
Letter: One page, both sides
Paper: Lined Paper 9" wide by 7-1/8" high
No Envelope

Grand Rapids Sep 9 '90

Dear Friend Lizzie:

I received your letter Tuesday evening and was glad to hear from you so soon. I am sorry to tell you I don't think I can get there Friday night. I have to work pretty hard now. Two of our men quit the shop last week and I am breaking new men in their places. I have to tell them and show them how to do everything so I couldn't possibly lay off Saturday and you can imagine what it would be dancing all night and coming back here and working all day. I am sorry I can't come but you can catch some other fellow and you won't miss me.

I got a great lot of reading matter the other day. I bought a set of Bulwer-Lytton's works in nice large volumes.

Well Lizzie it is getting towards bedtime and my pen is worn out (as you can see, I guess) and I don't think of any more to write (which is the main excuse) I will close hoping you will enjoy the dance.

Very Truly Your Friend
Lester Mills

(I guess you will have to get an interpreter to make this out but I hope not)

Edward George Earl Bulwer-Lytton, 1st Baron Lytton (May 25, 1803–January 18, 1873) was an English novelist, playwright, and politician. Lord Lytton was a florid, popular writer of his day, who coined such phrases as "the great unwashed", "pursuit of the almighty dollar", the infamous incipit "It was a dark and stormy night" and "The pen is mightier than the sword." Today he is usually regarded as a byword for bad writing. San Jose State University's annual Bulwer-Lytton Fiction Contest for bad writing is named after him.
