

POEM FROM JAMES ADLER TO SARAH ELLISON ♡

May I presume in humble strains to tell
I'm Fairfield for a tooth ~~or~~ known full well
Such a fair one's in it, crown with so many charms
Seems born to rule all hearts without the aid of arms
Such mate's sweetness does her mind disclose
As fine that lovely as the blooming rose
O could her sweet lips ever seem to move
As singing every passer on the road
No ad all the grass above to place in one
Giving charm that comes out of a thorn
I get any view here with microscope eye
By it seem their proudly say I do not lie
I cannot help her elegant pointing
So many beauties views for every way
O happy ~~what~~ ~~is~~ her favorite the
No one can be more blest as it is me

Say sweetest maid may not the type be strong
As unknown to hymen is ~~descriptive~~ not
Around other fair ~~one~~ ~~at~~ their charms ~~are~~ ~~sure~~
And then forgotten dearest to my heart
No as ~~any~~ ~~the~~ ~~young~~ that boasts of purring flame
Every fair ~~adoring~~ ~~found~~ in ~~present~~ ~~love~~
Like me ~~hope~~ ~~do~~ a tower lover's ~~flame~~
Like me had such emotions or as long have love
I feel the time fleets fast while lingering here we stand
So seemingly forgetful that were soon to part
O! refrain no longer yield the willing hands
No ~~no~~ cease to reward the love which long has warmed my heart

I shall I ~~be~~ ^{be} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~hands~~ ^{hands} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~art~~ ^{art}.
A stranger to the muses, yet they may be kind
Reflect ye goddess one glance on my heart
A poet here for to see it, and the truth shall find
It as it not beat ~~that~~ ^{truth} ~~concealing~~ for her alone

Ever since that hour when first she did appear kind
Let censure speak the truth ~~she doubts it not~~ ^{I will it own}
Let ~~some~~ ^{some} ~~speak~~ ^{speak} it, she will soon be mine

J
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B
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[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]