Denver Colorado
June 26th 1874.

Dear Charly.

In casting up writing accounts, it appears that I have been your debtor for some, and now should dictation be allowed my feelings no writing would be done. It is now 10.30 a.m. a bright & hot sun, till now very little air stirring, I think warmest day we have had, and yet we are pleasant in shade. Last night, a warm night, but we slept under three blankets and toward day found it cool with that cover. Then too, think that we sleep between blankets (for we have no sheets) with two below & three above us and you may have some idea of the pleasantness of our nights. Nothing like musquitoes to trouble us at night, but thousands of them along our irrigating ditches, to pepper one working late in the evening. Joe & Frank are patching breeches, and Joe is wishing for a sewing machine. I believe he says he would prefer a flesh colored one. Probably the complexion of Miss Anna P. might suit. The sun is so hot that we can only work morning & evening

It is not too hot for persons in health, & we have tried it right through all hours until yesterday. I concluded that it cost me so much in flesh that I could economize by leaving off hot hours & only working cool ones. I have lately lost ten pounds in weight, but feel already an improvement since yesterday. I am almost as thin as the fabled turkey. Notwithstanding what I have written, I think each of us improving, & I trust for more marked results before the beginning of another winter. We cannot reasonably hope for effectual restoration, and should be content with, & thankful for any prolongation of life. That life can be extended, by removal here from more unfavorable latitudes, of the lung affected, if the change be made before a too far aggression of the disease, is evident to me. The refreshing nights are jewels in the lives of the weary. We often wish you all could enjoy our nights, such blessings they would be after your oppressive days. Our days are not oppressive, & now while I write a most pleasant breeze has sprung up. I might add too, that I am clad in heavy woolen under clothing, with a heavy woolen over shirt & pants, the raiment of last winter. Under such circumstances, we often

find a direct breeze too cool, and are sometimes during warmest part of day obliged to close doors against wind. I mail with this a "Rocky Mountain News" to father. I have marked in it, a letter from Dr Newman, in whose candor & veracity at least, I have confidence. There are also other things of interest in the paper, the visit etc of the Galveston, Houston, & Kansas City business delegation to Denver, and the result of the visit. I happened in town on business, knowing nothing of these men being in Denver, and fortunately heard all the speeches made. Much enthusiasm was manifested and I think before many years Denver & Galveston will be linked by railroad. The Texas men were an exceptionally wealthy, intelligent, & representative body. ~~of~~ We have hired a man to help us for a few days & were getting on well until yesterday morning when water failed. The big ditch has broken somewhere, but I reckon will certainly be allright sometime to day. In the meantime what little we have, is suffering for water. We were busy on the wheat when water failed. This will happen occasionally, as droughts with to you. In a few days I think we will have some beans, peas & turnips for market

English peas sell here for 35 & 40¢ a gallon and beans 35 or 40¢ a pound. Tell Crenshaw I received his letter a few days since & will write as soon as I can. I got a letter also from Laura, with one enclosed from father day before yesterday, & I do one from father yesterday dated I think 19th. We have gotten New York papers to June 10th, and advertisers to 14th inclusive. Tell Hines I am expecting a treat in his next letter. I want all political & social news, & his judgement on points & men at issue, and as to result, especially in old "Elmore". Grant has completely shattered the Republican party here, & had the Democrats able leaders, success & control of Colorado would be an easy thing. As things are, success between factions, is almost "Hobsons choice". Give my kindest regards to all friends. Love to the family. Good bye.

Yours &c

John E. Hall.

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