

ity peered - which I have partly  
 ferreted out - my hearty mixed  
 coat of front - which I may  
 say surely will if I can make  
 profitable to myself - I would  
 stick it to your name but I can  
 not write any more tonight  
 or perhaps not tomorrow if I do  
 not - I will hold this & send it out  
 I found a lot of Father's letters  
 in my rummaging & have  
 learned ever to select about  
 my mother. I received your let-  
 ter yesterday, I have now gotten  
 of yours she do I don't imagine  
 why mine should occupy her  
 four days in going there, yours  
 but two in coming here. Electra  
 got here - arrived the same day  
 I got yours on Wednesday - and  
 her reply - mailed on Sat - 6<sup>th</sup>  
 I got Monday evening. I've  
 I don't know a bad thing for either  
 to do in a mail bag - it sufficed  
 but the feathers and this morning  
 I think it does injure the paper.  
 But - things lay out to look  
 drunk in good by  
 Albin

W. Belvid

Sat Sept 4/1859  
 Sunday eve

It is now the fifty ninth  
 minute of the eleventh hour almost that I  
 sit down to write and I suppose that if my  
 chere Tante Saphrosia, who is now doubtless sleep-  
 ing nicely, knew that I was thus engaged, she would  
 almost wish that Currency were almost any one's  
 Belvid but Albin's. The fact is I have been ex-  
 acting "the idealist," and original comedy requiring  
 but few characters, and very succinct both in lan-  
 guage and sentiment. It has thus far proceeded  
 only through five acts each act occupying about  
 twenty four hours in representation. I think the  
 closing scenes are near, how many more there  
 may be, however, I cannot say. Now, my love,  
 please don't prepare to act the Irenitippe over the  
 weather for it won't succeed it injures I know

So if you will wait a very quiet moment I  
will "fill" fully and freely, and tell you all about  
the matter it is, at best, as you say, only a Temporary  
Illness. Last Monday, the 29 Aug. I went and had  
about half of my teeth filled; there were three how-  
ever so sensitive that I could not endure to have  
them cleaned, much less filled, and so concluded to  
have an application made, to destroy the nerves  
Chloride of Zinc, Creosote, and Turpentine, were there-  
fore applied, to my devoted masticators, and for  
about 30 hours I enjoyed all the blissful emotion  
which three raging fangs could produce. (A funny way  
in which to celebrate that anniversary mistake?)  
As soon as I was relieved from this happiness I  
began to write letters for that Festival, which I be-  
lieve I mentioned in my last. I tell you, Emma,  
if you had seen the worst number of love letters  
I wrote then, and saw a one to you, you would  
have been jealous & envious. I am sure I got most  
wonderful sick of writing Dear, and don't believe it will  
ever be any pleasure to write it again. <sup>(See, however)</sup> By Tuesday  
night I was severely sick; but on Wednesday  
morning I rose as usual, <sup>miraculously</sup> and took my regular  
dose of Latin and went to the Festival - and  
on my return was quite sick. I felt some-  
what hurry in morning and was deter-  
mined to go to the Fireman's Banquet, which was in  
town for the first time, as there was to be some  
tall playing and I wanted to see it, for of course went.

As soon as the playing was over I started home  
(perhaps a smile) and two or three hours after-  
wards got there I scarce know how. I believe they  
thought me drunk along the route, and I guess do  
now. Since that time they - mere laertes - have  
kept me in bed, on the lounge, or propped up  
with pillows in the rocking chair, i.e. all the time  
they could. They declare I am just like a stubborn  
child when sick, don't know what will hurt  
me, and don't care, and if I can't have just  
what I wish - i.e. to read or study, - em just as  
cross as a bear, that has lost her cub, won't  
take any medicine; won't be doped nor doped  
downed, ~~and~~ drenched, physicked, plastered, poulticed  
or anything of the kind; I would neither be  
allopathed, homoeopathed, hydropathed, Botanic  
or Indianized, Germanized, or Eclecticized, but  
I solemnly and seriously declared that if they brought  
one <sup>(a physician)</sup> into my room he'd make him swallow  
his own doses if it killed him and me too.

I would read Latin till I fainted away at it, and  
after that they hid my books and would not let me  
have them, though I scolded awfully, but I found  
an old volume of Le Litterateur Francais, ou Jour-  
nal Francais, published at Boston, and I gave  
you it made an amperignon tres agreable.

This morning Aunt I went to meeting, and  
I was considerable better and as I had been tea-  
ing her for a certain document - written by one of my

maternal uncle which I had a smart-burning  
curiosity to read - you know I'm curious as a  
man - she tried to find it for me but could not  
and told me I might look myself. I improved  
this opportunity and permission to rummage  
any old box, chest, cupboard, drawer or closet, that  
had a scrap of paper or parchment of any kind  
in it, in this old house. There has always been  
a sort of mystery about some things in regard  
to my mother's family, and I was bound  
to see the record quit, and know if a lot of  
stranger times had I chanced some near relation.  
So far as my researches have extended I am  
disappointed of making any such discovery. Happily  
I suppose you think. Well now I don't know I  
should not care much if I did find that about my  
fourth lineal progenitor, or fifth, well say, was a  
most imperial Demagogue. It would be so roman-  
tic, especially if he had done something bloody such as  
kill towns when he was a boy, thereby crimsoning  
the milk of his young dairies, and when he grew  
older had shot somebody's cat with a silver ball and  
it to be somebody's wife who had turned witch to plague  
her neighbors and shed much blood in various  
heric ways. It would be so bruyere et boum-  
tigue, et si aristocratique aussi. Le parler yvelique  
for: de mon oncle en mon grand père du Maine  
rouge. Ne pensez-vous? Well I have a bit of a family

Monday Morning  
I must write some more for I can  
not think of sending you a letter of any one  
sheet when I have so very much to write as now.  
I am quite well this morning, though my  
blind eye is of unusual size, and I don't feel  
very enterprising. I am going to Town this afternoon  
to do some business and get my teeth filled, any-  
how. I am having the blues and hating myself more  
awfully, because the cursed lucre troubles me. I  
know my Aunt A. has done all she thought she  
could, but it is an awful time to raise money now  
right here. She can't collect notes due her and the  
mills are just now opening after a long stop,  
page & manufacturers therefore pay a very high  
premium for Capital, and she cannot raise  
money without paying from 10 to 20 percent  
interest. I know that is an almost ruinous  
rate, but I must have it, and I told her last  
night she might have till Thursday Morning to  
furnish me \$150. If she does not do it by that  
time I shall see her Thursday, raise money on  
the Execution sufficient for my necessity until  
April, and leave for R. one week from today.  
She will lose at least 25 percent on it, by  
that course but I can't help it. I can't have  
it - I have waited long enough.



I shall look up the documents in regard to it, and  
bring your hands to day, and there will be an ap-  
pearance in the account pretty soon unless my  
claim is met immediately. You may direct  
your letter this week to see, but never afterwards.  
I can give you no directions as to sending  
them to Rochester, unless it be to send them in  
care of S. Brown, for I have not heard from him  
this long time, though I wrote to him & partic-  
ularly requested an immediate answer,  
and don't know what box in the P.O. we  
shall have this year. I suppose he is so en-  
gaged with pretty little Phoebe. Sissie that he  
can't spend time to write to me. I would not  
that if I were there I should not have the honor  
of a call from the careless neglectful, from whom  
I receive, despite his anxiety to see me. But did  
you find out Sept., or can you guess what is  
the matter with the wonderful boy. He was al-  
most in a suicidal mood when he wrote  
me last. He would not tell me why then, but  
promised me an explanation sometime. I can't  
imagine the reason and have had considerable  
anxiety on account of it. I don't know as I shall hear  
from him again till I get to - though he said he  
would write me. Don't forget to write me how  
he appeared on Sat. last, for I would give something  
to know that he was in good spirits. I shall prob-  
ably go to R. one week before to day.

Your last was indeed welcome, & came  
when I was just sick enough to think  
of that than I would of anything else in the  
world. I am glad you are so pleasantly situa-  
ted as "School Master," but cannot conceive  
how you got out of your engagement at Little  
Hope. I thought you had in effect if not in  
many words agreed to teach there if any school  
this fall, and I should be sorry to know that Emma  
would break even an implied engagement of the  
kind just because she found it for her interest  
as to do. Not that I have any such idea now, but  
you have never told me you were not going there  
anywhere, and I can't imagine how they came to  
let you off so easily. I had a real good letter from  
Rosetta, a great deal better one than any I sup-  
posed she could write. I suppose you & Mrs. W. were  
that evening a young lady ought well be proud  
of. I'll make a splendid correspondent some-  
time. She's her brother's sister all over.  
I've just done up a paper to send to Angie. Guess  
it will get to Greenville as soon as she does, and  
be not unwelcome to her. If she likes the School  
I think I shall send one or two scholars there from  
at the commencement of the Spring term. I have  
been getting out Allen some during the last two  
weeks, and have among other things, from the con-  
fidence of a very interesting girl, - a Miss Curtis  
Louisa - I have mentioned her to you before.

I did not think then that those scandalous  
reports would be productive of such immediate  
good, but by means of them I became ac-  
quainted with Luina, and felt myself  
fully repaid; for I believe I can do her good  
believe my influence may be, & shall be -  
just such as she needs just now. She is  
a very peculiar girl - I can give you an  
better idea of her than by saying that  
she constantly reminds me of Emma; she  
has the same tone of mind the same ten-  
derness of feeling, the same frank simplicity of  
manner, the same variability, and the same  
depth & strength of emotion. Her eyes like Es-  
s are fountains of tears and her heart like hers  
a well of sunshine & gladness. Her circumstan-  
ces, as I have been ~~very~~ very peculiar and  
are such as to make me wish myself a lawyer  
now, for she has been abused wrongfully and is  
now kept from her rights. I cannot speak  
more fully of her now, but she is a very amiable girl  
and if she can go to school with the right influ-  
ence will be a splendid one. For she has super-  
ability. She will go to Jamesville if Angie likes the  
School & I do hope she will. I have, my dear, I have  
written another sheet and will now just shut that  
likeness which lays beside the letter and go down  
to dinner. Yours With Love (unexpressed and unexpressible)  
A. K. Albion

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