

UC Davis Special Collections

D-329 2:43: Transcription of Letter from Elizabeth Lewis to John B. Lewis, November 10, 1847

This transcription contains language contemporaneous of the time and is being presented as part of a historical record. Please note that the transcription has not been reviewed for final editing.

To Mr John B Lewis

Schylerville

Saratogo Co N. Y.

Farmington Nov 10,1847 Wednesday noon

My Own Dearest John

Here I have been sitting for an hour trying to think what to write. I wonder if it puzzles your brain as it does mine. I received your dear letter Monday morn which came by way of New Haven. I saw Jane last evening She sent her letter Monday which has been partly written for sometime and says that she has given you some good advice. Did you see anything of Henry Dodd in N. Y. a few days after I wrote Abby was here and told me he had left Philadelphia for N. Y. I should have written again but was afraid you would be gone. I am glad you saw Mary & Elijah as M said she wanted to see the boy very much. Monday evening we almost had a fire. About 7 o'clock one was discovered in Mr. Winships work shop. There is a family in the back part of it and the fire came from their stovepipe,there being only one flue to the chimney it fell upon the soot of the fire-place in Mr. W's part. the fire board was lined part way with iron but the fire found its way through and made quite a blaze. Mr Brewster sent for Mr. W and he took a pail of water, went in a shut the door, then dashed it on. Some of the furniture scorched a little & in ten minutes mroe I presume the whole shop would have been in a blaze as there were shaving all over the floor. I went to the front door and hollared fire as lout as I could, but I will leave this and talk of more important matters of you and I just now. Aunt wants to know what you think of her staying here until spring! She thinks that on many accounts it would be better as everything is fixed for winter, and it will be necessary for her to come on again in the spring. I think for most reasons it would be best. I tell her she will be lonely, although not as much so as she would be at some places. Write me Dearest what you think of it. I see by your letter that you have looked for a sitting room a bedroom. I think one good sized room would be sufficient for both, for so short a time. If we wanted we might have a little stove in it and be by ourselves when we chose. I can tell better about the furniture part in another letter, but if we furnished our room I should probably get such as I should want for a spare room after we went to housekeeping in Troy of Albany on our way home, Sweet home wherever My dear dear husband is. Only a few more short weeks to pass off. I count them every day. I do not believe anyone here thinks of our being married this winter and I do not intend they shall until the last minute. You must give Cate, Sarah and your mother & their husbands an invite to the wedding. We can be married in the morning and start off. I am glad to think of boarding so near the store, for if you was at Cates I

should hate to have you go so far in a hard snow storm. I never think that you have been very much farther to see your Libby when the wind and snow blew across the meadow. Aunt will tell Mr. Dadsell not to sell the Sleigh. I rather think he will wonder what in the world she is going to do with it? She says if you could contrive to take it back with us when we go, she thinks it would be better. It has been used only two winters and is perfectly good. Oh dearest John how I do want to see you. I hope the few weeks will pass off pretty soon only seven or eight more. This week I have commenced mantormenting which will take me about four weeks as I am not one of the moderate ones. After that I shall have finishing off to do, & making cake & 'c It is almost time for the stage to come so I must stop short.

Give my love to our friends, write me as soon as you can.

From your own wife Ellis_____

P.S. I spent a few days in Hartford just after I wrote you. as soon as I took Alice in my lap she says I want to see John. Father was eating his dinner and he looked up in perfect amazement. He did not know what it meant. very soon I gave the locket to sis and told her to show it to Grandpa. Why that looks almost like the boy himself he says and Alice very often said "Aunt Libby tell us about John."

Good bye Elisbeth