

Bracebridge
Sept 2th 1876

My Darling Wife,

A welcome letter from you this morning. You can not possibly miss me as much as I do you as you have company and I am all alone and out of cigars too. Would I could return tomorrow but can't possibly leave this week as I have to stock the gin and must also be here Saturday to settle and see generally how things go. Cotton is opening very fast - fear I will not be able to keep up with it.

I have been doing some
work in the flower garden
this evening - Took up the
bulbs preparatory to trans-
fer them to the permanent
bed - Found all the hyacinths
and tulips but very
few of the smaller
ones - The garden was
some what neglected
during my last absence,
but still looks much
better than yours - One
of the scarlet geraniums
has 25 clusters of flowers -

As you had some pees
I will not send you a
box now - I feel as if I
never wanted to see another
Have eaten so many & grapes
that I am "up-set" -

Mary Pratt, a daughter
of Stephen, the man who
lives at Morganton, was
arrested to day and taken

to Sportw and made to
 swear her child - she
 declared upon oath that,
 Stephen, her own father,
 begot the child. If true
 is it horrid and only
 proves that they are
 close akin to brutes -
 what will be done with
 him I am unable to
 say.

Am going to town tomorrow -
 will call on the office
 in hopes I may get a
 letter there.

I have been meditating
 abt that second Centennial
 trip - As it was so hard
 to get my consent to the
 first I can't ~~only~~ ^{now}

You can have the face to
propose a second - will
think and pray over it.

With love and kisses
for the boy, regards to
Mrs. J. and every thing
that is sweet and
nice for yourself

Love you off
Husband



Mrs Elias Leass,
Warrenton,
N.C.