

I was to hear Mr. Vankey preach yesterday - thought he preached
so good a sermon, prayed so fervently for our "Gible Parish of Elders",
without fear of being interrupted - Oh then I could write down just
exactly what I think and what I feel - I'd almost make you think
I was talking to you my love. But instead of having such a
darling little retreat from ex-
citement and annoyance - I must
sit right down by the fire in the
family, reception, sewing & mussey
room with my portfolio & ink on
my knee (having no convenient table
or stand in the room) folks drop-
ping in occasionally, Mother talking
whenever the woman takes her - In-
ga teasing, questioning, pulling, & pick-
ing at me, wanting a drink, or a
piece or something else, every few
minutes - I cannot think I can-
not feel as if I was talking to you
especially if I feel a little nervous
as I do today & am still more
easily interrupted - Then now

I feel better" - I told you my dan-
ling my troubles in this line & you
can sympathize with me with a
vengeance can't you? "pon Ding -
some mind just wait until we get
to Peoria Ill. or Oshkosh City or Fondulac
Wis" then I'll have a nice cozy room
above stairs - a perfect little nest, all
to my two selves - with a nice shining
wood stove - where I can just revel
amid books - papers - pen & ink - &c -
this is my very beam ideal of happi-
ness here - I wonder if to me now
attainable - I had such an appro-
priate bit of poetry - about the horrors
of dishwashing &c, &c I intended to
send it to you - but forgot where I
put it" - - - But Mitten another
thing that is worrying me more
just now than any thing else is
"where's the money gone?"
I count and recount what has
passed through my hands to be sure

that I've lost none, or more than I should
I am sure I am not extravagant
& yet it slips away - I've had but
two new dresses since you went into
the 97th & they were only gingham -
Diza two cheap ones & another one gingham -
I gave Dr Clark \$400, 1st of October
on interest for six months - the
remainder I reserved to pay off
some old ones - the coal bill, lumber
bill - an old bill at Rainey's & one
to Billy Smith & some others -
when we started to Perm - I had
about \$65 - it cost us \$4-50 to get to
the Clacey House in Wheeling - it being
Fair Time at Washington the train went
up 7 A.M. - so we were detained until
the next morning - costings us \$50 - I
got some stockings & a pair of mittens
on Diza - making \$1,00 - Train bill to
Washington \$300 - to Hickory in a
bird Carriage \$400 - my doctors bill
was \$10-50 - I presented Auntie for her loss
of sleep & trouble with me \$500 & a pair
of gloves, I had to face the money on her
because I thought it was just -
11,75 brought us home, \$2,00 to Dr Hildreth
on his prescription, & 40 cts to have it filled
which I think has been a benefit to me

But do not scold me my darling -
nor don't think hard of me (which
is worse, for I try to be a better money
agent in future if you'll trust me -
This thing of visiting when you my
poor husband are away in the west
I don't believe in - other ladies seem
to enjoy it but I don't - if poor old
Grandmother is living next Summer
I shall try to get Mother to go in,
& if you are not at home, I can get
some girl to stay with me -

I had intended to get Siza & I a
nice winter dress apiece - but I found
the way the money was going I gave
it up - will try to make what I have
do me - if my throat don't get well
I can't go out much in bad weather.
Cousin Ham gave me his Carte de
visite album, so that will release you
a nicely bound little - little would

I could write more, but of the evening about than say this wife & again
please me more when you have an opportunity - I've not seen Farrow since I came home, I think he might call -
Pon Rosy McCulley was in today - she seems better, but I fear her days are few - Mother had been so unwell ever since we came home that I've not commenced my bathing yet, you'd better take care brining me about Brandy appetite - what would you think of a lady going into the Depot Saloon in Bridgport calling for a glass of ale - ?
Write to me always my love just as you feel - it make me feel better to do so - I am sure it does you - I don't want you to make an effort to write cheerfully when you feel otherwise - the boys are writing home from the 16th about being in half nations & so on - it sounds hard & we pity & wish we could do much more
God guard thee my Milton & your own Rhoda



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