

Washington City.  
April 7. 1844

Married, I have rec<sup>d</sup>. no letter from home this week, the last was from Edward (28<sup>th</sup> March) but I have one dated 3<sup>rd</sup> April from Mr. Barrett on business, saying "no news," so all well.

I have dipped my pen in ink to write you a letter but have no notion of what the letter is to contain.

Mr. Foot returned last Thursday evening from N. H. with his wife and has taken lodgings in Pennsylvania Avenue nearly opposite to my boarding house. He yesterday gave me an invitation to call & see his lady, of which invitation I shall early avail myself.

The ladies of the members, of whom there are many here, have very little association, except those at the same boarding house. They spend their time in their own chambers a very large part of the time. They go occasionally to the parlors of the public officers. It is now spring and the public grounds around the Capitol are highly decorated & the grass is now green & the early flowers are out but the leaves have not appeared on the trees. These ornamented grounds include within the iron railing on the east & west front about thirty acres. It has a very great variety of trees, shrubbery & flowers & has extensive walks, fountains & jets of water. In these grounds the ladies walk in pleasant weather, & many have children with them. The ladies every week & sometimes every day visit the galleries of the Capitol & listen to the debates. They also occupy