

Dayton O. April 6th,  
1864

Dear Luther,

Mary and I stopped at the  
Office on our way to levels this evening, and  
got two letters from you, of the 1st and 2nd.  
So they did <sup>not</sup> overtake the other as you predicted.

The last showed your usual kindness, in  
wishing to spare an unnecessary pain.

I seldom see New York papers, but there is  
enough in any of the papers to make one  
half crazy, if the reports are believed,

Sometimes it is easier to keep calm  
than at others; but it is rather difficult  
to feel that there is no ground for every  
rumor, and I am very anxious always till  
confirmation or denial is made public;  
very often afterwards too.

I do not understand you to say that you  
do not visit that 'situation' at all; only that  
you do not consider it nearly as desirable as

them as to be visited and also not to miss on your  
generosity.

Yours truly  
Gudby  
Dear and  
Bets  
Margaret



previous to amendments in the bill.  
Am I right? Even if we cannot be  
with you, I should feel better about you  
if you were out of the Field; although  
I should not like to see a younger man  
exposed to the influences of a corrupt City.  
I believe we can trust each other; this,  
while it makes our union sweeter, also  
makes separation more endurable.

We both began our married life with good  
resolves; have encountered some unforeseen  
trials, but thank God, still love purely  
and tenderly, every year increasing its  
intensity. May you be spared to see many  
many years in Best one.

Our little ones seem pretty well again  
they run wild most of the time now; Lella  
with the boys, she having a week's vacation.

You may be right about ventilation, but  
I seldom come up stairs without finding  
all the doors open clear out to the porch  
and generally comfort myself with the idea

that pure air is coming in. — Aunt Mary  
is to occupy Lella's room while here, but after  
she is gone I mean to put two of the children  
there to sleep, and the door can be open  
at night.

I must not forget to tell you of the  
arrival of "Pewee", or Madrake, Howard's  
contraband. He came this morning,  
and seems very happy at getting to the  
"Colportant's folks." Says he feels at home  
now. Bruno made friends with him im-  
mediately, as did the children, all of  
which pleased him exceedingly.

He sleeps at Uncle John's, but takes his  
meals <sup>here</sup> with us. So to take care of Annie's  
horses and cow, but will do our work;  
Uncle bears part of the expense. — Heard  
Noble say that Father would not give  
high wages, but he preferred staying at  
any rate. He will be kindly treated  
for Howard's sake, also for his own I think  
a queer looking specimen he is; I have



not been able to find any more in his  
profile!

Thursday Morn. — The boys are swinging  
and playing on the upper porch, enjoy-  
ing this bright spring morning. Both are  
quite well. Rob's birthday comes to mor-  
row; I don't know what we will do for  
the little man; but it shall be properly  
celebrated. I believe I forgot to tell you  
that the 25 cent piece came to hand.

Uncle John came past this morning.  
he had not yet collected that money  
because he said he was so busy in court.  
I have some hopes that he will attend  
to it today. — Don't know what made  
me think of it, but why did you not  
tell me about that "other affair of Mr. Stacey's?"

My room is in beautiful confusion and  
Baby not bathed so perhaps it is time to  
close. — Many thanks Dear Husband for  
your kind consideration in regard to  
health and feelings, I will try to regard