

Victoria, B. C.  
December 27<sup>th</sup> 1862

William -

I had long expected  
to hear from you and our other  
- I wonder when you will  
take it into your head to write again

suppose your hands are so full on the  
I see that you have no time to write  
Indeed you were such an enthusiastic  
Republican that I should not  
be at all surprised to hear of your  
filling for the Republic - probably  
adding to the long list of widows  
made by the war -

you stated that it is time  
I should be thinking of matrimony  
now the first if and that I should  
some one need being a wife <sup>happy</sup> with me  
I have thought a good  
deal on the subject - and however

*Vertical scribbles and crossed-out text on the left side of the page, including the word "Frank" at the top.*

much I should like to go over for  
that purpose of finding there is insuperable  
difficulties in the way just now  
I have my business in such a shape just  
now that it would be quite impossible  
to leave for a year or two -  
I have now earned a good home for  
a wife and in 2 years more I hope to  
have made a competence for life -  
- Now my hard experience here has  
made me an extremely practical man  
and I treat every affair of life in that  
mode - so you need not be surprised  
at the delicate commission I now entrust  
to you to get me a wife - In this country  
there are plenty of women and good looking  
ones too but they are generally spoiled  
before they get here - In counsel with  
the above subject I have long thought  
that I should be very happy with such a  
modest woman as your sister Mrs. Gibbs  
But I fear there are insuperable  
difficulties in the way were she as willing  
to share my heart & hand as I am hers  
I confess she is one of the few women  
I can love & respect through life - The awful  
calamity which befell my respected friend  
Mr. Gibbs has left it an open question

whether to marry again or not - ~~A~~ While  
- your mother <sup>is</sup> alive I know it would be  
Cruel - to ~~the~~ <sup>part</sup> aged mother from her kind  
Daughters & Compassion of her years - so that  
hererethat a difficulty of the most -  
insuperable kind ~~was~~ <sup>is</sup> your  
Sister willing to accept - my hand  
I have loved Mrs Gilberts - as a girl - and  
admired & respected her as a dutiful wife  
and would feel - that my happiness would be  
complete were there none of these diffie  
ulties in the way. of course I heard a  
little of your mind ~~and~~ <sup>then</sup> that I suppose  
things have change very much my hope  
from what ~~you~~ <sup>you</sup> anticipate or can conceiv  
of - I think therefore I cannot do better  
than leave the matter entirely in your  
hand - If a devoted Daughter could leave an aged  
Parent <sup>and come to</sup> in distant ~~land~~ <sup>land</sup> - like this  
then I would know what course to propose  
But I fear I have done wrong in broaching the subject  
at all - I leave it - entirely in your hands - If you think  
it would ~~be~~ <sup>be</sup> ~~curt~~ <sup>curt</sup> the Comfort - Happiness -  
or Enjoyment - of the aged mother let the ~~the~~ whole  
subject pass into oblivion to be named no more  
but on the other hand you think it would  
be compatible with the power ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> of the  
old woman then you are at liberty to make



It was when I'll join sister a proposal  
of my kind of the could but be able  
to endure a journey half round  
the globe for the home [ ]  
could offer here here I have only  
to say in a few years we will be  
no distance from you as you  
are aware the Pacific Rail Road will  
some day soon shorten the distance  
between us but only a mere pleasure trip  
This is a lovely season & fine climate  
now when I write it is like fine weather the  
the sun has come out today like a day  
in June. The country is rapidly filling up  
and the country is ~~the country is~~ and is  
being rapidly taken up my place is  
becoming quite valuable I have 20  
acres fence of our parcel under crop &  
I raised 4000 Fruit Trees and had  
them ready for the market this season  
I send you some & crop out of our new  
papers. Give my kindest regards to your Mother  
& send your dearest love to her - and let me hear of them  
will care when you write me

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- your mother <sup>is</sup> alive I know it would be  
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her extracts a difficulty of the most -  
insuperable kind were ~~to~~ your  
Sister willing to accept - my hand  
I have loved Mrs Gibbs as a girl - and  
admired & respected her as a dutiful wife  
and would feel - that my happiness would be  
complete were there none of these diffic-  
ulties in the way. of course I heard a  
little of you and then that I suppose  
things have change very much my hope  
from what I had an conception or can conceive  
of - I think therefore I cannot do better  
than leave the matter entirely in your  
hands - If a devoted daughter could leave an aged  
parent <sup>as you come to</sup> for a distant land - like this  
then I would know what course to propose  
but I fear I have done wrong in broaching the subject  
at all - I leave it - entirely in your hands. If you think  
it would ~~be~~ curtail the comfort - Happiness -  
or enjoyment - of the aged mother let the ~~the~~ whole  
subject pass into oblivion to be named no more  
but on the other hand you think it would  
be compatible with the peace of the  
old woman then you are at liberty to make

Mrs. Robert G. G. join sister a proposal  
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I have raised 4000 Fruit Trees and had  
them ready for the market this season  
I send you some & crop out of our new  
papers. Give my kindest regards to your Mother  
& send your best love to G. G. and let me hear of them  
well soon when you write me