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Amacetta L. Summers from Lewis Summers, April 26, 1865

Marietta April 26th 65

My Dear Mother

I merly [*sic*] write this PM
to let you know that I am well, and
to fill my weekly letter. I have no
heart for anything further. The
murder of President Lincoln
is the only topic now that can be
discussed of, and it is a heart-
sickening subject. All hearts
bend beneath the stroke, all are sad,
the nation mourns, and passes
out bitter curses on the assassins,
and their abettors, and vows
vengeance. All was going so
well, the war about over, the day
of rejoicing had come, when we
could see the end of the struggle
through which he had so nobly
piloted us. With what a crash
the news fell upon us almost in the
midst of our rejoicing. And
what a deed it was. ~~If ever~~

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Of all the foul deeds that disgrace
the human race, this is the worst.
It takes us back to the time of heath-

en Rome, her kings assassinated, or more similarly to the Italian republics and their revenge and crime of Venice. No doubt he was hired or at least approved of by the Rebels. If they had not hired him, they will applaud him and on them must the consequences fall. The President's liberal policy towards them, their immunity from punishment will all be changed, and treason be treated as a crime, a crime against Society & against God. It seems a judgment from Heaven to teach us that very thing, that we must punish treason -- and it will be done. The sentiment of the nation has undergone a wonderful change since Friday

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night, and demands it. And by this act we who wish so that it is done is put at the head of affairs. I feel sometimes that I wish another call for troops would be made, that I have never performed any service for my country, and that it is my duty to

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go. And if the nation could decide it
all would go, and wipe out forever
a people that have shown such
disgraceful spirits, and such
diabolical dealings.

I thank you for your
last letter, and the spirit of interest
in me in mind therein. I hope
it will be deserved, and that I
may be worthy of it.

Send Syd up on the 14th.

As Ever__

Lew

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I can't help getting mad
when I think of those rebels in
Charleston rejoicing over our
misfortunes. Would punish-
ment on them be misplaced?
I think not. Anyone who can
rejoice over this shows a black
heart that would not be missed
if stopped beating.