

Letter (4-page) from Vines L. Coalson to Mattie Lamkin

Bethesda Tex.  
March 9<sup>th</sup> 1883 (or 1893?)  
Miss Mattie Lamkin

Dearest Friend

Your most welcome note was most respectfully read with great interest. There was a great deal of consolation in it. Your confidence I never doubted and will never doubt. Mattie did you think that I could find an other that is better looking or more affectionate modest or refined no; no; never Mattie could I go back on you. You are the sunshine of my heart. You are the first choice with me. I never knew to love but thee and Mattie it looks like it would be impossible for me to love an other if we should cease our love to each other. Mattie as I said in a previous note you had won my love and affections. And the smiles, words, and ways ????? can take them from you as long as we remain the way we are. Mattie if I looked mad at you this week I deceived my looks. If I had a thought that you thought that I was mad, I would have wrote you a note before I did. I was afraid that you you had got mad at me for saying what I did. I have wished 100 times that I had not have said it. You seem like you felt very lonesome but I did not know what was the matter with you until I got that note from you. Mattie I hope that it will never happen again for I would not add a single sorrow to your heart if I knew it. I am devotedly yours for ever if you want me to be. But when you find an other that you like better than you do me let me know. I know that I will never find the likes of thee. You are mine if I never get you or I will always think so Mattie. I would like to hear from you to day if you get a good chance for it is a long time till Monday. I want a ??? fore will look at you to morrow evening for I will miss your kind words and sweet smile. Excuse all mistakes.

Your loving friend(?), V.L.  
Tear this up.