



Wampstead May 29 / 63

Darling Leander,

I am now at home and I hope I shall feel more like writing. I came home last night and found two letters waiting for me from my precious husband. I wanted to answer them as soon as I read them but could not the children were so uneasy.

Last evening was a beautiful evening. ~~was a beautiful~~ just such an one as you and I used to enjoy so much together. The girls around here were as glad to see me when I got home as though I had been gone a year. If you had seen me last night ^{amongst them} you would have thought they considered me about sixteen or eighteen years old.

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I enjoy it - so well I don't know
but - I am growing childish. I feel
just like writing you a great long
letter to night - and like writing
everything that comes into my
mind. When you tell about writing
nonsense your letters are always
more interesting so I want you
to always write nonsense. I liked
your last letter because you wrote
nonsense. I wonder if it is so with
mine

We are having dry, hot-weather
here now, and not-a week ago it
was almost-as cold as winter.

Your "flowering-almond" was looking
beautifully till then, but now
the buds are all killed and there
will be but few blossoms on it; but
will be but few blossoms on it; but
your "snow-ball" is blooming nicely
And your "province rose" looks
splendidly

Transcription:

I enjoy it so well I don't know but I am growing childish. I feel just like writing you a great long letter to night and like writing everything that comes into my mind. When you tell about writing nonsense your letters are always more interesting so I want you to always write nonsense. I liked your last letter because you wrote nonsense. I wonder if it is so with mine.

We are having dry, hot weather here now, and not a week ago it was almost as cold as winter.

Your "flowering almond" was looking beautifully till then, but now the buds are all killed and there will be but few blossoms on it, but your snow ball "is blooming nicely

And your "province rose" looks splendidly

I don't - want - you to send me so much blank paper, write longer letters as you used to do.

I awoke up the other morning when I was at - Claros and ~~in~~ the thought - came in to my mind that you would never come back, and I don't - know what - made it, it - seemed as though the pain could not have been sharper if a knife had been thrust into my heart. It - was nothing I could avoid, for it was the first - thing I knew after I awoke, the first - thought I had, I believe I should die if it - were so.

I can't - realize a possibility of your coming home this Summer. But - Jim tells everybody that - asks about you that - "you think it is possible you may get a chance to come home this Summer".

I must answer Mr. Hays's letter

Transcription:

I don't want you to send me so much blank paper, write longer letters as you used to do.

I woke up the other morning when I was at Clara's and the thought came in to my mind that you would never come back, and I don't know what made it, it seemed as though the pain could not have been sharper if a knife had been thrust into my heart. It was nothing I could avoid, for it was the first thing I knew after I awoke, the first thought I had, I believe I should die if it were so.

I can't realize a possibility of your coming home this Summer. But Josie tells everybody that asks about you that "you think it is possible you may get a chance to come home this Summer."

I must answer Mr. Haynes' letter

before long. I shant-tell you how
he praised you in his letter I am
afraid it will make you proud

Have I written to you since
Grandmother Eastman died. She
was buried a fortnight- ago-today

Mrs B. seems to have no one
to care for now. Mary is married
and Ettie is gone. Mrs Bachelder
and her mother were going to move
just-as she was taken sick.

I let you Julia and I had a
grand time when I was with her

Oh she is ^{worth} all the rest of the sisters
we have got, and that is saying a
good deal. Margaret and I used to be
great friends you know, but I don't
think she cares anything at all for me
now. But it don't worry me a might-
now. But it don't worry me a might-
To tell the truth I am not grand
enough for her and I think she is
ashamed of me when I call to see her

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think she cares anything at all for me
now. But it don't worry me a might

To tell the truth I am not grand
enough for her and I think she is
ashamed of me when I call to see her
at the shop. The last time I was
[fragment letter ends here]

awful silly. They have all gone to bed
now and I am alone. I wish I could
always be when I write I do believe
I could write better letters. I wanted
to write to Ed. to night-but-I shall
have to put-it-off. This time is so
near out-perhaps I shall not write at
all. Oh how I wish yours was. There
is no talk here of peace. I think it must
be they tell the soldiers so to keep up
their courage. I would like to believe it-
if I could but-it-is too good to believe.

I suppose you will see by my last
letter that-I had no hard feelings toward
you for writing that-letter at-any rate I
meant-you should understand it-so
but-it did hurt my feelings. But-I
know now that-you did not-mean it-or
~~do not-mean it-now, at-any rate~~ So we
will consider it all unaid and of course
the answer I wrote back will be all unaid
and I will burn yours and you may burn
it

Transcription:

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I suppose you will see by my last letter that I had no hard feelings toward you for writing that letter at any rate I meant you should understand it so but it did hurt my feelings. But I know now that you did not mean it or do not mean it now, ~~at any rate~~ To me will consider I wrote back will be all unsaid and I will burn yours and you may burn the answer to it

Your gun arrived yesterday. I wish you would tell me the history of it and the old game bag. The powder flask looks as though it had been burned once.

The children thought - they were packed in negroes wool

I was very much pleased with your description of Mrs. Lawyers tent. I read in the banner that - quite a large rebel force were sent to Port Royal. I dont know whether it meant - to attack it - or not. I had never dreamed of their trying to attack this place, but - mother says she has thought - of it - a great - many times

Tell Mr. Haynes if he dont write to me I shall write to him before long.

That was where those papers come from I'll bet. - If I knew it - was I would send him some. Perhaps you would like to see him some. Perhaps you would like to see some of them. It is a new paper got up in New Hampshire lately. I want to ask you a question

Why was Sgt Colquhoun (I think the name was) of your regt discharged? And now darling Good night - Be a good boy and take care of my husband and love me & "ot" and not get put out again with your poor little

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Your gun arrived yesterday. I wish you would tell me that history of it and the old game boy. The powder flask looks as though it had been burned once.

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That was where those papers come from I'll bet. If I know it was I would send him some. Perhaps you would like to see some of them. It is a new paper got up in New Hampshire lately. I want to ask you a question Why was [Liet.*] Edgarly (I think the name was) of your reg^t discharged? And now darling Good night Be a good boy and take care of my husband and love me a "lot" and not get put out again with your poor little Wife