

84

April the 8th 1855

We have the bed of the

Why do I gaze upon you

James M. Starr
Capt. Drutice
Samuel

Why do I gaze upon you

the deserted dwelling

For just in the edge of the woods skirting a
beautiful little village, may be seen an old
house, which to an outward observer shows signs
of its being deserted. And if, with a violent breeze windows
and doors just ready to tumble down, they pronounce it
deserted. Their suspicions would immediately be confirmed
on stepping over the threshold. The boards crack & snap
under their feet and they try to catch hold of something
that would be apt to save them were they to fall through
the floor. The house is searched from cellar to garret
and also the ground around it. The house has long ago
tumbled down and the boards & timbers lie
rotting on the ground. After searching house & premises
they return to the village where they learn a little of
its history. It was once the happy home of a farmer
his wife & three children. When first inhabited by them
it was ~~considered~~ envied by many. It was so placed with
its ~~location~~ located just one side of ~~the river~~
house a brook went babbling by, on which day by
day those three children paddled and waded.
They spent most of their times in chasing butterflies
and paddling on the brook while their mother was
occupied in the house her daily round of duties. Churning
milk churning, mashing milk pails, and all the necessary duties
of a homestead. The parlor which now looks so large and homely was
then adorned with shining milk pails ready for use
and the parlor with nice white & blue dishes. Every part
of the house bore evident marks of good house wifery.

Cotton Cloth 60

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Mary Mary & Starr
Cleaning the house
to view the interior
of the house we
will visit the grounds
surrounding it. A little
way from the house a brook
went babbling by and its
luteal notes were heard
little bits of fern were seen
growing up or down the
bank of the brook. The near
approach of anyone
And on the other
side of the house were large
piles of wood and bark
of the house were most beautiful
leaving the front of
the house to reveal the
village which could be
plainly seen every thing denoted
the want of proper training

Mary & Starr