

Rochester N. Y.

Nov. 4-1860

My dear Love

I received your letter about twenty minutes since and here I am now, writing to the naughty girl - who forgot me and left me two whole weeks without a letter. Now don't the evils on your head begin to burn? Of course they do and you begin to feel as penitent as possible. Well I don't care a bit. I think you ought to be severely punished for your negligence. Forgot me entirely did you? I declare that is a cool statement to make to a man with a heart full of passion & tenderness. Didn't you suppose I would give up all thought of you, or at least not write for a month as Angie suggested that I ought? She now is sensible. Very sure she wouldn't forget to write to her Betrothed until he forgot to write to her, or did something else bad.

And then to ask me if I am not "delighted," that  
you should neglect me to pound a piano  
which you have the privilege of doing two or three  
hours <sup>day, every</sup> ~~a~~ week. You must think I have an im-  
mense amount of disinterestedness or at least fore-  
casting enjoyment. And to ask at last in that  
deemure away, if you are forgiven. Forgiven, why yes  
I suppose so. I am inclined to think that if you  
should break any neck I should forgive you.  
I am too real glad you are getting along so nice-  
ly in Music, but I can't say that I am yet suffi-  
ciently stoical in my nature, to forego entirely  
all present enjoyment for the sake of future delights.  
I have been solacing myself all along with the  
thought that it was a perfect job in being content  
with the short hurried letters which alone your  
little hour permits you to write. I knew that  
you were laboring for me; that your heart was  
warm and strong with love, and that my ap-  
proval was the life of your effort. Of course,  
from such a spirit I could endure anything  
without feeling wronged in the least but only  
press the loved image still closer to my heart.

and thank Heaven that I might do so.  
But my Dear I have been awful lonely dur-  
ing these ~~two~~ long weeks. I did not imagine  
anything very dreadful about you, for I knew that  
if anything had occurred detrimental to you, Annie  
would have written to me. I did feel so lonely though.  
Nobody wrote to me at all. I have not had a  
single letter for two weeks. I was perplexed &  
troubled. I wanted some money and did not  
get any from Lu, and did not wish to bor-  
row any yet. Of course I had the "blues" and  
was guilty of all sorts of indiscretions. I went  
wide awake several nights & in short  
did almost anything "to drive dull care away."  
I am glad the election comes off Tuesday  
for I have written, sung cheered and speculated  
enough. I am heartily sick of Campaign ex-  
citement. Last Tuesday the Central Club, of which  
we are a branch, went down to Lyons, to a  
great meeting. There were only a few boys a-  
long, - but five of these constituted the Rochester  
W. A. Glee Club, and were feted and cheered  
and lionized to their hearts content. You



and fell there on his way to college, and says  
that he found him entirely wrecked, poor pal,  
with a hollow absent look of the eye, and all  
sense of manhood and dignity entirely gone.  
I think that he will eventually commit  
suicide. He does not consider Mr. Henson  
alone as plain worthy, but thinks that more  
inducements to error were offered him than  
any virtuous woman would have held out.  
I believe though that Mr. Henson's confession  
denies that and exculpates the unfortunate  
girl entirely. I do not see what you say she was this is  
probably the correct version. In persons who land  
and trusted him as you King did. Henson  
these must seem doubly horrible, and at  
most wonder that you can see your way to treat  
me fully. I think you with my own just love  
that you do and hope you will never have  
any occasion to doubt my utmost worthiness  
of that trust. The great thing after I heard of this  
I retired with it fresh in my mind. I was thinking  
ing of it before I went to sleep. That my personal  
individuality of conception I applied it to myself.

and asked what if I should do likewise  
I fell asleep and dreamed - We were  
not married, but about to be - I had seen  
the bridal robe - and marked the loving blush of  
of bright anticipation that overspread your face, as you  
showed me the different articles of the bridal toilette.  
After that I dreamed that somehow, I scarcely know  
why or how I left you, and for a time, it seemed,  
that I was in a foreign land. Then I returned to  
you, but a moment, and then it seemed that I was  
with another - we fell. If your sorrow, should  
be at all commensurate, should I fall, without  
I saw upon your face of my dream, or my  
anguish anything like what I then suffered -  
Heaven help me for I could not live an hour.  
There was one thing, however, connected with this  
which fairly illustrates the fineness of dreams,  
presenting that I remember the whole, which  
might be a point of dispute. I did not feel  
any sense of guilt; nor did you seem to attribute  
any blame to me, or to the one with  
whom I was. It seemed - though it seems  
fearing to say so - to be regarded by you

by myself, & by every body as an accident, and  
a very natural one too for whose recurrence  
no one was at all to blame, though it was  
to us a very sad one merely, because it separated  
us for life & not that it occasioned any loss of  
respect or love on your part towards me.  
Now was not that rather strange? I suppose  
you have heard the Miss Martha Stevens and Mr  
Hobinam Hawkins committed matrimony in Kings-  
ville lately. I hope they will have happy times but have  
not the least idea that they will. There are two ge-  
sons who have married principally if not solely  
from sensual considerations, and I really believe  
that unhappiness must result from such a  
marriage as naturally, and perhaps more spe-  
dily than, children. Really if I ever contract  
such an alliance I should expect a curse to follow  
me for life in violating the spirit of the ordinance.  
I know that marriage was established at first ~~for~~ to  
regulate and ensure the propagation of the race, but I  
sincerely believe that he who makes the pleasure of the  
mortal couch his sole incentive to marriage, as much  
violates the spirit and tenor of the injunction as if he  
partook of the Communion merely because the wine  
was good. I have no ill feelings towards either of the  
parties concerned but I shall have very little compassion  
for them if their life is an unpleasant turmoil, one  
long drawn and quarrel, as I expect it will be.

I am so glad, My Love, that you are healthy hearty  
and contented: Wonder if you won't get so attached to  
Boarding School, that when I want a wife, you will be  
inclined to give up all matrimonial considerations? ~~How~~  
wouldn't it? By the way, I hope you will keep on  
growing fat. I was up at Duckport last week  
but did not see any of Nellie's folks. If I had been  
sure that Clara was at home I should have called.  
I know that if she does not write to me soon, I shall  
~~lose~~ her name from my memory, ~~and~~ — it off my



Miss Emma Kilborn

Gainesville

N. Y.

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