

Monday Morning. There is a chance for
this to go in to the mail so I will send
the collar next time:

^{2.}
Plymouth Aug 3. 1862.

Dear Mother.

Father & I have been writing
to James to-day and I am going to send
him a little bundle in Schuyler's valise
Thursday. I shall send those socks.
I had a letter from him, or rather
Father had one from Verona which
amounts to the same thing; Friday.
I will send it to you. I am very glad
you are so much nearer Sea-side
and shall be glad when you are
at home though we don't need
you. It is impossible for me to
write you any news for I hardly ever
go to town and few take the trouble
to visit me, but for all that I am
quite contented and don't see but
what there is as much prospect of
my being an "ancient maiden" as
ever. Sometimes I think I should

like to get out, but as I cannot where
is the use of fretting. I enjoy my
flower garden very much. I have
got some splendid fuscias &
nasturtions. I sent Helen a bouquet
she said it was the handsomest
she ever saw and was very much
pleased. James' business comes on
slowly owing to Charles Dotens
illness but he is out now and as
soon as he is strong enough it will
be attended to. I am going in
to that den of horrors, the house,
for James tomorrow forenoon if I
can get a chance. I get along
very well with the work and do
not mind the heat except ironing
I have only hired Mrs Connor to
iron once and that was for some
skirts. Father's tax this year is
to be 31 dollars & some odd cents
and we must save up to meet
that. I have good things for him

to eat and try to do well by him.
I am glad you sent that collar for
me to do up. I can just as well
as not, do send some more. I
shall send this one to you in this
letter if I have time to do it before
I go in town. I fixed your bedroom
carpet last week. took up the
pieced breadth & put down a whole
one. & made some black berry jam.
Father likes huckleberry cakes & I
make them quite often. There
is to be a smashing Gurnet Party
this week. I shall refuse before
I am asked, I had rather stay at
home. Molly makes me calls when
she has no where else to go and
Hannah comes every day, and some
times brings her work and sits awhile.
I like to have her very much. Tidd
also makes me frequent calls though
they are mostly short ones. We eat
broth with them to-day & very nice it

was. Father enjoys going in there Sundays
very much. It is no matter about the
yarn, only if you could have got it it would
have been nice it was so soft & warm.
It was Mr Hodgkin's companion who gave
up the journey, he was sick but he is
better and they may go yet. Cousin M.
& Aunt Russell came out here and
they poked round in all the nooks &
corners and eat some of my cake and
praised my pies & then they went up
stairs and Cousin Mary looked in
all my bureau drawers, you know she
always used to tease me to let her,
and they praised my house keeping
& Aunt Russell looked at my jelly &
said I was a good girl. So I felt fine
for two days. I am very glad of the
patten and think it is very pretty.
I shall give Fiona some for Maud if
she wants it. When I wrote about a
calico dress I meant for you to get
one for yourself. I can get along very
well indeed without one but you
will need one this winter. Mr S.
is very well. He is still out of business
and does not think of coming here
at present. He ought to go to war.
Who can go better than he. But he
has some very odd notions about it
so I cannot say any thing. But I
think the young men ought to go.
Horace is going and I think James
Shurber will eventually. If any
one has a spark of patriotism now
is the time to show it. & I would
have every young unmarried man

go and fight the battle & have the rebellion quelled & the slaves free for that will be the result if we conquer. That is my view of the case. Cousin Sally has gone back to her house she is well but very weak. Mary Holmes is about the same. Sometimes better again worse. You know how it is in such cases. Charlie Spomer staid here last night. He came to see his father and he is in Ponds. so he came here. He had breakfast and dinner here and then went up to Horatio's, he just came to say he was going to sleep with Weston to-night & he is going up to Ponds tomorrow. He looks well & was very neatly dressed, evidently he is well taken care of. Molly has gone to church. She has to do the pious for the rest of us. You will be glad to hear that the sink-room closet is cleaned and the rags & papers sold. I cleaned the closet &

carried the rags down to the store. We are not so much troubled with flies as usual. I keep the doors shut till the sun is down & am careful not to leave any thing standing round. But musquetoes Oh my!! Give my love to Aunt Hannah and Charles. I suppose he is with you by this time. I hope Aunt H... is better. We were all very anxious about her for awhile fearing she might be sick away from home. I mean very sick. Sharon seems much nearer. It is quite late and I want to retire so I can rise early, and get my work done before I go to town, I am coming home time enough to cook peas for dinner. We have only had them once before for father does not care about them much. I hope to hear from you again soon. Father sends his love
Good night from your daughter Esther.