

Rhinebeck March 3rd 1867

Your most truly welcome letter my dear
father & mother gave us great pleasure - I have had no
information from home half so minute as Mamma & after
all I will cheerfully baste all sentimental epistles for
a good sober statement of facts & every day occurrences.
We are very well & I think very happy in each other
our children are good, & their parents wise enough to
appreciate rational enjoyments without grasping at more
than falls to the lot of mortals - many I believe
lay up in store for themselves much uneasiness and
disquietude by aiming at a perfectibility of
happiness inconsistent with our nature - I am
not surprised that Aunt Farnham grows weaker - for
I thought death was written on her face long before
we parted - I wish you would be particular in telling
me how she is, how long she can set up, whether
she is discouraged about herself &c &c - give my
best love to her; my heart is much with her & I
can only regret that it is not in my power to be
with her ^{in person} this time - You will always have the
goodness to remember me to all friends - the Miss
Pearles - Clementine Caroline & the children - Mamma
too - We have spent the last week in visiting
one evening at a smart ball given by Colonel De
Voe who you will remember as John's old master
he is as pompous, vain, & ostentatious as his servant

but very good natured — We have spent two nights
with Mrs Montgomery who is very friendly & agreeable
she sent us a box of preserves of different kinds
supposing very correctly that we had not much
of that sort of trash — To morrow we dine
& spend the night at Chamell or Livingston —
This is showing our cheer to you in our most
dissipated point of view these visitings will
soon be over & we shall again be as domestic
& retired as you were — but now they are all
giving us dinners as we are new married
people & as our neighborhood is not the most
compact the consequence is half the time they
give us beds — We should hardly think of
riding twelve or fourteen miles to make a call
yet one or two have visited us from that distance
Catherine & John desire their respects Mr. Lehigh
unites with me in every remembrance of
love & affection — Yours truly
M. L.

Good night

Yours truly
M. L.

