

[fragment letter, undated]

I have not come to these conclusions, suddenly, nor, by adopting. the opinions of any political party, (for I have not read any political paper since the war commenced) but from a conviction of right. and. of what would be for the best. interest of my county. Now. my darling wife. if you cannot believe, that my views are correct. ones; if you cannot beleive me as capable of forming correct opinion.s on the great events, that are passing before us; if you do not beleive that my love for my country is as deep and pure as your own; then, you must, of course, accept your own opinions, and still be at difference, with your truest friend, your other self, your own husband. And I must bear, as best I may, ~~the~~ what I have borne so far in this tine of trial, as the greatest. personal affliction; the feeling. that my own dear wife, has no ~~feel~~ sympathy. with me, in a cause which interests me more than anything that has happned in the history of our county.

If this must be so, dear Emmy, let me entreat you, out of the great love that I know, that you feel for me, to spare me the pain of ever differing with you in words on this subject. Let I never be mentioned between us, for I cannot bear it from you I never intended to have writen to you in this manner, and on this subject, but I feel it is due to you, to do as I have done in this case.

I have always felt. it a lack of the confidence, which you have always deserved of me, to be silent, as I have ever been, but I was only that I have felt so very sensitive, to a difference of opinion, with you, in a matter in which I felt so great an interest.

I was going to give you some account of the way in which I spend these weary days away from my precious wife, when I wandered, off, into another subject, and, as I have already, attained one object, a long letter, though I fear it may not prove an interesting one. I will defer it till another time. I am very sorry to hear that mother's health is so poor. Can there be nothing done for her? Have you had any medical advice? I wish you would call in Eastman. If she dont get well before I get home, she will have me doctoring her. Your letter contains the first word that I have heard from Joseph, since I saw him, when he first got back to his reg^t. It is a great releif to hear that he has got home safe.

I find that I shall have to come home to take care of my little Josie. I should like to know what folks mean by acting so. with my baby. When I first went away, they cut off. all her curls, and now they are pilling out her little white teeth. I thought Annie. was going to take care of these things for me. But I shall have to come home and see to them myself.

I have not been paid yet, but there is some prospect, of it soon. I hope I may be for your sakes. Now darling, one word of caution for you, and then I will close this. Do not forget, that you owe it to me, and to our little darlings, to take the best of care of your always feeble health.

Do not, for our sakes, ever try to do more than you can do, without tiring yourself, even if appears nescessary. Remember that my ~~w~~ whole happiness, and the welfare of our children depend, upon you, and for their sakes, if not for my own be very carefull. of the little strength, that sickness has left you. Now dear Emmy, I will close this long, and possibly, tiresome letter. If I do not write often, do not think that it is from any lack of love for yourself, but from, the difficulty in expressing myself, as affectionately, through the poor medium of pen and ink, as when I can feel your arms around my neck,

and your cheek against my' own. Hoping that happy day may soon come. I remain. Your
own Leander