

Mom, Oct. 12th 184

J. GRAVES
BANKS, N. Y.

My dear Mother:-

It
wonderful how un-
suspecting I am - & how
I believe what my friends
tell me. I really thought
I had taught myself to
doubt every thing, but I
find I'm credulous as
a three year old child.

You wrote me positively
that you had decided
of marrying in your
very next letter you name
the day of your marriage -
wonder you couldn't have
astonished me more
if you had told of your
own death.

My dearest girl, you
have a heart full of
loving wishes for your
happiness. I have neither
a fluent tongue or pen
as you can not know how
truly glad I would be to be
with you at the "great event."

I can not be with you
in person but my heart
will be there. Ah! what
times you will have, how
joyous, than the parting
for only a short time, yes,
every thing will be beautiful
& you the loveliest of all.
It would be well worth a
trip to L - just to see you
in all your pride & glory
now. I can not repress the
tears when I think I shall
never see my Mattie again.
You will soon forget

me, & perhaps have the
audacity to give excuse
for doing so. I'm just
as sad as I can be, for I
feel that I've lost a friend.

Why did you not tell
me who the groom is -

I suppose it's Capt. Mahab.
You wouldn't tell me 'cause
you thought you would make
me feel badly - you didn't
have any care for me.

Why the wound he made
in my heart is long since
healed - healed so hard & fast
that I could almost see a fine
true fall on him & never
flinch, much less gaze
with tear bedimmed eyes
as you march him to
the halter. Well, well
I shouldn't have thought
Captain would captivate

Mr. Southgate's youngest
daughter. I do hope you
did not seriously interfere
with Lizzie's heart & hopes
when you took the Captive.
Now, Miss, when you get
married next time you'll
take special care to give the
name of the groom the first
place on the program.
Any-how if it's not the
Capt. it's - let me see -

Mr. Duke
am I right first or last?
So write soon else I shall
have affection of the brain from
the intense strain put
upon that weak member.

I have read with interest
many flattering notices of your
State Expositions. It would
give me untold pleasure

to again visit Raleigh:-
I treasure many pleas-
ant reminiscences of your
Capital. I'm too blank
in the brain to write of the
"great coming event" & yet
I can think of nothing
else. Are you so well
satisfied with your State
Exp- that you don't care
for the N. O. Exp position?

If you come to Fla. you
will surely come to Bain-
bridge, I can't think
you would let Capt. Mahab
or the Duke so engross
your attention that I
will ever more have to
take a back seat on a
low three legged stool.
When I come down to
that I'm going to leave the country.

You will please tell
Mr. Southgate that I
have a deep seated grudge
against him and all
Masons - I believe he
would have told me all
about that "Bright Leaf Tobac-
co Buyer" if he hadn't been
a member of that secret as-
sociation, & then he is
full of vindictiveness, he
told about every-thing but
the one he knew would
crowd out all others.

You can also inform that
gentleman that we shall
certainly have a tremendous
quarrel if he doesn't write
every incident every spec
of every-thing pertaining
to "that day" & the day after.
Also that I won't stand
his want of candor &

and, well, you needn't
be 'fraid - till I give all
this audacious, impu-
dent sayings you can
think of. If it wasn't
for those pleading little
violets, tube roses etc, I'd
write him a saucy P.C.

I'm tempted to send
a horrid P.C. to you, too.

Matter you will think
me hateful to write you
in this style, yet if I
adopt any other I shall
shut out the sight of
my pen & paper.

I want you to write
me all about every thing
I do please don't let "him"
take up all your time &
thought, I suppose 't would
be useless to expect any thing else

I'm glad you throw
Will A. over the back
too fertile an imagination
I've never committed so
great a folly as to be im-
agined to any man this
thirty years. Must all
have originated in Mr. A's
over taxed brain. I think
I know to whom he has
reference, & I assure you,
I would sooner think of
wedding the supposititious
man in the moon.

With love to all your
loved ones - and many
loving thoughts & wishes
for you & our dear self
Ever yours
Kate