

Washington
Friday 5 Feb 59

My darling Mary/

I shall only be able to write you a very short letter today, just to tell you that I am thinking of you, dearest. I think my cough is a little better day tho' it is not well yet. I received your nice long letter yesterday evening & it was very welcome indeed & it was doubly acceptable from being so good & long. I saw your sister Emily yesterday evening & she then had some idea of going to Douglas party but whether she did go finally I have not yet heard.

To night we have a large dinner & I hope to have a nice long chat with Scharff for I have not seen much of him from my office & his wife between them so ran away with time that we have seen too little of each other.

Should the reply of your mother be what I think & hope it will be then I shall go to Newark in the second week of March to open an office 'Deo nolente' at once in New York. I have no doubt but that Mr. & Mrs. Scharff will make me very comfortable at their house that I shall be always looking 'en avaut.'

I am all impatience, my darling, to hear what your Phila. letter will say, tho I feel sure that the fond kind heart that will write it will not give as unnecessary sorrow.

Scharff & his wife were at Douglas' party & at a dinner party at Senator Seward['s] last night – they seem so happy – I try to be philosophical & not look too envious.

But I must say goodbye – I will write you a lengthy one tomorrow.

Yours affectionately
JBH

