



Mrs Eliza Carr.  
Warrenton.  
N. C.

BRACEBRIDGE HALL, EDGECOMBE CO., N. C.,

9.45 A.M. June 20<sup>th</sup> 1872.

My Dear Wife

I wrote Button this morning before breakfast and did not intend to write you at all to day but yours of the 18<sup>th</sup> rec'd this morning I think requires an answer.

I am not aware that I had written you a "scolding letter" or that I intimated, "you made yourself disagreeable". or <sup>the</sup> ~~any~~ <sup>contrary</sup> (if you have preserved that letter and will read it carefully) you will find that I intended simply to ridicule the idea of your inability to manage the boys - nothing more. I am well aware that things written give offence much more readily than when spoken. because it looks premeditated. Please preserve that letter I wish to examine it and compare it with yours of the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Now I must quote from yours. "But I am afraid this will be the most

disagreeable letter of all as it contains  
Miss Johnson's bill". Well now let me  
ask you if you think it right to anticipate  
me? I knew she had such an account  
and I also knew I would have it to pay,  
As I did not object to your contracting  
the safe, why should I have any thing to  
say about paying it? Not the announce-  
ment itself but the style is unpleasant.  
It contains an insinuation that you  
were so uncharitable as to accuse me  
of some time ago. Now you may  
honestly have such an opinion of me.  
But have you ever asked yourself the  
question "what motive can he have in  
not wishing to gratify me"? Do you think  
I would lead the life I now live but  
for you and ours? and I may say  
almost exclusively for you; for without  
money I don't know what you would do.  
I should hate terribly to be without it but  
I am not so sure that it would not  
be better for the boys - No my dear wife  
every lick I struck yesterday and to day

up to fifteen minutes before the commencement of this (and I have struck a good many I assure you) was for my much beloved wife & boys - So far as I am individually concerned I would be willing to work less and spend less. Tho' I am not complaining of the hard work & inconvenience, for any man who is a man at all ought to be in comfort himself some of the blessings of this life would not be appreciated.

I was just thinking this morning how I should manage to get up next week but as you only want \$100<sup>33</sup> sent Miss J. and that is easiest done I will do it (joke) - But if you really want to see me I will try and come as soon as I can. No one get and no prospect that I can see of sitting any one -

The clothes from J. & B. received this morning  
by the postman. I believe's new suit  
is much prettier than the other for  
which you have the proper credit.

Shall I send them by Exp.? I asked  
that question once before but no  
answer.

Had cucumbers yesterday, and to  
have cinsblings to day. How is your  
garden? Mine is perfectly clean  
and Phil is in the field to day  
coping cotton. He is good any where.

I have written too much I fear  
already so good by. Love & kisses  
for all. Another letter I hope in  
the morning, of a different kind,  
so as to relieve the bitter taste  
of the last.

Aff your  
Husband