


This explosion has been very funny to me notwithstanding my own rather unpleasant conversation with the taboored parties. Not being able to observe for myself and getting very imperfect accounts of what occurred I was very easily imposed upon. And, on account of my absence, every body comes to me to tell his story, with every shade of indignation at his own griefs & grievances, while I sit & listen and laugh in my sleeve. Putting the bad women, I think we might have managed to get thro' the summer of Miss B had not been a lazy novel-reading slut, and <sup>some of</sup> the lady boarders had not been talkers or warpike. — DuPont was here last week; he came back sick and was under Dr Studley's treatment all the time, looking as thin as a rail. Piper came back yesterday looking droll & complaining also of a bad drance, he is to be married this afternoon at 4 o'clock. DuPont was to have taken Mrs Harrison to Gen Leeward who is now at Hagerstown Md. but she was too unwell. He further intends to take her on Saturday I believe.

I have been so hurried by Company & business this morning that

I have had to  
write note  
after lunch to  
write this. — I am  
excused at Mr El-  
leather for a few  
days until I  
feel well enough  
to walk down to  
Washington City.

  
I am not so  
convinced  
that I have told  
you  
Good bye  
Hamilton  
Thy  
Father

"This is a world of vicissitude and equipoise", as Peter Love would say. When I wrote you last I was "Commanding Officer", now I am not. That very night there came a Vol. Reg., the 37<sup>th</sup> Mass. with its Col. & Lt Col and the former assumed command on Monday morning. The Col. is a very clever gentleman and has behaved himself very modestly and decently. We have things our own way, pretty much, he not being disposed to interfere. His regiment is a much better one than the 11<sup>th</sup> N.Y. Heavy Artillery, a part of which is stationed here. It has been in all the battles of the Army of the Potomac beginning with Antietam & ending with Gettysburg. The Col. lives at Harrow Hill & is a single man, but told me

Yesterday that if he remained here any time, he should go to Springfield Mass and bring back a wife

Dr Randall's little girl has been very sick for several days but is better to-day. He has been ordered to appear before a Retiring Board at Wilmington Del., at which he is very much grieved.

The great event of this week however is the explosion of our boarding house. The keeper of the house proved to be a very mean man a come outing entered and the ladies tell me she both his and the

I commenced taking my meals there on Monday. At dinner Mr Matterson got disgusted because he was not invited on & left the table & sending <sup>for</sup> Miss Bissell he told her his woman would be to let the next day at 11 o'clock. He paid her \$55 per week for his family, which consisted of seven persons & a nurse. The next day six more persons left and five more will leave to-morrow & next week. Mr P. goes home to New York, all

the party we go to Slater's.

The principal cause of the outbreak besides the insolence and ugliness of Miss B. was the discovery that two of the boarders were "kept women" namely Mrs Robbins & Miss Harris. While I was at the house they behaved themselves modestly enough. Miss Harris was so I wrote you a fine looking girl but rather nice in her manners. I paid a little attention to her and when I was sick they used to come down to the parlour in the evening, occasionally, and come up to when I was sitting before my quarters and inquire after my health. The came one evening when Mary Van Derpool & some friends were sitting with me. Toward the last Miss H. began to paint & powder a good giving herself a meretricious look, but we only supposed she was a silly girl trying to make herself look pretty & took no more notice of it than to laugh at it among ourselves. It is pretty well ascertained now I believe however that they are what I represented them to be above.