

much better than they expected that Pat doubts if any regiment now in the field, is as well mounted as they. They have not yet assigned them to the men fearing that the third set will be very poor to make up, & in that case they will divide them. ^{His battalions drill on horseback however.} Col Russell came that morning. He wrote at 1 at night being on guard. I will show you the letter when we get in town. We shall move some time next week. Lydia is to go ^{this week} & stay with one of her friends in town so as not to have the exposure of the moving in both houses.

We had sailed very much lately, & I fear the morning will be dreadful for her. She is beginning to lose her appetite, & is very feeble. I have written to one of her cousins to ask her to come down & take care of her. I do not think she will last long. The rest of us are as usual. I suppose you heard that Charles & Marys came back Monday, & he staid in town, docked his feet &c, & went to bed there. He left Tuesday morning for New York & they have

I have been unpacking today & putting away, & trying to get the horror out of my head —

We have a cozy little parlour, & this Ev. Dr. Gray sits reading & I writing by two candles, every now & then lamenting for, & our nice Cangel business — Our landlady seems very obliging; herself, daughter & maid make the family besides ourselves —

Dr. Hooker & wife are away, expected home tomorrow —

We expect the Hales tomorrow to lunch & to show them New —

This afternoon came a letter from mother from Isle of Wight & Southampton; but she did not tell me where to address her — I can't but hope she may pop in upon us — Friday morn'g. —

I can only finish my letter with lots of love to you all —

We got news in Liverpool of the Maine election — Ford! —

Until Nov. 1st. You may address to the date of my letter — Ebury, England —
Ever faithfully, Jane L.

3

Our side, the table first was the doctor, & there were some from Chicago & Phila., & a ret., & Mr. & Mrs. Hale from Northampton, very pleasant they are — Then at our table Mr. Walker, his wife did not appear until we landed, & Mr. & Mrs. Lewis of Chicago, again, very pleasant & sociable — Mr. & Mrs. Senior soon from Wisconsin — We returning to England after 11 years away, & every day dreaming of going back; — Not much use in transplanting her — Next us came the man, Mother Cusack & Mother Ward, kind & friendly they were; some looked so like Aunt Mary I liked to look at her — Only somehow it seemed like to see a man in loquetties! — Two young girls under their charge — A young man & wife opposite with a baby down stairs — every day at dinner he put up bread in a plate, & plunged for the waft help to cover it with gravy, bend down stairs by the ubiquitous Johnnie — Then the bright black-eyed Mrs. Cuddleton, her 4 children down stairs, going out to join her husband to sail with him for Dallas! Is it the

I now I shall miss seeing him entirely,
I am afraid - Tell him I thought he
could live to see me to have done that,
if he was dirty -

I wish I had time to write you a
description of this quaint house, which
I think very handsome, if only from its
singularity - The entrance is through
a heavy door, with huge ornamented iron
knives, this admires into a small portico of
iron into a long wide flight of stairs leading
up to a large ^{irregular} hall, from which open all
the rooms - Dining-room, large & small par-
lor at one end, bed-rooms at the other &
heavy double, oaken door leading to the pass-
age connecting with the building. The
rooms are large, high & well proportioned,
the windows wide, arched, a carved stone
pillar in the middle, & diamond paned shades
opening as doors - pretty vistas of suites open
into each other, & it is all different from any -
thing one ordinarily sees - Living in fact in
a ^{very large} formal hall, divided into two stories by
cutting off the lower part of the windows,
& on in the upper part - The fire came

our part was burned, & some of the worst destroyed - A fire from New South
the museum below, I never saw good fire, with so much fine coal
I am so sorry to hear
that you are
so unwell,
& do hope you
are better -
Ever affely,
Jane -

Smithsonian Institution
Washington D.C.
March 5, '66

My dear Lee, I state a few minutes,
while waiting for Dr. Gray to finish
his talk with Prof. Henry so that
he may come to bed & I may finish
his packing, & begin a letter to you -
Thank you, dear, for your letter
received this morn. - I am sure in-
stead of thinking you mean for not
writing to me, I am the shabby one
for not having sooner written to you -
But I was very tired in New York -
The journey tired me very much, &
then the quantity of visitors there, &
then working over my trunk, which
was never more to the transportation
after all! The journey here on Wednes-
day seemed less fatiguing, though in dis-

have? We were 75 cabin passengers, 200
steerage. - Plenty of children to laugh & cry
& frolic, to climb everywhere & take life as
if ship-board were man's natural state.

Most of the passengers were well, & we
enjoyed the passage highly - It is a fine
vessel, & very steady with a fair wind &
sails set. The motion easy, less far than I
remember on the Cunarder, & rolling lightly,
like a cradle rocking - But she is narrow,
& the state-rooms small & crowded -
But if one were well, & only used the state-
room for sleeping, she would be a very
nice ship - The saloon comfortable for
the ride, the upper deck very pleasant -
An invalid mixes the habit of lying on
the main deck, & the larger ladies' cabin
where, dull days, the ladies gathered - Here
the ladies' cabin was small, at one side,
& chiefly suited for nurses & children -

The Capt. seemed polite, & certainly
Commanded his ship well, & kept all above
stairs in admirable order -

But I think a sea life a dirty thing,
one grows soiled & negligent, & about

every sense is offended. - To think I!

But, Charles, we took our tickets through
to London in Boston, & saved 15/ apiece in
fare! - And we left Liverpool in the
11.30 A.M. Express to Millersden, there
changed cars, & 10 minutes took us to
New, & we saved the expense of going
through London, & leaving Liverpool
yesterday noon, were here at 8 last Evg -

We have a little room you can occupy
here, (you are used to little rooms now,) &
you can be cozy & cheap with us -

We came on with the Hales & had
a compartment to ourselves, & enjoyed
the ride very much - Though things
looked at times strangely brown for
England, the hedges bare in some places,
the grass dried up, & even the trees
rather leafless - They mourn over the
dry season here in the gardens, &
Dr. Gray, who has been over them today,
says they look far from well -



Gray, Jane Loring. 1865. "Gray, Jane Mar. 5, 1865 [to S. M. Jackson]." *Asa and Jane Gray travel correspondence*

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