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Title: Letter from Susan Howard to Horatio Collins King

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Contact:

Archives & Special Collections
Waidner-Spahr Library
Dickinson College
P.O. Box 1773
Carlisle, PA 17013

717-245-1399

archives@dickinson.edu

Washington. Monday. Aug^r 19
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Thanks Horatio dear, for your wee
note - also for dear Emma's letter. Bless
the dear child! she has not neglected me
either. She always finds time to do the
right thing. Her letter to me describing
the new parlour and other improvements
at the Merriam Farm, and showing her
appreciation of the friends there, and
their hospitality - I sent to Noe in
knowing that it would gratify her.

The girls start for New York to night
I suppose. I hope you have consented to
let Alice stay there a little longer. Alice
needs a field of her own - and some
responsibility would be good for her.
She would find those Merriams partic-
-ularly congenial. They are warm hearted
generous, indulgent, and disposed to

fully appreciate and admire all the
King family. Alice wrote me that she
and Helen Meriam were reading
Emerson together - and she thought she
could be a help to both the girls in
their studies. Therefore I think it would
be a good plan to let them try it awhile.

While I thank you for your note my
dear son, you need be under no apprehen-
-sion that I should ever misconstrue your
silence. I have a most comfortable
conviction of your affection for me, and
of your loyalty, and should not for one
moment hesitate to throw myself upon
your kindness or generosity - were it ever
necessary. Having so many sons, it has
not been so as yet, and for your sake
I am glad that it has not. You have
enough girls of your own to look after -

which in a certain sense - are mine
also. To make them happy, and proud
of you, - contributes largely to my happiness
also - and thus we are bound up in one
bundle, and our hearts are one.

Old Washington is as cool, as green,
as peaceful as ever. It is a rest to the
soul to be here. Our boarding place is
good - our outlook grand and lovely -
and I dread the time for breaking up.

But I must not weary you with many
words. All the wheelocks are here - and
the old Deacon cannot be done with his
compliments upon my course with regard
to Plym Ch matters. So you see you and
I probably did more good by holding our
tongues than we could have done by
speaking out. You deserved the most credit
because you had the strongest impulse to
speak. All I wanted was peace - for I knew

that if
the Church had chosen the wrong man,
time would show it, and he would be
made to know it - (and go it) - but that
if we split into two bitter factions there
could be no healing the breach.

And now it pleases me to see you and
all your family regarded as near friends
of the pastor and his - just as in the old
days we were with the predecessor. -

Now I will let you off - ~~no more questions~~
however. How can Will Beecher a lawyer
stay up here six or eight weeks at a time -
when you cannot?

Love to Essie and to all from
your loving Mother -
Susan J. Howard