

142 Broadway NY
1st August 1859

My own darling,

Your dear precious letter came to hand this morning & many thanks to you darling for it. I am like you in respect to writing now & have so many things to do in fixing up my business preparatory to leaving & in completing the purchase of our home that you must pardon me me [sic] my own sweet pet if I am short & irregular in my letter -- as the moment approaches I feel that you are more & more dear & precious to me My own cherished wife for now I love to consider you as such for it will be so soon_

You may confidently expect me on Friday, I shall however loiter on the way (probably leaving here on Wednesday) so you must not be surprised if you do not get many letters until I see you -- for you don't want me to arrive at Annapolis before Friday as I would probably be in the way.

I am sincerely sorry that the girls are prejudiced against Mr. Magraw -- it was my fault, if any that he was invited long ago -- he has long been a true & devoted friend of mine & rendered me services when I needed them -- rather than hurt his feelings by the slightest intimation that I would like him to withdraw or mortify him. I could cut my right hand off -- do not think darling for a minute that I blame you in any way -- only I regret that they should be so displeased with my breaking through a mere hollow rule of etiquette to show a high rank of friendship to one who well deserves it at my hand -- I would rather be laughed at 'till doomsday than even wish to retrace my steps. Try then dearest to let them see how sorry I should be if any slight should be paid him, for he is my friend.

I think my darling that you will be so much pleased with our house, at least I am quite [word scratched out] pleased. I forgot you did not like that word.

I will have Mr. Cope then for my ^{first} groomsman. I am sincerely obliged to Miss Emily for her willingness to stand with Mr. Magraw -- thank her for me. I am so glad she is nearly well.

I am not at all surprised about Dr. Gileichen -- & I knew it would be so & have seen too much of the world not to see that no good motive was sufficient to account for his proceedings. I had a letter today from Miss Lane today telling me to get her a room at my hotel for the night of the 9th. I wish you would send an invitation to Judge & Mrs Roosevelt at Saratoga. Also to Dr. & ^{Mrs} Yates. Meadville,

	Crawford Co Pa
John Yates Esq	do do
Charles Yates Esq	do do
Mr. & Mrs Dunham	do do

These are cousins of mine away off there.

With oceans of love I remain my precious Maime

ever yours

JBH

[on front of envelope in pencil: "The last letter received before our marriage."]

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LancasterHistory