

Purdue Sept 12 [18]85_
6 P.M.

My own beloved Effie:

I have spent all the afternoon in settling up or down or what you will call it my room. I have made some changes from last spring and think I shall not change again unless I get a piano. If I do that there will have to be another movement. Large as the room is[,] the windows & steam heating apparatus chop it up so that the question how best to dispose things is quite a question. The enclosed plan will show you how I have settled the question. The only important change since last spring is in putting the wash stand in the little recess in the bay window. My towel rack swings out from the partition and the towels shut off the view of the offensive bit of furniture somewhat. The fact is the washstand is a nuisance & yet a necessity. I feel pretty sure that I have now the best arrangement. I shall not get a piano if it costs me much but there is the Barnes piano. They have got to leave it. They may rent it but if they don't I am in hopes they will let me have the use of it for the care I would give it. Of course they might better loan it to me than store it. I will gladly pay for moving it but I won't give them any rent for it. I think they might lend it to me any how for I do consider that I am doing Barnes a very great favor in taking his works for a whole year and it will be done as well as tho he were here to do it himself. They spoke about not knowing just what to do with the piano yesterday but nothing at all definite was said. I don't know whether any thing will come out of it or not. I beg pardon Darling for putting in all this about the piano but since I mentioned it I thought it would be well to explain myself. I have hung two of the pictures. The oil painting which Mrs. Lee gave me is over the mantle. The Charlotte Corday is over the bed upon the partition wall between me & the hall leading to the front door. Darwin I don't know what to do with. I was amazed to see what a help even those two pictures are to the walls. The big space scared me & I tho't the pictures would only be lost there but they arent & I honestly think they add a very great deal more than I dreamed they could. The room really looks quite comfortable. You would be surprised to see how comfortable. One thing[,] Effie Love[,] I want you to do for me as soon as you are fit. I have a round top table for lamp or something of that sort. I want you to make me some sort of a simple cover for it. The material & style of ornamentation I leave wholly to you. The top of the table is circular and 12 inches across. I tho't a square piece eighteen inches square with a border worked around would be pretty but I guess you can tell best what would be pretty. Wait till the hay fever fiend takes his hand off you & then scheme up some little thing for me wont you dearie _

I called on Miss Weed last evening. She has had a very quiet vacation & I guess not a pleasant one. She didn't tell me any thing at all about her affairs, but I inferred from the talk & her blues that she has been pretty unhappy. You know that I believe the man to whom she was engaged lives in the same town & loves her still & that would make residence at home unpleasant. She has kept house for her father all the summer & let her sister go away for some needed rest. She said she wouldn't teach but she has to. I don't know why she has to & should imagine if she could be happy in the same town with this imaginary former lover she might live home & support her self easily by teaching. Miss Elder is very offish. She didn't seem inclined to be as friendly as we were when I left. Why I do not know. Perhaps she thought I was too friendly then but she I didn't act as though she thought it so at all. I shall certainly not intrude there & I feel quite sure that Miss Weed does not think me to[o] friendly. It was as much as any

thing for their sake that I returned to Mrs. Stocktons & didn't make any effort to find table board outside. I don't mean that egotistically. I felt that they meant it when they used last year to speak about our being together as so very pleasant. I believe it is all Miss Elder's fault & feel sure that she is to blame if there is really any thing like the feeling I imagine_ I have seen Luzader whose wife did my washing last year and she is willing to go on with it as heretofore. That will be very convenient for me & be a considerable saving too for you remember what a time I had last fall & then I could not get my wash done for less than 75 cents a dozen. Now it is 50 cents a week for my plain wash & I have 18 or more pieces & she never complains. The shirts[,] collars & cuffs will be done at the laundry as last year. It cost me \$2.09 to move those things[,] out here. You remember how much there was[,] three boxes. I thought that was very reasonable. Troop & his wife have the other half to Warders house[,] the half on this side. They rent some of the rooms to students. I haven't been down there yet nor indeed anywhere but mean to start out pretty soon & make a tour of calls. Goss & his wife are keeping house & they are nicely fixed I learn but I haven't been there. The new mechanic shop is done & it is very nice indeed. They haven't gotten all the machines set up yet & arent quite ready for the classes but will be very soon. It is a very creditable thing but the front isn't at all handsome[,] as I think. The inside is going to be fine & it will be an extremely complete shop & they will be able to do first rate work there. They have a very pretty engine to drive the machinery and as you enter the main hall you see into the engine room straight in front of you through a large glass window __ The building cost \$7500. & I was amazed at their getting anything so good for that sum_ I fear I shall have the fun of conducting the music again & there seems to be no vocal talent[,] not even as much as last year. Several students torture the cornet & one plays well on the clarinet. I may find some able to play the organ. If so —. It would be very nice Darling if you could go to Warwick but I hope you will adhere in your determination to stay in New York. After the Madison Experience N.Y. is obviously the best place for you and as you will soon begin with your pupils you ought to save up all your strength for that. Annie ought to see that & visit with you in New York. She isn't imperatively needed at W. and I do think you ought to make the hay fever as light & easy to bear as you can. It was awful at Madison. I do hope it wont be so here. I shall be wild if you have to suffer here as you did at Madison but I hope it wont be so. I haven't heard of any bad cases here tho I have inquired but a little & guess it will be city enough there to help you out tho probably not as good as New York. Possibly the change of climate will be the very thing for you. I do hate to have you suffer so. Did you see the girls again before they went to Madison[?] I can't blame you for not feeling like venturing up there especially as you couldn't be at all sure of finding them at home_ If you could have gone in the evening there might have been some hope. When you go again call it a party call & do it for me at the same time. Tell them I am sorry I couldn't come with you. It will be quite true. O Effie what a lot you wrote me about Fritz. Do you really believe he was so disconsolate because I wasn't there[?] Poor Fritz but I will bet he don't miss me one half as much as my Effie misses me. O Darling how many many times a day I think of you & wish I might see you. Of course I know it is a useless wish & yet I cant help feeling it very often. O Darling you are so dear to me. All last Summer I hated to have you out of my sight. I am an awful baby about it but I can't seem to help it. I want you awfully and it must be even harder for you for there are so many things to remind you of me & the whole house from cellar to the roof & almost every room in it has seen us happy together. I think it must be very hard for you to go here & there & see the

empty place. But Darling it isn't going to last & in 12 weeks I shall hold you in my arms & kiss your lips a hundred times. O such sweet kisses when we are reunited. We wont spend one day even of that time apart if we can help it. Tomorrow I shall have another letter. O Effie these letters are such a comfort. More than they used to be[,] O so much more! I think they are actually better but I know one reason they seem to dear is that I know you so much better than I did in the spring _ But we shall never get so that we shall love enough to be happy separated & enjoy being apart. Don't that sound strange. I can I think stand being separated better than last spring tho at times I want you dreadfully, more than I ever did then. I must stop now Darling tho I could go on & on & not tire of writing to you _ With love beyond measure[,] O my Effie[,] & kisses kisses kisses[,] no end of kisses[,] my own Effie from

Your own loving

Harry