

If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to



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#227 West 6th St

Mrs

22217

Erie Pa

20 7

CHAUTAQUA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2018

Greensboro N. C.

Oct. 6th 1878

My dear wife:

We spoke yesterday at Rox-
bury, and are to be at Leathersburg tomor-
row and Homeville the day after - I rode
till 12 last night, to get to do. Boston
and came up on the train this m. 7 a.
to learn about some matters here, &c.
It will give me very close work and
little sleep but I am in for the same.
I got your letter of 20 Sept at Roxbury.
It had been much delayed. I found you
of the 30th all here. You do not know
how precious your letters are to me.
I owe you so many thanks for them - I
love you more every time I see your
dear handwriting and think of your
trusting prayer and tender love. God
forgive me that I have not been more

O. B. Darling, you do make me feel
so weak and unworthy. If I could
write you I will be better. I do
feel so weak in all the things and
I am unable to write you. I think
I am still so weak and I am
I do not feel like myself yet. I am
not feel so constant and I am not
sure that I am right and sometimes
it seems to me that God is leading
me against my own sense and in
emotion. I have your picture - the
one taken in Rochester - before me
on the table. I never know what a
pure holy beauty there is about it
until I see you walk away. I don't think
you will ever have another so sweet
I carry it with me and look at it so
often. It strengthens and purifies me.
I do not believe I am my old self -
It seems so strange to write to you. You
seem so distant and removed from

me - You do not even seem with
me and I hardly wish you to be
with me. I think and dream of you so
far more and so happy. I do not
dream of any future, but of your happy
present - I am sure that I am
with me, I know and feel at once
how rare and foreboding would be
to look upon your eyes and about your brow,
and I always think God that you are
not here - Forgive me darling, if I pain
you, with my forebodings - if they are fore-
bodings - It seems very strange that I
should not expect to see you again and
which does not sadden me - I cannot
realize that our lives will ever be joined
in fact again - I cannot see any
future - I think I shall win - I believe
that I shall be elected but I can-
not see any further - The other day
for the very first time, I caught myself
planning something afterwards, that
I elected, you and I should take

to trip through the counties of the
district together and see our friends.
- That we should go among the people
and teach them to love us, as I
know we could - I am in the
process of change in my thoughts.
Do not let my notions sadden you
durling, for I know that God has
our lives marked out for more
good than they have ever yielded -
at least mine.

I cannot write you about the
causes because it would take a vol-
ume to tell you all and besides,
it would, perhaps, bring the real life
even to you. It is different from any before
which I have made. There is not one out
of a million or a hundred thousand in my
speeches - I am trying to say, instead of
causes. You would be surprised at
what great social speeches I make -
Not even the most ill-natured Dem-
ocrat in the Dist. can get offended,
or has got offended, at what I say. I am
surprised at myself - I cannot flatter

and cajole, in private, much better
than before but I am learning to be
much pleasanter and am getting
over my reserve somewhat - I am re-
ceiving the most kind and flattering
receptions almost every where - At
Knoxboro it was quite an ovation indeed.
I think it is generally believed by all
that I ~~will~~ ^{shall} be elected - It is a very strange
campaign indeed - I am sure I am
gaining in power and good-will of
the people and some of the intricate
problems which arise seem so plain
to me sometimes, that I feel as if
God were directly aiding me.

My friends are all very kind. Keogh got
\$300 for this Dist. and expects \$500 more,
perhaps \$1000 - I took \$100 and left the rest
in the hands of the Committee - I think
I shall get through with it - At least I

will go as far as it holds out - The Demos
are frightened - They have Vance
and Morrison and Robbins all in
the district working hard against me -
There seems to be some distrust as to
Winston - James E. Boyd, and Char-
lestown are said to be opposing
me - Their motive is not obscure -
The colored people seem to be all right
and awake - The Democrats in Person
say that I will carry that county
by 200 -

My health is very good and, in
short, everything looks most cheering -
Gilmer says that I will carry this
county and my old barometer
Cesa Knight says that it will thun-
der on Nov. 5th. It may not
be but it looks like it - now -

I cannot write very often, and do
not suppose I can write anything
satisfactory to you when I do - but
please write as often as you

can - God bless those kind
friends who are making your
life so pleasant - I do not expect
you I shall ever see them - Indeed
I hardly know as I wish to, but
I think them and love them for
making you so happy - Kiss
my little darling for me and
tell her that her papa loves her
all the better for pleasing her dear
mama so well -

Your mother was never so good, for
so long a time in her life - She had a
big row over some chickens and
accused everybody of stealing them
and was about to be sued for slan-
der, and I took her in hand and
told her just what she was and
how she was acting - I told her she
had driven you all off by her fool-
ish meanness &c. She fur flew for
about two hours but I was a cool as
ice and she has been better than

pie ever since - She is not
moping nor sulking, but is
just as quiet as a kitten - I
suspect that is the reason she
has not written to you - She is
probably treasuring up her wrath
or perhaps punishing you by
her silence -

Tom Owen left about \$5000
life Ins. I am told - More than the
widow is worth and the children
will probably never see it.

God bless you Darling

Yours

Alison

Is the bill at \$, W.S. Parker's for anything
you got? Don't not remember it - If so, no
matter when, write to him to send me
his bill - It may be something I got - He
is making a fool of himself over it -