

better health than she has for a long time -
how is Mr Sherman when I think of him I am
tempted to sit down and write him a long letter
but fearing his criticism I dare not venture
and Mr Morgan he ^{too} has forgotten us however I
hope to see him and Caroline soon and then
have an explanation. I am sorry that Bel and
the children cannot come also. I have lived all winter
in anticipation it will be cruel to disappoint me
now - tell David that I am ^{still} looking for her
long promised letter she must write me all
about herself and little Columbia - I suppose it
is not necessary to remind Bel and Caroline that
they are indeed better at least they must
write when they feel like it. I am sending
it to the office tomorrow and
to Cornelius yesterday and ^{town} will send
with this your pa ^{is on the jury}
did not get home last night I expect he
tell us you are every day and still
Len you must write often if it is only
I would like to hear from you every
will be with you - I had all most forgotten to warn
you against the use of strong coffee - you
of the bread full of yeast it will ^{be} ^{up} ^{your} ^{nerves}
if you can get milk ^{is} ^{on} ^{the} ^{point} ^{where} ^{you} ^{would} ^{be}
I have not tasted coffee for 5 months and I attribute
my improved health to cause I have no idea that I will ever
use it again I have no taste for it any best love
and except for yourself the ^{endure}
affection of Mother Maria

Kiss all the children for me and tell granny I have not forgotten her

Don't fail to burn this. I am & show of it

My Dear Len

April 4. 49.

Your kind letter of Feb. the 12
was received - in 13 days from its date and I assure
you read with great pleasure by us all. for there
is no occurrence hailed with so much joy as the
reception of a letter from our dear absent
children. I intended to have answered it the
next day but was invited to dine at your good
pa's. which invitation was accepted and from that
time until the present it has been postponed from
different causes - I delivered your message to
your good pa. and the request that he would
answer your letter. he said he was very much
pleased with the contents of it and regretted that
he was so blind that he could not answer it
he requested me to write for him. I promised
to do so but the weather has been so bad that
I did not like to turn out - you will infer from
this that a change has come over me in regard to
my former course (which is the fact) I have always
thought too little of the value of health - but it is never
too late to do our duty - the Lord has been merciful to
spare me through so many long years of suffering
affliction - and at length to grant me a moderate
share. (more than I deserve) for which I am