

know whether there is a vacancy or not, until it has been filled I suppose. The old man has been making a good deal of money of late, so I suppose they will all be well off.

It seems to be a difficult matter to ^{get} an answer to a letter from Dayton, from any one but you. I have written several letters from which I can hear nothing. I sent a letter to Rob. in one of my late letters to you; in the same or another, I sent a funny sensational novel from Punch. I'm trying to write you a better letter in a day or two, when the weather is warmer and I am in better spirits - Love to all
Yours L. B.

Roxbury Va

Feb 17. 64

My dear Augusta:

We are having a taste of winter to-day. The wind shakes the canvass walls of my house and makes so much noise that I cannot write very satisfactorily. You have misapprehended my suggestion about Frank. I certainly had no idea of stimulating him with alcohol, - he will probably take that up himself quite soon enough. My idea was to get him to eat - meat freely and any thing else that is very nutritious.

My head quarters are on the farm of a Mr. Mather, whose name has been given to the road and station here. He is the President Gardner and has been making us a visit, or rather

to have his property surveyed to see how much damage has been done to it by the Union soldiers. He is something of a blow-hard, but I have given him your address and he has promised to send you some of his best & choicest flower seeds. He talks of sending some grape cuttings. He has also promised to send me a box of celery. How much perfume will come of all this, I can't say. Should the flowers ^{send} arrive you will know where they came from.

I send you a very beautiful tribute to Thackeray by Drake as it may not fall under your notice otherwise.

The weather is so cold that it is with the utmost difficulty

that I write a half dozen sentences at a time.

Yesterday I was not well all day, & that with the cold prevented me from writing any more than the first half page of this letter. I see I am not doing much better to-day, but this must go off in the morning mail.

I am glad you took the children to see Williams' Intentionment. I am sure they enjoyed it and it will benefit them. I would take them out to such places as often as convenient - even if the exhibition is not in itself instructive, it will warm them up not a little.

The death of Mr. Parrott will take the Col. out of the service; if it does, I would like to get his place and might if the proper efforts were made, I shall not