

Hampstead Sept 11<sup>th</sup> /63

Dear Husband,

I havn't heard from you for more than a fortnight and havnt written to you within that time because I have been so busy. When mother came home (I beleive I told you she was at Lewis' when I wrote before) she had a sore on her arm and hasn't been able to do anything with it till yesterday. So you see I have to do the house-work about half of the time

I have got a sore throat to-day but am well otherwise. It is a rainy Sabbath the first, I have been at home for along time. Mr Badger told me last night that they had almost taken Charleston but I have heard so so many times that I don't credit it. I thought I should hear from you last night, certain.

Lewis has got clear of going to war for three years by paying five hundred dollars for a substitute. The town pays three hundred of it, though.

Fred Kent got clear by swearing that his mother is dependent on him, and his mother and two or three ~~other~~ men took the same oath; but every body knows that he is dependent on his mother if there is any dependence about it.

~~Jim~~ Dr Eastman was the means of clearing James Hall, they say, and I am glad he's got clear. There isn't one going out of Hampstead, all that were accepted have got substitutes. Now I think got it I beleive there is one by the name of Page that couldn't get a substitute and wasn't able to pay his \$300. I told Mrs. Tabor yesterday that I should be ashamed of a man. that was in favor of this war that wouldn't go when he was wanted

Julia begins to think you are never going to write <sup>^to</sup> them again. George is down but I haven't seen him but a moment

Your father's folks have had a lot of company this Fall. Your aunt Susan has been up and Emma Haseltine and Margaret and her family are up there now. They are going to stay six weeks I beleive. We havn't heard from Joseph any of us only by the way of your letters

Annie has been trying to write to you but gave it up. She tried printing letters first and couldn't make them go and then she tried the others, but concluded she would have to wait a while

But I shall have to put off writing till evening there is so much <sup>^talking</sup> going on.

Well darling, now I will try again. I ought to write three or four letters more to-day, but feel so lazy that I don't beleive I shall make out. I am having a real lazy day and no mistake.

I wish you were here to-day. I miss you more than when I go away or have a good deal to do. If you were here to tell me some of your adventures ~~since~~ that you have met with since you have been gone, I think I could keep awake.

If you live till a year from this time that time will be the happiest we ever knew. Some pretend to say you can't come when the three years have expired, what do you think? It has been quite sickly around here of late. They think the nine months soldiers brought home the disentary and spread it around. Mr Curriers' little boy had it first and like to have ~~to~~ died and then most all. of Daniel & Hiram Nichol's children have been very sick with it and the youngest of Daniel's ~~died~~ and old Mrs Nichols have died.

Our babies have gone to bed and I hope I shall be able to finish now without any interruption. I don't know as you will know where to begin to read this I see that I have

begun it on the wrong page, but I think you'll make it out somehow: "where there's a will theirs a way," and I know you will have a will to read it. Does it seem to you as though you had been gone two years? How you would like to come and take a look at us wouldn't you? Well we look very much as we did when you went away. I mean our surroundings.

We have plenty of yellow dhalies [dahlias] and balsams and I am worrying for fear the frost will kill them. And we have some ve<sup>r</sup>ry handsome red dhalies [dahlias] too that we didn't have I believe when you went away

This season of the year always reminds me of my loneliness when you first went away. Well its no use to think it over again. I had to make the best of it then and if I could then of course I can now

Mrs. Hasen Hoyt is sick and has been pronounced incurable by the physicians. She has a sore in her face in the bone, they think its like her mother's.

Eastman is attending Hiram Nichol's family, he has been very succesful where he has doctord this complaint as he usually is in everything

I don't hear of his saying anything about you lately. The last I heard was two months ago he told <sup>^</sup>John Wilson that you wouldn't come home if you could and intimated that you had rather be there than to be at home and Wilson took it of course, that you didn't care anything about your family, and perhaps the Dr intended he should, But, I don't care as long, as I know you would like to be with us. But "Good bye" dearest, I hope I shall hear from you soon Yours Emmy