

My dear friends, I have
forgot your sister
Sally
No ship Oct. 2. 1853
14th August
P. S.

Away out West Sun. eve. Sept 27th - 1853

Dear Ann?

Ans. Oct. 15th

I wish I could take a peep at you this evening & see how you are getting along, but that cannot be, & the only way I can have a chat with you is by writing. I am quite provided with you & chat for stringing all about visiting & having good times & not taking me with you. I wish I had some where here to go visiting, — but I am not acquainted with many here that I care to visit, for they are English, Penn. Dutch German Dutch & I don't know how many other kinds of Dutch, I believe they call the people from all the states but the Ch. & sister Dutch, & those they call "Carnegie Dutch". It is not because the people are called Dutch; that I don't care to get acquainted with, with them, but because I don't know what kind of folks they might prove to be, & perhaps it might not be easy to get rid of some of them after I once made friends of them. I think you are having great times your way, having such lots of picnics, wish they could have one round here, where a body might go & get lots of good things to eat "free gratis for nothing" as Charlie Lashin used to say. By the way where is Charlie now? Give my love to her, tell her I have not yet got that letter yet, that she was going to write me so long ago. You want to know what has become of Rhoda? She is as full of mischief as ever. She can talk almost as plainly as any body. I try plague her about the baby (I wrote you last week that I had another brot.) but she don't care anything about it anyway, if I tell her to strike it she would do it if they would let her, & if they tell her to kiss it, she will do that. I was down to go Thurs. Morn. Rhoda cried to come home with me, I told them to let her come, so she came & staid all night, the next day J. went to Ell Claire & when he came back, Cyrus Miller came with him, she wanted Rhoda

to go home so she could see her, so they carried her home. She was just as contented here
as she is at home. She is quite a pretty child I think, her skin is very white, her eyes
deep blue & she is round & plump & fat. Her hair is getting quite dark & is somewhat curly.
Oh, morning I will now try to finish my letter. I got so sleepy last night
that I did not finish. I guess we will go to town this afternoon, I shall
mail this & I really hope I shall get an envelope "chuck" full from home
& lots of other letters. They say at N. office that they think I get a great many
letters. If you want any melons you better come soon for they won't last
much longer, but there is plenty of them now. Harebells are very thick
around here, not farther from the house than the well is from your house.
We have 2 or 3 quarts in the house now, which you may have by evening
for them. Tell Chae to be a good girl & remember all the news she hears
& write it to me. Tell her I guess she would laugh if she could see
my bed of marigolds. It is as large as your entry I guess & just as full
of blooms as it can be. Some of the stalks are as high as my waist.
I will send her one marigold in this I think. Tell John I think I
shall write him this week & will mail it to Asquith so he may
look out for it. I went out this morning, just east of this grove for a
little walk & I found a very pretty flower I call it. There is lots of blooms
on the stalks but I can't send them all, so will pick off a few & send you.
I told Sam^l yesterday that you wanted H. to pick you out a likely bean & get
him trained by time you came out. He said that H. would have a long time
to train him; for you dare not come out west. Said tell you the the
reasons you sent for not coming out to take care of him were a poor
excuse, & he don't believe you meant to come at all. Sent his respects to Chae.
Tell Al. when you see him that I say he & Abby are right long for both to
me a letter. Give my love to Est. & Ben. I am going to write them soon.
He sends his love to you all, says he is going to write lots of letters next winter
if nothing happens. Tell mother to not forget me, but write as often as
she can. Love to Uncle David & family. Write all the news. Answer all