

11-14-1875

Letter from Sarah Whitney, Belmont, Massachusetts, to Anne Whitney, 1875 November 14

Sarah Whitney

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Belmont Nov. 14, '76

That Sam finds my weekly Budget unbearably
in my secret. Anne is not alone in wondering that
I had had nothing to say, but that I have as well
had something to do I have been able to do it. So
please add your spiritual congratulations & mine
that my eyes are passing out of the category of
epistolary matters.

Edward & Carrie reached
home on Fri. night after an absence of 9 days. Jas.
& C's duties as executors of Mrs. Ware's will prove
arduous through the wads systematic business
accounts of the deceased. Willet & C will have
to go again to N. Y. in a few weeks. Carrie, I think
finds the quiet of Belmont too attractive after
the rush of Brooklyn to wish to make another
visit so soon. Sarah Stone too has come home, &
James' house is now I suppose free from all company
company. I believe there is never a host of guests
there, & we are free to rejoice in the accession of two
to our table feeling that we gain more than outweigh
the Brooklyn loss. Willie neither gains nor loses
perceptibly. He suffers from restlessness more than
from actual pain but is very patient. Carrie copies
May Field's baby as very pretty & bright, & the mother
able to go down stairs & walk after the birth.

I send you a note read the other day from Mrs
Fell that in one of its assertions is somewhat less
of a mystery word than when first read by me.
I think I told you of the little supplements to
her Romance, wh. were prefaced with this "Notice".
"Every subscriber to the Romance of the Association
will be entitled to a copy of this Supplement free, by
enclosing four cents in stamps to Mrs. Fell herself or
Roberts Brothers; said stamps to pay expenses of mailing".
Thinking this was a demand upon you & Abby, as well as
the rest of her readers, I thought to pay the same in to her

own hands, but was prevented as I have already told
you. Being wonderfully surprised by her assertion of
poverty &c. I turned to the pamphlet to see what
I had inserted in my papers & found that for cents
I had read (or rather remembered) stamps & fees.
Therefore sent her 8 stamps instead of 4. I shall
have to explain & then I trust we shall be square.
I am sorry for the poor woman & wish I could make
some desirable boarders believe that she "is as capable
as most boarding-house keepers."

Katy & Mr. L. called yesterday - Marciana has
become a "Cook's tourist" for her journey to Egypt
& hopes to be back in Rome in March, in Paris in May
(I think) & in Eng. through the summer. English & Amer.
friends write in recommending the winter-plate as a safe
& pleasant one. Mrs. Brigham has been reading about
Lady Duff Gordon's letters from Egypt & the Cape of Good
Hope - They are rather interesting in the wonder they
excite that a lone sick woman should so yield
herself to the sole care of half-civilized men.
We want very much to know more about her than
this book reveals. To day we come to the oppo-
site side of the world in Lucy Leroux's story
of

It went to my heart to day to read the other
day that the five hundred dollars he was told
he might have by calling upon the Treas'r. of the
P. M. Com. was to be transferred to Mother's stock.
But I believe I only acted in accordance with
your wish & direction. The other hundred that you
owe Mother may as well be over till she needs
it. Unless Eliza suggests some good investment
of the 7 or 800 she now has in hand I shall take
his note for it & receive interest. Do you know
I have not yet heard how much I am to pay for
the watch? Nothing has leaked out, or at

last not into my ears about the likelihood
of the P. M. Com. adopting either of the models
for the statue. This is no time to raise money
for the work or I rather think the matter will have
to wait awhile though new statues are talked about
in the papers - one asking for another of Gov. An-
drew - & others replying that while there are two of
him already erected, Adams & Abbott Lawrence or
somebody else might as well be remembered.

I wish some one were wise enough & with force to
back his wisdom to propose Sam. Adams for city
Adornment. Did you see in the Advocate a description
of Missouri's Statue of Gen. Lyon lately placed in
Commonwealth Sq. ? Who pays for it I don't know
having never heard of the statue or the man before
I saw the description.

Tues. a. m. Yes! letters don't always speak the true
truth & so Eliza said years ago, & I will just believe
her now, & imagine you my beloved sister "chattering
about Paris" instead of trying to keep warm in
bed in Concord - I fear I must make believe
harder, to see Abby with you, though it is just

The "middle of Nov." Decidedly November,
is the weather we are having this week, but
not to be compared to that of wh. we
read on N. side of the water. Nothing
could be better than that we had last week
with the exception of one fine rainy day
I longed in those days to live in a country
or latitude where the winters ^{always} ~~will~~ be as
benial & the summers made to match. But
where can such be found? Mr Lambert says
"in California" & thinks it wd. be a good
plan to emigrate. I wish he & Katy, wd.
be transported there for a few months
recreation - ~~their life~~

A travelling acquaintance of Edward & Carrie
on their trip to N. Y. told them that Charlotte
Cushman is recovering under the treatment
of a Boston Dr. who makes her disease a
specialty though skilful in many others -
Thompson, Co. thinks is his name. The papers
partly confirm the report in saying that
Miss C. is about to resume her public reading.

I shall look anxiously for Ady's promised
letter hoping that it will come before
another Mon. though it have to fill of her
own solitude wh! too I shall have to be
sorry for - Post life will not give us all
good things with the love that is best
of all! Adieu till next time - always
Yr own Parak