

Washington, D.C.
Monday 22nd

My dear Miss Harriet.

Your very kind note of thanks, for the Niagara trifles, has just been rec'd. I regret you permitted yourself to be troubled by the thought, that I might conceive you ungrateful, from your silence –Your goodness has always been too impressive for any one to render you wrongly, least of all a well wisher as myself.

I was very glad to see by the papers that Mr. Buchanan met with such an enthusiastic reception in Philadelphia. I was not surprised at it for I feel certain he will receive the vote of Pennsylvania New York & New Jersey. It is clear to my mind as that two & two and be four, and as easily demonstratable [sic]. Should I have the pleasure of seeing you before the election I will give you the proof.

Report says that Miss Cutts is busily arranging her wedding costume –Gossip asserts she marries for love, but from what I know & have seen of her, my impression is, she's ambitious—

She has had several good offers of both money & happiness, which have been declined, & I know of nothing else in the catalogue—

I am sorry to hear my worthy sisters are cultivating such bad habits – surely you do not countenance it? They'll be certain to win, & success, at first, in gambling is ruin –

Send them home before they are entirely lost –

Washington is miserably dull – I believe Dan Rice's circus is to be here on Friday, much to the relief of those who have nothing to do –

The order is out for General Hanney to be in Florida by the 10th of November next – I have not heard from him, indeed he hates a pen worse than the arch friend himself.

He is to return here for his orders –

By the exercise of a great deal of perseverance & industry, I shall finish my labors here this week and shall then have one whole month of idle time—I dread it—can't you enlist my services in some way? Shall I take the stump?

In my thoughtlessness, I'm forgetting your own time is valuable — pray then excuse me — with much love to Laura & Clennie & my kind regards to Mr. Buchanan, believe me to be

Yours, very sincerely
Alfred

