Dear Bradburn,

I have just received your of the 26<sup>th</sup> ult forwarded to me from Athol.

I came down on Monday last-have been daily expecting you here.

In regard to Mrs. Sargeant—she and her husband have separated—undoubtedly forever. The particulars I have not yet learned from any authentic source. To repeat the stories I heard at Athol would be silly now. I saw her at Hildreth's Tuesday eveing. She appears as usual, calm as a philosopher. The separation was not mentioned directly—but I suppose Mrs. Hildreth intended to allude to it, when, Hildreth and I being speaking of east winds, she asked if we had not had a "terrible east—wind at Athol?" I did not understand her at first—and on "sober second thought" chose not to take—nothing more was said.

I called at Mrs. Sargeant's boarding place last evening . She was not at home. I saw a fiend of hers, Miss Johnson, whom I had formerly seen at Mrs. S's. She said Mrs. S was "happy as she could be"—that she has plenty of work—at \$15. a picture.

I hope you will be here ere[?] long. I have a prospect of a publisher of the first part of my book—indeed I have had an offer-pretty reasonable one, if the man be a perfectly reliable one—I shall probably strike a bargain with him.

Hoping to see you, I am, in haste-

Yours sincerely,

L. Spooner