

Gatesville, Texas, 3/7, 1886.

My Darling Ella:

This is Sunday morning again and, though we are not together, my thoughts are right with you in McGeorg. I think of the time we have spent there so pleasantly together and of the united future that awaits us. Circumstances of course alter occasionally but I do hope when we enter our married life we will not so far lose the better satisfaction of being, as a great many married people I know of, and that are to be found among people that seem to live just for the sake of that life contains. Miserable, unhappy wretches without the comforts of home, all because they seem to lose their better reason, lose sight of the fact that they are to live for God and themselves if they desire happiness. Never

any pains taken to oil the troubled waters, seldom a third word spoken, but instead their looks, their actions and their general demeanor towards each other betoken a miserable life. Notice the contrast between this wretched class and those who are happy. Who live near God and live for each other. Who are equal in everything, and in short who realize the importance of spending time for good. Let none be of the latter type, and while we are happily united, with proper exertion and watchfulness on the part of each other, such our married life will be. Remember that life is full of cares, troubles, sensations, disappointments, and a great many other things that bear a tendency to discouragement. These we must accept as only a part of the battle and with our joyful and cheerful hearts ward off their wounds.

Your last letter was such a nice
 good long one; I am just by yours as you
 say you are by mine - they always end
 too soon. This last one too such sweet
 perfume. You surely had your paper
 in the box with it, I thought I never
 would get through smelling.

It is quite cool this morning, but it
 promises to be a very pleasant day after-
~~noon.~~ We have rained here a great deal but
 not enough to be muddy. You know it
 don't get muddy down here in the
 sands.

So that was the object of your Uncle's
 visit last fall? Well I was surprised
 to hear it; but I believe it was the best
 thing that could have happened, I do hope
 they are happier now than ever before.

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I should like ever so much to receive
your Grand mothers Good News & like the
company of old people and always did from
a mere boy.

People who try to fool themselves must expect
nothing but misery. They must certainly
should know they love each other before they
are bound together. Love under all circumstances
should be mutual, without it there is
nothing to live for.

There is one thing I don't want to forget
this time. Please ask your father if he
paid a bill of \$40.00 at the Dallas News Mission
for account of J. A. Davis or Stanley & Davis. If he
has I will send him the amount, but if he hasn't
I will send to them. They keep sending me
statements is the reason I want to know,
and I trust you told me once that he had
paid that bill for me. Let me know in your

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most for I have promised to pay by the
inst.

Your just keep note acceptance on Dr.
Harr till I come down and collect it.
Next time I come will see when your
father is at home.

As usual, I wasn't jolting about the
small pox. I was informed of it here by a
sea-chant from Cayell City that it was
in the mountains of Comafoot and also
near Congo. We learn since however that
the lady who had it at Comafoot has about
recovered. I think the scare is about over though.

O'Bryan has sold out his interest here in
the "Star", and I heard that he went to Mr Meyer
yesterday to see about a part of the "Principals"
What success did he have? He didn't get over plain
dealer this week. Did you get the advance?

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This is Sunday evening and I
going to write some more. Besides attending
church & Sunday school I have been reading.
I have read a great deal to-day. Most of
my reading has been in a volume by Dr. Wells,
on Physiognomy, and it did tickle me when
I came across a little paragraph that said
when people wanted to accompany them should
not be a difference of over fifty years
in their ages, unless they were accompanying
for the money, there was in it and that
it was only a business transaction anyway
with money for the bargain. That is the
prominent objection your father urges,
but just tell him that one of the greatest
"character readers" in the land says any
thing of a difference not exceeding fifty
years will do and I think he will consent.

I am not bothering about that, but I am
 thinking more directly about what we
 will do when we get married, where we
 will settle and what will be my occupation.
 My ambition is to be a newspaper man - that
 is till I can do better. Really for all time to
 come, that is not it; but time will reveal
 it in detail and the practicability of putting
 it into execution.

We are overrun with job work this week.
 Have on hand a lot to print - in fact
 two or three but one large one.

It has clouded up since morning and
 looks very much like more rain now.
 Farmers down here all say that we
 have rain enough for the present.

How are the flowers? It will soon
 be time for the "pit" to blossom again

We got a whole lot of seeds the
other day and, though I suppose you all
get them too, I'll send you a package that
will make all the "fancy blossoms" you
want. You can plant them and name them
your humble servant and on if they
grow. I would send you some "irises"
seed too, but we didn't get any of them.

I must close now, and I shall expect
another long letter next Tuesday.
I won't be disappointed about getting it.
Don't forget the chapters in the Bible, and
good bye this time. Lovingly,
Your own true Aunt