



Mrs Emma K. Tourge
No. 227 West 6th St.
Erie Pa

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

Keleigh McC. Jan 31/79

My dear wife:

I take great blame to myself for not having answered your sking letters sooner. You do not know how I enjoy them but I have been overpressed with business this week and have not had a moment's time to spare. I wrote you a long letter last night but did not like it and so burned it up this morning. I think you have abandoned trying to persuade me to go to Erie and have determined to try and seduce me to come. That is a very fascinating picture which you draw of a dear wife who is "real fat," taking a sponge bath every morning, putting out meat, and getting "real fat", who wants her husband "so badly". How do you suppose an old deserted grass-widower

can resist such allurements?

If you keep on in that manner, I am sure I cannot resist long but shall surrender at discretion, some fine Spring day, when earth and sky and air are full of you, take the train and come at all hazards. I wonder if the cold North would cool my ardor, or would you so moderate, by the warmth of your love, the rigors of the climate as to make it endurable? Ah, Darling when will I have the joy of your presence again? I am afraid you would make me lazy once more. I never got so in the habit of work that I cannot sleep until about two o'clock. Then I go right to sleep and am a log for six hours. If I go to bed earlier I am really used up the next day. How would you like that? - I hardly have a time for thoughts except for what I am at, but your letter of yesterday

made me so passionate that I hardly slept at all. Perhaps that might have been partially produced by the fact that a door, just across the passage was open - about twelve o'clock and not closed again, but left ajar (it is on the side passage opposite White's old room.) and I knew that the lady with the april and the fat husband - whom you will remember was there, and that her husband had gone away for a week. She asked me to come in when I came up from supper. I did so and she consoled with me very prettily on my loneliness and hinted that we ought to comfort each other. I was terribly tempted. You know she is very pretty, but I did not go and will not - but it was a fearful night -

I think Carroll is undoubtedly right about practice in Eim - and am not at all afraid of trying the experiment now. Indeed I think it would

be Heaven to be with you every
where, on a crust of ^{bread and} water only. But
there are some interests and chances here
which I cannot see my way clear to leave
yet. Get you a pleasant house for next
year. I will send you some money soon.

God bless you Darling, Love to all

God bless you my darlings

Altogether