

Wheatland. Tuesday.  
Nov 4<sup>th</sup> 1856.

My dear Lily,

Mrs Plitt has insulted me on your behalf & I really feel as if I deserved it-- at least so far as appearances are concerned. But as I hereby ask pardon, confess any sin, & promise to do better in future, I know you will forgive me. -- Seriously, dear Lily, you are not the only one that has cause of complaint against me this summer. I have been obliged to give up my correspondence almost entirely – so many & varied have been my duties occupations & demands upon time for the last six months I cannot tell you how I rejoice that this day ends our anxieties & at least, so far as human foresight extends, gives us a settled future. What an exciting campaign it has been! It has called to action all the noble & true of our glorious country & no matter what may be the result there will be proud satisfaction in the knowledge of what true, hearted, noble & devoted men have fought with us in this struggle. I have no fears of the result I think “right must prevail.” It makes me shudder to hear of the frauds & corruption against us.

Mrs Plitt is still with me but talks of returning to Phila this week. I have so thoroughly enjoyed her visit & wish I could keep her always with me & almost believe my claim to be as good as her husbands. What would he say to that?

Uncle is very well & as calm as if his fate was not being decided to day. You will know a great deal, probably the final result, before this reaches you -- & I know dear Lily what a fever of excitement you are in -- I would love to see you. You are quite distinguished as a political writer & I think you should have written more. I must thank you for Robert Eden's pathetic adieu to his “dark” red moustache.” You cannot disguise your writing so that I would not recognize it. We have had Eskridge with us for a few days. He is going about now, but obliged to use a crutch & cane. He has truly had a tedious time, but has born it with great patience. He was very much gratified with your kind message to him. I am sorry the summer has past dear Lily without my getting to Torrisdale -- but I have been literally tied down at home all the summer I shall be delighted if I even have a free foot again.

Emily Schaumburg has been visiting Lancaster. She & her father staid with the Porters' & they honored us with a visit. The gentlemen all admired her beauty. She is pretty, I think, & very stylish. What think you of Col. Pleasonton's engagement? I feel very sorry for his poor children -- Addy particularly. I hear the fair widow has a large family of her own. I think your father ought to follow his example, as it would be a nice amusement for you to play with the children. Mrs. Plitt thinks you would make such a good nurse to your father's step children. I hear Mary Neil paid you a visit some time ago. I fear I am entirely out of her good looks as I have not been able to write her for months.

Mrs. Plitt sends her love & says she has no excitement here & the quiet of Wheatland has made her so handsome that you will scarcely know her -- she thinks of having Brown to paint her miniature. I shall send you some campaign music by Mrs. Plitt & expect to hear it played with great brilliancy when we meet.



My love to your father & say to him how delighted I am to hear how active he has bee -- we needed good men. Mr. Buchanan sends his kind remembrances -- we often talk of your great activity on the campaign. You should have reported your speech made on the Torrisdale [sic] wharf.

Yours affectionately  
H. Lane.

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