

Cherry Grove March 1st 1858

My friend & brother

May I call you

this? will you be my brother? it would
make me so happy if you would.
my own dear brothers are far away, you
have just since our family circle was
broken by their departure, and ever
since there has been a void in my
heart I did not know how deep my love
for them was, until they were gone,
but, pardon me, this may not inter-
est you — Now, make up your mind
for a scolding, for I am going to just

try a little bit (seeing it has such a
vice effect upon you) Will you tell
 me what reason you have for ever
 being afflicted with that dreadful
malady called "the blues"! For that
Nature has been so partial to, ought to be
 the last one to have that disease, I
 do not believe there is any one might
 and if I should see you whom you
 had them, I am afraid I should be
 inclined to box your ears, so you
 must be very careful when I am
 around not to let me know you have
 "the blues".

Now, for an explanation
 to that enigma of Friday evening.
 I thought, that you, after receiving that
 letter from me plainly saw that a corres-
 pondence with me would be of no advan-
 tage to you and therefore did not wish
 me to write again, I know that letter
 was "any nothing" not worth your
 reading, to say nothing about unweaving
 but please, do not judge me by that, I
 was sick when that was written and
 really did not know what was I did write
 but if you will in future, accept my
 letters as they are I shall be most happy
 to correspond with you; it will not
 only be a source of much pleasure
 to me but also of great improvement
 You are so talented and know so
much that I wonder you should
 ever have noticed me
 If my conduct is sometimes strange
 and enigmatical, bear with me
 if you can, there is some dark pages
 in my past history, I have not the
 same trusting heart that I once
 had, and if I sometimes doubt
 you you must not think strange
 I will not write any more for
 fear I shall say something that might
 better remain unsaid. Adieu

1858

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