

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.}*

*{Page 1:}*

My Dear Husband

It is with pleasure I now sit down to answer your kind letter of the 27<sup>th</sup> *{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

*{Page 2:}*

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

*{Page 3:}*

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 Saginaw April 3

My Dear Husband it is with  
pleasure I now sit down to answer  
your kind letter of the 27 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 way in this world  
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  
to gather it would not seem

So hard it seames as if all  
I have is gone and when I  
think of you and how you  
will feel it seames as if I  
should go crossy and now  
Dear Husband I wote think  
I had lots of trouble but my  
trouble has just cornenced but  
it is the will of God and we  
must be satisfied the little  
ring you sent was just rite  
for frank she is well and is  
a great deal of comfort for  
me I wist you could see her  
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 to day it  
seames like spring and so it

is I have not much nurse  
to rite now but I will  
rite often and a little and  
that will be beter than along  
letter once in a week and  
you must do the same  
for I am glad to hear from  
you answer soon and I will  
rite Sunday again and believe  
me your most Opecimate Wf

Susan M. Heeler