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Auburn Oct 3rd 1874

My dear Mrs. Stanton

Aggravating old things, those postal cards! Why didn't you write me a nice letter, when I never had heard a word from you, since I had your room prepared on yr. promise to come see me - However yr. card explains that, but I did want very much to see you after my long absence in Florida, and the great disappointment of yr. absence from the Con. in May - I felt as if I should sink, the evening before, when Susan dear energetic indomitable Susan told me that you wd. not be there, but we did have a pretty good anniversary for all. It was gratifying for a pious Temperance saint to come forward and acknowledge that their efforts were powerless, without the ballot. You wd. have been pleased with the little speech -

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I dreaded inexpressibly the greatness thrust upon me, knowing so well my own limitations in the matter of speech making, when that seems to be considered one of the essentials for a Presiding officer, and I knew that you were so much more suitable, and Susan had filled the place so well, but my protests were unheeded - so with dreadful misgivings I look forward to our next meeting - the chances being however that I may not be present - as I shall have to be in Boston with Ellen a part of De. and Jany. - - - I hoped to hear of you in Johnstown during the summer, and perhaps have a visit from you with while Flora and her family were with us: - you wd have loved that dear little Cady baby and the sensible little Anne - Her mother feared she would not get along well with other little ones, having been so much by herself, but she was the best one among them, and she and little Frank Garrison were almost inseparable rarely getting

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into trouble - Frank whispered something to her once and they both started, and ran as fast as they could, till they got almost to the Post office Anne's father saw them start, but he had to put his coat on, and then wait for a funeral to pass the crossing, wh. gave them an advantage wh. they enjoyed - They tried it once last yr - I sd to Anne, in Florida, "What made you run away with little Frank, in Auburn?" - she sd "I didn't run away with him - he runned away his self, and I runned away my self" - Perhaps he wd. have sd. "The woman tempted me, and I did run." - but you see Anne put it on independent woman's rights ground. - We were very sorry to have them leave, the very day after the arrival of Eliza and family, but Flora's sister had also arrived - so they all hurried off, Will returning to be with his sisters a little longer. He could not be contented, however in this

solitude, after Wm. and Ellen and children had all gone, and his father in Phila so he returned to

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Johnstown last Tuesday to spend a wk with Flora and the children, and return here for one more week. – You can imagine how still and deserted the house seems – I take refuge in constant occupation, and find plenty to do, but it is rather a choking sensation, it must be confessed, when the last carriage drives off and you return to deserted rooms – my first occupation usually is prepare them to welcome the coming after speeding the parting guest. Our plan of returning to Florida this Fall is “knocked higher than a kite” (like the life of Jesus) by Ellen’s prospect for Dec. – We enjoyed exceedingly the time we spent there last winter. – As to the Beecher matter, It will take considerable time to make up the time in one’s reading, sacrificed in giving over that pack of lies – it will require more than human ingenuity ever to get at the truth – Wasn’t it rather amusing to see the alacrity with which Mrs. Howe assumed the case to be forever settled, and sang her song of rejoicing. Do write to me and tell me all yr plans, and whether yr son is improving – I feel very sorry for him and you, in all yr anxiety for him – give my love to him

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and to your other children –

My sister mourns the death of our dear Anna Hopper and a few weeks later Anna’s only son Isaac T.– of Typhoid fever, his death quite unexpected till a day or two before – My thots are much with that sorrowing household – Only Edward H. and his daughr Maria left – her illness wd. not have surprised us after so many mos. of nursing and anxiety.

With regards to Mr. Stanton
Affy yr. Friend Mrs. C Wright

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I am glad for dear Mrs. hooker to be away from all the excitement of the Brooklyn controversy – Mrs. Gage sent me Mr. Hooker’s letter and yr. Added lines, asking information concerning Mrs. Hooker’s letter to a Convention – I have no remembrance of any such letter – I wish they cd. Be perfectly indifferent to the misrepresentations of enemies – it is easy eno’ to live down falsehood – There are no such haters in the world as pious haters. Poor Mrs. Beecher can hardly make up her mind whether she has a happy home or the reverse, when her dear friend who wd. ‘Scorn to tell a lie make exactly opposite statements: but none of them quite come up to the energetic language if the vigorous Mrs. Morse. – I didn’t think her ‘dear son’ wd. Have lived to return to the

welcoming arms of Plymouth ch. -

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A pleasant letter from Martha Wright

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[typed transcript]

Alma Lutz Collection
Paulina Wright Davis papers
COPY
Auburn Oct. 3rd, 1874

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Note on back of page in Elizabeth Cady Stanton's handwriting. –
"A pleasant letter from Martha Wright."