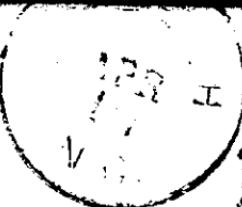


Mrs. A. W. Tongue
No 227 West 6th St.
Erie
Penna.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013



Raleigh N.C.

April 16th 1874

My Darling wife:

I was so busy that I did not get time to write to you yesterday, but think that I have news which will give you abundant joy tonight. Sawyer & Shaffer are going to Denver to practice law. How do you like that? We shall leave here about the 3^d Monday in June. We are to go out there and stay a month or two, then Shaffer will return and stay several months, perhaps a year, to close up his business and prepare to transfer himself, after that we shall be together. He will bear the greater part of the first year's expense, if necessary, or at least, up to \$1000, and will put in \$5-00. of such books as I may select. I think everything looks favorable. I have had a bid for my Reports and am in

strong hope that I may realize something more. Perhaps, I may sell my copyrights or my patents and so have a reasonable hand yet - I am very happy, now that it is all settled, and Shaffer says he don't know when he has felt so good in years. I think Nichols will go, too. Now, there are "a many" things I want you to think of and do.

1 - Tell me just what you think of it, without reserve, so that it may be broken off, if not pleasing to you. I think it must be, but wish to know just how you feel.

2 - Do you wish to go on when I do. I am strongly inclined to have you do so. I shall need your faith and courage and the fact that you are with me will be a sort of guarantee of success to me. However, you shall decide that question for yourself. There are good schools there, and if there were none, we must still take Corrie. She could not be left. No more family.

separation for me, if it can be avoided.

3d I would be glad if you would write to Prof. Brown informing him of our determination and asking what we had better take there, &c., rent, houses, board &c. The date in regard to living. Also hunt up any one I else you can and write to them on the subject. Is not Rev. Spaulding (formerly of Erie) bishop of Colorado?

4th - What clothes, &c., do you want and had you not better go to New York for them? I shall perhaps come there by water and Eels' folks would be very glad to have you come and stay a fortnight or so with them. You could visit the Howards &c and have a pleasant time. Mrs Fiske would no doubt be glad to see you, though I did not see her. I would be very glad if you could come South before bidding good

bye to it, perhaps for good. I think in its
beautiful spring trowsers, and with the
weight of old care off your mind you
might leave it with kindlier thoughts.
It has not been a wholly bad foster mother
to us, my darling.

5 - Would you prefer that we should go
through Minneapolis and if not wholly
satisfied with D. full back on that or shall
we put it on one throw of the die and
say, "Sink or swim &c".

Poor Danie, she certainly has a hard
time, though I am by no means satisfied
that even Angie would not be willing to take
a husband even with as many draw
backs as Mr. Hall's ill fortune brings. I
wish I could help him. I wonder if he
might not stand some chance to sell the
Huey patent in some of those states.

I would give him an excellent chance
if he could, for we do not count those
states of very great value, at the best.
You might mention it and send him a cir-
cular. There are several parties biting on
this state.

I stopped in to see Judge Ranch and
wife tonight. Mrs R. astounded me by tell-
ing me that Mamie Blackwell is to be
married in the fall to young Green of New
Bern, a leatherheaded fellow who is
not yet twenty. I am sorry, as I know
you will be - She is going to write to you - a
whole lot of scandal, she said.

I have just been down to the post office and
was rewarded by your sweet letter of the 13th.
I think nothing short of death can separate us
very long hereafter darling. I have been
utterly lonely, desolate and full of longing

I cannot say I have been heart-sick
for I have been fully determined to see
you again soon and to keep seeing
you often thereafter. We are not made
to live alone. I am sure of that. Your
life is incomplete and mine, perfectly
lopsided when we are separated - I
am going to make every effort now for our
early re-union. I am half sorry you have
not the expected memento. I don't know what
makes me desire it so much only it does
seem as if we ought to have a boy. However,
I could endure to be away from you
at this time if you had. However, when we
get settled in Colorado, we will see
about the mallets -

I am going to advertise my lots in G -
if White does not take them this week and
will include Angie's house. I may have
a favorable bid. I think I have under-
stood that she will take \$2500 - I would

not advise less. Write off a list
of what you think I should bring from here
when we go to Denver. I am inclined to carry
but little and if we have money from the
bank get from New York or send back
for anything we want - However, think of all
you can.

It is getting very late - nearly 12 p.m.
I don't want to quit writing must not
keep at it and dread to go to the house and
go to bed - for I shall keep thinking and
dreaming of you half the remaining hours
of the night - What sweet memories
those Elysian days and nights at Erie
have left. Was ever anything so peaceful
and happy, so perfectly idyllic in the
completeness of joy. Good night darling.
That big girl has not sent me any letter
but I will send her a few kisses - Love
to the girls - I do wish I could step in
and kiss you all. You seem to be all

Mine and I always find myself
planning and thinking for the whole trio
almost as intently as for you. I must
fix things as good as I can for them before
we go, though b do not think Willie will
keep up the teaching very long. I do
hope the future will be bright and joyous
for us all and do not doubt that it
will - God bless you all - dear
dear ones who are so far away
and yet always so near -

Yours

Albion

11