Dayton, June 21st, 1863

Dear Luther,

I am still out of bed and feel rather disappointed that it is so.

Your letter came yesterday, and I was glad that you did not give up to your want of inclination for writing a short letter (not a long one, as you said) is better than none.

Kitty has not seemed quite well and I feared chills, but having dressed him rather more warmly and kept him from exposure, he seems just right again. The little fellow found some bittle or insect of another kind, which Father says was stripped and splintered this he called a "Union Bug". The next morning I heard Linnie and Frank...
talking about a "Red Boy." Thank God it seems like a 19th century story, and then what was I supposed to do to make people up.

Then and I left Churubusco on the day before. Our father had quite a change in his health both going and coming. They sent a case of Grand Lumber to B. W. Kelly and the rest of us there and for a time went to an institution for the insane (Booth's Insane Asylum). The father brought with him instead of packing things as usual, although I have heard it have a great deal since my return, besides, I did not fully realize how much care the children must have been to another till I came back, I thought therefore that you could not object to my making a small present. I could not maintain this, only I am determined to have as much from you as possible.

I forget to tell you I believe about the change of politics. He has been a great Democrat, he said that he had seen the world since he has begun; for instance, he said to one little boy, as what to himself, "go and tell your grandmother something to the effect of the marriage according to the specifications of the model according to the draft by your grandmother. The child looked up and said it was not his grandmother, and that he was a slave.

And this says that when she calls a closed meeting, she says "come into the corner." Of course this is too funny any of applying to the terms I get. When I went there at home, he said "why to the room; I am going down to take tea with the Brady and sleep until D. that you can be JM at the dinner party and as well as ever.

Peter has enquired again about painting. The face of a man who seems to be thinking.
recommends by all careful business men and he makes it worth $25.00. Father says he means by the way if it is worth, and we think of having it framed, keeping careful account of expense; then perhaps it getting on a second coat. This house cannot be done for two weeks, as Father is obliged to be absent a few weeks, and wishes to be here when the painting is done. I fear by that time I shall not have the funds. I am not sorry however that I spent Uncle John's, on general account. If you wish it I will send you an account of expenses, as nearly as I can; surely for your satisfaction. I have got nothing for myself but the children all had to have hats (these and them myself) and shoes will wear out. Thread, buttons, cloths etc., are needed and dry goods and washing and gas take their share, Father does not use the gas, she is waiting to see what costs. I hope he will, for mom is the only sharp looking woman in the lines in the coming.

Father went to Dr. Scott's yesterday and expected those notes. He said the paymants were just
down to Linsley and William Cowper, but by whom they were made not mentioned excepting in one case. Then you have found out all about it. I hope you will let me know to Johnson's interest done in July? I have forgotten.

Father saw Colonel Spence and had good talks with him. He says he withheld Howard's commission so hesitating some time on account of his youth; but became entirely satisfied with his ability to fill the place before giving it to him. His habits are entirely unexceptionable and he is popular with the club regiment. Father and said he would like to know about his courage, but supposed it had hardly been sufficiently tested. He added that it had been, as much as if he had been in a great battle, that he felt himself competent to judge, had watched him carefully, and was satisfied that he possessed it to a high
degree. — I must confess that I have never had a fear for him in any of these particulars; nevertheless it was gratifying to be assured of them by his Colonel.

Wonders which Commanding Officer feels the happier; the one who can command and the one who receives respect and love from all under him, or he who works himself up in his own grandeur, and acts the petty tyrant? I don't know, guess I can tell myself, don't copy the latter any how. — There's a middle cell from the hospital barracks, how naturally it sounds!

Evening — Mrs. & Mrs. Brady have just left. The says her cough is better, but she is very unwell, has all her ambition for brave work, taking and so forth, lies down every day she is so lazy as she expreses it.

Kitty brought me this sheet of paper which he said was "a letter for Papa."

Good night dear. and kiss Eva.

Yours only, Augusta.