

although you would do your duty, you would be unhappy knowing that your wife and children were not exactly in the situation you would like for them. Instead of all this, if I remain here, I have a good home, a fine garden, I know everybody, and if any fracas happens, I am well fixed, Woolwich being a very safe place. Besides, if I am easy in my mind, I can do my duty towards my children, teaching them as well as I know how. I get your letters frequently and write you in reply, and in this way we can be as happy as it is possible to be when separated."

As soon as I had finished, my dear Meredith thanked me for speaking so thoughtfully and wisely, and promised me that if after having been in Ireland some time he found that he must remain there, and that it was a place suitable for his family, he would come for me, but that in time of war, it was not safe to travel by sea, that is, for a woman and her children, and I am hoping we shall have peace before very long. In that event, it will be very pleasant to join my dear Meredith, for I should much like to visit the country where my dear Father was born. My dear Meredith is quite satisfied to go there, and begged me to say to you that he loved you tenderly because you are the parents of his dear little wife, and because, too, you are sensible and good. He begs you to accept his sincerest friendship, also my sister Therese, whom he always considers an estimable sister, something she richly deserves.

I received a letter from Madelaine last week, telling me that my poor sister, Mrs. Hamilton, had died. I was truly grieved. It was only right that we should all love her, for she was a good daughter, a good wife, and a good mother. It must have been a great comfort for her to have seen her two eldest children before she died. I am very sorry for Mr. Hamilton. He must be sadly inconvenienced with such young children as his.

I have had two letters from my beloved Husband since he left. In one he writes me of having seen Mr. Dickson in town, who told him all the Detroit news. I am happy to hear you are in good health. I learned of this chance to write to you from that letter of my dear Husband, who always inquires about you for my pleasure.