

Washington
Saturday 1858

My dearest Mary/

I was so busy yesterday that I neither had the time to write to you or to go to see your dear mother, which I have done every other day this week.

How is my Maimie today? but there is no use of asking such a question as I can not get an answer so that I must imagine you to be as blooming as a rose & twice as sweet as I know you are.

How happy you must be to day at the prospect of having Miss Emily back home & what a nice time you will have going over the road again with her – in mind and description – I could like so much to hear the first instalment [sic] of it while yet fresh & untold for the fiftieth time as it will be when my turn comes.

I was in hopes when we had the warm weather of a day or two ago that the President would decide not to come to the city for the season until later in the month, but the wind has since changed to the north & it is once more cool & delightful. I trust the advancing season has the usual good bracing effect upon you dearest that it ought to have & is making you strong & well. Do not make up your mind yet not to spend some of the gay season in Washington for I do want so much to see you out & I really think it is good for your health - at least to judge by your condition last winter. I really pity your poor mother so much for the suffering she seems to dread under the dentists hands – I have always found in such matters that the anticipation was the worst part by far.

Have you been out on the bay lately to see the comet which is now so beautiful? If you have I envy you. Miss Macalester has left us – I saw her off day before yesterday for Philadelphia.

I received yesterday cards for Miss Ada Seinnres ? wedding which comes off on the 6th Oct – I do not know any of the details – the groom is as might have been expected a strong Catholic. The van Lemburg's [sic] have taken I believe the Steadman House on 7 St beyond the Navy Department.

I will see Mrs. Nicholson to day & hope to hear from her some of your news – for it don't [sic] seem to me that I have seen or heard from you for a perfect age. I don't like the "once a week" system & must try again to have it abolished – perhaps however you would not like it.

Goodbye, Dearest, and believe me ever your affectionate

JH

