

E 18667

Emma and Hattie want to
send their love and say
"tell him we want to see him."

The Mansion, Sunday, p.m.
Norway Jan - no Feb 4th 1865

My dear old boy -

I wish I was near
enough to thank you properly for the
beautiful "sign" of our engagement, which
came to me last night. - Words are so
cold and formal to express the deepest
feelings of ones life, but they will have
to answer our purpose until the "good
time coming" I make it convenient to
communicate our thoughts more freely and
quickly. I am very much pleased with
the ring, it is plenty good enough -
indeed I should have been sorry had it
been richer - considering the present
state of our finances. The tear

would come when I obeyed your injunction and pressed it to my lips many times, thinking of my darling child so very far away, working hard for my sake and loving me so well, and I deserve it so little from him, of all others.

I do want so very very much to see you, that sometimes it seems to me I can't possibly wait for the long months to pass, even till this Spring comes, and yet - I know it may be best to wait a year, and if it is why, I can do it, - as I can endure any thing that is inevitable without shrinking. Perhaps I oughtn't to tell you of these childish longings, but I want you to know how very dear you have become to me, and how much my thoughts are with you. Last night I told your mother of your proposition for me to join you, she did not say what her mind would be, but did say, that she thought you oughtn't

to leave your business this Spring, although she could hardly wonder at your wishing to do so.

I hope you will be judicious in regard to the matter, - and so do I.

I mean to ask her further concerning my taking the trip with Wash, instead of Harry, as I had hoped.

Please thank Mrs. Johnson in my name for her kind wishes.

I hope she will like me, but I really fear she will be disappointed and wonder at your choice. However it won't matter, if I only make you happy, and I shall do all in my power to bring about that result.

I laughed heartily at the present you received from the "comic" Henry.

It was certainly a proof of his generosity - I make no comment on his judgment of the "fitness of things".

The two would doubtless have felt it kindly had you ordered them. I thought

The 'Address' good for any thing
of the sort, but rather I think you
did not bestow so much thought upon
it as upon the 24th of July poem.

Thank you for the explanation of
the note. I like to understand any
thing of that kind.

Am very glad you passed the
new year day so pleasantly. Society in
Carew must be pleasant and lively, and
I am delighted that you can find some
recreation. Do you room at Mrs Johnsons?
I think not, but you have never said
anything about it. By the way —

Byron wanted me to ask you,
"What is the actual cost of living there
as compared with Maine — Let him tell
you the price of board and all about
it." He wants to know, as it
may make some difference in deciding
about the children. I told them
this morning, when they were wondering
about the ring, that we were engaged.

Hattie says, "then I shall love another
brother that's good;" and Emma - "I am
real glad for I like him - isn't he
very kind?" - I shall not tell you what
reply I made to the question. I won't
do to flatter you too much in one letter.

Then they asked all sorts of questions
about my going to Nevada to live
and about their going with me. Hattie
declared she would go at any rate. I
told them it was all undecided now
and they must not fuss about it or I
should be sorry I had told them. It is
summering, and get a little reddening,
to watch their efforts today to please
me in every little thing, and Hattie
stays by me as if afraid she will
lose me without knowing it. You
know she is the youngest, and I think
more closely attached to me than Emma
who says she "shall do just as Byron

thinker best - of course he knows, but
if she can't go when I do she
"will go when she is twenty-one".

I have told Byron that he must
decide about them for I will not
take that responsibility. It is enough
to decide my own skating and all I
mean to do. I will take them or
leave them as shall seem best to him.

You probably have received the letter
in which I told you of presenting your
note to your Mother. Thank you for
your consideration of my feelings.

My embarrassment was only for a few
moments and I am glad she knows
of it and also that I knew just what
you wrote to her. So don't worry about
it, just. It's all right enough.

I would like to have danced
after your prompting. I imagine you
had lots of fun out of it. I often
think of the first and only dance
I ever attended with you. What a

nice time we had! but you did
manage to tease me a little about
being a "creeper" - you know I meant.

I won't forget about the skates
but, I say, you can't of course skate
much, will you allow me to go
skating with some nice young man?
And may I bring my "Bloomer"?

Don't "lay the flattering unction
to your soul" that I shall always
depart myself "as become a subjugated
soul"; for after we become "as one man"
I intend to rule my share of the time
and over the - pleasure to my heart's
content, and perhaps to your like content.

But sure the "subjugation" is complete!

Henry East has gone to Haverhill
to spend the rest of the winter. Don't
you say that the only bear I have been
able to pick up should have one!

Hope you feel as badly as I do
about it. The fact is, I'm right
glad he has gone, for now the only

chance of my doing anything
that would displease you, is out
of my way, and I shall be saved the
sin of "flirting" - which I believe I
was never guilty of committing.

I spend most of the nights
with Luc now, - as I did last winter
you may remember.

I thought of you on the eighth
of January - as I do every day and
every hour for that matter, but I
remembered that it was an anniversary
day with you. I prayed for you Henry,
and I feel sure that the new life will
be easier this year than the past was.

I am very thankful that you have
been enabled to keep your resolutions
so faithfully, and feel with you that our
thanks are due the kind Father for all
His mercy and protection. May He bless
and keep you in ever the prayer of
Your loving
Arlie

By Steamer

[1866]

Feb 4
1865



Major Harry R. Mighel

Carson City

Neveda

W

The Mansion, Sunday. p.m.
Norway Jan -- no Feb. 4th 1866

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I wish I was near
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[sideways left margin; continued from/see page 8]

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I mean to ask her further concerning my taking the trip with Wash, instead of Harry, as I had hoped.

Please thank Mrs Johnson in my name for her kind wishes. I hope she will like me, but I sadly fear she will be disappointed and wonder at your choice. However it won't matter, if I only make you happy, and I shall do all in my power to bring about that result.

I laughed heartily at the present you received from the "carrier" Henry, It was certainly a proof of his generosity -- I make no comment on his judgment of the "fitness of things."

The boy would doubtless have felt it keenly had you refused them. I thought

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the "address" good for any thing of the sort, but rather think you did not bestow so much thought upon it as upon the 4th of July poem.

Thank you for the explanation of the "hits". I like to understand any thing of that kind.

Am very glad you passed the new year day so pleasantly, Society in Carson must be pleasant and lively, and I am delighted that you can find some recreation. Do you room at Mrs Johnsons? I think not but you have never said any thing about it. By the way --

Byron wanted me to ask you, "What is the actual cost of living there as compared with Maine -- Let him tell you the price of board and all about it." He wants to know, as it may make some difference in deciding about the children. I told them this morning, when they were wondering

about the ring, that we were engaged.

[page 5]

Hattie says, "Then I shall have another brother -- that's good"; and Emma "I am real glad for I like him -- isn't he very kind"? -- I shall not tell you what reply I made to the question. 'Twon't do to flatter you too much in one letter.

Then they asked all sorts of questions about my going to Nevada to live and about their going with me, Hattie declared she would go at any rate. I told them it was all undecided now and they must not fuss about it or I should be sorry I had told them. It is amusing, and yet a little saddening to watch their efforts today to please me in every little thing, and Hattie stays by me as if afraid she will lose me without knowing it. You know she is the youngest, and I think more closely attached to me than Emma who says she "shall do just as Byron

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thinks best -- of course he knows", but if she can't go when I do she "will go when she is twenty one".

I have told Byron that he must decide about them, for I will not take that responsibility. It is enough to decide my own destiny and all I mean to do. I will take them or leave them as shall seem best to him.

You probably have received the letter in which I told you of presenting your note to your Mother. Thank you for your considerateness of my feelings.

My embarrassment was only for a few moments and I am glad she knows of it and also that I knew just what you wrote to her, so don't worry about it, pet, it's all right enough.

I would like to have danced after your prompting. I imagine you had lots of fun out of it. I often

think of the first and only dance
I ever attended with you. What a

[page 7]

nice time we had but you did
manage to tease me a little about
being a "wallflower". -- you know I wasn't.

I won't forget about the skates
but, I say, you can't of course skate
much, will you allow me to go
skating with some nice young man?
And may I bring my "bloomers"?

Don't "lay the flattering unction
to your soul" that I shall always
deport myself "as becomes a subjugated
rebel", for after we become "as one man"
I intend to pull my share of the time
and wear the ___ bloomers to my hearts
content, and perhaps to your discontent.
Art sure the "subjugation" is complete?

Henry Rust has gone to Haverhill
to spend the rest of the winter. Aren't
you sorry that the only beau I have been
able to pick up should leave me so?

Hope you feel as badly as I do
about it. The fact is, I'm right
glad he has gone, for now the only

[page 8]

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Your loving
Nellie

[continued on page 1]:

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"tell him we want to see him."

[envelope]

By Steamer

[postmark NORWAY ME FEB 5]

[stamp removed]

Major Harry R. Mighels
Carson City
Nevada

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