

37-47412

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4/9/53

A Book for Mary
written in haste
and mailed in
the rain. The
writer hopes it
may find her in
better health. Ever
well

Sunday morning.

After writing what I did last evening Henry had got himself well fixed with his regon lighted and put upon the table and went into a long talk that lasted till bed time but the talk was upon general subjects and although very well done could not be transcribed to advantage. He talked of the "series of a bachelor" Henry gave quite an extended synopsis of the book. On one side is a Barabian Brewery with a front shop that selling beer and the Brewery at the back yard. A woman tends the front shop and is a most beautiful singer. We heard her singing and went out to hear better. Saturday night is a great time

for the people from
the continent of Europe
they get together and
drink beer and sing
I looked in at the
window, a party were
playing cards seated
at a table, the woman
among them, she singing
and some of the men
singing an accompaniment
Her voice sounding some
of the time just like
a well played flute
executing rapid and
intricate music

She is just a commonly
good looking woman
about 30 years old, Two
doors the other side is
an other establishment
of the same sort, they
were having a boisterous
time I only heard their
clapping and cheers which
showed them to be in a very
enthusiastic mood
But this, as some would say
is neither here nor there, &
of no account

I have this morning read
over your two last letters,
the one that went to Auburn
and the one directed here.
I can't help on the whole
but feel somewhat depressed
and sad altho' the last
one was written in a
cheerful frame of mind.
But I am satisfied
of this fact that you
can enjoy yourself
in Waterville no longer
and that the sooner you
leave it the better. Your
surroundings have
become so excessively
unpleasant that it will
make you sick if nothing
else does, and I am
seriously anxious about
the state of your health
and hope you have
done all that could
be done. Still I have
my fears upon that
point, as you have
said in I think I have
three letters that you

new young to put on
another plaster. And
I sigh

Evening, yes, was
I sigh in my aspiration
but to give you hints will
hardly ~~be~~ of any benefit
after waiting two
months as you will to
get this,

So your mother
thinks I will never be
worth much. I laughed
at that a little and went
into a sort of self exami-
nation upon the points
to try to discover how
or for what reason your
mother come to that
conclusion. I don't think
it is any indolence, or
personal extravagance
or want of will or want
of the common love of
money or possession.

But I do suppose she
thinks I will allow others

to overreach me and
from the past she has
some reason for that
opinion but I intend
to do better after this
I think it will be best
for me to try and see
how I can get along
without friends & c.
in any money matters
The most friendly thing
I expect any person to
do in a money way is
to pay me for my services
if she can't well help
it, and at the very lowest
rates at which those
services can be procured,
and if there is any chance
to cypher a claim against
me in having a founda-
tion in fact of suspicion
I expect it will be taxed
to the full amount adding
interest. Such are my
expectations, I think
they are founded upon
the evidence of experience

— They are not any exalted
and will probably not
be disappointed

If we
do see any chance to
write a letter need it
we will do it, now we
kate, I set out to think
well of the world but made
a mistake and will set
about correcting it as
fast as possible

~~Draw a line under that~~
and begin anew

In the first place I
hope you are well and
cheerful and ambitious
to make money, I hope
the store or dry interest
has found a purchaser

I hope you have dis-
continued house keeping
and are boarding in

some agreeable place
I hope I shall meet
with such success here
that I will come for

you or send for you
before another winter
I hope I shall hear

that your health is
improving and other
good news by your
next letter.

I wish you might have
had time to write more
fully and particularly
in answer to my letter
that dispelled the deep
gloom so particularly
and effectually that
had weighed down
your spirit for so
many weeks. I hope
~~that~~ those very sad
times have not returned
any more to damp
your courage and
make life miserable.

Those weekly mails
will not come for so
too often to answer my
purpose and I expect
soon to receive weekly
letters from you. I
have now learned when
the weekly mails are
expected here.

News has come to day
that the Vanderbilt Steam
S. S. Lewis has been run
ashore about 15 miles
north of the heads as
the mountains each
side of the Golden Gate
are called. They are
ashore in a fog. The
passengers and crew
were all saved. Three
Ocean Steamers have
been lost on this coast
since I have been in this
country. Pioneer, Tamer
Independence & S. S. Lewis
burned at Valparaiso.
A fine clipper
ship is the safest and
pleasentest way to come
here. The paper says by
the Queen of the Seas a Boston
clipper arrived here a few
days ago speak in the
highest terms of the voyage.
The captain's wife was
on board and it was
very pleasant. The sea

to China and they
expect will leave
Boston for this place
about the first of
October. This evening
I have heard a sermon
in a Catholic Church
near here. It was a good
sermon, against reading
novels and in favor
of reading histories
and other valuable
books particularly the
lives of the Martyrs.

Monday Evening
understand that my
business of tending rapids
does not give me full
employment. I shall
have time to do some
thing at the Vireos.
I shall get my board
a good room, a place
for my operations,
adjoining the ranch
or kitchen rent free

with water free and
the use of their team
for hauling casks and
vinegar and \$50 a
month wages.

Now

such a chance is a
good one, board is
\$10 a week or over. The
rest of a place would
be a considerable and
almost all families and
factories are obliged
to find their water
drawn by costs which
is expensive, on their
lot is a well some 60
feet deep with a pump.
Every man doing business
here has to pay a
city tax according
to the amount of his
business. It is called
license. Perry pays
\$15 a quarter. If I were
any where else I should
be obliged to pay rent

board, and house and
get no money beside
buying water and
paying 8/- a load
cartage, so you see
what I gain beside
the \$50 a month by
dropping the matter
of pride. In fact I have
about made up my
mind not to let my
pride stand in the
way of making money.
What do you say to
that idea, I intended to
see whether I can make
money and keep it.
What do you say to
that, you wish me suc-
cess don't you I was

thinking to day how
difficult a thing
it is to live a well
ordered life having
a worthy purpose,
traceable distinctly

all the way through
it. What a jerk you is
jirke reunion, if you
please, a second wedding
as you suggested some
time ago. What do you
say to that. The next
is to make money and
keep it until we have
enough to spend to
some advantage, I mean
buy a house and car,
age, and a horse, and
buggy, at least. What
do you say to all that.
I wish you lived as
well as we do after my
cooking. Don't I laugh
at the idea, But it is
a fact, I get a tip top
do on every thing I try
to cook, Stuffed K, Pot
atoes boiled and mashed.
Meat Ball, Pan cakes
Soda Biscuits, Soft Lin
ger bread, Oyster soup
Stewed cranberries and
my nice coffee and
the very best of Black
tea

with 2 quarts of good
milk a day Lettuce
Radishes, Cabbage bean
flour, New Beets ~~and~~
Carrots and Turnips
and there are in markets
lots of sweet potatoes
and winter squashes
Now you could live
if you were only here,
and there is the rub,
Now if you should take
a start and come right
along with some one
that I don't now think
of, don't you eat any
fruit at Jamaica or
on the isthmus or on
the voyage up the coast
Don't eat taste not is
the only safe rule, Some
will try to persuade
you to eat saying a little
will not hurt you, but
a little has been the
means of the death of
thousands. Remember
and keep remembering
all the way

It seems to me I have
not been as well since
I was a boy as now. This
climate of San Francisco
agrees with me exactly
it is a little coolish ~~but~~
you would want a little
fire, I get along perfectly
well without

I dreamed
of you last night and
my dreams go by contraries
I am sorry for you are
looking as plump, and
bright as a dollar, I don't
mean plump as a dollar,
soy as a partridge and
bright as a new dollar

The French fairly
I mentioned in my last
letter are about moving
into a new house they have
just been building at the
back yard in order to rent
the room they now occupy
A man builds a house in
a few days with a few hundred
feet of rough boards, they
paper the walls and nail
shutting over head, the

Catholic church I was in
is a large one and is plac
ted with sheeting. I must
have taken a great many
pieces. We had a regular
show last night
and it lasted till ten
a clock this morning
just like home. The sales
are nearly over for this
season, and the people will
rest perfectly sure that
they will not have another
show before the middle
or end of October. How
strange is it not to see
newfangled to the houses
for all that time

Saturday evening
evening I went to the
Post Office. (The Golden
Gate arrived in the morning)
A cord was up "The Boy
Delivery will be open at
9 o'clock P.M. I was there
ten minutes before 8 o'clock

They were then forming lines
to work. I stepped into line
and waited until the opening.
They went on distributing
until, I and then delivered
what was distributed.

When the time came I got
a letter from Rufus
only, I went up to the ranch
and it was ten o'clock.

He wrote of moving and
that Ed is doing well. He
writes that some of the
old creditors, who were
the worst upon the stock
want now to attempt a
compromise, and think
the whole matter could
be settled with two
or three thousand dollars.

Who knows but the day
is not far distant when
we shall be free again.
This afternoon I rec'd
your letter commenced
Mar 5, finished 17, with
a note from your mother.
It made me feel bad
at the beginning but

5th letter as I read on
as you were getting letter
But what awful tight
times it is with you for
money and no prospect
of a change. I hope the
twenty five dollars
I sent with the daguerotype
come safe to hand. The
daguerotype I ^{don't} care so much
about. I don't know you
have any good government leave
the baby always troubles you
when you want to write,
I more think you play with
her when you are sitting
and keeps her going.
Henry has just come in
and wishes me to give you
his best regards and tell you
that Ann is getting quite smart
again. ~~Henry~~ received a letter
from Honolulu this week. Ann
is anxious to come over here
or as she writes "is crazy to go
over to the coast". Well, I wish
I had more time to think
over your letter and write
an answer but here it
is after 8 o'clock and raining
hard. The mail will be open

till midnight I wish I could
see you to night, I hope you
don't want any doctoring now
and before you finish your
letter you give me courage
to think you are better now
But I think perhaps I could
doctor your health and spirit
I would try, you ask if I am
not sorry to come to Cal, I can't
guarantee the question you, for
I can't see into the future, I
almost wish I could, It has been
such an experience to me, perhaps
I might say both of us. If you
get well and I continue well
I hope not to get sorry that
I come, you ask where I hope
the first place in my thoughts
you or the baby, the question
is perfectly fair although not
expected and is very easily
answered, I think much more
and many times often of you
than her, But why do you
ask, Aunt Mary will make a
famous, hard person a farm
I guess she would manage to
keep cool some way, What sort
of a famous wife would that
married niece of hers make,
That matter of collecting
the note for Henry, I think
I'll, when I am the company
and own a third of it is of
all sight and I don't see
any thing out of the way in
saying it out then to me so

find the man if I can,

I will send you some money by the next mail which letters in one week and I don't know but I am glad that I am when I can earn some money to send you.

If you keep house it is best of course to stay when you are and if you don't get well soon you must keep house, I will try to keep you in money, altho I need every dollar I can raise to get ready to make more with. I have done nothing toward getting up fixtures for making Veneer for the want of money and I am glad I have not spent the little I have left on you because I must send it to pay rent for the house for you must not be turned out of doors, I am sorry you are so poor in Naples and wish you were out of it. The money I have sent has seemed to do no one any good you ask if I will not like you to come, Freddie when I get home, I'll tell you if I don't like it I can make what I do like and lots of it too. I'll try any hand with you when I get home. but

don't flatter your self
that I shall do the cooking
I have made every thing
I have tried and made
it good too, I supposed the
letter you speak of was to Mr
Woodruff one that I told all
about George, but it seems now
I remove all restrictions
with regard to Geo, you may
tell or say or do just as
you think best about it
How much rent is there due
on the last year It still
seems hard and I must
hasten go as to go to the Post
office, I wish I had more
time to think what to write
I feel uneasy and I must
say your letters of late
have been of a kind to
make me feel that I am
called upon to be frugal
and industrious, I have
been obliged to use some
money to cloth myself
as I had every thing to buy
to get myself to come here
My passage money down was
\$44, my clothes cost \$38,
and I paid \$25 for board
before I got work I left
in subm about \$30 due

me which I shall get as
most of it is to come from
Mr Westfall who boarded
on my account, I have
written up for it I have
earned \$13 here, and have
in my pocket \$25. which
I will send next mail. I
bought me a comfortable
for my bed, cost \$2 1/2.

I hope sincerely and
sincerely this may find
you in improved health
and the baby also, I learn
from your mothers note
that the babys neck has
not entirely healed, you
must let this pass for
a letter but it is a poor
one and not worth the
postage and she asks
I have got to take to get
to the post office through
this cold soaking rain
again I am sorry I
cant write a more satisfying
letter for myself and
you, God bless and keep
you safe &c.

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4/18/53

87-88 RL

A book for
many without
a title, the
page left blank
for her to fill
out and give
the name she
thinks deserves

San Francisco Cal
April 18. 1853

Dearest Mate My book
don't seem to have any
regular beginning and
perhaps it will not get
filled this time as, the
mail closes on Friday
for the next steamer
I have not or rather the
weekly mails have not
yet commenced coming
or getting here do you
write for all of them

I have not let any
pass and don't intend
to, How very much I want
to see you tonight and
how deeply anxious I am
about your health If
I was only sick you would
see me before you expected
to. would it be safe for
me to arrive home unex-
pectedly, eh But I did not

sit down to quiz you
but for a very different
purpose, I have been
to the Rarette House this
evening to see Hansen
and found him quite
anxious to see me. A new
idea is up and you can't
guess in a week what it
is, I have half a mind to
wait for a time perhaps
for the next mail before
I tell so as to let you
try a week at guessing.
Dons and company of
our steamer, she
is bought off the Stockton
route and is now drawing
\$1000 a month and lay
idle. They get that not
to put her on the San
Joquin (pronounced
San Wan Kine) since in
competition. The explosion
on the Jay Laid, makes
an opening on the route
to San Jose (pronounced
San Josede) They intend
to put her on in a day

or two and they propose
to give me the place of clerk
doing the gentleman part
of the Captains duty
as regards attention to
passengers and more
particularly his duty
in the cabin as he is
the pilot as well as master
Mr. Rensen says it will
give me the controll of the
money altogether and
will be fast be the most
important part in all
respect excepting sailing
the boat. He says I will
have all the purchases to
make, The boat will
make three trips a week
skipping the Sabbath
at San Jose. Mr. R. says
the probable wages will
be two hundred dollars
a month and found

If you if nothing more
than that turns up it
will begin to send some
money to skate

I should not write

you this to night if
it was not that I may
find it humming times
where the mail goes and
I wish to send you such
an account of my doings
hopes and expectations
as will give you a correct
idea of my life here

It may all fall through
because it does seem almost
too good to be a real fact

Oh how I would like to
be making more money
than a dozen men I could
name at C are making

It would be glory enough
for one day would it
not Mate? Would not I
give the Express some
business

It is nearly
even a clock, Henry and
William have gone down
to the ship Harry Major
which has just discharged
a cargo from China and
leaves in a few days for
Canton, The first Mate

is an Augusta man and
an acquaintance of Henry's
and the family at Honolulu.
The mate brought over
some shawls and other
china goods on speculation
I should have bought
a white plain shawl for
you if I had had more
money. That cost in China
\$15, would sell in the store
here at about \$35. The duty
is 30 per cent. The mate doesn't
pay a duty. He brings them
among our lot at a time as
he sells them. He has an
embroidered shawl that
cost in Canton \$50. One
thing amuses me, they
send over Daguerotypes
to China and have them copied
on ivory. They say it is beautiful
done at a cost of \$10. Some
send over a shirt for a sample
and they make new ones
very nice for 12/- each.
The voyage is made in from
50 to 80 days. The mate bought
some Belknap's wood
and men also chopmen
the men much I've seen

The chef men cost \$8, in
China and the Boats
cost \$2, He also brought
Canary birds in cages
I did not see them but
they must have been any
price as he sold them
at \$30 and most of the
value was in the cage

His wages, and he has
the entire management
of sailing the ship, is
\$75 a month. What you
said in one of your letters
about wages may be true
to some extent, perhaps
about the same as it would
be to take some of the
head clerks in New York
The average of wages paid
here is low, but some
get high wages, You wrote
that young Lord got \$250
a month. I do go into his
brother's store one would
think he would hardly
sell that amount in a
month. He has a narrow

and not any deep store
with a tolerable show of
paper, blank books and
stationery. It is now
half past eleven and I
will go to bed, perhaps to sleep
and perhaps not. When I
went to the Post Office with
my letters Saturday evening
in the rain I was surprised
to find such a crowd there
they had been in and out
drapping wet until the
floor was covered with
water.

Tuesday 20. I have
taken a moments leisure
to write this morning.

Yesterday I went aboard
of the Steamer S. B. Wheeler
with Reuser, she is a
small neat boat. I happened
to meet the man that
built her there. She was
named after him, she
was built in Maine
put together ready to
run and brought out

here in a ship. They
built a ship- lift, the
stern and deck timbers
out and at high tide
floated the steamer
into the shell of a ship.
When the tide run out
they put in the stern work
of the ship and when
the tide come in again
she floated with the
steamer inside.

I saw Dons afterward
He says he wants me to
go as clerk, having full
charge of the finances
of the Boat. The man who
is to be Captain is up country
and I have not seen him.
There is but one question
about the matter. The Boat
draws more water than
is usual for boats of her
size and the water is
shoal at the head of the
Bay at the town of Aliso
pronounced as though
the a was e, (Alvieso) The

Boat is to make a trial trip this week and I shall go down with them. The object is to see if she will run into Aliso without getting aground.

Now do you think I will appear in a Captain's Office behind a stained glass window or taking fare or in the Cabin coming and doing the gentleman for the ladies. I don't expect many Turkeys or Pigs to cut up or get bothered with and as for carrying Roast Beef &c I am sorry on that. He did not talk any about wages.

I don't want to know, would rather hear that for a time Doug is no penny man and I have no doubt but I can give him good satisfaction and get good pay.

Now does it all sound to you. Are you alarmed, Do you

Think of Explosions and
dis. catastrophes, I know
you will. but I hope not to
give yourself any uneasiness
As I shall probably not be
able to give you any more
particulars of the Steamboat
business before the mail
closes, this must suffice
for the present, I suppose
you received my Day type
"Geo" and a little money,
a day or two after writing
the last letter I received
I hope you did and
that it made you feel
better, I have some fine
gold of my own digging
amounting to \$4, which
I shall send you, and as
I am looking for your
measure for a ring by
your next letter perhaps
it will be as well to let
the gold remain as it
is at present and I will
get a ring here, Otherwise
I would have you have
the gold made up into

a ring. That specimen I
sent that you had made
into a pin I would rather
you had had that made
into a good broad ring
for your self. I doubt
wear a pin you know
but I don't know how
much of a fancy wear
I may grow to be here
possibly to the extent of a
pin and perhaps a ring
Well see how the money
comes in. If it does come
in at the rate of \$200 a week
the, I shall know perfectly
well what to do with
some of it. could you
use a \$50 ring occasionally
if I believe you shall have some
of them. I am well
with light clothing, my
face looks larger and fuller
than I ever saw it. Last
evening I was at the
Rasette House and argued
of the Clerk for Remission
The clerk went up to his
room. R. asked who it was
that wanted him. The clerk

said he did not know. It
was a large man, R. came
down shook hands with and
turned to the clerk, said
is this your large man,
and gave us an introduction.
Among the guests at that
house was a land surveyor
Col. Washington Thud
cousin to the Great
General, I have had several
conversations with him.
He is a rather tall man
medium size, a rough rather
plain face, modest, studi-
ous and retiring, perhaps
50 and a bachelor.

Perriss has finally
broken with Nichols or rather
N. has gone to work at
digging and seems to
have broken with all the
company. Parker sailed
for home last Saturday.
He and Dodge were at the
same place as Nichols. He
brought down a letter from
Dodge. They are all out
with it. So there seems
to be an end of it, at least

for the present. In the mean
time Kemmer has on his hands
here perhaps \$20,000 worth
of goods and machinery. He
will sell all his surplus
stuff and may take his
engine and set it to
work at something. I
should have a situation
with him that would
give me good pay if
the steam boat matter
had not come up and
if for any reason that
should fall through
there will be probably a good
place. R. knows nothing
of machinery and has a
great deal of confidence
in my knowledge.

Now
we will see if bad luck
will follow me here,
I am fat and strong,
and feel as though I might
deal sledge hammer blows
some where, only show
me the place to strike

I have a fancy that my
line is doing its work
better than when I was
at home, If I was only sure
you are well I should be
happy to day, Now I think
of it I have a gold half
dollar to send you with
this, It is a present from
Henry, What would you
say if I should tell you
that Henry invited me
to go to the theatre last
night, and I went and
saw that same play of
"Widow Green", It was
well done, But there
was not a word about
being "covered with con-
fusion" They add and
subtract to suit their
own fancy, It was the
first time Henry had been
since I have been here
What do you say to,
my hardships in California
are they not horrid to
think of, Just now

matters are too unsettled
with me to say what I
want or intend for you, but
there are some ideas around
my hat. Let us see how the
money comes, that's what
pays for ~~expenses~~ &c

I think I must have written
you in my previous letter
about some of the creditors
wishing to have Kerpelson
compromise. It may be
that in a short time a year
or so, that matter may all
be settled up. There is a Cava
bird singing finely over the
way at the Kremlin, a large
astorator boarding hotel
Friday Evening

as is usual
I have delayed finishing
my letter to the last
minute. I shall not
send any money this
time because I do
not spare it now
I shall probably send
you some next week

I have heard nothing
from Auburn so he
not got any of the
money I expected
from them. I have to
finish this in a great
hurry, It is now eight
I go out to the steam
tunnel on, Doug and
his party, Mr. Stinson
and perhaps others will
go. Today I met Mr
Edward Bannister
formerly of the Currier
at Cozenova, He
goes with us as it
is his new home

Bury is another
full split on the
other side of the table
for Donohue as a
ship goes out to the
Islands tomorrow
He sends best regards
to you and that

sends me of the
gold half dollar
he sends you. This
coin is got up here
and passes current but
there is so little of it
that it is not seen any
often. It is not legal
currency. Well, how does
the news by this letter
affect you, I would
give you hot almost
yes I would give it
to know. I wish you
new as well as I am
and hope you are
but should be glad
to know. I send a letter
to Rufelau by this
mail and out to Geo
and thought I would
have time to fill this
out for you but
Mr Williams is here
and there is so much

talking to be done
that I hope to have
my doubts about
selling the book

I will send soon
a package by express
and will then send
the gold dust I have
mentioned before

How much I would
give if I had it to give
you now, and hope
you are feeling better
than your letter has
shown, of late you
have had a long &
gloomy time

What have you
thought of my sugges-
tions of leaving
Matulco and getting
away from so much
trouble

I wish that
many times that

William was here
he could make
money much
faster than he
can in Jackson
and it is so much
healthier. This
must be a very healthy
place, infinitely
better than any
part of the country
I have

I must
let this go unfinished
from want of time
God bless you
C,