

Sunday night 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 53.

My own. my sweetest friend.

If you could know how harassed  
& worried I have been since I  
wrote to you. you would not be  
astonished that you have not  
heard from me. I have had some  
half a dozen friends from the  
country. & different parts. paying  
me visits. which with my  
own visits. which Etiquette &  
society expects me to pay. has

So completely occupied in that  
I have been unable to put pen  
to paper. but you have been  
with me in thought more, oh,  
much more than I tell you  
or you would believe. I only hope  
I may be able to see you by  
May. & then I can tell you how  
worried I have been. My Engage-  
ment is renewed & I am to remain in  
town until the 27<sup>th</sup> Feb. & then  
start to Ireland. Let me by

that of you to believe that I will  
write to you - whenever I can  
find a moment to do so. I want  
no inclination - I only want  
you because I have been so crowded  
with visitors. I need not tell  
you how all this worries me.  
Now I am compelled to put a smile  
on my face. while my head &  
heart are aching. I saw a great  
deal of Mr. Starnes when he  
was in town. I suppose he has

Reached home in safety. I thank  
you earnestly for your lines to me  
they are sweetly pretty & pleased  
me exceedingly. Miss Cook spoke  
very highly of them. She has left  
me for Ingress. I hope your mood  
is better. Pray desire my kindest  
love to her. Write to me when you  
can & will. I as often as you can  
find time. I believe that I shall  
do the same. God bless you. dear  
one. I trust me I am through all  
time yours faithfully Mrs Charles