

July 30. 1891.

Mr. H. Pecknough:

I should have written sooner but have been away from home the past week, which prevented me from getting your letter.

I was amused to hear from your picnic in Kentucky not one bit sorry. You thought nobody else would act half so simple, about barbecues, as we did down here.

Far better had they all come off similarly. A minister engaged in dancing, ridiculous! Well these war times nothing is too incredible for belief.

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The next Thursday after you went away we all went to a cotillion party at Grand via Ennis and Sallie and a few others were over, had a very nice time. We went from there home with Sallie to be at that wonderful barbecue that really did come off next day.

After a ride of about 8 miles we came to Yelbington a superb town somewhat noted for dog fennel and fighting. This town has nothing to do with the picnic which was at least a half mile from there. When we got there a gentleman

from Henderson, who was considered, "a perfection" was making a secession speech - he had a very imaginative mind - said "proslavery union men were serfs to abolition whims."

Why unite the North and South, powers that had ever hated each other worse than any other nations on earth, etc.

The chimerical views of the speaker were taking terrible effect on my nerves, but after being assured that there was no danger - girl felt relieved. Now I should have considered this all very dry, but for a shower of

rain in the afternoon, which
made me think ~~just~~ the reverse.

We had two more orations on
Sever the Union. I will not
tell any more—don't like
to excite envy,
as you're extra partial to
long letters. I would like
to invent some plan to
make their ^{reading} "leisure" intolerable.
The best way that I can think
of is to bear in mind, during
their perusal, the delightful
recreation in store for you
viz—Law reading. Pleasantly it,
My mind being relieved
on this score I shall pro-
ceed.

If I only knew who you
wanted to hear from, I
would tell you all I know
and more too.

The serenaders were over last
night - they play very well.
Mr. Baker belongs to the
band. I suppose that
was the reason the music
was so entrancing.

John has been gone for
three or four days getting
up a cavalry company.
came home last night
has one hundred and
eleven names. They expect
to be in Evansville in
two weeks.

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Three companies from Spencers
have been formed since
they have received the
appalling news from the
battle in Virginia.

It appears as if every one
had the war mania.

My impression is when the
novelty wears off it will
not be so grand.

All ready several who have
enlisted, in writing home to
their friends, say, if they
were only free again "nothing
short of imprisonment could
induce them to go."

I hope you are not of an
excitable temperament,
because, I do not know

how seriously this magnificent scrawling might affect you.

You said you were coming down and I did not write when you were at Fredonia.

Do not think if you have a few friends, annoyingly solicitous about your welfare, do not imagine they're numerous. I believe I will

quit giving advice though

I do not charge anything for it. I am, as ever,

Your true friend,
Mother

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Those songs are here. Your
taste is elegant or mine much
perverted. Unfortunately
I have hurt my hand
pretty badly, and find it
rather painful while writing.

P. S. For a task for next
sabbath read the thirty ninth
chapter of Ezekiel.

I have heard several
say that was clear proof
that the South would overcome
the North.

[1861]

Come back here, you
black rascal.

Can't come back no how, massa;
Dis chile's CONTRABAN'



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