

Hampstead Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> /62

Darling Husband,

I received yours of the 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> Jan. and it is such a dear kind letter that it pays all up for those two naughty ones. I might have known you was out of tobacco or something of the sort. And I should never have answered that last in the way I did if I hadn't had the teeth ache most outrageously. But I went over to Dr Morse's last Thursday and let him take it out. It was an ugly old wisdom tooth and has been plaguing me this six months. In the first place he took an ugly looking instrument I don't know what it was I never saw one used before and broke the top of the tooth off. Then he had to dig around<sup>d</sup> it clear to the jaw bone he said

The digging operation lasted about fiftien minutes and then he took hold with his forceps, and then it kept breaking and he would get a better hold by pushing the forceps down father and finally after considerable pulling he made out to extract it, and found there was a little hook on the end of the root that was hooked under the jaw bone. I was very sick <sup>^all</sup> that day, but have felt like a new one <sup>^ever</sup> since. I havnt been so well three days in succession for six monts as I have for the last three days. I begin to think it was the whole cause of my throat complaint.

No, I will not scold you for not saving your money, but I am sorry if you have not been as saving as you could and think you will be as sorry as I am, sometime. I shouldnt be at all surprised if you were never paid off again. It has been ascertained that there has been more money spent during this ~~was~~ <sup>^administration</sup> than has been accumulated during the whole life of the nation. So it is very plain to be seen who will grow rich out of this war. It is not the poor soldier thats certain. (I did not intend this as the forbidden subject) It is so dark I can't see the line, so I will wait till the lamp is lighted

I havn't had any money but my three dollars a week which I receive from the State for some time and that goes for our board.

I have got about eight dollars in silver ~~and~~ halves ~~£~~ and quarters which I wish to keep very much, for people think paper money will not be worth much by and by. You <sup>^know</sup> I let Lewis have the first \$30,00 and perhaps I can get some of him when I see him

I suppose you have heard that we are obliged to use scrip around here the same as they do "down south". Everything is very dear here. Evrything in the name of p<sup>^</sup>ints are .25 cents per yd. White cotton cloths are between 0.40 and 0.50 cents per yd. We bought a barrel of flour last week not very nice, and paid \$10,50.

Well darling I feel as though I wanted to help you very much, and yet I feel just as though I ~~hadn't~~ ought <sup>^not</sup> to, as though I ought to keep it all for the children's sake. If I could only get something to do to earn something I shouldn't hesitate a moment

And this I mean to do before long if it is a possible thing.

I should like to write to Mrs. Haynes first rate but I am afraid she is kind of nice, and will think strange, or will not wish to get acquainted with me. If I knew just what kind of a lady she is I should know what to do. Did you ever see her picture? I guess she is pretty, with blue eyes and light hair and younger than I am and has no children. And I guess she is about as large as Reuf. Smiths wife. And I guess Mr. Haynes looks a little like Jim Hall and is a little like him only he knows more. And I know he is good

And now I am going to close for this time and write to your mother I havn't written to he since the battle that you were in. I havn't said one word about our babies. They are well and are both pretty good children and learning quite fast this Winter

Hattie and baby are well and Ruth is not ~~and~~ very well but does her work  
Mother has not been very well for some time but is better to-day. Father is sick to-  
day. I have written twice to Joseph and have received no answer so I have not heard from  
him only by the way of your mother

Good night precious, write often if you don't have anything to write

Your own as ever

Emily