

Dayton O. Dec. 3rd. 1863

Dear Husband,

No doubt there are many people scolding about the return of the Potomac Army; but here is one little woman that feels almost happy over the news, hoping and trusting that you are returning with it.

Then if Winter quarters are the order of the day, why may I not hope to see you during the Holidays? and, why may not little Mary Howard (Holt-Thurston 1800), see her Father just once before she is six months old? — I must just quit thinking for the wishes come fast and if I should be disappointed it would be hard to bear.

Kate McCook called this evening with her husband; — I gave orders that the boys should not go into the parlor as they had been playing in the mud and water all day, and were not

presentable; but to my dismay when they
sat on my entrance; ~~but~~ to my pro-
test ^{the Express} ~~he~~ assured me that he wouldn't
give any thing for a call unless the
children were there, and above all things
he had a nice big devilish bad boy.
He didn't care how dirty they were just as
their noses were wiped. In that par-
ticular my boys are all right and as
he really seemed to enjoy having them
I got over my mortification.

As for the boys they were delighted and
are quite in the network after accepting
his invitation to pay him a visit, when
all sorts of fun was to be had.

Tis said a little one is expected there.
and Carin Wood will be confined in January.
Her husband is getting his name up very
high. —

'Rob's last' is quite amusing. He heard
us say that Tallandighams family had
returned. "Who made Tallandighams?"
he asked, "Leans didn't it?"

I tried to find out why he thought so
but finding his remarks had created a

sensation, he could not be induced
to make any more.

Mary is busy with her classes, getting
war flowers made to take to Columbo
before the Holidays; taking part in the
Cantata for the benefit of the soldiers
and also the Bazaar for the same pur-
pose. She will dress as a Quakeress and
be in one of the booths with Pette S.
Louisa Phillips and some others in the
same costume.

Our children are delighted because I
told them they should go to the Bazaar
I hope you will be here to take us; every
one seems to enter into it cheerfully
and expect great things from it.

My hands are so tied that I fear I
can do very little, but I'll do all I can.

I wrote to Howard last night about the
pay account and hope to hear from
him tomorrow. I am almost afraid
there will be trouble about getting it
cashed. — I cannot understand why two
were sent, but perhaps Howard can
explain all.

Friday morning - I was obliged to leave
off last night, and have but few min-
utes to spare this morning.

A letter from Howard came, and
he says he can get the money for me.

Mary, Elizabeth and Henrietta will
probably go over to Columbus next week
although H. wants them to go some
on account of an Opera Troupe.

I should very much like to go some
time this Winter, as Aunt Caroline has sold
her house and will leave it in the Spring.
Mother offered me Betty as nurse if I
want to go; but there are many things
in the way of the visit.

Nothing more to tell you and no time
to tell it if I had; only that several
old and young people are anxiously
awaiting your coming. Good bye Dearest -
Augusta

I sent 12 postage stamps in my
last, do you want more?