

Transcript of Letter from Electa (Lemont?) to Frank L. Lemont, October 6, 1862

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Author: Electa (Lemont?)

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Transcript Begins on Page 2

Somerville Oct 6th 1862
Monday morn.

Dear Brother Frank

Your letter of the 29th was received with pleasure on Thursday last— not as soon as if I had been at Chelsea, as it was remailed there and reached me at Somerville, where I am nicely ensconced passing a few weeks with one of my dearest cousins, Amanda. Yes, I came in the steam-cars last Monday, a week today, after a very pleasant visit at your aunt's of nearly four weeks. She is indeed a good Christian woman; and I shall always love her. I feel much better acquainted with her than before I came to see her and I shall ever remember her kindness toward me - her attention to every want, with gratitude. She is very even always pleasant and kind, at home as abroad - I do not wonder that you love. She seems to think a great deal of you. I was very kindly treated by all the members of the family; and felt badly to leave them. We expected you up some. When there would come a ring at the door in the evening and we quietly seated sewing, or perhaps the visitor reading aloud to the mother and daughter, Mrs W (?) - would say "I guess that's Frank" and we would all look; to be disappointed. So the evening passed, and you came not. We at last concluded you were to return to the great struggle, and could not come. So we were right, and you are going. And this is the day of parting with your dearest friends, mother and sisters. It will be very hard for you; but I think you are right, If you feel it to be your duty, surely you are right in going. And the dear ones at home you cannot leave in better keeping than our Heavenly Father who loves all His children, and is ever ready to comfort and support ? Oh! the trials of this earthly life are many and severe - but in the other world there will be no more parting, sorrow or death. What a happy thought! For yourself, I can only say, God speed you. May your trust be in Him, and you have nothing to fear for what man can do unto you; and may it be His will to return you in safety to home and friends

Perhaps I may see you before you go. I hope so. Your aunt expected you would stay longer than a day, so she said she would come over here with you. You can come in the steam cars in about ten minutes. So perhaps she will come with you if you do stay but a day. Both Amanda and I would like very much to see you here. I shall expect it if you stop at Chelsea.

And now what can I say of what you wrote of me? I feel that you have too good an opinion of me - that you over estimate my good qualities and over look the bad ones altogether. Well perhaps: that would do very well if you never have to change your mind; but I fear if you ever become better acquainted with me, I shall have to come down from the lofty pedestal upon which, in your generosity, you have placed me. But if my influence, such as it is, be a benefit to you, surely I shall be very glad. I am pleased to hear that your stay at home has been so pleasant; and hope the time is not far distant when you will again enjoy

the pleasures of home and the light of a mother's and sister's smile. So “bear thee up bravely, strong heart and true”, and look forward to a glad tomorrow.

Somerville Oct 6th 1862

- 2 -

Mrs. M is coming to see us next Wednesday, she and Emily are coming to pass the day; and next week Amanda and I are going over to pass the day with them. She knows what you wrote about coming so I presume, will be expecting you. You did not tell me how to direct - probably you thought I would answer before you left home; and I should have done so if I had received the letter when it reached Chelsea. However I will direct as before, and I presume your folks will send it to you. I hear you are Major of a nine months regiment. Is it so? and please tell me what regiment. I do not hear much about Maine regiments ___?___ I'M from home - though I saw by the paper, sometime since that the 20th had left. Now I will tell you about my cousin Amanda. We have been very intimate for years. have thought almost or quite as much of each other as sisters; and what is a little uncommon among girls, never had a "falling out", never a harsh word in the world. She boarded at our house nearly a year, before she was married, and roomed with me. She's a treasure; and has one of the very best of husbands. They are very pleasantly situated, and seem perfectly happy. Yesterday we went to the city to church - and this afternoon we are going to pass at Mr Metcalf's (Amanda's husband's father) and going to the museum in the evening. Last week we did not go much for it was unpleasant nearly all of the week. We are going to Mt. Auburn before long and we have many other places planned. If you possibly can, please let me know what day you will be here as you said. Is your health entirely recovered? My paper is failing and the dinner hour draws near. Hoping to hear from you soon, I will bid you good bye for this time. Truly your friend

Electa

Please direct "Care of L. S. Metcalf No 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ Salem St. Boston, Mass.