

Donaldsonville, La.

May 9th 1897

My dear Harry -

Your letter was
received last Monday.
I had really given
out ever fearing
from you any more,
and was somewhat
surprised when
your letter came. But
I acknowledge that
part of the blame

is with me I am going to turn
over a new leaf and do better
in the future. As this is not a
New Year's resolution, perhaps I
can keep it. You should appre-
ciate this letter doubly from the
fact that I have stayed
away from church & night ~~in~~
order to comply with your
request to answer your letter ~~within~~
a week after I received it — I don't
see why you should feel any fur-
mication in asking that we post-
pone our engagement until 1898
As we both young and I agree
with you that it would not
be for the happiness of either.

of us to marry before
you were financially
able to do so. Father's
sudden death altered
our plans very materi-
ally, and I am not
ready to marry this
summer any way.

I fully appreciate all
you say and am
perfectly willing to
wait another year.

Although I had
much rather be with
you, as long as I

believe that you still
love me, Harry, I am
happy and contented.
It is hardly
probable that ~~Tom~~
and I will remain
here another year.
The people all seem
to be well pleased
with the school
and think we will
remain. But Tom
doesn't like this time
of work, and says

if he can get another position
that suits him he will accept
it. This is a public school and
there are no advanced classes in
it ^{at} all. If he leaves of course I will
not teach here. I wouldn't be down
here by myself for any thing. I am
corresponding with a man in
Abilene Texas, and thinks very likely
he will accept a position with
him. I know mother will be much
opposed to his going to Tex., but this
is a good position and he can't
afford to refuse it. It is the chair
of Latin Greek and German in
Sumner College. It has been strongly

recommended to him
and he will use
every effort to secure
it!

He had ~~a~~ letter
from brother yesterday
saying that he had
rented a cottage in
Hendersonville N. C.
and they were going
to move there as soon
as convenient to spend
the summer. I am
going there as soon

as my school is
out Hendersonville
is a place of about
1700, has water works
and street car line
and is in every way
a progressive little
town. I am delighted
with the idea of
going there for the
summer, and all
being together. I have
forgotten whether or
not I told you that

Rob had left Mass this morn and is
teaching at Smithfield N.C. He
has an excellent position as Prof
of Latin Greek and French in
the Burlington Institute at B.
The school will be out soon
and he will join the family at
Hendersonville. It will be a happy
reunion for us all. The nearer
the time approaches for me to
go home the more anxious I get
to see them all. I think I have
done very well to stay down here
five months without once getting
homesick. This is the first time.

I was even away
from home without
mother.

We are all going
to an ice-cream festi-
val next Wednesday night
at a place called
Jabeno, about eight
miles from here. The
arrangement is to go
in a wagon all
to-gether, and we
are anticipating a
pleasant time.

I had my picture
taken that week and
as soon as they are
finished I will send
you one. This was
the first opportunity
I have had of this
kind in some time
and although not
the best, I decided
to seize it. The pho-
tographer is a travel-
ling artist, but seems

to do very nice work. I saw the
proofs before he left, and think
the likeness is good, but I don't
know how the finish will look.

It is getting late and I must
bring this to a close. Now remem-
ber your promise to answer this
within a week after you get it.
I shall be looking for a letter from
you. With much love I am

Always yours

Comelia B.