

EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: “Letter April 19th.tif”  
Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

*{The year of this letter is not specified, but is probably 1863 as she appears to be grieving from the recent loss of their son George, who died March 29, 1863.}*

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East Saginaw *{MI}*, April 19<sup>th</sup>.

My Dear Husband,

I now sit down to answer your kind and welcome letters of the *{April}* 2, 4, 5, and glad I was to hear from you. We are all well, but Frankey. She has got a very bad cold and is almost sick, but I think she will soon be better. I hope so for she is all we have now, but if the Lord sees fit to take her away we may do all we can and it will make no difference, for we will have to submit to His wishes. I wish you could come home for I would

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like to see you, but I suppose you will have to wait until the war is over and if all reports are true it will soon be, for the news is very good now. So keep up good courage and we soon will meet again if nothing happens. I am glad that you feel as if our trouble is all for the best. I was afraid it would make you sick, but all we have to do is to prepare to meet him and I shall try and I hope you will. I know he was a dear little one and we done all we could for him, but the Lord knows best and He saw fit to take him away from us now. And if we

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try we can go to him, but he can never come so us. So we have one great hopes of seeing him. So do try dear husband. I wish you was here and as soon as you can come home you must. If you stay there all summer and you can't get a furlough, perhaps I can come down and see you. It has been snowing here this morning. I suppose it is warm where you are. I have not much more to write and so I can't fill this sheet. You must write soon and I will. No more at present from your most affectionate wife, Susan M. Keeler.

East Saginaw April 12

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is warm where you are  
I have not much more  
to write and so I cant  
fill this sheet you must  
write soon and I will  
no more at present  
from your most Obedient  
wife Susan M Keeler