

135-24

as antelopes, but I think they are very sweet children.

As this is my last letter but one, to Washington, I will remind you of my summer bonnet. If you have not had a dress made for me, when you get this, I expect it will be too late, so I will just get you to ask for the latest patterns. And now my love, let me beg you not to think of bringing these things if they will be at all in your way coming home. You can just send them round with your other baggage.

I send you a purse which I thought would please you, as it is rather unique. Mother is not well, and I fear her health is seriously failing. The young ladies Miss Pittrell and Miss Gore are with me, and send their compliments to you. They say they really wish you would come home, they have such a curiosity to see you. You can imagine from whom description it arises.

Thy ever devoted wife M. L. Houston

Huntsville Feb 9th 1851

488 words

My ever dear husband,

I was greatly disappointed at not getting a letter from you by last night's mail. There was a mail from New-Orleans, but no letter from you. I am consoled by the reflection, that but a few weeks of our painful separation remain, and if I could get your letters regularly, I would be comparatively cheerful, but whenever a disappointment occurs, I am completely unnerved. Well I do hope, that I shall never again be required to exercise my fortitude in the same way. Not that I expect you to resign, for I find that your friends are so opposed[®] to it, that I hardly think you will carry out your original purpose, but I do not think you will leave me again.

As I mentioned to you before, I would like for you to select a pleasant boarding house for us about 8 or 10 miles from the city. There are many arguments in favour of a country home, one which would weigh greatly with me, is that at night I would have your company, without being so much interrupted by visitors. Many other arguments will suggest themselves to your mind.

I believe there is not much news in Huntsville that would interest you at this time. But one marriage has occurred lately. Miss Baker and Mr. Scott, the Presbyterian minister. They were married in the morning, and set off for Cincinnati to spend a few days. Mrs. Matthews was to give them a supper. Mr. Baker married them himself.

I have heard that bro. William was elected Mayor of Memphis, so I fear he has declined coming to Texas. If so I regret it exceedingly. But I would act towards him as I do towards my relations, would not take the responsibility of urging him to come. I hope however he has only postponed coming and not given it up altogether. When you see him and sister Mary, tell them if they could see their little namesake, I know they would be proud of her. I think she is very intellectual, and her beauty is the admiration of every one who sees her. Her beautiful hair is considered quite remarkable. The children are all well. Sam studies a little, but is more fond of play. Nannie and Maggie are as wild