

Hampstead Sept-16th / 62

Dear Husband,

I have a severe head-ache to-night - but must write to you because I havnt written this week. I have been to an auction to-day for the first time in my life. And bid off an all wool blanket for \$1.60, so you see I mean to sleep warm this winter. Mr Houtchins has enlisted and sold all his things all but his real estate & I tell you darling I am tired. I went to the office this ~~morning~~^{morning} and didnt get back until almost noon, then I cooked the beef-steak for dinner (I always think how ~~you~~ I used to cook it for you when we have it) and then went over to the auction and staid till almost dark. I was well paid for going to the office, because I got your letter dated Aug 25th. I guess youll think the Pa^r never coming back by this time. I saw Etta at the store to-day and she said he was going back next week. I am distressed to death for fear he will resign when he gets back and you will be turned into the ranks. I know you will find a difference if you are, and will feel discontented and I shall worry a great deal more about you
you will be turned into the ranks & know you will

Transcription:

[raised imprint reads: "WEST END"]

Hampstead Sept 16th /62

Dear Husband,

I have a severe head-

ache to night but must write to you because I havnt written this week. I have been to an auction to-day for the first time in my life. And bid off an all wool blanket for \$1.18, so you see I mean to sleep warm this Winter. Mr Hutchins has enlisted and sold all his things all but his real estate

I tell you darling I am tired. I went to the office this ~~forenoon~~ ^{^morning} and didn't get back until almost noon, then I cooked the beef-steak for dinner (I always think how you I used to cook it for you when we have it) and then went over to the auction and staid till almost dark. I was well paid for going to the office, because I got your letter dated Aug 25th. I guess you'll think the Dr ^{^is} never coming back by this time. I saw Ettie at the store to-day and she said he was going back next week. I am distressed to death for fear he will resign when he gets back and you will be turned into the ranks. I know you will find a difference if you are, and will feel discontented and I shall worry a great deal more about you

People have been telling me to-day that - they are not-going to allow the Soldiers to write. That-will be worse than all the rest if I can't-hear from you

But-if they allow me to write to you it-will be better than nothing, and I will write darling as often again as I do now. It-would be awful hard not-to hear from you, but-I can bear it-better than you could

But-I can't-believe they will make such a cruel law I don't-blame ^{soldiers} them for deserting if they do. If this is so all our comfort-will be taken away from us. What-a blessing it has been to us to be able to talk to each other in this way. If you were here to night-you would see what I would do to you for dreaming so naughtily about me. I would squeeze you harder than you ever got squeezed before. Oh my husband if you should come home once more I should never wish to go out-of your sight-again

But-Oh dear! I don't-dare expect-such a blessing You spoke about the soldiers hearing bad news about their wives. Perhaps there is not-half of them ^{stories} true. This makes me think of what-you said to me just before you went-away. How proud I have been when I have thought-what-confidence you had in me.

You asked about-Mrs B. She feels bad enough I tell you. Some people think it has injured her mind all ready You asked about-Mrs W. she feels well enough I tell

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You asked about Mrs. B. She feels bad enough I tell you. Some people think it has injured her mind all ready

If you hear any good news from him send it by
all means but if you hear any bad, say nothing about
it; for she pumps me so hard that I have to tell
her everything. Well blessed, I can't write any more to night
my head aches so. A kiss and pleasant dreams to you
darling.
From Emma

P.S. I must tell you before I forget it that Annie
was a good girl all day yesterday. wasn't naughty once

Sept 18th

I have been so busy this week, darling, that
I haven't finished your letter and shall hardly get it
on the way to you this week if I don't hurry, but will
send it to the depot tomorrow morning if possible
and it will get along a little faster for that.

Mother and the children have been to Nelson's
to-day. Lewis wants me to tell you he is going to
answer your letter just as soon as he can get time.

I have just finished a nice dress for Annie to-day
I have a good mind to send you a piece ^{of it} just to
please her. They like to send you something so well.

I have been making calls this afternoon and my head
aches as usual when I go anywhere.

Transcription:

If you hear any good news from him send it by all means but if you hear any bad, say nothing about it, for she pumps me so hard that I have to tell her everything. Well blessed, I can't write any more to night my head aches so. A kiss and pleasant dreams to you darling. From Emmy

P.S. I must tell you before I forget it that Annie was a good girl all day yesterday .. wasn't naughty once.

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I have just finished a new dress for Annie to-day I have a good mind to send you a piece ^{of it} just to please her. They like to send you something so well.

I have been making calls this afternoon and my head aches as usual when I go anywhere.

Julia was inclined to make a little fun of you because you hoped the Dr. would get a Col. ^{is} commission. She said she didn't know what place you expected to get - that was better, unless you expected to take Eastman's place. And that - makes me think what Lissie Scott asked me. She said "your husband is assistant surgeon isn't he?"

Hasen Hoyt and Mr. Courier have enlisted in the nine months men. We have better news from the war of late. But it will take them some time to get in as good standing as they were before the battles ^{near} ~~at~~ Richmond took place. Oh my dear husband I wish you could come home if you didn't stop longer than you was going to in your dream, just so I could kiss your lips - now I can think just how I used to kiss your face all over even your blessed loving blue eyes, and I can all most live it over thinking of it. How much plainer I can see your face now, than I can when I look at your picture. I have a picture of you in my heart - more natural than any artist can take. And then it will always remain. If I should never see you again, no other image will ever take its place. Do you believe me my husband?

But I must close it is so late. I hope I shall have another letter this week so good night - dearest. I love you
Coming

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Julia was inclined to make a little fun of you because you hoped the Dr. would get a Col.'s commission She said she didn't know what place you expected to get that was better, unless you expected to take Eastman's place. And that makes me think what Lizzie Little asked me. She said "your husband is assistant surgeon isn't he?"

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