

Dec 29

Mr. Emma K. Lowry  
No. 227 West 6th St  
Erie

Peru

CHAUTAQUA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

Greensboro N.C.

Sunday Dec 29<sup>th</sup> 1875.

My darling wife:

Your letter of Christmas day came this morning, and as usual, found me in bed. I read it and lay and dreamed of you almost an hour longer before getting up. I was so sorry that I could not add to Solie's Christmas enjoyment and will try very hard to make up for it. You can hardly imagine what trouble I have had in trying to get a little money. I have done nothing, indeed, could do nothing but work with the books unless I give that over entirely, and it has almost seemed as if I was doomed not to get anything. I don't know how it will be, but I have not despaired. I am not, however, I am not at all discouraged. Somehow, I have not had as good a heart in many years. I am sure things will come out all right. I work on as steadily and cheerily as can be, thinking to myself all the time, that we have now come to want get and the more we come to it, the harder it must work. That is all. I cannot understand why I am so little depressed of late. I feel badly when I think of you and feel that you are troubled and anxious, but I am greatly comforted myself, by the thought that it will be lighter soon. My head aches terribly, and if my letter is not exactly coherent you will know that it is solely on account of

cerebral disturbance. I cannot understand  
what makes it. I did not work hard last week  
at all. Went to bed before eleven two nights,  
slept half of one day, and now in bed  
last night before 2 o'clock, I can see no rea-  
son why the top of any spinal column should  
be making any protest today. We are having  
dark, cold weather. There has been a slight  
fall of snow with some ice on sleds in it  
but now it has thawed again and only  
mud and mist are in sight.

I don't think I shall go to Chicago, with  
for several reasons. In the first place, I do not  
think the cash has given him and Bob enough  
to pay their debts and then I have the feeling  
that you are surrendering your instincts and  
judgment to my wishes. This I do not desire, nor  
do I think it best. Upon whatever I do hereafter  
we two must be of one mind, thoroughly and positively.  
There must be no withholding of dissent, but your  
heart must run with my inclination. Now, I have  
not by any means set my heart on the matter as  
to feel at all disturbed in regard to it. I think she  
is worried about it. I have said nothing to him  
about it at all - I can see that he is both  
worried and demoralized on account of  
it - I think the Dick family has had a set to with  
him about it and that Robert has been inclined  
not to join the idea. I don't care about ad-  
ding to my responsibilities. He would make  
a man with me and will go to the devil

by himself. That is my notion. I should  
not object to going to Erie, though I should  
not like starting there by myself; it would  
be so slow. A partnership would suit me  
better. I do not mind the practice. That is  
a matter I should require almost be-  
fore I knew that I was studying it. I think  
perhaps we had better calculate on your re-  
maining there another year, at least. I will  
come to you when I get through here and  
will rest up and get the South out of me,  
and perhaps do some and interior work,  
and then go on the feels steady, or stay  
as the case may be. In other words, I think you may  
calculate on Erie for another year, and one for  
a part of it, at least, with you.

Now, as to how you will arrange matters there  
you must decide, and I will abide by your de-  
cision. Your mother has, I find, made up her mind  
to go up there and take charge of you all, in the  
spring. I informed her, however, plainly, that she  
could not live in your house, nor in a house  
where you and Lottie were, but I see she has not  
given up the idea. Of course, that will not  
do. I think she ought to be made to stay here,  
for the present, at least. Or else Angie should  
mortgage the place for about \$1500, and provide  
a sum sufficient to furnish a house well and

do whatever she might need to. Then this plan could be let for enough to pay the taxes and a little more, kept improving each year and be sold if she wished when the mortgage matured and times and prices are better. The Fayetteville Railroad, gained its New York suit, and will be through to this plan next year at furthest. So property is sure to go up here and she ought to hold it, if she can. But she should use it. I tried to make a lease to Bridges, (in case Mrs. Sampson did not take it) but another took it up. I am not sorry for I think I shall arrange for Mrs. S. to come yet.

I don't have a bit of trouble with your Mother, but I can see how she would annoy you, if she were with you all.

She lets things alone and Rosa does the cooking, without interference. She don't quarrel and hardly ever tries it. She would insist that I should not have as much milk as I wanted, but after I had turned out two milkings entirely she quit. I find too that she is mighty fond of good things and there is not a bit of rumpus in her, so long as she knows that they are dependent on her good behavior. She had a big snit about six weeks ago and I talked pretty plain to her. Thereupon she atones, took to her sweeping role and unnoised her in =

temptation to cry herself to death. She had bulldozed all of you by that wondrous delusion and thought she would sue. I never have believed in it, as you know, and thought I would test it. For two or three days she was a veritable water do-coroza but I paid no attention. She took to getting up at night and rocking and sighing till it cured Miss Mary. I told her not to notice it at all. Just as soon as she found it would not operate, she quit the business, and began to eat and run around again in prime condition. She never behaved so well since I have known her. I have no more respect for her sincerity than ever but a heap more for her capacity to be decent. The matter has been tried out and she has found that she can neither awe nor distress me and is fully satisfied to let out the job of annoying me. —

The sun has come out at last, but my head still aches terribly. Mr. Sam Troydon has been out and been telling me a heap of news, but none which is of any moment.

I have not got along well on my manuscript this last week and it will take two weeks more to finish it I am afraid. I am on the state cases and there are yet the other 3; 7's and 10's. Perhaps you can do it this week. I hope we may. I had intended to

finish Ch. 39 - of the novel today - the  
Churr one, I mean and send it to the  
Atlantic. My headache will prevent. I am  
still better satisfied with it upon re-perusal.  
I ask Steen to send it and watched him all  
the way through with it. He could not leave in a  
moment. There are not half so many things to  
change in it as I had thought there would be  
I shall change "Coom and Tent" and "The  
Priests Story" some. Not a great deal.  
It is really fine. I am assured of that,  
Harper to the contrary notwithstanding.

J.P.W.

The headache fairly ran me off this  
morning and I suppose made me send  
you a queer jumble of adds and ends.  
It is not quite so bad but I am only half  
myself yet. Ada and I have been hav-  
ing a talk and she thinks her mother would  
like to take the place and pay the rest in  
the bond of your mother - It would suit  
them and your mother says she will do that.  
That seems to me the best solution of the econom-  
ic difficulty that can be made at this time. I  
am much averse to seeing this place if we  
can avoid it, we know how healthy

and pleasant the climate is, and I  
think that we should keep it as long as  
possible as a sort of sanitarium to  
which any of us may flee for a  
few months rest, if we desire to do  
so.

Dear Durling, you cannot "open" your heart  
to me now. You have already done so. You  
do not know how happy I am, dear. I have  
even back my wife, never to lose her heart or  
confidence again, for one moment, with God's  
help. It could not have made me half as  
glad to go to congress - even had that been  
the alternative. I know how the love-light  
will burn in your eyes when I see you  
again. But I warn you now that I will  
not hear you abuse yourself. I demand  
and require that privilege to be kept safe  
and singular for myself. As quick as the  
book is out, I will come and we will  
have a long happy visit - I am going  
to write to Lodie on New Year's day. Kiss  
the brave hearted little Darling - love to the girls -

God bless you

Abraham George