

My Dear Ell

I know you will be surpris'd at receiving a letter from me I receiv'd your sweet letter yesterday evening and feeling well enough this beautiful morning to answer it I have been feeling about as well as I ^{my} genital health is in the spring I have seen all my children since I returned Whittell is looking thinner than I ever saw him he was very sick while I was down the country Dan has been sick confin'd to his room for the last week hope he will soon be well enough to get about again I often think of your pretty sweet flowers and

how I would enjoy them ~~when~~
had a long dry spell the ground
was been so hard and dry the farmers
could not plow they were anxious
to see rain yesterday had a real
rain since Somerville was telling
us that Doc Cook would soon
leave Warrinton he was going to
Durham I often think of you
all and what a pleasant time we
had down with you all give my
love to Betty & Johnie I am glad to
hear that he has been confirmed and
I do hope he ^{may} make a bright shining
Christian setting good examples for
others Van & Lena send their love
dont let my down to long my love to Lias
moms Betty tells little Lias I often
think of her sweet little flower he would
bring me well as I have nearly filled
my sheet I will close may the
good Lord bless you all with the prayer
of your devoted double M & H 9