

Postmarked: Denver Colo Oct 24 (1880)

To: Miss Mary P. Shelby
Care Mr. Magoffin
Manchester P. O.
the Mo. Pacific Ry. Missouri

From: John C. Stallcup

Page 1A

Denver Oct 24th (1880)

My Dear Mary

I arrived here today at eleven o'clock – train was delayed – have read two letters from you which came in my absence. Am happy – the two letters are of date 17 and 19th respectively. I think there is one I have not read as you say in yours of the 19th that it is the fifth letter. Now it is only the 4th unless you count the one of the 17th two.

I have corrected the list and added some Alliance and other friends. Pardon my stupidity in these things. We will get through with them in some sort of way – It does take an intolerable long time to get letters around

Page 1B

to and from Woodside.

So I will make the important points certain now. I will start from here so as to reach Kirkwood on Monday morning the 8th of November and will bring the ring – so all else can be fully consummated after I arrive. You arrange every thing according to your own notions and I shall only be happy to comply – since you have deferred to me so much as to allow me my way about the place, postponing our visit to Lexington and Alliance – I will gladly defer to you in

the little details.

I trust that the
Kirkwood minister will have returned

Page 2A

from New York before my arrival, but
if he has not – some one else will
be found to take his place.

When I get there I shall take plea-
sure in receiving from you all the
instructions necessary for one of my
ignorance to have.

Tell your Aunt
Busy that when I have the pleasure of meeting
her again I will make ample apologies
for the happiness I rob her of by taking
you away from her and that I think
I will be able to show her that it is
right – that I had caused the present
arrangements to be made before I knew
she entertained other notions so that it
was impossible to respect hers – but that
we will allways listen to her with pleasure
hereafter.

Page 2B

Most a dozen of my friends know I
am in another campaign besides
politics.

Mrs. King was so anxious that
I should take a room at her house
that I had exhausted all excuses
so had to tell her that I was
going to get married but would
not tell her who the better half was.
I expect she has been guessing to her self
ever since.

Mr. Luthe says that you
must be a remarkable woman
as he always supposed me to be
proof against the charms of women.
Our school marm we think is getting
ready to be married. I spent the evening with
Shafroth there, that is Mrs. Buell, Miss Roher
and the school marm – Miss Reed – and
was joking them about the marriage (of the school marm) and

baited the subject until the Miss Roher remembered
that I seemed to take pleasure in that subject

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and that she had a suspicion that
I would be married before the schoolman
upon which Shafroth laughed so that
it was about all I could do to
appear innocent.

Mr. Rose called on
me soon after my return from Missouri
and said "when are you going to be
married" "I know where you have been"
but I changed the subject.

I hope to be in the office about three
days now until Mr. Luthe returns from
Granite where he started from tonight.
Then close the campaign, then to
you then back here then again
entirely devoted to you and business.
I had a pleasant time at Trinidad
if I can find a paper with account
of meeting will send to you –

Page 3B

large meeting with ladies to cheer
the cause.

But I must close and get
this in for this evenings mail.
I will write you every day but
I believe that the important matters
are fixed in this – I hope to get a
letter from you every day.
Remember me kindly to your kind
Aunt and Uncle and the young ladies
and especially to Barton.

I hope to see Mrs. and Mr. Napton when
I come.

Good night My Dear

Jno. C. Stallcup

Drum Oct-24th

My dear Mary

I arrived here to day at eleven o'clock - Train was delayed have read two letters from you which came in my absence I am happy - the two letters are of date 17 and 19th respectively I think there is one I have not read as you say in yours of the 19th that it is the fifth letter now it is only the 4th unless you count the one of the 17th two.

I have corrected the list and added some allience and other friends - pardon my stupidity in these things, we will get through with them in some sort of away - It does take an incredible long time to get letters around

to and from Woodside.

So I will make
the important points certain now
I will start from here so as to reach
Kirkwood on Monday morning
the 8th of November and will bring the
ring - so all else can be fully
consummated after I arrive

You arrange every thing according
to your own notions and I shall only
be happy to comply since you have
deferred to me so much as to
allow me my way about the
place postponing our visit to
Lexington and Alliance
I will gladly defer to you in
the little details. I trust that the
Kirkwood Minister will have returned

2

from New York before my arrival but
 if he had not - some one else will
 be found to take his place
 When I get there I shall take pleas-
 ure in receiving from you all the
 instructions necessary for one of my
 ignorances to know

Tell your Aunt

Bury, that when I have the pleasure of meeting
 her again I will make ample apologies
 for the happiness I rob her of by taking
 you away from her. And that I think
 I will be able to show her that it is
 right - that I had caused the present
 arrangements to be made before I knew
 she entertained other notions so that it
 was impossible to respect hers - but that
 we will always listen to her with pleasure
 hereafter

Most a dozen of my friends know I
am in another Campaign besides
politics

Mrs King was so anxious that
I should take a room with at her house
that I had exhausted all excuses
so had to tell her that I was
going to get married but would
not tell her who the better half was
I expect she has been guessing the way
you since.

Mr. Luther says that you
must be a remarkable woman
as he always supposed me to be
proof against the charms of women

Our School man we think is getting
ready to be married, I spent the evening with
^{Supper} with them that is Mrs Bull Miss Rober
and the school man - Miss Red; and
was joking them about the marriage, ^{the school man} and
told the subject until the Miss Rober remarked
that I seemed to take pleasure in that subject

3

And that she had a suspicion that I would be married before the rebellion upon which Shafroth laughed so that it was about all I could do to appear innocent.

Mr Rose called on me soon after my return from Missouri and said "when are you going to be married" "I know, when you have been" but I changed the subject.

I hope to be in the office about three days now, until Mr Litch returns from Granite when he starts for tonight. I then close the campaign then to you then back here then again entirely devoted to you and business. I had a pleasant time at Trinidad if I can find a paper with account of meeting will send to you.

large meeting with ladies to cheer
the cause

but I must close and get
this in for this evenings mail

I will write you every day but
I believe that the important matters
are fixed in this - I hope to get a
letter from you every day

Remember me kindly to your kind
Aunt and Uncle and the young ladies
and especially to Bacton

I hope to see Mrs. and Mr. Kington when
I come God night my dear

Yours Always

J. W. Stallard



1844

Miss Mary C. Shelby
Care Mr. Madoffin
the Mo. Pacific Ry
Manchester P.O.

Postmarked: Unreadable

To: John C. Stallcup Esq
Denver
Colorado

From: Mary Pindell Shelby

Woodside Mo.
October 24th (1880)

My dear friend;

Yesterday was the first day for more than a week I haven't written you, but as there was no chance of getting a letter started, thought I would put all I had into one letter – it isn't much however, only I'd like you to remember I think of you sometimes –

I had no letter from you yesterday, but had several others almost as good – from my friends & cousins the Harrisons. I wrote Susie I was to be married, & four of the family wrote immediately such loving letters – didn't even inquire “what

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manner of man” you are as they have such confidence in my judgment. I think none of the family slept their usual amount – I am going to keep the letters to show you – My cousin Margaretta (Mrs. Harrison) is the saintliest woman I ever knew, has spent almost half her life on her knees, & I know since she has heard you were to be connected with her family, your name has been many times remembered at the throne of grace – if I were to tell you how many

times I had remembered you in
the same way, would it make
any impression? Many times too
during the months I heard
nothing from you – I don't believe
you will always let me go
alone to eat of the Body & Blood
shed for both of us equally –

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The Harrisons thought nothing
so sensible or so wise as staying
here, but seem to think Denver
so far from every where itself –
they thought me very sensible
to do just what I was doing –
poor Aunt Busy thinks being
married out of Lexington fear-
ful, something to which she
can never be reconciled. Well
I won't write you any more
of your new kin – just wait
until next summer & I shall
claim half that visit East for my
friends – I think you will
enjoy Kentucky, it will be a
link of revelation, still I don't
think such an agreeable one
that you will want to leave "The
Dome of the Continent" for it –

Poor Aunt Susan is so full
of the approaching event, that

Page 4

she can scarcely contain her-
self – she told a Mrs. Holmes,
a lady from Denver who used
to live here, that she had a
niece who was going to live
in Denver – but two weeks isn't
long & I can't hope to keep it
I only wish I could, as carefully
as you have done – Susie Harri-
son wrote me she always felt
it would end so, that I cared more
for you than I would acknowl-
edge – but it is all acknowledge-
ed now, isn't it? I've been wonder-
ing how you will look to me

when I see you in broad daylight
& know & feel fully all I've promised.
I read the marriage ceremony
over myself sometimes & feel that
it is far from indivisibly or lightly
I am entering into this thing - & I
am just beginning too, to realize
that there is more love & affection
for me in the old town I'm lea-
ving forever, than I realized -
still my life seems so much

Page 5

more to look forward to, than
it did before I promised to
"follow your fortunes" & can
but believe "all will be right"
as you said, in this life, & at
the last we may both come
into the heaven of perfect rest.
Did you mean I should stop
talking like this to you? I am
afraid I can't & then I have
only one Sunday to write you
after this. When will you start?
I don't believe it will pay you
to come so early, you won't
get much good of me - besides
don't you want to get the elec-
tion returns? I think we have
decided to go to Kirkwood to
the Church, then here to a lunch,
& into the city - I can take my
trunks with me, & you can
bring what you have here with
you when you come for me -
Aunt Busy hasn't said decidedly
whether or not she was coming

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& I am almost sure Susie
can't. Still there will be enough -
I suppose you can find out
whether a license is needed
for Missouri - What did your
Mother think of your marrying?
Did you tell her I was an old
maid? I've promised to have
pictures of us both to send
home, as soon as possible after

we get home (that is Denver you
know) Do you approve? I hope
you wont be as hard to control
in this respect as Barton – but
you ought to send some to your
own friends in Ohio – Haven't
I answered all questions? Two of
your letters, I never received, one
sent to Lexington & one here –
I think this is my 9th letter – Why
did you stop sending papers?

Always yours,

Mary P. Shelby

Did you escape Sister Eliza
again today - I'll give you permission
to tell her – I don't want her to find
it out from strangers -

she can scarcely contain her-
 self - she told a Mrs. Adams
 a lady from Denn who used
 to live here, that she had a
 niece who was going to live
 in Denn - but two weeks out
 long & I can't hope to keep it -
 I truly wish I could, as carefully
 as you have done - Miss Habi-
 -for matrimony she always felt
 it would not do, that I could more
 for you than I would accept of
 a wife - but it is all acknowledged
 - ed now, isn't it? I see how (man-
 -ing long you would look to me,
 when I get you in your daylight
 & proud & feel fully all I'd promised
 I had - the marriage ceremony
 on my self sometimes, I feel that
 it is far from "undoubtedly" rightly
 I am entering into this thing - & I
 am just beginning too, to realize
 that there is more love & affection
 for me in the old world - I'm lea-
 -ving forever, than I realized -
 Still my life seems so much

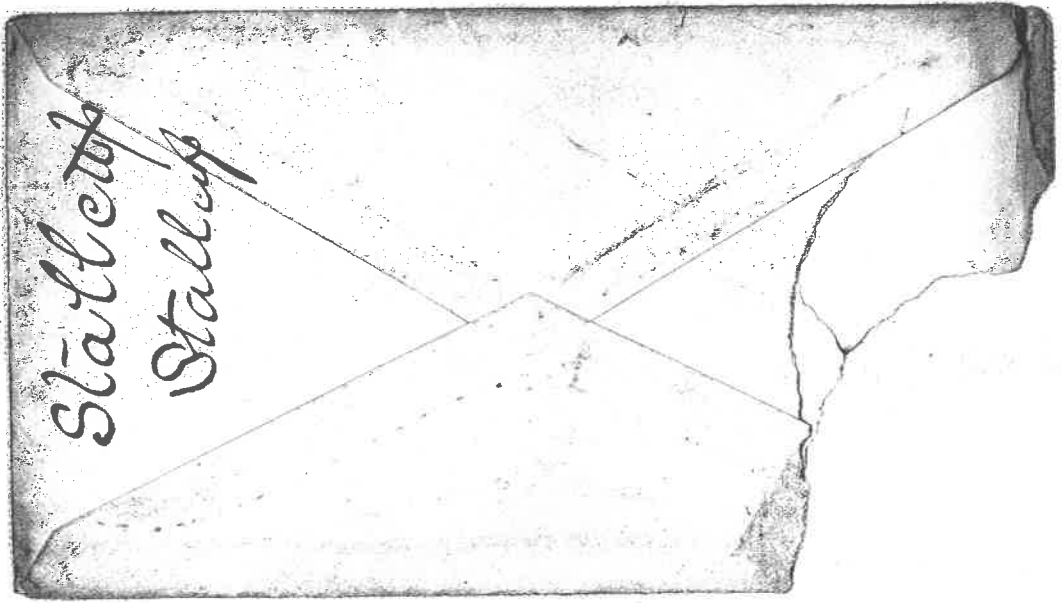
Monday, Nov.
 October 24"

My dear friends, Yesterday
 was the first day for more
 than a week, I hadn't met
 -ten you, but as there was
 no chance of getting a letter
 started, thought I would put
 all I had into one letter -
 it isn't much however, only
 I'd like you to remember
 think of you sometimes -
 I had no letter from you
 yesterday, but had sent
 them almost as good - from
 my friends & cousins the
 Harrison - I note - I wish I
 was to be married, & you of
 the family with immortality
 such lovely & loving letters
 didn't ever acquire "what

manner of man" you mean, as they had such confidence in my judgment. I think none of the family slept their usual amount. I am going to keep the letters to show you - My cousin Margaretta (Mrs. Hahn - her) is the saintliest American - I see Pen, has spent almost half her life in her penury, & I know ever she has heard you mean to be connected with the family, your name has been many times mentioned at the dinner of Grace - if I were to tell you that many times I had remonstrated upon the same way, would it make any impression? Many times too, opposing the mottoes I heard protesting from you - I don't believe you will always let me go alone to eat of the Bread of Blessing for both of us equally -

The Harisons thought nothing so sensible or so wise as staying here, but seem to think Deborah so far from any where, but it is just my where itself - My thought from my sensible as just what I was doing - poor Aunt Busy thinks being married out of a living time - full something to stick she can never be reconciled. I will write you any more - I your next time - just wait until next summer, & I shall claim half that month for my friends - I think you will enjoy Kentucky, it will be a little of our life, still I don't think I can be a great one that you will want to learn - the course of the Continent for it - Poor Aunt Susan is so full of the approaching event, that

now to look forward to, than
 it did before I promised to
 "follow your fortunes" - I can't
 but believe all will be right,
 as you said, in this life, & at
 the last we may both come
 into the bosom of perfect rest.
 Did you mean I should stop
 talking like this to you? I am
 afraid I can't - & then I have
 only now Sunday to write you
 after this - When will you start?
 I don't believe it will pay you
 to come so early, you must
 get much good by me - besides
 don't you want to get the elec-
 tion returns? I think we have
 decided to go to Hickwood to
 the Church, then have a lunch
 & into the city - I can take my
 trunks with me, you can
 bring what you want have with
 you when you come for me -
 Aunt Bessy hasn't said decidedly
 whether or not she was coming



I am almost sure Julie
 can't. Still she will be enough.
 I suppose you can find out
 whether a license is made
 for Madison. What did your
 brother think of your marrying?
 Did you tell that I was an old
 man? He promised to loan
 pictures if no vote to send
 down, as soon as possible. after
 we get word that he doesn't
 forbid. Do you approve? I hope
 you won't be as hard to control
 in this respect as Gaston - but
 you ought to send some to your
 son when in Ohio - Heabit
 I answered all questions? I wrote
 your letters, I don't remember
 sent to Lexington - I'm here -
 I think this is my 9th letter - Why
 did you stop sending papers?
 Always yours,
 Mary P. Shelby

Did you escape - Peter - King of
 again - Will you permit me
 to file her - I don't want her to find
 it out from strangers -



Postmarked: Denver Colo Oct 25 (1880)

To: Miss Mary P. Shelby
Care Mr. Magoffin
Manchester P. O.
on Mo. Pacific Ry. Missouri

From: John C. Stallcup

Denver Oct. 25th '80

My Dear Mary

Yours of 21st I rec'd this morning. It is full of expressions that make me happy in your love. I have been rushed to day with business and have to talk to the Democracy to night – so will write you tomorrow – I ordered the ring to day. I ordered J & M for monogram. I will arrive on Monday morning which I think will give me sufficient time to get all things in readiness for Tuesday the 9th. I am happy to see the time is so near at hand when I shall see you.

I enclose an additional list of names for cards – I guess this is all – This with what you have will make a long

Page 2

list and take a good while to address. You will have to get Barton to help you. I think she will make a good secretary in our campaign and if I were in your place I would let her do some of the writing which is making you so tired.

My folks write me that my nephew Dallas is delighted at the prospect of coming to live with us – he will come as soon as I send for him – he is a very lovable boy –

I don't count this a letter. I will write one tomorrow.

Good bye till tomorrow
Yours Wholly
Jno. C. Stallcup

Miss Mary P. Shelby
Care Mr. McGoffin
Manchester Co.
Missouri
On Mo. Pacific Ry.

Denver Oct. 25th 88

My dear Mary
Yours of 21st I rec^d this
morning It is full of expressions
that make me happy in your love
I have been rushed to-day with
business and have to take to the
overseas to night so will write
you tomorrow - I ordered the ring
to day, I ordered J & M for Monday
I will arrive on Monday morning
which I think will give me sufficient
time to get all things in readiness
for Tuesday the 9th - I am happy
to see the time is so near at hand
when I shall see you
I enclose an additional list of names
for cards - I guess this is all -
This with what you have will make a long

list and take a good while to address
You will have to get Barton to help
you I think she will make a good
secretary in our campaign and
if I were in your place I would
let her do some of the writing which
is making you so tired

My folks write me that my nephew
Dallas is delighted at the prospect
of coming to live with us - he will
come as soon as I send for him -
he is ^a very lovable boy -

I don't count this a letter. I will
write one tomorrow

goodbye till tomorrow

Yours wholly

Geo C. Attey

NOTE: Dying man is Isaac (Ike) Shelby, son of James, brother of Evan and Mary Pindell Shelby's Uncle. Barton is his only child. His wife Sarah Barton McClure died in Aug. of 1866 when Barton was 7 years old, Ike died in July of 1873 when she was about 13. At 27, Mary Pindell honored that request and became her guardian. This explains why Barton married in Denver (to Edmond Shelby Kinhead).

No Envelope or Postmark

To: John C. Stallcup

From: Mary Pindell Shelby

Woodside, Mo.
October 25th (1880)

You can't think my very dear friend, how troubled I was to get your letter, & find so many of mine had been delayed – but before this you have gotten enough to remove all fears. I am sure – I never was better in my life, & all my arrangements are progressing most satisfactorily – am going in, in the morning to do some more shopping – try on some of my dresses – I wont tell you what they are – my friends all say dress improves me, so you have never seen your prospective wife looking her very best. I care very little for clothes, but if you do, will try & cultivate my taste – all this seems very foolish when my heart has been made very happy my getting light loving

Page 2

letters from my friends at home. Mr. Harrison, my dear old friend almost 80 years old wrote a long letter of such good counsel I know if I live up to it you will thank him – I will keep that for you too to read. They all seem to think I have too good judgment to make a mistake, & think I will undoubtedly be very happy – (so do I) None of them except Aunt Busy, seem to think

it anything but natural I should stay here & she is probably the only one who will be here – they all speak of my leaving with tears – but much as I love them all, I feel no regrets that would tempt me to return – I only hate to leave Barton for even a little while – she has been so much to me – it was a solemn promise to a dying man to do for his only child all in my power – if I have failed it has been through lack of judg-

Page 3

ment – not affection – I am sure her own good sense has kept her from being spoiled. She has gotten tonight a letter from one of her friends, a young man in New Orleans – who promises her another piece of poetry of fifteen verses, if she will destroy the last. The last was a sore production. It has been published in the St. Louis papers that Miss Mary P. Shelby was getting her trousseau, nothing was said of you however. I will be getting shy about going in so often – I suppose it got out from the engravers. Do you think it fearfully long to wait until Tuesday? I can't help it, if the election was Monday I could be ready by Thursday, or could have been, but could not now – I am wondering how I will feel having some one take care of me during a trip – I will be sure the baggage isn't checked

Page 4

right – for many years I have gone nowhere without having entire care of such things for the whole party – but there are many things I must learn. Did I tell you about going to the Church? Uncle said today he was

going to see Mr. Dunlop – I think
he will surely be back by the
last of next week, before the first
Sunday – Do you think you could
possibly say Aunt Busy & Aunt
Susan? I will excuse you for
all the rest, let them be simply
Miss Janey & Miss Ludie for the
present – I can do no better than
write you every day – this I am
sure will be right, as I shall mail
it on the train myself – The girls
are looking forward with much
hope of having fun when you
return at the meeting – so please remember – My
eyes have been hurting all day,
so I've done nothing – Why don't
you write longer letters? Do you
need any more instructions about
anything?

Always, yours faithfully,
Mary P. Shelby

right - for many years I have
 given up the idea of without having
 entire care of such things for
 an whole party - but there are
 many things I must learn
 did I tell you about going to the
 Church? Uncle said today he was
 going to see Mr. Dunlap - I think
 he will surely be back by the
 last of next week before August
 Sunday - Do you think you could
 possibly say Aunt Ruby & Aunt
 Susan? I will recite you for
 all the rest, let them be simply
 Miss Jenny & Miss Anne, for that
 I can do no better than
 write you every day - this I am
 sure will be right, as I shall mail
 it on the train myself - The girls
 are looking forward with much
 desire for the meeting, from when you
 return, so please remember to - My
 eyes have been limiting all day
 as I've been watching - Why don't
 you write long letters? Do you
 mind any more instructions about
 any thing? Always, yours faithfully,
 Mrs. P. Schuler.

Monday - No.
 October 25th

You can't think, my dear
 friend, how troubled I had to
 get your letter, & find so many
 of them had been delayed -
 Just before this your train
 gotter enough to return all
 year - I am sure - I never had
 better in my life & all my ar-
 rangements are progressing with
 satisfactory - am going here in
 the morning to do some more
 shopping - try on some of my
 dresses - I must tell you what
 they are - My friends all day
 takes impromptu, so you had
 never seen your prospective
 wife looking here (my best - I can
 my little for clothes, but if you
 do will try & cultivate my best -
 All this seems very foolish, when
 my heart has been made my
 happy my getting right along

letters from my friends at home. I must - not appreciate - I am sure
 Mr. Harrison, but my old friend has our good sense has kept
 almost beyond all make a long
 letter, of such good counsel, I
 know if I live up to it, you will
 thank him - I will hope that
 for you too to read - They all
 wish to think I have too good
 judgment to make a mistake,
 I think I will undoubtedly be
 very happy - (so do I.) (Point of them
 is just about true, even to think
 it any thing - but natural I should
 say true - she is probably the
 only one who will be true - they
 all speak of my leaving into
 tears - but which as I love them
 all, I feel no regrets that would
 tempt me to return - I only
 hate to leave Garton for ever
 a little while - she has been
 so much - to me - it was a sol-
 emn promise to a dying man
 to do for his only child all in
 my power - if I have failed it
 I feel sure my dear Garton

ment - not appreciate - I am sure
 but our good sense has kept
 her from being spoiled - She has
 gotten amongst a letter from one
 of her friends, a young man in
 New Orleans - who promises her
 another piece of poetry. I believe
 verses, if she will accept the last.
 The last was a rare production -
 It has been published in the
 St. Louis papers, that Miss Mary
 R. Shelby was getting her poems,
 nothing was said of your name.
 I will be getting ready about your
 in so glad - I hope soon it will
 put from the engraving - Do you
 think it worthfully long to put
 until Feb. day? I can't help
 it, if the election was Monday
 I should be ready by Thursday, or
 could have been, but could not
 now - I am wondering how I will
 feel having come to take care
 of some during a trip - I will be
 soon - the baggage is checked

No Envelope or Postmark

To: John C. Stallcup

From: Mary Pindell Shelby

Woodside, Mo.
October 26th '80

I wrote you last night my dear friend, thinking I would mail my letter on the train, but went after all without it, so I expect you will get this & the one of last night at the same time – If you knew just how utterly used up & tired I was, you would appreciate my writing at all – but I've gotten in the habit you know. & I haven't many days now to write. I hope to hear soon from you just when you will start – I haven't gotten your revised list of names – I hated to trouble you about it – but I couldn't help it – could I? I ordered the cards today however at a venture, 500 – do you think you & I together have so many friends? I have one more tiresome trip to make to town, & then if

Page 2

there is any thing left, I'll let the girls go for me – My dresses so far are a great success – a long black silk with a marvelous train – I got your paper today, with a notice of your speech – (words crossed out) I like letters better – get tired of reading old ones over. – Nothing remarkable happened today – Mr. Warner the Presbyterian minister went to town with us, at least we met him on the train, & we discussed many weighty questions, but I told him nothing – I am shy

for an old girl – If I hadn't
told you I was tired you
would probably have discovered
it – besides Barton & Ludie
are discussing dress & that is
diverting for a woman – so I
am only going to send you this

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for a reminder – Do write just
one long letter about what
you mean to do – when I shall
write my last letter &c please an-
swer some of my instruction, I
want to see how obedient you can
be – We had such a good lunch
today – my appetite has returned
entirely, & I hope will abide with
me – Aunt Susan means to
have something quite palatable
for a lunch she is to give
two weeks from today – Do you
expect to be here?

Do you know
I have behaved beautifully
about writing you? Although
I am afraid I have forgotten
the exact number of letters I have
written – this is almost a dozen
though – perhaps you would
rather have shorter letters with
more in them – Have heard no-
thing new from Mrs. Napton,

Page 4

nor nothing definite from Aunt
Busy – I have letters innumerable
to write tomorrow, so unless I get
a most satisfactory one from
you, you will have to be satisfied
with such notes as you send –
I suppose if I delivered all
your messages to the family –
I'd have some to return – so
take it all for granted.

Very merrily yours,
Mary P. Shelby

Madam Mrs -
October 26m'80 -

I wrote you last night (my dear friends) thinking I would mail my letter on the train, but not after all without it, so I expect you will get this & the one I last night but the same letter - If you know just how utterly used up & tired I was, you'd would appreciate my writing at all - but I've gotten in the habit you know, so I haven't many days now so true. I hope to hear from you soon - I just when you will start - I haven't gotten your review but of course - I hated to trouble you about it - but I couldn't help it - could I? I would like to see you today however at a Pentecost - do you think you & I to gether than so many friends? I have one more telegram to make to you, & then if

now nothing definite from Aunt Betsy - I have letters unnumbered to write tomorrow, so unless I get a most satisfactory one from you, you will have to be satisfied with such notes as you send - I suppose if I deliver all your messages to the friends, I'd have some to return - so take it all for granted.

Very truly yours
Mary P. Shelby

There is any thing left, I'll let
 the girls go for me - My dress
 is far and a great sheet - a
 long black silk into an mar-
 -tilons train - I got you a
 paper today, with a piece of
 your speech - I like letter
 of like letters better - get tired
 of reading old ones over - No
 thing remarkable happened
 today - Mr. Fanner Mr. Presby -
 - Arlan minister must be with
 with us, at least in next time
 on the train, & we discussed
 many mighty questions, but I
 told him nothing - I am shy
 for an old girl - If I hadn't
 told you I was tired you
 would probably have discovered
 it - Besides Gaston & Judie
 are discharging duty, & that is
 diverting for a woman - so I
 am only going to send you two

for a reminder - Do write just
 our long letter about what
 you mean to do - when I shall
 write my last letter, & so on -
 - your share of my instructions, I
 want to be good obedient you can
 do - In had such a good lunch
 today - my appetit has returned
 entirely, & I hope will abide with
 me - Aunt Susan means to
 have something quite palatable
 for a lunch she is to give
 to meet from today - Do you
 expect to be here? Do you know
 I have behaved beautifully
 about visiting you? although
 I am afraid I have forgotten
 the exact number of what I have
 written - this is almost a day or
 though - Perhaps you would
 rather have shorter letters with
 more in them - How kind is -
 - thing now from Mrs. Napton,

Postmarked: Denver Colo Oct 27 (1880)

To: Miss Mary P. Shelby
Care Mr. Magoffin
Manchester P. O.
on Mo. Pacific Ry. Missouri

From: John C. Stallcup

Denver Oct 27th (1880)
Early in the Morning

My Dear Mary

I was engaged in
the trial of a case yesterday
so that the evening mail
closed before I was through
so that I lost the pleasure of writing
you yesterday.

I have yours of the 22nd
and yours of the 21st. There is so
much in it twill take me
a life time to answer it all.
Never hesitate to give me a
sermon, for I assure you
that you are the first preacher
that ever interested me – and
I will never tire of your sermons.

Page 2

I know my declaration that
you should not see an hours
unhappiness was a strong one
but I had the faith when
I made, and still have.
I know there is much to be
born and to struggle with in
this life but it will be a
pleasure to bear that which
is ours to bear and to do that
which is right for us to do.
I do not forget that pain,
sickness, age and death are
in the future which looks
so bright to me now –
My Dear Mary there is a
hope, a faith which you know
so well that will ever bear
our happy souls above the
ravage of time on the that blissful shore.

Page 3

Did you never read Shakespeare's
Julius Caesar? All the characters
are grand. What Caesar says
of himself comparing his stead-
fastness to the fixed characters
of the Northern Star he says
what would be egotistical
in other men. Yet in
him it was not – for
his is a character which I
think has less of human weakness
than any other which lives in
profane history. But in one
respect I am more fortunate
than Caesar, for I have in you
all and more than was
comprehended in even his high
ideal of a wife. When it is the
fortune of a man to find and to win his
ideal of a wife – happiness is his.

Page 4

Remember me to Mrs. and Mr.
Anderson. I know her letters
to you must be lovely
for she is so pleasant in
her manners and so happy
in her domestic relations
that she could not write you
otherwise.

I have not kept our
marriage such a profound
secret after all. As many
of our friends know it and
they seem to be like your
friends. They have full con-
fidence that I am right.
Mr. Shafroth informed our
people at the house last night
-Buell – they were up when
I went up. It was late but
they were waiting for me.

Page 5

They seemed sorry as it
breaks up the household.

Mr. Shafroth will make
other arrangements which
changes his lodgings and
as Mr. Buell will be much
at Leadville this winter
poor Mrs. Buell looked
sad as she (crossed out)
is now left with none
but the school marm and
her children.

I will conclude arrangements
with "Windsor" forth to day.
I have been very busy.
I will write you again to night.
Mr. Luthe has just returned
so I will now have time
to think and look around
a little.

Page 6

I will arrive at Kirkwood
on Monday morning the 8th
Nov. and will drive
out to see you and get
full particulars for the
next day. On Sunday next
I will go to Church with
dear(?) Sister Eliza and
tell her she will soon
have the pleasure of seeing
you and after church
I will look over that
ceremony, &c.

I sent you a
paper from Trinidad
also one from here yesterday.
Will send you another
to day. Speaking is about
over with - both parties are
hard at work registering &c

Page 7

for the Election.

I have really been so busy
that I have not read the
papers much myself.
My Alliance friend, Mr. Petty

has settled into a sort of
a clerk and aid de camp
for the present. He helps me some.

It will be a relief
to get through with this
Campaign.

Tell Barton I ex-
pect to get her consent when
I come down there. She was
so coy before and shy when I
was there that I was unable
to see her much, so she
must excuse me.

Truly Yours Jno. C. Stallcup

Across the top:

I send
another
small list
of names
this will
close the
list

JCS

0700
12
30

Miss Mary P. Shelby
Care Magoffin

on the Pacific Ry. } Manchester P.O.
Missouri

Mon. Oct 27th
Early in the morning

My dear Mary I was engaged in
the trial of a case yesterday
so that the evening mail
closed before I was through
so I lost the pleasure of writing
you yesterday I have yours of the 22nd
and yours of the 21st that is so
much in it I will take me
a life time to answer it all
Never hesitate to give me a
sermon for I assure you
that you are the first preacher
that I ever interested me and
I will now try of your sermons

2

I know my declaration that you should not see an hours unhappiness was a strong one but I had the faith when I made, and still have I know there is much to be born and to struggle with me this life but it will be a pleasure to bear that which is ours to bear and to do that which is right for us to do.

I do not forget that pain sickness age and death are in the future which looks so bright to me now - but my dear Mary there is a hope a faith which you know so well that will ever bear our happy souls above the narrow stream to that blessed shore.

3

Did you ever read Shakespeare's
 Julius Caesar? All the characters
 are grand. What Caesar says
 of himself comparing his steel
 fastness to the fixed character
 of the Northern star he says
 what would be ridiculed
 in other men. Yet in
 him it was not - for
 his is a character which I
 think has less human weakness
 than any other which lives in
 profane history. But in one
 respect I am more fortunate
 than Caesar, for I have in you
 all and more than was
 comprehended in even his high
 ideal of a wife. When it is the
 fortune of a man to find and to win his
 ideal of a wife - happiness is his

4

Remember me to Mrs and Mr
Auderson. I know her letters
to you must be lovely
for she is so pleasant in
her manners and so happy
in her domestic relations
that she could not write you
otherwise


I have not kept our
marriage such a profound
secret after all. as many
of my friends know it and
they seem to be like your
friends they have full con-
fidence that I am right
Mr Shoforth informed our
people at the house last night
- Rhells - they were up when
I went up it was late but
they were waiting for me


5

They seemed sorry as it
 breaks up the household
 Mr Shapoth will make
 other arrangements which
 changes his lodgings and
 as Mr Bull will be much
 at Readville this winter
 for Mrs. Bull looked
 sad as she ~~was~~
 is now left with none
 but the "school man" and
 her children.

I will conclude arguments
 with "Windsor" folks to day
 I have been very busy
 I will write you again tonight
 Mr Luther has just returned
 so. I will now have time
 to think and look around
 a little

6

I will arrive at Ashwood
on Monday morning the 8th
~~the~~ Mr. and will drive
out to see you and get
full particulars for the
next day, on Sunday^{next}
I will go to Church with
Mr. Sister Eliza and
tell her she will soon
have the pleasure of seeing
you and after Church
I will look on that
Ceremony. 

I sent you a
paper from Trinidad
also one from here yesterday
will send you another
to day. Speaking as about
you with both papers in
hand at work regarding 

7 I send
another
small leaf,
of names
This will
close the
list

for the election.
I have really been so busy
that I have not read the
papers much myself.
My allance friend Turbett
has settled into a sort of
a Clerk and aid de Camp
for the present he helps
me some.

It will be a relief
to get through with this
Campaign.

Tell Berton I ex-
pect to get her consent when
I come down there. She was
so Coy ~~before~~ and shy when I
was there that I was unable
to see her much. So she
must excuse me.
only Yours Jas Caldwell

Postmarked: Manchester

To: John C. Stallcup
Denver
Colorado

From: Mary Pindell Shelby

Woodside Mo
October 27th '80

My dear Mr. Stallcup;

I got at
last your letter to Lexington, & the one you sent Sunday (24th) with the list, which is better – So all our arrangements are made – not quite two weeks, & a new life will have begun for us both. I tremble a little when I think of it – but I have prayed over it for a long while, so I am willing to leave it in the hands of One who has ordered my life all along –

I had a letter from Aunt Busy, & she is so wounded at my staying from Lexington, that she can't make up her mind whether to come

Page 2

or not & I am afraid Susie wont come without her – I don't want you to think badly of Aunt Busy, but she has been managing me more or less for twenty-eight years, & I am afraid it goes a little hardly with her to give me up – but she writes with much sympathy –

Are you sure you looked utterly unconscious when you were teasing the school marm? I thought Cap. Rose was one of your best friends, & you would surely tell him – but he'll know it soon enough – I wonder if he'll approve - & Mr. Luthe too –

Page 3

I write so much – have had at least forty letters since I came here, & don't believe I've written many less – You know I've sent several to Denver – I've written two letters tonight, & am tired considering too, I talked incessantly as I wrote – you'll have to let me help in your briefs – I might even study law – do you think in course of time you might dismiss Mr. Luthe & take me for all sorts of a partner – life & law? I don't believe you'll get a letter written after the 3rd of November – so I have just a week to send you a daily

Page 4

letters –

I don't feel in an altogether lovely humour tonight, so I am going to say good night –

Always yours,
Mary P. Shelby –

Isn't that a pretty name to give up? Barton sends love to her "Cousin John" –

letter - I don't feel in an altogether
only humor tonight, so I don't

ing to say good night -
Always yours,
Mary B. Shelby -

Isn't that a pretty name
to give up? - Boston Parasol
to her "Cousin John" -

Grandmother Mrs -
October 27 '80 -

My dear Mr. Wallcut; I got at

last your letter sent to Leung-
ton, & the one you sent Sunday
with the list, which is better. So
all our arrangements are made -
not quite too much, & a new life
will soon begin for us both. I have
a little car here I think of it - but
I have prayed over it for a long
while, & I am willing to leave it in
the hands of One who has ordered
my life all along - I had a letter
from Aunt Bury, & she is so
pained at my staying from
Washington, that she can't make
up her mind whether to come

or work & I am afraid this must
 come nearest but - I don't want
 you to think badly of Aunt Betsy
 but she has been managing
 me now or was for twenty-eight
 years, & I am afraid it goes on
 quite hardly with her to your
 me up - but she mixes with
 much sympathy - are you sure
 you looked utterly unmerciful
 when you were talking the school
 in and I thought that Rose
 was one of your best friends &
 I you would surely tell him
 but he'll know it soon
 enough - I mean if he'll
 approve - & Mr. Lathrop to -

I write as much - have had at
 least forty letters since I came
 here, & don't believe I've written
 many less - you know she sent
 one to Deann - I've written
 two letters tonight, & am tired
 considering too, I talked incessantly
 - by as I write - you'll have to
 let me help in your briefs -
 I might even study law - do you
 think in course of time you
 might dismiss Mr. Lathrop &
 take me for all sorts of a part
 - me - life & law? I don't believe
 you'll get a letter written after
 the 3rd of November - so I have just
 a week to send you a daily

Postmarked: Denver Colo Oct 27 (1880)

To: Miss Mary P. Shelby
Care Mr. Magoffin
Manchester P. O.
on Mo. Pacific Ry. Missouri

From: John C. Stallcup

Denver Oct 27th (1880)

My Dear Mary

I have had my
aid de camp around looking
over the hotels to day.
I saw Mr. Welborn also,
he is moving out of the
"Windsor". I am favorably
inclined to the "Glenarin".
It is a very nice place
first-class where Gen'l
Grant stayed while here,
situate on Cor. Glenarin
and 15th St. I will
stop to look them over to
night. The "Grand Central"
has pretty fair accommodations
and cheap rates but poor table.
Gov. (Frederick W.) Pitkin & family live there.

Page 2

Concerning the Elections –
it seems pretty clear to my
mind that the Democracy
are defeated and it is
chargeable all to the
mistakes and indiscretions
of the leaders of the party.
The extra session of Congress
and the measures causing
it were wrong and inexped-
ient, the Supreme
Court of Indiana deciding
against the amendment
to the Constitution of the
state providing for the elec-
tion in November was
absolutely wrong and disas-
trously inexpedient – the
Tariff plank in our platform

was inexpedient.

Page 3

The silly effusions of Hampton and other Southern gentlemen have been against us. These are the things which have turned fortune against us. Had these mistakes been avoided the Democracy would to day be assured of the most over whelming victory ever won by a political party in this country. Colorado will go Republican now by about two thousand. But a better day is coming and it will come by the time we get ready for it so I think.

So much for the political out look.

Page 4

I have yours of the 24th – it came this morning. I have read it over again and again.

You are the guide in all that pertains to our happiness beyond this life and I will follow you. I wonder that I have always been so indifferent on these matters heretofore. It shows that you were necessary for my well being here and hereafter.

Your friends in Kentucky should not feel that you are entirely gone from there, for I trust it will be our pleasure to see them often. I have no returns from my letters yet to my folks informing them of my marriage.

Page 5

That is to my Mother, but
will have in a few days.
I know she will approve
of all I do.

My friend Mr.
Shafroth informs me that
no license is necessary
in Missouri.

I did not tell my
Mother you were an old
maid but I did tell her
that you were the best
woman in the world.

They will be wanting
our photo when they find
they will have to wait till
next summer to see you
so we will send them some.
Why do they not for'd that
Lexington letter to you?

I believe I said this morning
that I would send you the
papers this evening. I should
have said in the morning
that is when our papers come out.

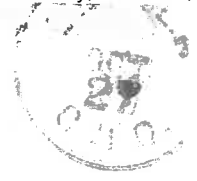
I will write
you again tomorrow.
I hope to get one from you
every day.

What a dreary world
this would be without you.

Good Bye till tomorrow
Yours Jno. C. Stallcup

I enclose a few more names.
There are many I ought to send
but these will I think certainly
close the list –

Yours JCS



Miss. Mary C. Shelby
 Care Mr. Moffitt
 Mr. W. P. Packer } Manchester P.O.
 Missouri

Done Oct. 27th

My Dear Mary I have had my
 aid de camp around looking
 over the hotels. to day
 I saw Mr. Melbourn also
 he is moving out of the
 "Windsor" I am favorably
 inclined to the "Glenarm"
 It is a very nice place
 first-class. where Genl.
 Grant stoped while here
 situated on Cor. Glenarm
 and 15th st. I will
 stop to look them over to
 night. The "Grand Central"
 has pretty fair accomodations
 and cheap rates but poor table
 Gov. P. T. ...

2

Concerning the Elections
It seems pretty clear to my
mind that the Democrats
are defeated and it is
chargeable all to the
mistakes and indiscretions
of the leaders of the party.
The extra session of Congress
and the measures causing
it ^{was} wrong and inex-
pedient. The Supreme
Court of Indiana deciding
against the Amendment of
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state providing for the elec-
tion in November was
absolutely wrong and disas-
terously inexpedient - the
Tariff plank in our platform
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The silly effusions of Hampton
and other southern gentlemen
have been against us
these are the things which
have turned fortune against
us had these mistakes
been avoided the Democracy
would to day be assured
of the most overwhelming
victory ever won by a
political party in this
country. Colorado will
go Republican now by about
two thousand. but a
better day is coming and
it will come by the time
we get ready for it.
I think
so much for the political
out look

4

I have yours of the 24th it came
this morning I have read it
over again and again.

You are the guide in all that
pertains to our happiness beyond this
life and I will follow you
I wonder that I have always
been so indifferent on these
matters heretofore it shows
that you were necessary
for my well being here
and hereafter

Your friends
in Kentucky should not
feel that you are entirely gone
from them for I trust it
will be our pleasure to see
them often. I have no returns
from my letters yet to my folks
informing them of my marriage

That is to my Mother but
will have in a few days
I know she will approve
of all I do

My friend Mr.
Shepote informs me that
no license is necessary
in Missouri.

I did not tell my
mother you were an old
maid but I did tell her
that you were the best
woman in the world.

They will be wanting
our photos when they find
they will have to wait till
next summer to see you
as we will send them some

Why do they not find that
Caryston letter to you?

6
I believe I said this morning
that I would send you the
papers this evening I should
have said in the morning
that is when our papers
come out.

I will write
you again tomorrow
I hope to get one from you
every day.

What a dear world
this would be without you.
Good bye till tomorrow
Yours Joe Kelley

I enclose a few more names
there are many I ought to send
but there will I think certainly
close the list yours Joe

Postmarked: Denver Colo Oct 29 (1880)

To: Miss Mary P. Shelby
Care Mr. Magoffin
Manchester P. O.
on Mo. Pacific Ry. Missouri

From: John C. Stallcup

Denver Oct 29th (1880)

My Dear Mary

No letter from you
yesterday nor this morning.
I expected one this morning
and so deferred writing till
this morning.

You will pardon
me for these little deviations
from promises – Especially in
these political excitements.
I send you this morning
the “news”. You will see
by it that the Democracy
are making a good fight.
It is to be hoped that my
judgment on the out look
as I wrote it to you yesterday
is not correct –

Page 2

We will stop at the Windsor
for a while. Welborn, Wright
and Leorency(?) all have left
there. They make no deductions
below daily rates.

I saw
Mrs. Buell last evening and
she would be pleased
to furnish us rooms
with or without table
board – we will look
things over at our leisure
when we get here. We
will just go along as we
feel like.

The weather is
delightful here now but
the political excitement is
absorbing every thing else –

Page 3

I will write you a letter
of more length this
evening or tomorrow
morning. The time for
our happy meeting
is drawing nigh.

I trust you are well and
happy and all things are
going pleasantly with you.

With My love beyond
will close
now Yours Jno. C. Stallcup



Miss, Mary P. Shelton
Care of Maggie
on No. Caspary } Manchester Mo
Miss

Duon Oct. 29th

My dear Mary No letter from you
yesterday or this morning
& expected one this morning
and so deferd writing till
this morning.

You will pardon
me for these little deviations
from promises. Especially in
these political excitement
I send you this morning
the "News" you will see
by it that the democracy
are making a good fight
it is to be hoped that my
judgment on the out look
as I wrote it to you yesterday
is not correct

2

We will stop at The Windsor
for a while. Wilbom Wright
and Sweeney all work left
there. they make no deductions
below daily rates.

I saw
Mrs. Buell last evening and
she would be pleased
to furnish us rooms
~~and~~ with or without table
board - we will look
things over at our leisure
when we get here we
will just go along as we
feel like.

The weather is
delightful here now but
the political excitement is
absorbing every thing else.

I will write you a letter
of more length this
evening or tomorrow
morning. The time for
our happy meeting
is drawing nigh.

I trust you are well and
happy and all things are
going pleasantly with you

With my love upon
I will close

your
yours truly
J. M. Staley

No Envelope or Postmark

To: John C. Stallcup

From: Mary P. Shelby

Woodside Mo.
October 29th, '80

My dear Mr. Stallcup;

Yours
of the 25th & a paper with
a notice of your speech were
both received this afternoon –
I didn't write you last night
because I know you would
receive it no sooner than the
one I would write tonight,
as I am going to town to-
morrow, & mail your letters
on the train – I wondered if
your meeting was really so en-
thusiastic or if part of it was
for effect – I don't dare hope
you will be elected, & it won't
break my heart if you are
not, still it would be my
will – Don't worry about my
writing – I always get rested.

Page 2

Barton declined to write any
letters except to you – I wonder
why I thought your nephew
was named Frank, possibly
because his Father was – I
am glad he is lovable, as is
my Barton, so sensible & in-
dustrious – indeed all she
ought to be – Aunt Susan
says she is so thankful she
isn't to live in Lexington –
So few people even yet know
I am to be married, I am
glad I won't be there to hear
their surprise – I don't think
I need go to town another time
after this, tomorrow I mean –
some of the children will go
in for the cards - & I will

get the list ready – Don't be
afraid to send any more
names – I'll have plenty –
all the family will help in
the addressing -

Uncle is won-
derfully interested in every

Page 3

thing, particularly the lunch –
he hasn't been well – I
am afraid of another attack
of paralysis –

We got a Lexing-
ton paper today & Mr. Darby's
Father has been writing a
book – some medical work –
I hope it will bring some
of the all needful – I am
glad you are so busy, what
will you do with so much
work & a wife too? but I mean
to be such a good one – but you
must remember, I haven't an
even temperament like Barton –
sometimes I am up, sometimes
down – I don't want you to be
disappointed –

I wrote a note to
Sister Eliza today – asking her
to tell no one except Betsy Hart-
ley – the young girl I sent
to Denver sometime ago – I
will have an oversight of her –

Page 4

when I come – Haven't I enough
duties? But you know I will
have our great duty that I mean
nothing shall interfere with –

I write my letters to you, usually
up stairs in the evening, & I talk
as I write – Tonight we are all
talking to the Catholic servant –
I don't mean to shake her faith,
but it seems forlorn, some of it –

Have heard nothing from Pinna,
she had so many delicate chil-
dren, & if the weather is bad, the
road from Elk Hill – the Judge's
place, to the rail-road, is for-
lorn – we may however get through
without any guests, ac-
cept the family here – Well I
must stop, & send you a letter
by Sunday afternoon – if I don't
write every day it is because – the
mail won't go – unless we go to
Kirkwood. I tell you of my day's
shopping – Perhaps Sister Eliza will
come to congratulate you – but she
won't get it until after Sunday, &
the next Sunday you won't be there

Across the first page

I shall hope for a real letter tomorrow – I can cir-
tantly not write you more than four letters more –
I have so little to write, except to remind you, I
am not forgetting I have promised to be always,

Yours ever

Mary

Barton declines to write any
 letters except to you - I wonder
 why I thought your nephew
 who named Frank, possibly
 because his father was - I
 am glad he is comable, so is
 my Guiton, so sensible & in-
 -flections - indeed all she
 ought to be - Aunt Susan
 says she is so thankful she
 isn't to live in Lexington -
 so few people ever get beyond
 I am to be married, I am
 glad - I won't be here to hear
 their surprise - I don't think
 I need go to town another time
 after this, tomorrow I mean -
 some of the children will go
 in for the cards - & I will
 get the list ready - Don't be
 afraid to send any more
 names - I'll have plenty -
 all the family will help in
 the addressing - much is more -
 - deeply interested in every

thing particularly the cough
 he hasn't been long well - I
 am afraid of another attack
 of paralysis - I got a copy
 of your paper today - & Mr. Darby's
 father had been visiting &
 broke - some medical book -
 I hope it will bring some
 of the all needful - I am
 glad you are so busy, what
 will you do with Co much
 work & a wife too? but I mean
 to be such a good one - but you
 must remember, I haven't de-
 color temperament like Geo. Tom-
 son times I am up, sometimes
 down - I don't want you to be
 disappointed - I make a mistake
 sister Elysa today - asking her
 to tell us we except Betty, Hark
 - say - the young girl I sent
 to Decatur about time ago - I
 will have an on sight of her

NOTE: John Calhoun Stallcup mentions his brother, William. He was on of the pioneer business men of Alliance and he owned and conducted a dry goods store for over 40 years according to information sent to me by the Rodman Library in 2006. He died in St. Petersburg, Florida, on Oct. 8, 1918 and was buried in Alliance on October 12th.

Postmarked: Denver Colo Oct 30 (1880)

To: Miss Mary P. Shelby
Manchester P. O.
on Mo. Pacific Ry. Missouri

From: John C. Stallcup

Denver Oct 30th (1880)

My Dear

I have yours of the 25th
and 26th – they make me happy.

My folks at home have not
written me yet. I see by
the papers that my bother
William has been getting
married. I had a letter
from him about two weeks
since and he said nothing
of it. I will get letters
from them all though in
a few days.

I am glad to
know that your friends approve
of your decision and trust
they always will. We will
soon have Barton with us.
I know you will miss her

Page 2

much and she will be lost with
out you – tell her to save those
political effusions of her friend
as I should be pleased to
hear them read by her.

I will try and remember
the proper way to address
Aunt Susan, Aunt Busy,
Miss Janey and Miss Ludie.

To Tuesday the ninth seems
long indeed and if it were

not for political excitement
I don't know how I could
endure the slow drag of the
time. You see we will be
in a turmoil of excitement
until about Thursday of next
week. Then I will have about
two days to settle myself and
start for Woodside.

Page 3

I will start from here on
Saturday morning, will arrive
at Kirkwood on Monday morn-
ing and will get out to Woodside
about as soon as I can con-
veniently which will be about
the same time I arrived
there last time when I
came out. I will drive out
and will then receive full
instructions and do what
is to be done for the morrow.
I presume I will have to
go back to Kirkwood at night.
You have answered all questions
I believe so that I have a
general understanding
since you have com-
menced answering my questions.
You have done well

Page 4

from that first when so much
hung upon the answer. Yet
my heart full of love had
hope when I looked upon your
dear sweet self.

I have the
ring for a plain gold – it
is a daisy.

If I remember the ceremony,
that ring, myself and yourself
together with the minister
are absolutely essential.
We'll all be there. If that
minister does not return in
time he will miss tying the

happiest knot he ever tied
but if he is not there I will not
have time to get one from
St. Louis will I?

Page 5

There are many more names.
I might and probably ought
to add to that list but we
have done well I think to
remember so many.

You say 'Do write one long
letter. I thought all mine
were long letters. I was really
fearful that you would
get tired wading
(Excuse that word) reading
through them --

And then you say to write
what I mean to do &c.
Wait until I get out of this
campaign -- but I'll say this
now. I'll take care of Clients
and together with Mr. Luthe we
will keep on increasing our
business and clients.

Page 6

In short my dear I shall
be entirely devoted to you
and the profession -- and
we will attend to the details
of getting to house keeping &c &c.
I will lay all plans and
schemes I may have before
you as we go along --

And if fair fortune smiles upon
us as I hope -- we will have
enough good acts to do to
keep us happy and busy.

Capt. Rose says he wants us
to live up in his part of the
city as he would like us
for neighbors.

The democracy
have a procession to myself and
the boys are illuminating the

Page 7

windows and say I am in the
way besides they are getting
noisy.

Mr. Shafroth has just
brought the mail - (carriers
only deliver at the office in the
evenings now). I see there
is one from you. Mr. S
guessed the writing and thinks
you are nearly as good to
write as another individual
in Missouri.

I guess I will
have to close this and read
yours and will write you
again in the morning.

I have just read yours.
You are the best letter writer. I read
your letters over and over.

Truly and faithfully Jno. C. Stallcup

Miss Mary P. Shelby
Manchester
on the Pacific Ry. } Missouri

Dear Oct. 30th

My Dear I have yours of the 25th
and 26th. they make me happy
My folks at home have not
written me yet I see by
the papers that my brother
William has been getting
married I had a letter
from him about two weeks
since and he said nothing
of it. I will get letters
from them all though in
a few days.

I am glad to
know that your friends
of your distress and that
they always will. We will
soon have Barton with us.
I know you will miss her

2

and she will be lost with
out you - tell her to see these
political effusions of her friend
as I should be pleased to
hear them read by her

I will try and remember
the proper way to address
"Aunt Susan" "Aunt Betsy"
"Miss Jancy" and "Miss. Tucker"

To Tuesday the ninth seems
long indeed and if it were
not for the political excitement
I dont know how I could
endure the slow drag of the
time. You see we will be
in a turmoil of excitement
until about Thursday of next
week. then I will have about
two days to settle myself and
start for Woodside

3

I will start from here on
Saturday morning will arrive
at Kirkwood on Monday morn-
-ing and will get out to Woodliff
about as soon as I can con-
-veniently which will be about
the same time I arrived
there the last time when I
came out, I will dine out
and I will then receive full
instructions and do what
is to be done for the season
I presume I will have to
go back to Kirkwood at night
You have answered all questions
I believe so that I have a
general understanding
since I have you have com-
menced answering my questions
You have done well.

4

from that first when so much
hung upon the answer. Yet
my heart full of love had
hope, when I looked upon your
dear sweet self

I have the
ring for a plain gold - it
is a ~~very~~ daisy

If I remember the Ceremony
that ring myself and yourself
together with the minister
are the absolutely essential,
we'll all be there. If that
minister does not return in
time he will miss being the
happiest but he can't
but if he is not then I will not
have time to get one from
Spring will do.

5

There are many more names
I might and probably ought
to add to that list but we
have done well I think to
remember so many

You say "do write our long
letter" I thought all mine
were long letters I was really
fearful that you would
get tired reading -
(Excuse that word) reading
through them -

And then you say to write
what I mean to do
wait until I get out of this
Campaign - but I'll say this
now, I'll take care of them
and together with Mr Lathrop we
will keep on increasing our
business and clients.

6

in short my dear I shall
be actually devoted to you
and the profession - and
we will attend to the details
of getting to house keeping &c
I will lay all plans and
schemes I may have before
you as we go along =
And if fair fortune smiles upon
us as I hope - we will have
enough good acts to do to
keep us happy and busy

Capt. Rose says he wants us
to live up in his part of the
city as he would like us
for neighbors

The Democracy
had a procession to night and
the boys are illuminating the

7

windows and say I am in the
way. beside they are getting
noisy =

Mr Shopforth has just
brought the mail - (the carriers
only deliver at the office in the
evenings now) I see there
is one from you Mr D.
guesses the writer and thinks
you are nearly as good to
write as another individual
in Missouri.

I guess I will
have to close this and read
yours. And will write you
again in the morning.

I have just read yours
you are the best letter writer I read
your letters over and over.

Truly and faithfully
J. B. [unclear]

No Envelope or Postmark

To: John C. Stallcup

From: Mary P. Shelby

Woodside

October 30th (1880)

My dear Mr. Stallcup;

Our shopping today was such a success that don't feel usually tired, my dresses are lovely, better than I expected – but you are to see them so soon I won't expatiate.

Your letter was here too, & not with standing “the opening” I found time to read it – I expect to write (crossed out) preach you many sermons since you think I am such a good preacher, I shall not waste my talents – Don't expect too much of our dear friend, I am very human – we preachers don't always practice what we preach – We can have a Sunday afternoon school & let Barton & Dallas join it when they come – you know my dear boy, you don't know one word of your catechism.

Page 2

I don't mean to send you such badly written letters, but am in my usual place, & talking as usual –

Tomorrow I am going to church to hear the Presbyterian parson for the last time – he knows nothing however – the next Sunday unless it is perfectly convenient to go to my own church I mean to stay at home – I meant to be a model engaged woman but I don't so much – I mean to read, but I don't, & only

write because I must – This next week I have an awful amount of packing to do – I hate to begin – it will take a long time to direct those cards – I am thinking of sending the list to the engraver if he will do it – To get that arranged will be something – I have had two or three more letters – one from my old friend Miss Holtzbecker, she advises us both to read the 5th chapter of Ephesians – I have several times.

Page 3

Have heard nothing definite from Mr. Dunlop – he is the preacher you know – but I think he must be home before that – I am going to leave this hoping to add a Sunday word - & write to my little Aunt – She wouldn't read a Sunday letter, but some of us will –

Barton suggests I won't have any time to finish this tomorrow, & I expect she is right – we have late breakfast & then are always hurried to get to Church –

I must have had Julius Caesar sometime, but have forgotten – you can read it to me – you will I am afraid tell me as an old friend once did, that I had gone all to fingers – I can knit always, & am devoted to fancy work – I wish my eyes were stronger I do so want to take some painting lessons from my old teacher

Page 4

Mrs. Wrain

Barton is writing a letter for me tonight. I will probably write you two

more letters & will then ended.
So to be wide awake, & do
justice to old Miss Shelby –
I will have to tell people, as a
lady I knew once did, “that I
married late in life” or will
you be sensitive about marry-
ing an old maid? But I be-
lieve I’ve felt younger lately –

Always yours,
Mary P. Shelby

Goodness -
October 30th

My dear Mr. Challenge;
I am happy
to say was such a success that I
could feel peculiarly true my words
are truly better than I expected -
but you are to see them so soon
I don't repeat - your letter has

been so, & notwithstanding
"the opening" I found time to read
it - I expect to write you
you many evenings, since you
think I am such a good
practitioner, I shall not waste my
talents - Don't expect to much

of me my dear friend, I am my
human - In practice don't
always practice what we preach
I can't leave a Sunday afternoon
about - & let Boston & Dallas
join it when they come - you
know they are boys, you don't
know the word of your catechism

Mrs. Belcher - Boston is im-
iting a letter for me tonight -
I will probably write you two
more letters, & will keep you
in to be made another & as
practice to old Miss Shelby -
I will have to tell people, as a
lady I know once said, that I
would like to be a mill

you in Sweden about many
king an old maid? But I be-
lieve I've felt springer lately -
Always yours,
Mary P. Shelby

603 - 603
Shelby

I don't mean to send you such badly written letters, but am in my usual place, stalling as usual. Tomorrow I am going to church to hear Mr. Priddy - certain person for the last time - he knows nothing however - the next Sunday unless it is per seety convenient to go to my room - church I mean to study at Leipsic - I meant to be a model engaged woman but I don't do much - I mean to read, but I don't, & only write because I must - This book I have an awful amount of packing to do - I have to deposit it with a long time to give these cards - I am thinking of sending the list to the engraver if I will do it - To get that arranged will be something - I have had two or three more letters from my old friend Miss Kealy which she advises me to read the 5th Chapter of Ecclesiastes - I have several times

read them - nothing definite from Mr. Dunlop - he is in the hospital - you know - but I think he must be soon before that - I am going to leave this hoping to add a Sunday word - & write to my little Aunt - she would not be a Sunday letter, but some of us will - Burton suggests I should have any time to give this tomorrow & I expect she is right - I have late breakfast & then am always hurried to get to church - I must have read Julius Caesar some time, but have forgotten - you can read it to me - you will I am afraid till our ho an old friend ever dies that I had gone all to sleep - I can knit always & I am devoted to fancy work - I wish my eyes were stronger - I do so much to take some pain - my lessons from my La ~~La~~

Postmarked: Denver Colo Oct 31 (1880)

To: Miss Mary P. Shelby
Manchester P. O.
on Mo. Pacific Ry. Missouri

From: John C. Stallcup

Denver Oct 31st (1880)

My Dear Mary

There is a
big mob now raging in the
lower part of the city tearing
down China houses, hanging
and killing –

It is a terrible
thing and the Irish are
heading the mob.

It will hurt our party
at the Election. It seems
that misfortune follows our hopes
on every hand.

But enough
mobs and politics.

I was at church
to day. Saw Sister Eliza –
said to her “Miss Shelby will
be here in about two weeks.”
she said “Do you think so?”

Page 2

I said I know she will
then she opened her eyes
and remarked “Well, I
thought it could be so.”
I am sorry Aunt Busy is
so persistent in her notions
but send her my kind
regards and tell her I regret
she does not pleasantly yield
to the inevitable –

You are so sens-
itive that I fear you will be
worried – but don't if you can

help it --

I can't think of dismissing Mr. Luthe but I think we will neither of us have any objections to your being a silent partner.

Page 3

You know silent partners say nothing.

Mr. Luthe says his wife is a good lawyer. That is has good judgment -- I will test your judgment on knotty points. I think you would soon get tired of it.

It is a pity to give up so pretty a name as yours but so it is -- yield all -- for love.

It seems to me that I am most fortunate -- May sweet happiness be ours forever.

Yours Jno. C. Stallcup

Page 4A

The mob is abating -- not much done but the demolishing of shanties.

It is not certain that anyone is killed -- some are wounded.

I trust all will diffuse and that no lives have been lost. My aid de Camp brings reports. I guess I will go out home pretty soon for if I do not I will be

Page 4B

tempted to go down to the
crowd to help disperse it
had it not been for
you and our
coming wedding.
No doubt – I would have
been there before this
but all things shall
be secondary to us
and ours

Yours

Yours

Jno. C.S.

2)

I said I ~~know~~ know she will
then she opened her eyes
and remarked "will I
thought it would be so"

I am sorry am a busy
as. Assistant in her notes
but send her my kind
regards and tell her I regret
she does not pleasantly yield
to the inevitable -

you are so sure
that if you will be
worried - but doubt if you can
help it - I can't think of dis-

missing Mr Luther but I
think we will neither fur-
ther any objections to your
being a silent partner

Mon Oct: 31st

My Dear Mary

There is a
big mob now raging in the
lower part of the city. Tearing
down China houses hanging
and killing - It is a terrible
thing - and the Irish are
leading the mob -

It will hurt our party
at the Election. It seems
that misfortune follows our hopes
on every hand. But enough of
Mobs and politics

I was at church
to day saw Sister Eliza
said to her "Miss Shelby will
be here in about two weeks"
she said "do you think so"

3

You know silent partners
 say nothing Mr. Luche
 says his wife is a good
 lawyer that is his good
 judgment - I will test
 your judgment on
 another point I think
 you would soon get tired
 of it. It is a pity to give
 up so pretty a name as yours
 but so it is - Good all -
 for ever It seems to me that
 I am most fortunate - May
 your happiness be ours for ever
 Yours for all time

64

The mob is eating
 not much done but
 the demolishing of
 shanties It is not
 certain that any one
 is killed some
 are wounded
 I trust all will
 be done and that
 it will be found that
 no lives have been lost
 My next de Camp bump
 up to I guess shall
 be out home pretty soon
 for if it is not I will be

tempted to go down to the
crown. To help dispense it
had it not been for

You and ~~and~~ our
coming wedding
no doubt - I would have
been there before this
but all things shall
be secondary to us

and ours. and
ourselves. yours
ourselves. yours
ourselves. yours



Miss Mary P. Shelby
Manchester
Missouri
On No. Paefordy. }