

22.

[ill.]

Purdue Monday

12:30 P.M.

[June 8 1885]

My Darling Darling Effie

I was disappointed yesterday morning & feel about sick now that I learn what was the matter. There has got to be a regeneration next year if we don't marry at christmas & that is all there is about it. Your health is too important & I intend to insist on your dropping all your Orange pupils after this quarter. I am just thoroughly worried over it and how can I help it. The loss of your letters is nothing at all compared with this & your ailing health is a desperate affair. At twenty five & ailing so much you will exhaust the wonderful recuperative powers you have & be sick & in suffering all the time pretty soon. You cannot stand it & I shall not let you stand it ever again. I shall insist upon your ~~pu~~ giving up those country pupils & if necessary will engage that time for myself & pay you what you at present get for it. I think that is fair & I don't see why you shouldn't sell the time to me as well as to any one else. I feel horribly about this & have been fearing & dreading it very much for I feel sure tho you don't write about it that you are in a pretty debilitated condition after the winter strain. Your request that I should make it possible for you to telegraph me scared me thoroughly tho I didn't write about it & you tried to make it all straight. I feel pretty sure that you are not as vigorous as you were in the fall & early winter & I can't endure to have you used up so\_ I am not finding fault with you my Darling for I know how you feel & I can't convince you by writing about it. I shall not try to change you about [ill.] till I come home but I can't see you wearing yourself out & it is not right for you to do it or for me to let it go on. When I write about this you don't like it & I have many of your letters where there is a querulous tone because I have written in this way but Darling how can I help it. There is one escape from all the things that make your life so hard & I am dreadfully serious when I ask you to marry me next christmas. But Darling[,] my own Darling[,] I know that I can't do you as much good by writing an unhappy letter as if I write a happy one & I can write a happy one today in spite of the gloom. First of all why didn't I write yesterday? It wasn't from miserable feelings Darling. I wanted the letter awfully & I shall never get where I shall not be a little unhappy[,] no a good deal unhappy[,] when your letters don't come. But I wasn't so unhappy as to be unable to write a happy & hopeful letter for I was happy & hopeful all day. It was my last Sunday & how could I help be happy & I had had such hopeful & cheery letters from my Darling Effie on Wednesday & Thursday & Friday & was so soon to see her it was all too good to let the loneliness triumph & Darling I did not suffer as I should have done the Sunday before. But after tea Mr. McAvoy[,] a gentleman who is here to drill the students[,] came to my room & wanted evidently to talk and tho I could have sent him away I knew that I should have time to write this letter today & determined to wait for the delayed letter. I didn't suspect the true cause of your not writing. I didn't hit on that in my speculations about it but believed the letter had gotten detained & that I should have it this morning. And I wanted it before I wrote. So I didn't write. Now I have put off some preparations for a show this evening to write you not a very long letter but a good letter & do hope my Darling one that will cheer you up & make you feel how very near the time is when we shall be together. O Darling how dear that is to us. We feel as though there could be nothing so good now to either of us as that. The being united again after all the hardships of this awful year. It is to be this week[,] this very week[,] & the day after you get this I shall start & travel as far as I can to meet the girl

of all the whole world to me my Effie. There Darling don't that cheer us both & make us very hopeful. If you can't come to Albany I shall nevertheless be with you on Friday\_ I shall look for your telegram at Utica & if it is not there I shall be all the more hopeful for then I shall know that I am to see her at Albany.

On Friday night the first performance took place, a sermon before the Y.M.C.A. upon the christian life & it was a good healthy sermon & ought to rest on the hearts of every one who heard it. It did me good & must have made everyone who heard it aspire to live a nobler life. I wish you could have heard it for it was so practical & everyday & yet so beautiful too[,] a real work of art. I read my essay on Millet on Tuesday evening & there was a poor attendance but I was much pleased to have some of the most thoughtful ones there present say that it gave them some new ideas. It wasn't all I wanted to do for I had to leave out a portion of what I had planned to put in it when I first thought out my plan but as far as it went it pleased me & I think that if I may say so to you[,] as I shouldn't anyone else[,] it was a good article. There is no conceit in that Darling for I may say frankly to you what I should say to my self in my estimate of the thing. You can read it if you want to for it is printed on the calligraph & as I put a good deal of thought on the subject I feel that it is worth preserving.

On Thursday a lot of the boys went out to camp. They are boys who belong to the military company. That night we had a great rain storm & the next day one of them[,] James Ross[,] was brought home in a terribly sick state. He is one of my dormitory boys & I went to see him at once & found him with a very severe headache[,] evidently in great pain from his rapid breathing & with nausea. I saw that he had a sick headache & what he most needed was sleep \_ The doctor came & gave him chloroform to inhale which deadened the pain[,] not enough to "put him under[,] " & then administered bromidia & he went to sleep & the next day was all right but very weak. I wished for you for you could have nursed him so much better than I but I did all I could for him & he was helped & very grateful\_ Yesterday the annual sermon was preached & it was a great bore. Tonight Mr. Somebody is to give a church talk or illustrated lecture. He draws as well as Nast & talks better so they claim & I am sure that he will entertain the audience. The exercises of this week are a grind & I wish I might depart today for my Darling but I have got to see the class graduate. Then I shall leave in haste. After the lecture tonight the Scientific Society gives a soirée or microscope show. We have all the microscopes out & with attractive specimens for the folks to look at and admire & I have been very busy getting it up with Barnes. We shall have a good show and are pretty sure of a large attendance as it comes next thing after the lecture. That & the lecture you would enjoy too if you could be here. And how I do wish you could[,] my own[,] how proud I should be of you & what a nice time we could have when now & then we could get a look at each other or perhaps exchange a word or two. O Darling you have gotten a very Loving Harry on your hands\_ Am I not almost a burden sometimes. Do you like to be loved so much? I guess you are like me & can't get too much of it. I shall have a pretty easy time with the exams for I have only one & that will take two hours or so & then the reading of the papers. I shall be all done on Tuesday & have nothing more but to wait for the students to graduate & what a waste of time. I haven't had any more dormitory messes or any other kind of messes. Three more nights & then all is over & I haven't any more worry. And three months with my Effie. It is a good preparation to make one hungry for you[,] you sweet girl[,] to be kept away from you so long. I am wild now to see you\_\_ There that is all I can write. I will try to write so that you will get a letter on

Thursday & one on Friday before leaving for Albany & then there will be a silence & then O Effie & then we shall be in each others arms. I hope that there won't be many people about at the first moment for I fear I can't help myself & shall make a dreadful scene I shall be so full of joy. As we shall have some time at Albany I think we had better get a buggy there & drive out of town if we can do so & then we can be pretty secure. We shant want to go to the steamer till 6 PM or so & this will give us a couple of hours pretty complete seclusion. O Effie I long so for you. I want to ask you so many questions & I want to see you[,] to look at you[,] to feast my eyes on your dear sweet face. It is before me so much \_ I want to hear you tell me that you love me. It made me so very happy once to hear you say that the old cousin liking had gone & that you loved me & I want to hear that again. And I want to hold you in my arms & kiss you & tell you that I love you \_ O Darling I get half wild to go whenever I think of it. There darling I must stop. I do hope you are all right now & that you will continue all right & that we shall not have to give up that Friday night on the Hudson River or that any thing will arise to mar the perfectness of that plan. What can I say darling to make you happy[,] nothing more my own I know than that I love you with all my soul & shall forever\_ O my own Darling[,] sweetness joy delight happiness[,] all because you love me \_

With fondest fondest fondest love for you my own from your own  
Harry.