

"Hamptstead Feb 23<sup>d</sup> /64

My Dear Husband,

It has been

a fortnight - since I wrote you, and  
over a fortnight - since I rec<sup>d</sup> a  
letter from you. I want well  
last - Sunday night - and have been  
busy this past week and so I have  
put it off day after day and  
have not got about it till now

I saw it stat<sup>d</sup> in the N. B.  
Observer that - Gen. Gilmore's Brigade  
had gone to Junctionville and so  
I suppose you were on the march  
the reason you have not written

I don't know whether to be  
sorry or glad. I believe it is best -  
sorry or glad. <sup>Therefore</sup> I <sup>do</sup> <sup>not</sup> <sup>feel</sup> <sup>it</sup> <sup>is</sup> <sup>best</sup>  
to leave it to <sup>him</sup> who has pro-  
tected you ever since you went -  
away.

Well, I suppose you are anxious

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Well, I suppose you are anxious

to hear from our baby. She is as well as she was before she was sick, but - she has not been very well all Winter. I suppose I shall have to give her something for worms before she will be well again.

George Baileys wife is very sick, The Dr. thinks she can't live. Oh ~~he~~ (George) is the meanest rascal that ever trod the earth.

He has been making his brags to the boys around in the village that - he was going to give her something to take and they think that is what - wills her. Isn't it horrid? How thankful I am that I have not got such a brute for a husband. He was down to Julia's husband. He was down to Julia's to a choir meeting one evening and she pretended to like children very much and held Alice most all of the evening.

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I hope if he has murdered his poor little wife, that Griffin will have him put where he never <sup>will</sup> do another such a deed. I do pity her so much! she is nothing but a child and it seems terrible.

When he was married, or rather before, he went and asked Mr. Griffin's consent - and he told him he should never give it and he went straight to Martha and told her, her father had given his consent. And so they were married.

Oh I want the six months that is to come to fly faster than time ever did before. But I mean to improve it better than I have any time before. It seems as if any time before. It seems as if though I had not done any thing but spend your money since you have been gone. But you don't

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possibly get a long with three  
dollars a week for provision  
every thing is so high. (And then  
I have had the house work to do  
a great deal of the time). It seems  
as though I had earned something  
but where has it gone! I made  
between thirty and forty shakies  
last summer and considerable other  
work. And this winter I have bound  
some shoes and ~~made~~ <sup>done some</sup> ~~considerable~~  
work for Julia and have knit six hoods  
but all I can do don't seem to amount  
to anything everything is so high

I don't find any fault as long  
as you and the children are spared  
I have every thing to be thankful for that  
is all I ask. But I feel a little dissat-  
isfied with myself. It seems as though  
I might have done better.

Annie is very anxious about her  
letter she wants an answer. You  
letter she wants an 'answert'. You  
don't know how much she thinks of  
it. She was very much disappointed  
because we did not get one yesterday

But it is almost ten and I will say  
good night. God grant <sup>that</sup> nothing may happen  
in the next few months to come, and

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I don't find any fault as long as you and the children are spared I have every thing to be thankful for this is all I ask. But I feel a little dissatisfied with myself. It seemes as though I might have done better.

Annie is very anxious about her letter she wants an answer. You dont know how much she thinks of it. She was very much disappointed because we did not get one Friday

But it is almost ten and I will say good night. God grant <sup>^that</sup> nothing may happen to my darling for six months to come, and then - we will be so happy. Your own Emmie