

You haven't answered my  
question in regard to the  
looks and age of our friend  
"Lance".

If I should decide  
to go to you, it would  
not be before you  
were married in June.  
And would that be  
a good time to make  
the journey?

You will see by Brooke's  
letter that I did not  
tell him any thing about  
my wishes on the subject.  
I merely stated the  
propositions as clearly as  
I could.

Norway Jan 9th 1868  
Sunday morning.

Dear Frank

Please take this big  
chair, light your cigar, elevate your feet as  
much as you wish, and prepare to listen  
as comfortably as possible, for I have a  
deal to say this morning - so much that  
I hardly know where to begin. - all right?

Well then, thank you very many times  
for your nice and acceptable "gift". It  
came just in the nick of time - New years  
morning. I think it very handsome and that  
seems to be the opinion of all of our friends.

Of course I ran over to Luis the first  
thing to show it to them.

I spent the whole day running  
about getting the little fixings for my  
ball toilet: what ball! you shall know.

Thursday noon Henry's best drove up  
to our door, with a gay little nag in a  
light sleigh, filled with robes and a bick,  
but it wasn't in any bodys hat!

Chloe went out, wrapped in shawl and  
fur and jumped into that sleigh, put her  
two feet on the bick, drew the fur about  
her and off they went to join the party  
consisting of, Gen Beal and wife, Ireland  
Hove and wife, Mr Lonsdale and wife  
and Henry Millett and Lue. We drove  
quickly down to Mechanic Falls, tumbled  
out there to get warm, tumbled in  
again and went on our way to Lewiston  
where we arrived at 4 o'clock.

We had a nice warm supper, and  
then dressed for the dance. Lue wore  
white, with scarlet trimmings, and looked  
very handsomely. I wore white muslin  
with blue trimmings, and they both

one looked better than ever before - which  
wasn't saying much you know.

About eight we went over to the hall  
and participated in the dedication dance.

The ladies were all dressed finely, the  
music was good and we had a merry  
time until 2 A.M. Then we went to  
bed - Lue to sleep, and I to think for a  
long long time. Who do you suppose I  
thought about? - It was somebody ever so  
far away, who had sent me a big letter  
containing much important business matter,  
which made me exclaim then, and has a  
number of times since, "Oh dear! how it  
bothers me!" - When was I? - Oh - we had  
a late breakfast and soon started for home  
where we arrived in safety about 4 P.M.

The party was jolly, the weather perfect,  
the sleighing first rate and every body had a  
"splendid" time. I wish you might have  
been with us, I know you would have  
enjoyed it much. - You don't see  
because I went?

Thursday evening the Congregationalists had an Exhibition. I went with Mrs. Lane and the children. The performances were very fair, I thought not so good as ours, but perhaps I am prejudiced.

Last evening there was a "thing" at the "Elm House". It was a sort of a gymnastic performance and quite good of its kind.

I went with Col Rust, and afterward we went into Luce and played "Bezigue", a game which has just been introduced in this place. It's quite pretty but not very scientific.

You of course know that Henry Willcutt is at home on Fulough. He looks much as he used to and seems the same. He is not one of my favorites, so I am only glad to see him because his friends are glad. Luce will have a big cousin party tomorrow evening. I shall go and would like your escort if you can make it convenient.

Augustine's dog is named Henry Willcutt Jackson.

Thanks for your picture and that  
of your friend. I must confess that I  
do not like you so well as the last  
one you had - those taken in Cal.

Yet I was glad to have it, for a picture  
loses its significance after I have looked  
at it many times, and serves rather  
to make the image in my mind dim,  
than clearer, as I wish to have it.

What shall I say about that  
naughty trick of yours which led you  
to publish my Pike's Hill opinion?

Really you ought to have a scolding,  
but I can't help laughing, and the  
two things don't go together a bit.

The idea of one, Lucy Ellen, appearing  
in print!! - I can't tell you how queerly I  
felt when I began to read it. It wasn't  
at all the same thing printed, and I  
could hardly believe my eyes. Well,  
wondern't haven't ceased yet. There  
is nothing like having one come on Editor!

If you hadn't already gained my  
"heart and hand", I should suspect you  
of trying to buy one, so often am I put  
under the necessity of saying "thanks you"  
What now, I? Well - it's the paper,  
and your kindness to wash, and ~~and~~  
everything!

And now I can no longer put away  
the subject of the big letter which  
has "bothered me so". I must see read  
it once more. — How for it.

I thought the subject over and wrote  
to Wash, copying from your letter all  
the arguments that would here weight  
with him. and he says, — that I don't  
put his ideas into words to give them  
the right meaning, so I'll send you  
his letter that you may see for yourself.

and as for me, — I can't decide  
what will be for the best.

I must tell you frankly that there  
are many reasons why it would be  
not nearly so pleasant for me to go to you.

as it would to have you come for  
me, even if I waited a year.  
And yet, I want to do as you ask  
me, just because you do ask me.

I am very plainly that you ought  
not to leave your business any sooner than  
the time you mention, but if you  
would be any happier for my being with  
you — haven't I declared it my intention  
to do the little I may to render your  
life happy! — Then there are other  
considerations. The children must be  
disposed of in some way. Edith thinks  
she he should not like to have them  
go so far away, but Eliza's health  
is not good so she could not have  
the care of them. Byron will be  
married in June, but Hattie is an  
only child consequently knows nothing  
about their ways and wants, and I  
can think of no one that I should  
feel perfectly easy to leave them with.  
I should not like to take them

any way if I went without you,  
and should feel sorry to, with you,  
for when we do meet I want to devote  
my whole attention to you. Perhaps  
in a year there will seem to be some  
better way to leave them, at any rate  
they will be older, Emma is now twelve  
and Hattie nine. Please tell me about  
the schools there. I know they would  
be company, but I won't allow myself  
to think there is any danger of my  
being "home sick". Indeed there is no  
home for me to pine for, - only friends,  
and one I can't going to have with  
me the friend whom I believe loves  
me better than any other?

No. I think you were not "too  
selfish" in asking me to go, I wish  
there was nothing to hinder me from  
saying the quick "yes" that my heart  
suggests, but I must try and do that  
which will be for the best.

I dislike the gossip which such a

step on my part would create.  
 Then we should have all the pleasant  
 associations, which are connected with  
 the important turning point in our life,  
 among friends and kindred.  
 Then too, I hoped to spend the first  
 few weeks with you, compositionally, alone.  
 We know each other so little! The long  
 voyage would give us an excellent chance  
 to improve our acquaintanceship, and I  
 should feel more at ease to meet your  
 friends. You know one is always the  
 subject of criticism under such circum-  
 -stances, and your Yankee pride would  
 not escape. I know the Ladies "tricks  
 and manures".

Harry, excuse it if I've spoken  
 more plainly on this subject than it is  
 proper for me to, but as one can't  
 speak one's thoughts, I know of no way  
 but to write them.

You will perceive how I am

puzzled by the many considerations  
which present themselves. It is  
impossible for me to decide now, so  
please give me more time.

I don't think I had better go unless  
Mark will. He has been studying law  
for some time, yet I think he would  
be persuaded, if I was firmly decided,  
to give that up and go with me.

Is that egotistical? Can't be helped if  
it is.

I feel very greatly obliged to Mrs.  
Johnson for her kind thought of me,  
and I really hope she will write  
as she has promised.

Don't imagine I have written this  
without any interruptions. I've left off  
many times, and it is now night, a  
bitter, bitter cold night. God bless the  
frost and mud.

The girls have teased me into promising  
to go with them to a Sabbath School  
concert, and it is almost time to start.

Have you skated any this season?  
I've had my skates on once, that  
is all. We will skate together sometime.

May Sarah and all the friends send  
kind remembrance. I'll enclose a  
little script from Hattie Robinson's last.

Harry, again let me congratulate  
you upon your success in your far  
off "country of adoption". Believe <sup>me</sup> you  
have my prayers, and my commenda-  
tion for the true and noble course  
you are pursuing. May the kind  
Father bless and keep you ever, my  
dearest friend.

I did not write last Sunday  
because my head ached so violently  
all day. I thought I would watch  
the old year out, but did not feel  
able to sit up. Did you greet  
the New Year properly? I hope  
and trust it will be a happy one  
for you - the very happiest of your  
life, I mean the life that is fact.



I have as yet consulted no  
except the ~~best~~ <sup>best</sup> ~~one~~ <sup>one</sup> about my going "west." Perhaps  
I'll ask Miss Smith some day  
when it comes right.

Add has gone back and left Flora  
here. She thought her health might  
improve under her mother's care.

Well - I must close.

Hope I may get another "Budget"  
from you this week. Your mother  
was writing to you the other day when  
I was in there? Wonder if she said  
any thing about me?

Good night dear -

Loveingly

Ellie.

Oh! since you have made the  
prediction, please tell me if the  
"Mixings" are "copied by other papers."  
Of course I'm interested in my  
first offspring.

A

8  
Hawaii Robinson

I wish I had something to send  
you Hawaii for a New Year's gift  
but I'm minus of ~~some~~ non-  
will send a kiss - now a sugar  
one - but real - you can send  
half of it to Kam - I wish  
I could see him - I know I  
should like him.

In an  
other  
place  
The sends  
regards,  
and  
wants  
me to  
write  
all about  
him. H.

By Steam



Jan 7  
1866

Major Mary R. Nichols

Carson City

Neveda

Norway Jan 7th 1866  
Sunday morning.

Dear Harry --

Please take this big chair, light your cigar, elevate your feet as much as you wish, and prepare to listen as comfortably as possible, for I have a deal to say this morning -- so much that I hardly know where to begin. -- All ready?

Well then, thank you very many times for your nice and acceptable "gift." It came just in the nick of time -- New years morning. I think it very handsome and that seems to be the opinion of all of our friends.

Of course I ran over to Lue's the first thing to show it to them.

[sideways left to right of page; continued from/see page 12]]

[page 2]

I spent the whole day running about, getting the little fixings for my ball toilet: what ball! You shall know.

Tuesday noon Henry Rust drove up to our door, with a gay little nag in a light sleigh, filled with robes and a brick but it wasn't in any bodys hat!

Nellie went out, wrapped in shawls and furs, and jumped into that sleigh, put her two feet on the brick, drew the furs about her and off they went to join the party consisting of, Gen Beal and wife, Freeland Howe and wife, Mr Sanderson and wife, and Henry Millett and Lue. We drove quickly down to Mechanic Falls, tumbled out there to get warm, tumbled in again and went on our way to Lewiston where we arrived at 4 O'clock.

We had a nice warm supper, and then dressed for the dance. Lue wore white with scarlet trimmings, and looked very handsome. I wore white muslin with blue trimmings, and they told us

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we "looked better than ever before" -- which wasn't saying much you know.

About eight we went over to the hall and participated in the dedication dances.

The ladies were all dressed finely, the music was good and we had a merry time until 2 A.M. Then we went to bed -- Lue to sleep, and I to think for a long long time. Who do you suppose I thought about? It was somebody ever so far away, who had sent me a big letter containing much important business matters, which made me exclaim there, and has a number of times since, "Oh dear: how it bother me!" -- Where was I? -- Oh -- we had a late breakfast and soon started for home where we arrived in safety about 1 p.m.

The party was jolly, the weather perfect, the sleighing first rate and every body had a splendid time. I wish you might have been with us. I know you would have enjoyed it much. -- You don't care because I went?

[page 4]

Thursday evening the Congregationalists had an Exhibition. I went with Mrs Favor and the children. The performances were very fair. I thought not so good as ours, but perhaps I am prejudiced.

Last evening there was a "thing" at the "Elm House". It was a sort of a gymnastic performance and quite good of it's kind.

I went with Col Rust, and afterward we went into Lues and played "Bezique," a game which has just been introduced in this place. Its quite pretty but not very scientific.

You of course know that Henry Millett is at home on furlough. He looks much as he used to and seems the same. He is not one of my favorites, so I am only glad to see him because his friends are glad. Lue will have a big cousin party tomorrow evening. I shall go and would like your escort

if you can make it convenient.

Augusta's baby is named Henry Millett Jackson.

[page] 5

Thanks for your picture and that of your friend. I must confess that I do not like yours so well as the last ones you had -- those taken in Cal. yet I was glad to have it for a picture loses its significance after I have looked at it many times, and serves rather to make the image in my mind dim, than clearer, as I wish to have it.

What shall I say about that naughty freak of yours which let you to publish my Pikes Hill effusion?

Really you ought to have a scolding, but I can't helping laughing and the two things don't go together a bit.

The idea of me, Lucy Ellen, appearing in print!! -- I can't tell you how queerly I felt when I began to read it. It wasn't at all the same thing printed, and I could hardly believe my eyes. Well, wonders haven't ceased yet. There is nothing like having ones beau an Editor!

[page 6]

if you hadn't already gained my "heart and hand", I should suspect you of trying to buy me, so often [as?] I put under the necessity of saying "thank you" What now? Well -- its the papers, and your kindness to Wash, and -- and everything!

And now I can no longer put away the subject of the big letter which has "bothered me so." First I'll read it once more. -- Now for it. I thought the subject over and wrote to Wash, copying from your letter all the arguments that would have weight with him, and he says, -- there! I can't put his ideas into words to give them the right meaning, so I'll send you his letter that you may see for yourself.

And as for me, -- I can't decide  
what will be for the best.

I must tell you partly that there  
are many reasons why it would be  
not nearly so pleasant for me to go to you

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as it would to have you come for  
me, even if I waited a year.

And yet, I want to do as you ask  
me, just because you do ask me.

I see very plainly that you ought  
not to leave your business any sooner than  
the time you mention, but if you  
would be any happier for my being with  
you -- haven't I declared it my intention  
to do the little I may to render your  
life happy! -- Then there are other  
considerations. The children must be  
disposed of in some way. Add thinks  
he should not like to have them  
go so far away, but Floras health  
is not good so she could not have  
the care of them. Byron will be  
married in June, but Hattie is an  
only child consequently knows nothing  
about their ways and wants, and I  
can think of no one that I should  
feel perfectly easy to leave them with.

I should not like to take them

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any way if I went without you,  
and should feel sorry to, with you  
for when we do meet I want to devote  
my whole attention to you. Perhaps  
in a year there will seem to be some  
better way to leave them, at any rate  
they will be older, Emma is now twelve  
and Hattie nine. Please tell me about  
the schools there. I know they would  
be company, but I won't allow myself  
to think there is any danger of my  
being "homesick". Indeed there is no  
home for me to pine for, -- only friends,  
and am I not going to have with  
me the friend whom I believe loves  
me better than any other?

No. I think you were not "too selfish" in asking me to go, I wish there was nothing to hinder me from saying the quick "yes" that my heart suggests, but I must try and do that which will be for the best.

I dislike the gossip which such a

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7

step on my part would create.

Then we should lose all the pleasant associations, which are connected with the important turning point in ones life among friends and kindred.

Then too, I hoped to spend the first few weeks with you, comparatively alone. We know each other so little! The long voyage would give us an excellent chance to improve our acquaintanceship, and I should feel more at ease to meet your friends. You know one is always the subject of criticism under such circumstances, and your Yankee bride would not escape. -- I know the ladies "tricks and manners."

Harry, excuse it if I've spoken more plainly on this subject than it is proper for me to, but as we can't speak our thoughts, I know of no way but to write them.

You will perceive how I am

[page 10]

perplexed by the many considerations which present themselves. It is impossible for me to decide now, so please give me more time.

I don't think I had better go unless Wash will. He has been studying law for some time, yet I think he would be persuaded, if I was firmly decided, to give that up and go with me. Is that egotistical? Can't be helped if



it is.

I feel very greatly obliged to Mrs Johnson for her kind thought of me, and I really hope she will write as she has promised.

Don't imagine I have written this without any interruptions. I've left off many times, and it is now night, -- a bitter, bitter cold night. God help the poor and needy.

The girls have teased me into promising to go with them to a Sabbath School concert, and it is almost time to start.

[page 11]

Have you skated any this season?

I've had my skates on once, that is all, We will skate together sometime.

May Gosse and all the friends send kind remembrance. I'll enclose a little script from Hattie Robinsons last.

Harry, again let me congratulate you upon your success in your far off "country of adoption". Believe me, you have my prayers, and my commendation for the true and noble course you are pursuing. May the kind Father bless and keep you ever, my dearest friend.

I did not write last Sunday because my head ached so violently all day. I thought I would watch the old year out, but did not feel able to sit up. Did you greet the new year properly? I hope and trust it will be a happy one for you, -- the very happiest of your life, I mean the life that is past

[page 12]

I have as yet consulted no one except the boys about my going "west." Perhaps I'll ask Mrs Smith some day when it comes right.

Add has gone back and left Flora here, she thought her health might improve under her mothers case.

Well I must close.

Hope I may get another "budget" from you this week. Your mother was writing to you the other day when I was in there. Wonder if she said any thing about me!

Good night dear --  
Lovingly

Nellie.

Oh! since you have made the prediction, please tell me if the "musings" are "copied by other papers." Of course I'm interested in my first offspring.

N --

[continued on page 1]:

You haven't answered my questions in regard to the looks and age of our friend "Lance".

If I should decide to go to you, it could not be before Byron was married in June. And would that be a good time to make the journey?

You will see by Washs letter that I did not tell him any thing about my wishes on the subject. I merely stated the propositions as clearly as I could.

[page 13]

[on half a sheet, the bottom of a letter signed Hattie Robinson. H.R. signature is included, the following is presumably written by her]:

I wish I had something to send  
you Nellie for a New Year's gift --  
but I'm minus non --  
will send a kiss -- Not a New Year  
one but real -- you can send  
half of it to Harry -- I wish  
I could see him -- I know I  
should like him.  
H.

[written sideways from bottom left:]

In an-  
other  
place  
she sends  
regards,  
and  
wants  
me to  
"write  
all about  
him"

[envelope]

By Steamer

[postmark NORWAY ME JAN 8]

[stamp removed]

Major Harry R. Mighels  
Carson City  
Nevada