Washington Thursday Jan. 1st 1863

Dear

The year has passed beautifully, it has been a mild and bright day. The Department of the Fort has been (as usual) closed, and the whole City (except) went at 12 o'clock to pay their respects to the President. The Foreign Minister and the officers of the army and navy paid their respects before 12.

First Frost. Hallack at Mr. Sney's House. Genl. Hiney, Mr. Hindey, Mr. Scott, Commodore Smith and Admiral Fort at Mr. Sney's. Stanton, supper lights of both army and navy were quite plenty. The expected Proclamation is to come to-night in the "Star." It carries out the one issued a hundred days ago. Mr. Lincoln looks quite as well as he did a year ago. I have seen him frequently during the year. In the summer, he used to ride out with a body guard of ten or twelve mounted Carriages around his carriage. I think he has dispensed with that of later. That was not done at his desire, but at the time of friends who feared for his life. Mr. Lincoln declined the State Carriage, and never the Dinner. Once a "Gentlemen when" at the Parlor room and announced the name of each visitor in a loud voice or the entrance of the room. I suppose it was "done" in the English style. No particular news today, but indications of Army movements and some battle. Adjusted some to-day at an elegant and costly luncheon dinner given to the Patients at The Ascension Church Hospital. No choice. Beth Lane was to be formed on any table in the City. The men were at the greatest elevation, the tables handsomely. I was at "Welles's" this evening, carousing with a few of Shoulder-stick them at one time. It is quite disgusting to see (even bright) such neglect of duty.
Washington, Friday, July 2, 1863.

Another most delightful day. The New year commenced
by smilingly. May it be an indication of the
future fortunes of our country, and May Peace
through our whole land smile as brightly long
before we see the last of 1863.

It is reported to-night that a great battle was fought
yesterday in Tennessee between Rosecrans and Johnston.
result not known. Genl. C.F. Butler is succeeded
to-night at Holland. He has just arrived from New
Orleans, being relieved by Genl. Banks. Genl. McPherson
also here again before the courts of inquiry. As a bit of
it is rumored that he is to take Stanton's place
as Secy. of War. Hope it is true. The Avenue seems to
be more through the sun afternoons. Everybody in
out these pleasant evening. Either riding or walking,
and everything is seen from the Millionaire to the
beggar. The carriages of Foreign Ministers, of Cabinet Ministers,
can usually seen in Motion, and the President's
Carriage either at the door of postman. One will
frequently see standing at the front of some Merchant's
door while Mr. S. sits in his seat and informs the
rider goods which the Obscureman-Clerk brings out to
her. I called at Mr. Jordan's this evening a few
minutes, and spent one hour or two with Cath's and
Rosie. I bought a dress at the youngest daughter of Mrs. charger
last night mentioned to her father at Mr. St. Louis,
and a clothe in the Sand Office, a Celestial piece,
Washington, Saturday, June 3, 1863

We could not have finer weather the air is soft and lovely as May. It is much like a northern Indian summer. The same blue haze rests upon the horizon. The roads and fields are dry and everything (outdoors) invites one to make excursions.

But the beautiful groves on the hill tops have a mournful look, now on this side of the river. Everything near the March of the Camp on the Virginia side of the river the beautiful groves themselves seem nearly all been destroyed, to give a good and unmeaning aspect to the cannon in the Fort, which crown the hill tops. War like a destroying angel has passed over the fair fields and the hills and valley of the "old dominion."

Rebellion has left a bitter cup to her lips. War, like the ancient Sisera, has swept over her fields, leaving them desolate.

A terrible battle has been raging near Nashville Tenn. for the last two or three days. We get no definite news from there to-night and do not yet know the result. But from all accounts it is the bloodiest battle of the war yet fought. Franklin must be yet in the Hospital from his wounds re-ec on the 8th at Franklin. The men repeat active operations now in the southwest. Richardsburg. I think it must be in our hands it not till soon. I write home to say sending a draft for $75. I went up to the Mary yarn after office hours and took dinner at Mr. Angel's. Spent an hour or two very pleasantly. His Brother from Nyc City was there a very funny, intelligent man. I walked back to my lodgings from 2 1/2 miles, Mr. Angel moves to Portage at the 1st of the month he having purchased a farm there.
Sunday, January 4th, 1863, Washington D.C.

A painful suspense there we all have been left in to day in reference to the great Battle reported in Tennessee. The "Sunday Morning Chronicle" has nothing definite as to the result. This silence is rather ominous of evil, good news tends faster than these over the lines. But the lines may be drawn. The little硅子 山ances as that idea fell tomorrow, I attended religious service at the Capitol, this morning. I like to stroll up there on Sunday Morning, as not only hear the old Chaplin preach, and Mrs. Ramsey sing. But to gaze on nature. Fine picture of the Emigrant Point, while decorating the Western State Case of the Scuttle Window. The picture is a study. Beautiful on the wall and ceiling. All the wide space is front as you ascend the stairs. I cannot but pronounce it the finest painting in the Capitol, it is so life-like, return to nature. I spent an hour or two at Charity this evening. I think his confinement in the Hospital is undermining his health. He must have an air in which he can breathe. Much of the time. In any event this evening called at Milton. There was great anxiety manifested to hear from Rosecrantz. May God prosper you there. It is rumored that Rosecrantz is to resign and Hooker be appointed to the Command of the Army of the Potomac. Had a conversation with Eli Shaver in reference to his proposed Florida Emigration Scheme. He is quite familiar with people. Sent the key of men off now it in cabinet meeting.
Washington Monroe January 5th 1863

Great excitement in the city to-night. We are victorious at Murfreesboro. A dispatch has been received from Rosencranz setting the Matter at rest and I breathe easier again. And we also hear that in all probability Richmond will fall, all our news from the South East is highly favorable. There is no doubt but the Rebels were largely reinforced in Tennessee during the past few days. Eighty four days' fight from Richmond or rather from the Army before Fredericksburg. The Rebels do not the least of their system of Rail Roads, and their facilities for moving troops at any given point has given them a great advantage. Repeatedly since they have been able to reinforce their army during battle. Especially since they are able to do so at the first battle of Ooltewah. In which won them a victory and an ending dishonor. It has been continued that their system of railroads were designed, and the roads were constructed with the most spirit of things in five years before the Rebellion broke out. But the chief combinator were silently preparing for it. The court got in, they were built to a great extent with the Eastern Capitol at the commencement of the war it is said that the southern States were inundated to the North to hundreds millions of dollars, much of which even came on Mercantile transactions. We got news today of the loss of the gallant little Monitor off Cape Hatteras. She grounded during a heavy sea and some twenty men swept down with her or were lost at this time. The "Rhode Island" had her on tour.
Washington Tuesday, Jan'y 6th 1863

The weather has been delightfully warm and pleasant every day since the New Year came. We went to stay at her residence all the afternoon. And I got some rest in coming from the office without my umbrella. That article is a sorrow which is frequently absent when most needed, a fair type of the sorrows which exist at the "Contraband Depot" in this city, only the advantage is decidedly on the side of the umbrella. For that is entirely subject to your will and pleasure - and will go if you carry it, and at least you cannot blame it for not being where you want it to be, and is always ready to do its duty. Not so the "Contraband." He resides in his own house but is never quite ready or willing where there is work to do. The whole idea of Freedom in "Nothing to do - a meal Plenty to Eat." Union soldiers look brighter to-day. There is more doubt of our great success in consequent defeat at Fredericksburg. "All hail the Stars and Stripes." It is a pity that the Rebel Army now in V. A. was not on the N. Y. or out of the atmosphere of Washington where the 'Quid Pro Quo' of the Gov't could not operate to control our Army which continues with it. All our Penn's are successful except those on the Potomac. got letter from home to-day. "Alas!" has been see at last, contented duly, associates except to have sent "Nellie" a Byte. Must send him one by mail. Nellie must not be neglected. He will make a man yet.
Washington Wednesday Jan'y 7th 1863

quite cold to day, with a sharp severe wind. Went to the Post Office with Lieut. Belden to day, left his papers, and we are to call tomorrow afternoon. It is very quiet in the city. No further news from the South West. Lord D. Butler is here from New Orleans still where he is to be pleased to go yet not known. The Country cannot well spare him at this crisis. He would make an admirable Sec'y of War. His administrative abilities are not equalized in this country. My landlord is an Englishman, Mr. Cadman. He rents rooms, and takes rents. His name is a burst. He has an officer of Cavalry who has been much dinned in the English Army. He is an Englishman, and all through the carriage train, has a quantity of English slang in his composition. He is a great story-teller and tells large stories. He has been seen noticed by the Duke of Richmond. Mr. Cadman likes a good dinner and consequently we live pretty well. He thinks more of his dog, and his gun, and foxhounds than any Yankee could. And English foxhunting and horse racing are his hobbies. He is in good employ here, and is an excellent clerk. Mr. McCrery is an Artist painter, at our table. He gets the adulation toners to Brady's Photograph. He is a half Italian, half Irish, and an excellent.tenor with himself. A very great talker and an unerring critic of other artists. Interestingly, Lieut. Belden stays with me. At night we have breakfast with me in the evening.
Washington Thursday January 8th 1862

This is the Anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, It brings to Mind the exploits of Andrew Jackson, & that his old mantle and white hat were still in the White House. The present time requires her energy, her fire and resolution. The country has been calling for "Jackson." Indeed our arms, but as yet None has appeared. It is said that the crisis brings the men, but the men has not appeared as yet. Perhaps the crisis has not yet arrived, perhaps we have not yet suffered enough, have not sacrificed enough. We are not yet humbled enough, and our cause has not yet become desperate enough. Well, we must wait and suffer still. In God's own time the black clouds of war will clear away and we shall behold again the sun of peace and national security. Our news from Pittsburg near present. The city is not yet our as new seaphone. The Rebel are those in great strength but the city must fall, but only after much hand fighting. Went to the pay office again today and succeeded in getting the "greenbacks" for Saint Delores at least fifty, others were wanting in the office. We passed by and got through in half an hour. There is nothing like rushing ahead. The "red tape" office called at Mr. Hartley this morning. That has a large estate and wants to see Julia, this attending Madame Borel school where they speak nothing but French. Julia wonders like that. It has been a fine winter day. Bright, but cold in the evening, indications of snow. in the afternoon a few flakes soon
Friday, July 9, 1863

Mr. Stanton’s news today.’s exploit, old Elihu Whitney, died yesterday. Very suddenly. Agree about eighteen hours. His funeral takes place this afternoon. He had been a long time in public life as Controller of the Treasury, and he possessed the unbounded confidence of all who knew his character. His remainder, called the May Williams, the evening before him, for Isaac Belden. But stout stone. Then the in attendance upon Mr. Williams. Why, he. The May 17 as full of talk and laugh stories as ever. He is beginning to hear his remarks upon men and things in general. But I think the is diminished. He speaks with a flow of all personal feelings of affection and admiration, which used to distinguish him when speaking of those opposed to him in politics or otherwise have become quite softened. He has learned much the last few years.

Congress does not seem to be doing much. The Currency Bill. The Financial Measure of Mr. Chase. If a plan will be submitted by outside influence. Men’s will acknowledge the patriotic

Once the majority of such a bill but I fear will lack the courage to face the opposition of the Banks and interest parties. Mr. Chase, the head of the Treasury, recommends that all paper money shall be U.S. Money and that all Banking Institutions shall be based on U.S. Stocks. That would give us a safe and uniform currency. There seems to be an increasing desire to see the thirtieth War ended. Negro or No Negro. Slavery or No Slavery. It does seem proportion to me that we would be spending millions, say hundreds of millions, and sacrificing scores of thousands of lives to establish Slavery in our own. Who are we to come and hold our own and place our success without bringing Slavery into the question.
Washington Saturday evening 18th 1863

It has been a miserable cold rainy day, to night it has formed night accordance I have not been raining all day. I send to my room from the office after three o'clock and by virtue of rubber boots and umbrella had not yet not. Made one of our Brandish men named George Johnson our Englishman who was in the London Mary and what is more was one of the famous "Dr. Wellman" which made the celebrated "Charge at Balaclava". He is about 25 years old. My Missouri friends being a thorough soldier, he is Captain in the Engineers. We do not come till five o'clock that is too late for me. It seems Englishman to eat their dinners often black but not American. How can our dinners ever be properly gotten up and the dishes are of the best that Market has well cooked? There is sure to be small pot occasionally breaking out in the Hospital near over here in the Retart office. That is not a very pleasant idea, such cases Frenemy are immediately sent off to the annexed hospitals at Balaclava. The former home of the celebrated Lord Dardor

of avocation of memory. Dardor was Minister in France afterwards and died on his way to meet the Emperor Napoleon at Villa in 1812. No less important, "all quiet on the Potomac" Banks getting ready at Beaton Roscom in his West are to help Sherman take that strong hold. Roscom in is in pursuit of the Rebels since the Battle of Fredericksburg some movement is said to be on foot from Suffolk to towards North Carolina. I could not go out to right on account of the rain to take my accustom walk. I fear I shall not be able to sleep well to night.
Washington Sunday June 11th 1863.

Attended religious service in the Senate Chamber this morning. If the service was not so very interesting one can endure even a dull sermon while rolling in a Senatorial chair. Charles Stockton held both in the other chamber. The engimics are very busy since the scene of last night, but the weather has not been unpleasant today. We had just gone with Colby and a variety of visitators, had a talk at dinner with Johnson of the 5th Brigade. He gave me a Minot's account of the Charge. He lost 150 men over out of the smoke. Near one hundred officers were stove in with more that wounded. The last were killed and wounded, the Johnson had his horse killed and got a shell through the leg. I went down to Williams; this morning as shown to, always see a number there. I knew who sold me the News of there in camp. Then told by Maj. Chase that the Rebels are reported to have captured Fredericksburg with two prisoners and the Virginia Harriet Lane. I think it is a lie. There is a great deal of spreading among the thinking affairs and demand about the Union. They are tired of fighting for the Negro. I think Mr. Lincoln intended to give the Rebels a severe blow by his proclamation of freedom, coming up about abolishing Slavery there, ending the Rebellion, without, and short sighted men declare it to be all for the Abolition of Slavery. Went over on 7th street and spent an hour with Sallie, a lady from Elmira, who sustained her with a $1500 Photographic Album. Her son was in the Hospital. They had been spending the afternoon at Fulton Gardner with the baby, which is growing fast rapidly.
Washington Monday January 12, 1863

The capture of General Sterling. The steamer "Harriet Lane" by the Rebels has become a serious fact and is not a "falscible" and what is full as bad. Our forces were badly repulsed at Pickwick with nearly all its men. Our Army of the Potomac is still able on this side of the Potomac near Washington. There are 40,000 men enough to hold the city with their officers every day, and for the most part. Made proper to wear their Uniform on the Avenue. To keep with their command in the camps.

I was pleased this morning where the Examining Board of the Land Office that it is, to examine the Patent Deeds and records after they are signed by the writer. It is a place of considerable responsibility in importance.

I was at Tom Martin's Room an hour or two tonight. He seems to be doing ever afterward hearing on some of the individuals to the great crowd at Williams Star and eagle and smaller birds very plentiful. Met the distinguished Lawyer of Boston. He is here as the Attorney the War Department. Also Sen. L. Allen of Boston.

Tom Martin Austin from Auburn New York has his office Room below that at my present place of abode. He invited me to call and see him this morning and I must do so. There is plenty of Small Lot near the city or rather in the suburbs. Not directly in one circuit about 250 cases are reported among the Negroes near the Contraband depot and 12th Street. There are many ESS cases now all over the city.
The first thing that came in the morning, is the cry of the news boys, "Baltimore Sun and Clipper. "Morning Chronicle." "Baltimore Sun."
At 3 o'clock the "Star," about 4 o'clock, it is "Star & Paster" and "Union Vost." After the York Mail got in, which is about 6 o'clock, the boys went through the streets crying, "New York Herald, Tribune, and Times." The Baltimore papers and the Washington papers, are all set, three cents.

The NY, at 50c, which are about three times the size of the "Sun," or "Star." The old "Intelligencer." is distributed without any noise.

It stands on its dignity. Yea, when it was forty years ago, never exercised or very diurnal in anything. Firming its sails to meet the breeze as soon as fair weather allows, it has, like through all administration for half a century, and almost always enjoyed the patronage of the Post until now. The Globe and the Republican are also daily papers. Nothing new to any all quiet. The first seems existing (like Mr. Mill's Parker) for something to turn as. If it could only hatch out a Military genius, who could lead an army into Victory in Virginia, it would pay for setting still. Victory is what we want. Now with gold at sixty per cent, our Treasury Notes.

There not labored very hard to day on the "Recon." have not had much to do. Then down to Williams and bought a few of Dr. Mill's and Dr. Reintgen's there, Dr. Martin Koehler, before me to see att the office. The hundreds of offices around the city, have got what can foresee time, was a Paradise to the Southern Emplorses in the Department of the Gov't, that is, "High Salaries and nothing to do."

CE6
Washington Wednesday January 14th 1863

As gloomy and as dark as two years ago are the days now. When we look into the future for our country, dark days are those, and it looks dark now for the preservation of our Union. Our last scheme seems to be lying idle or baffled everywhere by our alert enemies. But worse than all, there are indications of Mutiny among ourselves. The needlessly and unhesitatingly

first manifested in the Management of the war has

resulted in a storm in the North and South that

bids alike and threatening, before our eyes and

side of the war. And now, the political leaders say,

and the map of the people believe that the object of the

war is to save the Negroes (an abolition theme) and they

reject abolitionists as well as the Negroes. Under present

circumstances no Union, or re-constitution can take place

nothing in fact but ending the Rebel, entirely excluding

them. Can bring Peace, it don't now look as though we

were able to do that. And in any case, the South may

they will accept the terms. Worst of all independence. With

the War must continue for a long while yet. (Stationary 14)

got letters from home & one from Grant. Called and spent an hour with Mr. Harris and Mr.

I consider him a giving man. He certainly is aathing one.

There is no news in particular, quite a financial panic of

this. Miserable Congress does not adopt Mr. Chase Measure

we shall go to term soon.
Washington Thursday Jan'y 15th 1863

I have reason to be thankful that my health is so good. Today I have felt exceedingly well and have been quite abroad all day although I have not done much on the Board. Josephine (my E P's wife) and Mrs J P Knowles called where I was at my Signal house and we spent a couple of hours with them. Having them round the Post Office and Dead Letter Office. We also visited Mr Meehers Picture gallery on 2st. The ladies were much pleased with all they saw.

I promised to go out to Fort Gaines tomorrow and return them Call. I only hope that I have not been very neighborly with my Signal Friends of the 138th. They having been out to Fort Gaines. But it is difficult getting there on foot after leaving the cars.

I spent an hour with the Sallie. The Ascription Hospital is taken

up. The Surgeon General told Sallie that he could have his choice of all the Hospitals in the District and he transferred to where he chose. He decided tomorrow. The baby is growing finely on milk. She has never been out much. Called at Fort Mecum and stayed till past 8. Mr and Mrs White then came and brought us dinner. Went to Rochester and spent some time there.

Mr D Tom Whitty from Rochester. Heard something from Mr. Reed (in a newspaper) of a secret Society of Southern Gentlemen now forming in the City to act in support of the Govt. He must write me and tell me all about it if he can and whether I should write a Dame a Democrat. Man two years ago when we were in great need I shall be in favor of Necessity. No way had been a good West and from Newports taken by the Rebels on the Cumberland River. The Army of the Potomac. It is reported to be two. Called up from Mr. Archer. Very Martin, from Autumn Searl-Mrs Meehers (Mr. Clark's) and Mrs Meehers also from Autumn 1861.
Washington Friday Jan 16th 1863

Rumors today of a Movement of the Army of the Potomac. It is believed to be a good time for it. The Rebels have undoubtedly been sending off a portion of their Army to Vicksburg and I suppose and I think our Army will cross the River above Fredericksburg but perhaps below. More Battles and more Killed and Wounded. Poor boys and selling. But perhaps the War is just beginning. We must and will fight for years for the preservation of the Union. Some of our finances are not in a good condition. That is seems to be now the worst feature of the business. But the Rebels must be crushed the count off in that respect.

We have at any rate got the most of them and the most Money and can stand the War the longest time. Young Ed. Rogers from Lyons called upon me this day and we agreed to go write the Camps of the 19th together this afternoon but I have not seen him since and waited so long for him that I could not go myself. Bought some Books for the Boys which I will send by Mail tomorrow. I am quite well pleased with my new position in the Office as Examiner of Patent Deeds. The Board is composed of three, Mr. Martin Beck, Mr. O. Hall, and myself. We also examine the Records. The Churches are all to be given up and the "Extension" to other of Patrons. But the order is not in regard to that church that has been countermanded. God has ordered it

he is ready tomorrow for 100 patients again.
Saturday, Jan'y. 17, 1863.

Home to night. The Army have encamped the Rappahannock below Frederick. About 10 Miles. We shall hear of a Battle in a day or two. The Patent Office is being cleaned of Patients to-day. It may be it is only to make room for more correspondent. W. E. had to finish up yesterday and today. the weather has been very cold. It is freezing with wind. Capt. Stemn called this morning leaving just after me from yours one visit. He is bound for the Army. I called upon Panmure this evening and also saw Mr. Whitt Red. Where I spent a couple of hours, very pleasantly. They seem to think a great deal of me. I expect he will induce my name to the Patriotic League for Membership. I don't know—what it is exactly, but think the object good if it is to expose traitors in office or out of office, and withheld those Government at all rears. I called when Hon. Mr. Davis came. Mr. Davis had quite a talk with him about the Cuban financial scheme. He is in one of the Eastern Banks. It will interfere with some of his Bank constituents to support Mr. C. He calls, once and the same Misunderstand by other Members will defeat the Measure. I tell Mr. Redman to Mr. D. upon this matter. Told him that dispositions in Congress upon this matter was injurin in the Country. Just how much from the rebel states, and that all Banks of issues were unconstitutional. My View was such was the opinion of many of our friends.
Washington Sunday January 18th 1863
A fine cold winter morning, ground snow frozen.
attended religious service in the Capitol, heard Mr. Stedman (the Chaplain) with a look at Lecter's picture of the Emigrants. The more I look at it the more I admire it. Both Ramsey always sings with one other female and three male sing at the Hall of the Home Democracy. She is a public singer at concerts and other places particularly at the Hotel for the soldier. She and her intended husband Mr. Hume about all their time for the soldier, they have raised a library for them. I visited the Accrington Hospital. It is again full of patients, and that as busy as ever. I spent an hour or two in their rooms after he left the hospital to be with them. held the baby while it went to sleep sucking its thumb. I was a little surprised when the baby said to me to stay and play a game of check. I do not. Then any game Democracy or seminary evening. I told him so. I suppose. It is from habit. I do not think it is very much except for the Sabbath as a holy day. It may be from respect to the habit and teaching of my Father. But then the Holy Sabbath Night and Deb Sabbath Night. So there I am again. Then I was told in New London Democracy began at sundown, Saturday, and ended at sundown. Sunday. Called at Mr. Williams. And went on home and then to my room. Williams intends to sell his property in New London and live here altogether. That may be it. Let him know it would not suit them. In his place...
Monday June 17th 1863

This has been another cold day but clear and pleasant. I did not have much to do in the office after making out my weekly report. All seems to be in uncertainty in regard to the movements of the Army of the Potomac. But I think it is again over the Rappahannock. Went up to George Town yesterday in the evening with a view of going out to Fort James but was too late. So I came back to Brown. The Metropolitan) where I met John C. Adams. He is a "Chief of the old Block" also met Capt. Scott there. He agreed to go up to the 138th Rifts tomorrow. He intends to return to the Army in a day or two.

Important news (which seems to be official) from Arkansas River. Seven Rebs of rebels taken prisoners and a great amount of stores and ammunition, Genl. McPherson in command of our troops.

I called at Charley and stayed an hour and then went to Old Fellows Hall to hear readings or recitations from "Madame Sissy Bell." Her recitation were very good. He had given a good house. James E. Lockwood and George Vanderhoff both read to night. The former in the Senate Chamber and the latter in Millard's Hall. I went to see Vanderhoff tomorrow night. I do not get homesome sometimes but not often with my Books and my writing. My room with a good fire I enjoy myself tolerably well. I go into the Halls almost every night but do not often sit down, always meet old friends and acquaintances there. shoulder stitches one rather more scarce since a late order ordering all officers to their commands. sent three newspapers home today, got No letter.
Washington Tuesday July 20th 1863.

A cold wind with cold all day. But Capt. Scott and myself started about noon for Fort Gaines and vicinity, which we visited and returned to the city about 5 P.M. I saw a number of Syons People attached to the 130th
Fort Gaines is a very small affair but is situated on quite a commanding position. We met some few from Washington on our way back to Georgetown, having rode up there in the bus. We reached at the half past 5. Miles, I think I shall sleep well to-night. A thousand rumors are afloat in reference to the movements of the Army of the Potomac. But nothing in public is reliable in reference to any movement as yet but something is going on, we shall know what soon. Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Ross are Lady as they started for Syons to-day. He on Fellsburg of Montgomery, Capt. Scott goes back to his Rest on Thursday next. There is a great deal of noisiness about as I expected but tomorrow Night. I met in at Villards house. Many of the Army quite scarce. The Hotel is full of strangers who come and go all the time. As if it were full of New faces almost every day. It is decidedly the Hotel of Washington. It is said that the operators are making 12,000 from six to eight hundred guns who keep their cannon at least four dollars a day. It is advised to stow away to-morrow. I think we will have a snow storm to-morrow.
Washington, Wednesday, Jan'y 21st 1863

No snow storm but a cold, windy rainy day all last night. It seemed to pour down, and on the wind came the rain against my window. I could not help thinking of the thousands of poor soldiers who must lie on the ground with only a partial shelter from the storm, and had I been as young and vigorous as I was twenty years ago—\ I should have felt almost guilty as I drew the covering around me in my warm bed, so comfortable, and some from the hardships and dangers which I should have felt at my duty to those in the present crisis.

Cpt. Jervis called at the office and stayed a little while with me. My roommates insist where my having charge of the room and signing my name first to all documents. Well, neither the responsibility nor the labor is very great.

I went to hear Geo. Landerhoff read this evening at Walker's Hall. He read from "Les Misérables." "Oliver Twist." The opening of the former and the mid at April. And the Council of Mr. Bumble and Mr. Corney from the latter. It was most estimable. He speaks Bumble in giving all the delicate touches. If feeling by countenance and gesture, his face expressing as much as his words, but his voice is not as clear and distinct as Bumble, yet he is evidently a more cultivated and better educated man. The Hall was full attendants.

Here is another thing New-Tuesday, see as yet known nothing from below or whether the Army has moved.

Write either a long letter to H. D. or concluded some reference to your reading and studies, knowing you like an electric bag.
Washington Thursday January 22nd 1863

Another chilly, wet, misty, Monday. Agy. It has been
slopping quietly. But we were somewhat startled to learn
at night that Maj. Gen. Fitz John Porter was "cachined and
dismounted, from the screen." The verdict of the court is said
to have been unanimous. McDowell will come out better.
There is a rumor this morning that there has been
another battle near Frederick IN. and that Gen. Hooker
is mortally wounded. But I think it is only a rumor.
The evening "Republican" contained it. Genl. Burnside addressed
the army of the Potomac in the "Hall" this evening.

My old friend, John Merchant, and Lady from Lyons called
on me this morning. I showed them round the Post Office
and this evening called and spent an hour or two with
them at Mr. Binney's, where they are stopping on furlough.

Mrs. Merchant, who was Harriet Cole, daughter of Joseph Cole, died
in a cousin of Mr. Osmond, Mr. P. is one of the wealthiest men
of Washington, has been here near forty years.

A girl who has been with the army, and acted as female scout
in "Seized" Col. called here while we were at dinner
to see Capt. Johnson of the "Light Brigade" distinction. She said
she would not see her. She claims that she promised to marry
Mrs. and seemed quite disappointed. I did not see her.

I weighed 142 lb. today. Am well and hearty, as I expected
for dinner today we had a nice meat pie, chicken & beef,
potatoes, sirloin, creamed cabbage, and celery. In desert
rice pudding with a girls of tea. We came at 5 O'clock

$30.00 per month for room and board. Fine light
Friday Jan'y. 23d 1863

It has been quite pleasant to stay overhead but Monday came and took all the crops of the theatre. No particular news from the Army or from any other quarter. Congress seems disposed to meet Mr. Chase's View, and I think that his financial scheme will be adopted in the main. That is for the Gov't to furnish the circulation for the whole country by means of uniform currency and thus the present Bank circulation (Bills, etc.) out of existence. The Gov't would gain the interest on such circulation as it would be equivalent to a loan without interest. The people would gain from the enormous bank notes passing for exchange as the Gov't Bills would be current everywhere and a legal tender, and to prevent any redundancy of circulation any surplus could be converted into 6 per cent, thirty year Gov't Bonds. These Bonds would act like a safe deposit to the circulation. I spent one hour or two at Dr. Munroe's, with Mr. Dr. Munroe of Comanaqua, her husband in Sient. and Stanton at one of thefirst near the city. His wife (Kate Adam) is on a visit to him. She is a very lovely woman, as nice as an amiable girl. They succeeded to Flatter me very much at Dr. Munroe by speaking in very high terms of me almost before my face. Perhaps they feel all they say. They are certainly very good friends to me. Their company is rather more after my style than that which I am in in this English home. But the people here do all they can to please me, and know how to set a good table. Meet Mr. Scott of New York, today the is in the State Department, Brandon on my arm. I must call them soon.
Washington Saturday morning, 24th 1863

Very nice and pleasant to-day, not much like winter.

The line piled a quiet day. No storming, not much noise, and no rumbling armies. Some accounts of our Western Frontiers have not been published. The news boys cry it as another Union victory. Not in their eyes, but such a one as we need them badly just now. I cannot imagine where we are drifting to, as a Nation.

Our Military Army and (I may almost say again) our brave competent to command it. A country with unexhaustible resources and (I may almost say again) our brave competent to direct and apply its energies. In the present serious crisis, we have nearly no valiant Statesmen, no public men (who are) to the "Arm," directing the affairs of the Nation. No Military genius to direct our present "Army of the Potomac," and the army itself is worn out by exposure, not by experience of officers and desertion at a fearful rate. Then as long as the States have joined in failing, how is it ever to be recruited or provided from ritter arms, unable as soon as is the case?

I have spent the rest of the evening with Vanmeter at his office on the Avenue. I was (quite sober), he was in the spirit of absence and self-confidence, but soon and quickly. Poor Bouge. Twenty years ago he was the "nice young man," the Leader know, now getting old, living as it seems by chance, the son of his former self.

The last effects of "Rain at Home," I have till been interested by any calls at day, have wished some of you not read a good deal
Sunday, June 25th 1863.

Attended religious service in the Senate Chamber this morning. Heard Mr. Conway from Cincinnati. His sermon was most excellent till he began to treat on the subject of slavery. On that he was most solicitous, although a Virginian. He was fairly driven out of Washington a few years ago for preaching Gentile Slavery sermons in the Methodist Church, the Methodists being his hobby. Came home with Wendell Phillips and his friend several times. We dined at five on Sunday, after which I spent an hour and a half on the Ascension Hospital and then called upon Mr. & Mrs. Denison at the "German House" where I spent an hour with Capt. Denison, Judge Phelps from Commodore. were there. From there I went down to Richmond to hear any news which might be stirring. It is better there to Night that Lord Darnley has resigned the command of the "Army of the Potomac." If it is true, it is well. I do not think he has confidence in himself, and I doubt whether the other officers have enough confidence in him. Who is to follow? Joseph Hooker. I think. Conversed awhile with Mr. Hatcher, who has two sons (officers) in the army. He thinks they are the smartest and the nearest in the army. Seeed and talked awhile with Dr. Sheppard, of the Medical Director Office. He understood the late Capt. John W. Stedman was made out all of Dr. Bums's work. Dr. in the Surgeon, superintending the Ascension Field Hospital, has receded formerly. Now only two. No new news at all to say we are expecting to hear from our army in N.C. Army day Negro and also from the South-western armies.
Washington, Monday Jan. 26th 1863

Nell. York Bannister has resigned, and "Fighting Joe" Hancock is in command of the Army of the Potomac; and Genl. Sumner & Franklin are relieved of their command. What this last thing means remains to be seen. Genl. Morton refuses to accept the post.

I hear the defeat, while these movements may have some effect, while these movements may have some effect. Every God has his favorite, and devoted friends who are always ready to serve by him. His service is a gallant office. He may be the man for the place, we shall see soon. For other particular news to-day, gold is 13 1/2 the highest yet. The Democrats of the country are likely to defeat the measures for a Uniform & Summary trial. Many twisting M.C. Nothing to a collection, or extended in Banks at home. It would not cut off their sale of exchange and then they could not "burn" up once in acid and lessen their worthless trade on the hands of the laboring class. Then will the people learn wisdom and profit by experience. Little Kate Williams called on me today, and stood and talked an hour or two in my office. After I had known her through the Potomac, I called after Dinner when Judge Scott was at W.P. Ave. If Genl. Fairbanks of N.Y. sees them, he is in the office. Bannister is at the Post Office and being out on my return. called and spent the rest of the evening with Mrs. Stull, returned to my room after 10 o'clock. The weather is quite warm and I am writing this time. [Current eleven o'clock P.M. without fire, and am not uncomfortable. Weighed 311 1/4 lb. today on the Post Office Scale. Am in good health.
Tuesday Jan 27th 1863

This has been a very drizzly day, one well calculated to give a person the "blues", and I think that almost every one has the "blues", in view of our present State affairs. The future looks so dark and unpromising as ever. The rebellion seems to be just as far from being "crushed" as it was a year ago, in fact much farther. For we as a Nation are much more divided among ourselves. Where the end will be no one human can divine.

All sorts of opinions prevail in reference to the changes in the "Army of the Potomac" Some think it is all for the best and some that there will be a general disbandment of it and that it will soon fall to pieces. But Mr. Davis some hear of importune successes in the South West and Border. May soon strike a sanguine blow and then all will be right again. But today gold is 154. Got a letter from home to day Family all well. Willie would like to come back to Washington. He wants to do the things of his present location as in the late terrific storm the waves of the sea forced to land. I have spent most of the evening at Maj. Williams. Eating apples, nuts, and talking about Lyon people. The Maj has gone down to Suffolk to buy a Regiment. Maj. told me that her daughter Miss Smollet, seems to have been married to Henry Johnson this morning at Lyon. She reports they will visit Washington. Mrs. Thos. Bums called when one this morning at the Office and Devent through the Post Office Museum with them a few patients still remain in the Hospital there too sick to be removed. It is raining quite hard. Mrs. Nov., 1800 clock P.M.
Washington Wednesday Jan'y 28th 1863.

It has snowed all day without cessation, but it has melted about as fast as it has come. It is a little colder tonight and the snow is three or four inches deep on the ground. Mrs. R. Brown called on me again this day, and I took them to the Agricultural Department and introduced them to the Commissioner Horace Newton. He was quite attentive to them and the interview was very pleasant and quite interesting. He gave Mrs. B. a specimen of paper made from the corn husk, and recently imported from Germany, proving beyond a doubt that the best quality paper can be made from the husks of Indian corn. The Dutch have got the start of the Yankees in that thing. They then went with me to the Asylum Hospital. She was anxious to see the patients. She was also highly pleased to see Charley, who was one of her old Sunday School scholars in 1859. He was just using the hypodermic syringe, an instrument for injecting medicine under the skin instead of swallowing it. It is used in cases of bilious cholic, neurasthenia, rheumatic pains, etc. Under its use, he was injecting highly concentrated morphia solution for rheumatic pains.

There is no particular news to day. But things look a little more hopeful for the future. Cotton goods is 155 today in W. J. I went out and have spent the evening at Shadyspring. Held a boy's room, told the boys some good stories, and played a game of checkers. It snows still and if it persists we shall have sleighing tomorrow. The four soldiers in the field. From they don't suffer tonight.
Thursday Jan. 29th 1863

It has been a merry day. The snow still lying on the ground, but it fell less than very little. The streets are covered with snow. The city is very quiet, all are in anxious expectation of hearing important news from some quarter, whether from Rosser or from Lee's, or from Grant at Richmond. From Hunter in S.C. or from Goldston in N.C. The "Army of the Potomac" is near by, and will move when it can get out of the mud.

A little excitement in the Senate for the last day or two. A motion to expel Senator Scullion of Delaware for disorderly conduct on the floor was postponed today upon his making an apology. The Bill in the House to authorize the raising of Negro Regiment for the war created much excitement there, and the House did not adjourn yesterday, but sat all night and adjourned this morning without coming to a vote upon the question. I have not been out of my room since dinner. The sidewalks are too wet for walking.

Capt. Barnes called upon me to-day on his return from Rosser's. I gave him $1,500 which I owed him. He is on his way back to his Post. Owing to the snow not been very brisk to-day, and the "Storming Board" have not had much to do. I have been reading and writing most of the day. Wrote "The Last Salute" for the thing, and another article for a New Year's number in reference to the noted Farmer Raymond, a justice returned from the army to-day. Left there this morning.
Washington Friday January 30th 1863

Not an implement aye nor head but the streets are in an accursed condition being embossed they are almost impossible. Wrote the Read in the "N.Y. Soldier Relief Association" Room in packing a Box to send to one of the Royts over the River. The room in the basement of the Pal. office and is crowded with all sorts of things which have been sent from N.Y. State for the soldiers from N.Y.

Some Members of the Association visits each Hospital and ascertains what is needed and gives his order to some soldier who goes with it to the Room where it is stored. Sometimes the visitors take the articles himself to the Hospital and distributes them. But frequent instructions are practiced by the soldiers and playing "Hot-tite" is quite a game. These are plenty of fun there to buy the articles of clothing and the money being whiskeys and the second house album.

Spent an hour at the Ascension Hospital talking with the boys. They are generally cheerful and contented. There are many there hardly so much bent doing well called at Fort Monroe. He joins the Army tomorrow Much against the will of himself and family, but he is ordered away. Was out atWilliams awhile talked with the Celebrating gift introducing Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton the Newfields from Frederick among the Rebels I have his Regiment. He goes for an armed occupation by settlers from the North. He will send another letter this morning before 11 o'clock.
Washington Saturday Jan. 31st 1863

The month of January. New people every day in looking back I find Matters committed with the war. We have the same condition they were in a month ago. It seems no nearer or closer but on the whole I think Matters look more bright for us generally. The Rebels through their lesser expediate all ideas of an Peace now at the Nite with a "Reconstruction Bill the Union." Nothing Short of entire Independence on their part will bring peace. Well it seems be a question of endurance and we will see who can stand it the longest. No one expecting successes beyond nothing else. Two or three Victories would do wonders for us. During the next month as many Affairs would occur on the I think we are pretty well prepared for the future. An immense force must now be near Richmond and we are expecting to hear of a terrible fight within soon. God Grant it in command. I have been in the Office as usual Tuesday After Dinner I called at Pennants and stayed an hour and then attended a Meeting at Mr. Potthofen’s rooms. Convened to Make arrangements for a Musical Concert to come off next week for the benefit of the N.Y. Soldiers. P.H. Ostrander is the active man in the affair.

Nothing of importance in the way of News. Congress is squabbling over the Negro Regiment Bill. Sold 158 today. It is speculation a sort of Monis Multicaulitis fever, that is raging. Lord Byron’s Thriller is at the "National." Many other celebrities are out in town called at Sharley room. "Sallie" is quite ill. The baby, Ida still seeks her comfort and provost cut.
Washington, Feb. 1st 1813, Sunday.

I went to the Capitol to day and heard the Chaplin Dr. Stockton. He is a very able man and his sermon this evening has been more of a doctrine than a practical one. I believe in practical Christianity and practical preaching. I don't suppose that I am my own orthodoxy for it does not matter much to me whether a man believes this or that particular dogma or belongs to this or that denomination. If he acts like a Christian from day to day, and he is always ready to do as he would be done by to forgive, or he who would not he be forgiven. I am bound to believe that he has the Spirit of Christ's teachings in him and is a Christian. After all my experience in the world, I am much given to judging the tree by its fruit, professions of faith and all the Thirty Nine Articles. But notwithstanding, after dinner I walked up to the Stone Hospital,
Monday February 3, 1863

Here not gone much in the city today, there has not been much to do. I wrote a letter home including a draft for $250. Also lent a bundle of news papers. I went out every day. The "Daily Chronicle," which is left at my room every morning, a number of friends have called on me to say for assistance. I went to the Hyde Room with them and gave them a badly. Sent a few boxes of fruit to Robert White, and another to a poor sick fellow by the name of Chandler from Livingston Co. The only news in town were all being off in that Hospital. Peace my month. Broad room sent it word. Light included.

Think of hearing here, but we do not know where I am or any better just now. Went down to the city this morning, sat and read a book or two in days. Took a nap at 3 o'clock for half an hour. Henry Rohman. Have been receiving and entertainment. He lives in Colubainty C.M. Does not know him. I met her book, goody and have been reading it since. I returned to improve "a Californian in Ireland" by J. Roosevelt.

It is quite interesting and amusing. His humorous description are unequalled. Some body is being serenaded tonight as a Band of Music stand outside the street. It is now after eleven o'clock. Some distinguished character in the Neighborhood. Will, the music is good and seems just as nice to the neighbors as though the price for it. No war news today. Everything quiet on the Potomac. Best news expected all the time, especially from N.C. as well as Pittsburgh. It has been pleasant overhead.
Washington Tuesday February 3rd 1863

It was quite warm and pleasant this morning. But to night it is cold with a keen north wind which quite upset all my calculations for comfort in my room for the chimney and any where to sit and get together at all. The air was being decided down. Instead of as before I have consequently been obliged to surrender the premises and have spent the evening with my artist friend Mr. Blakeman's room in Slovo Hart. He has five stereoscopic views and a good instrument and many fine pictures. He himself is half drunk half siesta. The concert for the NY solders goes off tomorrow night. I have got ten tickets to sell. I am afraid the whole thing will be a "flop" with P.H. Crammel as Manager. I think the house will be full as great efforts are making to sell tickets. If the audience are out there shall be glad. Called this morning at Garfield's to say that some of the patients at the Ascension Hospital are complaining of bad bor. and want of attention. Some of the soldiers are given to complaining and one never satisfied whatever their treatment. May be stuck men can make a great deal of trouble if they try. As there is always plenty of curious listeners visiting the hospitals I think it far greater that a sick or wounded Soldier would always tell the truth. It is bitterly cold to night, for the army soldier in the field, and it is freezing hard.
Washington—Wednesday, Feb'y 4th 1863

It has been the coldest day of the season with a sharp exciting breeze. The "Grand Concert" came off this evening. I had tickets rather more than I said I would see or hear much of the concert. I think the Auditorium (which was a large one) were not my seat ticketed, and in the last box I was spending most of the evening more pleasantly with Mr. Haskell at his rooms on 31st Street, NW. The General is an open-hearted Scoundrel of the Soldier. The President invited him over here from England to take charge of the cavalry as it arrived from the country and let it do service. He thinks he has not been very reasonably treated by the Secretary of War. He is a man who has not met with much favor at the War Office. He holds a Col. Commission. Mrs. General is the British Army. We sat and talked and drank Sherry near two hours. He is a fine specimen of the English Gentleman and brother of the celebrated General Haskell of India fame. My Stone goes off tonight and the travel melts away in it like that as it is a very cold night for this city. Mercury in 15° above zero. No War News of any importance. Everything must be frozen up. The Potomac now frozen over this morning. There are indications in congress that Mr. Chase's Banking system will be adopted. Gold at 12½ dollars fine per cent. but it is again to say to 15½ under the influence of some "Secrecy" news to the effect that some of our Blockading Squadrons at Charleston had been destroyed by two whale "iron blacks" we will wait and see.
Norwich, Sunday Feb'y 5th 1863.

I hardly know how to fill out a page to-night. It has been cold and stormy, having snowed most of the day to-night the snow is now like rain, and the weather has moderated. I rose on the 4th after I left the office and bought a pair of boots. Then came directly home to my room, which I have not left since except for dinner. I have been writing over a couple pages of foolscap upon the analogy which exists between a Nation and an individual. In a Nation, the whole Territory may be compared to the body of a man, the inhabitants are the living soul. The Mountains are the Bones, the Rivers and roads and canals are the veins and arteries, trade and commerce is the Blood which circulates through them. The industrial system of the Nation is the real nutrient which gives life and vigor to the body, giving to the Blood its sustaining and life giving principle. I pursue the comparison much further.

I also wrote some verses for Julian Abrahams, should they suit her. These are not much worthy of notice to-day, I have been in the office all day. The Concert formed a "sell" to the Committee. Astrandor declined. Abrahams are away. But her Nonistance to return on the 1st was a terror before the Concert Coot day for obtaining property by false pretenses and is now in jail. He has been a clerk in the land office for something over a year. But his crime is unknown. Boat 11. to Clock.
Friday Feb 6 1863

The day had refused off my quiet. Some rebel stories floating about tonight. In the effort that there had been a "raid" on Aquia Creek. But all our summer guns had been "Burned up." "Sterling." Has been quite jealous about it this evening. He is, of course, all "tosh." I think at least. "How strange once more on how the baby is getting quite interesting. I am sore with tooth and quiet drinks a quart of milk a day. Takes his thumb when he is asleep and grows fast. I went from here to the home of Rev. Mr. Read (set by Munson). And stayed there an hour. They, he and his wife, are very friendly and confide their secrets to me. He wants the agency of the N.Y.S.P. after to travel through the state. I will do what I can to get it for him. As I think time a Sterling. Mine, Mr. R also attends the N.Y.P.D., and deals out to the soldiers such articles as are sent to the Army for them. She has spent her whole time for months last and should not be hence in some way. I called down below, where to Munson & family. They always have so much to say that I can never get away from them. They would like much more the come back there to BOARD \& drink. I may sometime. They tell me all their secrets about Grenville (which I knew before). The old lady talks all the time "Tell us" was said make. The poet she slept one sound. The but door? I did not get released till the month 15.
Washington, Saturday, Feb 7th 1863.

This has been a bright and beautiful day, overhead some mud-coloured post. I was quite surprised to receive a visit at the office, to-day from Erskine Arnold in full uniform. He came into the Hall and engaged with me and his name created quite a stir as he was not known.

I inquired about the buildings and museums.

The librarian, and in the National Hall of Museum, explained to him the operations of the revolving fort (Timby), with which he was much pleased.

His brilliant English uniform of a cavalry officer attracted much attention in the office, and many were the questions of "who was he? after he had left.

After office hours I went on to the love and visited the Book Store, Taylor & Philips, where they knew me.

I frequently sit and read there for hours in any books I please to take up. It is not a bad place to pick up information, at a cheap rate. Books are so awful dear that I cannot afford to purchase.

I went at Willard's a while to talk an hour with Mr. McComb, the N.Y. State Agent for the Soldier. Leroy Corning, he wanted to borrow a dollar and did not get it, the difference to be nearly taken. Seemed he anxious to get drunk.

Called at A.B. Willard! Mrs. Will very sick, do not think she can recover. Saw Miss Dyer from Croton, and saw her in Lyons before. She was Miss Armstrong. got back to my room before 9 o'clock.
Washington Sunday Feb 5th 1863

A most delightful, bright and warm day but not wet and muddy enough. I attended divine service at the Capitol again this morning. Zoë to Washington. He was not as tedious as usual. There was a very good congregation present. A large portion from the Army. They go to the Capitol in the vicinity of the thing; an elegant piece of sculpture. A full length lifesize Washington in marble. Stances fronting Sculpture picture of the Emigrants. It is by Powers and on a scale of art it seems as good as any I have ever seen. He is nearly finished. Went up to the "Stone Hospital" again to day after dinner. Robert White who I saw last Sunday has had his foot taken off just above the ankle. He is slowly living but doing well. Another W.C. soldier. Rufus Chandler from Simonsen Co. W..room with whom I talked that day some time. Aided the next day, Rogers from Conn. 27th. First a student at Yale. men in the fight at Fredericksburg. Shot four times, 4 bullets, twice wounded severely and twice slightly. I was there about two hours talking with the Major. I arrived up there and back. Making a march of near six miles altogether to day. Met Ed. Dickinson this morning. Alex. to come in still a little more on Richmond but will be back soon as arrangements have been made for the exchange of the flyers.

I have been over to Charlestown home to view the evening. They all seem very well and very much better. And of the baby, which is very pretty. Wasn't even strong enough to sit without a fire. It is about eleven and I must to bed.
Washington, Monday, Feb. 9th 1863

Another delightful, bright calm day, and there does not seem to be any particular sentiment about anything just now. It is a fact (either the paper says nothing about it) that the "Army of the Potomac" is on the move. One whole grand division has gone on board transports and down the River from Aquia Creek. Their destination is presumed to be Roanoke Island, in Tennessee, and the Port Navy remain pretty quiet, some skirmishing, in which the Rebels recently got the worst of it, at Sitkgin. An immense number of men are now at work on the Canal or "Cutoff," opposite the city, which is designed to leave the city on the four or five miles. This may be a cheaper way of opening the Mississippi than taking the city, as it is said to be a very strongly fortified and defended by 6,000 men. There was a great council on the "Ace" this afternoon. I was in Taylor's Orchestra an hour reading "Rutland," also in "Aemion Hospital," to see the soldiers.

Met Mr. Green from Lyons in the Post Office today. Sent Hook to E. Smith, Catalogue & Circle from the Agricultural Dept. I do not think the Post Office Report for myself. I can tell that my name was inserted and I was nominated Total in an as a Member of the "Union League," a secret society in this city. I think I will go once the initiated. The "Lodge" meets on Thursday night. It is composed of the first Gentlemen in Washington.
Washington Tuesday Feb. 10th 1863

The weather continues pleasant, and everything quiet as far as the War is concerned. The scenes seem fast now to be shifting to the south, and we are expecting they may be near that Savannah or Charleston has been attacked at both.

God foreste WC Army has gone to S10. The "Army of the Potomac" seems to be dropping to pieces, a large portion having gone down the Potomac and another portion have come in this way.

To day I have been engaged in examining copies of the Report of the Indian Agent for the Sioux tribe on the borders of Minnesota. The scene of the late Indian Murders. The Report is quite interesting. I went from the Office on to the Acre and stood at the Book Store till near dinner time. Bought the Buchanan Book "Wagons of the Alleghanies" and some Photographs for Julia. Read a good deal at the Book Store and buy a little. But it is usual for gentlemen of anything of a studious turn to frequent the Book Store here and sit and read any book they choose for hours.

I have not been out since dinner but reading The evening papers once. The New Book, Capt. Thornton came in and sat on horn in my room once smoked his cigar.

Please care of Maj. Anson. My sister during his absence from the house and also take care of it. Re. letter from防火 all well.
Washington Wednesday, July 11, 1863

Fears are now frequently expressed that we are to have trouble in the free States. These seem to suit a great member of peace men, men who are willing to make peace on any terms. Only stop the war. The "Knights of the Golden Circle" (K. G. C.) or secret societies are said to have become numerous, and are ready to overthrow the government if necessary to make peace. "Union Leage" secret societies are now forming all over the country to counteract the K. G. C., I intend to join the U. S. tomorrow night. It is intended to have the unconditional Union victory this city, and all over the country ready (at a moment's warning) at the teeth) for any emergency. The action of some of the State Legislatures, and conventions of the people, and the tone of some of the Interior Papers, is somewhat alarming. There is a great lack of confidence in some at the head of the State and city. Manage the war. But a victory or two will put things "all right." No emancipation. "No peace" in ten years to come unless those in rebellion are willing to lay down their arms and return to their duty as loyal citizens. It is said there is no particular news today, some skirmishing in Tennessee, the papers have 600 rebels taken prisoners. Important news of interest from Charleston. S Cruises on our "Dear City" are over. Red letter from home. One important item in it. The question is do we want the Union to occupy another year? From 1st May? I think we will have to say yes.
Thursday Feb 12th 1863

No my strange event has happened to day that I am aware of. Everything seems moving along smoothly here in the city. But there is a feeling of fear and distrust as we refer to the threatening aspect of affairs in the North. I am help full of the career in the field and of the Navy. I have confidence that we shall soon hear of important successes. What we want and what we must have is victory. That will "yank off" out all this disloyal clamor at the North. I this evening joined the "Union Seals". The object is to defend the Union, Fort, and free institutions of the country, and to thwart the plots and conspiracies of traitors everywhere.

Dear Merta, is in substance "The Union Must and Shall be Preserved". That was Jackson's sentiment, and he is now one of the "Titans"- Saints of all loyal men.

I was in the office as usual all day but do not have very hard, have plenty of time to read the paper and talk to my frequent visitors at my room.

I make calls myself on my friends in different parts of the building, and sometimes leave and go away with a soldier on to the Bay Office or the Medical Director's or Hospitals. I must go over to the Bureau.

I have a call from four different soldiers who have been prisoners in Richmond and want assistance. I got back to my Room about 10. I got acquainted with a good many gentlemen, Rosi Dale Oceen among the number.
Washington, Friday July 13th 1863.

A beautiful bright, pleasant day, with the atmosphere so fine and breezy, that I could not resist its influence but took a long walk before going to the office. The heat so much not foggy, colder lately. That the change is doubly welcome. We have some (or rather mild) pleasant days but not still to any hour, it seems a sort of longing to inhale the air. I have not been on the coal today, on leaving the office at 3 o'clock, I took another long walk before dinner. I'm to the “Home Hospital” being three miles each way. My little new Roll White who lost his first tooth, or rather had it extracted secretly.

I found doing extremely well to all appearances. I sent him (the first of the week) candy fruit and currant wine, which he was very grateful for. This evening I have spent with Mrs. Mrs. Schram on 7th Street (12th) a couple of squares above Mr. H. His mother is spending a few days with him. A very fine looking lady of about forty-eight years, with long silver curls. She is a quaker lady and a fine specimen of the type.

Here is no particular news in the papers the day Tom Thumb and his wife are just now creating more excitement in the city than anybody else. A married couple, 28 inches high, and both together weighing some 70 lbs. There are many more notable in from the country banks in the neighborhood.
Washington Saturday Feb 14th 1863.

Another fine day but a little cooler than yesterday.
Mr. Schlegel of Philadelphia called on me to carry at the office
and as Mr. Newton is a Quaker he "Thee" and "Thou"
him out of all the seeds, bulbs, and plants he
desired. Aunt Berri also called on me.
I cros on the A & after leaving the office an hour or two reading in the bookstore and looking
over an old library of Books for sale to night
at McGuire's Auction Rooms. This is a great city
for old books and sometimes rare old books
can be obtained cheap. Old private libraries
are sent over from England every year and
sold at auction. I do not consider myself safe
at a Book Auction as it is very difficult for me
to resist the temptation to buy more than I can afford.
I used to take pride having a select library of books
in my house but I have been shifting about so
much for the past dozen years that my books have
got scattered a good deal but I think that I have
got as many as I ever had perhaps more.
Good "Tom Thumb" and lady have left the city, Geo. Fremont
is here requesting a Commande again. No Near News
of any importance, all is quiet as yet. I called at
Mr. Schlegel again to night. His Mother expects to leave
for home Monday. Called also at Major Williams'
and at getting letter. Abbe Durman has been
released from Richmond was home last home yesterday.
Washington Sunday Feb'y 15 1863.
Next to the Senate Chamber this morning at 11 and heard G.O. Cushman, the celebrated radical abolitionist preach, or rather declaim against slavery. I never heard the man before and feel some curiosity to hear what he would say. The Senate Chamber was crowded. I did not leave the Capitol till I had visited the other chamber and taken a look at the "Massive Emigrants" of Scutzy and "The Marble Washington," I did not know that Sunday (when I first saw it) that it was taken from Boston, Rouge, La. and sent here as a trophy.
It is ready to be beautified a thing to be owned by very few loyal citizens. The Rebels were no business with Washington, at least until they return to their duty as good citizens of the Union. It rained all night and it has been a Misty, disagreeable day. I went over and spent the afternoon at Charlestown, going around with them, came back to my room about dusk, and did not go out again. But Smith held service in his church to-day for the first time since it was erected by the Union. The number of soldiers in the hospitals in the city has greatly decreased, since there is now, 15,000, recent beds in them. In and around the city another great battle.
Monday, Feb 16th 1863

A beautiful day, bright and mild; No particular news or excitement in the city. Arrests are made almost every day of those acting as spies or engaged in contraband trade. Mr. Brown, a prominent and wealthy merchant, was recently arrested for furnishing medicines to the Rebels. He is now in the Old Capitol, at a dungeon-like store

Yesterday, he was immediately arrested and will be punished. His name is Tushit, a Methodist.

Yol's Butler hung a Mark in New Orleans for doing the same thing. Grant has cut the heads of the Miss, above Richmond, and intends to cut them off by water. Next in the great point of intent.

Now, the largest rebel army now in the field is said to be here for its defense. A part of the Army of the Potomac has gone to North Carolina, but Gen. Hooker

Now still a large army at Fredericksburg. Lt. Col. 6th Savannah, and Gen. Hooker will be soon attacked by our "Iron Clads." In connection with a land force, I called at Capt. Mansons

This evening once stand an hour or two. Mrs. Mary

Brown. Mrs. McDonald, and another lady call from Alhambra more than 300. Two of them over to the "Herndon House," where they are staying. Mrs. Brown is staying with Mrs. Mumme. Her selection, just a very nice letter from Julia to-day, write to "Dolly."

"Dolly."
Washington Tuesday Feb 17th 1863.

To day we have a real old "fashioned Snow-Storm". It has snowed all day. The weather mild and the snow melted fast, but it is about seven inches deep to night on a level. A greater body of snow than we have had for three or four years. The side walks are deep with slush and there has been quite some I came in about four o'clock. I went from the office on to 7th st and staid an hour at Collin's. Both stirs looking over the books Maps and Photographs did not buy anything. Came to my room with just somewhat cold but a good fire soon made "all right."

There is no news of any fighting, just now. The weather and the roads are not favorable for such amusement on hand. An important bill passed the Senate last night. To enroll the whole militia force of the U.S. No one except 5th best governors of States all between 20 & 45. Included and liable to arrest. It passed unanimously. The Rebellion is to be put down at any cost of Men and Money.

I am over 40 now by 12 years but am not ready other than Money Men if fifty. I may volunteer yet if necessary. I am a Volunteer now. The Members of the "Union League" are all "Minute Men" "armed to the teeth" and always ready. We have pledged our lives in support of the Government. Let no man锅炉 or North, because they will soon be an irresistible power in the land. Ready for all emergencies.

I think myself that the Rebellion is never ended but is growing the way it has been for six months past.
Washington Wednesday Feb 15th 1863.

It has been about as unpleasant as it is possible for it to be. Today it has rained nearly all day and the snow and slush on the pavement is nearly an inch in depth. I have kept my close only going from my room to the office and back experience this snowing. I have spent an hour or two over with God and Caleb on the 9th. Everything seems to remain quiet as it regards the war. But Union men feel more confident and in better spirits than they were a month ago. The opposition and traitors in Pennsylvania North does not look so serious as it does. The agitators seem somewhat frightened at their own doings. Much opposition has been made to the enlisting of Negro Regiments for the war. But if the Negroes will fight let us have them. Many say that the war has become an "Abolition War" or a "War against Slavery" instead of a War for the preservation of the Union. There are two kinds of Abolitionists just now. One kind perhaps make the abolition of slavery the prime object and care more for that than they do for the Union. The other kind care more for about slavery, in fact consider it but an incidental question connected with the Union, and are willing to abolish it, if that will abolish the Rebellion, and on that point they go for the President's Proclamation of Freedom.

I go for using all the means that God and Nature has put into our hands to crush out the Rebellion. The moral effect of the proclamation will help us nowhere throughout the world and that may be its greatest advantage.
Washington, Thursday Feb 19th 1863.

Another of the most unpleasant days of the season. rain or mist. all day, and plenty of mud in the streets.
I have had but little to do in the office to-day.
I have read a part of the time, and written a letter to India. Sending her also by Mr. T. Buchanan Reads New Poem, "The Wagoner of the Alleghany", postage 13 cents. I went on to the Park after leaving the office. Called at Thompson on 15-15 Aed tro in old Dutch Jersey. I found him a rank Rebel and thinks he needs a sort of condemnation for that class of men. He is an Englishman.

I attended the Lodge of the Union League. It is increasing in numbers rapidly, here and all over the U.S. The papers contain no news to-night of any importance. The falling rain, and the melting snows. at the West will cause the rivers to rise. That our steamboats will be able to go nearly all over the South. And it will also greatly favor Genl Grant in his efforts to capture Vicksburg. That is the great point of interest just now. The high waters will help the Canal project which is to cut off Vicksburg and leave it some fourteen miles inland. We are looking also to Charleston and Savannah for news. Our 'Ironclads' are gathering at Port Royal, and we shall soon hear from them. Gold is to-day quoted 167. the highest yet. It is said the Currency Bill is in doubt in the House. The Bank Democrats are two strong for the skilful intenders.
Washington Friday Oct 20 — 1863

Rather a dull day in the office. There being but little to do on the Examining Board, I have spent most of the day reading the Samuel Pepys' Diary, written two hundred years ago, during Charles II's reign. It gives a not very flattering picture of English society at that time. In looking at that age and then at the present, anyone must acknowledge that great progress has been made in the morals of English society. One is surprised at the conduct which was tolerated in that day. Especially in and around the court. Pepys himself occupied a responsible position under the Crown, something nearly equivalent to the Lady of our Navy. His diary was constantly accepting bribes for the note books on all the little cares. All his thoughts, from day to day. He adverts in his accounts at the end of every month and proudly notes that he is getting on in the world so well. The prototype, full of pride since vanity and an ardent admirer of the ladies, I am not through with him yet. There is no news to day, worthy of note. The French have invaded Mexico, and from all accounts are getting roughly handled there. It is thought by many that we will be at War with France soon. Most generally we shall if the干涉者 in our war with the south or acknowledgments to independence, I have spent most of the evening over to Chelsea (or the Boston) where we called, played a game of checkers with him, in my room at 10.
Washington Saturday. Feb 21st. 1863.

It was a mild pleasant morning, but it got very cold tonight with indications of more snow.

In the after all day we read Mr. M'Neile's and Mr. Popham's, about half the day, left him in the midst of the great Plague in London; summer of 1664. More than a thousand persons dying of it. When it first broke out in a house, the house was closed and a red cross was marked above the door. And thus it was written under it; He was an educated man but like every body else at that time new ready ignorant and beloved in London. He was silly enough to carry a hare foot in his pocket, to protect himself from the Cholera to which constant he was subject. I have been this evening to hear Mrs. Stearns' lecture, where the Indian Murder in Minnesota last summer. She is a small delicate looking woman. She has been a very beautiful woman and may still be called beautiful for a lady 40 or 45 yrs. She had a crowded house and her lecture was fine and quite characteristic of the woman. It had many very fine bits in it, at reckon of the South and Indians at the North as well as at the "Noble Savage" as the feeling sentimentalists of both call him. The new frequent applause and sometimes must vigorously. I took a walk on the Ave after leaving the office before dinner. The Ave seemed to be more crowded than ever. The Currency Act helps the House. Last Night, good weather.
Sunday Feb 12th 1863

Another severe snow storm all day longer it fell. and to night it is deeper than it has been before this winter and it is cold and freezing.
Better weather for the poor soldier in the field as well as for the poor horses in the service.
I have not been to church nor hardly out of the house today. have been reading and writing most of the day.
Capt. Thomsett has spent an hour or two in my room. He has given me a letter of his history. He is a man near sixty and has been a long time in the British army. Service in India and through the Crimean War.
His father was a naval officer. His mother is still living in Kent. Married half the year in France with a daughter, at the age of 16. She was in Brussels during the Battle of Waterloo and was at the celebrated ball advertised by Ayres. "There was a sound of revelry at night".
I obtained the Sunday Evening Chronicle but there is no news.
We are expecting visiting. We must have victories.
I shall be much disappointed and of course I do not. It seems more certain a defeat. I expect to hear from no news.
Swann, Savannah, Charleston, Wilmington are all invested by our troops. Reenforcements 10,000 men in Tenn. and 20,000 must have near that number near Fredericksburg. Not of pleasant any weather and good roads.

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Washington Monday Feb 23, 1863

A cold winter day but hearing in the room some faint attempts at sleighing on the streets and some jingling of bells which sounds like old time. The like has not been heard here in the last two or three years. But the snow will all be gone in a day or two, and then it will be mud. The dearth of news still continues. Nothing from the Adirondacks today.

Miss Hofer is in town to-night. Perhaps concocting some scheme to bring the words to grief. I think the weather for the last two or three days has been severe enough to bring his own army to grief.

But I have great faith in Hofer.

I have spent most of the evening with Ned Hardox at his room. He gave me his “cart de visite” for Julia and married me his Nickel, and his Commissary from the Sedleym prespective in a little bag with a large nickel, took wine with him and sat and conversed for two hours. Capt. Thorne called with me. Read a letter from my Aunts and Hofer Nathan, which gave me much pleasure also a 0 one from Home & from Willie. Sent ten photographs by mail to judge. Postage two cents. Shall be glad if they arrive safely.

Bundled all in the office. Plenty of time to read and write letters. Spent an hour at the office 6 after I left the office baby insurance every day.
Tuesday Feb. 14th 1863

Pleasant weather. and snow and sleet under-foot. and freezing tonight. Went down to Adams Photographic Gallery this morning and sat for my picture. Judith inquires when having my photograph in her Album. Capt. Henry Andrews of 17th Ohio called on me to-day. He is a fine-looking officer, has been in five or six Battles and not been wounded. He has been home, and is now on the way to join his Regiment. Called at Mary Williams this evening. Mrs. M. is getting much better, and is now up all day.

Was in to Williams an hour talking with friends. just before dinner. I called at Post massacres from whence I did not make my escape till eleven. They had a room full of company as usual. The three Albany ladies are still there. Had a long conversation with Mr. Boynes, discussing ideas and religion. We agreed in the Maine, especially upon the point, that society is responsible for the deeds of the community, and that it is society, the public, that is liable and guilty of most of the crimes committed, at least partials of the guilt.

I wrote to Mrs. Toomey, sent Julia two more photographs. Mr. Havelock and Henry Andrews. I think her Album must be full by this time. I have to-night written a letter to Mrs. Overthorn in answer to hers of yesterday.
Washington, Wednesday Feb 25th 1863

A bright pleasant day, but the snow has mostly melted and the thin Motor composition lies from four to eight inches in depth in the streets. Little boys are at the curbs, bringing in hand forged to keep back the flood from a narrow street and saying "Please give me a penny, I fear they do not get many few will give a five cent shin platen stamp and cents are scarce, which is bad for the boys.

Next stop is the Capitol after leaving the Office. And the "Excise Bill" right while I was in the Chamber of the House! It now only needs the signature of the President to become a law. Write to my sister Harriet and she to Sec. Day, Sent Agricultural Reports to Capt. Bush Day 22 and to Dr. Ford of Lebanon M4.

This evening I have been to hear the debate Mason-Jones. The Irish Orator he was a fine speaker and all that I had expected. He spoke about one hour and a half without the least hesitation and without a note or sounds of writing. His subject was "John Philpot Curran." The House (Old Cabot Hall) was crowded.

Four Soldiers have called upon me to day for assistance in getting their papers, or pay, or for clothing.

A stream of discharged soldiers has been flowing through the A Road depot for the past two months. From one to two hundred a day. It is astonishing how President The heart disease has become since this year begun. I think it harder in most cases he calls the "Quaint Heart" disease.
Washington Thursday Feb 26th 1863
e Mud. Mud. I have wandered over country
to day where compartment was at least six inches
deep, and of the consistency of thick cream.
The snow has all melted and the Watsons North
still on the surface of the ground.
I had letters from Julia and the boys this
morning, and I wrote to my sister Amoros today,
I am having my old heavy blue coat made
into an over coat. I think the tailor has stoned
about one third of the cloth, for there is nothing left
to speak of. I hardly know whether to submit to
the cheat, or have a quarrel with him.
There is a good deal of confusion to night down below.
At quarter eleven, and the loud talk still keeps up.
I think there must be whiskey there, for that is
the origin of about all the disorders in the city.
I must leave this house by Monday, most.
It is reported to night that Gen. Siegel has resigned.
I hope the report is not true, as such an officer
cannot well be spared at this time.
I attended the league meeting this evening. There
was a large attendance and much enthusiasm.

"Honest Horace Smith" of Conn. was initiated and
afterwards made a speech, saying if another petition
(as he is) entitled to the prefix honest " to his name.?
The papers contain no particular news to day.
Gold 16½. Yesterday 17½.
Washington Friday Feb. 27th 1863

The snow fell in torrents last night, and increased the depth of the flowing mud in the streets. It has been a dull day, very little News stirring. Nothing of a decisive character. Congress will adjourn next Monday, and it will have done a good deal of important work this Session. The Conscription Bill and the Finance Bill, embracing the Uniform Currency Bill, one of a most important nature. Elections do come off in Conn. & N. Hampshin. and some other States, and the Dissensionists or "Coffeehead" Democracy are struggling very much to carry them, should they succeed. Many good men apprehend that forced conscription will be made in such States at any further raising of troops. Should they be called for, much depends upon the organization of "Union Leagues" in combining the loyal strength in those States to act in concert against their Enemies.

This is a trying time for our Country. Enemies in front with arms in their hands, and Enemies in the rear giving those Enemies comfort and support.

God grant we get safely delivered from the perils which surround us. That our Country may survive her present trials, and emerge from the fiery ordeal, more glorious than ever I blessed, though baptized in the blood of her choicest sons.
Saturday, Oct 26th 1863

There does not seem to be anything in particular to note down, the news of some skirmishing with the rebels at various points, but nothing of much consequence, at Norfolk, where perhaps the largest force was opposed to each other. I think the plan is not to attack the batteries, but to invest the place and cut off their supply and stores them out. No attack on Charleston or Savannah yet. There appears to be some trouble with the Commanders, as to precedence or rank. Gen. Hunter and Frank are the officers. This question of rank together with the jealousy existing between Manassas Office and Volunteers has led to an infinite deal of trouble during this year. Some Gen. have been so uncharacteristic as to wish to see some other Gen. defeated rather than assist him to be successful for this and for acting in this way. Mr. Johnston Porter was cashier and dismissed the office. He was a Maj. Gen.

There are about twenty Indians here from the Western borders of Missouri. Having a talk with the Rev. Mr. The Indian Commissioner. I think there is but little sympathy for them anywhere since the massacre of three last summer. Mr. Stryker's father went up with them fifteen hundred men, women, and children fell victims. The tribes in St. Louis, Mo. It is said that the Indians were incited by the Southern rebels to rise on the whites.
Washington Sunday March 1st 1863

Old winter has taken his flight and left us
dep in mud and water and a dense fog.
But we now look for clear weather and
the usual spring March winds will soon
send the roads fit for travel and the armies can
move. Aronics, did I say? For sometime forget
that we are in the midst of a gigantic war and
following the usual routine of daily duty. I
awake on from a dream to realize that fact,
yes. Aronics. Three or four. Each numbering near
a hundred thousands besides ten of thousands
of gunners all over the land. We cannot
have at present left them by chance thousand
soldiers under arms to get the gunpowder
sustaining the Union and getting down rebellion.
Attended religious service at the House Chamber this
morning after the service Admiral Foote and
Mrs. Ramsey (the singer) were married before the
congregation. An Episcopal clergyman performed
the ceremony after the newly married couple had
secured the congratulations of their friends a few
moments. The first thing the new bride did, was
to sing (alone) the Star Spangled Banner for the crowd.
I spent an hour at A B. Williams with Alexander Darrow
and his wife Harriet W. That was. Went in the
evening to First Congregational Church at 6:30.
R之声 that Rosehow would leave to read
Washington Monday March 2 1863

With a bright day the spirit of everybody

to rise and start on his business. There for the

last fortnight, I wonder no legislature have not

been committed, it would have been an

excellent time and wonder I have not a

much surprise, I got a fine Pola Pen out

of Uncle Sam's today $2.75 (silver holder) am writing

with it, now I got Colmar everything in the way

of Stationary, out of the old Gentlemen.

Red Letter from my friend of D. McKenzies, glad

to learn that Trustees are so scarce at the Rotto;

spent part of the evening at Cheyney, Mrs. Sick lady

were there, the lady who came home from

Boarding School to Spence the Holy days, and

get Married, New Year's Night, unknown to herself.

The lady that was reading a book to her Father during

the week previous called the Missing Bride, One

of my Southern home) and she nearly completed

it. Much to the old Gentlemens gratification when

she saw herself a Missing Bride. This was a

singular coincidence but entirely true.

We are still waiting for news, little of constant

affair to-day, no movement of any moment

noticed in the papers. No movement of myself yet

I do so hate to teach and tend the new quarters,

I thought not send myself any letter and

roof, and boarding houses are scarce yet.
Washington Sunday March 3d 1783
A delightful Morning but a Snow Storm in the afternoon attended with Lightning and Thunder. This evening it is all clear again.

No startling News. One of our Gun Boats the Indiana confirmed by the Rebels near Philadelphia, and the Jacob Bell, a rich China Ship laden with Tea has been taken by the Florida one of the Rebel prizers. Vessels which has been furnished them by the English, wrote home today, indorse draft for 35000.

Think I Shall go myself in a week or two. I have been this evening down to Van Meter's room and drank an hour or two with him.

She is as brave as ever and making more expeditious was in at Nielson's and came. Met my old friend G.H. Corliss of Providence R.I. One one that comes to Washington comes both respect or loses himself.

More letters Gentlemen than the Engineer builder.

The present Congress is about Opearing it has passed nearly all the very important Bills before it. The Country Banks were a most too check.

For the friends of Mr. Chase Finance Bill. Their opposition is considered very selfish and un patriotic and from New England too. But I think that Mr. Chase will succeed in his Measures notwithstanding.

Soldiers call upon me every day for clothing &c.

I go down to the City Relief room with them very frequently for flannel and fruits &c.
Wednesday March 4th 1863

Congress adjourned at twelve o'clock today. The Senate is again convened by proclamation of the President for further confirmation, and perhaps for counsel, and as advisors of the best public affairs. Look rather more bright. Mr. Chase and his adjourned senators for seeing money confiscated elsewhere. He felt more about his being able to carry the war along. The War is more favorable. Fort McAllister below Savannah has been taken by our forces and Ironclads, and that was the principal defense of Savannah. We have seen from him that the Rebels have evacuated Yorktown after a hard fought battle.

We will know for certain in a day or two. I got some photographs of myself at Atlanta this day. The first I have ever had taken as photographs. I saw on the Avenue after office hours. The celebration several recently presented to Mr. Seelye attracts much attention. He entered sounds ברזים. It is a very elegant article. He has just written God Holcomb to blame for that. Spent an hour at Charleston, a short time in the Hospital and the bed of the evenings with my friend. Went for Schram at their room for pleasure, returned to my room at Elborn at 8 o'clock.
Washington Thursday March 5th 1863.

We are disconsolate today, as the report last night of the capture of Fort Mckinzie is contradicted today.

Still, there is something that is favorable to the Union cause, as gold has fallen down to 15. or twenty per cent in one day.

We will hear more in a day or two, I think. I notice that the Union Elections in Wythe are going Democratic all over. But that does not indicate disloyalty to the Union, it is more like one expression of want of confidence in the managers of the war. Very few Democrats at the Quarters, I think, would be willing to see the Union divided or that would consent to it without a much longer struggle. But they do not want to see our strength diminished away and are unwilling to rob those in power for their inefficacy and blindness. A few victories will put the matter all right, and I hope the people to believe that we shall soon hear of them. I attended the Service till Nine O'clock and called on Mr. Sickels Judge Sickels' Uncle was there, his daughter, Miss Chadwell and Sally. The air is quite keen to night and it freezes quite hard. I called at D. Munson this Morning. He has a large quantity of Union News Papers to send to the Camps and Hospitals.

They are sent from NY for distributing, gratis.
Washington Friday March 6th 1863.

No news today of any importance from the Army, or from the southern coast. We are vexed at great anxiety just now. It seems so important that we should hear news of Victoria and cannot but think that our honor will be successful wherever they strike at the Rebels. We are in a better condition now to strike hard blows there we have ever been before our Commons or in the field, are stronger than ever before for I feel as numerous, for they have got one of the best of the incompetent officers as well as this. The "weak fishes" and the first lieutenant have been going home by the thousands every week all winter. I have been in the office today as usual, after leaving it I went down on to the Art. As I rode into Brady Photographic Gallery, which is one of the Institutions of Washington. Gen. Sherman of the Army was there and I was introduced to him by my friend the artist Mulvany and had some conversation with him. He is not as white headed and bearded as the picture represents him, his hair and beard is a fair iron gray. I told him that I found him a much younger looking officer than I expected which seemed to please him, as he said, the pictures did not do him justice. I spent an hour at Brady's and then went over to Fort Allison where I stand our boys more.
Washington Saturday March 7th 1863

Another day has passed and no news to encourage any body. They have had a small fight in Tennessee where three or four of our Regiment were overpowered by superior number, all quit on the Potomac. There is in fact a perfect blockade of Mud and it is almost impossible to get to the country or Hospital out of the City with anything but a Gov't Wagon and Six Mule team. But Gov't Brigham on the Car he recognized me at once. When he came up with the first Red troop in June 61 His Head Quarters were almost off the Day room in the Act Office at that time I became quite well acquainted with him and also Govt. Col. Reminisce the Govt. to Roco U.S. Senator. I have written six solace letters today and Endored Money in five of them amounting in all to about $2500. It was all sent to Mother or son.

and sent by Straps. It has rained Nearly all day and the Streets would be worse than they have been heretofore if it were possible. I have been over to Chevaly. Eat some Oyster and played a game of Chess. They are living in one roomboding sleeping and all one of tolerable size on the 1st floor. It is very inconvenient but the best they could do for the time being.
Sunday March 8th 1863

Renee again today. Most of the time and I
have kept my room till near night. Went
down to Maj Williams and spent an hour
and then came back to bed. After while
I attended religious service at the Colored Church
on 11th & a white man preached a very good
discourse and the service were conducted
throughout with as much propriety as is usual
in any other church. The singing was not
as artistic, but quite as melodious. The Churge
was crowded to excess and it soon became
very warm. There was quite a sprinkling of
white folks. who were there. Interspersing out
of curiosity I could not but remark that
nothing occurred in the sermon or during
the exercises to indicate the color of condition
of the audience. The people were very respectfully
dressed and among the female Christians
quite as Okley as in other Churches.
The Morning paper contains No News. The gold
Speculators have caught it. Perhaps the article
having fallen within the last week from 17.2 to 15.7
Mr Chase has almost absolute power now to
control the finances of the Nation and can
issue money (check) to meet all contingencies likely
to occur. In the next year the probability is that
“green backs” will be our circulating medium henceforth.
Washington Monday March 9th 1863

This has been a fine bright day after it rained nearly all last night. But the bright sunshine has brought no very comforting news rather the contrary. For last night the Rebels made one of their customary "raids" at Harpers Ferry and gobbled up a Brigadier General (Stoughton) a number of other officers and soldiers and over a hundred horses. Bright soldiers those, officers and all. What vigilant sentinels they must have had out about one hundred rebel cavalry and this thing while a while Vermont Brigade guards the place. Considerable strife in the Land Office to see who will be appointed at the head of the Expiring Board. Mr. Eastman of Wisconsin or myself. The subordinates are all for me. We shall know nice day or two who the Congress is for. I have been filling the blank for some time. Went to the Hospital after dinner stayed there an hour and then to Charley an hour. Mr. Scott from my new lawyer. I wonder if he does not wish the war was over. I wonder if he does not wish he was married. Went from there to International Hotel and talked with Col. H. Palmer of the 105th. He has resigned and is going home called upon tomorrow am and will get away till half past ten o'clock. No word yet of the action later than the "guerrilla" one about lately. Have $11,500.00 soldier money to send to their friends.
Tuesday March 10th 1863

It has snowed or rained the most of the day and been as unpleasant as snow.

May G.P.T. came down from the Fort to stay, and called on me at the office, stand till near three o’clock, and I went down to the Hotel, where I met Carrick Hunter, who had been down to visit her husband, Capt. Col. Sencar, was also there. The newsboys were arguing the evening papers vociferously, “Latest News Capture of Vardons Rebel Army.” Well, there is such a report in the papers to-night, I only account for it. We shall know more in a day or two about it. At Richmond, Gen. Grant is fighting the Rebels with water and threatening to advance. The whole country by turning the waters of the Miss River. The papers say that the inhabitants are much alarmed. Outrages in the city are becoming quite frequent. Last night there was one

Man murdered on Palace and two bodies in frequented parts of the city. In the evening, those were brought down in the street. I think I will stay in as I have this evening, but the town kept me in to-night. I sent off the soldier's money this afternoon, and endorsed a good deal more and disposed of all the things at the Post Office.

I wrote home this afternoon, and may go home the last of the week.
Washington Wednesday March 11th 1863

When I looked out of the windows this morning everything was covered with snow—but it has all disappeared to-night leaving a due quantity of mud in its place. Our important events are chronicled in the papers to-day. In looking ahead a month ago I thought it impossible that a month could pass away without something of great importance taking place. The capture of Savannah or Charleston—Savannah or Richmond seemed among the probabilities or attempts that may at least I suppose our forces are doing what they can and will at least. Make an attempt direct to capture Savannah or Charleston—soon I think it is intended to starve them out at Richmond by cutting off their supplies and surrounding the city with water. Great roads still frequent the day afternoon and shoulder-strap were quite plentiful. The army orders in the morning papers, stirring them up. The sweet delicate looking lads, the mud-marchers who have got on through and come then boys through. Base influence cannot our then Vies uniforms much longer in the streets or corners of Washington, made into fine gentlemen or a distinguished dignified from the Army called at Charlestown and Boot Burroughs this morning, got to my room at 9 o'clock letters from Home & from W.T. Swayne's yest.
Thursday March 12th 1863

A bright pleasant morning but followed by snow and wind; quite cold tonight. Capt. Sherwin came up from the Army and called on me today. May 3rd, got a furlough to go home and saw one of the Govt. Office this morning hearing his speech delivered where he fell down in a fit in the office and was insensible for some time. He recovered however after an hour or two and started for home on the bye line. The attack was occasioned no doubt by mental excitement on account of disputation. We have decidedTOT to his late boy's death together with considerable physical debility. Met Miss Delia Spencer at 80 Lightman of Lyons. I have not seen him for some years. He was one of McElhone's aids on the Committee last summer. Also met at the National Day a friend A.B. Dickenson, U.S. Minister to Rochegna. Just returned, had a long conversation with him on reference to their country. He had just been appointed U.S. Marshall of the Northern District of Ill. No news of any great importance today. The N. A. Election came off on the 10th result uncertain. I fear there will be trouble in some of the Northern States on account of the Convention. It is thought by many that a draft will be started with some. I think that those who go into that will get into bad business and come to grief.
Washington Friday March 13th 1863

It has been quite a cold day with snow in the Middle of it and freezing hard tonight. News by the paper that there has been a battle at Yazoo City, Miss. and that we have taken 7000 Rebel Prisoners. I think the report needs confirmation. No other News of any particular importance today. Most of my time in the office has been occupied with my friend who have called among whom was Col. St. Burkley, I Short of Buffalo formerly of Phila. and Secely formerly of Utica, New-Republic. I have been down to the "National" this evening writing a specification for Short for a Patent for his "Greek Fire" he seems to be making something out of it by furnishing it for firing "Shells" for the fort. Called to day to see Mr. Burns the owner of the "House" I am in. She is one of the F.T. and of course "decorous" and was somewhat frightened when I inquired about the property. Thinking no doubt of the "awful" confiscation" act and other penalties which the disturbed have to fear. She did not "let out" any of her rebel sentiments to me.

I called at Shenley also a few minutes. Met Col. close of Fort McDowell at the National. He invited one over to see him at the Fort. I should think him a pretty sidewinder officer.
Saturday, March 14th 1863

News that Vicksburg is evacuated by the Rebels came to-night. Pretty well authenticated. Nothing further from "Yazoo," but we are expecting good news from that section all the time. I am rather in hopes that Vicksburg is not evacuated. I think its capture by Genl. Grant a sure thing, and I wish to have the Rebel Army captured too. I really hope they will not be allowed to take away all of the three hundred cannon which they say they have there. The Rebels had captured the gun-boat "Indiana," but blew her up on the approach of a steam "iron clad," which was made out of an old barge and sent floating down the River on the night. They are now mourning over it. There are attendances at some burials today. Mr. Wirt went on to the side after leaving the office and purchased a pocket dictionary. I am frequently bothered and in doubt about my spelling and have had nothing to refer to. Since I have no friends or much acquaintance I am not at home to-night as I proposed. They expected me. I must go about the first part of the week. I have been quite busy this evening calling at Shirley's at Dot Emerson & Mr. Reed's. Mr. Schreiner, who was ill at home, came spent most of the evening at Mr. Havers on District. They are very pleasant people. I got back to my room about 11 O'clock.
Washington, Sunday March 15th 1863.
I saw today what has of late become quite common here. A company of thirty or forty prisoners and refugees from Virginia March through the city under guard to the Post Marshall Office. The West of them were refugees from Richmond, Foreigners, some of them with their families. Some of the party were Virginians fleeing from the Rebel Constitution and eight or ten were prisoners taken up as spies, near Fairfax Court House, residents of that neighborhood accused of being spies or giving information to the Enemy. The refugees from Richmond said it was nearly impossible of liberties to live there. Provisions were so dear.

The hotels are filled with day and coffee and butter were rarely seen on their tables.

It was quite pleasant till about noon when it began to rain and it had still (10 P.M.) this afternoon. The sun for an hour very sharp lightning and very heavy thunder with hail instead of rain. So night the ground is covered I presume it will turn to water and mud tomorrow. I was at Chadap during the thunderstorm. Sally saw much frightness. Spent an hour at Maj. Williams this evening. No further news from Richmond on the South. Everything looks favorable now in the Union case. I shall be appointed much if we do not soon hear of important success and that is what we must have.
Washington April 14th (Saturday)
I left Washington on the 16th March on a two weeks leave of absence and spent the time visiting my family at Sag Harbor &c. I returned on the 2nd (Thursday)
I had a very pleasant visit and regretted leaving home more than I expected before. This is a miserable life to live, away from home. I must manage to live with my family and if I stay in Washington, we must make it our home here after next summer. I am much in hope as to regards the war during the last two or three weeks. Matters are very much as they stood when I left here. No decided and important battles have been fought but considerable skirmishing and some rather hard fighting at Port Hudson, on the Red River and quite a march at Sommerton, in Kentucky under our old Gilmore. No movement from Falmouth or on the Rappahannock yet, or from Charleston S.C. But we have as yet heard of no other can attack it daily.
I will therefore note down important events as they occur in regard to the war without confining myself to a strict diary of events which here do not specially interest me. My absence has broken my journal. I may consider myself more at liberty since the commencement.
Monday June 20th 1863
I have hardly failed to write down important events as they occur. For many important events have occurred since my last writing. Now an important battle has been fought by the "Army of the Potomac" with the exception of that. While the Federals cross the Rappahannock about the first of May. Richmond has not yet been captured. But Genl. Grant has it closely invested and I think there is no doubt of its capture in a very few days. Genl. Banks is also investing Port Hudson with a like prospect of success. There has been much hard fighting at both places and near them. Genl. Rosecrans has remained quiet at Murfreesborough Tenn. in the past two months watching Genl. Buell.

For the past few days it has been quite exciting everywhere as the Rebels are again in Maryland and Pennsylvania in force. They crept above Harpers Ferry. They have been to Chambersburg Pa. and now hold some points in that State and Frederick City, and other places in the Western portion of Maryland. Hooker and Lee's armies have been near each other in the past week not far from the old Bull Run Battle ground. There has been much heavy skirmishing between the
Conably the past few days, and it is supposed that there was a sharp fight yesterday some twenty miles from here in the direction of Dull Run. As heavy guns were heard for some hours in quick succession, a general battle is expected to occur very soon. They (or rather the forces fortifying Harpers Ferry) are all supposed to be fortifying Harpers Ferry and at Baltimore, the streets are barricaded, and prepared for cannon fire. The sick and wounded from the Army of the Potomac were all sent up here when the Army marched from Fredericksburg. Some seven thousand are in number filling the hospitals. But they are being sent North rapidly.

What goes on daily with our troops coming back from Vicksburg, he still sends to Pudding Branch.
Monday June 29th 1868

The air atmosphere has been full of rumors. In reference to the movement of the Rebels in Pa. Maryland yesterday they captured a large wagon train (170 mule teams) within ten miles of this city. The train was on its way to Frederick, Md. The Rebels are probably in Harpersburg by tonight. A people which will before tomorrow cut off the rebel's access to their capital taken, and their country freed.

If nothing else will make up the inhabitants I hope that fire and plunder will.

Gen. Hooker has been succeeded

And Gen. Meade is now in command of

The Army of the Potomac. It is said to day that

Mr. Stanton has been succeeded as Secretary of

War by B.F. Butler. I hope it is so.

This morning a Squad of Rebels came within six miles of Washington, and came near capturing O.M. Law, Blain; as he was coming to this city from his country residence.

They got his horse, which he was riding, and escaped in the woods. On Negro Regt. one thousand strong, helped through the Cave.

Yesterday I never saw so many Regt. March better.

We are telling that communication will be cut.

Of (with Baltimore) by tomorrow morning,
Monday Oct 5th 1863

Perhaps I ought have made it interesting to have continued my diary. But I have been absent some time. My last letter and important events of time have occurred great battles have been fought and great victories have been won by our armies. The month of July saw our armies victorious everywhere. Vicksburg and Fort Harker on the Mississippi were captured. Over 30,000 persons were taken in the fort and 20,000 in the last attack. The very important Battle of Gettysburg in Pennsylvania fought on the 2nd July, where the Rebels were signally beaten and Gen. Lee driven back into Virginia. No important Battles since that time in N.C. Gen. Meade and Gen. Lee have been meeting each other since, but there has been a good deal of severe skirmishing on the part of the cavalry. Our Army of the Potomac in N.C. Near Culpepper VA., Our Robt. and those of the Enemy are within speaking distance of each other. A severe Battle was fought about the 11th of last month in East Tennessee.
Between the Armies of Genl Rosecrans and Genl Bragg. We lost 18,000 Men killed and wounded and were repulsed but not defeated. The object of the Rebels was to take Chattanooga, which we still hold. The Armies are now near each other in [pace another] Battle. When is expected soon. In August Genl Sherman at Chattanooga astounded the world by knocking across the shells of Fort Doniphan at the distance of 2 1/2 miles and by thousands shells into the city from a distance of 5 miles. He has now got the whole of Morris Island and is engaged preparing Batteries at Cumming's Point from which point 5 batteries of from 5 guns each to bombard the City with effect. He took Fort Wagner (one of the Island) after the most tremendous Bombardment that any fort ever experienced. I am now expecting to hear that he has again opened upon Chattanooga with Greek Fire Shells. Short the inventor has been down there in负责同志 filling Shells with it.
My family has remained in Sag Harbor since they went there in June last year. I was at home in August last and stayed two weeks. The weather was extremely hot all the month of August everywhere and I did not enjoy myself to well on that account. I returned to Washington the 18th of the month.

In the month of June and July while the Rebels were in Maryland and Pennsylvania I belonged to the Volunteer Post of the Interior Department and assisted about every other duty belonging to being sent out into the Rifle pits back of the City every day. But the danger passed away after the Battle of Gettysburg since which there has not been much battery by the employees of the Department.

Washington is so much more crowded than it ever was last year it is utterly impossible to get a house to live in if one is wanted and a great many are wanted. People have to board and pay high. Provisions, fuel etc. are very dear. First floor $12.00. Beef 35.00. Coffee 40. Sugar 16. Potatoes $1.25. Peaches $1.00 per peck. Tomatoes $2.00 each.
Beef 15 ct. Oak wood $900 cord coal
$10. from Mr. Hcr.
In August little Jepie died, the first child of my son Charles & Sally, she was about 18 months old a very sweet child, she was much loved by Mr. W. Blackwood and by us all Mr. W. founded a charity & transacted for the funeral. Attending everything himself. The coffin (of the finest Rosewood) cost $45.00. He paid all expenses.
It is proposed to have a Meeting of all our Brothers and Sisters at Lydius this month. I have had two or three letters upon the subject and my attendance seems imperative. I do not know as I can go. It will take too much time and money.
On Saturday last I went across to Alexandria Va. My good friend Surgeon W.S. Barker at the Mansion Hospital invited me where my staying over night it is in the Hospital. The Mansion Hospital is (or was) a large Hotel. The old Braddock House forms a part of it and in that part I slept. It has been about 120 years and is still in good state of preservation.
Some of the stone at the corners were crumbling away or scaling off and with the usual Yankee desire for relics I brought away some of the pieces. The streets in Alexandria are strongly barricaded with round timbers set in the ground close together and standing about eight feet high with holes for musketry. I returned to Washington last evening I visit the hospitals in the city more or less every week I go to the Stanton Hospital the most. It is composed Barracks or low wooden buildings in the square in front of the Douglas Hotel I have taken quite an interest in some of the patients there and visit them frequently especially Mr. Brown of Lyver and John Peters both wounded at the Battle of Chancellorsville the 2nd of May last Brown can just go about on crutches Peters has not yet been out of his bed both were wounded in the thigh (compound fracture). Not many live through it one Rebel col. and about forty other sold prisoners are there they all receive the same attention which our own soldiers do in every respect (clothing etc.).
Thursday Oct 9th 1863

There has hardly ever been so dull a time (for me) as for the past week or two. There seems to be nothing going on in the Military line that we hear of, that is worthy of Speedy Notice. But we are expecting to hear of important events at Charleston and at Chattanooga in Tennessee, another Bombardment of Charleston and another Battle by Rosecrans is anxiously expected. In the City all is very quiet. It abounds in Theaters and other Places of Amusement but I have not attended any place of the kind for a long time. I have no taste for spending Money that way. I usually take a long walk after leaving the Office at 3 o'clock. Return to dinner at 5 o'clock. We usually sit at the table about three quarters of an hour. Col. Chester's wife and two daughters came yesterday and one son with him at 9 o'clock. I do the honors at one end of the long Table. Mrs. Munson sits at the other, with her Coffee order, and one of the old...
Oct 8th

boarded in an old beachdiet. Water, he is about fifty years old, is constant at his meals, always gets his morning paper before breakfast and always expects to be asked for the news. He was born her and lives from his money from. I take a "pipe" with him occasionally in his room. much to his gratification.

Ed Chester is also an old boarder there and a man much after my own heart. His lady sits at my right hand between me and her husband. She is a very kind and sociable lady. Mr. Foele is a new comer from Philadelphia. He is a merchant at the Haymarket, where they have a great deal of very nice machinery for getting up the Haymarket. He puts up the geometrical Lattice, which engraves the borders & back of the Bills and all the fine line geometrical & Cycloidal figures. The Lattice cost five thousand dollars. Foele is one of the best Mechanics I ever knew. Can make anything, from a Patent Lens to a Haymarket Engine. He built the most of this lattes formerly. Mathematical and Astronomical Instruments are in his line. He has a beautiful telescopic Reflecting Mirror.
This afternoon I went to the Bedfrest Board of two or three of the Dales, but could see nothing like ness. I called to see Sally. She is expecting to be confined very soon. Eton has gone to see them. Earl ofCarlisle, Ra, with sick soldiers of the Regular Army. will be back tomorrow at 5:30 pm. Boarding house at 76. M & M AGH at Mrs. Bole. Mr. Woodward and his wife are at the same house. Mr. Woodward and his wife are at the same house. He thought the price was more than he could afford to pay. Mr. Woodward (the father-in-law) agreed to pay a portion of it if he would come there and enable them all to live together and sit together at a parlable table. He seems to have taken them into great favor. I think I may be a bad thing for them. I am getting up a letter balance combined with a Calendar and pen rod. I called at Wooduffs to see about today. He is making a specimen for me. I have a model which I have made mostly in my room. I intend to get it patented.
Sunday Oct 11th 1869
This has been a delightful day, but rather cool. I got up this morning and took a long walk before breakfast. Spent some time in the Flaxton Hospital and heard to Sunday School. This evening, he gave an interesting account in his sermon (or sermon) of the life and martyrdom of Ignatius Bishop of Antioch who was thrown into the catacombs in the Roman amphitheater in the year 107.

The forest leaves are changing a little and falling. But there has been no frost of any account and the winds have not assumed their beautiful appearance which in so much admired North at this season of the year. I am home today suggesting that if I did not go to Lyon the whole time Julia should come here and make me a visit. I think that will suit her quite as well as going to Lyon with me. But it is a little doubtful whether it will suit her mother as well. She is rather fearful of the influence of Washington society and pretty so. But I think it would be quite safe for her here with me for a few weeks, called to see that Sally. Found them in the upstairs room, steady an hour into conversing with the old men who was very sociable.
Monday October 19th 1863

Not much of public interest has occurred for a week past in the field. There has been almost constant skirmishing over the River within from 30 to 60 miles here. Our Army is now near the old Bull Run Battle ground and another great battle is expected here or near soon. The Election in the State of Penna. Ohio and Iowa came off on Tuesday last the 13th and resulted in great Union triumphs. The contest was between those who were in favor of putting down the Rebellion at all hazards, for supporting the Administration and carrying on the war and those who were in open sympathy with the Rebels or in favor of compromising with them and making peace at any rate. The opposition embraced a large share of the old Democratic party who were accomplices in favor of the men but were willing to embarrass the Administration at a very critical time and whose leaders were too ready to misrepresent the acts of the Army, and give encouragement to the rebels. The Election in those States has effectively squelched that party for the present.
We hear nothing from Charleston lately.

Gen. Johnston's forces in getting a good headway. The columns at Chattanooga seem to be lying idle after their great fight at Chickamauga. The Scots of this class have drawn along much in the same track for the past year, but we have been making constant progress and the present limits of the C.S. are greatly circumscribed but the Rebels are still powerful in the field even now or during the past week the cannonade has been frequently heard in and near the city being not more than thirty or forty miles distant. The "Greenilies" have made their "raid" to within three miles of the faner and capturing soldiers,Scottshires &c. It is difficult to assert that other states of things is to last long. Gold is up again to 150, has been recently 155, in the summer it was down to 125. The President has just called for 300,000 volunteers for three years or the war. The recent draft for 600,000 has proved I think rather a failure. Not more than 10,000 I believe have been obtained latter will be for it has not yet been put me sure in all the states. But it has done one good thing it has shown that the good is strong enough to support everywhere.
Friday Oct 23rd 1863

Events are passing of perhaps much importance to the country, but no battle of any note has been fought. Lee has retreated back across the Rappahannock, Gen Meade. Thought he could not follow immediately, and has been relieved of the command of the Army of the Potomac and Gen Sedgwick is now in command. Sometimes one wrong with Gen Rosecrans at Chattanooga, we do not know what. He has been relieved of the command and Gen Thomas now takes his place.

It is said to day that Admiral Duihlgreen has been relieved of the command of the fleet before Cherntston. So we go. Red Letter to day from Brother A.R. He went to the family gathering at Lyons, which took place on the 9th 10th 11th. Seven were there and three absent. Bro Lyman, Sister Betsey, and myself. The meeting was unified in the Lyons Republican which was sent to me.

Spent an hour or two at Mr Harts's last week. Went to the War Department yesterday, for a soldier in Weston Hospital, John Peters, beat around those meeting, I do not like to wait, so I pushed ahead, and my business and came away.
Wednesday, November 18th, 1863

From my last date I have been home and
stayed eight days. Left here the 31st Oct. Returned
the 16th Inst. Brought Julia back with me.
She is staying at Mr. Hackett on WY Avenue.
Neither Genl Meade or Admiral Dahlgren
have been removed as was expected at
that date. They are both still in command.

Our Army is now again before the Redskin
River. There was a Sharp battle at and near "Kelley Ford"
in crossing which was a great success for us.
Our Army took some 2500 prisoners.

Not much more fighting has taken place at
or near Chattanooga but a great Battle is
expected soon. We have just heard that
Genl Banks has landed and took Ft. Brown
at Boserville on the Rio Grande in Texas.

It is very pleasant for me to have Julia with
me. I call for her and we take long
walks visiting the Hospitals or calling on
our friends. This evening we called on Mr.
Mr. Reynolds and spent an hour. Yesterday
we attended the Review of the Sanitary Corps
at the President's. They numbered about 3000.
A number of the officers had lost one arm.
And many were lame and the men as a
general thing looked rather pale and
not able to stand much fatigues.
Wednesday Dec. 2—1863

Since my last date Gen. Grant has defeated the rebel army under Bragg at Chattanooga, taking fifty thousand prisoners and about fifty cannon. Gen. Head arrived south from the Rappahannock last week. He has cut himself loose from all supply trains, or depots from this direction. He has ordered off all depots and we know not little about where he is at this date. He has a well appointed Army of eighty thousand men, and took along about twenty days rations for his Army. The object in Richmond I expect he will pitch up on the James River. Congress meets next Monday and people are flocking to the City in droves. Julia is still at Dr. Hartley and is quite well. She comes into the office nearly every day to see me. I am now suffering from a severe cold owing I presume to the change in temperature. It has been quite cold for a day or two, but no snow as yet, and I have seen no ice here until yesterday. The Head of the Statue of Freedom was cut on to decay. The figure fourstands complete as when the 4th of the Dome of the Capitol.
Dec 3, 1862

So day we learn that Meade has fallen back this way to this side of the Rapidan. This was much disappointment here and the general opinion is that Gen. Meade is inconsistent. But the whole policy of the rear and movement is not publicly understood. Congressmen are now flocking to the city and showing themselves away the best they can. High prices are paid by them for convenient rooms. $100 per month in.

There is no news to day from Tenneesee of importance. Burnside at least accounts from him was at Knoxville besieged by a rebel army under Gen. Longstreet but in the great advantage of being captured. The Rebels hold about 13000 of our soldiers, prisoners in Richmond and from all accounts are literally starving them to death.

The Rebel Authorities have recently consented that our Govt. may send them food and clothing. Exchanges have ceased. They refuse to give up negro prisoners which they have taken and our Govt. insist that they shall. We have now about forty thousand rebel prisoners on hand. The general opinion is that they have sold the negroes or hung them. They have probably done both.
Wednesday Dec. 16th - 1863

The Army of the Potomac, is virtually in
Winter quarters. The roads are so bad,
in Virginia. Now that heavy Artillery
cannot move. Genl. Meade is still in
Command of the Army and it is generally conceded
that he was not to blame in falling back
under the circumstances. Longstreet's Army
were compelled to retreat from before
Knoxville last. From what we can learn
from rebel papers there is a general
corresponding throughout the Rebel States.
But they have still scourged Armstrong in
the field and still are determined to
fight it out. Their leaders are desperate,
They know that there is but three things for them
Success, Surrender, or Hang. No Amnesty will be
granted here. Everything looks well in Baltimore.
And our Army in Western Virginia has been
successful so far. Matters at Charleston remain
without much change. Genl. Gilmore keeps
up the bombardment of the Fort, and
threatens the inhabitants of the City to be few
Shells each day. Fort Sumpter is about
demolished but is not yet in our possession.
It is thought that Louisiana, Arkansas & Tennesse
will be represented in this Congress.

This winter,
Dec 16th. Continue.
To-day I have been in the U.S. Land office
as usual preparing the Agricultural Land
sorpt for issue. Some of the States have got their
Sorps already. I am now at work on Maine.
That State got Two hundred and Eighty thousand
acres. It is distributed according Congressional
representation. New-York got near 6 Million
acres. It is issued to the States in Scrips for
160 acres, and Which are much like a Land-Grant.
Julia and Mrs. Hartly called at the office at
half past two today and I went out with
them, and walked on the Avenue awhile,
and then we went up to the Stanton Hospital,
and went through the wards. The soldiers
expect to see me there as often as once a week
and are pleased to see the ladies. Some
there have lain Six months on their
beds, and their wounds are not healed
yet. Such as one in John Peter, of the
115th Regt. There are a number of boys
in the hospital who receive the
same attention as our sober soldiers.
Some of them are grossly wounded,
some have died. There all the hospitals
have more or less of them but they are
sent to the Lincoln Hospital as soon as
they become convalescent.
Saturday, Dec. 19th, 1863

I am still rooming at Mr. Baxter, 379, 11th St.
where I take my breakfast at 8 o'clock A.M.
I dine at Mrs. Mansons, 442 9th St. at 3 o'clock.
Any room board, 4 meals costs me about $1.00
per day. I furnish my own fuel and
burn wood which in now $120 per cord.
ready for the stove. Hard coal is $14.00
per ton, and would be the cheapest if
I wanted a constant fire. But I
make a fire in the morning preparing the
cold air. Sleep with my window open
and bathe in cold water about every
other morning. I never sleep in anything
which I have worn during the day, but
change my flannel as well as my linen.
I have great faith in fresh air and
in well aired clothing, cold water and
the Flesh Brush. But I use the Turkish
Bathing, Torrel Drow, which is about the
same thing for the skin. I usually come
to my room early in the evening (unless I
have some engagement) and read or
write, or perhaps draw some draft,
still about eleven o'clock, get up between
five and seven in the morning.
Sleep well, eat well, and am quite healthy.
Sunday Dec 20th 1866.

Went to the Capitol this morning at 11:30 and heard Rev. John Lord (the lecturer) preach on the subject "The Sorrows of Knowledge." He took his text from Solomon or Ecclesiastes. I quoted last year, "For much wisdom is much grief and he that increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow." He dealt upon the imperfections of man, dwelling on his pride, laying bare the motives of action, his pride, selfishness, dishonesty, ingratitude, hypocrisy. He remarking that he who erred not to popular sentiment without reference to principle would be most popular. "The meanest and most dishonest men made the most money." And showing that the more knowledge a man gains of the world, the more he became dissatisfied with it. What we call science does but unsettle opinions; and the deeper we get the more we discover our own ignorance and discovers how unsatisfactory were our deepest studies, knowing all this of the world and its sorrows, its benedictions, its disappointments; the inference was that nothing but a high life, a high aim, a noble spirit, the mind, a knowledge of the world led to sorrow of heart. A knowledge of God only led to happiness.

I do not quote his language, but the sentences were the most powerful I ever heard.
Sunday Feb 20th. Continued

Genl John Bedford US Cavalry was buried today in a lawn of Osphold park in this city. His funeral was largely attended and was a great military display reaching at least 1/2 a mile on the Avenue with 12 men in advance.

Sgt Major Gent was half bearer. Gentli Casey, Fidels Angier, Hancock, Huntleyman and Gent.s Schriff, the coffin was borne to the hearse by 54 cavalrymen. His horse
wrote boots in the strings was let behind the hearse by two soldiers. His medals to water or engagement ordered directly behind his dead Master and seemed to give
very much. Genl Bedford was considered the best cavalry Gent we had. He was a Huntleyman. Thirty eight years of age and graduated at West Point in 1849.

He had tea sundays at

Genl Instructions at Sgt Ambler

I called at Ambler and stayed an hour

Then came to my room, wrote

a letter to my wife. Tomorrow I must

send some books to the Boys for

Christmas presents. Justice went up to Col. Wellings Camps 9th Artillery

Fort Sumter

Mr. M. sent for her and she will stay awhile.
Tuesday Dec. 29th 1863

I sent the books to the boy yesterday, one of each costing about $3.50 each, and also a head dress for wife, which was the handy work of Indiana. All by Adams Esq. for 50c today.

I called and spent an hour with Dr. Hartman at Mr. Halsey. Mr. James Backford is still here. Today I have been the same sound of official duty. After three o'clock I visited the Newton Hospital and see old friends there. All doing very well. Frequently visit other hospitals. There is not much that one can do for them now. The hospitals are so well managed. Most of the soldiers get everything they want. I write letters sometimes for those who cannot write in consequence of their wounds, and sometimes I take their money and “spend” it for them to their friends. Sometimes I read to them and always try to cheer them up and make them contented and they are always glad to see me. There is no news of any importance today. Congress has not yet sat and will not until after the holidays. There are crowds of people on the avenues now afternoon, and at the Hotel all the time.
January 20th, 1863

Congress has adjourned over until the 3rd of July, and many of the Members have gone home to spend the Holydays. Christmas was passed off pleasantly. It was a beautiful bright day on Sunday and appeared to be enjoyed by all classes.

I went up to the Capitol at the famous to take a look at the east front, the north wing, east portico in approaching completion, and when finished will be a splendid sight. I shall perhaps say when the whole east front is completed, as the north wing is to be finished in the same style, and then it is proposed to remove the old east portico of the main building and replace it with one projecting forward on a line with the wings and in the same style of architecture. When that is done the east front will be truly magnificent. The dome is nearly finished (outside). The workmen are now removing the scaffolding around the center of the dome which surrounds it. The head and shoulders of the dome are from my window nearly perfect above the scaffolding, this week it will all be removed. The great bronze door between the old chamber and the new "House" chamber attracts much attention. As a work of art it is unsurpassed, if it were
27th continued

I made several calls on Christmas Day
but felt rather lonely without Mr. and
Mrs. Taylor. I spent the evenings at
my son's and played shop with him.
Mr. Woodruff was in their room part of
the evening. Egg nog and cake were
plenty. We had a fine Christmas dinner at
my boarding house for Dr. Martin. I thought to
Mary our house as I only like my home
there. I breakfasted where I came.

One of my old friends of the Patent Office Mr.
Staten called upon me yesterday at
the office. He has just returned from
Alabama where he has been mining
the past year on the Mountains, spending
most of his time at Virginia City.

He gave glowing accounts of the gold
resources of that region, were I a few
years younger I should be disposed
to go back with him the spring.

This is a rainy Sunday, and I have
not been out to church this morning.

This afternoon I must visit the Stanton Hospital.

I am sorry I did not go to see Mrs. Stanton, as Mr.
Stanton (The Secretary of War) was there and I wonder
if Mr. P. Parker, my old friend, got
an order from him to allow of his being Stanton's own.
27th continued

good, and I... Jamie Nelson's
came down to the city from the Fort. The
Fort Ambulance, and pipe into my
rooms in the Post Office about noon.
Julia had fixed it a pot on the way
in the shape of a large Newfoundland dog
who she said "But his paws on the back
of the carriages and able to ride looking
tire?" They took him in and he was quietly
sitting in the Ambulance when I waited
on them at their departure. When
Julia sat down the dog leaped his head
on her lap as though she had been his
best friend looking up into her face and
positively wishing to say "I am truly grateful
for your kindness and wish to be your
attendant and defender as long as I live.
He saw a noble-looking fellow but belonged in
Georgetown and had traveled from his master
who has probably received him before this.
As the girl interceded to leave him, I,
on their return, Julia only stayed in Washington
a few minutes, only long enough to call
where one and a thank-you for her Christmas
event, which I sent her on that day, a little
tortoise shell box, to put her breast pin
and earrings in.
Wednesday Dec 31st 1863

Today the weather has been rain and pleasant, almost too warm for comfort in the sun. I went down to the Bank to get a dress to send home to-day and found it more pleasant to ride the shady side of the street, all are anticipating a pleasant New Year and seem much better prepared to enjoy one now than for the last three or four years. There does not seem to be any movement of the Aronin troops going on. I think they are all in captured quarters with the exception of some cavalry which are occasionally making "raids" into the enemy country and following up and scattering bands of "Greenhillers." These bands consist generally of bad or a desperate crew, who live in or near the scene of their operations, robbing the farmers, and carrying off their women and children. By day they live not far from our lines, and not infrequently within them. They assemble at night from some organized band which is providing in the vicinity, and cut off any train or settlers wagon which they see unattended in daylight. Perhaps they are now when to be found on half of them.
are back to their Homes and peaceful Farms again. We had seek the bye roads and bye places, or scatter it boldly around, understanding where to meet again. Washington and Alexandria. And in fact the whole country within our line (and the line I estimate perhaps fifty miles back into Virginia at the present time) are full of what "sympathizers" who give information as to the starting, train of wagons in any direction, how they are guarded, how strongly it. If the guerrillas could do themselves strong enough. They come there, in the rain in some unexpected place, or in the clearing's of the woods. If they fear immediate pursuit. They take the horses and what they can carry, burn the wagons and case off. After the Battle of Bittsburgh along old road, which was fleeing toward the Potomac now captured by our Cavalry. The train was guarded by soldiers at intervals, and was said to be four miles long. Our Cavalry dashed clear by the side of the train killing the guards when they resisted and putting the train into the utmost confusion. By putting a revolver at the ear of a Mule on each team and shooting him down in his harness.
Thursday Dec 31 1863

Also for yesterday seen and feeling air and brilliant atmosphere. It has rained all day and as I now write the rain descending upon the roof sounds like the roar of a waterfall but I like that music. It was always cheermorning to me to hear the rain descending upon the roof or pattering against the window panes. at night it bell me to sleep like the gentlert music of the "soletary and alone" house would be a sense of comfort and contentment sitting by my comfortable fire while the tempest rage without more it but the constant reflection which forces itself on me. That thousands of thousands of our brave soldiers are only sustained by their courage from the storm and perhaps lying on the bare ground. How of the thousands who to night are doing direct duty. outside from the camp, when a fire or a downpour would bust opposite them to the enemy once invite the crack of the deadly rifle. Of the faithful sentinel pacing his weary rounds facing the rain or blinding sleet and chilling wind. I almost feel like selfish and dream to feel contented tonight.
Dec. 31st Continued.
The old year is drawing to its end
bedecked with tears anduttering sounds
of sorrow in the darkness and gloom of
the night, on such a night Optian
would have heard ghosts whispering through
the air. It would require no great stretch
of the fancy to imagine that the worldly
Plantation Monarchs of the South, were
in spirit
revisiting the scenes of their former glory
and weeping and bemoaning over their
fallen greatness, and thinking in vain of
hate their final address as the closing year
closes into all hope for theirheeds,
no hope of Recognition by foreign Nations.
No hope of an acknowledgment of their
Independence by the United States. Nothing but
Disaster in the field. In the most part of the
year, their Occaseney nearly extinct,
Their strength declining, their
sustained only are their efforts to by the
scur for their personal safety and their
vanishing happiness of the North. The Leaders
of the Rebellion scene bent upon using
the powers they now hold in deceiving
themselves for their followers, and doing all
the injury they can to the free Yankee
before they can control fully or yield.
31st Dec. Continued

After three years of doubt, despair, of disasters and sufferings of a terrible Civil War and all its attendant horrors we think we can now see the "beginning of the end". The public mind is buoyant with hope and confidence. The universal sentiment is "The Rebellion Must and Shall be put down". The "Compromise" party. The Anti-war party. They accompany it to a few discontented spirits who are looking to a "reconstruction" and hope to find themselves on the dominant side of politics when the wheel turns over, and the wrong the South again at the ballot box as of yore. They are called "Copperheads" "Peace Democrats" "Southern Sympathizers". They oppose the Administration of course. They oppose the war generally. Discourage enlistment, rant about Secession, and especially about the draft and seem generally determined to leave to their children the heritage which the Sons of the Revolution once the Hartford Conventionists of the 1871 left to them, the whole of the U.S. in my County. "May she always be in the right, But only Country, right or wrong."
Thursday Dec. 31st 1863 continued.

Julia is still at Fort Simmons, staying with Col. Wilkins. Family has been there now almost two weeks. I met Ed. Dickeson to-day; he told me that they had repeated his wife and family to-night. I must call at the Metropolitan Hotel in the morning and see if they have come. The prospect now is that not much calling will be done tomorrow.

The past year has slipped away very speedily as it seems to me, and without any change as it regards the condition of myself or family, or relations. All live and as far as I know enjoy good health as usual. All of our family exceptatin, sister Bessie and myself met at Lyons in Oct. Five sisters and two brothers, Harriet Southern of Lockport, Mr. Abby Sabin of Cincinnati. This with Mr. Audson of cold water, Michigan. Frances Roeb of Medina, Miss. Jane Hinners of Lockport, Mrs. A. Taft of Williamsport, Mrs. all met at Brother Nevelles House in Lyons. It was a pleasant reunion. I have been home to say Harbor three times during the year, in March in Aug and in Nov. Spending in all about six weeks at home with my family. My family left Lyons in April 1867. None of us have been there since. I intend to return when I can.

The following is taken from "The Peerage of Ireland" or Genealogical History of the Nobility of that Kingdom. Vol 10. page 228.

"The family of Taffe hath been of great antiquity and considerable reputation in the Counties of South and Sligo, and Killymard many eminent person, among whom was Sir Richard Taffe, who flourished in the time of King Edward, and died in 1287. Contemporaneously with him was Sir John Taffe, who by his deed dated at Castleriffe, 1294, gave in free and alms to the abbey of Ardfed. And died in Oct 1288 leaving issue John Taffe, Arch-Bishop of Armagh, who died in 1306, and Richard Fitz Nicholas Taffe, against who by virtue of his father's title of Amada Prior of the Holy Trinity in Dublin received 400 acres of land in Killymard, with twenty marks of silver in Helen's term 1291. He left issue ten sons: Richard, Fitz Nicholas, who about 1310, gave and confirmed the Manor of Donacorum in the County of Kildare to the Priory of St. Moltra. And in 1334 (Edward 3rd) had a grant from the Crown, of lands in Hinlsey, 442 l. The history above quoted from goes on to describe different members of the Taffe family, and their different occupations, some distinguished for their profession, some for their services to the Crown. The members of the Taffe family have resided for a series of years in the Austrian Dominions and have held the highest offices Civil and Military.
under imperial government. Doubtless from having been explained the wonder
satisfaction of6 seizing their own country.

The "Taffe" are of great antiquity in this
Country of South America.

It is quite uncertain how
much the "Taffe" of Ireland have to do
with the ancestry of the "Taffe" of America.

It appears that some of the "Taffe" went
to England and served under a number
of English Monarchs. anterior to Queen Elizabeth,
but were subsequently expelled on account of
their religion (being Catholic). Their name is not
found now either Taffe or Daff. in Great Britain.

Specif in Ireland. This is an old tradition
in our family that we are descended from
the Irish, but perhaps not genetically immediate
by those bearing the name.

The first mention we have of the Daffs in this County
is in a deed from ("Proctor's Castle," Mendon
Moretown & Map page 68). Colonel William Crown
dated August 15, 1677. 80 Acres. on West River, also
80 acres on the pine plains page 69. Robert
had resided in Braintree previous to the date
of this deed. This will dated 1724 is on record
in the town of Mendon. Removal from
Braintree to Mendon in 1679, as appears by record,
Rott Taft. Have five sons. His wife name was Sarah, as there does not appear any records of Rott in his family, it is probable that these sons were born in Europe or at least before he went to America to reside.

The names of these five sons, from whom all the Tafts in America are descended are:
1. Thomas
2. Robert
3. Daniel
4. Joseph (wife name was Elizabeth)
5. Benjamin

Thomas Taft married Deborah Genev
Rott Taft wife name was Elizabeth
Daniel married Lydia Chapin.
Joseph wife family name is not known.
Benjamin married Sarah Thomas.

Our branch of the Taft family came from Joseph, the 1st son of Robert, and Sarah, Joseph left his home on the west side of Blackstone River, alon the north bank below the middle of the town of Ulpbridge, the part of Mendon, incorporated 1727. His farm lay partly on the Blackstone River, others partly on Mumford River. North and adjoining land Taft farm.

He married won Anderson 1st Lucie 1709 Sept 20.
7. Aaron April 12 1727, 8. Margaret Dec 24 1729.

The above Peters in our immediate ancestry, the ancestors of Elizabeth Chapin. They had 3 children five sons and one daughter.
as follows. Henry born Feb 7th 1736
Gershom Oct 29th 1739
Peter Aug 26th 1741
Aaron May 25th 1743
Thankful May 25 1745
Josiah May 25 1747

The above Gershom married Abigail Read. They had six children. He always
lived in Upton. His farm adjoined his
father directly south. He was very industrious,
nobleman and respectable.

Their children's names were

Elizah B. Born Nov 1765
Philo. Feb 1775

Read Mar 15 1780.

The above George married Chloe White.
He lived in Goshen, Massachusetts, and an account
in Williamstown, Mass in 1812. When he
was twenty-six, he was married three times, last
with Chloe White, by whom he had
nine children. He was born to Syd, daughter of Samuel Kenney of Mottown,
by whom he had four children,
The 3 time to Olive Smith (no children). She outlive him 39
and afterwards married Edward Shepard of Stony Maple and he dying she marr
Judge Dusmond Amberton Mag.
The first children were named as follows.

Newell born April 12, 1794

Lyman
Nehemiah
Hannah
Abigail
Horatio Nelson
Sara

Betsy
Calvin Read
By Deborah Ford.

He had

Died Oct 1st, Maria born " 1816
First child, Juliet " 1819
Frances (m. Strout), 1825
Jane (m. Newhouse), 1827

Calvin, Elizabeth, and Cherry Tipt. (from Gordon)

only 3 are living, Calvin married Mary Merideth.

They had three children, Jeremiah, 1785, Marcel 1788

Benj. Clark 1790, Chandler 1792, Phila 1796, Polly 1799.

Mary 1803 Eliza 1805 James Whitman 1807.
He lives in Upbridge.

Elizabeth, Mariner, Chelsea, Horton lived in dan, Ritehead 5 children. Roswell, Ezra, Moses, Seconna, Cherry, & Calvin Say, who died at Millicent about 1845.
The first wife of Henry Taft (Chloe White) was a direct descendant from the first Mrs. White who came to this country on the Mayflower in 1620. Her family was from the neighborhood of Boston. A particular history of the White family would be interesting. I recall on Jan. 10, 1863, well remember my paternal grandmother White. She died at a young advanced age in 1812. In Williamsburg, early impressions are longest retained and not over fifty or sixty years old myself. I distinctly remember hearing her tell of her father fighting the Indians near his farm.

Mrs. White's story was so valuable, we would be at this day with a diary kept at that time. How valuable may be and probably will be a diary kept during these interesting times during the "great Rebellion." The present always looks common place to us because every one known to know the same thing.

And when the shouting, the events of the day, are over, do we realize how interesting it would be for our descendants, fifty or a hundred years hence, to read the simple record of our daily life, where and when we lived, and what we did and saw.
From day to day. In our common self-concept, we are apt to think that half a century hence, all things will be moving on as they are now in the world; that our habits and manner of living and every of thinking will all be the same, little on the stage. Then what we have nearly at quite reached perfection as regards improvement is. Our Fathers thought about the same thing fifty years ago. But Steam Boats and Rail Roads, and the Electric Telegraph. These all come into use in their a hundred years ago. The Steam Engine (which is Revolutionising the World) was nearly but known. It was almost a useless thing, till James Watt in 1764 made it. Nearly what it is now, or rather began his reforms. Then the improvements which may be made. The discoveries which may be brought to light. Maybe quite as wonderful during the next fifty years. Those there upon the stage will probably wonder how the world made along as we did, and probably call ignorant old "How Cocoes”. What we now know our boasted discoveries and improvements. May then be nothing more with disdain, and be lost quite in the shade.
