

Rome - May 11. 1865

I have been so hard for me to work during these  
last few weeks - so difficult for me to possess my soul  
in any thing like quiet or peace - that my letters  
never have been very satisfactory. Always at  
the end of a Roman season - what with her taking  
with an electric which is in the atmosphere in charge  
with the storm - but to those who are a little  
wary of the excitement of city such writers & their  
consequences "drinking up" - is very ruinous! I have  
never felt so much a spring - as I have done this one.  
Possibly, the long wet winter, which has been so cold  
& so trying - & the unexpected return of the <sup>spring</sup> - for  
we have had no spring - (in three days the trees  
were out in full leaf - from bare to green) I had  
much to do with this - I only know I have never been  
so excitable - so tumultuous - so shaky - so depressed &  
tearful as I have been this spring. And then, I have  
had some distressing accounts too - which have helped  
the nervous of this. I had some visitors in the middle  
who were anything but pleasant. They were invited  
& I meant to be of good to them - but I am afraid  
that I can't expect for the sun shiner I see them. I  
was not of much good for that after they came. I  
found that they were not only southern sympathizers  
but around so - & that without a reason - nothing but  
prejudice - which they mis-called justice. I know  
that when they heard of the blow fallation of William  
Coker's assassination, the brutal cool way in which  
they (in common with all the other English) took in  
almost down me mad. For the first time I felt  
as though I could bear the good piece out of them.  
They were invited to occupy the rooms left vacant by  
Miss Rodick & Miss Jones - for a week until after the 15<sup>th</sup>  
of April - which rather than I should become respon-  
sible for an apartment for them - which I could  
not be sure would suit them. I should have found  
out long since they came in a crowded season. I could  
not. I reflected them to find some place for themselves  
as soon as each was born - but they had all already of





... that they had influenced me in trying  
... of them - that my journal had expressed  
... my feelings with regard to him this ... this ...  
... when I am read I had had some ...  
... understanding - one of the very first ...  
... importance - ... had a terrible effect upon ...  
... made me my miserable indeed - I don't know ...  
... so truly - that any thing which makes her unhappy  
... makes me so - she is a part of me - as much as any  
... of right part of the most intimate association ...  
... make her - I to see her read all through the ...  
... line of those whom she despises, makes me ...  
... self reproachful & wretched. My dear children ...  
... so faithful & truly love - for whom I would do ...  
... much - must be by their affection & consideration  
... thoughtfulfulness, to do away with these miserab  
... expressions - Will they not? They will love dea  
... much - for all the sun tints & produce I don't ...  
... they will be sorry for the hurt she has received thro  
... & by their aunts' action, in removing her from the  
... to Estlin's hands - they will be gentle with her faint  
... Durakurser. I only see that she is one of the noble  
... of God's creatures - true - upright - worthy to be loved an  
... respected & admired - She has fallen into my de  
... hands - so poor that I do not know whether I  
... can long remain in Rome - a worker - and whether  
... that my children are coming into my life - nobilit  
... for - determined to thrust her out - ruin & pa  
... of her - will put the finishing stroke to a life, wh  
... has been too long tried already - I took upon my  
... obligations with regard to her - which perhaps I  
... have not been one scrap of in fulfilling - I ha  
... allowed myself to be completely untrue to much  
... I promised her - but circumstances have迫  
... to make these depictions - when I first knew  
... I took the obligation of her life & future upon me  
... did not know - of the cares which were to fall  
... upon me - of other love & affections which were  
... I took for her - I was for her promise - I have not  
... my word to her - for I have tried to recon

too many things, rushed too much to them, & not preserved  
my life as much as I might have done. I promised her when  
I took the responsibility of her life upon myself. She  
has always been so little afraid of me, afraid of your little  
sarcasms <sup>speeches</sup> & thoughts - afraid of your absorbing too much  
of my love & devotion. afraid that you did not love her  
I don't expect to take her away from her, and she has  
from all these fears in secret - from them will & nothing.  
Last summer it appears she suffered more than any  
I have ever seen. I don't know how truly she saw I  
was anxious & troubled enough. I have not been com-  
pletely a strong helpful enough of her. The winter I was  
with her I have given my self too much to society. I have  
too little with her. considering how little I was with  
her last summer. I don't know what she is like now. I don't  
think her case ever. I feel how wrong I have been.  
You don't know how very poor she is. The Doctor  
tells me I may lose her if I am not very careful  
to keep her mind & her from any kind of disturbance.  
and the mortal terror of this possession. She is  
like a patient with chills. & she is like a skeleton. She is  
so thin. My darling child is coming to help me. & she  
is coming to try to share her aunt's duties &  
I am sure she will help me in this - with the  
Doctor. She will love Aunt Em. for all the love & devotion  
she has given to her aunt - for all she has suffered  
on account of her love for her aunt. No one member  
of the St. Louis family has ever really liked me but Aunt  
Emma - they have been always jealous of her love for me  
& mean among her own brothers & sisters. (only her mother  
has ever been truly kind & full & affectionately and  
grateful to me.) & she has had some terrible passages  
with them in consequence. But always remaining  
true & devoted to me through all. She chided me & rebuked  
has always been a palmer of his kindness to me. I don't  
know or believe that he was paying himself out of the  
use of my security. & also conscious that I saw through  
all their doings. I have had a moral rebuke to them.  
They were not really aware of the sword taking no notice  
of things in Washington I believe I could have made  
them do this if I would. Then - the old fellow who has  
always had the sword of my being through her & exposing



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bure had  
I hold her  
to her  
ling. You  
in a high  
to have been  
faring &  
them!  
the 5 of May  
the time  
her letter  
I learn that  
to now in  
the little  
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in. I am  
to me. I  
and I am  
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to be waiting  
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thought of joining letters in July Convention & I think it would  
to a very nice thing for each to come & spend a part of the  
next winter with Walter. who is fitting up a room in  
expectation of it. where the children can find comfort  
with an a school. why should the now come & have  
some little comfort by his life? Walter was so much  
your father that she can afford to deal with  
hospitality. & as it has cost her nothing to her for the last  
six winter, she can afford to entertain some one else  
in her new house. — We have continued to feel in  
great trouble about the dreadful event which has hap-  
pened in Washington. — I have been the opportunity  
for the English to turn - more painful than if they had  
not had any. all people unite in expressing their  
horror at the act. our own the telegram which  
informs us of the fact of the poor misguided fool who  
planned & executed it. — I can't help saying that they  
may fix the assassin of Mr Seward. I wish you  
to the execution of the law. — I know that Mr Seward did  
an better. but my old friend Professor King. who you remember  
as the very fair man who came to Washington while in  
my then I was cloistered with Mr Seward some time to  
persuade him to go to the New York to stamp the state  
for the execution of Mr Lincoln when Mr Seward had  
protested that it would be ungrateful. It was the man  
who came to me in a Philadelphia. on the floor of the Senate  
in Albany gave up. — he who loves Mr Seward like the  
apprehension - has been called to administer the state  
department which Mr Seward is well. This is one good  
demonstrates plainly to the abolition part of whom  
in the rights of the Seward - that he is not going to  
his Secretary of State. Nothing in all the world can  
bolder than this! I hope sincerely that you may have  
out to Washington to see the Seward. — in them my dear  
love in all their anxiety. they have had a sympathetic  
heart on here in Rome. — I have with as though the  
perform my own - as indeed it is - for I don't feel  
in the world. — as I don't Mr Seward to my grief for their  
sorrow. & the country's despair. has been as if  
as if I had been an individual member of the  
I hope to hear from Susan soon. She writes  
a great letter about her father's accident. — that I am  
hoping soon to hear from her own hand about the  
tragedy.

Saturday. Morning. Postday. I am poorly this morning. I  
a sulphur bath yesterday & I have had the trial of some  
Erythra ill. she had the Doctor take up her at this morning  
& I am greatly troubled. - by the by - I find that Tilton  
was much at the bottom of much of this trouble. I  
fear that when he was in Boston. Ned spoke to him re-  
garding about Henry Stubbs - & his daughter & the Kellogg  
& that Tilton has said before us that he would write  
any thing he saw with the aim in consequence of the  
letter he found that Ned was coming here - as I could  
already say with me for the part I took in his affair  
last summer & so he became poisonous with regard  
to me & was proud such things in to Stubbs's ear - as I  
heard in speaking to Aunt Sam. She can bear that I  
speak of her family - when she cannot will bear to hear  
that Ned or you should. She can fight with them - as  
as I am concerned - but when they demand of her that  
she should use her countenance to those of my family  
who have defamed or spoken disrespectfully of them  
(for what she may be - they are of her side & she does not  
excuse for them, who will?) - she is less able to stand  
in opposition - & thus, under their cruelty. I wish you  
could write to our gentle friend all - to whom you had  
ever spoken about Col. Stubbs & his family. And tell Ned  
he must write to me what he ever said to me & tell  
to any one else about them. I want to be able to place  
your letter before Aunt Sam. even though she may disagree  
against you - But I am so unhappy about this matter  
that I do not exactly know what to do. But be very  
cautious about it. I beg of you for my sake -  
- Do you are quite right about me - being it with  
me & Mr. Sherlock will receive you & pay you through the  
Customs - Don't bother about your debt - if you have  
already sent in - Tell dear Ned - not to buy me the post  
falls. I can get them cheaper here - if need be. - I  
so sorry to hear that Ned had had an ill turn, as he  
not mention in his letter. I hope it was nothing very  
important. Don't forget sweetest little baby - I pray that you  
won't have to leave his parents - but so bad for the teeth afterwards  
kiss him two thousand times for me. I love him - oh, do  
you can never know. I don't pray that God may spare him  
be a comfort to me - for I will comfort. You will answer  
letter to Paris, my darling, & shall reply I promise - I shall  
I have not heard from your grand mother for some little time  
she was very weak & miserable & seemed to be kept alive with  
she was very weak & miserable - (but - not that she was ill) -