



I. Clark, 11th St.
New Haven, Feb 22nd

If I confess to the pleasure I feel in receiving
 your nice letter of the 3rd Feb (postmarked 5th)
 will you find therein a proof of the love
 which you ask me to declare. or will the
 Exacting heart of my dear "little love" ask
 for more? Will a friend, young Oliver. Alas
 how can I tell you but in deeds: words are
 so poor, & I have to write so many, that I
 am in truth tired of them. Would you
 desire better proof than that we should
 each have dispatched a letter to the other
 on the self same day? Was not this true
 sympathy? - But "love" mine - how is it
 that the letter which I enclosed for you
 to forward for me upon business to be seen /
 should have been so long in answer & the
 answer forgotten - & my "ardent ardent little
 love" - as she styles herself. should suffer
 on to be all this long while without a word.



Did my note frighten you that you were
making a mistake which you could not
easily subdue? No! Am you ill? I pray
God no. I should indeed be sad! Why then
am I so long without a word of reply to my
letter of the 4th? Or do you think that yours
of the 3rd should bring a response from me
before you write again? I'm a naughty & do not
deserve the comfort which you say you find
in my picture. a naughty picture & I am half
inclined to take it away from you when I
come back again - or else not come back
at all. What would you say to that? At
all events I shall not be with you so soon
as I expected nor before the 8th if at all. Now
if you had written as you ought, my likely
I should have come on the 5th - but every day
you delay. I will stop away longer: Ah! is that
not unkind? No, no. I will come, just - but
not before the 8th April. - You will be glad
to hear that my Successor has been

Very
coming
hotel
so that
faking
Cousin
lived
28th
until
letter
reach
let me
include
stop
Mobile
in the
I dare
in the
until
Lorain
I
had
have
54
boat
in't

Very great. The friend, whom I met in the boat
coming down has been stopping in the same
hotel & has been more than kind & attentive
so that I have now had an opportunity of
feeling lonely - in fact has now been able to
command as much leisure as I should have
liked. I remain here until next Sunday the
28th when I go to Mobile, where I remain
until the 14th March (remember that your
letter takes six days to reach me here & seem to
reach me at Mobile "Battle House" so don't
let me lose any letter you may find time
inclination to send. Most likely I shall
stop here two or three days on my return from
Mobile & then go to Memphis on the 17th. I remain
in Memphis until the 27th. I think I ought to take
3 days for a letter from Louisville to Memphis -
on the 28th I go to Nashville - where I remain
until the 2nd of April - then I believe I go to
Louisville for a night or two, & then on to you.
I should have been very very happy to have
had you with me here - darling. Now please
have been very say & my good friends of the
boat & me - are great friends of your father
W^m & Mrs. Harry Stone of New York - They would

has chaperoned you in all the parties, concerts
opera songs. balls, &c. & I should have had
the comfort of your presence when far from
my morning & evening labours. I am sure you
were very happy. Mean while! I must now
content myself with a three days visit to
Stour. But you will come to Rome! That
is out of faith that you will come. The Stours
are promising to come & we should make
a very merry party. I am glad you are reading
Ruskin's Modern Painters - he is a true prophet
we may use that term of a prose writer
we cannot faithfully read him without
improving. Do you know his Stour of Venice
well? Do you continue to like Tennyson? Tell
me what you like best!

Tuesday 23rd - I have waited, hoping last night
to bring me a line from you - but no! Not my little
niece from the pretty maid, if so. I shall never
hear again. It will. I will hope & believe in
withstanding appearances, which are so cloudy.
Bless you my child. I hope you are not
only joyful. I can easily bear the latter
the former. Believe always in the sincere affections

of your loving friend

Charlotte Tennyson