Dear wife

I thot you might like to hear from me - altho a short time has elapsed since I left you yet to me it seems an age as I have been somewhat homesick since I left as young folks you know are apt to be. —

I have been pretty well since I left home + hope the blessing of health may be continued to me. – The cholera (which perhaps you know) has broken out in this city. The first case was last Wednesday, which proved fatal, since which there have probably been 20 or 30 (?) deaths. It has proved much more fatal here than either at Boston or New York in proportion to the no. of Inhabitants. Persons attacked frequently do not live more than 5 or 6 hours. - - -

3 of the deck hands of the Steamer Kennebec which arrived here yesterday from Boston were taken this morning about 5 o'clock - and before 2 o'clock P.M. were all dead and buried. I assure you it has been a gloomy day here. 15 new cases + 9 deaths. I attended Mr. Hedges Church this forenoon, [sic] who preach a funeral sermon on the death of Mr Abbot James Mayor of this city. He did not die of Cholera.
I went to Hear Mr Malby [?] this afternoon
A Lord [?] is apprentice for Wednesday next.
on a/e of the Cholera. There have been many
many cases in the street where my office
is. It being the location of many Irish –
If the Cholera should increase I think I
shall go to Portland altho I suppose if
I should leave I should lose my situation
dont let this alarm you. For I am
very well now and am very carefull [sic] of
my diet – I have thot more of home the
last week than ever before - - I have thot
much about dear Franks going away
+ feel as if I could not let him go, it
would be so long before I could see him
but I suppose it will be be much for his
interest – write me by return Boat if
you can – I will write you again
tomorrow or next day – will you
send by Cap Rogers and Umbrella as
I forgot to take one – I wish it was so
that I could have Bangor for the present
but dont be to [sic] anxious abt me + perhaps
I ought not to have written as I have
give my love to all the dear children
+ all friends your aff – Hus. S. Gilman
Date: Sept. 2, 1849
Description: Letter to Mrs. Samuel Gilman from her husband about life in Bangor and the cholera epidemic.