

Rochester N.Y.

December 25 - 1859

A Merry Christmas to you Love, - if it's not too late now that Christmas is almost past. I hope it'll be that you have enjoyed yourself finely today. I have not been at church at all today, but have remained at home to write a song for the Phoenix Festival, which as the Festival is to be on Friday night - must be forwarded immediately or it will not reach L. in season for the occasion. I wrote off hurriedly last night and have polished it up & copied it today. I will enclose a copy and let you judge of its merits. I guess it will fit the old Temperance song "Sparkling & Bright," at least it was intended to do it.

Our term is now over and vacation commenced. I am not going to Fairbanks, but shall remain here in the city and continue to your command study prize Latin almost all the time. I had numerous invitations to go out into the country and recreate with my classmates but declined them all because I wished to remain here and read up that Log, for I don't know of any other time that I shall have to do it. I came off well in Examination at least better than expected. I was marked 5 in Latin & Rhetoric and 5 in Math, average 4 1/2. 5 is perfect. Our entire Society in the Sup. Class averaged 4 1/2 - two of them took five, in every thing. The A. D.'s averaged 4 1/2. They have six members in the Class and we but five. We achieved a mighty triumph this year in the junior class. There are but five Phi U's in the class and all of them have been appointed for the junior Exhibition. Only six boys in the



other societies. The students are selected for those who have held the  
best standing in the class during their entire previous course of  
three years. It is equivalent therefore to the Faculty's saying that  
five of the best Men in the class are Psi Upsilon, and three five  
comprehend all our members in that class. The Alpha Betas are all dead  
over it and there will be a mighty strife in our class during the re-  
mainder of the year to decide whether the superiority shall be  
with Psi Upsilon or Alpha Beta, we at least do not stand  
in a hard contest, for the A B's in our class are prime good fellows.  
I think however that the glory of the Alpha Beta crescent is on the  
wane, and that the clasped hands of Psi Upsilon will be trium-  
phant in the combat. I shall study just twice as much next term  
as I did last and intend to take a five in every recitation.  
There will be a fierce struggle I assure you and many an angry word,  
but we expect to conquer, and have determined to take both Latin  
prizes and count five men on for the Prize Declamation.  
Your directions therefore not to study too hard will be  
observed - just so far as may be without hindering my  
progress, and no farther. Now don't think me stubborn or un-  
complying to your wishes, for it must be done, and I must do it.  
You know I shall have a long vacation in the summer term  
susitate, and I can afford to work pretty hard during the rest  
of the year, in consideration of the joys I expect during those ten  
weeks. I doubt not that you think I work very hard but I don't  
very often. Now and then I work most desperately and then for  
a time I don't work more than an hour or two each day, and you  
often take my ear and read the remainder of the time. I think Mr  
Hatch is just the silliest fool I ever saw. He is doubtless a good  
natured kind hearted fellow, but he is so stupidly

He is good enough for aught that I can say of him.  
The strongest feeling I can have in regard to the  
partying contempt I don't think you have seen to the world  
to write every week anywhere that that I would wish you  
write when you do not feel like it, but I have several times  
very anxious for a letter and it has not come. I shall  
then soon about as regular as clock work. I believe I  
not been more than one day behind times, but once  
I got to sending you papers I can hardly say I don't  
never could be able to my mind to send a paper to  
one more than once in twice in my life. Now if I should  
you on Rochester paper, I don't suppose you would find my letters  
interesting in it, though I'm sure I can't say or regret to  
for I have scarcely looked at one since I have been here. I  
you in the best way and I thought of sending it to you  
for some reason neglected to do so. I am sorry it has always  
ed to me that a letter must be awful dull when you  
from a place where he is unacquainted and I don't  
papers enough to know when there is any thing in them  
reading. However, it is necessary for me to say  
existence - or rather if you wish that I should  
I shall intend to write to you every Sunday, or  
ter long or short at some of your sufferings  
ever you give any reason to anticipate that  
must be very happy there at home. There is  
joy to think that the only thing which is  
happiness is an occasional walk  
for me but I will be all heartily  
with you and I shall be all heartily



pany or recreation. Was it one? I declare I've half a mind to  
put on my best clothes + best looks tonight, and go down to  
No 79 Frank St and call on Maria Pottingill. I like her well  
and I know she is anything but adverse to my society for she has  
a great admiration of my humble self and thinks I am her brother's  
most especial friend. But really I doubt believe I care enough about  
seeing her to take the trouble. By the way she lent me a book  
a while ago and I found a sonnet in it which seemed very  
beautiful to me. Let me copy it.

"  
Last night my cheek was wetted with warm tears  
Each worth a world. They fell from eyes divine  
Last night a loving lip was pressed to mine  
And at its touch fled all the barren years;  
And softly couch'd upon a bosom white  
Which went and came beneath one like a sea  
An emperor they in empire bright  
Lord of the beating heart, while tenderly  
Love words and greetings my ~~heart~~ <sup>heart</sup> ~~gladly~~ <sup>gladly</sup> ~~made~~  
Kind Love, I thank thee for that happy night!  
Richer than cheek with those warm beads of thine  
Than the vast midnight with its gleaming spheres  
Leander twiling through the midnight brine  
Kingdomless Antony were scarce my peers."

6-1891  
Does not that bring up with uninvited accuracy your  
vision of the <sup>to come</sup> ~~to come~~? It does mine and I could weep for joy  
whenever I read it, it so reminds me of the happy times of  
that lay my head upon your breast and felt the  
strained enjoyment of a husband. I believe there are only  
men to whom the joys of married life would be as sweet as to me I think  
of them dream of them, and long for them. I believe that wife who is married  
better than mine will be, and if she is not happy, it will not be from  
lack of a warm generous and confiding love. Oh, I would give  
a pinch to be with you tonight, but as it may not be I will  
take your likeness and without turning off the gas go to bed and  
at night I'll ask to see your ~~hand~~ <sup>hand</sup>