

20th July 1861 - 20th years ago the summer Festival got a young gentleman
said for her which one
have eyes and hair and
about a week ago I did
he called her Little she
was a beautiful bird of fine
origin - Amanda is in England
yet. I saw her only a moment
when she was age the young
The looked happy & happy -
There is Katie Colinton house
I don't I would like to see her
Hollis is a mother now - good
his little eye - But he has
they look what their names are
give very much love to Hollis &
Katie by all the family - I hope
some day to visit you all
the middle of his eighth and
salute! I am in the way to
perhaps about 18 - perhaps
the report for I cannot tell
any thing less than decided
would exceed his willing to
one. He is the dear young girl
I don't I don't know which
will all his through the year
change - He has a letter to all the
the one very soon, maybe a week or so

River View Aug 2nd 1861

Dear Aunt, Willie,

Is not this a
splendid morning and day. I wish
heartily that you were here to enjoy it
with me. I know you would think
our home a pleasant one - everything is
thriving finely - and the sloping hills,
waving grain, and noble old elms,
for which this place is famous - combine
to make a glorious picture - the beauty
of which is greatly enhanced by the
warm loving sunlight, with its mellowing
evening influence. That wicked
heat I cannot feel very kindly towards it.

*...I have been thinking of writing you many times
but I have been so busy that I could not find time
for it has robbed me of some of my
dearest friends.*

Now I have promised to
give Mother the benefit of one half this
sheet, so I must be brief. First, many
thanks for the flower seeds you sent me, I
sowed them, and the whole garden is adorned
with the perfume of the flowers. I have not
much of a variety in my flower garden
yet. Hope to make some improvements another
year. George & Anna are at Burlington
attending Commencement exercises. Wend &
Tuesday, are expected home tonight.

We are expecting Henry, Edie & "Babe"
boy every day - with no little impatience. I
presume there will be some rather noisy
demonstrations when they arrive. Father
and Carl are busily engaged in haying.
Frankie is of no little importance for he
handles the rake with considerable dexterity.
How inquired in your letter about my birds
I have but one Canary bird now - Dickie

Dear Sister Nettie

As Belle has very kindly
left half of her letter for me, to say a few words,
I do feel by avail myself of the opportunity. It is
Saturday, and raining, a little, Henry, Corbie, and
Baby, are here, and that comprises our little all
and we are at home, not squatted for one year
or two, but for life if we succeed in paying for
it, and that, we can do if we have our health.
Crops never looked ^{better} in the town, of joy, than they
do this year, except grass that is very light, but
wheat, Oats, Corn, & Potatoes look as they used to
years ago, we have had plenty of rain all summer
Tho' some parts of the County have suffered some
from drouth, still it has been fair for a plentiful
Harvest. We are all well and happy and try
to feel thankful ^{for} the blessings we are receiving,
Father says he never ^{saw} ~~never~~ ^{gibbs} Crops look as well as
now, and O Nettie if you, and Carrie Chinton
could only come out this fall such a visit as
we would have, no Off Or, all pull together
and my dear dear Mother the happiest one of the
lot

haps. dear Nettie had no near near one more one off. No more one off.

do do come and bring your husbands and as
many of your children as you can and we
will all go home and be young again live
over the scenes of our childhood and make
the old give ring with our shouts O Mother
you dont know how good it seems to think
I have got a home and so near Mother
I had a real treat the other day reading
a letter from Carrie to Mother and I am going
to write to her whether she answers it or not
It is a pretty general time of health but
some sudden deaths she that was Elizabeth
Powers she married a Graves she died with
quick consumption and Edy Jones, Adeline's
brother died very sudden with Billions
Cholic - he was a wild wicked and died
Crying for Mercy his Parents and Kate are
almost crazy - give my love to John Henry
and Emma - also to Carrie & family tell her
she will hear from me next week
Love to Henry Jenny and babies tell them
all to write and I certainly will answer
Bartter sends love but never writes Henry
Lelia and Baby send much love good by

Bill is waiting write of her send Adeline's letters and I will write to her