ye journey & Bress 2 & should decide 191 money The of interest of the dear Hang Please take This big chair, light your eigen elevate your feet as ar comfortably as possible, for I have a deal to day this morning as much that I hordly know where to begin. - all peoply? In you nice and acceptable "gift" It come just in the nick of time - New years morning. I think it very hordrome and that sums to be the opinion of all

one looked better then one before which Sout getting the lettle fixings for ony warn't daying much you know. ball toilet: what ball ! you shall kund. about flight one went over to the hole and participated in the dedication dones. Thursday non Henry dust drove up Down door, with a gay bette mag in a The ladier over all durind finely, the light sleigh, filled with I was and a brick, music was good oved me had a merry but it wasn't in any bodys that! time until I a.m. Then me ment to chewin ment out, wrapped in shower and bed In to clup, and I to think for a four and jumped into that sleigh, Just her long long time, Who do you suppose & two feet on the bick, drew the fur obout Thought sout? - It was some body ever so her and of they went to form the party for away , who had sent one a big letter consisting of , Sen Beal and wife, Muland containing much important business motter, which made me exclaim them, and has a and Henry millett and Lue, he drove number of times since, "the dear! how it bothers one!" - when cour I! the ort had out there to get avoin, tumbled in a late brokefast and soin clothed for home again and went on our pray to Lewiston where are arrived in nogety about I film. When we arrived at 4 Octobe. The farty was gold, the mather perfect, The eleighing first eate and every body had a then dressed for the donce I've wore "splendid" time. I wish you might have white, with ecolet trimmings, and booked bun with us, Iknow you would have very hardrondy. I were whate muslin enjoyed it much. - you don't our the blue trumings, and they took. because I went

Thursday creming the Congregationalists Farn and The children. The performences were very fair, I thought not as good as ours, but perhaps I am prejudiced Last evening There mas a thing of the Elm House, It was a sort of a gymnostie I ment & with col Rust, and yterword me ment thato Lues and played Bezigner. a gome which has just been introduced in this place. Its quite putty but not very scientific. you of course know that Henry millett is at home on Julough. The looks much as he used to and own the seme. He is not one of my foraller to at one only glad to see him because a big cousin party tomorno evening. I shall go evel mould like your excertof you can make it convenient. Augustai doby is normal thermy millet fackson,

of your friend. I must enjur that I oner you had there token in Cal. get I was glad to have it for a fection loses the significance ofthe & have broked at it many times, and server wather I make the emage in my mind dim, Thon clearer, as I wish to have it. What shall I say sout that noughty fuck of yours which led you I publish my beker there yourion! Really you ought to have a seolding. fut I can't helping laughing and the the idea of one, Lucy Ellen, appearing in frint !! I con't tell you how quenty & gelt orher I began to well it. It wasn't at all the same thing printed, and & could hordly believe my eyer. mell, monders homen't ceased yet. There is crothing like howing once been on Editor

as it would to have you come for If you hadn't already gained my me, even y å waited a year. and get, I want to do as you ask of trying to buy one, so often and furt under the necessity of daying think you me, just because you do ask one. I de very planty that you ought and your bridgen to much, and wand not to lione your business ony sooner than The time you mention, but is you Onel now I can no longer furt oway would be ony happier for ony being with. The subject of the big letter which you homen't I declared it orgintention has bothered me so: Fruit Lie and to do the lettle & oney to render your it once more, how for it. life hoffy! - Then there are orther I thought the subject over and wrote considerations. The children must be to much, copying from your letter all disposed of in some may. Gold Thinks the argumente that would have neight The he should not like to have them with him. and he wags, - There I dean't go do Jan away, but Thoras feelth is not good so she could not home fut his idear into nords to give them the night meaning, so del and you his letter that you may are for yourself. the con of them. Byron mil de married in June, but Hottie is in and as for one, - a cent decide only child consequently know nothing what enice be for the Best. I must tree you parkly that there cen think of no one that I should on many reasons only it would be had perfectly easy to leave them with. not nearly so pleasant for me to go to you I should not whe to take them

any may if I ment without you, for other me do met al ment to devote my whole attention to you. Berhaps in a year there will seem to be some better way to leave them, at any rate they will be older, Emma is now tollere ond Hollie nine. Please tell me showt the schools there. I know They mould be company, but I won't allow onyself to think there is one danger of my being "homesick". Indeed there is no home for me to pine for . - only fruits, and on I out going to home with me the find whom I believe loved me latter than ong other? No. It think you med not too selfish" in asking me to go, I mish there was nothing to hinder one from roying the quick "yes" that my beart auggest, but I must try and do that which will be for the best. I diche the gassip which such a

ateh on one part would create. Then we should love all the pleasant associations, which are commeted with the important turning point in ones life among friends and kinsdred, Then too, I hoped to spend the Birat few meeks with you, composatively, alone, We know each other so little! The long vogage would give us on excellent chance to ampione our acquaintenerships, and I should feel more at case to meet your friends. you know one is always the subject of criticism under such cucum - storner, and your yanker fride would not except, I know the loclier "tricks and manners: Hang, excuse it is line spoken more plainly on the subject those it is proper for me to, but as me cent speak our thoughte, I know of no way but to write them. you will precine how I am

Home you akated ong this season? perpleyed by the many considerations I've had my skater on once, That which present Themselves, it is is all , he will skate together countine, impointle for me to decide now, so. May Larre and all the Junds send kerd semembseren. Ill enelone a I don't think I had better go unless little crift from Hattie Robinsons last. wash will. He has been studying low Harry , again let me congrabulate for some time, get I think he would you whom your success in your for be persuaded, if I was firmly decided, of "country of adoption". Believe " you to give that up and go with me. In That egotistical ? Earl be helfred if here my prayers, and my commenda. tun for the true and noble course you are pursuing, may the kind I feel very greatly Abliged to mer Fother bless evel keep you ever, ong Johnson for her kind Thought of me, dearest field. and I really hope the write write I did out write last Sunday as the har promised. because my head oched so violently Sout inegine I have written the all day. I Thought I would wotch methout any interruptions, line left of many times, and it is now night, a the old year out, but did not ful better, better cold night. God help The able to ait up. Did you guet from and needy. the new year properly, I hope The gule hove travel me into promising and trust it will be a pappy one for you the very happiet of your to go with them to - a Loboth Lebor(left, I mean the light it parts concert, and it is almost time to start.

except the boys one going mest. Perhaps d'le ack me Point come day When it comes right. Weld har gone bock and left Mora here, The thought her health might Improve under her mother core. Well I must close. Hope of may get another "Budget" from you this make. Your mother over writing & you the other day when I was in There? bronder if the Rand ong thing shoul me! Oh! since you have made the pudiction, please tell me of The miningi on "copied by other papers. I couse I'm interested in my first offsping.

Hacin Notinion I mich I have torruthing to sence you hear for a hun Kenso gife bur I'm minus of som non-Mile Reme a kur - nour a Rugen bon- bue- newe - you can rence huy of it I Bany - I meis I come Ru him I kum I Shower Like him.

By Steomer major Harry R. Mighele Carson Crity Morade 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]]

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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.

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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 many 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

[page 8]

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

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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 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 rememberance. 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.

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[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