

Wm Henry has been to Grand Haven to School all Summer but came home sick last week, but is better now Mother sends her best respects to you all Farther sends his best respects to your Farther and says tell him I like first rate and am doing well, this part of Mich is destined to be a great place There is 5 mills on this river and 3 or 4 more in contemplations, & You would doubtless be surprised to see Charley He is as fat as a pig and can talk as plain as one most I will send you a little peice of my silk Dress and wedding one for you to look at

But I must bid you good bye dear Persis may sweet dreams be thouse And may thou art ever be happy as thou art now

I received your letter and more hasten to answer it. I had been looking for a letter a long while and was at length awarded by a good long one, I presume you have herd ere this, that is, if Mary F has received my letter that I am married, I was married the 3 day of last June to a young man by the name of Jeremiah C Collins. He is a millwright by trade and can get from 3 to 5 dollars a day to work at his trade building mills. He has been building a Mill on Sand Creek, one mile from here. He and Farther has taken the mill to run by the year and all the logging. They expect at the least calculation to make from clear from all expenses 3,000 a year they keep 15 or 16 men and will have to have more this winter. We have not moved down there yet but shall in a few weeks. They have got a woman to keep the boarding house and we shall live in a sepperate

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Sept

White River Aug ^ 11th 1854,

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Maine Historical Society
(Coll. 2239, Box 6/3)
MMN #35713

Date: Sept. 11, 1854
Description: Lucy Collins from Michigan to Persis Blanchard

House and have nothing to do with boarding the men
I board at home with mother and shall as long as I stay
here. For I prefer boadding to House keeping for the present
after I get settled down, and go to House keeping I ~~will~~^{want}
you to come and make me a good long visit, will you
not, dear Persis Mr Collins is a first rate steady fellow and
has an excellent principle, and a first rate education He
is a Phrenologist, I have studied Fowlers work on Phrenology
considerable this Summer and like it very much, and
I intend to keep on studying them I have been to Chicago
and also to Millwaukie I went in a steam boat from
Muskegon and was gone two weeks, I enjoyed myself first
rate Chicago is a beautiful City beyond all description
and goods are as cheap as in any of the Eastern Cities
While in Chicago we stopped to one of the largest houses
in the City, called the Garden City Hotel, I bought lots
of things for I had just as much money as I wanted
to spend. Among the things that I bought was a brocade
silk Dress that was 1,12 1/2 cents a yard I had cut in Chicago
and trimmings and all it cost about 17 dollars, it makes a
splendid Dress. A all wool delam' light green 44 cents a yard
A Cashmere Shall 5,00, Cheemizette and Collar, 2,50. Flowing
Undersleeves 1,75 Collar 50, kid gloves 75, black lace arm lets
50, Last spring I had me a real handsome thin French Lace
Bonnet, it is a beauty I was married in spotted Swiss Muslin
Dress Flowin Under sleeves White kid gloves and so forth,
I have got a Cornelian ring and a real handsome gold one
that Mr Collins gave The gold ring is plain one with a

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plate on top and the letters of my name engraved there on
it is about the ^{heaviest} ~~thickest~~ ring I ever saw and cost 4,70 cents,
My health is good the best it has been for a year, little
did I think that I should be married so young when I
came here so soon. Only think I shall not be 18 until
next Spring. But perhaps it is all for the best. For I
have got a kind and Affectionate Husband and he almost
Idolizes me and he is so afraid of me that he will not let
me do any thing. He owns a large Farm on Wisconsin
at Port Washington And He is what a person might call rich
He has not made up his mind yet where he shall settle
But we shall probably remain here a couple of years yet, what
is the reason that Sarah has not answered my letter that I
wrote so long ago give my love to her, And tell Sarah that
I want her to come and live with me, when I go to
keeping house, And will you not come out and make
me a visit. I was indeed surprised to hear that Susan
had gave Meaub the mitten, And was keeping company
with Ed Willson. Did there any engagement exist between
them or not. I always thought Susan appeared to set
a great deal by him. How does Meaub feel about it
What in the world could have induced her to prefer
Ed Willson to Meaub It must be his pretty face But
I never would marry for beauty alone, for beauty will
fade, like a withered flower, I am not much acquainted
with Ed but I always thought he was a real fop, and
I think Meaub is far the best fellow, I guess Susan
has forgotten me for I have never received but one letter

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from her and I have wrote her two Give my love to her
and tell her to write Mr Collins Farther was born ~~in~~
and brought up in Ohio. His folks are all wealthy and of
high standing His Farther is a distinguished Printer and
was editor of the first Abolitionist ^{Paper} ever printed in the
United States, But he is now retired from business
Bye the bye, does Lissy Loring keep company with Bill
Sweeter yet and where is He. When is the Soul girls
now at home But it is growing late and I must bid
you good night, May sweet dreams be thine dear friend
Saturday the 12, again do I seat myself dear friend
and hope to be able to finish It is a beautiful afternoon
The sun shines bright in the azure skies, Oh would that
I could see you what lots I'd tell you for it is
impossible to write half on paper But I hope and trust
the time is not far distant that we shall meet again
But rest assured darling that I shall never forget thee
How often do I recall dear friend the many happy hours
spent in your company, would that those days could have
lasted longer than everything is constantly changing The way
seems through which we pass exist but in our memory
And thus it will ever be through life, Give my respects
to your Farther and Mother, and my love to Frank Give my best
respects to your Sister Elisebeth Give my love to Mary H and
also accept a large share for you Self But I must close this
to send to the office as I have got a chance to send it to the
office Mr Collins starts to Monday morning for Chicago
& Milwaukee on business He will be gone two weeks
I shall be lonesome when he is gone, Answer soon and write
all the news
From your affectionate friend Lucy E Collins
Please excuse all errors

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