

Walden N. C.

Sat. 8 a.m. June 4th

1878

My dear wife:

Your letter of Thursday with the Powers of Atty is recd - I think the power is sufficient and I will execute the mortgage as soon as I return - I will write to August today about it -

You say I did not say a word how I got on holding work away from home well if I did not it was because I had had so little to do that I had not much to say - Everything is at loose ends here in the court - There is no fitting name for it - The business seems to have dragged by the ears until no one cares whether it is done or not - This of course annoys me - It is such a contrast with my district where everything is up snug and close - As to the bar, I have received every possible courtesy from them. They are all abloggersheads themselves and do not open at all - Several of them do not speak but they seem to vie, with each other in attention to me - Nearly all of them call on me, almost every day and we have very pleasant chats - They bring me papers and books and

extended to one every describable consid-
eration. This is the more remarkable
from the fact that I am told that judges
Clark and Thomas have been treated very
shabbily here - At the very opening of
the Court W. T. Dantch - the ~~to~~ ~~entire~~
and bull-dog of the bar here - under-
took to brow-beat me a little. Fail-
ing of success, he, and all the rest
seemed to give me the credit of know-
ing my own mind and have treated
me accordingly - Each evening I went
out riding with Mr & Mrs. Dantch for
two or three hours. He is an old man
but has just married a young woman
The weather was fine and in this flat sandy
country the roads dry up wonderfully soon.
We went out to his plantation in the fork of
Little and Green Rivers - 829 acres - 500 in
cultivation - I wished you could have been
along - It was worth seeing both as a spec-
tacle and a study - He was an old cotton
lord of considerable dimensions and the
estate bears marks of it - It is yet a magnif-
icent plantation - as level as a floor and
dark and rich as a prairie - The tall cotton
stalks - balled to the very ground stood thick
on the land and fully justified his boast
of 1200 pounds to the acre - amounting to about

\$200 - Among other things on the plan-
tation was an orchard of 6,000 peach trees
just coming into bearing. You never
saw such growth I am sure - They
were beautiful under the setting sun -
light, the fresh shoots already forming
and with the coming spring - On the
whole we had a very pleasant ride. I
am not sure whether I like Mrs. D. or
not. She is very pretty. I am invited there
to tea this P.M. - I have chartered one hotel

- the commercial - and am now at Granger's.
I hardly know whether I jumped from frying-pan
into the fire - or the reverse - I know I save 50c
per day by it and cannot get into a worse hole.
I have spent several evenings with Mr. Col-
lection Peck - You remember him - and his
wife: She was a Hastings from Meadville Pa -
and he is from Rochester - They have a little
daughter Cara - 4 months older than Lizzie -
She is a remarkably bright child with a less so-
ber vitality than our pet - Mrs P. is a very
pleasant lady indeed and they are a pleasant
family - I have not yet seen Mrs Grant -
"May Grant says she is "not as well as might
be" from which I infer that she is in an
interesting condition -

I might have gone

home last night and staid until
Sunday night but concluded not to do
so - because I could save about
\$500 by staying here. Besides that I am
trying to finish that story and I knew that if
I staid here I should work at it from mere
curiosity whereas if I ~~went~~ home I should
do nothing but kiss you and Lodie all the
time which would be pleasant now I ad-
mit, but then I want to bring you the
completed manuscript when I return if
I can - You did just right about the house
of course - You did not think I would
feel otherwise did you? Whatever you had
done was right and I would have approv-
ed it - I shall probably go up the road on
next Friday night - Would you meet me and
go to Charlotte with me?

I have ground out two more chapters
on the story and have now about 140 pages
of MS besides the ~~book~~

Physically I am much the same only feeling
splendidly - I don't know that I have anything
more to say only good bye and God bless you
my darling wife - Kiss the chick for me -

Yours
Albion W Bourge