

Bridgeton N. J. 27 June /63.

My darling I have been think-
-ing of you all night until my
throat and heart ached like a
^{sick} tooth - Now I have just finished
my breakfast - Harriet has taken
away the tray and I am sitting
here in front of the balcony door
gazing with half closed eyes and
in Ballanche's Reverie divine
on the vines and flowers and
half imagining myself back in
those lovely apartments of mine
in the Vico Carmineello at Naples

This balcony & this dressing
room make me take this house
and here when I am alone I
breakfast just to revive those sweetest
five months of my life and I rock
to and fro in my chaise Americain
had French scound and try to
live over the time when I had a
Neapolitan terrace to gaze on and
a superb Ducal garden full of
orange trees and sweet flowers
beneath my terrace

And with all these memories
before me how can I answer your
question in any other way than
yea - yes, yea three & thristy times
over - Go with C. C. in September
by all means - "We should not
advise others to do what we would
not do ourselves" you may quote
on me remembering our conversation
of a fortnight since - But chérie
I am not advising thus - If I
were in your place just such
a woman as you are situated
as to health & artist life as you
are I should not miss going

Letters to Mary Howell

with C. C. on any account.

(In parenthesis before I enter on my arguments Frank the dear fellow received the lovely tison of a book and was half folle - see I have made it feminine - for his folly was sweet feminine folly not ^a tangible masculine folly)
(again another parenthesis he did write to you immediately and you have the letter by this time a charming letter I'll answer for it although not a word of it did I see for men never show

to let me know about the - the - what to do for her is so pretty she has had a large lump behind her ear like a bit of hair not I came to a head yet. This gave her a dose of it to Elmer - fear the blood was bad though her father or mother I am so sorry about her - for I am really attached

Their letters like we darling fools of women do - Now let that go I'll return to Frank the charming inexhaustible subject after I have done with the immortal C. C.)

You and C. C. will get on well enough together - You have exquisite tact and talk of my adaptableness! Why you have fifty times as much - Then you are different from her other noble - marine women you are tender & delicate - She will "sneak to you as to a bird"

to her & get what
can one do with
a diseased skin
in pet dog or
woman?
Tell the "Fancy"
she is in excellent
general health
Slightly, cunning
and a darling

little thing

I am quite in
despair about
her. She smells
very badly again
Ask if she ought
to have these daily
baths & if she
ought not to take
medicines I will take

her hand
myself - By
him for me
& let me
as teacher
Catherine

had a taste of it in Mrs
Come and know what I
a little real life
To to Rome and live

and fascinating she can be when
she "sleekens" for I was a pet bird
to her many long years ago.

One half your indisposition is
want of artist atmosphere - Your
spirit is sicker than your body
It needs acceptance, acknowledg-
ment, place and room to breathe
in - In this country you will never
find it - we have not the society
nor the salons where such genius
as yours belongs -

If he will send me a course of treatment & the suitable

Yes you must go - Listen to no
"petty preachings" from him who
would never help you to health.
Accept C.C.'s offer freely & frankly
God gave her the money just for
you doubtless & shall get no good
out of it if you don't reap its benefit
It will melt away like fairy gold
So C.C. owes to the fifties!
Give her my love and tell her
to take care about those fascinating
bellules & 'ague - She must not go

Letters to Mary Howell

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santipoling about too much. With all her fame I'm wiser than either of you on many things - I am a little Spring sitting here in my sands - my Egypt, watching the building of my pyramids.

If you go with C.C. I'll see you off in Sep. I shall be in Boston then for I have promised Ann to go to her in Sep. Or you must go.

Hang Sarah Cuyler - If I were C.C. or Ben. I would say d-n and I feel as if just such a naughty vulgar word was needed Sarah is at a painful phase of

her life, it is just touch and go with her - If she does not take care she will descend into a horrid state of Presbyterian old maidism - which has its equal only in my church - for Episcopal old maids are much more genteel + respectable than the Catholic + Presbyterian animal - You know the thing I mean - I can imagine all the clever, spiteful stuff she told Ad-., I had it all when I was in town and she was so de-

deliciously droll with it all for
she is as you say in your cunning
American "way" so smart") that
I imprudently repeated some of
her conversation and Fortys tooty
havent her hateful little Mother
Carey's chickens of ill nature come
home to roost with me? Don't say
any thing about it to her - When
I see you if I remember the non-
-sense I'll tell you all about it
But I hope by that time the

Mother Carey's chickens may
^{in a newer storm of gossip}
be swept off - for I have deliberately
shut down my cabin windows
and play deaf & dumb to all the
panic and fuss. I'd like to
have you however one little hour
for this & some other things - But
mind my dear - don't say any
thing to Sarah on the subject I have
good reasons - you would admit
I am run to death finishing
up my season - and I have to
keep up my health by long walks
I stretched off into a five mile walk
the other day tell Em: and

Letters to Mary Howell

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but for meeting Dr E. it would have had some two or three added on to it for I had missed my way a little - He brought me home in his carriage which was well, for an eight mile stretch would have been too much you see.

Frank is correcting my book marvellously - You can't tell how useful his examination will prove to me - I would not have missed it for the world - He has done more for it than Mrs Owen did for "Compensation" He is very very clever my dear You need

such a bewitching you I could not be surprised at his occupying so much of your thoughts for he is very fascinating - indeed "one in ten thousand" God bless him It is such a comfort to have known such a person - Life's stream rolls on to each of us carrying us away insensibly from each other but thank God the memory does not leave us - in that land of Limbo we are never parted from those we have loved & lost - and thus when you are in Rome you

asked for them looking as he did - how could I spare him the pain of a revision of a letter which

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Letters to Mary Howitt

would be al-
ways doing
you so much
Credit with
him - At-
solace me
your last
page
139. Chap.
10. - Best that
Good Bye
Love to the
girls - Write
- try soon
Grand Anne

will think of him and of us all it
maybe more tenderly than if you were
to see us daily - I rather like being
separated from those I love - Love is
kept alive by the sting of longing &
imagination keeps up the illusion
which no mortal is divine or per-
fect enough to sustain

See I am playing Pooka as usual
I have had two or three nice talks
with Max since you left - What a
god send that man has been to me &
how few know him as I do - His
counsels and warmings have kept

me from many a trouble - he is
better than brother, lover or hus-
-band to me - Not being in love
with me and yet feeling for me a
deep friendship he has nothing to
confuse or bewilder him - He takes
the strongest interest in my affairs &
even in my trifling annoyances &
listens to all my little complaints
patiently - Never but one person
before was to me what he is - my
mother - Like her, he never recalls
any inconsistencies - never confronts
past opinions with present ones as
most friends do provokingly - but
always takes up my present need
with earnest interest.

If you would like to come down
to here with C.C. do so. But you would
or both have to occupy one room. I should
love so dearly to see you and C.C.
and Frank together - How she would
hate to him! What jolly laughs!
My little library would be filled
with fun so full that it would last
me to live on for a year - Only she
would be treading on my fastidious
her little toes once in awhile. Give her my
best love - And now here at the end
of my letter I am going to "fess" as
C.C. says - Your letter of the first of the
down week was a charming letter my dear
did you remember? You surely do how
clear + lovely + "nice" it was - Well -
very I gave ^{it} to Frank - that's all - There's my 'fession

Bridgeton N. J. 29. June /63

My dear read the enclosed
Oration and agree with me that
by having it published to the people
we are doing more good than by
wasting dishes in a score of Sani-
-tary Commission kitchens or nursing
nasty soldiers in fifty Hospitals
cheating professional cooks and
nurses out of their business

Cousin Frank read this to
me on Saturday evening and
it affected me so deeply that I

have begged it of him determined
if possible to have it published
in the Bulletin. And as I am
am a true "Sairey" to you ("Drink
Fair Betsey") I wish you to have
a share of the honor with me -

Therefore my love enclose the
MS: with my note to Gibson ac=
=companied by one of your most
seductive billets to the "Horn
Editor" and have it out as soon

after the 4" as you can

By the way, suggest of your
own thinking and free will to
Gibson that the Oration will be highly
improved by a short heading of
his own containing the Ou and
Amend of the thing (Entre
vous do you remember that
naughty Rachel story I told you?)

Read the Oration and agree
with me that you have seldom
read any thing so fine - such
good English, so clear + forcible

Letters to Mary Howell

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it makes me so proud of our
friend - I felt like crying out
while listening to his reading of it
"Paul Paul almost thou persuadest
me to be a Christian."

Now that I have begged it of
him for the Bulletin I should not
like to fail in having it published
so use every feminine force - it
will ^{be} worth fifty Horaces though each
one should be the ~~best~~ Elzevir of
1670 which Jules Savin calls
do "Charmant"
I ga