

Grand Rapids, May 28, 1855

My dear Mother,

Accept my most cordial thanks for your very excellent and interesting letter, it had been a longer time than usual since I had heard from you and I was beginning to feel anxious and uneasy and should have written today anyway, if I had not got your letter. I do not see but your letter was as good as new-at any rate it was highly applauded by all that heard it and that was a pretty good roomful. Aaron brought it from the office. I was at the Hollis's when he came; so he would to have it but took it over to his house and left word that I must come over there and read it-as he wanted to hear it so, of course, I did so. Several friends had happened in that evening and after I had read it, they wanted to have me read it to them. I complied and they was (sic) all very much grateful and entertained.

Everybody feels interested in weddings, even if the parties are strangers. I am glad to hear Kina (?) is so well married and hope she will find kind friends and a happy home in Cleveland and above all the right kind of a husband and. It is not very likely. I shall ever see her again, but I shall always remember her with sincere affection,

I was very sorry to hear of Joann's death. She was always a frail looking thing- but it happened that such kind of constitutions hold out the longest-I sometimes think it makes but little difference how soon we go and eat all have something to live for and bad as this world is, we want to stay in it as long as we can.

I seem to have some new ties in the shape of two chubby babies. Little Charlie is now a year old begins to run alone and is just the smartest little fellow in the world. Full of fun and frolic can call kitty and, in short, a wonderful child. Little Hattie is not far behind. I should not wonder if she should turn out another prodigy-they are both here almost every day and the wonder is to myself that I do not dread them. I suppose I should if they were like other children.

Mr. Ellis and his wife are still living here. They have been now nearly a year. I do not expect that they will stay about four or five weeks more before they will go into their own house. Mr. Ellis is putting up a grist mill and dwelling house about three quarters of a mile from here and as soon as his house is done, they will go. We live in the utmost harmony and no one that did not know the circumstances would think but that Ellen was my

own daughter. She seems very much to me and it is a great comfort to think when she goes from here, I shall have her for a neighbor.

Charles and his wife made a visit in March-they have staid (sic) as long as they expected and this morning they were to have started for Muskegon- Charles was taken with bilious colic-lay away very sick for two weeks and came as near dying with it as he could and not. He had been subject to it for several years but had not had an attack for more than a year and thought it had left him. For three days, it seemed impossible for him to live from one hour to another. The doctor staid (sic) with him for two nights. His wife and me-one or both were constantly at his bedside-and our efforts under Providence were successful at last-though we worked against hope for many hours.

They left the second day of April. Charles has gone down to the lake to take charge of a stream saw mill-this summer- it is a post of great responsibility. He employs not less than thirty men, some of them with families- has a store to tend the lumber he ships from Chicago where the proprietor lives. It is an unhealthy place and I feel a continual anxiety about him-but hope for the best, he has a kind amiable wife and he thinks everything of her, but as far as helping him along as the world goes-she is helpless as an infant. She has managed thus far in life as to remain in blissful ignorance of everything like work. I have nothing in the world against him and only regret she did not marry a richer man. I could tell you things that would surprise you, but I cannot write them.

There is one thing about it, I shall not borrow trouble. If Charles' marriage turns out well, I shall be glad; if not, I shall take myself quietly out of it.

We had a visit from Eliza Ellington (?), Mrs. Seymour Aunty while Charly and Jane were here have called there to Mr. Seymour the Saturday after I had intended to have seen Miss Eelgenton again before she left- but heard in town last week that she had already gone.

I am glad to hear sister Read has not given up the idea of making us a visit-I should like to have her come in the fall. Michigan is more pleasant at that season than any other. Besides we are going to have thousands of peaches this year. Our trees all blossomed and looked gloriously for two weeks. Georgie and I are jamming and gardening; if we don't live it will not be because we don't try.

I am much obliged to Sylvia Blacker for remembering me-should like to write her, perhaps I will some time. We have a good deal to do now. Mr.

Ellis's men board here and we have no girl-after they go away, I shall be comparatively at leisure and then I will write to every body that I think would like to hear from me. Meanwhile, give my kind regards to all enquiring friends.

I am ever, your affectionate daughter,  
Adelia