

New York February 28th 1845

My dear Sister

Your kind letter of 16th Inst addressed
to Sarah was duly received, and ever since I have been
flattering myself that she would gladly avail herself of so
opportune an opening for retrieving her past neglect of her
good Mother and Sisters, yet I fear me I am again to
be disappointed, and perhaps for the first time made to
feel that my wife is not all the good being for which
I have been giving her credit. There is, in Sarah's last
writing, something so unnatural — so abhorrent to my
ideas of the nature of an attachment that a child —
more especially a daughter, should have for a Mother,
that I can scarce realise it when I think that it
is my own wife who is the one I am complaining of.
I have used argument — persuasion and even threatened
to keep myself away from her in the evenings until a
late bed hour to induce her to write, but thus far to
no purpose. This last threat I must put in practice
and see if it will not be of some avail; for she
has apparently more dread of my absenting myself

from home than any thing else. If I scold, she has found that in the next moment I have forgotten my intention of playing the Angered husband: and when she seems to think my threats of staying out is mere moonshine from the fact of my never yet having been away from her of an evening so late as ten o'clock.

I shall give her to rest Monday, when if the letter is not written, I shall commence and will not come home after dinner till twelve o'clock at night so long as she may be disposed to play the incorrigible. It is not, as I have before said, from a want of affection or distrust in her family that she is thus negligent, but it arises from a natural dislike to letter writing, originating, I think, in a diffidence of her powers for composition, and also a want of firmness and decision in availing herself of the time being, and quelling her conscience with an inward resolve to write at an early day, which day never comes.

We have as yet no settled plans for the summer. We have some plans, which if accomplished, will enable Mary to be with Sarah which I very much wish, as Sarah will shortly want some one with her, when a Mother or a Sister would be more acceptable to her, as well as more in consonance with my own ^{feelings}, than any other person. If these plans fail I shall find myself in somewhat

of a quandary: the very thought of remaining under the same roof with Mrs L. together with such a houseful of boarders, makes me shudder; and rather than this I will try and find some quiet place in the country in the neighbourhood of the city, even though it be among strangers.

As to our visit to Boston the coming summer it must depend upon circumstances; yet I cannot see any reason why Sarah should not make you a visit, and perhaps I, myself, may be able to make a flying trip if for no other purpose than to make the personal acquaintance of my new connections, at the same time gratifying the curiosity of those who may wish to see what kind of a personage Sarah's New York Husband may be.

The weather has been most delightful for letters than in March — more like the latter days of May than July — indeed I am almost persuaded that I have had a touch of the wondrous sleeping propensities of Rip Van Winkle of yore, and that I must have snoozed away the usually disagreeable days of Feb. March & April and that it truly is the veritable month of May. Who knows but that some "Brobdignag" of a mismerizer has been playing his pranks upon the good people of this planet and

putting all mankind into a Mesmeric sleep from which
they have just awakened, and that in truth it is now really
Summer and not Winter?

Don't get frightened at what I have been saying
in regard to inducing Sarah to write, and fancy that I am
about to act unkindly to her. This, I do not think is in my

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noted any more than that I would stay away from her as
I have said, she knows what I have written and perhaps
the fear of my putting in practice what I have threatened
may induce her to write. I have haste

Yours off William Loring

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