

Thursday Morning -

Children all dressed  
and ready to take the  
letter - all  
well but Mother  
who gets too  
soured & fatigued  
Good bye dear  
Augusta

Dayton O. June 16th.

1863

Dear Luther,

It is excessively warm  
but a letter shall, at least, be begun.

Father, Joe and Lib, went to Columbus  
this morning; Mother staid with the  
children (Lib's) all day, but Mary went  
to spend the night with them, on  
my account. We went tonight to  
see if my nurse was ready, and found  
her waiting for me. I saw the Doctor  
too today; he says he thinks I am  
doing well and was very encouraging.

So far, so well; I almost hope your  
Sunday letter will give you the news  
of a little <sup>junior</sup> ~~father~~ Luther, or little Mary.

Our last news is so threatening that  
I fear your time has come; I cannot  
but hope not; but if the worst comes

will try to be patient and hopeful still; believe me dearest, I will do my best to keep up my spirits and take care of the little ones left to my charge. And I hope you may yet receive many cheerful letters from us even if you are sent to the field.

Of course you will tell me where to direct letters.

Later, — Aunt Ann came in when I had written thus far, and has just gone.

I showed her my baby's drawer, which she admired almost as much as did Miss Lella, who got into it the other night, and wanted to know who it was for; I told her that perhaps a little baby would come to us soon, and then the little things would be needed.

She was quite delighted at the idea and said she hoped it would be a sister.

I don't exactly know which I wish for. We have but one daughter; yet I wish

very much to name one for you, my own dear one; so either way I shall be content if it is only well formed and healthy.

The Seminary closes for the summer vacation, on Thursday, and Mary has been very busy preparing her scholars' pictures and some wax flowers of her own for exhibition. She has lately made a full blown rose and buds, that exceed any thing she has yet attempted, although her Spring beauty and white trillium are <sup>also</sup> very beautiful.

The children are well; I generally allow them to play on the upper porch and our rooms in their night gowns, after dinner till five or six o'clock when I dress them, and try to keep them decent the remainder of the evening; rather a difficult thing however, unless we ride. The family is so large that they have to take turns; besides Robby is apt to fall asleep in the evening. — a short time since he was about going to sleep, when

I began to nod; whereupon Mary lectured me, saying she wouldn't take me to bed if I couldn't keep awake; Rob. is always ready to take my part; and it was funny to see him open his eyes wide with astonishment at me, and then fight Mary for scolding me. We managed to keep him awake till we reached home.

I forgot to mention that Della very anxiously enquired a short time since if I thought this "big lump" <sup>in my stomach</sup> was a cancer!! I assured her that it was not, and she felt quite relieved. Cancers will have to be avoided in future I think, as she will be apt to have her eyes open <sup>soon</sup>. Rather queer things to write, but I know you would enjoy their innocent remarks if you were here, and it seems as if I ought to tell you as much as possible; only, do take good care to keep the letters in safe places.

It is nearly eleven, so I will wait to see if I get a letter to-morrow before finishing. Good night, dear Husband.

Wednesday Eve— Your letter came this evening, dear Husband, and I will answer the business part first. — Father has not yet returned from Columbus, but as soon as he does, I will get him to get the copies of those notes and endorsements; Mother proposed that once before; and <sup>as</sup> she feels almost as much interest in the matter as we do, I think it will be done.

I only hope you may still be there to attend to it.

Remember me to Capt. Putnam, how does he like the "field" into which he has been sent. I am afraid he feels inclined to try <sup>that</sup> Mr. Dupont's practice, upon the "longshoreman"; I wish you and he would think better of that foolish habit. Do you think I am beginning to be a scold? Not a bit of it! I just think you are the dearest and best of men; but I always did guard with the least approach to profanity;

but would be glad to have it

Mother and I have been to call on Mrs. Saret and Mrs. Odlin this evening.

Mrs. O. said she had not heard from her boys for some time and asked if Howard had been heard from. I told her, yes or had had a letter dated June 9th.

I did not tell her however, of another that Henrietta received a day or so later in which he says "the accepted resignation of the Major (O.) has been received."

I do feel sorry for that family, particularly Mr. O. who has tried to make some-

thing out of those boys.

Uncle John says the town is quite jubilant over the nominations of Brough and Anderson; he said the other evening that the Tallandighammers felt pretty much as if they had drawn the elephant!

So you prefer December to July! Wonder if you would allow that to interfere, supposing a July fur-bough was given you?

As for me, I like cool weather much the

best but - don't believe I would tell you not to come any time.

Do you wonder that I take so little notice of the war news? - I read the papers and then wait patiently for further developments, without allowing <sup>myself</sup> to speculate or grow excited. Is the Colonel thinking of blacking any body's boots this time?

It is to be hoped that somebody on our side will deserve that honor from him and ~~me~~ both; it is not right to speak so ~~however~~, for we certainly have many brave officers and soldiers.

Some of the Tallandigham delegates on their way to see his wife; asked Julia Schenck where he lived; Julia pointed out the house saying "he did live there he lives down South now". Excuseingly Schenckey but pretty good!

Have you converted that - scush landlady yet? Rather hot weather for her 'bells' I think.

Love to Mrs. Mc. Cloth, to whom I am

indebted for her attention to you.

Do you know whether Arnold and Karles  
were with Banks in the late fights? And  
what about Gen. Stone?

Was Capt. Lay very sick?

I have half a mind to send that photo-  
graph of you to Howard instead of giving  
it to Mart. He seems very cheerful, and  
threatens to send a big negro ranch to Mother  
if she don't take better care of herself. Still  
at Memphis, and likely to remain there  
some time. Col. Sprague is still about on  
furlough, Col. Fuller commands.

Another long letter! Perfectly ridiculous.  
Tell me you don't like them, there's a  
dear, and see how <sup>happy</sup> ~~amusing~~ I'd get,  
<sup>my</sup> ~~your~~ letters would be exceedingly short and  
over-depend upon it! Now mind they  
will have to be short very soon now.

The children have been asleep this long  
time; Ella will take this letter to the  
office in the morning early. — Goodbye dearest one.  
Auguste

I do not remember the