



Draft of Letter to Frank Sessions of Columbus, Ohio
from Mary Johnson of Worthington, Ohio, 5/11/1847 (?),
[See Letter 5/10/1847]

Subject: Another draft of letter from May 10, [1847]. In this letter Mary relates her happiness and bright hope for the future as a result of her meeting with Frank on the previous Saturday evening in which he may have proposed. This draft was probably written after 58a since 58a was begun on May 10 and continued into May 11 after an interruption of a visit from Dr Cramer and Miss Shilds. The interruption is not mentioned in this draft.

[Handwritten, script]

[At the top of the letter] can we know of the future! It may be bright & sunny s can picture & again it may be dark & G! how drear! You may be probably...

[Then the letter begins]

Worthington May 11th

Worth

Monsier F.C.

I trust you will pardon my hesitancy as to an appellation by which to address—several have passed through my mind & the blank I leave for you to fill as should best suit your fancy but this one chosen, strikes me as being as good as any. What think you?

if I do not flatter myself, this epistle will in the least entertain or any way be profratible [*sic*] to you. But his much I do flatter myself—that it will demonstrate you may possibly be mistaken, in small matters—if not in those of greater importance. You know it has been said of me, I was “very cautious” and even “non committal” although I think I loss[*sic*] all claims not long ago—perhaps Saturday evening last--& I may now again prove that neither [both phrases follow “neither”] [on the line] cautious or non committed

[above the line]of those two are appropriate to me

However this privilege I will guarantee into [sic] you—that you shall yourself be the judge—when you left me last Saturday evening I was happy, very happy & tho’ you were about leaving of a distance for yet the happy consciousness I proposed bade me kind adieu with a light & happy heart. & when I throw myself upon the life what a crowd of bright & happy thoughts passed through my mind! I was happy then & the future! who could tell the joys in store? Bright & numerous were the pictures my imagination painted, without anything a spot or blemish to mar their beauty. But Oh! How vain [sic] are all human calculations! -----?? me ask what is in store? for how little knows the countless dangers that beset our path & dangers that would make the stoutiest [sic]

Heart fail to shrink from human touch! Let’s hope the happiness?????of our nature bids us to “hope?????ever” for it rests entirely with ourselves if we adopt the right course we may glide along with but few of the ups & downs of life—my ideas of the course to be persued [sic] are many of the vague & indefinite instincts??? it explains, arrived at probably by the power of intuition attributable to most of my sex, but which are not the less perfect. Ah st....???? minds may be plodding for a long time finally arrive at the same conclusion

Ere you receive this you will have in fact concluded your business. Most evenings sincerely do I wish for success (& all possible haste) for while you are in the city-I can have but little conception of your where abouts or what abouts but on your way to and from I can trace your course with nearly the time consumed—It will not be long after you get through your business in the city till you will again be near us. I hope will ???? well??? I dare not trespass upon your attention as you approach your parental abode—I cannot enter there—but trust & and know a happy joyous welcome awaits you—B???

there for other hearts would welcome you back

“Haste on your message, the swift hours pass, sending??? Back by the gates of Love. As endless life as b?????.”

I cannot think the egotistical scrawl will be at all interesting but it will prove to you my wish to do as desired

I do not pride myself of any taste in epistology [sic] composition s or flatter myself this egotistical (for I have spoken of myself ???? [sic] scrawl will offer you any pleasure. But I ask of you to give credit where it is due—my will is good should it be convenient & agreeable I should be delighted to hear from you

Adieu—that I may again see you & soon—is my fervent aspiration—

Mary+