

Philadelphia
July 21/61
3 P.M.
My dear wife
I am glad in being able
to inform you that I am thus far on my way
east & if it is much pleasure to you to know
that fact as it is for me to report I shall be
satisfied. I wrote you from Washington soon
after my arrival there since which I have
called on many of my friends there I could
hear much which will be made known
as time & opportunity presents. At this time
it is full of troops with scores of Fathers, Mothers
Bro & Sisters going on to see them who have been
absent but a few weeks. (one sent from Mass.
who has 4 sons in the Army & one at home with
5 daughters making ten children the father only
47 years old) I could fill the sheet with particu-
lars but judge that you would prefer a more
general report. If you had been with me you
would have seen much to interest & not a little
to annoy you. The Pres. is a good every day
sort of a man dressed all in gray a sort of
Miller's suit. I have a fine to see & hear him
he is full of fun & jokes. While I was there

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Maine Historical Society
(Coll. 89, Box 1/15)
Date: July 21, 1861
Description: Letter from Daniel Walker Lord to his wife, Lydia Patterson Lord

The Maine Reg. came eleven hundred or more
& they made a call at the White House & he came
out a crowd followed & many desired to take his
hand & give it a hearty shake. He told them if
they would step in the side walk he would be
pleased to see them all & he should know when
he was, though at this time he was pressed hard
by the multitude all anxious to get the first
chance he however took all the Ladies by the
hand first & before he took his stand on the
side walk of the his house steps. After he got
through & he gave us all a good shake - "Well it is
not so long or so hard a job after all" & off he
started half ever saying "I must leave you
& go to my work" Tell Aunt Mary if he
had been there she would have got what
a young ^{married} woman ~~for~~ did not receive though
the above could not be called handsome in
when compared with very many in most
villages in New England Yet the joke went
on & she blushed up & the crowd had a great
shout at his expense - well now for the story.
This young woman had placed herself by the side of
his door with some few others who did not probably
care to be in the crowd though I think she was
one of the first to take his hand & I was so near
the Pres. as to have taken hold of his coat
& made the remark - take the ladies first

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& others responded & he did as they were so near him - will now for the joke. As the Pres. entered the door of his house a good number of these ladies put themselves in a position for another shake & this good appearing woman was the last but one on the very last one & almost in his door way. When he took her hand & he gave us all a good hearty shake - he asked "are you a married lady" her reply was "I am" He added "it is well for you that you are or if you had not been you would have got a kiss" & off he went as nimble as a fox.

Washington is a busy place & a little here & there to be seen at this full of troops, weapons, horses & every thing appertaining to war. Yesterday he told there were 15 Rebels brought up to the Capital & there put in jail one of them had been taken twice before - These 15 were taken by 5 of our men down in Virginia & after one of our men told me that this fellow boasted that he could whip every any four of our men & this our man did not believe very much when the 15 gave up to the 5 this fellow was well earned - he had gun pistol & bow knife & that he had used on a poor ~~wound~~ wounded soldier. He will probably be that as he should be

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I was almost tempted to have taken a
jaunt into Virginia as very many were going
every day with Lanes within three miles of
the Rebels. I thought if I met with any accident
that I should have reflected in myself & my
friends might have ^{with} ~~termed~~ ^{more} prudent
to I gave it up. I have not been particularly
pleased with my jaunt to Washington could
not find my friend nor my papers he took
with him so my jaunt in a measure so
far as the accomplishment of the thing or
business I started for & yet I don't know as I
shall regret it if I get back to my friends
safely & in good health. I want to hear from
you on my arrival at Boston particularly as
to the health of you all - If there is any
business that needs my attention at Boston
ask Charles to write me how he is getting
along with his matters particularly how
they succeed & how near through
with it & such other matters as you
may judge interesting after more than a
weeks absence or will be before you get this
& that will probably be Tuesday noon or eve.

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weeks absence or will be before you get this
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I hope you are making ready with sister Mary
& the children for Governance meet the 4th
of Aug. I think. If I get home safe & in good
health shall be ready for & hope to have the
pleasure of that journey - Have got my
hand in & keep myself up & after I get
back shall want to be washed up that is
my thing. I am in my white pants &
vest & look quite tidy. An acquaintance
said to me while at Washington "How is it
that you keep looking so clean & nice in
such heat down here?" "I cannot [?] a dicky
is
a day in half a day before it all wet
through" & so it was appeared to be with
him. I might have told him that I had
some nice ones put up for me & such was
the fact. I have got half of them left &
put on a clean linen today & have one
left yet. I am unable to say now
the time I shall probably leave. I
hope Tuesday - Shall perhaps
remain one day at New York.
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D.W.L.
kiss

Love & kisses to my dear
Son D. Walter Lord

M.P.L.
kiss

Love & kisses to my dear
Daughter M. Patterson Lord

me at Boston. Be assured that
I shall not stop by the way
to play. Please remember
me to my dear mother & any
other friend that you may
judge that & care for one not forgetting
the mother of my dear children
Very affectionately yours
DWL

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