Fort Hamilton, N.Y.
Dec. 28th, 1861

Dear Sir,

I have received a good letter from Mary this evening which I will answer soon, but am writing to let her know you are very well under great fear of the consequences of failure. Mary mentions a Christmas tree which you have made in sending us, for which I am sure our best love and thanks.

"From home" is the greatest charm of all, though I doubt not this will be pretty and good of themselves. When we see them, the boy has not yet arrived, and I do not expect to have it to the children till Christmas. Then, I am sure they will be very sure.

We all send you in the coming holidays. I intend to try not to think, as my only hope is keeping cheerful. That it will help know
Dear All,

I am more to be thankful for than many other women. It is your second thoughts I believe I will have that in mind, and think of you all as much as I please.

I have just written to Miss to ask her to spend Christmas with us; if she can come but fear she will think it too great an undertaking.

Father and Mr. Egbert (for the office of the 12th) are playing cards and I have been watching them; my little has not forgone. Kitty has earned two and is very happy, she has asked her again — Alice, once more, but sneaky; Ella has had just such an attack this week, but is pretty well now. Frank has not come sick but looks very delicate — depression. I feel very sorry about him, and dislike having him more than either of the other children.

There is a wedding next Wednesday and we are invited. I should like to go on some accounts, very much, but fear the

Sunday evening — Thus far I wrote last Thursday evening and have been prevented from finishing by Kitty's illness. The ice was broken that night; better next morning, but became so much worse Friday night that Father sent for the Doctor, allopathic you know; will be here soon, said he was cranky and needed prompt treatment. First came the

Blue mass in form of a pill, then a

mixture of antimonial wine, opium and

syrup. It is given every hour or half;

A pill to be taken

The pills sent down, then several doses of the mixture, every time a great

cry — Father and Mother both disgusting.

Concluded all was not needed.

Patient a little better next morning, but Father concluded to visit the City in search of Homoeopathic medicine for

Kitty. They were during the evening,

Mother forced her more mixture at

the risk of getting slapped, corrosion so

bad had each time and after succeeding
I made two calls yesterday and two today when I thought I was through, but this afternoon Mrs. Brown called for the first time. She is an English woman, and according to her account devotes herself to the affairs of the people. She understands domestic work with a firmness and skill.

The children and I took quite a walk to-day on the bluffs. There is no good fishing place for boys near here, excepting one at Concrete, so that if I stay I shall have no fishing. The children enjoyed their walk very much and are not sad about the lack of fish.

Today I slept into Col. Dwork's this morning and they asked me about my mistress. I thought she was iceless and asked why he did not bring his family! Finally finished by sending him two pounds of cheese, and telling him to bring him some writing to be written. I thank you kindly, and you see that he must to do a little.

Here is writing my letter most indifferently, and I am obliged to stop writing and close this in self defense. To write again, you must to

The growing gos are pretty, and it looks very much as if we should be here all Winter. I shall miss you all at home and am not so comfortable here as I should be there in some ways; still I do not regret coming, and hope we can be well with Luther some months. Billa still says she wants to go home and I have my doubts about her being or telling when the time comes. Christ and Polly don't seem to mind the change at all, and yet so duty playing in the yard as to be perfectly right. Frank hasn't got over that ugly habit of calling after gos and making much of them. I have to call him onto the lawn often on that account. -

Master Rob. likes, Frank is screams and shakes himself if he sees him coming and between them they get up just a moan, much more easily made than questioned.
Sunday night I wrote to Mr. Brady and Irish Connor, and left the Letter for Luther to send. To my surprise, I found it at the desk Monday when I opened it to write to you.

My next letter must be to Aunt Mary; I told her I would not occasionally, I hope she will be pleased as it seems to be all I can do for them over there. Give my love to them all.

Ask Uncle John if he can't wait some time to see, I will answer him if I have no time, and do my best to make myself agreeable. Love to Aunt, the girls and Belle. Oh, to be sure and ask Uncle if he has got the money from Davis!!!

My love to all at Judge Hollow. I have done nothing at Belle, but will go to see her as soon as I can get my calls returned. I have promised to take the children when I go there, and Bertha will accompany me. I'll meet that if Bell has any time.

To spare from Belle, I am a very industrious. For the next pennieship, I don't know to be sure, how many correspondents have, but it seems to me that she might write occasionally to me. I have all of you at home, Luther's sister, Aunt Mary, Mary Gardiner, I forget, America and my perhaps Monte. The largest that you two desire over me, but I am the luckiest person after all, so I must hear different things from so many, while my letters must necessarily be a repetition of each other in some degree.

Bella says ask Aunt Mary and Gardiner to write me a letter.

It is time to bath the children; after that dress myself and perhaps make a call on Mrs. Brown before our five o'clock dinner.

Wednesday—Well, not add much more as I want to put this in the office tonight. Judge says, 'tell Mother that if she gets the money for you to send it to me,' he says too that he had like you, which you are not bound to believe.