

Benton Oct the 23d

My Dear Friend

I have intended
writing you since before Alvir is come
down. But one duty and another
has crowded upon me so my duty
in writing you in your bereavement
has been neglected. I have thought
of you often yes very often since

the death of your dear companion.
May your heavenly father sustain
you and yours in this bereavement
is the earnest wish of my heart.
Remember me to Lyman
Arbino and Mary with much
love and sympathy for them
in their afflictions.

I enjoyed Alvir's visit
here very much all the while.

was she did not stay long
enough & in 1-Charley nearly
^{as much} after he went away as I did. I think
I am very well now ~~but~~ but
last spring and summer
it was very poor & sometimes
think now my days on
earth would not be many
and. Very soon if I had missed
the end for which I was created
I would not sigh for my days
to be three or four years but I do
fear I have come far far short.

The eye of that wise being
has detected many and grievous
errors in my life and for which
I have less dispositions & fear
than I ought to have to atone
for ~~what~~.

I received a letter
a few days since from Mary
Hordwell her health is very
poor something earthly

now for her she did not
come down this season on the
account of her fathers wife perhaps
you have heard me say they
have some trouble. I forgot to
say in the proper place fathers
family are all well & see them
quite often. I often find
myself ~~wishing~~ on sabbath
~~morning~~ wishing myself
where I could attend Church with
you do not understand me
I am debarred (in my country home)
from attending church not so
I hear a sermon nearly every
sabbath but of course we do not
always have so good speakers as
you have. I am all alone
this evening Mr Brown
is called away on business wish
you was with me. We hear
from Stephens often he is
clerk in a Hospital in Washington

I must close it is getting late
write me when convenient
to yourself My love to all
Mr Brown has just come
so good by for this time
In love Yours