

Lock Box 28, Ada, Ohio.

July 16, 1895.

Miss Lambert,
Aberia, Ohio.

My Loving Bertha: 9:30 This evening finds me at the private table instead of the banquet hall. Your letter just received causes every love chord to vibrate. I would rather sit at your feet and gaze into those loving eyes and have the light of your endearing countenance shed its rays about me than to sit at a king's banquet, yes I would much rather sit here and express my love for you even in this crude manner than sit at our banquet without you at my side.

Your letter reached me this morning and strange to say it came from the West. I opened it while at the office, but seeing the contents, I felt almost overpowered, and hastened to my room notwithstanding the morning exercises had already begun.

The coveted curl was first carefully noted. O my! how much it expressed. No present or souvenir however costly would have expressed half so much as the curl from

my own Bertha's locks, & certainly thank
you for such a remembrance "yea low-token"
and I shall cherish it as such while absent from
you. It may seem strange, but I felt so moved
that I think it would have required the stoutest
heart to refrain from emotion. Yes Lou & I know
you desired to send a token and wondered in your
mind what it should be, but you did just what
pleased me most. As I was appointed to meet
some of the trains I met them all until I
rec'd your letter. I thought I saw everybody
get off but you. Of course it would have been
much nicer with your presence here, yet I certainly
admire your spirit in this matter. Oh no I could
not impute selfish motives, for you have no motive
of that nature in our relation. I think your reasons
are valid and sensible ones, and while I miss the
inspiration of your presence, I certainly love you all
the more for exemplifying such far seeing principles
as a rule of action. I think you have been busy
in your work. I have been working at the banquet
hall (Adelphi's new hall) yesterday and today hence
have heard but little of exercises, but it was and is
a nice and successful reunion. I felt so weary this
evening that I preferred to spend the time with you.
I trust you will not censure me for not taking
the banquet, but I would not have enjoyed it without
you and I feel perfectly content to miss it. Wed. noon's
Committee work prevented sending this on the morning train, so fearing 4¢
postage & close. Will give you more news in next issue, with brief. Hastings, Haris.