

20 Myrt Bt. Jan 4

1871  
AL/2984

I have been so happy over  
last night's dear note, beloved.

I was sure before that you  
w<sup>d</sup> help me up, but I like  
to feel the process is beginning.

I can't not love you for  
ever if you were quite  
satisfied with me, being  
so far from satisfied with  
myself. Mrs. Wedgewood  
& Mrs. Westlake have been  
here today, each morning  
'just a little' over the blow

they think it is & will be  
to women, but they did  
not succeed in depressing me.

Still you do mistake me  
a little - taking my hesitation  
as the result of personal  
ambition instead of what  
I am sure it is, a dread  
lest I maybe choosing  
my own happiness, at the  
price of the duty I owe  
to women who need something  
wh. I as one of their leaders  
can give them.

Ever yours  
E. Barrett