

Emsworth, Penna.

Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> 1883.

My Dear Cousin.

I will now improve the opportunity by answering your letter. I have been away most of the time since I heard from you. was with sister Mollie for nearly two weeks. came home last Thursday found sister Sallie very sick with pneumonia. and Hattie just getting over an attack of the same. so you may imagine how blue I felt. When Bro Chas came home he handed me a letter and a package sent by express. the letter contained good news. but I must tell you

almost seven (7) years ago Coz Milt Ballard made us a visit, we were all in the parlor one evening having a good time when Milt said Ada, I will bet you a silk dress to a new hat that you will be married before five years. Although it is not nice to bet, I knew I would be safe in taking Milt at his word, as I did, and I wish you could have been here Thursday and enjoyed the thing as much as I did. When of course I won the bet. When Charlie gave me the box, I opened it and what do you suppose I found. Well I found the cutest thing I ever saw. A Cardinal silk Loll's dress. made with a long train and trimmed with

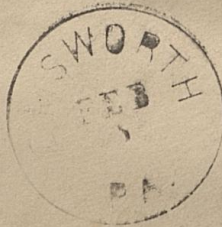
white lace. I am going to get a doll when I go to town. I will call it - Roberta Millicent - Gills name is Robert Milton. Well we all enjoyed the joke, and I guess we all felt <sup>the</sup> better of a good laugh.

We had a letter from Geo. W. Martin stating that a Mr. Thomas a friend expected to come to Pico and would give us a call, but we have not seen him as yet. perhaps Jimmie's knows him.

I must close as I have some more writing to do.

Yours with love,

Cousin Ada.



Miss Lida Lunder  
Hollidaysburg  
Penna



for either  
we don't think  
so. I know he  
was so glad. I do not care for referring  
as I need to. I guess I began too young.  
I am a regular old maid to what I used  
to be. or something in the matter if I was not  
so wicked I should it was religion, such answer your letter soon and I will endeavor  
it was. but perhaps I'm in love. (Chi) to do so as I was very much pleased to hear  
I am glad you did not send E's letters. so much news, though was sad, poor Addie  
for I should then have thought you as is some hard to die so young, I always  
much a sinner as myself. I let set on you thought Willie so very handsome, I remember  
Poor Mother is childless now (I must but little about Albert Foster only one child  
write her for I know she is home soon) as even used to think he looked like Pookie L.  
Mill is going to spend the summer with I remember Sailor, I always hated him, but  
sister Emma. had a long letter from her would give two cents and a fish hook to see  
she had the dandy snuff. I don't you Mr John Boote Coy. yet I remember  
for get it. Samuel Dickson H. I wonder if he driv

I will tell Mill & Charlie what you are makes now. tell Jimmie to give my  
said about these features. I have tried (love) to all the boys and tell them I  
my best to get, then to for a long time. am single yet. "just to think I will be  
Charlie is in Rock Island this week twenty two my next birth day. and Ada  
getting a dandy suit. he spends to much I want to tell you a secret I found her

Edward  
Perry Co.  
Rocky M.

Olney Illinois  
May 6<sup>th</sup> 1883.

Dear little friend,  
Ada - You wanted me to  
to do so as I was very much pleased to hear  
is some hard to die so young, I always  
thought Willie so very handsome, I remember  
but little about Albert Foster only one child  
even used to think he looked like Pookie L.  
I remember Sailor, I always hated him, but  
would give two cents and a fish hook to see  
Mr John Boote Coy. yet I remember  
Samuel Dickson H. I wonder if he driv

I'll Honey I am going to give you a small surprise party, I have left my home in Sheffield and taken up my abode in the lovely village of Chiswood it is about fifty miles from home I made up my mind in five minutes to come which is just like me, and when I look back 6 years ago when in the City surrounded with every luxury wealth & kind friends can supply. & conspire it with my pleasant situation I have no desire to exchange for I am now independent. & through independence alone come content. I will try to tell you how happy I am. There are six in family with me. we live on a farm "one of the loveliest spots on earth." about 1/2 mile from town the house is very roomy and altogether just ~~best~~, there is music & flowers & light & quiet. & long avenues of shade trees. filled with thousands of birds

of all colors, sizes & shapes, a few of which have been stuffed and are in the sitting room last but not least such reading the nice list poems. & most romantic novels. I even laid eyes on. & I have the privilege of reading all I wish to. for these people are Christians & expect to treat me as they should like to be treated. They have two nice little boys & one hired man. They have all gone to church as they always do I am alone, I love to be so. I have not been to church yet it is most four weeks since I came. I took a short ride down town last Sunday eve. I did not expect to go after I was here I met my dear Fanny Martha came & is living on the next farm from here. I am going over to see her today for her home is not so pleasant as I am afraid she will get home very sick. so I had to decline an invitation to go to Yales City for a buggy ride, I had an invitation to do to a sociable about three miles from here, but it rained and

Home, May. 27-83.

My Dear Coz.

Have you quite forgotten that I still live in Censworth or perhaps like myself you have been busy. How do you propose spending Decoration Day. We are going to have a game of Ball. which I expect to witness. since my ~~...~~ is going to play. I am going to have company to Tea and spend the eve.

Wish you could be here  
as I know you would  
have a good time, as  
some of my Lady friends  
are very jolly. Bro Letas,  
was down the river for  
six weeks. Has just come  
home, and I tell you  
we are glad to have him.  
It seems more like living.  
How is Coz Jim?

Love to all

Cousin Ada.

Write soon.





Cousin

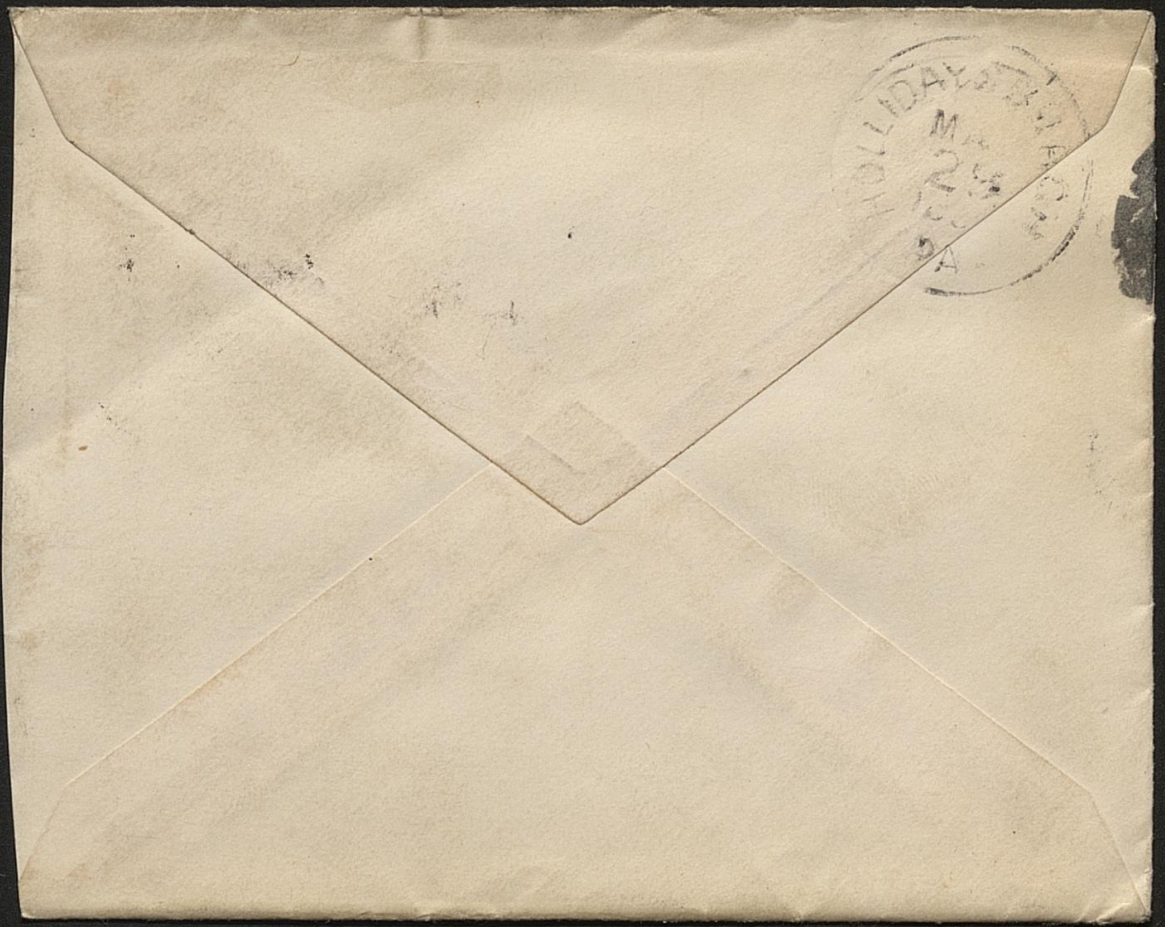


Miss Ada Lundew.

Hollidaysburg.

Blair Co.

Penna.



I see I have again this letter  
left handed so you will have  
to commence here to read right through

Sheffield Ill.

Dec 30, 1883

Dear Little Friend,

I know you think me a  
regular "laxter", but most of my  
friends do well to hear from  
me once a year.

Ada I never received an answer  
to my letter, I waited all summer  
and finally thought I would send  
Charles picture to wake you up.  
now I should like to know who  
is real mean. I don't believe you  
would have written me any more  
only that postage fell. Now.

I came home from Elmwood  
two weeks ago. I had just the day

two before I came home I visited  
two weeks - because they had a new  
single preacher, I tried to make  
a smash there but he recint any  
good for he writes & shut letters  
to the girl he left behind him.

however we are the best of friends  
he addressed me thusly "Hello, sis-  
ter, Angie" say Honey what kind  
of a preachers wife do you think  
I would make any way. Sheffield  
has a young preacher I just <sup>was</sup> home  
in time to attend his wedding recep-  
tion. his wife is as homely as a  
mud fence. He says she is awful  
good. I presume he thinks so.

You just bet I will say a good  
word for you. should be proud  
of such a neat little sister but  
you are so far away & he does

so dislike to write, he would like very much to see you all we were just wishing today we could get up a reunion of all the Homestead scholars who attended at Gettysburg, or as many as could come, we think Chas is a darling and would like to keep him home always

My older brother Ed, has been traveling through the west this summer he bought 160 acres of improved land & took up an eighty in Nebraska, he gives glowing accounts of the country.

There is just the dandy skating rink in town, for roller skates you know & I have learned to skate just to see. I have been to the

club every night so far, the club meets once a week, charge 10 cts for admittance & 15, for skates (which of course the boys pay) the rink is open every night from seven to ten then only one can go, but the club might as one can come in but the members. some of the girls are going to Kewanee, Christmastnight to their new skating rink & from there to a dance I shall not go. Millie & friend Martha are going.

There is a new store in town & I am trying to smash the clerk have made three smashes since I came home, wouldnt give the cents for them all, it is fearful stupid here & I am getting old so fast. - Oh, what shall I do - <sup>next</sup>

I did not intend to write you  
so long a letter I guess you will  
have a picnic trying to read it  
the pencil is blunter than Old  
Ethel's nose.

I cannot think of any more  
to write this time with I  
could send you about five dol-  
lars worth of Christmas presents  
but my wealth is somewhat  
limited, on account of the fail-  
ure of the corn crop - ah -

So wishing you a merry Christ-  
mas and a truly happy New  
Year. I am your old friend  
Bob.

My wish is attended to the  
boys are they with thee.

now winds down like me  
and give me all the news