

Newport News July 4th

Dear Maria

I will try and write a few lines though there is but little news here but you will expect to hear from me and I will try and meet your expectations when I last wrote you I had had a rather poor spell and at present I am not entirely over the effects of it - though I am about and feel pretty well, but I am quite weak and can eat but little without its hurting me so I have to be very careful of my diet - and I think with care I will be all right again in a few days we cant get every thing here that just suits our taste and agrees with us best but I cook a little rice, or