

Dayton Nov 19th 1861

Dear Augustus There I am at my writing as
I promised Sunday morning should find me
You are all excitement with the news of the capture of
Mason and Slidell. I hope it is true. Mr Grier is
is delighted with Sumner's part in it. Says "it is good"
but that does not express my feelings" He went last
night to meet his son. I think we have gained a
union ^{many} by this, John says Grier says this is the greatest
Administration we have ever had!!

Howard says, Did you receive that bill of exchange,
or whatever you call it; It was sent some weeks ago
and as you have never mentioned it; he felt uneasy
about it. Please tell me in thy next.

The Greenhouse Howard brought did not live, not-
withstanding all my care. If there seed anything new
and pretty, in that way or in any shrub or flower or
seed, ^{way} do remember us at home, every inland, in the
back woods, out of the way of any refining influence
and take pity on us,
Just now while I think of it; I think Mary Brady would

be pleased with a letter from them. Had there not better write
to her, I was there a few days since, and also at Mr C.
before they left. They were all well and desired love to you.
I wish much there could tell us more of your prospects.
There sometimes it is said, when Congress meets the
new regiments will be conscripted and most of
the officers dismissed. What does Luther think about
it? If at any time, there has anything to say which there
does not wish all the family to know, write it on a
small slip and we will keep it to ourselves.
Father is north, I hope for the last time this winter, we ex-
pect him home next Wednesday. His health has been better
than usual, this summer, and he shows noble, manly
fight yet, but he looks weary sometimes, and almost
exhausted. And I fear he will go down some of
these days under the heavy "weight he carries." He does
not do all for his prospects that he might, seemingly
to think that worth will be seen and appreciated
without any effort on the part of the worthy one. Now
this is only a dream of Arcadia we all know. I have
succeeded lately in inducing him to do something to-
wards securing an appointment to the place he
now holds, whether he will be able to secure it again

we do not yet know, I have my fears.
Howard wrote to Luther a few days ago, I suppose he has
received it before this. I am trying to make myself,
what I suppose you have often thought me, a goose
I wish to ^{that is these troubles} throw them off, as she does me, I
much of a goose I am willing to be, and to be thought
But whether I can make myself ^{such an} one remains to be seen.
And, it is much better for ~~her~~ to have those high aspira-
tions, than some others that might have possessed him.
I did think his "fort" was sibil life, and hoped he
would remain with us, or near us, but he differs from
~~me~~. He will have to do as Robert Bzng, in Winthrop's
nobel, Cecil Dreeme, ^{did} learn in the fools school.
I hope his tuition may not cost him too dearly.
I am much obliged for the card there sent. It is
universally pronounced excellent. Give my love to
Luther, how does he feel? We were so hurried and ex-
cited when he was here, that I think, some times, on
reviewing the incidents of that time, that he must have
thought me cold and careless. I was not very well, and
was distressed with parting from you, and as I think
of it now, I neither did nor said anything as I could
have wished. I have loved him dearly ever since I have

knowing him, And now, in view of his present
position, I feel more love and sympathy than ever
before, Dear child I ~~could~~ not say you are ever in our
thoughts, The house and yard are haunted with the
steps and voices of the dear children and their
parents, Is there any thing Mary or I can do for
Luther, or for any of you, I hope if there is this will
let us know,

She did not say if this sends C. home, or if she
comes at her own expense, or whether she stays
in N. Y. I have not mentioned it to Hester, for
I did not know exactly what to say. What shall
I say to her?

I have not made up anything for Mary yet, for I
have been busy, and shall be yet for a week or two,
I have put most of my plants in the cellar, The daisy
I divided and made six pots, I told me they would
not do any good in the cellar, so I have put them in
the green house at home, Everything goes on safe and
well at the house and in the yard, I keep the Gate locked
I found under the door yesterday, a notice of a suit
against Luther for \$200. ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~same~~ ^{same} ~~thing~~ ^{thing} ~~as~~ ^{as} ~~before~~ ^{before} ~~George Smith~~ ^{George Smith}, I
took it to John, who said he would attend to it.
He told me he would write to Luther to day,

I am glad you heard W. W. B. and that you were pleased
I am sure I would find it a treat and a benefit also
to hear him, And I do long for something of that kind
for Mary and Howard as well as myself, I. M. Foster
Love to all from thy Mother