Dear Wife: It is half four o'clock and a dark rainy afternoon, so dark that I can't read what I write. But having been in the city yesterday and acquired while there a realize sense of the value of paper, I thought I'd see what I could do in the way of economising it. This sheet is my first effort and I want you to let me know how it strikes you. I had an indiscernible amount of such paper when I left home and I suppose I have yet, which has become quite valuable, if we can use it in the way for letters to those who care more for what is written on this letter.
than the fashion or pattern of the paper itself. Paper costs twice as much as it did last spring, and is constantly advancing. I wish you would bring on with you all that tinted English letter paper; — I don’t know where it is — in one of the office drawers, I believe. — I don’t wish that book for many of your diggings, but he is to inquire the price at Dr. Dent’s, and let me know what it is. I don’t know whether you directed me to buy it or not; I shall do so any way, if it is not too expensive. — By the way, tell Mary to take all the books on Act and my library, and keep them till I want them; she might as well be using them, not just put them, as if we were to any body not even the money. If however you think you would like to use any of them, you have the preference, of course. If the thighs showed yet after my personal efforts, she might save then much from the general ward — I think the old Colonel (Burn) is beginning to show signs of mental disipation. He is not half the man he was when I first knew him, and he is evidently failing rapidly. I fancy I can see a marked change in the last few weeks. By the way, he has taken a great “shine” to Mary’s sketch and if there were much prospect of his appreciating it, I would like to have her copy it for him. But by the time she could get it done, I am afraid she would hardly know enough to recognize it. — What is the reason you have never said anything about the way Mary’s effort has been received by the family. Isn’t the subject worth a few lines?
Are you aware that I have a hopeful nephew or two in your locality. Whose name you heard not designed to mention letter? Where is Dante's; who is Dave Carson? What are they doing? You have heard of mentioned the name of any Eliza's or Pincus's family. How is Jemmy, and what is he doing? I might go on admi-

litions but this certainly enough to put you on the track of giving me some interesting

of not useful information. Tell Robert to write to me soon that I hear of he is going
to Washington this winter.

letter tomorrow, but not very strongly, as it is more than probable that I shall have to wait
until Monday. We sufficed for the Afghan to stay at

out with work. With you, mad, tell Lizzie and Bobby to

be good children till they get the measles and Frank to

hang and get well. Tell Robi that Col. B. wants to see an

busy. Remember all my love to me. I have my life amidst

L. C.
You ask me begin you some news. Well that is rather hard to do. We are pretty near a much isolated as you are to D., and yet our news for New York. You ought to get the papers some time this week. I have read some very sanguine article from Greeley, I afraid too sanguine, I fear, but then it is pleasant to read such hopeful anticipations. It also contains Bache's Thanksgiving sermon, which I have sat read, but mean to. Bache has another slashing article on the Wendell and the admiring brethren, which I suppose you would like to read. Peg the Independent of Long.

The poor woman came the other day for her money. She said the bill was twenty two dollars, and Emily says she is right, but as I could not find any memorandus from you showing how much we owed her, I paid her two dollars, and told her I would write to you about it, and pay the balance in a week or two with which arrangement she seemed very well satisfied. I sent you two (2) dollars in a postage note in my last, and will send you XX in this letter and some more P. note, if I can.

I am anxious to hear how you are getting along with the children and hope I shall get a letter tomorrow, but not very strongly, as it is more than probable that I shall have to wait until Monday. We cuffed for the Afghan to day at N.Y.