

W. Lake Co. Mo. Nov 2 1851

Cherish

Dear beloved Friend

I now take my pen in hand to write a few lines to you to let you know that I am well and hope these few lines will find you enjoying the same blessing. I received ^{your letter} a few weeks ago and was much gratified with its perusal. I was very glad to hear from you to hear that you was well and seemed to enjoy yourself well. I intended to have answered your kind letter long ago but something happened when I wanted to write, I could not. I have had but little leisure time. Mother and I have been sowing for the store this summer and it has kept us pretty busy. I commenced only 2 or 3 weeks ago and went and got it one evening to finish it and something happened that I could not and I left it on the bureau and some one eat a piece out and then I waited a spell and ~~then~~ ^{for not writing sooner} commenced another. dear Aurelia you will forgive me will you not, I will not delay writing to you so long again. you said that you had no kind mother to watch over you as you once had. no Aurelia she has gone, she is taken from your embrace you will see her no more here on this earth you will hear her voice no more it is hushed in death. we hope she now lives in heaven where Jesus reigns and where angels dwell. dear friend prepare to meet your mother in that better land, you will soon have to follow her. Aurelia prepare to meet your god. seek the Savior while in your ^{young} youth do not put it off any longer now is the accepted time now is the day of salvation but perhaps you say wait until tomorrow or next week or next year but you have no promise of tomorrow it may then be too late before tomorrow comes you may die cold and motionless in the arms of death. start in the service of God now Aurelia. here is my heart and here is my hand to go with you to that better land trust in him and although you are separated many miles from your