

Every stranger  
is an officer &  
the polygamists  
are dodging.  
To keep out of debt

Marriage  
planned for  
fall

Smithfield Utah

March 27<sup>th</sup> 1880

My Dear Friend Nora

You no doubt have begun to think that I have forgotten to write to you I have written you once since leaving I and have failed to get an ans. which I believe is my fault as I am changing my address I have not been successful this trip for many reasons I am well and of course satisfied I would have written you but thought I would be in before the letter I may get there now before this Nora I shall have to get some money from you My plans are not to be relied upon since business has taken such a change Keep \$100 for me please

I am stopping at Mr  
W. H. Merrill's home here  
yesterday. Have been considering  
what would be best for me to do  
Am thinking of going South  
as soon as I get my crop in  
Times are so dull to make much  
here. I am a little bothered as to  
what would be best to do. Fall  
will soon be here and our wedding  
must not be put off. Will I'll  
find some way out of the difficulty.

Saw you still teaching? or have they  
closed your school? I was told that  
they closed it for you. Don't  
believe it! Have you heard from  
G. L. ? There is but little news to tell you  
All that I am able to gather is that every  
stranger is an officer and the polygamists  
are dodging to keep out of their sight -  
Which is quite laughable in some  
instances and in others quite  
serious. I have been almost unable

To find an old acquaintance  
and times when I would meet men  
would ask them questions when I  
knew as much as they did I did it  
only to hear what they would say  
Some uneducated lies would make  
quite laughable sport - While others  
would tell quite nice slick feasible ones.

I was taken for an officer by all  
that did not know me and of course  
business was dull

Well Howard You must excuse  
this badly written letter I have made  
some ink on it and it makes it  
look very bad Would write another if I  
had time but the train will be  
here soon so I will send this  
I have had some very bad news about  
you on this trip I will tell them to you when  
I come down  
Ever Yours  
With Respect Will