

is improving and  
that Nicie is as  
well. Give them my  
love - Tell for me  
that her paper will not  
take her short measure  
away from her, if he  
can help it -  
Present all your  
affection to Greenbrier  
John and one and  
little while I shall  
be here for two months

- Come -  
God bless you  
Allison

Sept. 7th 1873.

My Darling Wife:

Your sweet letter of the 30-  
& 31<sup>st</sup> of August and 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> of September, met me  
here last night when I came in from Preston-  
ville, in clothes - I suppose you will prob-  
ably receive today, one I wrote from  
Dalton - I do not wonder that you thought  
my letter dolorous - It certainly was, and I  
am afraid my last was not much better.

Somehow, it happens that I only get a  
chance to write to you when I am in such a  
mood. A few hours after my last letter was  
written I had worn scales to a frizzle and  
was very well content. I have no idea as  
to the result, As you say, it is in God's hands  
and I feel quite content to leave it  
there. I cannot say that I have no fear

as to the result, for I am unable to see any indications which show it. It may be either way so far as I can foretell, but somehow, I seem to feel quite content to leave it in his hands. I think I am gaining on him. I certainly wear him out in arguments. You must know that these places where we have met are his appointments in his old stamping-ground of Stokes, very few knowing that I would be present. So I have had a chance at his cords without giving him a lick at mine. I have been treated with great kindness and respect by every body, the prospect is from fair to middling and my friends are confident while his are despondent. I am not sure whether I shall go home this evening or not - I have been thinking of doing so, very seriously - It is 20 miles but the moonlight is good and I am not sure but I shall try it - If you ever only then I know I

should - And now, as to your proposition to return - I cannot bring myself to take you away from your pleasant surroundings. It seems as if I did need you terribly, yet I do not know that I do, as much in fact as in fancy - I am so glad you are happy and that you feel pleasant and contented in your new surroundings - I am afraid, if you should return you would be anxious about your little girl and would really be unhappy - I guess I will try to get along and fight it out alone.

I do not know what Keogh will do - It looks now as if I was bound to tread the wire-pens alone - I shall not do any wheeling or crossing - He may be decent or let it alone, as he chooses.

You must give Solie lemon juice and you have better give her for a time the Elixir of Iron, Phos. Quinin and Sassa-

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which I have been taking. Don't neglect  
it now. You know you are always  
inclined to wait until she is sick be-  
fore doing anything which is the poorest kind  
of policy. From what you say of her  
I am in great fear that the fall season  
of fever will find her in a bilious  
state predisposed to measles or con-  
tagion and we may lose her. It is  
by neglecting just such indications  
that so many children are lost.

I do not wonder that she cries about  
going to school. It will be horrible  
and she is not old enough to go  
much either - She must not be con-  
fined long each day and must not  
eat a hearty dinner in the middle  
of the day -

I am glad to hear that Lucy