

Ms124
36
Portland April 8

My dear husband,

The family has all gone to church. & I am here alone with dear little E sleeping quietly beside me. She is very well & her fifth tooth has just broke the gum. Yesterday we went down to Ellen's & spent the day - (Mr Crocker & Henry have gone to Paris) I carried her down & Pa came after & brought her home - Ma said she had had a long day I expect little E would be missed here very much - It was a lovely day & Ellen & I wished that we could go out together & take a walk - but we concluded that we could never do so ^{again} as we could once - Ah - you men know nothing about the confinement of children - I can't help laughing when I think how terribly restive a man would be - confined in the house to the care of children -

I was very glad to get your last letters - which I did Tuesday - I am much obliged to you for the 5\$ but I do not like to take it - as I know you need money - so much more than I do - I shall first go to the Dentists & see if I can't have something done to my front-teeth - I cannot bear to let them go with out an effort to save them - I should have gone before - but I thought I could not spare the money - I had not the two upper teeth ^{that have not} begun to decay - Last summer they decayed very fast - I another such campaign & I believe I should not have a tooth left in my head! I told you some time ago that I did not need any thing - but there is one article which I should like to have - you get me between now & some time next June - It is a fancy ^{neck} handkerchief - I want something not so warm as my small shawl & a little thicker than a muslin cape - I have nothing of the kind - You can get as good a one as I wish, for [?] cts I dare say you can for [?] cts - I'm not particular about the colours - I merely want something to keep my neck warm as there is but very little weather in summer - that I can go with only a lace cape alone - I do not care about having a worsted one - perhaps there may be something which I can get for you here - to pay for the change - As I don't want you to spend your money - when you have sent me money - I thought it probable that you could get me a better one in N.Y. than I could get here for the same money -

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Maine Historical Society
MMN # 99276

Date: April 8, 1838

Description: Lucretia Sewall to husband about dental issues, abolition

This is a fine day & I presume you are at this present sitting in listening to Mr Mason's sermon - Last evening there was a most beautiful moonlight one - how I wished for you to take a walk with me - Oh how I long for the time when I shall again lean on your arm. Will that time ever come? I am very sorry that you have been ill - be careful of yourself - had you not better take some wormwood - I have not seen my wife since the past week I have had a bad cold with the head ache - but am pretty well today - You expected to be troubled the past week & a great many times it seemed to me to be almost [?] light-hearted when you were harrassed & perhaps suffering - I often dwell with pleasure on your probable success in your profession - & find pride & ambition often mingling in my domestic & happier hopes of [?] city - Ah, what a disturber of happiness must a great degree of ambition be

My first exclamation on opening that letter with the picture on the top - was - how ridiculous -! [?] don't look grave my dear, good loving discussion husband - but I do think they make a great fuss about that Mr Lovejoy - & I dare say the Abolitionists are not very sorry about his death - for it will always be a subject that they can keep harping upon - I did not know that Martyrs generally fell with weapons of defence in their hands - did not Christ say "put up thy sword into the sheath" - & when they persecute you in our city flee ye into another - he did not say - stay at all hazards & shoot them if they resist -

As to Abolitionism - it appears to me that the citizens of one state have no right at all to interfere with the laws & government of another state - But worse than all - I expected a letter expecting to hear all about my husband & it was filled with Mr Lovejoy - & your discussion - & since he had the goodness to write me two other letters which covered the sin - I hope you will soon find some comfortable boarding place when you can have things comfortable around you.

Oh, dear Sewall - I trust the time is not very distant when we can sit under our vine & fig - tree - & talk & talk & talk - haste happy day - but ah - life is so uncertain that I dare not dwell too much on the future - Life at the longest looks to me very short - & a few rapidly fleeting years & we are gone - & oh how little took the subject engrosses our thoughts -

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I do not know where I shall attend church this afternoon - I do not like the man who preaches at our church - Mr Whitman, I prefer to hear but he is too far off -

I am much obliged to you for your kindness in mentioning the books - & if you will come & take care of the baby - I will read them all! ^{in a certain position}

Mrs Boid & Mrs Nichols thinks the baby looks like me - & once I thought she looked like me - but I perceive no resemblance at all - she has got a chin just like yours -

Do you recollect the time I overtook you in Washington Square - it seems as if I could see you there now -

It is now time for the folks to come home - Sarah & John always visit here Sunday - E has had a fine nap - she is now sound asleep with her mouth partly open & her little hand laid up by the pillow - every once in a while one little finger will move & then her whole hand will shake a little -

But adieu - My ever dear husband - (My lips have [torn] that word -)

Yours - Lu -

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[sideways]
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