

4 Denver
July 1st 1883.
My Dear Maury

Does it seem possible
my letter is actually headed
Denver, it does now seem
like a dream to me. I fully
intended writing you yesterday
day but with the whole
mobility of being here, the
unpacking, getting to rights,
talking &c. you may imagine
was that I passed too
quickly. I am now up and
have been some time, still
all is quiet in the night
room. I have no idea what
time it is, but very early. I
was up yesterday morning
the same and out to bed
until two o'clock but I
cannot seem to sleep my
eyes are beginning to feel

the next day, still I feel
~~so~~ fresh and bright as
ever. The air here is fine,
now where will I begin. I
think at the start. Of
course you received my
postal mailed in Ohio.
Then the telegram, of my
safe arrival. I could not
write letters on the train,
it was just impossible.
Traveling at the rate of
35-40 miles an hour, you
may know the jolting
quite considerable, I could
not sit down with comfort
the car. Enjoyed every
minute of the trip, met
delightful people, chatted
all the way with some
old. The stops for meals
always had a companion

to take that time for a
walk, for exercise and
sight seeing. Then when
the train started, the
porter would put up
a table, and we would
spread our tablecloth, one
of my towels, and between
us would get up quite
a tempting meal, my
tongue was perfectly
delicious, it was in a
solid piece and sliced
beautifully, I tell you my
home made bread just
"took" it was grand, most
of the other people with
old baked bread crumbly
and dry. When I reached
At Louis 8.30 this morning,
the Conductor, was so kind
took my traps, went with

me to get my pullman
chair ticket and put me
on the train it was so
near in time. There met
on that train a lovely
Boston lady going to visit
her daughter in Topeka.
When it was a very painful
case with her and Alfred
her first visit to her and
said it almost killed her
to know she was so far
away. It seemed as if she
never could consent to it.
well I told her you would
be a friend in sympathy.
I enjoyed the day so much
the scenery was lovely, it
followed the Missouri
river for about 100 miles,
riding right on the banks
of it, then over all the
lately irrigated country,
fields after fields under

houses and trees, partly submerged, and in places where the water had disappeared, field after field of grain all ruined, well it ^{was} a sad sight, but a very interesting one. I had no idea the the Missouri river was such a body of water, so wide, and of such length. The scenery all along the shore was beautiful. Reached Kansas City at 10.45 Weds night, still such a rush and confusion, like the Grand Central when a dozen trains come in together. The Union Depot is ^avery extensive and fine building, and I got along splendidly, and left at 11.45, having only an hour to wait. Did I not make splendid connections all

Through, Met on that sleeper
two very pleasant Ladies both
going to Denver so we had
a jolly time together, we
being the only passengers
in the sleeper, was not that
splendid? we had the whole
car to ourselves, the Conductor
was a young gentleman, and
an exceedingly polite one so
he was one of us, the porter
was a nice nigger, and he
was so attentive, at noon we
put our lunch boxes together,
made Lemonade, had Lager
and a good feast, the porter
put us up a table, and we
invited the Conductor (Mr
Jones) to lunch with us, well
we did have a jolly time,
a grand clearing out of our
lunch barrels, chicken, sausage
steak, Guava jelly, currant jelly,
crackers, cookies, sponge cake.

I then got rid of all my lunch
trap, it lasted splendidly,
and kept palatable to the
last. (I brought all the current
jelly he was delighted, also
Maggie.) The ride all day
Thursday across the prairies
was so interesting, first
mile after mile, of level
country, and the little
prairie dog, and chickens,
and the adobe house (made
of mud) and the civilized
Indians, and the different
little stations we would stop
at. At the first interest-
ing, we all took our tea
at Hugo, and where I sat
at the table, could look
on both sides of me, on miles
after miles of prairie, not a
tree in sight. How suppose
you are crazy to hear about
prairie.

Maggie, well of course Alfred
and she were at the Depot.
Well I flew to Al I can tell
you, the dear boy is the
same Al, looks very well
but is thin, I guess he is
not the fat fellow of old.
The image of her picture
not pretty, but rather
fine looking, is decidedly
german, speaks with quite
an accent, but it sounds
quite pretty. She is just
lovely, no matter of fact
and that is so generous.
all the time planning
for my pleasure. I know
you would think Alfred
had made a wise choice.
She is prudent, and then
and no fool I can tell you.

I am delighted with her.
Al and I have talked
home ever since I have been
here. he feels just the
same interest, and loves
you just the same as ever.
he said "suppose mother
would like the money." I
said it would be a great
relief to you. Well he said
she knows it is surely good,
only it had been a little
tied up, but now he could
send the balance, and \$250
on next year all together.
So you see he don't mean
to go back on you. This letter
is so lengthy now I will
only go lightly over the
rest of my being here,
and will go more fully
into all we have been

During, when I write the
last of the week, I have been
since Sat, writing this, but
there seem to be so many
interruptions, We are
delightfully located in
furnished room and take
our meals out. My room
is on Lawrence St. out of
the main St. has four
immense windows and
the ceiling is about 14 ft
high, so you can imagine
the size of the room. Als
is right next, so we all
sit back and forth and
are all girls together, at
night we throw the room
right open, they are very
precisely furnished and
have curtains to match the
upholstered furniture having

I never saw harder working
horses, or more fast
driving, every one is on
the full tear.

The 27th of March 1850, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th inst. in relation to the above named matter. I have the honor to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
 Yours, very truly,
 J. M. Smith