

WYNGST
FEB
5
OHIO

Miss E. L. Kilborn
Beachford

Care, J. B. Gordon Esq.

Allegheny Co

(cancel)

Jan 27, 1862

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

London "22.

Dear Anne,

I am not going
to send you a letter, until I hear
from you again, which, I presume,
will be pretty soon; but I must
write you a few lines today, for I will
like to do so. I had a present last
night, something new & unusual to me,
you know, — and a real nice one it
was, too. I am using it now, for your
gratification. It was grown & gathered, — as
very nice gold pen. Just what I
wanted, it is so hard for me to write
with a steel pen, when I wish to write
fast. I think it the best one I ever
saw, and am sure it ought to be good.
For the pen alone cost it 400. (Don't
you think I am decidedly in luck?)
(I suppose you do not, as you seem
to do not hold pens. I expected a letter
from you last night and was not
a little disappointed, when I found

that the missive which father brought me was from Nellie.

By the way, I am sorry you and Nellie cannot contrive to be more friendly, and think it rather strange that you cannot. Do you know, that I am considerably inclined to consider you the faulty one in such things?

You are so easily prejudiced, and so very unyielding in your thoughts. I expect you and Lizzie will have a quarrel pretty soon, and will get up a mutual hatred for each other, which will be entirely unextinguishable. I don't know what we shall do, when we come to be "one flesh." I am afraid your friends will abandon you, on any account, and mine, will plead that you and they are unmerciful.

What a sea of troubles must await us! W.A.

Monday P.M.

Darling, — I have just received your letter, i.e. not more than two hours ago. After reading it, I sat still on the lounge, and, most unconsciously, have been playing over and over again, "Happy Land," until father says "Well Ah, don't you think you have about sworn that out?" I replied that I guessed not, but to accommodate him, I will just stop and write a little to you. You seem to be as much, or perhaps, a little more, puzzled about the delicate question, than I, was when I wrote to you. I have not troubled myself much about it since, but have determined to dismiss the matter & await the development of events, in the future. I have not concluded any arrangement with Mr. Barrett, and shall leave it an open question as long as possible. I do think that it would be better, if we had some place where

both could teach, but then you know
we have not any such situation and
I do not know where I could obtain
one. If I could get such a place I
would most gladly do so. I am afraid
it would be very difficult for me to do
so however. I do not know of any that
will be vacant at the beginning of next
year except that at Westfield, and I am rather
or doubtful about Mr. Long's leaving that
position in such times as these. Even if
he did, I do not suppose I could get it
since he is a graduate of Hamilton College
and will probably use his influence for
some graduate of the same institution.
Even if he should not, he is a ~~most~~ ~~author~~
evangelist. D. K. E. and would be sure to favor
some of his brethren. I am not in a very
good condition to secure a situation, you
know. If I knew of any good situation
which I thought I could secure in any
manner I would be willing to make
the attempt, but I feel rather diffident
about trying to get one because I fear
people will think I wish to make my
earnings a hobby on which to ride into
the position. I might get a subordi-
nate position in some other institu-
tion, but it might not be as good as

Fryersville, O.
Monday Jan. 27th 1862

Emma, — I have just received
your letter of the 25th inst, and it is perhaps,
well that I sent my letter away before
that came to any hands. In my present
mood, I do not think that letter would
have left my hands. — Now don't mistake
that, for I do not mean that I am sorry it
has gone. — I don't know that I have any
right to feel so disappointed with your letter
as I am, but I cannot help it just now.
'Is there not something still unrevealed?' —

Not that I know of, as, I believe, I have
told you several times before. Once more
let me say — You know all, and more
than all, that a betrothed has a right to
ask. Ever since I first knelt with my
arms around you, my heart has been
to you an unreserved book. I have hid-
den nothing from you which I sup-

posed could in any manner
interest you, You know of me ^{all} (so
far as I can inform you; or allow
you the evidence of your own senses
to reveal myself to you) in regard
to me that a wife could know.
I do suppose that a wife would have
learned many prominent and perhaps
disagreeable facts concerning me of
which you are ignorant, but it is not
my fault. I have not the power to
strip my soul and display to you
its every deformity. God alone can do
that and you must wait his will
to do it — if he does it for you at all
in his own good time and manner.
You know all of me, physically and
mentally, and morally — past and pres-
ent, that I will ever reveal — volunta-
rily — to any human being. And of
this I have time and again assured
you. Yet you still ask "is there not some-
thing yet unrevealed?"

"If there must be years before, and
they change Emma Hilborn you must
know it has been your work." — Look
at the course of that half-threatening sus-
spection for a moment Emma and
see if you would be willing to have me
utter it in earnest. If years do not
intervene, and thereby our life-hopes are
wrecked, you must remember that it was
your work. How does it look? Would you
be willing to wreck that responsibility?
Yet could you blame me if in reply
to that warning of yours, I should say
"Cela suffit, You shall be my wife at once."
Oh! Emma! if you had but known
how painful — yet prompted by how
pure a love, was that utterance I
cannot be a husband," you surely
would not have spoken thus. I do not
know what I may have written in
that letter to sting your heart, but if
you knew how my own is thrilled
whenever I dare to think of standing

by you at the altar a cripple —
you would surely have forgiven
anything from me. Well, well, My
Dear, no more of this. I know
you did not mean it, or if you
did, I will not believe it. If you
were entirely earnest do not ever
tell me of it. No, no, Emma you
know I would never have written
as I did but from love for you.
You know how long as fiercely as you
can, and did I think only of my own
enjoyment — or did I only con-
sider it equally ^{with} your own, I
should say at once — Be my wife now.
Oh! Emma, you do not know how much
I have needed you, how much I need
you now. And Emma do not reproach
me for anything which my despair may
have forced from me. You know
that if it be possible you shall not
long seek your couch without me.
Oh! how my heart yearns to have
you in these arms — this very night!
I know that your bias would be acor-
dial for every cure, but I would not
have my selfishness deprive that cordial
of its subtrees. Good night Dearest, and
when next you feel that stranger's rest
think how Albion's heart would leap could he
but rush it with his warm embraces. A. V. T.

The one which is offered me
here. I have a sort of horror of
attempting to teach in any such ca-
pacity again, I had such sorrowful
things at (Willoughby) Wilson. I happen-
ed to think while writing that sentence
that Mr Latimer said the other day
that he thought there would be a con-
ference in Willoughby Inst., so wrote
the name quite unconsciously. I
think I will write to him and find
out the prospect there. I have but little
faith however in any such attempt, for
you know I have not any degree and
probably the University will not confer
any one me this year, though Peep has
almost promised it to me. He's an
unpatriotic old hog anyhow. I am
very glad to hear that Coon is still
alive. I did not know but he had his
herniated or gone to the road. By the way
I don't know but I shall get well enough
to go back to the row again myself.

You do not know that I have
been taking some short journeys
without a scratch! Well I have and
hope soon to be freed from the domina-
ion of that monarch. I certainly
hope I shall. You know if I get well
before the next school year begins I
shall not teach, at least not if I can
go to war. You don't discourage me
by any words and disappointments
I'll go if I can at any time. Be
sure of that. You need not write
to Angie, unless you desire to do so,
anything about the matter in hand. I
do not care about her opinion but do
not know but you might. I do not think
her opinion would affect mine materially.
I am going to ask my sage sister Nora
what she thinks of it. Did I tell you that Lib-
Schroemaker had married? She has, and has
a queer fellow for a husband. Look out
for equals, of both kinds there. I do
not know of any thing new about
you only I am to lecture, from an
arm chair, on Thursday Evening next
at the Academy. I too am going to bed
and am so sorry that I must go alone
Bonnie must
W. M. Bourque