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**D-329 2:65: Transcription of Letter from Elizabeth Lewis to John B. Lewis, July 17, 1857**

*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.*

Libby to John in San Francisco

Farmington July 17, 1857

My Own Dear Husband

The steamer arrived mast Monday and I received another dear letter from you. I was delighted to get it and hear you are were well – I went to Hartford on Tuesday and found a little stranger, a daughter, which was born last Sunday the 12th weighing eleven and a half pounds. It is a first baby, Alice is not at home I do not know what she will say to it. Georgie seems quite pleased – Abby ate freely of cherries and ice cream the evening previous and Georgie thinks they are the cause of the sickness, says he guesses Father will know better than to give her so many white hearts next spring. She is comfortable, George says the baby is to be called Mary Elizabeth, I have just thought that Woodbridges little girls name is the same. Sarah was at Aunt C's to-day an when Marion came home from school, Aunt sent word for me to come to see her. I told Jane if she could not come to see me, she could stay away – I went up to her the second day after I came, and neither of them have been to see me yet. I know they do not like to come to James very much, but I have told her she could come to my room. I am so glad to hear that Mrs B. is safely over her trouble, I hope neither had any drawback and are by this time quite well – I should like to see you all just a few moments. Although there are somany around me, I often feel very lonely and wish I was with you. Dear little Charlie is very well and tags Grandma all over the house. Half the time he will not let me wait upon him, but says "Grandma will,"

Mr & Mrs Holmes have been visiting here. Hattie and little Kate are here now and sister Sarah is coming on Monday – so we have a house full all the time. Charlie is asleep. I told him I was going to write to you. He says "Tell Papa I am a good boy". He often asks for his little water cart. says "Dan is in the barn feeding the horses" Mother indulges him in everything. She is quite deaf and sings out at the top of his voice to make her hear. I saw Kate Winship and Mary Julius to-day – every body looks natural except the young girls, and they have grown so you would not know them – Tell brother Charlie that cousin Elizabeth Jackson of Malone died recently. Fannie Buck has also lost her husband, and Roiis Humphrey of Collinsville has lost his wife. I have not seen Mrs Strong or Mrs Whitman yet. I intended to have seen them before this time but Lennie had had company and then the horses have been in use haying. I saw by the Observer that Dr Scott and wife were injured by being thrown from their carriage. Last Sunday as people were coming from church Jerry Wilcox, started the moment he had untied, before Jerry could get the reins. His wife was in the carriage. He tried to hold the horses but was knocked down, the carriage turned over just about Mr Rowe's store, broke her arm, knocked out several teeth, and injured her internally. There was another runaway last eve, no one injured. My trunk has come at last, but broken open, and most valuable contents taken. It was strapped together and canvass

nailed down, to all appearances in good order. I wrote immediately wrote to William giving a list of the articles. He put in a claim for \$100 damage, which is no more than right (little expecting to get anything) They made him an offer of \$50, which I thought better than nothing. I will give a lsit of the articles I think it was left at Aspinwall and robbed by some of the natives. They took my box of jewelry your locket & bracelet, Daves ring, I mean the heavy gold one he gave you. Tis too bad when I had that dear locket and bracelet so long – and gifts from you before we were married. Is it not too provoking? I saw Johnathan Cowles the other day – he looks very well, said he did not know as he was much happier here than he was in California – this was the morning I went to Hartford, at night he had been drinking a little. Every body inquires about you and Charlie – Mother and Lennie and all send much love to you all. Last Saturday Mr & Mrs Holmes, Jane, Hattie and Mr Corning went to the town – I did not think best to go – to-morrow they talk of going to Compounce pond, near Southington. I should like to go but am afraid I shall get too tired. I have not seen so pretty a garden as our own since I left home. They are nearly all neglected here. I often think what a beautiful garden Lennie would have if you was here to take care of it – I have bought me a thin dress and will send you a sample as soon as I cut it. Mother had just brought me crackers, current jelly & water – says give my best love and lots of kisses – To change the subject, I find dry goods very high here, almost California prices. Vegetables are very high. Peas are 2.50 per bushel. Garden strawberries 20 & 25 cents a quart – Raspberries 10 & 12 cents – I am looking for some nice black cherries- there are not many this year. They have been blasted.

I think the water arrangements must be very convenient – I know everything looks beautifully, and do you know I was not aware what a strong attachment I had formed for my home in San F.. I shall try to write a few lines to Mrs B in the morning. Remember me to Mr Taylor and all our neighbors and friends. I have not heard from Mrs T- yet shall write her in a day or two. The children all send love. I thank you for your dear long letter and hope I shall have many such, but I think it would save double postage if you would get some thinner paper to write on. You need not laugh at me now. Hattie sends love to you and George. Good night dear one, may God bless you and keep you Good night with much love from your own dear – Lissiee.

E.B.Lewis

Did I leave a box of letters up on the shelf of the closet in our room? If so please take them and lock them up. I do not remember putting them in the bureau.

Good bye dearest -