

Purdue June 4 [18]86\_\_

My darling darling Effie

I am so tired tonight that I am just about ready to drop and I shall not be able to write a reputable letter & perhaps had better not try at all, but I must send you something tomorrow. I am afraid that I shall not be able to do as I had promised my self[,] namely to write an extra long letter for you to get on Monday since you could have none on Sunday & may miss the one of Saturday but I don't know that I shall be able to do it after all\_ I was up last night till nearly two o'clock & up at eight this morning but awake a little after seven and have been in the centre of a cyclone all day\_ It was the day for the visit of the county superintendants and we have been posing ever since a little after nine o'clock up to after four this afternoon. Then after supper I had to walk to the city to get a tuner for the piano we will use on the afternoon of Sunday next\_ And after I got back I made a short call on Miss Elder who is here with Miss Weed to rest myself up preparatory to writing to you. All this is by way of preface to show you that I ought to be tired.

Last night after I had finished reading with Golden[,] viz at 9:45 pm, I went out to see that all was quiet upon the campus & all was perfectly so\_ At 10:30 after hanging around awhile I found the Engineer[,] Louis Bianchi by name but called Louie for short[,] near the Dormitory. He was there to take account of the gas. I told him that if there was anything going on to wake me up and after prowling about for awhile I went to my room[,] took off my clothes & put everything where I could pop into it in one second & a quarter and shut one eye when I heard a loud noise which sounded like a pistol shot. I tho't shall I go out[?] Louie will call me if it was at the dormitory. I guess I wont go out. I generally jump at any noise but I didn't at this one. Then I turned over for I was tired & heard a second bang & in a moment a tap on my window & Louie called me to put on my clothes & hurried over to the Dorm but everything there was still as the grave[,] all lights but two in my end were out and it was eleven thirty. I then prowled about till half past one and saw several students come in very late but nothing was in the slightest degree suspicious about their movements. I hadnt the least reason to consider it necessary to sit up any longer & went to bed\_ Nothing happened during the night. I couldn't find Alexander on the grounds last night & found out this morning that he had told Craig he must go to Indianapolis & he hadn't told me of it.

Tonight I shall be out a good share of the night I expect but cant tell that yet. I shall go out in a few minutes and come in again off & one but not go to bed till I feel pretty sure things are quiet. I am very anxious to catch some fellow in mischief & will make it hot for said culprit if I can only catch one\_

At seven o'clock Pat knocked at my door & waked me out of a sound sleep & after that I couldn't get to sleep again. I rarely can sleep much in the mornings after I get once waked up\_\_

I could have pounded him & he was very sorry for having done it but that didn't put me to sleep again. I got up at eight o'clock & was very busy all day. We had about 75 visitors to be shown around. I got up a microscopic exhibit for them and then ran a class in the afternoon & fussed about with them & to get my rooms in shape during the morning. They were a very [!!!] nice looking set of men[,] well dressed[,] not foppish[,] intelligent[,] not backwoods looking[,] knew what they were looking at and about & for and they had a good day here (they said & I guess they meant it). It is of course for our advertisement that such things are done. They are demoralizing to the school but the school must have large numbers of students and is improving all the time both in numbers and in the rank of the students. ~~Early~~ As I went into chapel I saw Miss Elder there. She had come upon the same train to visit with Miss Weed for a few days through commencement. It was very pleasant to see her and I was very glad to see her. I have missed her so much & she kept Miss Weed in better trim before she departed. I had hardly a moment to see her during the day and so after I got back from the city I went up there & lay on the sofa & recuperated for a few minutes before coming down here and rested a little but I am still feeling as if I should fall apart pretty nearly. Tomorrow is Saturday & I shall sleep pretty late tomorrow morning\_\_ I detest this police work but it seems necessary & will save us a good deal of bother I think if we sit down on the slightest disturbances at once\_\_ I am anxious to spot the first noisy room & there hasn't been one this week. There Darling I must go now and try later or tomorrow to add to this letter \_\_\_\_ with love love love

Your Harry\_\_\_\_\_

Saturday morning \_ Well Darling here I am to finish this letter. It is now 10:30 o'clock and I am still alive and capable of very vigorous kicking. I left you at 10 o'clock last night and spent one hour and a half on the campus. As everything was entirely quiet I then went to bed. At two o'clock the watchman called me up and told me that everything was entirely quiet and that he had had no sleep the night before and asked if I thought he need stay any longer. I told him to go on home & go to bed. There isn't the slightest symptom of a row so far as I can see & I think there is no mischief brewing but they may go off at any moment\_ Craig did a mighty cute thing night before last\_ It became known during the day that on the day before Mrs Craig had given birth to a male child and (as I have since learned) the boys prepared to go down there & give him a tin serenade, a perfectly barbarous thing for them to do as would seem to any civilized person\_ But about eight in the ev[enin]g\_\_\_\_ Craig went through the dormitory with a box of cigars & with the invitation "Here celebrate. It is a boy\_" You see darling that if the female sex is the most important at a wedding & the men then are of no account the thing is evened up for when a man is born into the world there is rejoicing but girl babies are no account. Well the boys thought "Craig had treated them white" and they shut up & there was no celebration\_ Last

night all was quiet and if there is to be any fuss we shall likely have it be next week. Both Craig & I had separately been fearing this event but Craig settled the difficulty in the most signally able manner\_

Darling I spoke with Dr Smart this morning about leaving. He said he didn't see how they could have the meeting to pass on standings on Friday. He was afraid the Trustees wouldn't be through their meeting which he must attend. He thinks it is possible but not certain or probable and then I told him that I didn't want to wait over till the following week\_\_ He said he hadn't any doubt the meeting could be held upon Saturday[,] that I ought to be there where they had to do with students in whom I am interested. And he is right and I have felt so all the time. I cant delegate that work and be at all sure that it will be well done. If I delegate it[,] it will have to take its chances\_\_\_\_\_ I don't give up hope yet of leaving on Friday but on the other hand I dont count on it & you mustn't count on my leaving before Saturday. I understand Darling that you want me and if our own feeling was all that is involved you may be sure that I should leave this afternoon but unfortunately it isn't\_ Oh Effie I do want you awfully. Your letters don't make up at all for your absence. They are a comfort & I am thankful for them but you can't make me happy enough with them to reconcile me to your absence and I want you awfully. Sometimes I feel utterly unable to stay here. If I were a woman I shouldn't but it would kill me[,] as far as reputation goes[,] to leave for such a reason & it wouldn't be to be thought of. I shouldn't dare to\_\_ You talk Darling about hating to show people how we feel. How do you think it must be for me to go to Dr Smart and tell him that I am so wild to get home that I can't stand it to do my duty a few days longer\_ Of course I have got to tell him why I can't stay[,] why I am in such a hurry. It is plain enough to all who see me always getting here at the last minute and always leaving at the first minute. It is fairly indecent haste I made last spring to be gone\_\_ No such motives however hold me here a moment for I am not so particular about that matter as perhaps I ought to be\_\_ I don't mind if people know that I am strongly attached to you and I have a perfect right to be & don't intend to deny it or feign any indifference I don't feel \_\_ at least so far as concerns my hurrying to you as fast as I can go\_\_ So you needn't let yourself for one instant think that it is because I want to stay that I dont leave on Thursday\_\_

I received your letter yesterday afternoon Darling\_\_ I wont write about your appreciation of the invitation to Madison to do your dressmaking for I dont quite understand you about the gush part. I have already mentioned it lately that it was very nice of them or some thing of the sort and I think I had better leave the matter until I see them. I am sorry you couldn't write me any of what Carrie said in your talk. I should like to know it now. I don't believe in saving things till we are together too much for we have so much to talk of then any how that these others get crowded out. But I am very glad to know the fact that all hands have come around and are feeling better than at first. Their ~~cha~~ course has affected me seriously and helped to wean me from them far more than anything else ever could have done\_ I felt

that they took an entirely selfish stand point without considering my feeling in the least and I got hardened against them & I presume shall never get entirely over it. I do hope that the Uphams will not feel so toward Carrie and that they will like her from the start. I hope that Fred will never let her know it. I am very sorry that I ever told you. I think they would have come around all straight in the course of time & you would have been spared much suffering\_\_ But that is done \_\_ I am beginning to learn some discretion & dont believe any more as I once did in perfect frankness but I believe that if you can create an impression of frankness but really keep things pretty close you do best. If I get to New York on Sunday Darling I think I will go to Madison on Monday evening[,] spend the night & a day or so & then go back to New York & go out to Madison the rest of the time on Sundays. I guess Papa would like that best. I am going to make this visit especially for his benefit & so that he will get the most pleasure & comfort from it\_ I shall hate to leave you so soon as Monday night but Papa is very anxious to see met too and I guess that will be the best plan & then I can stay there a shorter time & get back to you the sooner. Last spring I spent several days at Madison[,] spent most of it with the girls[,] and later in the Summer I found out that all my good intentions were lost for I had been a nuisance since I was so anxious to get back to New York. I wont stay long enough this time to wear out my welcome & wont tell any one my plans except Papa\_ I do want to see him almost worse than ever before. He seems to understand how I feel better than any one else & here I am so utterly out of the reach of sympathy that I am just longing for it. This year has been far better than last for me in this matter from your constant letters\_\_ They dont always help me & do what I want of them but they very often do\_\_ I am an unfortunate individual in my temperament for there are few persons who seem to help me by their being around. Golden is in many respects the sort of person whom I affiliate with but he isn't the sort of man in every respect I could become very intimate with & talk about my inner feelings. He is in his sensibilities just the right sort of person but not in his education. I cant be with him as I should with Lee if he were here\_\_ But it is nearly over\_\_ Do you wish I had kept my blues to my self Darling[?] Well I do too but I can't take time for~~th~~ another letter & destroy this and I cant send you a short one with no explanation or the lie that I was too busy so I have got to let this poor thing go. Thank God a brighter day is dawning for me at last. I have ground & struggled and suffered & endured & been disappointed & every thing else. Some times I wish that I had not tried at all but been content to be like the common herd & not try to be any better than my butcher or tailor. I could have been far happier if I had gone into a store & never gone to school. At least I have no reason to think I should have had so many unsatisfied wants as I have had during the last eleven years since I left home but now that I can look back over it all I don't regret any part of it and wouldn't for a moment wish I had tried to be better than my parents were before me\_ I don't believe I should have been satisfied & yet am I now, well not much. I have had an easy time in some respects but I havent known rest of mind for years. I never know it. I am straining my eyes to see ahead & it makes my head ache\_\_ When we are married

& my happiness is in the present it will be different & I shall stop & enjoy \_\_\_\_ I said I would stop before & now I will keep my promise with truest love & no end Darling[,] all yours[,] & constant longing from your own Harry.

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