

A. Peters of New

My dear wife,

Since the date of my last I have been
 and Mary of the 15th and yours of the 23rd. Utters
 come to bed with no body in the whole house except my
 Swift servant and myself, expecting a sleepless
 the night when about 12 o'clock the arrival of the
 was announced. You may be sure I was not long
 having a light and opening it and to find that you
 were all well, at least I infer so for altho in your
 the 15th you say you did not attend church because
 were not well you say nothing about your health in
 last letter and I hope sincerely you are all well
 If I were to say I was perfectly well it would not
 altho I am not sick. I eat three times a day
 accustomed exercise, read six or eight hours
 and sleep pretty well - My bed is the best
 thing I have seen in Russia because
 myself. You may depend upon it
 here used. Very shortly arrives my
 for the month of

Amst. 23rd

to visit me & express all your
kind and socially affectionate which he has continued to do & will
by far the most agreeable personage I have met here. He is physician
to the English Embassy and to several of the hospitals and assures
me that even in the hospitals there has been no decline for several
days and that after the season we there we have had it is not at all likely
to occur and less likely to prevail to any extent. I am sorry to learn
that your financial ability - as put to the trial and cannot be
account for the New York draft not being paid. It is on the Bank
of Washington where I had found at the time it was drawn, but
whether it was changed in my account there I do not know, because I
do not the account with me. I took it for granted that Brewster
he did not collect the draft himself would send it to Mr
Galt when he sent the goods. I asked if the draft was sent with the
and was informed that it was not. However I am very glad
to find it - and thank Science for his kindness and
be able to repay it - all. I've been a long way off, but I
am in Washington in a few months and after that you
business of all such employment, or borrowing
settling accounts. In the meantime I will send
London to make you a remittance on this
I am satisfied that the amount you have
to such a great comfort, which I do not

to be the cost. An American being here in
York and I send some trifles for you and
I am afraid may not fit. They are the only thing
that any where else. The caps & life may fit - Has
one is for my dear little Eliza and you need not
buy her a feather for it. There are more here. You see
by Christmas. I wrote to Gov. Mary to let Arthur come home for a few
days during the week at that point. I know that Mary would do any
thing he could with propriety to oblige me, but I could only base the appeal
upon my absence and your state of desolation. I told him however not
consider it in the light of a favor because except in the last extremity
am determined never to ask favors, and public men ought never
grant them officially. Still I hope he may come. I have written to bid
to come if leave is granted - if not to bear the penitence like
Giles affection induces you to wish that you were with me. I
wish you and all the children had been with me - How I see
that any of you were. For I can truly say that there are
comforts here than any place I have ever seen. My house, tho'
not so large & some more of my predecessors is said to be more
comfortable and even more stylish than any of them see.
The house is well enough - but I have no doubt if Job
been cursed with such security as the best to be found
he would have followed the foolish advice of his
men by for the poorest. I have ever seen and

in the winter - my carriage has been
above. A carriage here is indispensable. There is not
the year more than 6 or 7 hours of day light - and you
to be out during a part of that time rain or rather
in order to get air enough to live upon. My own
the habits of the people are worse than the climate.
not know how to live. I have not drunk a drop of
water in the natural state since I have been here. My ordinary
drink is rice water of which I have become very fond, and at
meals I take port wine and water. And yet the water of the river
Keva when filtered is said to be the purest in Europe and
the Emperor never travels without taking a supply with him.
I discover from your letters that you are melancholy. You have all
children but one with you, and that one you hear from once a week.
A thousand of miles from wife children security and friends and
to know a dozen persons in a population of more
of a million even by sight! I hope you will go into society
a cheerfull. For this life after all is but a journey and a
my short one, and those who do not find some agreeable resting
places naturally become weary of it. I shall, if any thing occurs
on the mail boxes write to some of the children. If you are on
at Tarsus at Col. Bentons I wish you would say to Mr Jones
I will attend to the request contained in his letter, if the
things are to be had. Embrace my children for me and
give my dear wife your affectionate kisses and
Yours affectionately
F. Bagehot

St. Petersburg Nov [tear]

My dear wife,

Since the date of my last I have received [tear] and Mary's of the 15th and yours of the 23rd *****. I have gone to bed with no body in the whole house except my Swiss servant and myself expecting a cheerless [uncorruptable] night when about 12 O'clock the arrival of the Mail was announced. You maybe sure I was not long at having a light and opening it and to find that you were all well at least I infer so far altho in your letter of the 15th you say you did not attend church because [tear] were not well you say nothing about your health in the last letter and I hope sincerely you are all well If I were to say I was perfectly well it would [tear] although I am not sick. I eat three times a day [tear] accustomed exercise read six or eight hours (tear) and sleep pretty well. My bed is the [tear] thing I have seen in Russia besides myself. You may depend upon it [tear] here now. Very shortly arrival my [tear] for the most [tear] him to visit me [tear] two and socially afterward which he has continued to [tear] English Embassy and to several of the hospitals and assures me that even in the hospital there has been no cholera for several days and that after the severe weather we have had it is not at all likely to ***** and less likely to prevail to any extent. I am sorry to learn that your financial ability was put to the trial and cannot here account for the New York drafts not being paid. It was on the Bank of Washington where I had [found] at the time it was drawn but whether it was changed in my account there I do not know because I [tear] not the account with me. I took it for granted that ***** [tear] he did not collect the draft himself would send it to me [tear] when he sent the goods. I asked if the draft was sent with the [tear] and was informed it was not. However I am very glad [tear] paid it and thank [Scrivener] for his kindness and [tear] be able to repay it all. ***** I am a long way off but I [tear] in Washington in a few months and after that you [tear] of all such employment of borrowing [tear] accounts. In the meantime I will ***** [tear] London to make you a *****on tho [tear] I am satisfied that the amount you have [tear] comforts which I [tear] to in costs. An American leaves here [tear] York and I send some trifles for you and [tear] I am afraid may not fit. They are the only thing [tear] than any where else. The ***** I hope may fit *** [tear] one is for my dear little Ellen and you must make [tear] buy her a feather for it. There are none here. You [tear] by Christmas. I wrote to Gov Marcy to let Arthur come home for a few days during the recess at West Point. I know that Marcy would do anything he could with ***** to oblige me but I could only base the application upon my absence and your state of desolation. I told him however [tear] consider it in the light of a favor because except in the last ***** am determined never to ask favors and public men ought never grant them officially. Still I hope he may come. I have written to [tear] to come if leave is granted— if not to bear the *****[tear] Your affection induces you to wish that you were with me. [tear] I wish you and all the children had been with me— Here I [tear] that any of you were. For I can truly say that there [tear] comforts here that any place I have ever seen. My house [tear] not so large as some most of my ***** is said to be [tear] comfortable and ever more stylish than any of these [tear] The house is well enough— but I have no doubt if ***** [tear] been cursed with such servants as the best to before [tear] he would have followed the fatal advice of [tear] are by far the poorest I have ever seen and [tear] the winter my carriage has to be [tear] done. A carriage here is indispensable. There is [tear] the year more than 6 or 4 hours of day light and [tear] be out during a part of that time rain or rather [tear] in order to get air enough to live upon.

My own [tear] the habits of the people are worse than the climate. [tear] not know how to live. I

have not drank a drop of water in the natural state since I have been here. My ordinary drink is ***** water of which I have become very fond and at meals I take port wine and water. And yet the water of the river Neva when filtered is said to be the purest in Europe and the Emperor never travels without taking a supply with him. I [discover] from your letters that you are melancholy. You have all [tear] children but one with you and that one you hear from once a week. I am thousands of miles away from wife children and Country and friends and [tear] know a dozen persons in a population of more [tear] half a million even by sight! I hope you will go into society [tear] cheerful. For this life after all is but a journey and a [tear] short one and those who do not find some agreeable resting places naturally become weary of it. I shall if anything occurs [tear] the mail closes write to some of the children. If you are *** [tear] at Col B***** I wish you would say to Mr J***** [tear] I will attend to the request contained in his letter if the [tear] are to be had. Embrace my children for me and [tear] my dear wife your affectionate husband [tear] Bagby {
A.P. Bagby
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