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No. 227 West 6<sup>th</sup> St

Erie

Penn a  
~~Pa~~

Raleigh N. C.

April. 26<sup>th</sup> 1879.

My dear wife:

Yrs of 24" was rec'd today. I am afraid my letters of yesterday will plunge you into despair again, but it cannot be helped. If the reports from Denver should be such as to justify the experiment of going to stay at once, there would still be the cost of coming here and going back, for you and Sophie, which would not be far from \$100-. Then, if there should be reports which would render that unadvisable, there would be the trouble of your having no home to stay in while I was gone, and if anything should happen to me, you would be entirely at sea, have no home and no place you could go to. I am sure I ought not to allow my wishes or yours to put you in that

such condition. I realize how you feel. You want to patch things over and secure some present peace, at all hazards. That has been our error in dealing with this question. This is certain; - you cannot leave there until I know what I can do as to funds and what we should do as to going en fam-ille. I am hoping and striving for this. If the reports are not fair, however, we cannot do it, and must wait until I have had a look, when you can come on, until one or the other of these contingencies happens I can see no way but for you to remain where you are. It is equally certain that your mother must not stay with you. I will never consent to that. Now, if anything arises to make it possible for you to come here, or to change my firm conviction of what must be done, I will let you know at once. Until that time I pray you to be content with what I can do. You know

I will spare no pains for your happiness and comfort. At the same time I must know that you are safe from want and annoyance. I do not wish to be; or to seem ungracious to any one, but you do not seem to realize what a terror your mental condition has been to me. If necessary to come to Philadelphia - to see Dr. Thomas you can perhaps defer it until the decision in the other matters is made - You know I have yet nothing and do not know what I shall have, or when I shall get it. Be patient dear. I will not worry over anything but one, and on that I must in simple duty to you be inflexible - The idea of your coming here rejoiced me beyond measure but when I began to consider how it was to be done, I could not master the problem.

As to Bishop Spaulding and his ideas

of me, I am not at all disturbed by it. In his sense of superficial I think there is no doubt but he is correct. I am not a severely accurate student. For instance, he would no doubt consider Augie as thorough, or to make a comparison with another man, he would probably count such a man as — well say Batchelor or Ashe — not superficial — or better yet — say Sir Scott. It is in my power of thought and analysis that I am not superficial and not in the accuracy of my formal knowledge. This, is no doubt, what he meant. Whether it is or not, I know my power and am not at all affected by his opinion — I had written to him before yours came. Had I not, I should probably have been somewhat more dignified and patronizing than I was — Mrs Carpenter has just given me

some very cheering news from a friend of his named Beebe, who lives in Denver. He says it is full of life and business, and the cost of living there is about the same as in similar towns at the East. Everything is cheaper except groceries and clothes. Rents are about the same and easily obtained. This is very cheering and I hope may not be contradicted by any others -

I managed to get \$10 - today and send you \$5 - I have to use the rest for the business of the party who paid it to me -

I hope everything will turn so that we can all go together in June, and am much encouraged to hope that it will. If Nichols and Sheffer go, and we could arrange to go to house keeping at once we could board them and help pay expenses.

Shaffer will stay one or two months  
and Nichols will leave his family  
here until next Spring. We cannot get  
away from here until after the Federal  
court which will be in June and will  
keep us till the last week in that or the first  
in July - I sincerely trust that all will  
be well with us and pray that we  
may be prospered in all things - God  
bless you darling, and make you  
happy and contented to take whatever  
He may send - Love to all. I hope Lodie  
is better - Aunt Lura writes me today  
about her lamb. She says that Ketchen  
says it is not worth 60¢ - an acre &c  
I shall watcher that I am going away.  
I do not know who she can get to at-  
tent to it - The Universal sent me a  
paid up policy today, good until Au-  
gust 12" - Yours

Al. Bourger