

March 11th 1866 -

My Dear Parents.

I was perfectly delighted yesterday be receiving Mother's letter and there was so much in it that I was interested to hear. I hope she will keep on writing such nice long ones though I would by no means object to still longer ones. I must congratulate you Mother on your success in guessing that connundrum and before I forget I will send you another-- "What is the most indegestible supper? " Yea sen sat And another for Father's benefit if I have not sent it before is "Why does a lawyer enter business - Why does he continue in business? and why does he cease from business? " If you

guess these you will do pretty well as they are harder than the other I think. I am so delighted to hear about the house and especially about the hot air flue to my room. I had been wondering how it would be heated if we have a furnace and I am very much obliged to you for being so thought fulness of my comfort. You must not fail to write me of every little thing for I am so interested in all. Where you sleep as Emily and I have been having quite a discussion about it. What does my poor piano do when the parlors have to be so deserted? I think that a very good way to arrange to light the hall from the front door and I am so glad the arrangements are to be so nice about the bath room. How is the back piazza to be? I am so glad we are to have that - But I will not write any more about the house. You know I am very axous to hear all about it and I am getting Oh so impatient to see it. Your mention of the oysters made my mouth water. If there is one thing I shall appreciate when I get home it will be eatables. I do not want to complain of the living here but we expect to be reduced to bread before long and that bakers bread too. Not so much because we do not have anything else to eat as that there is nothing else fit to eat. I suppose though they try to have it good. Don't say to the contrary to others. W« are to have quite a fine Concert tomorrow* Friday evening and the girls who wish to, can invite their parents and brothers and sisters. I wish you could be here. We have been having lovely warm Spring like days here this week and I am inclined to think Father's foot of snow came up missing.--How is't? I am so thankful Father was not on the train when it ran off the

track and I am so glad there was no one seriously injured Emily had a letter from her Uncle Will, this morning saying he may be here the last week in this month and asking how it would be about seeing us all He has already a letter of introduction from Em's Mother. Has he spoken to you about it yet? I should like very much to see him for it would be such a disappointment to have Em. have company and I not see them. I had a letter from Kate to day which was quite long (10 pages) and very interesting--I am sorry I cannot have time to give her better ones in return. She spoke about attending a lecture but said she would not say anything more about it as she saw you there and so supposed I had heard the particulars. I am sorry to say I have not--Are you having a course of lectures of any kind? I am glad to hear Mr Brooks has bought that house. Is he going to fix it up much or don't you know?

I was quite surprised at that change of Dud Finch and Fred Philippe-- Is Fred capable of taking that place in the bank? What does report say now about Dud. and Helen Wilcox or has that become so settled a thing that every body has become quiet about it. When do you expect to get Nellie down this year. I am longing so for a ride after her. I imagine she will have to trot next summer. We were out yesterday and went over to the creek and found some of the prettiest musscles and of all sizes. We think them quite treasures. The birds are also beginning to come in great numbers.

The robins & sparrow sing so beautifully every morning. I suppose I shall have quite a number of little things to send for if you send me an express but there is no hurry I suppose. Since writing the above Julia & I have had permission from Miss Jlyman to invite Mr Bartlett and Mollie Friday evening. Is it not nice if they can only come? I will write you all about it next time. I must close now in order to have this go. Excuse mistakes for I have not time to look this over. Love to all from
Ella