Dear Husband,

I am sitting on the upper porch, the vines have grown, covering the front balustrade, and Father has put up Howard's old tent so as to shield me from view, on the north side, leaving air holes at each end of that side. So I have a pleasant airy room from which to write to you. Your letter came promptly this afternoon, a good long one, and very satisfying, with the exception of your health. The fever must have been a bad one, to keep you confined so long; I hope you have had company and books to help you bear it pleasantly.

I read the report that Gen. Brown was relieved, and today it is announced that he
is retired, so I hope all difficulties will
be over at an end. I have no doubt
that she will do well. I would not re-
mark at the time, that she was
exactly suited for such an emergency.
Remember me to Capt. Outram and
offer my congratulations on his success
with the crew of the Venerable when I
read an account of that performance of
Captains and men.
Is Mrs. McLain*keeping Railroad Hall
and the
in New York, you managing? To Mrs. McLain came the boys, as they are undeterred to take
it home or writing? Ask the husband how
I shall direct a letter or note to her if
she is absent. I don't think Rachel may
will allow me to do much writing, but
must try to write to her sometimes.
I should like to know just how you are
living before I write to them.
You will hear of the capture of most
of Morgan's command, though the papers
think Mike also, but the Morgan himself
swooshed off proudly, it is to be feared
he will yet be caught.
Emily Cole saw her day before yesterday, she
is fairly on her way to California. Dettie
and her husband are here on a visit, and
if Emily does not take charge of some invalid
children in the East, she will go home with
Dettie, then prefer doing so, in taking the
children.

Mother, Father, and I indulged in a laugh
when I read your advice about going for
it home or writing. Ask the husband how
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she is absent. I don't think Rachel may
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time. All will have to help me dress them as they will fare badly. Gen. M'Cork's father was killed in the fight with Morgan last Sunday. The General, I hear, has command of a reserve corps at Nashville and late received a pass from the enemy, so she has gone to her husband. She and Harriet and Ann were here nights since. Coming back I says that old Major M'Cork heard that the murderer of his son Robert was among Morgan's band and sent on that account. They sent, for although the poor man had the greatest provocation, yet cannot bear to think of the hatred that must have been in his heart.
We have sent off a box to Howard this week. There is quite a complimentary notice of him in a letter from one of the Lieutenants to his father, which is printed in the paper this evening. I will try to get one for you. Uncle John is very sanguine about our Country prospects, what do you think? Did you see that H. W. Burchel declined preaching on
Lecturing in England, disclaimed any desire to influence her with regard to American affairs, and indeed entirely, so different as to their opinions on the subject!

The Collins have a cousin visiting them who came with them the other day to take lessons in walk flower making. Soon after the first lesson had begun, Mary made her appearance with this query, "Have you met a savannahist down there? What shall I do with her?" I advised her to drop the subject and get as many "greenbacks" out of her as possible. She is from Washington, I believe, and one of the Vanderbilt school.

Val sent his wife and to prepare a fine wardrobe so she would receive much attention, also not to have the fattest pair of shoes, mindless. That is needed to raise sympathy in election times we doubt. I am told that the would get none of the Dayton Mantua makes to make her
dress and had to send to Baltimore to have them made. I don't vouch for the truth of this, and didn't hear whether want of time or too much procrastination to see on better fit, was the reason they declined. I weighed Baby today and found she had gained nearly two pounds; it seems as if crying didn't harm her a great deal. Who will command Dr. Lafayette now? Tell me all the changes that will be made on consequence of retiring these offices. Don't use your feet too soon, dear; I shall have to repeat some of your cautions to me about making haste slowly! I am glad to think that you have the Captain back. I did not think of Mrs. W. E. Elyishing you; and felt sad that you were quite alone. Give my love to Mrs. Burke when you see her, it was kind of her to give assistance. — Does Emma still take care of your rooms? Tell her that I have again