frightened away from home in that way. It would be a great pity to have their pleasant houses with all their fine books, pictures, articles, &c., to be destroyed by fire, wouldn’t it? — I send you a letter from the correspondent of the War Chronicle, giving an account of one operation on the other side of the Rapidan. How correct it is, I cannot say, further than that much of the blame of the failure is cast upon French, who is said to have been drunk. The paragraph next to the one which was in error and I quote the one on the right, but when one cannon opened there was complete silence along the rest of the line. In two or three hours after the 32 guns of the Monitor actually opened fire, they didn’t return fire worth noting.

It is very hard to get a trustworthy account of military operations. The actors in these have few opportunities for having any thing but what they do themselves, & correspondent has an opportunity of seeing more, but they generally write as if they knew very little & seldom give an intelligible account of what they undertake to report. — We have talked down into winter quarters & shall have nothing exciting us till the commencement of the spring campaign. Much love from your D. & B.
will suddenly strike some day, writing to me how very sorry he is that this engagement, new stuck, that the conduct of his wife, put him to much trouble.

This is the fourth letter I have written you since I scribbled that pencil note. They don’t seem to reach you as soon as they should. The first after the note was dated the 7th, the second, the 8th. I was so situated for several days after losing the note that I could not write. Our mail now leaves in the afternoon or evening so that my letters will probably reach you a day earlier than formerly.

I was Capt. Lay yesterday and asked him about the direction to his wife. There are two or three petitions - the Capt.'s name is R. G. and his name is G. Mr. Wimbale's is E. H. (not H. J. as you had it) 65 Library is right. Mr. J. is staying with Mrs. Morton at present, about the last of the month he expects to visit New York, to remain a couple of months.

It is suspected that Mr. Wimbale's horse was stolen by a man who had charge of his stables and when he was charged after detaining them in Richmond. The case is now in jail, but it is doubtful whether a case can be made out against him. The horse is now in jail, but it is doubtful whether a case can be made out against him. Mr. J.'s loss was a shock for me, I suspect. Besides, the women folk must be very much surprised at the prospect of losing the house burned down over their heads any night. Mrs. J. & her family are both at Mrs. Morton's, but I suppose the old lady isn't too much pleased to be