

19.

Purdue

June 4 [18]85

My own Darling [underscored three times]

I was glad to get your letter this evening. I had been up in the chapel rehearsing the choir & all the last part after 4:30 I was so anxious to get down stairs & get my letter if there was to [it] be any. Effie Dearest there is no use in trying. I can't control myself at all about letters. I feel as though I just had to have your letters & when I am disappointed about them I know that it couldn't be helped & that it don't mean that you don't love me but I can't help myself. I am at first just utterly miserable[,] awfully miserable[,] & it is just the same away every time. I do hope that you weren't upset by the letter for I did want you to see from the last part what was true[,] that the first feeling had gone as I wrote along_ I did feel at the first that it was shabby but afterward I excused it as I couldn't at first. Darling we shall never be happy anymore until we are married. You can't insist upon having time enough for free for me. You aren't willing to offend your friends & I know how hard it must be to say no when so many want you to do for them & be with them & you can't do it & we shall always have this trouble I fear so long as we are separated. I wish I was different. I wish that I could be suited if I couldn't have things to give in. The few things I want I want bad & you & your letters I want as I never wanted anything before & I cant do a thing with myself. I resolve & resolve but it is of no use. I can't control it. I want the letters & no amount of reasoning does a bit of good or makes me want them less _ It is your own fault Effie. You oughtn't have made me love you so_ Why did you make me love you so completely darling[?] Why didn't you stop short of such a complete thing[?] Wouldn't any sort of half possession do you any good[?] Must you have all there is of me_ Don't you think it is mean to take me so completely & make me love you so very much? O you are glad of it. It is just what you wanted. You wanted me to love you with all my heart. There Darling it is well for I want to please you & if that pleases you I am satisfied. No I am more than satisfied. I am glad to love you & to have you let me tell you that I love you my own Effie _

You think your mother will not travel with me after all__ I am so anxious to hear if you still intend to take the ~~Frid~~ Saturday night boat. I hope that you will have decided to meet me in Albany on Friday Afternoon. I want to see you so badly. How could you put it off even ½ day[?] O think of that. I hope if you still prefer to spend Saturday in Albany to meet you on the Friday night boat for I feel that we shall want a long talk first before we shall want to do anything else. I have written to the albaney boats for the time of their river stops[,] if they make any[,] & shall try to catch you in that way__ Dearest I did misunderstand your attitude about things here for I thought that you were rather displeased that I had accepted \$1200 for next year. You had written that you thought as mamma & the rest & I did feel rather left alone then & it hurt me for I felt that I ought to have your sympathy or I knew I couldn't possibly be happy_ It is all straight now Darling & I think I am likely most to blame for not putting things more clearly. I did howl about the people of the state & so on & I said that if I wasn't worth \$1200 I wouldn't stay here but I believe that they have done all they can & I feel pretty lucky. Lee wrote me the other day that the only prospect he has as yet for next year is a high school in Kansas & thinks he had rather vegetate than take that. I shall have all my debts paid next year & at least \$400 a head if we don't marry & I don't get desperate & spend a lot. As I figure my living expenses[,] I shall easily save that & perhaps can save more. I don't think the money will

be well earned at the cost of six months separation. That is why I advocate our marriage at Christmas. We ought to be together & it is very bad for us to suffer as we both do now_

Last night a Mr & Mrs Underwood called on Misses Weed & Elder and I went up to see them. Mr U. told us that ten years ago that night he had asked Mrs U. to be his wife & Darling after ~~ten~~ ten years those two were just as fond of each other as they could have ever been. No I believe they were more fond of each other than they had ever been before_ They weren't effusive about it or nonsensical but they did love each other that was plain & I liked to see it.

The girls had written me about Mame Hays wedding. Isn't it a mean thing of Uncle James to act so. He is a crank sure enough_ I am so glad that Mamie has gotten his consent & that it is to be an early marriage & she is to go away to a new home for the poor girl has had a hard time ever since her mother died. Her father has never seemed to care for her & always petted Fannie so & poor Mame was always out in the cold. I should like to know her lover & hope that he is a talented man for Mamie has sense & she ought to have a husband who is capable of leading her mind & by ability & education both can make her look up to him_ I haven't been able to find out much about him. One of the girls learned a little but not much. She formed a favorable impression from what she said of him _

I have had hard luck this far in inquiring for time tables here. Yesterday I borrowed Barnes horse & drove all the way to the depot about 2 miles from here & found the ticket office closed. I had previously telephoned them & they said that they had a new timetable. Tonight I was going to walk over but it has rained terribly all the afternoon. We are having dreadfully hot weather & to walk over except at night it is a big undertaking & might require an undertaker[,] my first pun in a long while. I guess I am getting in better spirits. I shall continue & look for letters until Thursday morning & I hope I shall have several more before I go. Tho it is only a week it seems a very long time _ & I do want you awfully_ Maybe next year you will attend commencement here too. How would you like that_

Friday Morning[,] it is one a week now I hope that separates us. I say I hope. Darling I didn't at first object to our meeting of Saturday instead of Friday for I felt that if you wanted it so I ought to feel satisfied & for the time I did get myself so but I find I keep wanting it put on Friday Afternoon at the earliest moment. I will promise to spend all day Saturday & Sunday with you & we will secure quiet by going some where alone. We could take the trip to some point up the sound where there is a long boat ride[,] Sea Cliff for instance. We would be able to fix it so as to be alone on Saturday & Sunday. We wouldn't feel like doing Albany when we had just gotten together after this dreadful separation & the other plan would permit us to have a long long time together to talk & talk it out. O Dearest I awoke this morning with your kiss upon my lips. I had been dreaming about my Darling. I dreamed I had been looking every where for you but couldn't find you. Then I thought the place was all dark & I called out ["O Effie" & I heard you say "here" & I went toward you & stretched out my hand & it rested on your face & then you put your arm about my neck & drew my head toward you & kissed my lips & we were both so happy & then I awoke. O Effie Darling these dreams are about over & we shall soon be together. O how we long for it. It will reward us for all we have suffered to be together. My Dear Dear Effie how I love you & long for you. Now I must stop. I will tell you about some of the doings soon[,] perhaps in a letter tonight. Every thing is quiet at the Dormitory but no one knows when a break will come_ With love O so much love
from your own Harry.