

Washington  
11<sup>th</sup> Janry 1853

My Dear Lou,

Yesterday, tho. it was  
Sunday, I did not write to you.  
and to day incessant business  
prevented me. This moment my  
company has left me, and I am  
happy to have it in my power  
to write. I go not out, but on bu-  
-siness, nor do I intruse the balance  
of the day, if I am spared.  
Since the news of our Brothers  
death, I have less inclination  
to go into the world than I used

And before. I hope his death  
may be sanctified, to our good  
and that we may be enabled  
to prepare, for a joyous meeting  
with him in Heaven. We must  
be reconciled, to the loss of friends,  
and so far, as we can avoid it,  
we should not repine at the  
dispensations of our Maker,  
God. I feel a painful anxiety to  
to be at home, and to clasp  
you to my heart, and if possible  
to offer you sympathy, for I  
know well, that condolence, can  
never assuage grief, such as you  
endure. Our reflection arising

from a bulip, in the character  
of God, His mercy & goodness,  
and that all His dispensations  
are directed by infinite Wisdom  
must injain submission upon us.

We ought not to aspire, but  
thank our Father, for the many  
blessings, by which we are sur-  
= rounded.

My Son I have no-  
= thing, to write, that would cheer  
or delight you. My health is  
fine, since as I only eat twice  
in the day moderately, I hope  
to retain it. I suffer slightly  
in my left leg, from the same

cause, that I complain of at  
Hans, the Low Jacinto wound.

For some days past, we have had  
beautiful spring weather, such  
as I have never before seen at  
this season. There has, I am told, only  
been a slight snow, this winter,  
to lay a few hours!

Tell our son, that I will  
send him "Picture News papers",  
and I expect him to write to me  
very much. Unless his "lessons" should  
interfere with his writing. Do you  
My Love, write as often as you can,  
and it will be recreation for you.

Give my affection to Mother, and  
the children. Write to me about them.

Thy Husband  
Margaret Houston