

are busy now two rooms are cleaned
and they expect to have two
more done today and there is then
but three more so we can get through
before you get here. if you start
immediately, Margaret. I hope it
will not be long before we meet. I had
much to tell you when I came near
but my father is almost filled
as usual with nothing. I began
this on Monday it is now Thursday
and as I just write by instalments
I thought it unnecessary to note
the different periods, some one
of the children succeeded in getting
my sheet but it is now too late
to write it. Your my pen is poor
and each letter I pen is worse
than the last. I have only to say
I have said before if you can not
read it bring it out with you
I can assure that I have written
the far worst now alluding to
the death of your friend. Oh what
a lot what a vacancy that must
have made to all but Margaret
do you know it seem to me now
I have even her mother
I think so I still
I think that tie you on, I
in scarce realize but but
the loss was great for all. ~~But~~
your letter was expected days
and so surprised was I
with an idea of serious news as
to be deprived of select the

better. the groom came up on Saturday evening, and we retired about eleven I to sleep with the bride elect not for the last time however (as the gentleman lives three miles from Mumbowers and as he is just building a house it is concluded that Anna will stay at her old home untill the new one is completed) and as is the fashion out here they were to go to the ministers house the one selected lives about nine miles distant and we were to get there early, as he was to preach that day, some way from his house accordingly it was arranged whoever awoke first should awaken the rest but sleep had truly forsaken us. Two o'clock we arose for all day, while the horses were getting their coat arranged Anna and myself made up our beds and got our breakfast ready, that was not our work but a married sister of the bride when she promised the evening before to have it ready, when we got up did not think it would be wanted quite so early, we were eating when she came down and at five were ready, the dressing, completed the bride was dressed in a brown silk dress made quite pretty, a neat collar and small white silk shawl, straw hat trimmed with white gauze with light green stripe very narrow a cap trimmed very pretty with flowers in the front. ^{it is the fashion here to wear caps} the groom wore a new suit of black he is tall slender rather pretty & altogether they made quite an appearance well we started but I must first tell you who I went with a cousin of the bride a dutchman that did not want to go at first because he could not talk English well and I had no small share of amusement the previous week at home in talking over the anticipated ride with a Gent that did not thank me for my company

but as long as he did not know that I knew it I was determined to go. and I never had a more delightful ride the country is beautiful beyond description the trees are covered with blossoms and indeed I should need a poets pen to make you understand my enjoyment of that ride at this delightful season and at that hour and the beam might have been worse we reached the ministers house about seven a beautiful place the ceremony was performed the minister played on the piano for us and in a little time we were on our way back in coming through Springfield the people were just going to church and such bowing and scraping, and joy, wishing the bride wished for a three bushel bag, to put it in and take it out as it was wanted it was so much for one time. at ten o'clock we reached the Mumbower Homestead our party was increased by the arrival of a younger brother of the bride and Miss J M Sands we had an early dinner but you should have seen Lissy whose mirth (as is usual on such occasions) amounted almost to madness one moment with the bridal party the next running about overseeing the preparations for the wedding feast and at the table I was almost bewitched well as is customary here the bride left us to visit her husbands friends it was four o'clock and Lissys had to muster all her composing spirits and even then a stray tear would come but the parting over a smile was again visible and one would be tempted to think that all was peace within but the wedding is over and I must use the remainder of my paper for other subjects. When are you coming out I thought to have received a letter stating the exact time of your coming out we expected you in blossom time ^{it is} but that is now here, yet they may last some time we have

Please give my love to all our friends and tell
your father that if dreaming about these expected
visitors would bring them they would have been here
long ago and then that is better so for then it would be
over but Alisa for the present

Farewell

M. M. Lane's

My
dear
Alisa

Miss M. M. Lane's
93 Spring St
New York

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previous night and when I read it I was truly ~~astonished~~
~~at~~ surprised that gay, that happy, girl snatched away
as it were in a moment and Margaret had it been me
as often as I have wished to leave this world still I fear
I should have ^{been} lost forever awful thought I may never
walk in the straight and narrow path while here on earth
and after this life to obtain everlasting happiness this is
my earnest prayer. Good bye dear M. believe me
truly yours Eliza!