
H. Austin Civil War correspondence

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8-3-1864

1864-08-03, Hiram to Susan

H. Hiram Austin

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Ms Susan Austin

Fox Lake
Dodge Co
Wisconsin

8 Aug 1864

Nashville August 3th 1864

My Dear loving Wife

I received your kindest of letters this morning & am very to hear of your being sick I have heard all the time that you would work to hard in the garden this summer I would much rather that you had hired it all done than to make your self sick I have been expecting to hear that you was sick long before but when I would get a letter that you was well then I would feel easier again for a day or two but I could not keep it out of my mind, some times I have blamed my self for coming at all then when I think of the differance in the wages that I get her & the way that I would get their & the time that that I would loose their I can make a good deal the most here for their is no loss time here when a man is sick & when he is well he has nothing to do but to tend to his work

I am very sorry my dear love that I ever said
or at least wrote any answers to what
D & what you wrote to me about our mis-
-haps & if you live till I get back I
Dont think that I will leave you or
another summer alone & go so far away
to work I want you to write if you dont
get any letter & I will come home any
time I dont want you to wait till you
are entirely gone before you let me know
-w when you was in canada you didnt
let me know till you got better that
you was sick now you say you have
ben sick two weeks with your old complain-
-te I suppose from that it is the niralizing in
your face & head I am very sorry indeed to
hear that you are troubled with that com-
-plaint again & I hope that the next time
you write that you would be better if you
Dont ^{get better} dear love I shall be far starting for
home before long now Darling I have not
heard Oris say a word about what you
thought about his going trapping & he has
not asked what you said about my going
& I have not told him the particulars either

you said that you had a notion or
a mind to straton up things & come along
with meez if you had sold of all the tim-
-ing & taken that note to the bank & got it
cashed you could not have suited me better
I should haile that day as one of the happiest
of my life for then I should have had you
where I would like to live the rest of my
days but I would have to come back to
Ohio consist to dispose of the farm in some
shape my Dear love you say you think I was
beside my self when I wrote those hard words to
you I know that I was sick Did not feel as
comfortable & it did not seem as thou I had any
friends any where & I am very sorry that I
made any reply to what you said but you know
that when I think any thing I say it & that is
the last of it unless some ^{love} says something to me
about it a gain my Dear love I hope you will
forgive me for what I have written & said
& I will try hard to do better in the future
I love you Deare than all the rest of the wor-
-ld & have often thought it in the last week
that I might be deprived of your companion-
ship & it was I should one of the most lonesom men

in the world I have thought at times what
I would do if I was left alone but I cant
form any idea, I neve had the words to
express ~~of~~ my love for you but you often
say that I dont love you as much as you love
me God noses that I love you & it but little
that I care for any body else only to use them
well as friend I never cared much whether there
was any body else around as long as you was
there but when you was gone there seemed to
be a void in the house there was allways something
lacking when you was gone, if your willing
my pet to go any where I want to go when
I come home we will talk things all over & see
what we think is best to do I dont think that
I shall move many more times in this life I ^{at}
will get a small place some where & stay there
you said that you would not go up to see &
after spending so much money as you did last year
now the more I think of it the more I think
that you ought to go while you have a chance for if
we should conclude to come down here or to Illinois
instead of going up there you might not see them for
some time & that is the reason that I want you to
to go so much it aint the money that I want you to
spend that I care a cent about I want you to go &
see them any way it wont cost more than twenty
dollars at the most I would rather give twice that

than not to have you go, now my love you know that they would be very much disappointed to have me come there with you but your going without me would not make much difference no doubt but they would like to see me but not half as well as they would you & I would tell you more of the particulars than she would me & on the whole I should feel much better to have you go you said that it takes all summer labor enough to pay up what we get in debt in the winter & to live on the next winter I believe that I am days working in that line I can earn enough this summer to pay any board or board our selves next if I dont work & I dont intend to run in debt next winter if I dont work but probably I shall work at something enough to do some thing to wardes our living but here is the place for a man to work by the day or month if he wants to work in that way wages here any print work is three dollars & a half to four dollars per day & board your self & you can get board from five to eight dollars per week but if a man has a family it wont cost him so much as to hire his board generally

Aug 8 073

my Dear love I have written considerable but I dont know as will pleas you very well but I shall write another sunday it is allmost midnight I new that I should not sleep if I went to bed so I thought I would send you a letter in the middle of the week

I am getting my health better than I have had it for five year that is if I gain as much as I think I shall I am tuffer now than I was when I got her ^{in the spring} & I am gaining all the time you can judge how fast I gained for a week I gained a pound a day in flesh & work dont tire me now as it did before I was sick & wis said to day that may be it was one of the best things that could have hapened to me to have the leave & the change of climate now my love dont wory about my over doing because I shant do it I hope the next time I hear from you you will be better I will close hoping that there is nothing that will cause you any sorrow good night my Darling love & I hope that will be as well when you get this as I am now with much love
good bye
H. Austin

[[Austin Correspondence #5]]

[[Page 1- Envelope]]

[[image- red three cents U.S. postage stamp]]

[[image- faded black concentric circles insignia]]

[[image- faded black circle stamp: NAS
TEN AUG 6 '64]]

Mrs Susan Austin
Fox Lake
Dodge Co
Wisconsin

[[different handwriting in a ballpoint pen:]] 8 Aug 1864

[[Page 2- Letter]]

Nashville August 3th 1864

[[embossing mark of initials C. S.]]

My Dear loving Wife

I received your kindest of letters
this morning & am sorry to hear of
your being sick I have feared all
the time that you would work too
hard in the garden this summer I would
much rather that you had hired it all
done than to make your self sick
I have been expecting to hear that
you was sick long before but taken
I would get a letter that you was well
then I would feel easier again for
a day or two but I could not keep it
out of my mind, some time I have bla
-imed my self for coming at all then
when I think of the difference in
the wages that I get her & the wages
that I would get their & the time that
that I would loose their I can
make a good deal the most here for
their is no lost time here when a man
is sick & when he is well he has nothing
to do but to tend to his work

[[Page 3- Letter]]

I am very sorry my dear love that I ever said
or at least wrote any answers to what
to what you wrote to me about our mis-
-haps & if you live till I get back I
don't think that I will leave you a
nother summer alone & go so far away
to work I want you to write if you don't
get any better & I will come home any
time I don't want you to wait till you
are entirely gone before you let me kno-
-w when you was in Canada you didnot
let me know till you got better that
you was sick now you say you home
ben sick two weeks with your old complain-
nte I suppose from that it is the [[one word]] in
your face & head I am very sorry indead to
hear that you are troubled with that com-
plaint again & I hope that the next time
you write that you would be better if you
don't get better dear love I shall be for
starting for home before long, now darling I have not
heard Orvis say a word a bout what you
thought about his going traping & he has
not asked what you said about my going
& I have not told him the particulars either

[[Page 4- Letter]]

you said that you had a notion or
a mind to straten up things & come along
with meggs if you had sold all of the thin
-gs & taken that note to the bank & got it
cashed you could not have suited me better
I should hailed that day as one of the hapiest
of my life for then I should have had you
where I would like to live the rest of my
days but I would have to come back to
Wisconsin to dispose of the farm in som
shape my Dear love you say you think I was
beside my self when I wrote those hard words to
you I know that I was sick didnot feel as
comfortable & it didnot seem as thou I had any
friends any where & I am very sory that I
made any reply to what you said but you kno
that when I think any thing I say it & that is
the last of it unless some says something to me
about it a gain my Dear love I hope you will
forgive me for what I have written & said
& I will try hard to do better in the future
I love you Dear than all the rest of the wor
-ld & have often thought it in the last week
that I might be deprived of you companion
ship & if I was I should one of the most lonesome men

[[Page 5- Letter]]

in the world I have thought at times what
I would do if I was left a lone but I cant
form any idea, I neve had the words to
express to my for you but you often
say that I don't love you as much as you love
me Goes noes that I love you & it but little
that I care for any body else only to use them
well as friend I never cared much whether their
was any body else around as long as you was
there but when you was gone their seamed to
be a void in the house their was allways something
lacking when you was gone, if your willing
my pet to go any where I want to go when
I come home we will talk things all over & see
what we think is best to do I don't think that
I shall move many more times in this life I
will get a small place somewhere & stay their
you said that you would not go up to see E
after spending so much money as you did last year
now the more I think of it the more I think
that you ought to go while you have a chance for
it we should conclude to come down here or to Illinois
instead of going up their you might not see them for
some time & that is the reason that I want you to
to go so much it aint the money that you would
spend that I care a cent about I want you to go &
see them any way it wont cost more than twenty
dollars at the most & I would rather give twice that

[[Page 6- Letter]]

than not to have you go now my love you know that they would be very much disappointed to have me come their with you but your going without me would not make much differance no doubt but they would like to see me but not half as well as they would you & E would tell you more of the particular than she would me & on the whole I should feel much better to have you go, you said that it takes all summer earn enough to pay up what we get in debt in the winter & to love on the next winter I believe that I am done working in that line I can earn enough this summer to pay our board or bard out selves next if I don't think & I don't intend to run in debt next winter if don't work but probly I shall work at something enough to do some thing to [[wardes?]] our living but here is the the place for a man to work by the day or month if he wants to work in that way wages here on privet work is three dollars & a half to four dollars per day & board your self & you can get board from five to eight dollars per week but if a man has a family it wont cost him so much as to hire his board generly

[[Page 7- Letter]]

[[ballpoint pen:]] Aug 8 or 3

my dear love I have writen considerable but
I don't know as will pleas you very well but
I shall write another Sunday it is allmost
midnight I mean that I shouldnot sleep if I went
bed so I thought I would send you a letter in
the midle of the week.

I am geting my health better than I have
had it for five year that is it if I gain as much
as I think I shall I am tuffer now than I was
when I got her in the spring I am gaining all the time you can
judge how fast I gained fore a week I gained a
pound a day in flesh & work don't tire me
now as it did before I was sick Orvis said
to day that maby it was one of the best things that
could have happened to me to have the feave &
the change of climate now my love don't
wory about my over doing because I shant
do it I hope the next time I hear from you
you will be better I will close hoping that
there is nothing that will cause you any sorow
good night my darlng love & I hope that will be
as well when you get this as I am now with much
love good by H Austin