EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: "Letter April 3rd.tif" Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

{The year of this letter is not specified but since no mention is made of son George C. Keeler who died 29 Mar 1863 it seems likely that it was written in 1863. The letter does mention daughter Frank (Frances D. Keeler) who was their only living child after the death of George.}

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My Dear Husband

It is with pleasure I now sit down to answer your kind letter of the 27^{th} *{27 Mar 1863}* and glad I was to hear from you. We are all well at present and I hope you are the same. And I hope that we will keep well for we have had a great deal of sickness here this winter. I think we have had more sickness in this house than there has been in any house in Saginaw. It seems as if I could not stay here now ??? in this would but I suppose I shall have to. The only way is to trust in God and keep up good courage. It seems as if we could be together it would not seem

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so hard. It seems as if all I have is gone and when I think of you and how you will feel it seems as if I should go crazy. And now Dear Husband I ??? think I had lots of trouble but my trouble has just commenced, but it is the will of God and so must be satisfied. The little ring you sent was just right for Frank. She is well and is a great deal of comfort for me. I wish you could be here and I hope you will before long. I wish you had got an office so you would not have to go in any battle and if you can get an office that you can resign and come home how glad I would be. The weather is very pleasant today. It seems like Spring and so it

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is. I have not much more to write now but I will write often and a little and that will be better than a long letter once in a week and you must do the same for I am glad to hear from you. Answer soon and I will write Sunday again and believe me.

Your Most Affectionate Wife Susan M. Keeler

East Sagman April 3 my Dear Husband it is with Alesne I now Lit aloun to an a your kind letter of the 27 and glad I was to hear from you we are all well affresant and I hope you are the Same and I hope that we will keep well for me have had agreat deal of. dickness hear this winter of think me have had shore sicknes in this house than those has been in any house in Jagman it deames as if I could not May thear now way in this would but I Infose I Shall hafto the Onley way is to trust in God and reche mt good corrage it seames as if me could be to gather it would not Seeam · do hard it Seames as if all I have is gon and when I will feal it Learnes as if I Should go crosey and now Dear Husbaid I wsto thinks I had lots of troble but my tropel has gust cornenced but it is the will of God and me must be Sadisfied the little ring you dent was gnot rite for frank She is well and as agracte deal of confort for me I wist you could be hour and I hope you will before long I wish you had got anofice La you would not half to go in any batte and if you can get anofice that you Can resign and come home how glad I would be the weather is very plesant to day it Learnes like Spring and do it

is I have not much nose to rite now but I will rite often and alittle and that will be beter than along letter once in aweak and you must do the Same for I am glad to hear from you answer Doon and I will rite Annely again and belea me your most opecimate sup Ansan M Heeler