

unless you can turn a pleasant time into an all, which most
 children cannot
 prompt.
 As helping of to
 do will save
 and you'll come
 soon, I'll send
 with the same
 many thanks.
 That was
 my note
 Tuesday - Baby
 so better, but
 still weak
 now well - 10th
 Began to accept
 Mary Libbie
 sold for \$20.00

Dayton, Dec. 22nd,
 1869

You must be "hungry" for letters, Dearest,
 to beg for more from me; for very
 stupid things they are in my opinion.
 Still if you want them, you shall have
 them. - Yours of the 15th. with newspaper
 account of your late movement, came this
 morning; no sorer than the others you see,
 in spite of change of your mail bears.

Yesterday Mother, Lib, Mary, Henrietta
 and I, all went out in search of Christ-
 mas presents, and had a merry time.
 I believe I didn't have any colicisms, but
 Mary and Lib were constantly sitting upon
 the same things, and created not a little
 amusement for us. Henrietta said she
 had already provided for all but John Davis
 and was quite discontented that she could
 find nothing to suit him and his own purse,

Wednesday Night - I had to break off abruptly yesterday; and, as I went to ^{my} the "cantata" in the evening, could not resume. This evening Father and Mother have taken the children and gone to the 'Bazaar' which is opened for the first time.

I too should have gone, had our Baby been well enough; she has taken a severe cold was not very well last night, but has been much worse today; rather drowsy, but in much pain when awake; feeling alarmed lest a lung fever should be the result I consulted the Doctor. I have not been able to put her in her crib since morning till now, and don't think she will stay there long, so I will have to scuttle as fast as lame arms will allow me.

I hope she will be well enough to go to Lib's tomorrow, for the children on both sides will be greatly disappointed if we are obliged to stay at home; I told the Doctor, he must see her tomorrow and

judge of the propriety of going. Mary and Henrietta are off to the Bazaar in their Quaker dress, and both looked very nicely. - Mary donated 'Lilies' and the price fixed on them by the 'authorities' was \$20.00; They were beautiful and will probably bring the price. Mother made eight ^{pretty} essels after a new pattern, and very beautiful little things too; they were snatched up before the Fair began and sold for 50 cents a piece. She has also sent a handsome sheep of grasses, which I suspect will bring a handsome price. I only have nothing to give because my hands and purse are both tied; If I could have given me Christmas presents I could have given all to the Bazaar, but that could not be done and now the taxes will take some more than I have; I wanted Uncle S. to sell that note and help me out, but he said nobody wanted it; I don't think he has tried a great deal, however. As every body gives &

fully to the Bazaar, I wish to do something too
and think I can in this way. I see books
are donated, and often nothing better than
some of those novels for which you care
nothing, so I think I'll look them over
and present some. Things are bought, and
immense prices paid merely for the cause
so I think my conscience will smile on
for sending forth some rather useless literature
and make it answer a good purpose.

When I think how little church fairs use to
raise I am astonished at the sums they for
the soldiers get together; unless they amount
to several thousand dollars the fairs are consid-
ered failures. In Hamilton I understand the
money contributions alone amount to \$10,000!
One is grumbled at for being only two or three
thousand. It is said the ladies have done their
part well, and great success is predicted, but
the outside money donations are not thought to
be equal to our rich men's purses.

Gen. Lane Edgar gives notice that his word and

provision contributions are coming in finely,
for there is to be another provision the last
day of this month. — I wish you could be
here to see how the good work goes on.

The Cantata was fine, and Clara Turpin,
Leda Howard, Charlotte Stute and similar
win all sang well; Clara Turpin strikes
me as being a remarkably fine singer.

Her voice is powerful and sweet, her
manner simple; yet spirited, and every
word distinctly heard.

Lucia sang a part of the Star Spangled
Banner, very well, but Uncle John says
sang better the first night. — A beautiful
tableaux finished the song and intima-
ment! No, did it finish, the finishing
stroke was three rising churs for the
Star Spangled Banner, given at Uncle's
stirring request, — It is said the Cantata
will be repeated; we doubt it will pay
all goes to the 'soldiers Fund'.

Selle went with Uncle John the first night

and I thought of taking Frank, at least, the next, but it did not close till half past ten, so I gave both boys the money instead for Christmas; Frank was very glad to do so as he had less spending money than either of the others.

Eliza told Father today, that Robert wrote that he had sent you a pass to go to Washington instead of going to see you. I hope while there you can find out something about your position.

Dear Baby has done wonders, but I can't expect a continuance of the same conduct so I must draw this to a close. — We will no doubt lose Howard soon; as he seems inclined to go back to his regiment; he is attached to his Colonel, and he seems much pleased with H. They met in Columbus lately and talked the matter over; Parrott says he can't give him up yet awhile, and he may be kept till this draft takes place; then if you and he are both in the field, it will be an anxious time for us all. — If Baby was well, I'd want to see you this very minute, but I cannot want you