

[written along the left side of the letter]

Give my love to all where is Leander has he forgotten me,? Yes, dearest Milly valentine day has come and gone ~~and~~ and I have not sent one I did intend to send you one but kept neglecting it till it was to later, I recive [tio*] from Salen bit dont know who they are from bit [shall*] like to ~~kn~~ know pretty well. I hope you ull pardon all imperfection and will save the rest for the next time, don't fail to write soon Is this not a good long one? I hope it will not exhaust your ~~patients~~ patience

Lawrence Feb 27th 1852

Darling Milly

Once ^{more} I resume my pen for the purpose of perform the pleasant task of writing to one who is "both near and dear to me", but whose socity I am at preasant dreprived off.

Oh! Milly I have got so much to write you I hardly know what to commen^{ce} on first, but in the first place. I ~~am~~ think a little hard of you so I will tell you of it in time so we can have a chance to "make up". you do me wrong by insinuating that I may think write to often, that dearest Em would be impossible, nothing affords me more pleasure then to get a letter you", I should be glad to hear from you every week. and much happier if I could see you as often but alas! that is a thing impossible under present circumstances. I was very sorry to learn you had such a bad ~~ed~~ cold I hope you will get better soon. I was affraid you would get cold, and we all spoke of it going home Mary said you was'nt wrapt near warm enough and Georgie would draw in his breath every now and then and say by gorrie poor Em has got a cold side he said you would find it much ~~colder~~ colder then we did because you had to face the wind. I wonder if you came over ~~th~~ to the dance I hope and pray you did I wanted to go to them all and should have wanted to go more then ever if I had got your letter before wednesday eve but oweing to a misunderstanding betweene the penny postcard [an] I did not get your last letter till Sattarday night; Oh!

Milly you do'nt know how pleas^{ed} I was about your going to the north I think you served them right, but how did you dare to answer [them] so? I should have [then] thought they would have been mad at you but I guess they were not for they told me you were so lame you could not dance.

I suppose no doubt you have heard that I have [been] at home to stay two days, at the time we had that heavy rain we had to be [and*] waiting for back water so I went home, and it so happened it was wednesday, and night was coming on but no chance offered itself for me to you Oh! Milly you do'nt know how many many times I wished you knew I was at home and would come over, I stayed at home all day till most night but no one came to ask me to go I felt [wreched] and lonely I tell you but I thought I would either feel better or worse so I starte my boots over to see Elida and see how she treated me. she was very good and appeared like old times which made me feel like a new person I felt that I could stay at home with a good [relish*] if you did not come and I did not expect you after Mr. Cook's folks had told me you were so lame and sick you could not dance the night before. but I hoped all time it was part "make believe", I do'nt know what made me but I seemed to have that impression, well as I was telling you about going over to see Elida I stayed till most dark and then I started to come home a little heart sick I own for now I felt there was no chance it was getting so late but when I got home who should I

find [arected] up in the corner behind the door but “our friend Dan” just as good as ever with his helping hand and willing heart after the regular ceremonies, “say shake hands and kiss”, he asked me if I had, had an invitation to go to the dance I told him no, of course (dont know but I should have told him so if I had for I do like to go any place with him so well I should be willing give up any other invitation to go with him if could do it fairly) so he ask me if I would go over with him I told I should be most happy to do so, and I went and had a grand time it seemed as though one thing more ~~and~~ would complete my happiness but that one thing could not be granted me no my Milly could not be there with me, but I had one thing to console me, “that I was doing her will.” But I must drop this subject or I shall fill this long sheet about nothing else and the more I write about it the more I want to.

Oh! Milly I have always forgotten to tell you how highly Mr Hoyet spoke of you and in fact it is so long ago I have forgotten word for word but he spoke very much in your praise he said for one thing he though you a very finely disposed girl, but this is not half he said Mother and I had quite a talk with him about you. I almost know they will try and get you to teach next summer O how I hope they will.

I suppose you have heard that our Geogie waits on one of [Moors] Brilleys daughters to the dances so you must give it I have [list*] him she is a very pretty little girl. I always told you dear Milly that he did not want me but you seemed to think differntly. I never denied to but I liked him, but I suppose he thinks I am going with Mr Merrill; but he wanted me ever so much I should not dare to go with him for fear you and Leander would not approve of it, but as I have told you many a time I don't pitty the one that gets him he is so good

You wished me to write you what our minestis name was, it is Jonson I have been to hear him twice to day and I though I never liked him so well, he prayed so much like Mr Spaulding you also asked if he was a [unerversolist] he is “nothing else” I assure you. Mrs Stimpson says I must ask you to come [over] and spend the sabbat I should be most happy to have you but I fear it will be nothing but a compliment to ask you. Oh! Milly you cannot think how it used up some of the people because I went to the dance with Don. say “Mary Ann for instancs” she was in our room and Georgie come in and she thought to “be sure” I was going with him but when Don came and I went off with him it almost killed her, but it is past ten oclock and I must conclude but not before I charge you to write soon don't be afraid writing to soon, ~~but~~ and do not try to flatter me quite so much in your next one for I know it would be impossible for any one to admire me or any thing I possess. so good night, yours with much love Pitt