

My dearest husband

I must sincerely  
 hope thy spirits are better to day and  
 that thou feel perfectly happy under  
 the idea that thou shalt everything  
 in thy power to make business  
 successful. I long to get home but  
 perhaps I do not express myself  
 properly in this respect as thou  
 may think I might have some  
 home work to do. I mean to say  
 I look forward to it with great  
 pleasure tho' I have enjoyed  
 myself very much since I came  
 here. but still there is no  
 happiness for me equal to our  
 dear quiet chats at home  
 I am suffering today from a  
 very considerable cold.

my eyes in consequence of the dust  
and wind of yesterday I am now  
weak brandy and water but I think  
they will soon be better.

Henry has kindly offered to take me  
to Exeter in the gig I shall take  
Botha with me so that I shall be  
out on my feet.

Last night Mr. Dart came in and  
chatted a long time she is looking  
very ill. Mr. Dart wished to have seen  
you very much and I am anxious  
for ~~my~~ you to have a game of  
chess with him. I am nearly sure  
he would not beat you much.

As I did not ask thee to write  
to me I sincerely hope to receive  
a letter tomorrow it is such a  
pleasure to me.

Give my best love to my Mother  
and also Sarah Maria's and

Very no one both very well  
Bertie is looking pale which I  
attribute to the heat

How delighted I shall be to see  
Lydia and Mary kiss them for  
me and tell them to be very  
good girls until I come home  
tell Lydia Bette will be so  
pleased with her

I fear should this letter is any  
perjudicial but do your best and  
always love thy own wife as  
thou dost God, ever thine M. B.

Chateaufort 25<sup>th</sup> May

Think of our tomorrow for it  
will be the 26<sup>th</sup> of May and  
thy Mary will be 24 years old!

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Wm L. Barker  
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For receipt  
of  
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