

time, but they should think themselves very fortunate compared with those here who must be on duty the same as other regiments of foot.

Mrs. Mercer and the children are well. We had a letter from them some time ago. Doubtless they will write home by this opportunity.

If it had been in our power to send you our portraits with this, we would gladly have done so, but it is too expensive. However, we shall hope to do so sometime. I am sending a lock of my hair, also one of my dear M's., and the children's, as I know my dear mother will love to have something from these grandchildren. I have profiles of my dear father and mother, very like them. I never open the little casket where they are without a good look. I have a miniature of Mr. Meredith in the same place given to me by his sister-in-law. It is my precious little box containing my little treasures.

Mr. Leith has been in Scotland all last summer with his parents. I am vexed that you have been expecting him because you were disappointed. I imagine that he will reach Detroit in the first vessel, and as soon as it is in sight, I know what you will say. My dear parents will go out on the upper balcony, Therese will bring the field glasses to see the passengers, and each one will look in turn. There will be much visiting that day, the balcony will be crowded. Therese will take the glass and having looked for a while, she will exclaim: "Mother dear, I see Mr. Leith, I see him. He is dressed in gray!" "All right, my child. Now we shall have letters from Mr. Meredith and that poor Archangel!" After waiting a little, my dear father will set out to get the letters. How different it is here! I am not exaggerating when I say that I see hundreds of vessels pass daily, as we live in a pretty place, and high, with a good view of the Thames. But nobody knows where they come from so that people are not interested in them. However, when I see in the paper that a vessel has arrived from Quebec, then I wait to hear from you dear people. You understand me so well that you know it is not vanity that makes me write about how eager you are to hear from us. Indeed, I am so sure of