

Augusta Sept 20<sup>th</sup> 1872

My Darling,

Although I feel so tired that I can scarcely hold my pen. I know that my Love will expect a letter from me tonight, so I will try to write, if it is only a few lines. Dr. Dixon, Dr. Robert & Col. Graham are spending the evening with us & occupy our parlor, while the other is crowded with children of every age & size who are visiting my little cousins - This very moment the mingled sounds of the piano, laughing, talking & every other noise that children can make come to my ear from

Dr. Robert - you know  
Dr. Dixon, I believe, was a minister  
Col. Graham, a close friend of F.H.C.  
Mar. Julia Willingham  
(a widow with several children)

Excerpt from letter of J. Henry Rhodes  
to Mary Conley  
(2 mo. before marriage)

from home of  
"Bud & Josie" Lanton  
with whom he lived.