

slept until five o'clock and had
just gotten dressed when they re-
turned and the supper bell rang.

After supper I ran around to see
the folks at Ridley's. Mary went
to bed & the kids played cards -
The Shadd's were all going to the
boardwalk and were coming around
for me, but I could not go. I was
too tired. They walked home with
me - It was then 8.30 I gathered the
children up and took them to bed -
Etta said nothing but Leila kicked -

We were all three in bed by nine
o'clock and Leila fell asleep by the
time she touched the bed. I awoke at
6.00 this morning. No. 2 woke me
up and not Leila. She crowed a
lot over it. They are all off to the board
walk have been gone nearly an hour.

With best of love, Ned. We all enjoyed our
postcard. They were good.

(Apr 29, 1908)
Tuesday, 1.45 PM

My dear Alice;

What compliments you do
have paid you for your literary a-
bility - just to think of leop-
witting to the wonderful man a-
bout you! I think with leop-
that you ought to write! I know
too, that you have not much
time but I think just the same
you could write if you were less
modest. Write under a nom de
plume - if you think it will help -
I don't. I think Quinbar is good
enough. Alice, I had no idea
you were going to be so pleased
with your Easter things and I
am delighted that you did!
I'll see that Mrs. Atkins has a
set of buttons like those but I
have forgotten her initials be

sure that you send them in
the first letter that you send to
Wilmington! I am glad that
Ella was pleased. I knew the
utter surprise of the thing would
probably please her. You see I knew
that she had been sick and then
you sent me her maps and wanted
to show my appreciation.

I am not at all well. I can't
seem to walk at all! I went down
with the whole crowd yesterday,
Ella, Leila, Mary, Mr. Shadd, Mrs.
Brown, Marion & Julia McAdoo.
Mary got a head with the kids, Mr.
Shadd & Mrs. Brown got off and
at last Marion & little Julia. I sat on
a bench for a few minutes wrapped
up in my blanket rug but it was
bitter freezing cold - such a gale

as was blowing was terrific! I
go up and crept along Virginia
Avenue to Atlantic where I got a
cab and rode to Ohio Ave. I stepped
in a drug store and got me some
wine of cobra & celery - went home &
took some, then myself on the
bed and slept like a dead person
for one hour, and then was awak-
ened by Marion pounding on my
door who had become alarmed &
had looked me up. Soon Mary &
the kids came and we had dinner
after dinner I undressed and
put on my night gown and had
Ella rub my limbs with wood
alcohol - and as you know I went
to sleep with Mary & the kids in my
room! They got ready pretty soon &
went off to the boardwalk and
went down to hard sleeping & slept

hair? We heard him this
afternoon they are going to
Young's Pier to see Vandervell -
I'll answer your letter to-
night about "Harriet" & little
I want to mail this when I
go out, Be sure and tell
me what the matter is with
you! Lovingly,

Redx

Wednesday - ^(Apr 24, 1908) 9 A.M.

Dearest, dear,

I wish I'd staid home!
I am full of rheumatism
it has been so cold here! It
is better this morning quite
warm and comfy - we carried
on so the women made some
heat in the house. I am afraid
the deed is done, though I am
piking in medicine.

Your letter came this a.m.
and am sorry to hear that
you are having winter of
there. Alas the grass is green
and the tulips are all out.
Something is wrong with you -
I can tell from the tone of
your letters - either you need

money, or there is something up between you and brother, or something. Now own up, is there not?

Leila is all right! She is no worry to me and I don't mind combing her hair at all! It looks nice too, when I said so this morning, she said, "Yes, it does but mother don't have as much time to spend on it in the morning as you do, because she has to fix the other children and get ready for school herself." I thought that was pretty good! She talks and talks

and talks, she and Etta when they are dressing in the mornings and I wanted them to hurry this morning to get out before breakfast as I slept till

6.35 and although they were both awake they kept quiet - we went to bed at eight last night - turned the light out at 8.30 - so I told them I was going to take one cent off of their daily allowance for everytime they talked - then they giggled and snickered - till I finally put them out.

They went to the concert on the steel pier yesterday and heard Creator & his band - you remember, the man with the long

a glass of milk - I love to see
her eat - She is tanned - you
would not believe it, She and
Etta climbed up the light house
steps yesterday, to the very top -
Then they went to the fair with
May in the afternoon and saw
the fancy roller skating - they
had a great time. I forgot to say
that they walked to Kenton in the
morning, a distance of three miles
then they rode back to the light
house and climbed to the top -

May is going to visit the high
school this morning and the
children will play on the sand
Let me know about that check -
at once - even then I can't remember
til Saturday. I am very sorry but
I could not help it.
Lovingly - Ned

Atlantic City -
Thursday, a.m. -
[Apr 22, 1908]

My dear Alice,

I have got those pesky
kids off to the beach - Etta
woke me up this morning
stretching out her arms. It was
then six o'clock - though we
were in bed and asleep by nine
last night. Those two children
cut up from the time they
wake up until I send them
to the beach.

I have just read your letter -
and I am scared - I don't believe
Miss B. deposited that money in
your name as I did not give her
the bank book. I came away sur-

ridely at the last and there were
so many million things to do that
I was completely upset. I hope to
have ten dollars over and above my
expenses which I will send to you
if you there is any trouble about
the \$6.25 and will send you the
balance when I get home. If they
let you have it at the bank, which
I doubt, I'll make it all right
with the bank. I'll send Gertrude
a card today and ask her what
she did with the money. I feel pretty
sure she did not deposit to your
credit because I never thought
to tell her to. If she has it with
her at Red Bank she can send
it to you from there. I'll write
to her today about it. I am awfully
sorry you thought of writing a check

for it. It never occurred to me that
you really needed money or I thought
you would be frank with me &
say so. Miss Dover & Gertrude each
drew their last dollar from the
bank to help me out and I owe
Miss Baldwin two hundred and
forty-five dollars. I really believe Mr.
Roach will pay when he can and
then I'll pay those two off the very
first thing. It is awful to live beyond
one's income but I do it all right.

Leila has been just as nice as she
can be or need to be, I should put it.
She is jolly and eats! Muey! I am
going over to Ridley's to eat breakfast
with Marion this morning and Leila
ate her own breakfast food, Attie's &
mine - then she ate as much break-
fast as everyone else - bacon, two servings
liver, potatoes & corn bread - yes, and

[Apr. 23, 1908]

Dear Alice;

I am almost dead—
I went to bed at one o'clock
last night and was up
at 5.45 this a.m. The
Bancroft contingent came
in at 9.00 and Fattie
& Harriet Shadd have just
gone out of school. You
will see from the packages
I send you why I was up
so late last night.

I'll send thee a line
tomorrow, but littus? well
we will see!

Leida came over to the
house last night and I
wish you had heard

her tell about Atlantic
city - She says she will
be glad when she has been
and come back, Aunt
Alice - tells her how to be-
have, mother tells her,
grandmother tells her -
even Larence tells her

Grandmother you must not
eat like that, you must not
stand like that at Atlantic
city, If you get the earache
or the tooth ache, I'll
send for you to come right
home! It was awfully
funny to hear her, I must
write you ^{me} about it.

With love, Ned,
Friday, 2.55 P.M., no letter this
a.m. I suppose it
will be this when
I get home!

I am going out so must
stop,
Sincerely,
Ded.

Atlantic City, N. J.
4, 24, 1904.

My dear Alice,
Every night but this I have been
in bed and asleep by nine o'clock, but
a young man, a student at Mr. Savage's
school took Miss Dover out tonight and
I put the kids to bed and read the
Lure, (which you so kindly sent me, ^{thanks})
the North American, directed a
lot of post cards, the last I shall
send from here, they are one cent
apiece here - just when I had written
as far as this. Mary came and I
stopped writing. I hardly slept any
last night some old dog kept barking
under my window all night.

The kids were so tired last night
that I really worried - I have not
written Lila's mother and you must
not - I'll tell when I get home Lila
lost her new sailor hat yesterday, she

would not keep her hat on
her head - and yesterday she put
her hat somewhere in the sand
and when she went to get it was
gone - then she bought, the first day
she came here, a pretty little pocket
book, yesterday she lost that, she
is run burned as she can be, red
as a lobster and last night her
face smarted so she could not
go to sleep - Etta complained of
the backache. They just played
all day long - until they were
dead! I feel better but my
rheumatic hunts.

I'll get you some money as
quick as I can - try and be
patient, poor child.

Dear Aunt Alice,

I am having a fine time, played so hard yesterday
that I was just tired to sleep last night. Wish I could
stay another week.

Sincerely,
Leila.

Dear Mrs. Wunbar,

Leila eats so much that
I have to eat more than I want
to to keep up with me. She
made me play in the sand all
day yesterday just as if I were a kid
like her. I'm consequently I had
the backache last night. Leila was so
red as a boiled lobster.
Sincerely,
Etta.

and black! I have Laila's
hair looking beautifully, there
is just a little bit in front that
is woolly and I just used the
iron on that and it is beautiful.
I don't turn it under I don't
have to, and don't like it turned
under. Yesterday she lost her
hair ribbon that mangles three
things she has lost, Keat, pocket
book, hair ribbon, but it didn't
matter! We leave here today at

4.45 are due in Phila. Broad
St. Station at 6.01 and in Wilming-
ton at 7.12 - won't I be glad to
sleep in my own little bed

I have rheumatism pretty
bad, I think it is the weather
we have had today, it is roasting
swimmingly hot.

[Apr 25, 1908]
Sunday A. M.,

Dear Alice:

Trunk has gone the man
came for it before breakfast
and was it not lucky that Miss
Hovey and I had gotten up early
and packed it? The man had
to wait there a few minutes but
I gave him twenty cents so he
did not mind!

Well, the children are tired out
from having such a good time.
Yesterday I took them to the
Steeple Chase Pier, and at least
they went walking with Mary
and as she walked from one
end of the pier to the other they
left her pretty soon and went
to the Steeple Chase Pier - and
were the first to be admitted for

the afternoon performance.
That was at 2.30 and from
that until 5.30 they never
stopped. The two Puffress children
came in and they four were
the only colored children there.
but that made no difference,
they were all one - and the
slid down the incline plain,
the came down a chimney
like affair that they had to
climb step after step to get
to the top. They went on there -
volving disk and were pitched
off time after time until you
would have thought their sit
downs would have been busted
but they climbed up again and
again, then they went up a

stairway, that jumped up &
down, I saw Leila try it ten
times before she succeeded in
coming down. One has to fall into
the rhythm of it before one can go
up or down. At night I took them
on the new million dollar pair to
see the fire works. They were tired
enough to drop and so was I, but
I had promised to take them so
I kept my word. Leila was so
tired she went to sleep by the
time she stepped into bed. She
said there was not a spot on her
body that was not tired. I said,
"What will your mother say to that?"
She said, "I'm not going to tell
her." We had meat cubes for supper
everybody but those kids ate one -
Etta ate two and Leila ate three.
She and Etta have grown fat

(Apr 26, 1908)

Monday, A. M.

My dear Alice:

Apr 26

Well, with one turn of the wheel I am sitting again at my desk at school.

I am just sending a line to say we left Atlantic City, at 4.45 p.m. reached West Philadelphia just in time to miss the 6.13 train and had to wait there until

6.52, Miss Glover went on to Broad Street Station to run down and meet her mother for a few minutes and she came in the 7.40 train. On the train with us, was Annie Raudnitzky, Miss Fayerweather, Sylvia Leaty, Miss Lawrence, Bessie Seeneey & her beau, Mr. Wimbish from Atlantic City. He must have it had to come all the way up with her.

He is not near so bad looking as I had been led to believe he is. He is short quite a short man, very dark, but has good features and a pleasant countenance. I think they will marry at the close of school.

I have so much to tell you I don't know

how to do it and only write "a line,"

I deposited \$16.²⁵ this morning at nine o'clock - Gertrude had kept it -

They kept your book to fix it up - I want very much indeed an autograph of Paul Laurence Dunbar's and Booker T. Washington's, Mrs. Nields' daughter who is married and lives in Philadelphia, sent me a letter sometime ago asking me for something of ^{my} own, a little thought with my signature, and as many more ^{leaves} as I could get, as she is making an autograph calendar. ^{My dear mother} I have Frederick Douglass' autograph, which I am going to get C. Carter to paste on the calendar for me, with a little design and a quotation of his. I want Booker T. Washington's to use in the same way - Could, you give me those two and would you give me your own, ^{autograph} with a little verse of your own appropriate to Mrs. Nields? I will send you one of the leaves at once if you will - I want to get this all attended to at once - so if you will please answer in your reply to this letter.

I must tell you something on Maggie².

I knew we would be hungry when we got home from Atlantic City and before I left here, I ordered from Butler a nice piece of corned beef - I selected the cut I wanted and asked him to have it by Saturday, the 25th, I told Maggie to cook it and said to her particularly "Cork some cabbage or other greens in the water that she cooked the beef in, so coming in last night at about eight o'clock, stained of course, I had Etta get me a cup of tea and bring on the corned beef - I looked at it and said, "I don't believe this is corned beef it is roast beef," I cut into it and it was bright red, then I tasted it and it was salt as all the salt mines in the world, Maggie had roasted the piece of corned beef - and it was ruined - we could not eat it at all. Gertrude brought Helen a dozen of rare eggs to set a hen on and they were in a little special box - each egg in a separate compartment and Maggie cooked them for breakfast - what do you think of that.

When I got in the house there on the dining-room table stood a great bundle of beautiful

annations with a note from Lottie and
Barriet saying how they had enjoyed the
house etc etc. I'll tell you more about
that in the letter I'll write you tonight, in
answer to your letter.

"Harriet" told Lettude that Edith Fleet-
wood told her, ^{August Shudd} Edith Fleetwood that you
were teaching in the English Department
assisting Prof Lane Cooper. She had
the entire name - and said you wrote that
to the Major. Now I denied that you ever
would be fool enough to expect anyone
to believe such a lie as that - of course Harriet
Shudd did not believe it, though I have
a sneaking suspicion that she did believe
you wrote it to the Major.

Leila did send you a postal card early
in the week - Attie and I sent them to
Miss Love's mother and she never re-
ceived them. I think there were so many
mailed from Atlantic City that they
went astray somewhere. Don't blame the
child - she sent cards to all her friends. I
saw to it that she did. Perhaps you got her
card later.

I have lots more to say but will defer it
until tonight. Lovingly,
Ned.

Thanks for the
kisses & my "specials"

Apr 27

Monday, 7.15, P. M.
(Apr 26, 1908)

My dear Alice:

Your letter came this afternoon, or at least it was here when I came in from school. I am awfully sorry you are so out of sorts and homesick, I noticed it in quite a little while in your letters and in a letter and also on a wrapper containing. Seems you wrote 37 1/2 N. Ohio Avenue instead of 32 1/2 and if you had not written in care of Mrs. Emory I would not have received them.

Did I tell you in my letter this morning that a number of our postcards were not received?

Mr. & Mrs. Wuko sent me a beautiful plant at Quatu and in return I sent them my thanks from Atlantic City on post cards which they did not receive. Etta and I sent post cards to Mrs. Love's mother which she did not receive and Lila sent you one which you did not receive.

In your letter received Saturday, or Sunday you said not to be extravagant in the hope of receiving a large sum of money from Mr. Roach. My dear, I have given up long since speculating on any amount Mr. Roach may send. I know he has to raise chickens, sell them, pay for the expense of keeping them and his family, or wait for the sale of his property before he can possibly send me any money. I may be dead by that time or in a

vent, one or the other, I will send you a full account of the money I spent for Leila. I kept her account and Ethel's, very strictly, but have not added it up yet. I spent exactly ten dollars while at Atlantic City beside board and room rent. A great deal was spent in post cards and stamps, and I put change into the children's pocket books every ~~morning~~ ^{evening}. They did not pitch money away either - but every time they went on a picnic it cost ten cents. They bought the game of Liabola - have you seen it? Leila bought two of them, broke them both. She took each one of the kids one and took her mother and grandmother a box of salt water taffy.

I am glad that you have Mrs. ^{St.} John. It must be delightful to meet such a woman on terms of intimacy. I believe you could write just as well if you would only think so. Your trouble is, that you haven't faith in yourself - write - just try it for once.

Talking about summer! Why, Alice, the trees are too beautiful for any description. They are entirely covered, luxuriantly covered with the greenest of green leaves. The grass is well grown and the apple, pear and peach orchards are one sea of white and pink blossoms. Walter Anderson wrote to his mother last

Saturday and he speaks of the kind of weather they are having there, a little bit of warmth and sunshine and then four inches of snow. He says they are being crammed now for examinations and the only let up he has is on Saturday nights, when he goes to bed at eight o'clock and sleeps until eight the next morning.

He said he had joined the choir of the Baptist Church, which is composed entirely of students and has been organized just a week. He says, "If they can sing, I shall remain, if not I shall leave." I smiled at that thinking, perhaps they may express themselves in the same way about Walter's being able to sing. Probably every boy there has been better trained in music than Walter for all the training he has had is what he got at Howard. You remember that I wrote you that I had written myself a letter which I sent to Walter to sign and put in the figures necessary to show Mr. Bancroft that his money was being well used. I found it here when I returned. Mr. Rogers sent it back with another, stating just what Walter owed the Academy and his landlady. He owed the Academy \$4.50 and his landlady \$1.50. His expenses this term have been \$12 and he has earned by his work for the Academy \$8.10 - leaving only \$3.10 for Mr. Bancroft to pay. Do you not think that

that is doing well? Then he earns one half of his room rent - as you saw from Mrs. Fields' letter to me! - I have about concluded that Walter is really very proud and hates the idea of having to accept aid, but finds that ^{he} can't possibly earn enough to make ends meet and has to accept aid and it galls him, this combined with his naturally swelled head and his very peculiar disposition and his lack of good breeding, give us the kind of an eccentric boy he is! His mother acknowledges that and said to me tonight over the telephone that he will have to receive some pretty hard knocks before he learns his lesson. I am waiting to see what he does when his time is up for this year. The fare from there, here, is nine dollars, he will either have to have that or go to work up there. Then I want to see what he will do this fall - if he returns how he will get the "wherewithall."

I sent the letter which the Mr. Rogers sent to me - directly to Mr. Bancroft with a request for thirty ~~one~~ dollars and mortified enough was I to do it and when it comes if it does come, I shall send Mr. Rogers the Academy \$15.70 and shall send Mrs. Field her \$15. I don't care whether it offends his royal majesty or not.

I am not going to be worried to death by his taking his time to pay it and having them write to me for it.

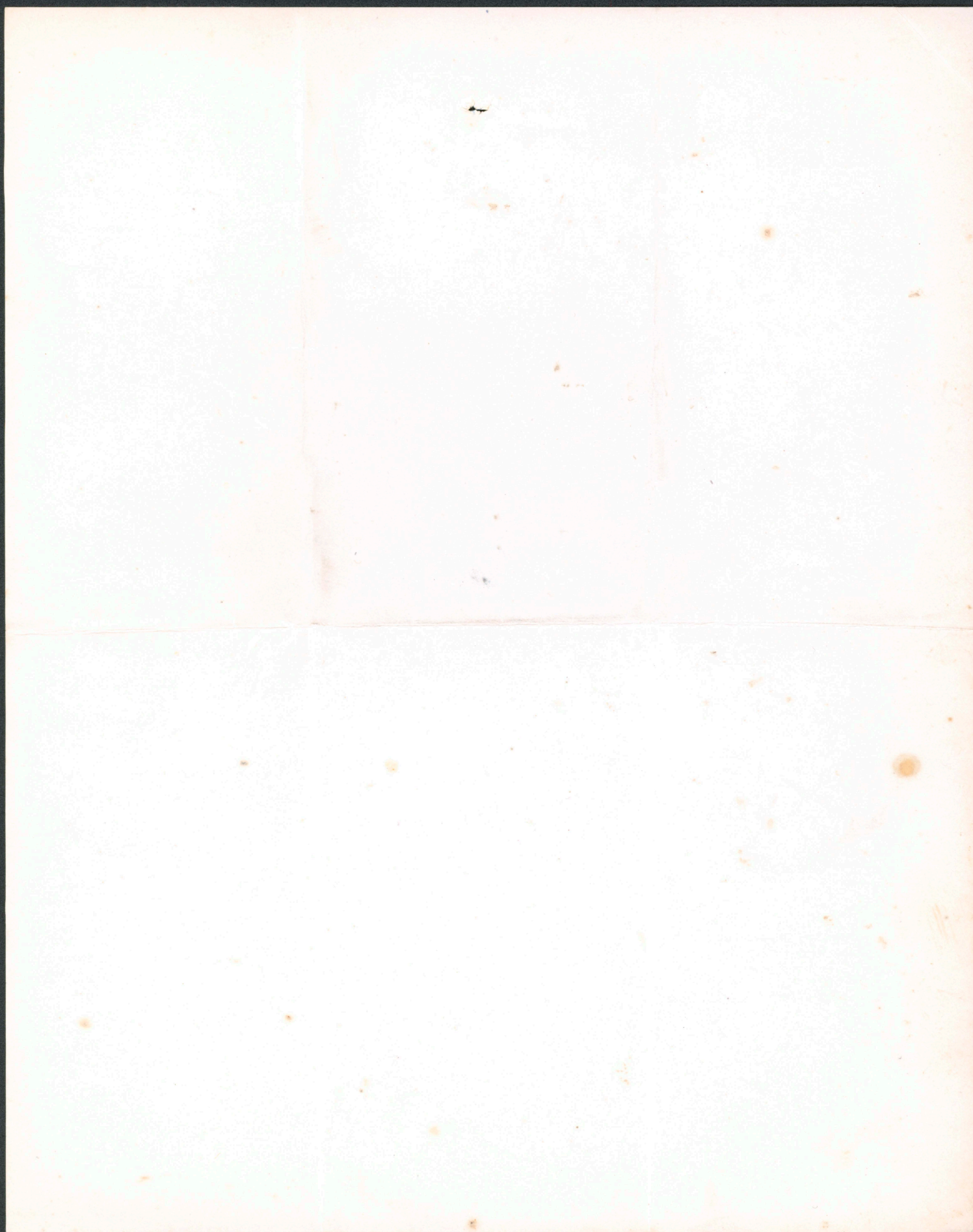
Gertrude left the keys for Lottie and she used

house when she wished to do so. She took a bath³ here and I really do not know how much time they spent here. Of course Mrs. Harris Augustus had no toilet, no bath, the bedroom occupied by the young ladies smelled of cat feet and Miss Shadd told Helen she hated Wilmington. It was the meanest place she had ever seen and she could not see how Helen could stand living here. I told Helen "If one lies down with dogs he gets up with fleas" - If you shut yourself up in a little negro house on Walnut Street you can't expect comfort. Miss Sherman entertained them twice, once at lunch, once at tea. Don't for the Lord's sake tell this but Ella went there to call but did not in, Mrs. Grinnage went there to call but did not get in, Gertrude took dinner there with them on Sunday and I guess they spent most of their time at 206 with her before she went away. She told me that Harriet Shadd said she hated Red Bank.

I am sending you Mr. Roach's last letter to Attie - please return it because I am really going to ask Mr. Kutz about the writing in the violin. Tell me what you think of it.

I can't write any more although I have more to write.

Be a good girl - cheer up and let Lane looper go to the ^{top} ~~top~~.
Sincerely, ^{for} Ned.



WILMINGTON, DEL.,

April 28, '08,

My dear Alice,

That Benjamin, that we meet at Campston, is the one that married Alice Pinyon, and they say he is an awfully nice fellow so that she just hooked him in.

It is said that she has had that terrible disease that comes from ^{wrong} doing, that she was ill all last year with it that she has been just as common as can be and that Benjamin being a real nice fellow did not know about that. That she really was not married until Easter though she has given out that she was married in January. I got it from a pretty reliable source. I'll tell you more about when you come home. I am so afraid of putting names in letters.

I saw Miss Carlisle at the high school this afternoon and she had spent her holiday in New York. She says that the colored children are leaving Dr. Bulkeley's school rapidly refusing

to be colonized and it is a problem what they are going to do with him.

Caroline Williams saw considerable of Flora Woodson Van Horne, she gets eleven hundred dollars this year & and gets an increase of one hundred yearly until she reaches a certain amount, her husband earns a good salary, they have no children, and live in a flat of four rooms boarding with a woman in the next flat - five days a week and boarding themselves on Saturday and Sunday. They took tea with Miss Williams and her sister.

I laughed over your getting tea for Miss Smith - I am sure it was all right when you did get it ready.

I think that Miss Hull must be most contemptible and dishonorable to take your notes by the wholesale and think you made a great mistake to allow her to take them from you. I hope you will treat her with the utmost contempt.

How delightful your little porch must be! Just as everything gets delightful up there it will be time to leave. Yesterday, Monday - it was hot so hot we almost died - especially after

HOWARD HIGH SCHOOL,
EDWINA B. KRUSE, PRINCIPAL.

coming from the cool breezes of Atlantic City, Today, it is quite delightful and I was glad because of having to go out to Mr. Twitmyer's lecture. It really was quite good.

The Dr. Shephard who was at Atlantic City was not my friend but Dr. Shephard of Pittsburgh Pa. who has a fine practice up there, his wife is the sister of a Miss Smith who is principal of one of the Washington Schools.

Poor little Leila has gotten into all sorts of disgrace since she has been home - yesterday her mother was just behind her on the street all the way home - and instead of having her hat on her head she carried it in her hand all the way home and when they reached home Leila got a whipping.

Yesterday, Miss Brooks said to me, "Leila said to me today, 'You never ask me to do anything when you are getting up an entertainment' and I said, 'What can you do?' and Leila said, 'I can play a piano solo.'" Miss Brooks, Leila could not play at an evening entertainment, she

had never played a solo at a school
entertainment and she had been away
and was out of practice any way and
I could not think of having her play
at night. Leila went home and told
her mother that Miss Brooks asked
her to play, and Leila Sr. asked me
about it and I told the facts of the
case - then she said she was going
after Leila for telling a lie - I begged her
not to, told her I had already spoken
to Leila about it and Leila had been
already in trouble enough - but she
did get after little Leila because Miss
Baldwin saw her Leila Sr. talking to
Leila Jr. by Miss Fayweather's door.

Then there was some other thing, so
I am down right sorry for the child she
has not been over here to practice at
all, I am going over just as soon
as I finish this letter, to see them all.

That thing at Atlantic City is not
"Bumping the Bumps," It is a slide -
I know about the one at Coney
Island. I will ask poor little Leila
about her sliding down the hill at
Orange Street. Don't let on that I
have told you these things.

I am glad you finished that essay
The subject for November scared me
to death, I must stop and run around
the corner - But come more to tell you tomorrow

WILMINGTON, DEL.,

Walter's balance at the Academy
for this last term and his room-
rent for twelve weeks of \$15. I got
it this morning from Mr. Bancroft.
I enclose the letter he sent.

I did not send Walter the money
but sent his room-rent to the woman
from whom he rents and the other
to the principal.

I forgot whether I told you that
he earned \$81 this term towards his
board and tuition and of course
must have earned enough to pay
for his books, laundry etc etc.

He is a mystery to me - I want to
see what he will do now. How he
will get home if he has to come home
and so on.

I am dead sleeping so good
night will write lots of things
tomorrow.

Lovingly
Ed.

Enclose that typewritten letter
& sent it Walter to read

Handwritten text, possibly a signature or date, located on the left side of the page.

Anderson, Mary Brooks and Lillian
Anderson - Lillian Anderson reads
for sure, I believe - it is a question
between William & Mary - and I shall
pronounce upon those three especially.
If I think them good - I'll send
them to you - it would take so much
postage to send the entire batch
back and forth that I'll correct
those - Miss Leuter thinks them pretty
good. The reason they were not sent
to you was that they did not get
them done until just now.

They cut the 15 copies of the *Odyssey*
off if you want them this year.
I'll send in another order. Mr. T. ad-
vised us to do that - I shall continue
Etta's music for this term, I shall stop
it then making her practice under my
feeble direction and then I'll start her
again in the fall. Nothing worried me at
Atlantic City except the intense cold &
the rheumatism which I got from the
cold, damp house. I sent \$15.70 to pay

Wednesday, April 29 '08

My dear Alice!

I am just in from Mr.
Armstrong's lecture in Dunbar.
He gave it at school for the
benefit of our J. M. B. A. but
we are \$1.20 out so far - but I
hope we have it out - but all
the trouble and labor are in vain.

We had an audience of little
children and the poor devils
were so sleepy they nearly died -

He talked one solid hour -
even Etta went almost to sleep -

E. Leuter sang "Lil' Gal" and
Mabel Laws disappointed her as
accompanist at the last moment
and she came round to get Etta
to accompany ^{her} Etta did her best
and finished over and over again

but she lost her place through nervousness and almost threw Miss Leuter off once or twice. Miss Leuter sang very sweetly. Did tell you that Burleigh is to sing here at Odd Fellows Temple on May 8th and that Mrs. Cooke of Williams & Walker Co. is to sing and that young Mrs. York pianist is to play? Burleigh is to book for Europe and has every concert there arranged for now.

Minnie was at school this morning came to hear the children sing. (This Fletcher's morning) and she did enjoy it so much. She is really a lover of music and knows much about composers. We have some beautiful music in preparation. Miss Fletcher brought two new selections this morning and the children read them at eight. Minnie was so surprised, but she knew the composers and all about what they had written and what was considered their best

etc etc. The Burleighs are to spend a week with her before he sails. I have the funniest thing to tell you but it is so late and I can't write it all tonight, but will put in tomorrow's letter.

Now in answer to your today's letter. I can't really answer that first paragraph as I want to end with leave that for tomorrow - the first sentence reads, "I don't believe you love me any more." I'll be sure not to forget to answer that paragraph. I told you that Lila has been in all sorts of disgrace ever since she came home.

Now about the Senior's essays. I have preached and preached about them they are all in and quite satisfactory - except Mabel Saw's & Blanche Sutton's - they are not in - but they vowed they would hand them in tomorrow. The reading at Commencement lies between Willard

Thursday, p. m.
April, 30, 1908.

Alice, dear,

I have so much to write I do not know where to begin and as it was twelve o'clock when I lay me down to sleep last night I want to get to bed about nine tonight.

I think the thing that upset me so before I went to Atlantic City was the late hours I kept. I went to bed at all hours and got up before daylight. I don't mean to try that again because Mrs. Brown was frightened to death & went after Maria to see what she had better do, she thought I would die, and I had collapsed from loss of sleep, and nervous strain.

Well, first of all, I, did not lend my house for dattie & Harriett Shadd to keep house in. I knew no more about it than you did until I came home - Gertrude said she told them they might use her room all they choose and I know they came over to take a bath and use the toilet, so please take that accusation you made against me, back!

I felt about the thing, that Edith Fleetwood, told Harriett Shadd, just about as you do, I was mortified to death! I told Gertrude I knew you well enough to know that you never said such a thing, and I also know that even if you were swelled headed enough to say such a thing you had sense enough to know that other people would know better. I was so mad about it I almost had apoplexy.

I called up Mr. B. of Cheyney. Tonight he will see Booker T. Washington on Saturday and will get his autograph for me. I think I wrote you that Mrs. Fletcher is to teach music for commencement. He asked me to make all arrangements with her and I called

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[illegible]

him up to tell him when she would be there
and that I would send the music etc etc
Then I asked him if he would ^{give} me one
of Booker's autographs and he said he
would get me one on a leaf of my calendar
from the gentleman himself so I shall send
him a leaf on the morrow. I am awfully sorry
about Dunbar's - but I am afraid I can't wait.
The calendar is to be given to her the first of
June.

Miss Smallwood received a letter today from
Miss Pratt of Hampton, the sewing teacher there,
in which she told her that Major Moton is
engaged to the Booth girl. You know her
I think; You remember Mr. Freeman
who had charge of the Holly Tree Inn? Well,
this girl is his wife's sister. She is fair with
good hair. He did not wait very long did he?
I expect you have probably heard this news
through Miss Betts. She will hurry and write
it. She was in one of my cooking classes.

Now the funny thing I reserved to tell
you is as follows. When I saw my yard
when I returned from Atlantic City, but
I must digress here - about ten days before
I left for Atlantic City Howard Kinn
asked me if I was willing to take down my
fence, he wanted to take his down because, I
suppose they really haven't the money to re-
pair it - and I consented - we wish all
of the folks along here would take them
down - I looked forward to the time when we
would have a nice stretch of green grass before
the two houses - now to return to my story, when
I saw my yard the morning after I returned
from Atlantic City - lo and behold there was
a young hedge planted in a straight line be-
tween my yard and Lawsons - and I was

hurt! We all were. After finding ourselves
on the fact that Lawson's yard and ours
was no one, here in our absence they had planted
a dividing line. That was on Monday. On
Wednesday morning Mrs. Lawson happened
to see I strude at her window and she
called her to tell her that she had received
the postal card which I had mailed to her
from Atlantic City, that morning, we were
laughing and talking about that and
other things when Mrs. Lawson made a re-
mark about the hedge fence that I had
had planted there - "I" why was dumb
founded - and said, "Mrs. Lawson did you
not have that fence planted there?" She
denied utterly that any one in that house
had had anything to do with the planting
of that hedge. Well, surely here was a mystery -
I went to school and forgot all about it.

That was the morning that Minnie came
up to school - after she had been in the office
a few minutes she said, "What did you think
of your surprise?" "Surprise?" I looked at
her thoroughly puzzled - "I don't know what
you mean!" "The hedge," said she. "Mr. Stevens
had that little hedge set out in your ab-
sence" - Alice, I had such bad manners
that I never said another word! What do you
think of it? Of course I told Mrs. Lawson
as soon as I got home - and she said, "How
easily it might have made serious trouble
between us, for we were both hurt at that
dividing line."

Now in answer to that paragraph in your
letter of Monday night - when you say I no
longer love you. You did not really mean

that or think it, did you? I love you today
just as much as I have loved you from the
day I fell in love with you. I will acknowledge
that there have been things happened in the
course of our friendship that made me feel
that I am not first in your love - I shall not
write you what they are, written things seem
so much more serious than spoken ones - but
if you really care to hear what those things
are, I will tell you when you return, and if
you were coming the day we thought you would
you would be home five weeks from this
Saturday, now, I am not sure when you are
coming, I hope LeBrighton will give you the
exam so that you can leave there when we
thought you would.

Did I send you an annual report? If you
did not get one I'll send it or keep it till
you come, just whatever you say - Send me
Mrs. Atkins' initials and I'll have her set
of those buttons made - Are her initials C.M.
R.? The Elks had a street parade today
and they are having a ball tonight - Miss
Baldwin was coming down Orange Street today
and who should be in the crowd following
the parade - up Orange back toward the
school house - "winking & flinging" with the
rest of the crowd but Pauline & Laurence -
Miss Baldwin said she hollered at Pauline -
who frightened to death started and ran, but so
Laurence, he calmly kept on in the line of parade
and of course Pauline went back after him -
Had it been I, who saw the children I should
have made them go home.

Mr. Johnson, E. Leader's teacher in Latin sent a letter
3-16-19 (over)

to Miss Blount today, expressing great disgust
with Elizabeth's irregularity of attendance and
giving her up, positively refusing to bother
with her further.

But I must stop

Yours truly

Wm. Lloyd Garrison