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.}

{Page 1:}

East Saginaw [M], April 19th.

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

{Page 2:}

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

{Page 3:}

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 Saginanthrilk my Dear Husband I now dif down to answer your kind and welcom letters of the 2.45. and glad I was to hear from you see ar all well but Frankey She has got away had cold and is all most sick but I think she will doon he better I hope or for she is all the have now but if the Lord dear fit to lake home away we may do all we can and it will knoke no diferen for the will half to Intimit to his wishes I wish you could come home for I work

like to see you but I Inpose you will halfto wort till the war is over and if all reports as try it will down be for the more is vary good now so keep up good Emage and we down will med again if nothing hapino I am glad that you feal as if our prouded is all for the best I was afraid it would make you sick but all we half to the fis to for prepara to met him and I Shall try and I hop gen will I know he was a dear little one and we done all we could for him lent the ford know heat and he saw fit to lake him away from no and if we

by me can go to him but he can never come to no sa me have one great hopes of seing him So do try Dear First and I wish you was hear and as soon as zon can come home you must fix you stay there all somes and gen cant get afurlow purhaps I can Come down and Leelyon it has bey snowing hear this morning I supose it is warm whose you are I have not much muse to rite and so I can't fill this sheet you must rite down and I will no more af presant from your most Opecanote Wife Dusan in Keeler