

Washington 22 Oct/1858

My dearest Mary/

It is a dull day & after the feasting last night & health dunking at our first large dinner I confess I feel dull myself this morning, so I will try & brighten myself up a little by writing to you.

I am looking forward with so much pleasure to my next visit to Annapolis which I hope will be next week – what would you say if the yacht is ready by that time, to running up as far as Baltimore, visiting Ross Minaies great steamship & returning in the evening – if it should happen to be fine weather. I think it would be a nice trip for a Incall party of us – my engine requires some exercise to get the machine in smooth working order -- & such a little trip would take off all of the suffiness. Of course this is only in case I should be able to get off from Washington on Saturday morning which is very doubtful, I confess. The president this morning granted a short respite to Barret who was to have been hung today – Judge Le Grand of Annapolis takes a great interest in him.

Has Miss Emily's throat recovered yet sufficiently to let her return to her coarblings.

Have you any idea dearest of coming up to Washington with Miss Ella when she returns? I should indeed to glad of it were so - for being in town, it would enable me to spend every evening with you – wouldn't that enchant me – first think you have not been here since our engagement—since that “trying time.”

Mr. Magraw came over from Baltimore yesterday to dinner – the secret of it is I think he is very much in love with a sparkling young widow about whom you have heard me speak her Craig – I wish to goodness they would make a match for they are both so clever & good – she is charming and popular wherever she goes.

I have received cards for Miss Hendersons (daughter of Gen'l Henderson Marine Corps) wedding to come off on the 28th, the groom Mr. du Poul of Wilmington is an old friend of mine. Goodbye for today darling Maimie – I will not be so stupid next time. I write as I am today – God bless you dearest

Your affectionate

H

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