

8 June 1885

Supposed to be  
baptized - advised  
to wait because  
he wasn't sure.

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(Given to the  
Jan. 2 1845  
sent at 10 o'clock)

My Dear Friend  
Since our long corresponding I have  
never taken my pen in hand as quick as  
this morning to write you, I know  
the disappointment this note will  
carry to you and it gives me much pain  
to write it, but the truth you will find  
out sooner later and I will tell it to  
you now - I was going to get talking  
yesterday evening. All was ready and  
I thought it would be over soon  
but when they commenced questioning  
me I soon found that I could not  
answer them with a clear conscience  
and told them so I told them what I  
believed but they said I must know

and advised me to wait awhile  
They said that they would not  
be justified to administer until I  
was sure. Now I have told you  
the truth. And believe you will think  
more of me than if I had lied.  
I think all will be well in  
the end. I know you will be greatly  
disappointed when you read this.  
If all is well I will call and see  
you Sat. night (it may be late) but I  
think I shall be there. Will leave Wed.  
this afternoon and get to London Frid.  
and may come to see you in the after-  
noon. I don't think you will be  
very glad to see me but I must  
see you. I don't feel in a good way  
for writing this morning and you will  
with me. I will like reading much from  
me after you have heard the dispensation  
this thing you I feel like I had  
acted wisely and for the best both

for both you and I. I hope to retain  
your love as before. I don't you may  
depend you have missed if the stream  
of time carries my boat faster than  
yours and I am <sup>drifting</sup> ~~drifting~~ <sup>on toward</sup> ~~on~~ the  
Ocean of Eternity before you, my  
affection will linger with you and  
your part. I will know I want to  
tell you so much and can't find words  
to express and it seems a burden to  
write this morning so I will quit  
remembering what you used to say "You  
did not like to read a letter when the  
party had to exert itself does it not"  
I resigning my name  
I remain Your Affectionate  
Will.