Hampstead Sept 16th 1862

Dear Husband,

I have a severe head-ache to-night—but must write to you because I haven't written this week. I have been to an auction to-day for the first time in my life. And bid off an all wool blanket for $1.60, so you see I mean to sleep warm this winter. Mr. Hutton's house sold and sold all his things all but his need estate.

I tell you darling I am tired. I went to the office this morning and didn't get back until it almost noon. Then I cooked the beef-steak for dinner (I always think how I used to cook it for you when we have it) and then went over to the auction and stood till almost dark. I was well paid for going to the office, because I got your letter dated Aug 25th. I guess you'll think the Dr. never coming back by this time. I saw Etta at the store to-day and she said he was going back next week. I am disturbed to death for fear he will resign when he gets back and you will be turned into the ranks. I know you will find a difference if you are, and will feel discontented and I shall worry a great deal more about your welfare than I have before. I have been so well...
Transcription:

[raised imprint reads: "WEST END"]

Hampstead Sept 16th /62
Dear Husband,
I have a severe head-
ache to night but must write to you because I
havnt written this week. I have been to an auction
to-day for the first time in my life. And bid off
an all wool blanket for $1.18, so you see I mean to
sleep warm this Winter. Mr Hutchins has enlisted
and sold all his things all but his real estate

I tell you darling I am tired. I went to the office
this forenoon ^morning and didn’t get back until almost
noon, then I cooked the beef-steak for dinner
(I always think how you I used to cook it for you when
we have it) and then went over to the auction
and staid till almost dark. I was well paid for
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and she said he was going back next week. I am distress-
ed to death for fear he will resign when he gets back and
you will be turned into the ranks. I know you will
find a difference if you are, and will feel discontented
and I shall worry a great deal more about you
People have been telling me to-day that—they are not going to allow the Soldiers to write. That will be worse than all the rest if I cant hear from you. But if they allow me to write to you it will be better than nothing, and I will write darling as often again as I do now. It would be awful hard not to hear from you, but I can bear it better than you could. But I can't believe they will make such a cruel law. I don't blame them for deserting if they do. If this is to all our comfort it will be taken away from us. What a blessing it has been to us to be able to talk to each other in this way. If you were here to-night you would see what I would do to you for dreaming to naught about me. I would squeeze you harder than you ever got squeezed before. Ask my husband if you should come home once more I should never wish to go out of your sight again. But—Oh dear! I don't care about such a blessing. Muse spoke about the soldiers having bad news about their wives. Perhaps there is not half of them true. This makes me think of what you said to me just before you went away. How proud I have been when I have thought what confidence you had in me.

You asked about Mrs. B. She feels just enough I tell you. Some people think it has injured her mind all ready. You asked about Mrs. W. One yours was enough I tell you.
People have been telling me to-day that they are not going to allow the soldiers to write. That will be worse than all the rest if I can’t hear from you.

But if they allow me to write to you it will be better than nothing, and I will write darling as often again as I do now. It would be awful hard not to hear from you, but I can bear it better than you could.

But I can’t believe they will make such a cruel law. I don’t blame them soldiers for deserting if they do. If this is so all our comfort will be taken away from us. What a blessing it has been to us to be able to talk to each other in this way. If you were here to night you would see what I would do to you for dreaming so naughty about me. I would squeeze you harder than you ever got squeezed before. Oh my husband if you should come home once more I should never wish to go out of your sight again.

But - Oh dear! I don’t dare expect such a blessing.

You spoke about the soldiers hearing bad news about their wives. Perhaps there is not half of them stories true. This makes me think of what you said to me just before you went away. How proud I have been when I have thought what confidence you had in me.

You asked about Mrs. B. She feels bad enough I tell you. Some people think it has injured her mind all ready.
If you hear any good news from him send it by all means but if you hear any bad, say nothing about it; for the ponds one so hard that I have to tell her everything. Well blessed, I can't write anymore to night my head aches so. A kiss and pleasant dreams to you darling.

From Emmy

P.S. I must tell you before I forget it that Annie was a good girl all day yesterday. wasn't naughty once.

Sept. 18th

I have been so busy this week, darling, that I haven't finished your letter and shall hardly get it on the way to you this week if I don't hurry but will send it to the depot-tomorrow morning if possible and I will get along a little faster for that. Mother and the children have been to Nelson to-day. Lewis wants me to tell you he is going to answer your letter just as soon as he can get time. I have just finished a new dress for Annie to-day.

I have a good mind to send you a piece just to please her. They like to send you something so well.

I have been making calls this afternoon and my hands ache as usual when I go anywhere.
If you hear any good news from him send it by all means but if you hear any bad, say nothing about it, for she pumps me so hard that I have to tell her everything. Well blessed, I can’t write any more to night my head aches so. A kiss and pleasant dreams to you darling. From Emmy

P.S. I must tell you before I forget it that Annie was a good girl all day yesterday .. wasn’t naughty once.

Sept 18th
I have been so busy this week, darling, that I havn’t finished your letter and shall hardly get it on the way to you this week if I don’t hurry, but will send it to the depot tomorrow morning if possible and it will get along a little faster for that.

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I have been making calls this afternoon and my head aches as usual when I go anywhere.
Julia was inclined to make a little fun of you
because you hoped the Dr. would get a lot of
commission. She said she didn’t know what place you expected
to get that was better, unless you expected to take
Eastman’s place. And that makes me think what
Lucy Smith asked me. She said your husband
is assistant surgeon isn’t he?

Honor Hoyt and Mr. Courrier have enlisted in the nine months men. We have
better news from the war of late. But it will
take them some time to get in as good standing
as they were before the battle at Richmond took
place. Oh my dearest husband, I wish you could come
home if you didn’t stop longer than you was going to
in your dream. Just so I could kiss you lips — now
I can think just how I used to kiss your face all over,
even your blessed loving blue eyes, and I can almost
live it over thinking of it. How much plainer I can
see your face now, than I can when I look at your
picture. I have a picture of you in my heart more natural
than any artist—can take. And then it will always
remain, if I should never see you again, so this image
will ever take its place. Do you believe me my husband?

But I must close it is too late. I hope I shall have another
letter this week so good night—dearest. From your Ever Loving
Julia
Transcription:

Julia was inclined to make a little fun of you because you hoped the Dr. would get a Col.’s commission. She said she didn’t know what place you expected to get that was better, unless you expected to take Eastman’s place. And that makes me think what Lizzie Little asked me. She said "your husband is assistant surgeon isn’t he?"

Hazen Hoyt and Mr. Courier have enlisted in the nine months men. We have better news from the war of late, But it will take them some time to get in as good standing as they were before the battles at near Richmond took place. Oh my dear husband I wish you could come home if you didn’t stop longer than you was going to in your dream, just so I could kiss your lips now I can think just how I used to kiss your face all over even your blessed loving blue eyes, and I can all most live it over thinking of it. How much plainer I can see your face now, than I can when I look at your picture. I have a picture of you in my heart more natural than any artist can take. And there it will always remain. If I should never see you again, no other image will ever take its place. Do you beleive me my husband?

But I must close it is so late. I hope I shall have another letter this week so good night dearest. From your Emmy