

I have for the past year and am at present residing with my Aunt  
15 miles South of Chicago <sup>great</sup> the Comproium of the West Uncle Charles  
was formerly a Hat and Cap merchant in the afore mentioned City  
but on account of the feebleness of his health he was obliged to retire to the  
country he is what I call sick and owns a beautiful farm on which he  
lives He has lived in the Country now 2 years and his health is much im-  
proved We receive a good deal of company from the city and sometimes  
I go in & spend a short time in fine I enjoy myself very much but I  
must not forget to tell you also that I have had the misfortune of falling  
in love head and ears and also that I fear my love is hopeless If it is so  
I shall not love the less but love in secret and as a natural consequence  
what — die of love No that is something I do not believe in It may  
soften our characters make us less selfish more awake to others misery and  
serve to remind us of God turning our thoughts to that heavenly abiding  
place of the soul But I do think if we strive to do our duty not flinching after  
a something we know is useful we can bring our hearts around to suffering  
which we know not of or I know I can if I should love with passionate  
earnestness one who did not reciprocate my affection for him I strive on  
against that love to the fulfilment of my duties and thus not abating  
any sympathy for others but arousing into action my better feelings for  
their good I cannot write you many news about Heron not hearing