

Dayton O. Sept: 4th.
1868

Dear Husband,

Your unexpected, but
doubtly welcome letter arrived last night,
and I purposed answering it immedi-
ately, but little Mary fairly screamed till
too late for me ^{to} do so.

Mary and I drove out to Lili's, and
she seemed to wish us to stay to Tea, so
we did, as the poor woman is sadly afflic-
ted with 'boils'. She has one on her ankle
which the Doctor was obliged to lance; and
is still too lame with it to be able to
walk. She rides as much as possible, and
has very kindly promised to take Baby riding
this afternoon, if she can get ^{away} ~~in~~ from him
so that I may make a short visit to Mrs. Brady.
Mother is sick in bed with a severe influenza
and Mary too is in bed today. Betty has

split her finger with the hatchet, so that no one can keep Baby for me at home, and as sister is much worse I do not like to take her with me.

I got Father to speak to Da. Davis about her condition that I might let you know.

He says it is not probable that she will recover from this attack, which is acute dropsy. She may not die immediately however, but linger; still with her long previous ailment, she may not be with us long, I should not be astonished to hear of her death any time! I am distressed that I cannot be there more, and felt almost inclined to ask Aunt Ann to help me with Baby while all are sick here at home; but she has company, and little Mary is so very hard to take care of that I feel a delicacy about asking. If sister could see exactly how I am situated she could not blame me, but as it is, I fear her feelings will be hurt.

Evening — Lib came, and I saw sister for a few minutes. She has taken her bed and said she had a great deal of pain.

They all said they had all the help needful and seemed to think I came as much as I could. 'Aunt Betty', and Eliza Low are doing their best for her. Eliza did not leave after all the disturbance; and I am glad of it since this sad turn of affairs.

Mary says that Lavina wrote to Luther telling him that if he wanted to see his mother again, he must come now!

I had intended to ask you to urge him to hasten his visit, but this will do.

Lib asked me to bring the children out there tomorrow afternoon, as it was Bessie's birthday. We had intended to make a joint affair for Bess and Sella, but as I am cut off from all help by this illness at home, Sella's picnic must be prospective.

I do not like to hear of so many accidents

with horses, and am fearful you will suffer
like wise, as you have practised riding so seldom.

Robert is not a home I believe, neither is Uncle
The Brown trial is on hand now, and Uncle
is at Pigna attending it.

Harvey Conover bought a place in Miami City
but becoming tired of his bargain Wilbur
took it off of his hands, and is moving out.

I fear we will have some trouble with the
Butternuts. Sam Cox was here the other night
and quite a disturbance was aroused in which
a Smit. Watterman was shot in the leg. The Lows
were both threatened and insulted by roaches
passing their dwellings. — Mr. Odlin is said to
be fearful as to the result of the election in
his case. If Tom Thresher can beat him it
will be shameful! Can you vote if you return?

I hope you may not have to keep your present
command, as I can well imagine that it is
not pleasant for you; nevertheless it may be
drilling that will be beneficial for the future.

Influenza are prevailing, and Sella and I
are both having a touch; she is sicker and
I had better be. So good night, dear, good letters.
Thy
Augusta