

No 124
18
Portland - July 17 -

My dear Husband,

Joseph has just told me that he is going to head to N.Y. to-night & I seize the opp. to scratch a few lines in the time given. I had the pleasure of receiving yr kind letter yester noon. I am glad to hear that you are well - I am very well - We had a letter from John yester - He writes that Sarah is pretty well - "only made anxious by her expectations"! I shall expect particular news from them sooner that they will hear about me - They are going to housekeeping in about two months. I am much obliged, dear Sewall, for your kind wishes & advice & wish I had time to answer your letter more at length.

I don't think there is much of the Roman Matron about me but I will do the best I can. I do not need any one to sleep with me. I had much rather be alone.

I think I shall get along pretty well. The case afterwards, if things should go well will be a good deal for me - I am so unused to children -

I have not walked out in the streets for some time - yester - I walked back & forth in the garden - while the family was at church.

The five is all gone - I was obliged to get some flannel & one or two other things. I do not need any more at present - but may possibly in a month or two - as I must try & furbish up my [?] dress for the fall.

I am sorry to say that Jackson's report cannot be obtained here - Joseph said that he tried to get one for you but they are not for sale.

Oh - I should admire to see Mrs Warren. Any body else almost might have known her complaints last winter - without making such a commotion about them - I should admire to have a good laugh at her -

Oh my dear dear husband, how I want to see you. I think more about you - after tea than any other time except the evening - then I think what would I not give if you could pass in -

Portland - July 17 -

My dear Husband,

Joseph has just told me that he is going to head to N.Y. to-night, & I seize the opp. to scratch a few lines in the time given. I had the pleasure of receiving yr kind letter yester noon. I am glad to hear that you are well - I am very well - We had a letter from John yester - He writes that Sarah is pretty well - "only made anxious by her expectations"! I shall expect particular news from them sooner that they will hear about me - They are going to housekeeping in about two months. I am much obliged, dear Sewall for your kind wishes & advice & wish I had time to answer your letter more at length.

I don't think there is much of the Roman Matron about me but I will do the best I can. I do not need any one to sleep with me. I had much rather be alone.

I think I shall get along pretty well. The case afterwards, if things should go well will be a good deal for me - I am so unused to children -

I have not walked out in the streets for some time - yester - I walked back & forth in the garden - while the family was at church.

The five is all gone - I was obliged to get some flannel & one or two other things. I do not need any more at present - but may possibly in a month or two - as I must try & furbish up my [?] dress for the fall.

I am sorry to say that Jackson's report cannot be obtained here - Joseph said that he tried to get one for you but they are not for sale.

Oh - I should admire to see Mrs Warren. Any body else almost might have known her complaints last winter - without making such a commotion about them - I should admire to have a good laugh at her -

Oh my dear dear husband, how I want to see you. I think more about you - after tea than any other time except the evening - then I think what would I not give if you could pass in -

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Maine Historical Society
MMN # 98895

Date: July 17, 1837

Description: Lucretia Sewall on impending birth

I began my letter on the wrong page

I hope the "miniature" which you speak of will be a feminine one - You understand, dont you?

You are quite a frequent visitor at Mrs Balch's - before I came away - she said she did expect to see you at all as there would be no attraction there - Have you been at the Ticknor's since I left? I suppose Jerry's wife has returned by this time -

Old Mrs Boid & Miss Susan called to see me this morning - They are very pleasant & elegant ladies - Mrs B. Boid has a daughter - about six weeks old -

I hope your health & courage will keep good - dear Sewall, I shall endeavour to keep looking as well as I can - & as free from anxiety as possible - you know it is said that American ladies as soon as they get married - fade immediately - as I have not much beauty to preserve - perhaps I may preserve healthy looks longer - for your sake I shall try to - as I dont want to look all worn out - its no compliment to our husband to grow ugly so fast - If I see a young married lady looking particularly woe-begone I fancy her husband is no better than he should be - But I hope no one else has the same ideas upon the subject - as I should be sorry to have an opinion of you formed from my looks -

I presume by this time you have got a letter which I sent Friday - I shall send you one by mail Sunday - I presume if I have not opportunity before - let me have good long letters from you as often as may be - they are dear kind letters - nothing more can be more grateful to me except seeing & embracing you -

Oh Mr Newhall - who was married a few weeks since - has failed - Mr Williams - Joseph's clerk is going to Meadville this week - & I must write to Sarah - & also a letter to Newburyport - for Lucy Hudson - & then when I have a good op - I must write to Mrs B. & Caro Thurston - & all my promises will have been fulfilled -

I began my letter on the wrong page

I hope the "miniature" which you speak of will be a feminine one - You understand, dont you?

You are quite a frequent visitor at Mrs Balch's - before I came away - she said she did expect to see you at all as there would be no attraction there - Have you been at the Ticknor's since I left! I suppose Jerry's wife has returned by this time -

Old Mrs Boid & Miss Susan called to see me this morning - They are very pleasant & elegant ladies - Mrs B Boid has a daughter about six weeks old -

I hope your health & courage will keep good - dear Sewall. I shall endeavour to keep looking as well as I can. & as free from anxiety as possible - you know it is said that American ladies as soon as they get married fade immediately - as I have not much beauty to preserve - perhaps I may preserve healthy looks longer for your sake I shall try to - as I dont want to look all worn out - its no compliment to one's husband to grow ugly so fast. If I see a young married lady looking particularly woe-begone I fancy her husband is not better than he should be - But I hope no one else has the same ideas upon the subject - as I should be sorry to have an opinion of you formed from my looks -

I presume by this time you have got a letter which I sent Friday - I shall send you one by mail Sunday - I presume if I have not opportunity before - let me have good long letters from you as often as may be - they are dear kind letters - nothing now can be more grateful to me except seeing & embracing you.

Oh Mr Newhall - who was married a few weeks since - has failed -

Mr Williams Joseph's clerk is going to Meadville this week - & I must write to Sarah - & also a letter to Newburyport for Lucy Hudson - & then when I have a good op - I must write to Mrs B & Caro Thurston - & all my promises will have been fulfilled -

My dear Husband - I must bid you good-bye - to you I
will say - à Dieu - I trust we shall yet pass some
of our Spring time of life together - I live quite secluded now of
course - & expect I shall become quite soberfied - Now it
does appear to me that I am one of the greatest egotists
that ever lived - & it does not seem as if even your love could
not get tired of my tales about myself - I shall try &
write as often as I can now - as after a certain period - it will
be sometime I presume before I shall have permission
to use my eyes.
Yours till death -
Lucretia

& now My dear Husband I must bid you goodbye - to you I
will say - à Dieu -

I trust we shall yet pass some
of our Spring time of life together - I live quite secluded now of
course - & expect I shall become quite soberfied- Now it
does appear to me that I am one of the greatest egotists
that ever lived - & it does not seem as if even your love could
not get tired of my tales about myself- I shall try &
write as often as I can - as after a certain period - it will
be sometime I presume before I shall have permission
to use my eyes.

Yours till death —
Lucretia