

To: Rhoda Evans
Penick, Ky.
Jan. 3, 1900

From man in
Leipsic, Ohio

Peterson and Sweazy

Dealers in

General Merchandise

6 P.M.

Texas Ky. Sun night

Dear girl. this has been the longest
day I ever spent. I didnt get through
work untill 6 P.M. last night. I tried to
get a change of clothes sent to Springfield to me
but failed. but say I sure wish I had
come the way I was. for I have been
crazy all day. my mind has been on you
all day. and I also thought of you the
most of last night. and dont feel like I
will sleep very good to night. sweetheart
you may think me a flirt. but I will say
truly every word I say or write you is
true and from my heart. for baby I love
you. you are the only girl I ever loved.
I thought I had been in love before. but I
now see very plain plaine it was a mistake.
I am very lonesome to see you rite now
I would give anything to see baby guess
your wife think me crazy. so I am
for the love of you I god knows
I love you girl I love you

Peterson and Sweazy

Dealers in

General Merchandise

Texas Ky.

This supper is to be at his ^{one home} and are very nice people
say Mr Joe Bishop of Springfield
a tobacco man came to me Sat and asked me to a turkey
supper one night this wk. I asked him if I
could bring my girl. he said sure that would
make the supper that much better. so if you
will come I will come in the auto after
you and take you back the same way
the same night safe. for you no I am
a pure boy. did you say yes I will come.
I hope so any way. whos baby doll are you.
saw Lee to day. said he saw you yesterday.
will tell you what he said when I see
you. two of the grand children over to eight.
so Mather is now picking corn. wish you were
here. to help eat it. then maybe I would
get a nice sweet fat mory kiss. I sure ^{would} enjoy
a fur from you. for you are the ^{prettiest} girl ^{ever} knew. what do you think of that. ^{excuse the display} that
one of the kids hit my arm and made that. and it
made me very mad. as I would hate to write this
page over again. I will get this off on morning
mail so you will get this in time to ans tomorrow. that Monday
the mail leaves there 8:45 tomorrow aft noon. so will look
for a letter tomorrow night in Springfield. please write a
long letter and tell me how you are and if you still love me
always remember I love you and only you. your boy will.

Don't you think this is a crazy letter, but it is true,
Good night and may God bless you my Dear.
& love you. Will. Love you and
you know it to

Good night with a
you know what kind of a
JK

Myself a long long while ago. You have several
of me which I can't show but I have only one which
you gave me. Now please send me one of pressed
and I will send you one of mine just as soon
as I get them. I hear good for Alice in article.
He has promised to come and visit me this summer.
Better come along with him. Give my regards to all the
Home Folks and please up Rustie and tell him nobody
go me. Now be careful and don't let those Ky. boys
too hard for I want some of it my self. Thank of
"Get" me in article and remember he has a corner of
his heart for you. Write real soon and don't forget the
picture. This is a poor excuse of a letter but I will
promise to do better next time. With love I am

Leopold D. 5-27-00. As ever your sincere friend
Geo. P. D.

My Dear Rhoda: I do not want
you to think that I have neglected
writing to you because I had
taken offense at your previous
neglect of me; for such is not
the case at all. I have intended
answering your last letter all the
time but a thousand and one
things have prevented me from
doing so. I'll tell you what I
will do. We will call it square
now. It is a horse a piece. We
have both neglected each other and
now let us try and do better in
the future. Yes Rhoda I truly

"The Club"

forget you the moment you asked for
for I had nothing against you. I thought
it was all the other way. I admit your
frankness in the matter and want to say
once for all that I always have and always
will consider myself your friend - most certainly
as long as you wish it. I am awfully busy
just at present and have been so some
time. Have too many cares in the fire I
guess. Bro. Hunt did not take that trip South.
I had the honor of going myself. I wanted
to stop in at Lebanon for a few days but it
was impossible. So may be get so far coming

and going it was night both
ways so I did not see any
one I knew. It is possible I
will pass through there about
next Wednesday - June the 6th. As
I intend going to Alabama next
week. Will leave here the 5th.
Will stop at Lebanon a few days
if I can get a permit on my
ticket. I will get a ticket through to
Mobile on account of rates you know.
& through ticket is so much cheaper.
You asked me if I had any late
pictures of myself. I had some taken
just a week ago but have not
got them yet. When I do I will
let you have one providing you
send me one of yourself. You never
gave me that picture you owed
me yet. You promised me one of

Thursday June 5.
Dear Papa:-

Was so glad to get
your letter yesterday the
first we had had for
several weeks, sorry to hear
of Mr Brown's death.

Tell mother not to fix up
one thing for those Louisville
girls, we are going to try to
get home a few weeks be-
fore they come, has she got
the new matting down in
the dining room? tell her to
get a good rest and you
all take good care of
your self. We are having
such a good time. "We don't

care if we never get back," ha, ha,
We are going to Covington next
Tuesday, and think we will be
at home about the last of
July. We have been out to
Linden-wood Park today with
Mrs. Sturm, Mrs. Leifer, May Sturm
Cousin Jule, Rhoda and I had
a good time played cards and
rested as we were all very
tired after the 4 of July.
What did you all do?
The people began to shoot all
kinds of fire works, pistols and
every thing of the kind the
evening before, Cousin Edd,
May, Rhoda and I went out
to the fair grounds in afternoon.

and when we made a transfer we had to go down to the depot where the cars all turn, then it was almost impossible, the groves are about eight miles from the city and the car that we went out on had one hundred and five on board the crowd at the groves numbered about seventy five thousand. They had several trots and when the horses would come round every man and boy had a revolver that shot not less than five times would shoot blank loads and it was something terrible to hear and the smoke was almost suffocating

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but the principal excitement
and the one that drew the
crowd was a locomotive colle-
sion, the men took two old
engines fixed them up
and started them on a
half mile track that had
put down temporarily and
then jumped off. my!
what a smash up it did
make. then they had a balloon
ascention no good, then a
rush for another car (which
we were very fortunate to
get on) took us to New Bedford
to see the bicycle races,
began at eight, had
eleven races.

5.

six boys entered the first heat, the boy in front struck the curb and he went over six times but got up all 'ok', the track is made of cills three inches thick, set up on edge and is built in an oval shape, one quarter of a mile around, they had several tandem races, but the champion boy on a "bike" was a Mr Kimble of Louisville Ky. and how I did cheer every time he would appear, but what do you think, they tried the speed of a motorcycle (a tandem run by electricity and two boys)

e

went one mile in 43 seconds
and five miles in six minutes
and a quarter, if anything
had of hapened to them or
the motorcycle, to cause
them to fall they would of
been mashed into jelly,
and I almost held my breath
but they got two hundred
apiece, and there was more
shooting than ever, but we
got back all o'k.

We went over to Mr Fernes in
east tenth street last week
to play croquet and eat
cherries there are four boys
and one girl, I got struck
on the youngest boy fifteen

2

I believe, now laugh, but he
calls most any time and I
have lots of fun with him
They are English people and
all very dignified but
Edgerton and then he is
a kid too my darling. Had
a nice letter from Frank Limer
today, he is in Mich. but
he is no kid think he is
about twenty five and
you will see his picture
when I come home as I have
only three at present,
expect you had better send
my old trunk up so I
may be able to get his
letters and pictures home

8.

We took tea at Jane's
grandmothers on Senate
Square, last Tuesday evening.
had such a good time
went to the Parsonage to
see the boys drill. There was
quite a little crowd of us.
Cousin Fred, Jule, Cousin Albert
Alice, Cousin Edd, May, Ben
Rhoda and I, and I we
enjoyed ^{it} so much. We took
dinner with Cousin May Tues.
Mrs. Weaver and sister from
Atlanta Georgia, was there
also. We met people from
all over the U. S. Rhoda has
a caller tonight a swell
boy (friend of Fresh timers) from

planning a week ahead. We will
leave here next Tuesday leave
here & in the afternoon get off at
Layton. Take good care of
yourself. Good bye.

Hurrieadly Rhoda

July 6. 1900.

Write to us often

Here is Lizzy's Terseyhauwte boy
picture I will slip it in
here I think she has a
half dozen any way.

Rhoda

INDIANAPOLIS, IND
JUN 28 11:30 AM 900


Dr. J. B. Evans.

Pericks

Marion Co,

Ky.

shall always be as long as it is in my
power. I came back sooner than I intended.
Now telegraphed me to come so I had to drop
every thing and go. I wore my suit with
Winton but did not get to attend to some
other business down there that demands our
attention. One of us will have to go back
in a month or so and will in all probability
be in Lebanon for a day or so. Maybe more.
Rhoda, believe me, I am pleased as much as you at
the present condition of our affairs and hope that there
is a mistake that can be righted. Would be pleased
to hear from you at your convenience with best wishes
and regards to all. I am sincerely yours Geo. Bassett


Miss Rhoda Evans
Kinick, Ky.

My Dear Friend Rhoda It was quite
an agreeable surprise I assure you
to receive a letter from you once
more. I did not get home till
Friday P.M. Stopped over night in
Cincinnati. So I received your
letter the day after I got home.
I had given up ever hearing
from you again. You say we

Leipsic, Ohio
Feb. 20th 1890

"have been friends a long long time my why
cant we still be"? Noda I have always
considered myself your friend and also a
friend of all the Evans' family. I can say
always that I never enjoyed better
hospitality or felt more welcome at any
friend's house than at Mr. Evans. I
always looked forward to having a good
time when I anticipated going there. And
when I intended making a visit to N.Y.
I wrote to you and told you of the fact

but got no answer. I wrote you
again merely saying "Howdy & Good Bye"
and said I would soon be in
N.Y. but still no answer. Now
honestly & truly do you think
I could feel welcome under
those circumstances? I took
your silence for just what
I thought it meant. Of course
I do not know whether it
was intentional or not. I had
no way of finding out. If
you can explain your apparent
coldness it would be greatly
appreciated by me. I certainly
want to be your friend and

Indianapolis Ind. July 10. 1900.

Dear Homefolks

We have our trunk packed to go to Layton our train leaves here at 4.10 this afternoon. Lizzie & I were at the Depot last evening to see about sending our trunk & what train to take. Mother we didn't have any trouble packing our trunk it don't seem to be so full put so many things in our Trunks. We had a white lady to laundry our clothes and I wish you could have seen them our tucked waists are beautiful. Saturday Lizzie and

I both were ² asleep and by three
Overstreet came we were so glad to
see him the first familiar face
since we left home except Jane
& Cousin Julia. but I feel like I have
known these people always. Mr
Overstreet stayed until late in the
afternoon we took a car ride down
& over the City got some soda & come
home Sunday morning we got up
at 5 O'clock Cousin Alice & Albert & the
children Lizzie & I took the train &
went to Ben Davis Station to Cousin
Freds we had such a good dinner
fresh vegetables & raspberries we took
the train just after dinner come
back to the City took a car & went

"Fair View Park" had a grand time out there but it was a little chilly Frank & I came back with Mr. Lizzie & I went down in the City yesterday just after dinner - first gave in the N. Y. store, went up to the Blind Asylum but it was closed stopped by the City park & watched a new Fire Engine then went to the State House & went up in the tower then to the Depot and as we come back we ran up on No Overstreet he treated us to ice cream & soda, then we took a car & came home. Last night was our last night here had several callers Lizzie Preglough Ethel Watson Annie

and Fittie Coulin and Mrs Dr Plamo
at. I dont know how long it will
be before we come ^{home}. I suppose it will
take us three or four weeks to get
around they want us to come back
by here when we go home but I
dont guess we will. Had a letter
from Susie yesterday. I hate to leave
here for we have been having such
a grand time we have \$2,000 or some
change yet havent spent much here.
They are all rushing around here fixing
for dinner they are all going to the
Depot with us I dont think we will
miss it for Lizzie & I have been dressed
since nine this morning write to us at
Layton With much love to you all. Rhoda

DANVILLE, ILL.
AUG 17. 11 30 AM 1900



Mr J. F. Evans
Pericks.

Marion Co.

Ky.

Friday Aug. 17.

My dear Papa:-

We are coming home
at last. Will leave there
Monday 20th at three o'clock
get to Indianapolis at six
in evening, then go to Cousin
Jules and wait for a 3 train
get to Louisville about seven
then we will get to
Pericks Tuesday 21, on
the noon train.

They have been begging us
awfully hard to stay one
more week but, the girls
from Louisville are come-
ing home the 24, and I
know I must be at
home. Don't let mother

do one thing extra, for,
that is why we are coming
as soon as we do. We are
both real well, and will
be ready to stay at home
when we get there. •
This has been the most
pleasant summer of my
life. We have enjoyed
it from the beginning
to end. Mrs Schmitt enter-
tained us last week, will
send you a paper. Read it
to Susie & Lallie over the
phone. We went out to
Lincoln Park yesterday
afternoon to hear "Sam
Jones." he is a wonderful
man, such a crowd,
after we got home we

had two boy callers and one
 girl, then after tea we
 had five boy and two
 girl callers, it is so funny
 how the boys and girls
 rave over us, but if I do
 say it myself it is true.
 Yes, we try to watch our
 selves and act perfect
 ladies all the time. We
 could not act otherwise
 when we have such darling
 parents as we have. Rhoda
 is pressing her dresses, we
 will have to call all
 afternoon. Mrs Benjamin
 will entertain us Saturday
 evening. Now be good until we
 see you. Rhoda sends love
 to you, and so does
 "over" Elizabeth.

I havent time to write this
morning but will talk you
to death when I get home
I have seven letters &
four postals to write this
morning & one call to make
this afternoon and a date
with two boys this eve-
ning. So I will "ring off"

Your daughter
with much love Rhode

Cousin Harvey & Cathy send
their love Look for us
Tuesday the 21.

Much bad luck that I am nearly disem-
aged. Every dog has its day though and
when mine comes I will certainly elaborate
to a "raggle!" I suppose you girls are
having a great time. Nothing to do but love
the boys. I have had tonight for a cruise
days outing at Pukim Bay and Cedar Point.
will also stop at Middle Bass, Castalia and
Sandusky. Be a "good" girl and don't lose your
heart to some of those Id. boys. Br. sends his
regards to you both. Write real soon and let
me know your plans. Will try and do better
next time my self. Remember me to Beth with
love I am sincerely yours with out a struggle - Bert.

Lupine Ohio. 8/15/100.

Dear Rhoda: I was very much
pleased indeed to receive your
card this a.m. No doubt you
think I have been very, very
negligent but when you hear
the cause I hope you will
think better of me. Our place
of business was destroyed by
fire on the 6th ult; and as we
kept bachelor hall over the
store naturally all our private
belongings were burnt. I could
not find your address and had
no way ascertaining where you

were. So you see I could not write to you at all. The fire started at 3 P.M. and Brother & I did not have time to save any thing scarcely at all. The fire and smoke was pouring in the open windows when we awoke up. So you see we are homeless now. I was taken sick about two weeks after the fire and Brother took me to "Green Springs" for treatment. We came back last Saturday very much improved in health but I am not as strong as I should be. We are getting our business matters straightened up so we can get out of here. We intend

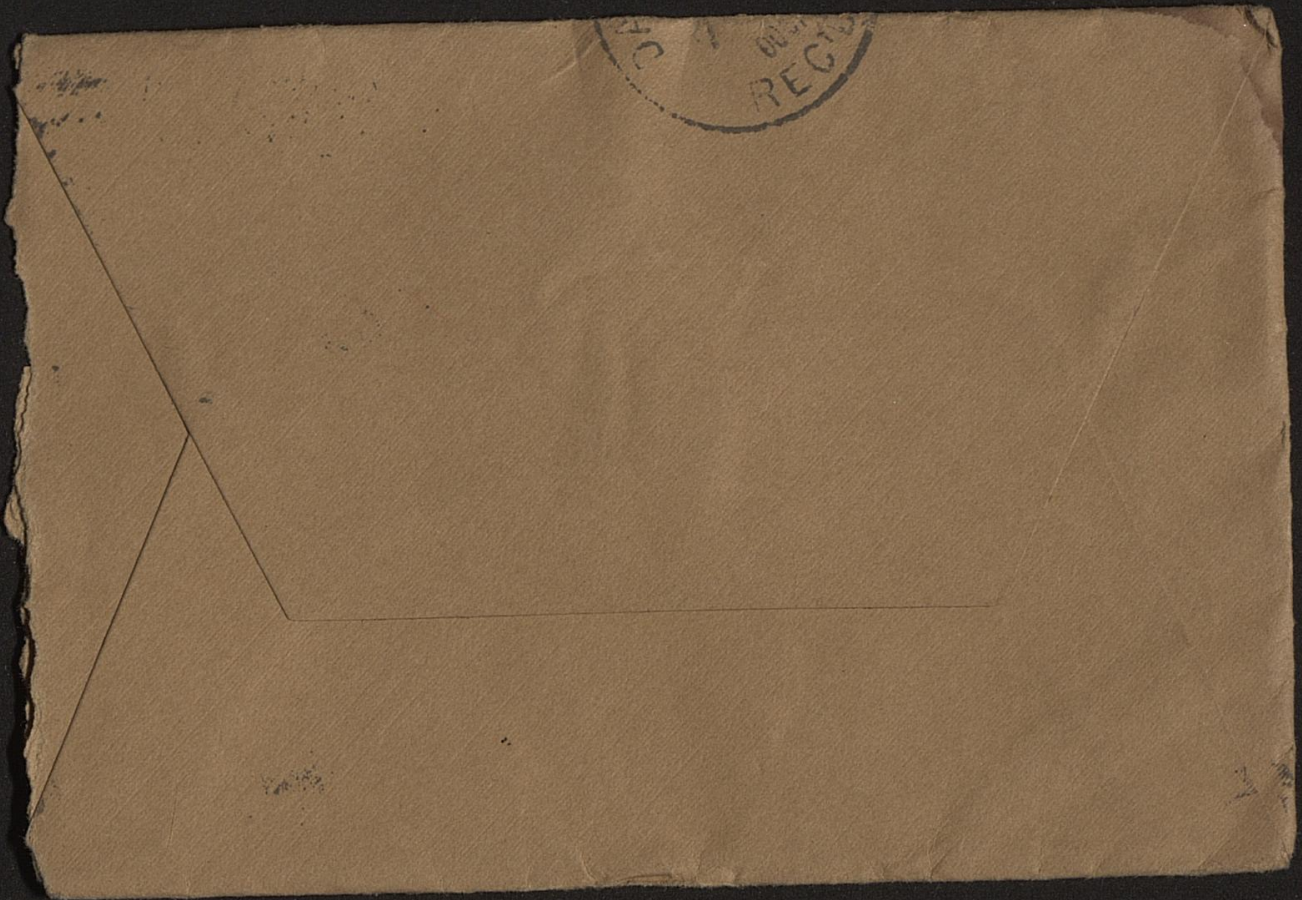
to locate in Georgia for awhile now. When do you expect to be "at home"? Brother & I are going to stop in Kentucky on a short visit on our way to Georgia so you had better be down there to give us a welcome. We expect to leave Ohio about the 25th inst. Want to be in time for the Lebanon Fair also the Bardston Fair. We have been having some very hot weather here lately. Too warm to enjoy eating. I think you might have written me a few lines at least instead of that card. I have been having 000

W. R. 402
Lipsic Ohio

LEIPSIK
11 AM
15
AUG
1900
OHIO

Miss Rhoda Evans
#403 North Walnut St.
Danville, Ill.

1895
1900



man here either on tonight's train or
in the morning early. Nabe been hatching
up a deal with him for some time now
and he wrote me a few days ago that
he would leave Toledo Saturday night
at 11³⁵ for here. Will be glad when
he is gone for I do not think he wants
to trade a little bit. Says I want too
much boot; but I will telegraph him when
I sell for any less than I have offered.

10-28-00
Sunday 8:30 P.M.
My Dear Rhoda -
Your bright thought of
Friday eve reached their right
destination but I have been in the
habit of writing to you on Sunday eve since
my arrival here in the mountains and
as long as you do not do any "worse" than
you have been I shall try to keep in
the habit. You see all habits are
not necessarily bad ones. Some
glad you liked the pictures
I sent you. Among
the future ones
you are
able

to receive will probably be some from
Chickamauga Park and Lookout Mountain
as a crowd of us are going there for
the express purpose of taking pictures
He real soon. So Roy is going to try his
hand at the business is he? I expect
we will have all kinds of trouble. Was
out chestnutting last week and brought
home all kinds of nuts. Went out on
my own timber land and got just about

the trees down that we
thought had too many on.
There are lots here this year.
Great big ones too. Am going
again some day this week.
Have hatched up some devilment
for the 31st - Halloween night you
know. We are all invited to
a swell party that night but
us "plotters" are going to move
the whole town up on top of a
mountain here after the party
breaks up. Got it all cut and
dried. Am expecting an Ohio

but you know his is a different nature
Well reckon there will be a fight on
hands when I come to N.Y. again if I do not
get to take my barbing away with me.
Just you wait and see. You asked me if I
loved you so much as I pretended. Sweetheart
I've never will find out how much I really
love you until you give me the privilege to
prove it. Only give me time and I will make
you know I do. No dear I do not think I am
"second" when you write me such long sweet letters
as this last one I got. Well I must stop & write real
soon. Have so very much better with lots of love I am your dear

Now see here. You are hitting
a fellow when he's down. That
is not fair one bit. As far
as me saying what I did in
regard to the "expensive piece
of furniture" I have to admit
saying something of the kind;
but my dear does that apply
to you? I sincerely hope the
shoe does not fit my sweetheart.
I was not aware that it did.
You have deceived me very nicely
if such a thing could be true!
I certainly would not get tired

up to a stationary article like a piece
of furniture whether expensive or not. I
knew it. In the choice of my lot, had got
to be affectionate, lovable, passionate, amiable,
of a sweet disposition, a lover of home and the
privileges and duties of married life, and
last but not least, of a disposition that
will forgive and be forgiven. That may
be saying a whole lot, but it is my ideal.
I am not looking for an angel for I love to
enjoy the privileges of life too much. Now
my dear what is your ideal? Am I any

thing at all like the man you
would like me to be? Tell me
sweetheart. Describe him to me.
I am sure you are what I
would like to have you be.
I too, - like Sid-G, - thought you
had a "heart of stone" but I
know better now. You talked so
sweet to me in your letter I got
this morning. But dearest you
won't belong to "Papa" after Feb. 12th
will you? You see that is only
3 mo. and 15 days from today. I had
began to "swell up" thinking you had
given me a claim upon you above
all others but my feathers are all
down again. I know "Papa" has a
Prior claim and always will have

I have a great deal more to live for
than I did in the past and I think
it will be a great help to me in my
struggles down here to make both money.
Did not see you and "Bess" at Buck or
Elley when we passed through. Looked awful
hard and it is needless to say that I
was a little bit disappointed at not seeing
you. But this world is made up of
disappointments &c. I guess and I noticed
that it is usually my lot to get my
full share. This Berg is a lonesome

Ruggold, Ga. 11/2/00.

My Dear Goda: Well how you was
any way? I feel just about like
a load of pig-iron in a baby
carriage on Sunday with the mercury
at thirty in the shade. Dave
says he feels like four cents
worth of dog-sweat. Never had
that feeling myself so can not
vouch for the meaning. He acts
a little bit queer tho so I expect
something is wrong. He looks like
a street car with one end knocked

out strolling up a back alley on a moon
light night in March. A little bit late sick
you know. Oh! but that is a terrible
feeling. I know something of the way he
feels you know by my own feelings. I
we experienced one half the keen regret
and unwillingness to leave N.Y. that I did,
I can readily understand why he looks
so forlorn. I had just began to understand
you and to know how to take you and
then I had to leave. It was a great
deal harder than you have any idea
of and I do not believe that you

will miss me near as much
as I will you. You may think
because I try to "jolly" you at
times that I am never in
earnest but such is not the
case for I never was in a
more serious frame of mind
than the last night or two
I was with you. I hope
you regarded the matter in
the same light I did and that
you will never have cause
to regret the way you took
the matter and the outlook for
the future. I know I am
very proud to say that

and get the materials to do the work
with myself. I intend to make a dark
room and be my own photographer. I
enclose a proof of our picture taken Sunday.
I think it is quite good. Was told that
we both look very love sick. The rest
were O.K. too. I left them with Miller
with instructions to hold them for orders
from any one who wants one. I want
copies of them myself. Have found

out where my sister Ora
has disappeared to. She is in
San Francisco, California. Has been
there for some time past. Hope
she is enjoying herself thinking
that her brothers do not know
her whereabouts. Hope and I
expect to go over to Chattanooga
tomorrow and celebrate a little.
I do not mean as Kentuckians
do but as Ohioans. Hope I shall
feel a whole lot better afterward
for I am slightly depressed at
present writing. Well I must

stop for awhile, that is till next writing,
so be good and think of me now in
awhile. Write me a long letter real
soon for I shall expect me every
mail till it comes. Regards to Gus
and enquiring friends. With love
and lovingly yours,
Ed.

Russell Co.

Catonsville Co.

place and I can hardly
believe that I am destined to
make it my home for the next
two years. Think I will back
out yet and go some where else.
We got here this A.M. at about
seven o'clock and went out to
the timber land before dinner.
It is a beautiful day but rather
awarm. The scenery here is
simply grand. I intend to take
a great many pictures just as
soon as I get settled down

I must have said it in a very odd way too, from appearances. But such is life. Every case has its thorns and must be handled with care or the dickens is to pay. The fiddler was to get his pay from some source, or I presume I may as well say him as I go along then there is no back account against me. So you have come to the conclusion that you "will not be roped in" for some time to come? Who has staked on your

Ringgold, Ga. 11-5-1900

My Dear Rhoda —

Well you missed connections this time somewhere as I did not get your letter on Sunday till, as usual. It came this morning, a little bit behind time to be sure, but never-the-less with a full welcome from its present proprietor. I do not know whether

I am so dull or slow of comprehension
that I could not gather the full meaning
of your bright and intellectual thoughts
do not; but I have read and reread your
letter and I am now at a loss to know
how to answer it. "I guess it will hold
me for awhile" at least. I will be good
and not say anything more for I might
be sorry if I wrote you another letter like
the last one. Would not have asked you

such impertinent questions
if I thought you had the
opinion and heart-rendering
thoughts you have. I most
humbly and sincerely ask your
most graciously and forgiving
pardon. Of course I might have
known that no two persons thought
alike if I had but taken a
second thought. But no; I was
so wrapped up in what I was
doing that I had but one thought
and therefore expressed it in
the quickest way I knew how.

Will share them if you (if the Kelley is
elected) But you know. Say, why is a man
who dyes wool on lambs like a "Bygone Crator"?
One is a "Lamb dyer" and the other is a !!!!
We are having cooler weather here now. Think
there will be a heavy frost. Nov. 6th - to the brunette.
And a warm time Fall - even might show all the
devilment we could. Reason till nearly four o'clock.
Will know all about that trade by Thursday. If
we make it we will go back to Ohio. Will have
those quarter buckles for you soon as I have the address
of a firm who makes them. Nov. 10th. It is in Chicago.
I will see the election news day with love from your own. Oh!

corns now? Do you have those
"solemn-choly" feelings very often?
Well if you don't, you won't, I
reckon. Too bad about you
wanting to be free for awhile.
Just as if you are not now.
(As far as being tied at home is concern-
ed - I know nothing of your ties elsewhere)
I have been on the free list
some little time. Might term it
"free for all" - I expect and strike
it dearer. I tried my best to
tell you in my other letter that
- I would not compare you

with a piece of furniture for the girl I
loved was not a stationary object to
be shoved around at will. Did you read
it over the second time? Guess every
thing I must have said in that
letter was claffy. It must be this red
paper has a great deal to do with it.
Think I will cut it out and write on
green paper for awhile. But you think
it would be appropriate. My! what strong
language you can use when necessary.

You need not get alarmed
on account of those side-burns
my dear for you will never
get to see them if I can
help it, and I guess I can.
Got to be a little bit sporty
you know; so pardon my
new addition on my wing.
They are growing so lovely and
nice that it would be a sin
to chop them off so soon. Will
refrain from sending you any
more of my pictures if they
affect you in such a manner.