

2. N. 16th St. New York.

June 23rd 1861.

My own sweet darling daughter received
no letter from me this morning. & she will
see none tomorrow morning. nor Sunday
morning - I will try to wonder if her loving
Auntie has lost herself in the fog of the town
& forgot ^{the} her own dear little Tom - I am
safe & sound my precious one - but my
my mind - Last night I acted Lum. Katharine
& Mrs Simpson. & the best good house of my
three nights - but my audience very enthusi-
-astic & discriminating. The two first nights
had been very cool & comfortable. In which
I was very thankful - last night was as
hot as - it well could be. This morning
at half past five. Your Lady was roused
having gone to bed as usual. But I had must
to do in New York & therefore hurried on
at an early hour. I met aunt Emma at
Broadway. looking like a poor ghost. Drunk.

darling of my heart. I thank you for your
dear letter. yesterday it comforted me very
much. I am so thankful my dear one
is getting better & strong. in all ways. She
will be as good as she knows how to be &
then she will be my very happy friend
I would be dead & good & I don't know what death
I am glad you were beginning to eat well &
enjoyed your food. This is a very good sign.
You must get strong & well. This little "cut"
of neck will do him good. It is better than
he should be away from you for a little time
"all things come together for good". I am very
glad to that Mary is able to be with you. She
is a clean good sweet little thing & will
be a comfort to you. I am so sorry to find
by your letter enclosed on my arrival here
this morning that Grand ma should have
staid on a day for the sake of her books &
but then she has been all her life - her duty
has been the paramount thing. I am very
I asked her to do for me in such a way she
would consider her duty - as far as her

Education. I don't know how light to see her duty
she has always done it - & I am what I am
through my early lessons in duty - I have much
to be thankful to her for - my education has
been wider than her - thanks to the Deportu-
ment she struggled through much poverty
& privation to give me - she has been a good
faithful mother - I though she has suffered
much to give in such a way. There are
many fine traits in her character which
you may be sure to find in many people
who would seem less "common". I wish
God had given every child - so good & faithful
a mother. She has her faults - who has not?
I only reproach myself that I cannot be
as patient with her, as she has to often be
with me.

I am greatly troubled, dear, at what you
tell me of Mary's letter. Poor child - what
a thing for any doctor to have told her. I
nearly think it unpardonable. How though
I love her, how dare a man do or say any
thing at all. I am

such thing. we know how fallible are their
judgments. how very little they know - &
also know that many a doctor has since
patented a disease - by insisting upon it
thru. that they have it. You know that
your doctor told me she had water in the
chest. & frightened me almost into the
grave. till Dr. Byrdow told me it was a false
alarm. he says medicine for nervous indigestion,
which has frightened the water all away.
I would beat such a Dr. & I am sure you
had seen Mary's letter he will want to
do in. poor dear child - - my darling
now my poor sister's letter. - my dear
me to cry. I cannot bear the idea of
in my children's eyes. & not long since
or I shall be my unhappy. - with to poor
dear Moppin & tell me when she comes
she shall see Dr. Byrdow. who shall
be incontinently. I really think if
news of this he would not let her stay
a Dr. was trying to make such an impression

Mountain D^o at watering places are very apt to try to make patients believe they are very seriously afflicted. so as to induce them to remain longer under their hands. You must tell dear Mary all these things & try to comfort her. I wish she was with you. I am sure it would do her more good than Taratoga & Senoy put together she wants you & her. & as you are not visiting at all. I am sure it would not be of any harm to her to be with you - why don't you write to the father exactly the way Mary has written to you & tell him you believe it would do her more good to be with you than not. & that she shall not be having excitement - for you yourself are forced to be my guest. Perhaps you have done this.

Darling I have done much business today. I am under the doctor's hands

for a couple of hours. I was too tired to go
to see grand ma tonight, but she joins
me to-morrow morning for Ballinacorney
where I shall hope to find a little
note from you. Good by with you my
own darling - your auntie Tom & your
very dear - your letter has comforted
me very much & she thanks you for it
from the depths of her soul. I know you
love me. My sweet soul & trust in you
love you as I do in mine for you.
I will write scarcely for a week at Novastin
if you don't go on Monday. However I
make no request of you - certain that you
will do for the best. Will my darling
look a little into the dusting of her house.
to see that Ellen don't do a little more thoroughly
as soon as she is able to go about the house.
You have good honest servants dear - but the
best require looking after & the prettiest furniture
will be spoiled by dust. - I will make

You a present of my comb when I come
to Dublin - or if you will let me know what
the cost is. I will send you a check for them.
I hope they please you. It is better to have
them come to. when they are once washed
they will be lighter. I may not be able
to write you for a day or two - hence this
long note to myself. Good night my
precious I am very sleepy -
but ever love & love
Your loving & devoted
Lavinia.