

Friday Morn. Dec. 18th.

Dear Husband,

I was about to write a note in haste, when I received your Sunday's letter. I wished to tell you that Uncle G. told me last night that he could not collect those costs, as the person (I then forgotten who) says Gunkle & Strong collected and must pay it; he said he would have to take it into court in a few days; but whether he does it, is, I think extremely doubtful, for he seems absent minded and has Will at home, and he absorbs all his attention. — I cannot see him about any thing before the mail goes out, but I will ~~at~~ let you know about the note and the taxes as soon as possible. — I went to Mrs. Brady's yesterday and found her preparing to start to Washington next Sunday night. Mrs. Smith had promised to pay her expenses if she would help her with her Christmas dinner. Luther too had urged her to come. She is very anxious

to make you a call but I fear cannot
do it. — The children are pretty well
excepting Frank who has a troublesome
hacking cough, and Robby's bowels
are not in good order; the Doctor is
trying to help both. Their Christmas
will have to be small, as I have but
\$3.00 in my purse; perhaps I will defer
presents till New Year's day.

I am sorry that you are so 'blue' and
fear you are really suffering since the
news of the retreat; undoubtedly it was
right to retreat but certainly it was
a great pity that it had to be done.

You say "I write tinted paper" — Oh yes, I
understand now your unanswerd questions.

The newspaper ~~did not~~ came much obliged
for Father. — Please tell me in your next
how I had better come home; I dread that
Jury at Albany, and I dread Philadelphia
the other route. Aunt Caroline is very
anxious for me to make her a visit but
I think I cannot do it. She says she is
going to break up housekeeping in the Spring
Mary is waiting so love and kisses
and Goodbye.

Augusta

I told you that Robert and Sammy were
both in Washington