



at the Mansion

Sunday morning Jan 28th / 1866

My Dear Henry

I took this pen and paper fully intending to write to my Brother Ned, but some way another name came up, so Ned must wait a little, even if he is getting impatient at my negligence - which is solely owing to my voluminous correspondence with a certain Editor out West.

It is only a few days since I wrote a letter of sixteen pages to that same individual, and consequently I mean to make this as short and devoid of sweet as possible.

Yesterday I had a long talk with "Brother Nichols" (I quote from Lem) on the subject of

her "young hopeful" and her intended
marriage. She said she had written
her congratulations to you. How far any
objections to telling you just what she said
about your choice? for I confess to being
unable to decide whether she is pleased
at heart, or if she is disposed to make
the best of what is inevitable.

She spoke of the importance of the step;
of the liability of mistakes by all; of your
impulsiveness; of her sound advice not writing
to settle nearer home; and of her satisfaction
at the prospect of your having a family
when you may be in a condition to support
one. - which emphasis led me to think
she would not approve of our being married
very soon. I hadn't the courage to tell her
your wishes on that point, but I mean to
do so some day, and also what I think.
That if you were where I could see you
once in a while I should be glad to wait
another year, but as I cannot, I know I
should be happier with you, even if we

began life with only "love in a
cottage" as did my father and mother,
and I ask no happier wedded life
than they enjoyed to the end of their
lives.

May I send thanks for your
picture and say, "Remember me ^{to him} with
heaps of love, or just as much as your
conscience will allow." You can take as
much as you like my old pet, I shan't
care. May will send her picture when she
has time to have it taken.

Love and I are talking of having our
together for you. Joe Marshall made Love a
present of a dress - plain green. She wants
me to have one like it, but I haven't
decided yet. We now have three alike.

There is the dinner bell.

Later - it is so cold and
such bad walking I believe I shall
not go to Church this afternoon, but
instead run over and sit with Love, ^{who} is
suffering with a headache today.

Augusta came down with the baby yesterday, - the first time she has been out. They are both nicely and the youngster is growing fat and fair.

Eliza has gone and the Cottage seems almost deserted. I mean to write to her and tell her of the honor I intend to confer upon her family. For I promised her long ago that she should know when I was engaged. I couldn't find the courage to say so before she went.

Isn't it funny I am so bashful? I really can't help it. My heart jumps so, and my face gets so red, at the least allusion of the subject by those who feel at liberty to speak of it, that I can't think of making it a common topic.

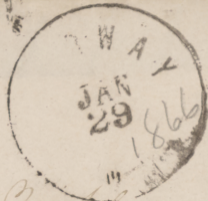
I wonder if you blush any about it!

Thanks for the music. It is very pretty but a little more operatic than suits my voice, which is fit only for simple Ballads.

Wish this note contained more sense but it can't be helped - I mightn't do any better if I tried again. Hope I shall have a letter from you this week. The time seems long between their arrivals. Good keep you dear child.

Ever lovingly
Melli

By Steamer



Major Harry R. Mitchell

Carson City

Nevada

At the Mansion
Sunday morning Jan 28th 1866

My Dear Harry --

I took this pen and paper fully intending to write to my brother Ned, but some way another name came up, so Ned must wait a little, even if he is getting impatient at my negligence -- which is solely owing to my voluminous correspondence with a certain Editor out West.

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Yesterday I had a long talk with "Mother Mighels" (I quote from Lue) on the subject of

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his "young hopeful" and his intended marriage. She said she had written her congratulations to you. Have you any objections to telling me just what she said about your choice? for I confess to being unable to decide whether she is pleased at heart, or if she is disposed to make the best of what is inevitable.

She spoke of the importance of the step; of the liability of mistakes by all; of your impulsiveness; of her sorrow at you not wishing to settle nearer home; and of her satisfaction at the prospect of your having a family when you may be in a condition to support one. -- Which emphasis led me to think she would not approve of our being married very soon. I hadn't the courage to tell her your wishes on that point, but I mean to do so some day, and also what I think. -- That if you were where I could see you once in a while I should be glad to wait another year, but as I cannot, I know I should be happier with you, even if we

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than they enjoyed to the end of their lives.

May Gosse sends thanks for your picture and says. "Remember me to him with heaps of love, or just as much as your conscience will allow." You can take as much as you like my old pet, I shan't care. May will send her picture when she has time to have it taken.

Lue and I are talking of having ours together for you. Joe Newhall made Lue a present of a dress -- plain green. She wants me to have one like it, but I haven't decided yet. We now have three alike.

There is the dinner bell.

Later -- it is so cold and such bad walking I believe I shall not go to Church this afternoon, but instead run over and sit with Lue who is suffering with a headache today.

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long between thier arrivals. God keep you dear
child.

Ever lovingly

Nellie

[envelope]

By Steamer

[postmark [NOR]WAY JAN 29]

[stamp removed]

Major Harry R. Mighels
Carson City
Nevada