

Madison N.J.  
June 4<sup>th</sup> 1886.

My darling darling Harry,

I rec'd your two letters this afternoon, and you can imagine how they were devoured. I am always glad enough but as I hadn't had a word since Wed[nesday]. I was even worse than usual. Darling I do forgive you for that letter I rec'd last Sat[urday]. It has made me very unhappy and I must say that I cant understand why, when you feel blue, you should go on and say such things. I am so glad that we are so near our happiness, and that we are to have no more separations, for I dont know how we could stand another one. It would be hard for me to do with fewer letters from you, but I am almost certain that I would not want to try either last year's or this year's plan again, for I dont feel that either have been successful. I know we could not make any plan thoroughly successful. I know we could never be happy or contented apart, but if we were unfortunate enough to be doomed to another separation, I shouldn't want to try either of the plans we have tried so far. Letters are a great help, & yet I feel more & more dissatisfied with them, and I cant help feeling sometimes that it is useless to try, but I keep on trying, and will stick to our plan as near as I can up to the end, but I think I would want to try some thing entirely different next year if we were to be separated, but thank Heaven we are not going to be separated again. I am so glad that the long trial is so nearly done, and will be still more thankful when it is over and we are together again, and this time without the horror of another separation hanging over us.

Darling I dont know just what to say about the meeting. It seems to me that it will not be best to meet at the depot. I want to see you the first possible moment, but yet I dread having a crowd around, & would rather be at home where we can be alone. We have plenty of room, and wont have to lay such deep schemes as we did at Xmas time. We'll be sure of a place without so much managing. We can let people take which ever part of the house they want, and then we'll choose our part as far away as possible. If it is early, and I find that every one is likely to be around, I will wait upstairs for you, if possible in a front room, and I'll be watching for you, and you must ~~be~~ look up and see where I am so you'll know just where to find me, (the house upstairs is arranged just like the old one) and you can tell whoever opens the door that you are going right upstairs. I'll give directions beforehand about it, so that if you give your name it will be all right & you'll be allowed to go upstairs. If I cant manage to be in a front room I'll leave word with the girl about the room. If every thing is likely to be quiet, and you arrive about 10 P.M. I will meet you at the door & take you right in the back parlor. After we have had a few minutes alone, mamma & Jule will want to see you, and we'll go and spend a few minutes with them, and then go off and have a long visit alone. Darling I want, if possible[,] to meet you at the door, but if it is at a time when people are likely to be around, it will be much better for us to meet upstairs where we can be entirely alone. We are neither of us anxious to have an audience, and I want to guard against that. I am afraid to trust either of

us at the depot, and hard as it will be not to go to meet you, I feel that it will be better to wait, & have the meeting alone. There will be time for you to write if you dont like this plan. If you dont like it, let me know your wishes at once and I can carry them out. The girls have had such a lovely ay in N.Y. and came home in high spirits. Mag went up to see mamma and Jule, and had a very nice time she said. She likes the house a great deal better than the other one. The painters were still pottering around, and Mag says mamma is about used up between the servants and the workmen.

We have another lovely present, a beautiful lamp from Gertrude Paine, a duplex burner. Mag says it is very handsome. I dont understand how they happened to send it so long beforehand. I begin to wonder if people haven't got mixed on the date, but I guess they haven't. I was so surprised, for I dont know why they should give me anything, and didn't think of such a thing. Wasn't it lovely of them? And isn't it a fine present? Now darling I must stop

With love unbounded and Θ Θ Θ Θ without limit.

Ever your own

Effie.

Mag says the berry spoon is elegant, the most exquisite work all over the handle. Have you heard form Charlie yet? Love love love Θ Θ Θ Θ Θ from your Effie.