

allow her to answer briefly the way a great part of the time.
Lily Thoreau was just in. She says her father was so much fatigued after his hunting that he arrived home six or in the evening, he called his feet and went to bed. Aunt Ann arrived from St. Ann and made him rest some thing, after which he went to sleep again and slept till morning, he has hardly recovered yet.

Wm. after dinner saw your letters are very precious. Love from all to you.

Good bye.
Thy Aff. Son
August

July 15th.
1863

My writing table is adorned with a beautiful bouquet, which Mrs. Dost sent me this morning.

Wouldn't you like to see and smell it, I'll send you a geranium leaf from it at any rate. Yet I fear the New York riot will stop our letters again. I am anxiously looking for today's letter, hoping your mind has been relieved by the receipt of all missing letters, for if they have not reached you, the interrupted trains and out-ries give small hopes of speedy relief.

To us, the New York riot is the worst feature in our country's affairs, the newspapers make it very sad; I hope you can give us a full account soon.

We had a letter from Howard this morning he was rejoicing over Vicksburg; had heard some good reports from Meade's Army but was expecting to hear them contradicted in the usual manner.

You will have heard before this reaches you of Morgan's raid into Indiana and Ohio. He did indeed come pretty near us, as he burnt a mill near Hamilton and crossed the little Miami railroad near Loveland. He has not yet left the state, ~~and~~ there are some faint hopes that gunboats may prevent his getting back safely. It does seem outrageous that he has gone this far with almost perfect impunity. Of course our town was nearly wild, every body of any account was ready to go wherever most wanted. Col. King took charge of home forces Major Keith who has been stationed here some time, ~~and~~ took some companies ^{led} down to Hamilton. Dayton was patrol

all night before last. Lee was out acting as sentinel - Uncle John & Will were scouting. - Capt. Schuck was in command of one party and ^{late at night} arrested James Perrine and Dick Phillips. The latter had been talking very large about joining the cavalry party, so the Captain declared he had been telling too many stories already and couldn't be excused. Mr. Perrine promised them all a drink if they would let him off. - So they had soon got out of the scene.

Sella has brought me your last letter. I am sorry for your new trials with such a set of men. - You speak of Aft. Putnam is he back again, or only one of the Coats? Many thanks for his kind remembrance, ~~and~~ return the compliment for me.

Where is Mr. Coates? you have not mentioned him since you spoke of his having returned on sick leave.

I don't remember what was in the letter you

have not received, but think nothing of importance. I merely aimed at keeping you informed of our welfare, and had congratulated myself that the baby's birth had not interfered even once, with our regular correspondence.

Baby seems to grow, but she is very restless.

The nurse said today that she supposed I was bragging over my baby, but she would like to add a postscript telling you that she was fussy and ~~would~~ wanted to eat so much that she was enough to break up a rich man!

I hope she will be better before you see her.

I have been riding twice and enjoy it; not as strong as I could wish, but hope to improve.

The little boys are rather trying for my strength being just as full of mischief as possible; I try to indulge them as far as ^{I can} possible, but am obliged to exercise control very frequently. Sella has lately taken a great fancy to her little dolls, especially to a little flaxen haired one that Lib gave her, and she displays a great deal of taste and ingenuity in cutting out and making their clothes; I was very glad to see this and