

Hampstead Sept 11th / 83

Dear Husband,

I havnt 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 believe I told you she was at Lewins when I wrote before) she had a sore on her arm and havnt 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 a long time. Mr Badger told me last night that they had almost taken Charleston
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that they had almost taken Charleston but I have heard so so many times that I dont credit it. I thought I should hear from you last night - certainly

Transcription:

Hampstead Sept 11th /63

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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.

~~James~~ De 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 of it I believe there is one by
the name of Page that couldn't get
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a substitute and wasn't able to pay his
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was in favor of this war that would
go when he was wanted.

Julia begins to think you are never
going to write ^{to 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 Washburn and
Margaret and her family are up there
now. They are going to stay six weeks
I believe. We haven'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 ^{talking} going on.
evening there is so much ^{reading} going on!

Well darling, now I will try again. I
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to-day, but feel so lary that I don't
believe I shall make out. I am having
a real lary 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
know. 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 some the dysentery
and spread it around. Mr Currier's little
boy had it first - and like to have ~~to~~ died
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to-day, but feel so lazy that I don't believe 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 there's 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 chalcies and balsams and I am worrying and balsams and I am worrying for fear the frost will kill them.

And we have some very handsome

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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^rry 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. Hassen 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 mothers

Eastman is attending Hiram Nichol's family, he has been very successful where he has doctored 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 ^{John} Wilson that you would ~~not~~ 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

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