



1617, Cornelia K. Sawyer
22^d West 6th St
Eric
Penn^a.

CHAUTAQUA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2018

Waltham, Mass.

Sept. 25th 1874

My Dear Wife:

I have been so disturbed about you all day, that I could hardly work at all and all this evening I have been unable to rest, wanting you always to write a letter, even if it is only a line, and I have not done so now almost a week since I heard from you, quite a week since you last was well. I would telegraph you but you have promised me so often that you would have me informed if you were ill at any time that I cannot believe that to be the cause of your silence - I suppose I must just wait until the letter comes, though it is a weary waiting. I count so much upon your letters to lighten my

but a, and my life is so thoroughly
without them that their absence
is like taking the sun from the day.
I am accustomed to make them the great
pleasure of my life. I rarely leave my
desk in the day, and at night I take
you letters to my room and read them
over and over again, and thus make
my hours.

It may be that you are surprised
or troubled at what I write. It does not see
now I could have done less. I cannot yet
the means to bring you here and cannot see
you hasten there. There seems a determina-
tion not to visit until I find an opportunity
to decide what we could do, but to send
you up at once, whether it was agreeable
or disagreeable, convenient or inconvenient,
easy, possible or impossible for me to pro-
vide for you elsewhere. This, I should not allow
to be done, and you would have blamed

me forever for my weakness.
I wanted any and all results.
I have realized, perhaps, as keenly, as a
mortal ever did, much regretted with an
unexcusable weakness, the suffering you
have been called upon to endure for my
errors of judgment in the past. I had accord-
ingly long since concluded that you should
never be exposed to such in the future, and
had determined to order my life solely by
your desire. This I was willing, anxious and
glad to do. I closed up my life here, as com-
pletely and as rapidly as I could do and
was, as I told you, quite willing to go to you,
or wherever you chose. To have you with me
is as precious and constant a wish as
it can be with you. As I have a thousand
times repeated to you, however, I cannot see
possibilities nor can I discount the same.
Had I managed to sell my copyrights
even at a moderate price as I hoped, I

could have sent for you at once. Did I
know that I would have a cent more than
will be required to take us to Denver, I
would have sent for you, but I would be
doing you gross injustice if I allowed
you to leave a shattering ~~and~~ with more
other things before me. I found myself ob-
liged to decide, in the face of these facts. I did
so. That I also decided that you should not
be exposed to the great exciting cause of
your mental trouble was a necessary, corrol-
lary. I may have been wrong, & may have
been harsh but I had no desire to be harsh
and no interest in being wrong. If you
should be wrong, forgive me; but believe that
what we can do we have done, earnestly, faithfully,
and sincerely, for your good and your happiness,
as I believe - God bless and keep you my dearest
wife, in my hearty prayers.

Al. Tourge