before I told them my intentions at all_ They planned for me to go Friday & stay until you come. I shall be with you on Friday morning sometime. They think I am awfully silly & yet I

don't say much about you. At least I don't introduce it but if any one remarks about you I can't help showing some interest. They approve of you & think you are the most sensible engaged girl they ever knew & 6 times as cool as I. This ev[en]ing I gave Sue your letter & in answer to their inquiry said I hadn't gotten one from you_ I wanted to see how they would take it. They were rather surprised & tho't it strange & I think that they didn't altogether like it but they didn't say any thing more about coolness & I guess they felt that it was cooler than there was any need of. I undeceived them later & they seemed relieved. Sue is best of all the girls about it & seems to understand my feelings most. She is really lovely about it & I think I shall get more sympathy from her than from the others. Mag ridicules me all the time for some reason & I believe thinks that I am foolish to love any body. I think that this is put on but she is utterly unapproachable for any talk. Carrie is more sympathetic than she__ But they think you are O.K. tho' they take pleasure in telling me that you will never enjoy a quiet life & must have lots of people about you- & hated Orange because you didn't know lots of folks etc. etc. but this is all done to tease me & after having teased them all ever since they were born I guess I can stand a little from them with a good grace. At least I don't let on that I am teased & in point of fact I am not. As far as the piano is concerned I will give you my private opinion about it when I see you. Of course I don't want to worry them but I have discussed some things about it that I guess I can safely tell you _ O Darling I must stop my own precious darling Effie_ With everlasting love your own Harry.