Dayton, 6th, April 3rd, 1864.

Dear Father,

I have letters of March 27th, 28th, and 29th to answer. But much to complain of lowny this time; but there is the damnable bill to prevent my proceeding any farther!

Since dinner Mary is doing her best to keep me from writing.

Robert called yesterday, or rather Friday, to tell me that he and David would start to Washington either Tuesday or Wednesday, and would carry these things for you. He thinks he will be able to get a pass, but says he would not avail himself of it if he thought it would be dangerous in your vicinity. He will however send anything to you, or you might send to Judge Minton at the Indian Office, just as was most convenient.
I hear ground a small box, and one going to try to fill it tomorrow. As last year you get good things, but—perhaps the thought that they are from home may make them a little better. I hope for your sake my hand has not lost its cunning after its long rest. Mother forecasts that I drop my letter for the present, and all go out to the lot. The cello is upstairs.

The pretty desert table evening, May is rolling over the floor while I write. We have been out to the lot and mother and I spent a few minutes to lands. I am more pleased than ever with mother's palace. Only the day's fishing has been done in the cellar. My work has fatigue me exceedingly, and I fear a headache will be the result; consequently all that, I had thought to say to you will be delayed, for gotten. Your lecture on suitable is not clear enough to answer this. I only know that I have great doubts of the propriety of leaving the children to handings and that would have to be done if I left. Mother—although Emma seemed fond of our children, I yet could not great deal to make my days on the city as amusing ones, and you remember the night we sent to the concert and found Billy alone in our return? To be taught to nothing in every way too. I cannot bear the idea of leaving little they exposed to such influences, neither are any of the children yet old enough to stand against does in itself, being rendered terribly by being frightened. The only way that I can see is that of a conscientious presence, which I fear to be beyond our means.

At present I point as much as I can, my only fear being that of insquiring in Boston. The future seems the goal of doubts are darkened for me to look at, so I am trying to take care of the present and hope
That the trials I dread may not come.

About to think it certain whether we
could all be supported in Washington, but
said it would be better to have you there than
in the field, even if we could not be with
you, which is certainly true. You may not
be called upon to decide this matter at all,
but if it is necessary, do not do it, will and
be very sure before you act. 'Tis all a dream to me.

Tomorrow is election day, and we
are exceedingly anxious to see whether Dayton is
to be a victor here for the next two years or
not. He received a letter from Howard
this morning, dated as we say last the 28th.
Nothing new from him. I am sorry to hear of
Charlotte. Mrs. Harrison says she appeared very
healthy in New York. The gentleman who suffers
her was become a personal friend.

For Captain Patman will suffer deeply, particu-
larly if it was the oldest boy. Do you know
which it was? I mean to stop writing now
and will not resume unless on purpose.