

Philadelphia, Jan 4/16th 1854
Mad. Ireland -

My dear Papa,

I have felt quite uneasy at not receiving
a letter from home for these some days - I hope none of you
are sick; I suppose however you are ^{so} occupied with
business that you have hardly time to write to my
one - I wrote you a long letter last week, & no doubt
astonished you, with having been out so often - But
now my dear Papa, I can tell you that I have
^{not} been out of the door for the last week - This short
letter with much information in it, will
no doubt please you more, than a long one con-
taining a description of the parties I have been
at - Do not be alarmed at the word parties, for
I assure you I have not even yet drank tea any
where's but in the family or at Mr. Meredith's
Matilda received a letter from Mamma a few

days ago I was delighted with it she says in it she
will write to me I wish she would, for ~~you~~ & your
letters are my only consolation (as no one else will
write me) If you knew how happy I feel when
I receive a letter from you, I am sure you would
write often - Every evening I sit in the room with
a parcel of little girls, thinking of home, every
night I dream of home, & every day I wish
I were home, but to kiss you all & return ^{to my studies}
four months & then I shall once more embrace you
a tedious four months indeed they will be, but
I will be perfect mistress of french - - You wish
to know concerning my flannel, My Beeby has
made me some printed coats which I wear next
me & they keep my chest entirely guarded
from cold - My best love to Mary & Bessy
& do have pity on me & write to me, I
have no time to write but of an evening.

& then I am put in a dark part of the room -
"I think any one that really loved me, after lea-
ving me at boarding school among strangers, & so
far from home, in a situation that cannot be
otherwise than inhospitable, would on their return
to their ^{own} home, have seated them ^{loves} comfortably
by a large fire, (which we never are permitted
to do) & sent a few lines to console ^{me} ~~me~~ if you had
thine ^{with} ~~me~~ ^{without} the form of waiting for a letter from me.
Thank heaven, this is not intended
for ~~my~~ dear father, I beg you will ^{read it} to the
one who best will understand it - Yours is not
formal affection, I hope it never will be - Do
love me, do continue to love your Ann, for
I believe there are very few besides you, who
care any thing about her -

May heaven bless you,
Prays your dutiful & affectionate
Child -

A. A. Hoffman -
I have written to Dogen this evening



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