

Sunday evening five minutes of 7.) It has been raining or looking so
it wanted to ever since June set in till tonight. Now it has
cleared up & Waterloo invites your return my darling with
many smiles. I seem to think you are at Luds, for if Saturday
was a rainy day you would not have returned to Lewiston.
I hope you are well now and know this to be your time
of dreaming, musing and thinking of the dear ones who are
absent from you. Perhaps you are just now thinking of your
husband. That is he wrongs when this reaches you, you will
know he is thinking of you. A young man from Albany
Jackson of whom I spoke in a former letter has come
here again for a good time. After tea the young men set
out for a walk. I am away from them - saw your letter
on the table unfinished and here I am. I wish the young men
could choose some other time than Sunday to visit us. The
course ribaldry & vulgar jokes, to say nothing of other things
dont sit well on my palate. I took Ollie to Church to hear
the Temple today. The new church is completed. Mrs Willard
Miss Emma & Mrs Tibbets so kindred for you. Mrs Willard
says she shall claim me there, and wants me to get
a part of a pew. The renting will take place on Wednesday
next. I wish you were here to consult with. I want a
seat somewhere, and dont like to wander about from
Church to Church. But your prejudices & mine seem to run in
different directions in this matter. I almost wish me, as man & wife

my love to our mother - Gods' will I leave. ^{to him how by all} all you can desire. ^{to him how by all}

Boston anti-slavery, ^{has a letter} this morning. none came.

right & noble in religious sentiments as we are united in others; and I believe we since
we both meet in sincerely. I have gone back searching as all hazard - say when
shall I meet you? have got some now
and more are the place.

Mr Haggard myself
are excellent things
the slogan to
make evenings
a fun & the game
proclamation are interesting
for money however
& other things to be said
to England. I shall
try to do mine this
week so as to go
for you next week.

It is saturday night, and I know I cannot
get a letter off before monday and perhaps I may get
one from you before this is closed - but I cannot
refrain from writing. I wish dearest you could look into
my heart - I see it as it is. I dont mean for you to
witness all the stains that time has stamped there in - but
even if you could know it all laid bare, you would never
dream that my heart was cold - that my sympathies were
weak. You are mine now darling, and there can be
nothing gained by pretense. I cannot tell you what I meant
by when I began. words are either too cold or too warm - One
may say he loves you when he loves himself & loves to know
you please him, the darling man - Then something keeps you off -
you are most delighted while rustling close to his bosom, though
what he says is ever so charming. But sometimes the heart is
very warm & the words you attempt to clothe your emotions in
are very cold - Pray my darling not judge me by mine. There is a
means then that heals for you, that feels lonely, and would drop a
little, did not the ugly head above it control it. It will long for you - "to

This is
the third

My heart is young
and full of life
I am overjoyed

I have young & full
of life & pleasure
the world is full
of life & pleasure
My heart is young

I am overjoyed

she happy away! When her head presses the pillow, is it soft and comfortable - when she sleeps is it a gentle & peaceful sleep? Will she wake before the day, and think long of her new home, and of him who is there? Is she unhappy still, does she cry for grief? "Oh! will she not come back & be happy! can she not bear the heavy burden, as a sweet sacrifice to him she loves?" I want often to talk with somebody who will inquire after you - I called on Miss Mary once, after the first few words in which she asked in an affectionate manner after you & I told her I had received a letter. I couldnt get up a pretence for talking about my wife, I thought my mind and heart were upon the little one I didnt know as other peoples were so I talked absently about other things. Home & my book or drawing is the place for me. Here is the rocking chair, the little birds, the books, the windows towards town (& the canal) and their wonder deals. In the next room is the bed, the half table, the rose bush. Dont think all things remind me of you Lizzie, no. You are right here in my heart all the time night and day - and I fear I worship your little self too much. But the dream is so sweet, that you must not break the charm. Dont think me silly - (the use of that word brings to me your expression when you have used it) and almost makes me - almost ^{I say dont think me silly} touches my pride), when I write as I have been writing above, for my wish is to try to open my bosom to you & let you know what's working there - It is selfish in me if it gives you any convenient sadness, but it seems to me if you love & are sure you are loved - you love like much to have the beloved one, a little of an extra,

just a little, enough to let you know his circumstances, both without and around him & within? But my feeling now is that Lizzie says please don't grieve her, but confine yourself to real things. So I will. Ollie Hazard is still with me. will go home next week sometime. Major Buggs & Shunk are alive, well, & full of fun, have been singing songs & amusing Ollie. Mrs Thornton said to me the other day, give my love to Mrs Howard and say she must hasten back. Her husband leaves for Santa Fe via St Louis. for Leavenworth &c - on Monday next. Mrs Lyngton & Miss Mary have gone to New York to visit a friend who is about to leave for a foreign tour - and takes Johnnie along for a beau. Major & I myself are widowers virtually. The major has children for comfort & consolation, I have not. I am happy that you want me with you - I know you love your husband and that he that must not only love you in return, but strive to be a good and worthy husband. I want those things my darling I want to fear God - not fear man - and love you rightly - I will finish this tomorrow. when I hope to have more common sense - for I have made out so many accounts, ie, my bills. I. Treasuring bills and private debts & credits that I may say, à la Shunk, I am getting decidedly practical - How I wish you were here this night - I love the night-cap now - dont tell though - Goodnight. God bless you -

very well indeed. I should be so happy if I could start for home this week, and it may be that I can. I do not know as I shall be able, that is, know in season to have you come and meet me, but do not fear to have me go alone. I have just thought what I can do - telegraph for you to me. I can do that after I start. I will do so, dear Otis. I have not seen Charlie, but on my way home I intend to stop with him over one train. I would not have Mother receive one of your letters after I leave for anything. I will not be anxious to about you if I do not hear from you again, but you may write to another. I presume I shall get a letter Wednesday next from you. I am now hoping I may start this week, but you will know if I do. This is a very rainy day therefore I have to stay at Aunt Sarah's, say good bye my dear husband. The mail goes out this afternoon and I wish you to hear as soon as possible from your wife.

5

Auburn June 2. 1855.

Saturday 5. o'clock

My own dear husband.

I received both of your affectionate letters this (Saturday) afternoon, on my return from Leeds, where I have been spending the week. It did seem so very long before I heard from you.

Your Mother received a letter from you yesterday, and we were very glad. I will not write you some things, but when I get home I shall, with arms around your neck, tell you how lonely I am at times, and that I shall not come to Maine alone I am going to Waterlot just as soon as Mother will let me.

Your Mother will not accompany me to Boston, and I see no need of your coming farther than Springfield. I will let you know in season to meet me there.

Cousin Adams and Frank came in after tea, and now they have gone I will resume my writing to my dear Husband.

When I went to Leeds I found your folks having their house painted throughout the inside - some rooms were dried - the dining-room floor varnished &c. but we got along nicely and I had a very pleasant visit.

(Note 19) We went to Turner one day; saw Grandmother and Aunt Nancy. took tea the same day with Aunt Martha and Laura. Uncle Ensign got home while I was there from Waterville, where he saw Rowland, and returned with him to Hallowell. Delle took me to the Depot, just before I started Col G. gave me two apples for you, two for Mother, and two for myself. quite a rarity. I presume you have received a second letter from me before this time, and you ought to have received another this evening. But I did not write

while at Leeds. I gave Col Gilmore \$100.00. Secrets are secret still and we will keep them to ourselves. It must be so. I have been very well all the time I have been from you excepting one day at Leeds (that was yesterday). I am very well to-night, and am wishing my visits were over and I was at home at Waterlist in our pleasant chamber and you reading aloud to me or I to you. I have not told you how mother is. When I returned to-day I found her about the same as the first day I saw her. Seems to be very weak and is surely very nervous. I think that she will soon be better.

It is half past nine and I will go to bed to please mother. Good night my darling I hope to see you soon. Monday Morning. I hope you will not be very anxious about me, my darling, because you have not heard from me for so long a time. I am

death of Mrs Gilmore she was buried Sunday
before I went to Litchfield Tuesday, and died the
same afternoon I arrived at Litchfield May 24.

It has taken me nearly all day to write
this letter. I would write a while, and then
do something for mother, and talk a little,
then write a little more. It is now nearly
five o'clock, mother is lying down. How I
wish that she was well, for known sake
as well as my own. sometimes I feel as if
I should fly to Waterford. I so much wish to
be there. I have written no letters excepting
to you since I came away. I wish to write
to Miss Carrie and ought to, but I know not
how to take time. Give my love to all at
Waterford. I shall be very happy to be with
them again. Mother is very much better to-day
than yesterday, by the time you get this I do
really think that she will be quite well.
I shall try to write to you often than I have.
I wish to hear from you, and wish you would
write that I may receive the letter by Saturday.
~~I~~ I should not be here please say nothing you would
not wish made public. I may health start for home the week

6

Saturday June 10. 1860.

I desire very much to write you a long letter
to day my dearest husband, for I know you
must be very anxious to hear from me. I
shall not be able to tell you when I can
go home. I am very sorry to say brother
is not as well as usual. We made up
our minds to come down here to Uncle Alden
Whitman's (live in the lower part of Adams house
where Frank and Adams first went to school living)
to come yesterday: we did so, but the ride
seemed to tire mother very much, and she
was obliged to lie in bed all the rest of
the afternoon. She is better this morning got
up to breakfast and sat up two hours. and
is now at eleven o'clock lying down. I do
hope and think she will be better in a
few days. She wants me to go home, but
I do not wish to leave her while so ill.

Aunt Ellen is in the place, been staying with Aunt Hilda, and Mother says I may go and she will have Aunt Ellen stay with her. I am very well so do not be anxious, my Darling, and I will be with you as soon as I can.

Your last letter, how shall I speak of it! the tone was so kind so affectionate I did have a good long cry over it, and I did feel so much condemned for saying you could not feel as much sympathy as some others might. I do know it is not so.

I will be very happy when I get back to St. Waterford. I shall know how to prize my happy home and your society. I do not write much of this, but it is not that I do not think of you, or long to be with you. I am writing up stories in the room with Frank and Adams; how I wish you were here. I do want to see you so much. But I do not think it worth while for you to come, of course not. I am coming to you soon. A lady of my acquaintance saw you yesterday

afternoon - You will smile when I say that she was in a manicure state. It was Mrs. Madge, just put to sleep to examine Aunt Hilda's hand.

(I believe I told you she has a felon on her finger.) She only saw you passing by and says he seems to be commanding her now this ^{old} in his hand. I do not think mother got up at dinner, and has not lain down since, and it is after ten o'clock, dinner at twelve. I remember that this is the day we were to have ripe strawberries; how many have you eaten today? I do not believe you have ~~watercress~~, for a very good reason - that there are none ripe to eat. We are having a sun storm. The first rain that fell after I came to Maine was on Saturday the day I came from Canada. We have had a shower nearly every day since and this is a regular rainy day, but I hope the storm will not last long. I am more lonely when the weather is not sun-shiny, and am apt to "look out at the window".

I do not know as you have heard the sad news - (not so sad as it might be to you), the

Lizzie will return to New York. See
did not mention that Mrs. Wait was in
but Paul and wrote she was. He has
been to Norridgewock & to Portland
on business for the Athenean Society.
Great excitement in this region about
Paul Dow & the riot in Portland.
But it has turned out as I thought
& I do not think it was wrong to use weapons
of death on such an occasion for this
Dow is blamed by some. We have had
some rains lately for which to be
especially thankful as they were expected
by Paul & I think now the crops will
grow finely. It rained here most all
of the afternoon. So I went to the
Baptist, near by, in the evening but
to the other this afternoon. I like
our Bicker the orthodox a little better
as a preacher than I do Mr. Allen.
I shall soon go to progr meeting up
to the Baptist. Bellie must study
well this summer for it is probably
the last term he will go in summer
to the Town School. I have not rec'd the
promised letter from ^{me} Jno. Lempster yet.
Hope you & Bellie have written today. Your affectionate son
Owth Howard

Mrs. Eliza Gilmore

459

Farmouth June 10th 1835.

My dear Mother

I have an hour which I
think I will improve by writing to you.
Perhaps Bellie will think I ought to write
to him, but he must consider this as an
equivocal & I will try to write him next.
I was very much pleased to hear from
him & home for I had not heard from
home since I left & yesterday Portland
wrote me for the first time saying that
he also had not had a letter from
home this year. He heard of Arza's death
through Uncle Ensign whom he met at
Westerville! Bellie wrote me just enough so
that I knew he must have died but I believe
he did not state when or where the friend
was sc. & about his death. He thought I knew
all about home affairs or was afraid I
should tell something I already knew, which
is none and few! He did not write a word
about the society. Tell him to fill up his
sheet always when he has time for it with all

interest. I am well & have been, am getting
on first rate with my studies. How is your
health mother? do you work very hard now? I
suppose you will always have enough to do.
Go Lucia at our house? If so, please remember
me to her; also to Poland Alger, happens to contact with another book auction.
Wint his bride; also to Oliver, tell him I don't
think hot weather has taken much flesh from him
yet & if it dont before long I fear he'll never get it enough. The preacher at the
cold weather will. I hope you & Debbie are
well soon & tell me all. Have you a good
school. Debbie must make his plans to go
entirely through his Arithmetic & all his
books if possible, so to take a vacation
when he goes to school again. — I spoke
to your mother about writing school this
winter. Marcell is very earnest for me not & I now have plenty of time to read
to keep his school & his father with the I pray regularly twice a day. Only get
Agent, says I must at 25 dollars & board in the habit & it is not much trouble.
Don't you think I better engage to teach it? I have not seen Lizzie yet, although Debbie
— All things go on pleasantly here. We wrote Matt she would be here on Thursday.
I have nothing to
I suppose her mother is very sick. Is she not
tender me from studying. We have very good Bonland heard that she was in Maine
preparations with Friday which I do not
fail to attend; also Philological meeting
Wed. evening. There was an auction for
of books yesterday & last night. They sold
books very cheap. I got some, but should
like to have bought others, yet probably
before it opens we can I shall come in
to another book auction.

How are the meetings in Leeds? Do you
think Mr. [unclear] preaching every Sunday & do you go
to see it always? Who preaches at the
Methodist? How does the Sabbath school
flourish. Debbie must pay good attention
to this lesson which only comes once
a week. I hope he will not neglect to
give to Religion its due attention. You must
when you can, read with him at night mother &
he must remind you of it when you forget. Past
Agent, says I must at 25 dollars & board in the habit & it is not much trouble.
Don't you think I better engage to teach it? I have not seen Lizzie yet, although Debbie
— All things go on pleasantly here. We wrote Matt she would be here on Thursday.
I have nothing to
I suppose her mother is very sick. Is she not
tender me from studying. We have very good Bonland heard that she was in Maine
preparations with Friday which I do not
fail to attend; also Philological meeting
by Uncle John who saw Old in Boston.
I wish to hear about Mrs. Maitland when

Yarmouth June 28. 1855

My dear Mother

I was greatly pleased to receive a letter from you this morning, and to find it was one of those good long ones which I had thought belonged to days gone by. I have but little time to write tonight before I should be in bed but thought I would make a beginning of a letter. I was not aware that so long a time had elapsed since I wrote a letter home. But time flies & I know it all occupied, hope I do not spend a moment of a day idly.

I was glad to hear about Aunt Jessie's death & funeral of which before I had had no account. I hope that Louanna will soon be well enough to keep little boys.

Charley Flains said Lizzie is going through in the cars said she was bound straight to New York. I should have been pleased to have had her tarry a night in Yon. I wrote Rowland a letter the first of this week, a part of it Sunday. I attend Let. School Sunday morn which takes some of my leisure of Sunday. I think it is the best way & am spending the time

and I hope Billie will continue to go to Sabbath School & try to make his class interesting. Let him study Clarkes Cours on his lesson & it will make it more beneficial & pleasant & let him ask questions of his teacher & not only say his verses & then run out away. I should like to see his teacher or at all as fellow pupil & would be soon I at home. I'm glad to hear that you have a good school, Billie must improve it to the utmost. I shall see how much improvement he makes when at home the 2nd week in Aug. I must delay writing more tonight as I rose at 4 this morning & did not get to sleep very early last night as it was that of the Philo. I hope you are all enjoying good health & spirits tonight & are not astirring with too weary limbs to your beds. — Friday Morn. Dear Mother this is a beautifully pleasant morning from about 4 o'clock. It will be warm but I have not suffered much from heat yet because I just (dry before yesterday) took off my underclothes. Mosquitoes trouble some but not much yet for we go to bed soon after dark & do not see a light long before. I am thinking about home much lately, because I have been at home always for all my life before at this season of the year. This is the time when

I used to be going to the town school so pleasantly & happily; when we used to have such joyous play at noon or perhaps go & piping. After the rain I am going & returning from the Beach I am thinking about our folks at work in the fields & how I would like to be there, Perhaps our folks are having. How are the crops looking pretty well. I am getting on better than ever in my studies have missed no recitation & no part of one in my Greek & Latin & do not know to. Shall be all ready for College by the 3rd of Aug. if nothing happens contrary to expectation shall spend 3 weeks at home with Pantan d. Give my love to all our family. Remember me to those if they are at our house & Billie must send me the letters more abundantly in future & tell him I'm waiting for you from the Laccy. I am in a great hurry this morn. for it is time for the cars to go to good morning, day & 3 months to all. Please to write as often as possible. I have not had a letter from Otis for 3 months. Your Affectionate Son W H Ward