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**D-329 2:67: Transcription of Letter from Elizabeth Lewis to John B. Lewis, August 3, 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 Lewis in San Francisco

Farmington Aug 3rd 1857

My own Dear Husband

Here I am sitting upstairs in the room over the back parlor at Lennies the window open. It is one of the most lovely nights I ever saw and I appreciate it. We have had scarcely a pleasant day since I arrived. The farmers are groaning over their hay & rye. It has rained almost every day for a week, but yesterday and to-day have been fine. To-night the moon is shining brightly. I know the same moon shines on you too. but I wish you were here to enjoy it with me. It is too pleasant to stay in doors. Since I wrote you last, sister Sarah has been here and made a short visit. Jane and I shall probably go there in two or three weeks. Sarah is looking very well much more fleshy than I ever saw her. She stayed only two or three days. Meriette Terhune was not expected to live, her father is dead. John & Lines are both well – I wrote you about my trunk – did I tell you They allowed William \$50 towards the loss. Was it not too bad to lose my little treasures? Hattie and Kate returned with Sarah. Jane is expecting more company this week, some cousins of James from Litchfield. Cousin Anson Bodwell and wife called to see me this evening. Their oldest son Lewis is a Minister in Kansas – two other sons are also there. I have received a number of calls, have not yet returned them all – I called at Mrs Norton's, she gave me a bunch of flowers. Their garden look beautifully. The same night that I received your dear letter brought me one from Mrs Humphrey with a few lines from her husband also – They both urged me to visit them – they are keeping house in Providence, she says she misses the neighbors she had in San F—I think she has a strong attachment for that place. They are all well, she says if I will, she will send for Mrs Ryder, and we will have an old-fashioned time to-gether. I shall certainly see her if possible before I return. I received another letter from Mrs Taylor, she is now on a visit to her fathers and when she returns wishes me to visit her in Westport – I shall probably do so after our return from Northumberland and at the same time make a visit in New Haven. I was delighted to hear from her, for I had begun to think that she was ill. She was engaged the day that I sent for her come to Kate's and went up to Westport the day before I left N.York. If I had written sooner we could have arranged so as to have gone as far as Westport to-gether. Mr and Mrs Hanford who left the steamer before us (Those with whom I spoke of coming) lost their babe, on the way home. How hard to bury the little thing at sea. I suppose she took the disease at Mrs J's as they were about the time little Nellie died. Mrs Taylor writes in good spirits, seems to be enjoying herself, although she is so lonley without her husband. I wonder if anyone else is lonely – I guess I am sometimes. Another letter came from Helen. They were all delighted to hear such good news from Mrs Bacon. Jane wrote to have them come up last Friday, never thinking that it was commencement week, of course they did not come and we have just received a letter from Kate

saying that they would have to defer their visit for the present. Last Sabbath eve a Mr Forbes called here with Charlie Whitman. He is a Californian and we had quite a chat about the country. He has a hair lip, so I could not understand him very well. He told me what his business was, but I cannot tell you. He has a sister here, A Mrs Donner. I believe he is from New Haven, and connected to the Strong's. He left some papers for me yesterday morning – He talks of going back in about a month. Perhaps he may see you, then he can tell you about us all here. Little Charlie has been very well. Yesterday and to-day he has been a little unwell – as he was several times before I left San F--- bad breath, feverish and not much appetite. I think he is troubled with stomach worms, he complains of being choked sometimes. It usually last about one day. Do not think by this that he is sick for he is playing around the house, only does not feel quite as bright as usual. He kisses me for you and Charlie and Dave every night. He often inquires for some of his little playthings, particularly the water cart. He learns something new almost every day, some things I prefer him to be ignorant of – The other day we were at Aunt C's and I spoke of going home. Very soon he says – I'm going home "by George". I did not let him know that I noticed it at all – He is busy from morning till night, sometimes out of doors and sometimes in Grandma's room – and often when I correct him he says "I won't stay with you I'll go in Grandma's room. He is a whole team and no mistake – Tell Papa I am a good boy only I say I went to Mama, sometimes – He sends a kiss to Papa & Uncle and Dan. I am glad you are going to stay with Charlie awhile – I should think you had done very well for the last month. I hope you will make enough so you can come home, for if you do not now you will not in many years – All want to see you so much – All our friends are well and send much love to you and Charlie – I should think they were pushing you ahead in political matters – I hope you will not accept, I think such things cost more then they are worth – I am sorry to hear of Mrs Gushers illness, hope she is well ere to this – I do hope Mary may escape that dreadful disease. Give my love to them all, also to Mr T and all other friends. I am so pleased Mrs B is getting along so well. Kiss the baby for me – and give much love to them – also to Mrs Montgomery Tell Mrs B if there is anything I can do for her I will do it with pleasure. I am sorry Mrs Farish did not receive my letter. Love to Mrs Waller and all the neighbors. Last Sabbath was communion – several united with the church – It brought to mind many things, of our vows before God in the same place many years ago – when Brother C and so many others united with us. Oh my dear husband, how very far we have lived from the performance of our duty. Promise me dear one you will think of these things. Mrs Taylor wrote me Mr Hunt was preaching in Conn. somewhere – I do not know where. I hope I may see him. I fell much better than I did, have a good appetite and am taking my medicine also. Hope I may be all right soon. Thursday morn Mother says tell John I am just putting Charlie in the tub – Sends lots of love etc. It is a beautiful morning, Charlie has just come in with a Corn Stalk Fiddle Grandma made for him. I am glad to get such dear, good long letter from you. I do not think I pay back in the same coin, but I write closer than you do. I will send a sample of my dress – It is bordered. made with flounces, you can show it to Mrs Bacon if you choose. Do not write back severely to Will. Please send me the letter. I should like to see it. I am sorry to hear of Mr Bacon's loss, hope you will lose by now of the failures. Josiah must have had a very pleasant time. Remember me to them. Good-bye and God bless you from your own dear Lissie

E B Lewis

Your last letter I believe I directed to (J B Lewis) I hope you received. I intend to write J Bacon Lewis.