

Hampstead Oct. 13/61

My Dear dear husband;

It has got to be eight -oclock^k before I commence writing to you; but its all on account of the book you left me to read. I havnt read it all yet. I got very much interested in it – to night and hated to leave it, but I knew I should be dissatisfied with myself if I did not talk with you a little (I can't bear to get that book read through, for when I take it up I think of you, and it seemes as though you were near me, and when I read it I know that you have read the same, and imagine how you liked it, or what you thought of it. I wish you had a "Herbert" out there with you, I should feel better about you. Oh my darling I am sure the romance is not all gone yet. You are just as much my "beau ideal" as you ever were, and oh I love you so much I am afraid .people will think I am silly I talk of you so much. I can speak of you without crying now, I do not think of you in a despairing way. I am waiting for you now and I have been waiting ever since I was sure you ^{had} left Manchester. And if you should never come I know I should be crazy. You know I never like the people in "the village", but I like to go there now, because they talk about you. and appear to like you so well. If they called you Mr Harris it would not please me half as much

But they all call you Leander in such a friendly way that it does my heart good I set out to write this nonsense in a parenthesis but it will be the biggest part of my letter I am afraid)

I will begin ^{now} and write ~~now~~ in ^a kind of rational way if I can I received your ~~your~~ precious letters yesterday You are so very kind to write so often that I don't know how to thank you. I havn't had to expect a letter from you once; they come before I ~~expecting~~ them.

Mr Johnson came up Friday night and offerd to carry me up to see "the selectmen" about that money. And so I went up Saturday with he and Mrs. Brewster. He was very kind and did all the business for me. Mr Ordway was obliged to hire the money and had not got it then, but he gave us each five dollars. He is not obliged to give me anything because you didn't leave anything to show that you had enlisted. Brewster did. He wishes you to get it of Cap. Brown and send it by letter to me when you write next. He is obliged to have it when he gets the money of the State, or somthing I don't know what. He is coming to pay me more this week. I like him very much. He inquired for "Leander" as the rest did I suppose that was why I liked him

It puts me in pain to hear him talk, but he has an expression about the mouth while talking that I like. A little like Sarah Bricket But it is late and I must say good night darling till tomorrow.

Oct 16th

Well darling I said I would write to-morrow, but I could not, nor the next day either, for mother has been gone a week and I had so much to do that I couldn't write a might till to night. I had a good deal to say to you Monday but could not spare a moment to talk with you. Tuesday I went up to Mrs. McNeil's to get my dress cut. Called to Mrs. Sawyers (A very pleasant call it was too) and to Mrs. Shannon's who went over with me and introduced me. Mrs. ^{Mc} has quite a familier way, I felt acquainted with her the moment I was introduced

And now I must tell you one thing before I forget it. Mrs John Willson is in ^{^such} a condition that she dont go out much. Now you have got your wish about her. I understand “she expects evry minute will be the next” Mr Jacob Little is dead.

I have got somthing to worry about now I understand you are going on board a vessel. I don’t know as that would be any worse than anything else but I am afraid we can’t correspond. Oh what a terrible thing it would be for me to have that comfort taken away from me. I have written to you once but dont know as you have received it. I ~~wrote~~ ^{^filled} two sheets like this and had to pay six cents postage I shall be carful and not write but one and a half this time.

I sent you a “banner” Tuesday but dont know as you will get it for I sent it to Annapolis. It had one of [Arternus Wards*] pieces in it, the best one I ever saw. He had ~~one of the best~~ about the same opinion of the city of Washington that you have I could not get any Boston papers very well, and I thought I would wait about sending any at any rate till I got word from you where to direct them

But it’s late and I must go to bed hoping to hear from you tomorrow Emmy

Hampstead Oct 17th

Well I havn’t got a letter to-day, but shall be disappointed if I don’t have one tomorrow or next day I wrote to your mother soon after you went away and have riceived no answer. I will write to her for you if you wish me to, but am afraid it will not suit her as well. I wrote to you before just as soon as I found out where to direct it but I am afraid it didn’t reach you before you left W-

I have been up to Mrs. Mac’s to day and got my dress. And Oh you don’t know how beautifully it sets. There “it’s the best-setting dress I ever had in my life” She says give our respects to your husband when you write. I like her very much. She treated me very well indeed and cut my dress very cheep. It is going to be a splendid dress when it’s done, and I would not take anything for it because my darling bought it for me. You don’t know what a comfort it is to me to look at your picture. I imagine you thought of me when you set for it. Your eyes have the same expression that they did when they used to look at me, only a little sorrowful. By the way there is one thing that surprised me a little. Mrs. Mc. nor Mrs Eastman didn’t have nay ideas who I was when I was introduced Mrs. E. asked me if I was your sister and said she didn’t think of my being your wife I looked so young and Mrs. M said she thought I was some little girl, but I find I shall have to take a another sheet of paper six cents or not. And now good night my precious husband the next time I’ll tell you about the babies Emmy