Montgomery 11th May 1843.

Dear Ellen

Before the receipt of ~~Mrs B~~ your letter to Mrs Benson I had some idea of advertising a young lady about your size, as either strayed or stolen. but as they dont steal dark complexioned gentry at the North, and all strays are sure to come back at some time. I concluded to save my money & wait future developements - Finding that you are still in the land of the living, and not married to any of the Winchester family. I come to the very natural conclusion, that with your extravagant habits you must be nearly "out of soap" and accordingly enclose you a check at one days sight on our friend Mr Geo W Abbot, for which you will send me a receipt when you receive the money.

The Town generally so lively and agreeable; has all things considered been wretchedly dull this Spring - No particular diversion in the way of killing, little or no marrying, and not more than one half of the usual quantity of babies born. In the place of these amusements the good people have established a Lyceum where some fool lectures every friday night - Mr Lipscomb who is a Reformed Methodist preacher belonging to Mrs Judge Bibb

is the head diver, and with him are associated all the school-
masters, preachers and sundry lawyers. All the elite make it
a point to attend, and this with an occasional touch of
Mesmerism constitutes the main sources of our amusements
at this time. One of the mesmerising gents I got at my home
for the purpose of testing the truths of the science before a se-
lect few. He first tried his hand on Nat and Harriet for about
half an hour, without so much as making them wink, and then
experimented with about the same success on your humble servant.
He then tried Hal Clayton, a boy whom he had operated upon
before, and with whom it was generally believed he had col-
luded to gull the public, and him he put into a magnetic
state as they call it in about five minutes. The young scape
grace Clayton is a brother of Mrs P. D Sayre, and being under
her management, it was thought proper that she should
be there, and accordingly so she was sent for. On her
arrival the experiments proceeded to the satisfaction of all
present except Mrs S. who by way of convincing herself that the
whole business was not an imposition, took occasion to box
Hals ears pretty roundly, while the operator was exciting the organs
of combativeness. Whereupon Mr Hal rushed at her, and she had
well nigh got knocked down for her pains, it being as much as
several of us could do, to hold him off of her. When rescued she ap-
peared tolerably well satisfied and the show broke up.

She resembles very strongly [illegible]
mable wife. Mrs H was as I learn present, and lapped it up as a cat
would cream. Mrs Judge Martin I understand says that if the Queens
of Europe resemble Mrs H so much, it satisfactorily accounts for the
conjugal slips of the kings. The whole concern Miss Stanley
& all are going to Belgium, and Miss Latimer is going with them
but in what capacity I know not. Ellen Wallach
Boston
We had some weeks since a man by the name of Brough who
gone concerts, and sings very nicely. He tells stories however
better than he sings. What with his songs and his stories he succeed
ed in turning the Town [illegible] pretty well topsy turvy while he staid
In the way of Courtship the old matters stand about in statu
quo. The affair of Mrs Taylor & Mr Pryor it is generally supposed
will terminate in the usual way next fall or winter, tho' the
lady denies it very positively. She assured me the other night in
a very naive manner that the Town were great boobies to talk
about it. and if she would not be a great fool to marry any one.
I said it was my opinion precisely unless she had a Pryor engagement!!
Pryor looks very paternal upon little Jesse, and wores fat. Mrs T has
just returned from Orleans where she went to take lessons on the Hoop. She
started one before, got as far as Cahaba, had a bit of hystericks about
little Jesse, and come back after him. Doctor Fair has removed
to Montgomery but has done nothing very remarkable so far. The
General has taken to politicks and has some idea of running for
Congress. Mary Martin & Dr Baldwin are still engaged, and of the

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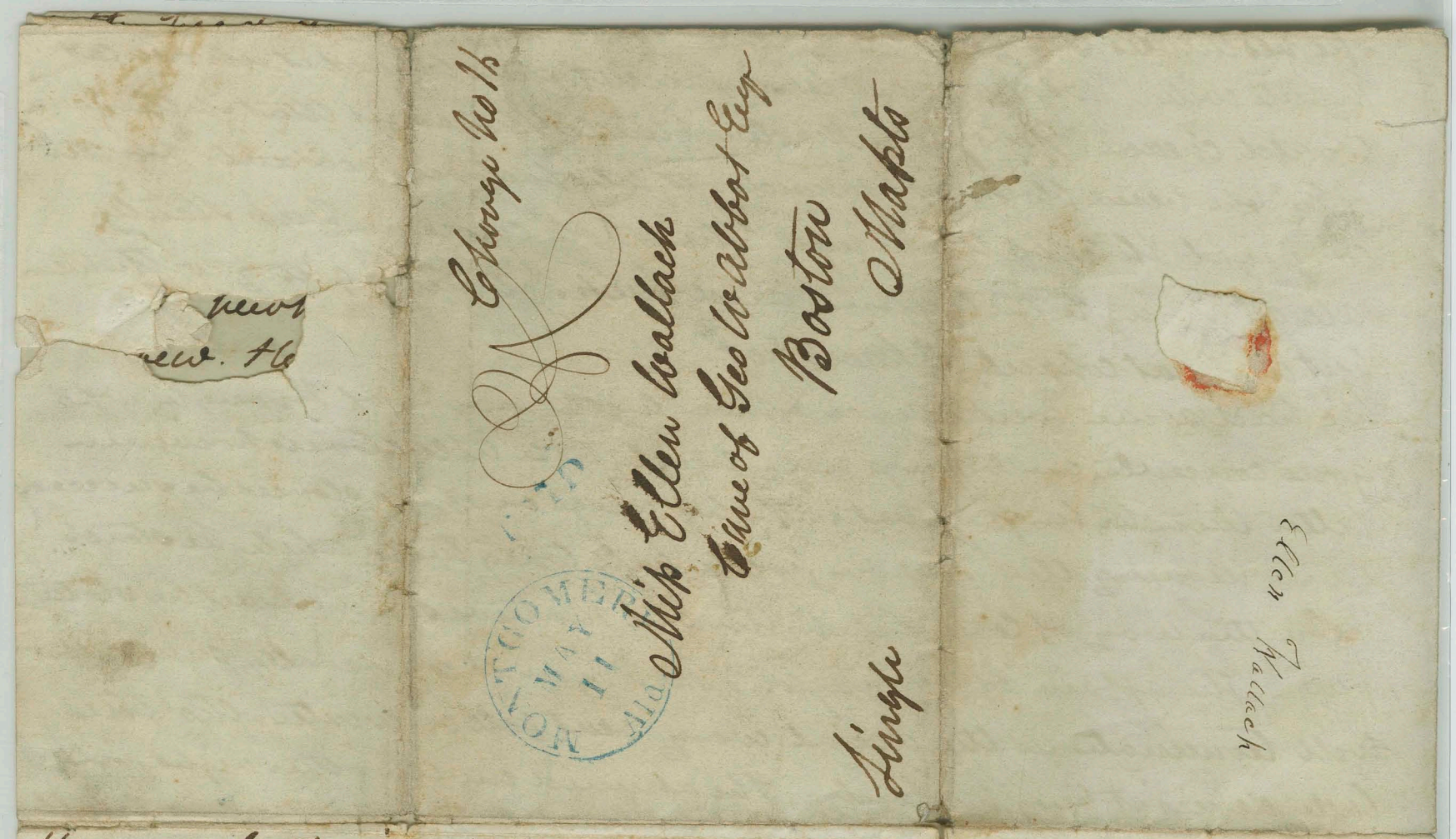
Chicago No 15



Miss Ellen Wallach
Care of Geo W Abbot Esq
Boston
Mapts

Single

MONTGOMERY
MAY
11

Ellen Wallach

the young ladies into the blessed state of matrimony. At their parties Mr Bell is the constant attendant of Miss Glasscock. Mr Goldthwaite generally enlivens the soirée with his presence about the time the strawberries & ice are brought in. and generally winds up with a slight touch of the - colic - before day.

I believe I have told you all the news. Every body is well & warm. Olivia is whitewashing with the view of hoping the summer in Town & all the children send kisses to their Aunt Ellen which I will deliver in person next July in Washington -

Give my love to Fanny -

Geo Goldthwaite