

Gainesville Tex. Tex.

February 11, 1860

Dear Mother

Have now really done
all those naughty things I heard some
time ago your kind heart does not see
any fault in me for you could blot out my
name from the world's map from the
list of your correspondents etc. As I have not
been informed of any such measures
have been taken I will venture to hope
your kind heart has not yet done so still
I will be sure to write you
often and to be sure the simple words of your
kind letters will be like no other. It
would be a pity if the persons who have
recessed in my mind sometimes think
with - "Lizzie" how well I can have write
him all the letters and letters so filled with
quotations, classical allusions and - I suggested
the "Gleaner" which suggestion she

droptest with a smile of approval -
When letter writing day comes around I feel
so deeply conscious of the shallowness of my
poor 'pale' sheet - I think best to efface
whenever you pass. There were a bump - but
waited to fall on my head. It would have
done little but little resistance in its descent
to the earth. I do not think it did not
restrain its use of open air otherwise we were
Newton might have become marked as a
head would surely have proved -

If I remember you a year you may expect
at its close to find me wearing either a "martyr"
martyr-like aspect or a scowl as unceasingly as is
depicted on a certain ribbon-bound face I have
stowed away some where - five times in as many
more than that number of minutes have I ^{been}
readily interrupted and still this comes - Miss
Clement and anything would be preferable to such
a face and voice as she has - you remember the cook -
The girls are in the parlor pounding that piano
stomping so hard as they own in that best carpet

and raising such a dust - in the only room
in the house that's decent - they would not do so if
Mrs. "Hodge was here" - They were pretty noisy
but spirit is restored now and the dust will
not show very much over that - already settled there.

Wednesday I persist in calling my lesson
day for I have no lessons to give but I begin
to think every day would be more indicative
of its character as regards me for I have such
a variety of duties to attend to that at night
I am real tired and just wish I could talk
instead of dragging out the weary words on paper -
In my opinion - three weeks more and we
will have a rest - It is work - hard work for
me until then - I am trying to have some
nice music for my first "exhibition" in
Birmingham and I think I shall succeed - the
girls all do so nicely I am proud of them every
one - if I only could sing! 'tis the regret of
my heart - but ^{we} will have some singing -

Are you interested in all my non-commercial
talk - It seems to me lately that - the old

Willie has so far deserted our side - I forget -
you may not (as my own brothers) be interested
in knowing just how much ^{time} I sweep the room
or how long I am - You will find nothing more
important in this sheet! Don't you want to hear about
the weather! I received a letter from Clara last
night saying it had been pleasant there for a long
time - poor chicks - some had scarcely had two
pleasant days in succession since coming here -
Gainesville Hills seem to be the gathering place
of storms from all quarters - a snow storm has been
our latest treat - yesterday it snowed and blowed all
day - one poor cutter tried to glide along in
imitation of winter ricks but it succeeded only
in proving to the delighted dem girls that they must
wait - yet a while before they rock very far in
slights - Miss Brown comes in saying there is to be
no school on Friday after Thanksgiving - I had hoped to
spend that half week with her and Lizzie in Massaw.
But since Miss Eldridge announced her plans have
been obliged to content myself with the prospect of being
in exhibition all day Thurs. next remaining here the
rest of the week - they go Wed. night - I hear the
chance of being met by them - the honors consisting principally
in the privilege of visiting the office twice after that so far I
think each day - The boy is waiting for me now and soon with
Lizzie for company tonight - I shall be to the office - crowd open
the door drop the box on the ground - start created by the jumping
up - soon from the counter at my elbow and without once looking
up beat a dash to retreat - All friends here are well - Emma is
waiting impatiently for the letter that did not come to day - Lizzie
says if you have kind regards and say I will write them soon -
Please put this letter in the envelope with not saying "Pshaw" -
Etha L. S. Miller -



*Fellie L. Kappell
June 2 - 1860*

*Albion N. Tourgee
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