

Hasterville O. Aug 25 '98

My Dear Darling Joe -

If I feel that I must surely spend this quiet afternoon with you as usual in some way so I will write to you and I think I can feel quite near to you. I have rec'd both of your letters in one day after they were mailed.

I am so sorry you had not gotten mine for the time is so long to wait.

Only you dear can know what levels I have been and how many times I have read your letters over and over each time putting in a few more words between the lines.

But I am pretty well and  
your absence is all that  
hinders me from being com-  
pletely happy.

Friday night I took a severe  
cold which settled in the  
back of my neck so I felt  
quite unpleasant all day  
yesterday. I had gotten almost  
of my sewing done that I had  
on hands so I thought I would  
have to go to Columbus and  
see about my dress.

Mr. Carrier left on the 1:30  
car. I thought you might possibly  
come up and did not want  
to miss you so we went  
to the T. & O. depot to meet  
the train from the double.  
But no Joe was there and  
I had to be brave again.

I think we did quite well in our shopping; both of us got dark blue dresses. This morning I went to church with Carrie and was glad for an opportunity to sing in the choir so I would not be so lonely. Every one seemed so glad for me and made a big fuss over me and told me I looked so well that it made me feel good. Even Prof. Junk shook my hand heartily and seemed much interested in us. Of course every one asked about you, and Mrs. Sanders laughed in the "he he" way and said "But this I believe married life agrees with you."

Yes I wrote - to the - lady at -  
Dayton and rec'd word  
last - evening. The rent for  
the - two rooms is \$8 per mo.  
but I do not understand  
whether they are furnished  
or not - so will just leave  
it till you come.  
I have heard of another place  
which I think I will write  
to, but I do not want to  
complete - any arrangements -  
until you come. It seems  
to me \$8 is very high.  
If they will not do that work  
now I hope you can soon  
come up. I looked for a  
letter last - evening but I know  
the - mails are so slow. But I  
can not complain for you have  
been so good about writing.

Mon. Morning.

My cold is still better and  
I am now ready for work.

I am going to the dress-maker  
to see about how to make  
my dress. I am trying to do  
the best I can at getting our  
things ready for house-keeping.

If you have time to get another  
bottle of my medicine it will  
probably save a trip to Col.  
I did not have the numbers  
and did not have time to go  
out and see Dr. Rogers.

Now take good care of my  
darling boy and do whatever  
you think best about our  
arrangements. May God bless you  
and keep you. Your own loving wife  
Bertha

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Mr. Joseph H. Harris  
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