

might think I was in the  
wholesale business from  
the look of my table. One  
bottle Whisky - one Bitters, one  
(Heaven knows what - they  
sent it to me from St. James  
for Sherry) one, of the best  
Golden Sherry - a present.  
and one of Claret. Of  
course the first three I don't  
touch, & the Sherry is the very  
Apple of my eye! This  
can't be very interesting  
but I must write you what  
I am about myself so that  
you may know where I  
what I am doing. I hope  
you read my letter to your  
self first for there are  
often parts, as in this, which  
I would not wish read to  
outsiders.

Read to yourself

131 Julia St. N. O.  
Apr. 21<sup>st</sup> 1868

My Dearest Mamma

I'm going to write you a  
little this afternoon & finish  
my letter tomorrow, so as to divide  
the work & save my strength  
all I can. I could write it all  
today just as well as not, but  
as going to work too soon before  
gave me a relapse & put me  
back so much, I am going  
to be doubly extra careful  
now. My greatest difficulty  
has been the return of the fever  
in the afternoon, & while I would  
be fresh & well (tho. weak) in  
the morning I was always sure  
to have to lie down by 2 P.M.  
In the eve. again I would be  
better, & able to go down to tea  
& sit in the parlor until 9 or 10 P.M.

I think now tho. I've taken  
the final start upwards & by  
the end of the month I expect  
to be able to go to work & make  
up some of my lost time.  
I shall take till then as a  
holiday & get rest & strength  
for the coming campaign.

I am beginning to have some  
appetite once more & that  
I suppose is always a good  
sign. I have dropped all  
medicine save Acornite &  
Bryonia, or Belladonna, which  
I take every few hours <sup>thru</sup>  
the day. I am drinking  
Chateau with water altogether,  
for I find it suits me better  
than any other wine I can  
get here & the doctor tells me  
I must take something  
of the sort, & I feel he is right.  
I got the address of a good

wine merchant & wrote  
to him to send me a sample  
of his best Burgundy, & Clark,  
so the same morning up  
came a basket full of  
bottles, with a letter from  
Mr. Cartwright, giving his price  
&c. Sir John Munford has taken  
a room next door to me, & was  
of course sent for, for he had  
promised to take a case or  
so with me. We decided  
without much hesitation  
that Chateau Margaux a  
\$24 per case was rather  
too steep for a wine we  
wished to drink every day,  
so we put that aside, & two  
other brands, & tried d'Artois  
Larose & Lafitte. The latter  
was much the best so we  
decided upon that & sent for  
a case accordingly. You

have. Banks seems to have  
woken up at last, & is doing  
the biggest thing of the  
war just now. He has  
almost succeeded in  
cutting the rebel line  
of supplies, & is making  
a straight course for  
Alexandria on the Red River.

I think then he will  
push up to Shreveport  
& burn the river boats  
collected there, & if his  
entire plan works it  
will not be four months  
before Port Hudson and  
Vicksburg are starved  
out. It is much the easier  
way to take them. Gen.  
B. telegraphed down to  
Hill the other day to send

5-

Apr 22<sup>nd</sup> 8 A.M.  
I've not had my breakfast yet  
dear Mother & perhaps I may  
have a chance to finish this  
before it is ready. I did not  
tell you I went out riding on  
Saturday last. I felt in the  
morning as if I wanted some  
fresh air, so I sent for a car-  
riage, & invited Mrs. Russell  
to go with me, & then told the  
driver to go anywhere, & come  
back by another road. He  
carried us to the Half Way  
House & I got a beautiful bunch  
of flowers from the garden  
there. Roses, violets, geraniums  
(them I misspell it) sweet peas  
& lots of flowers we never see  
until July, were growing almost  
wild over the beds & in the  
grass. It's a great country

for flowers if for nothing  
else. I got a lot of letters last  
night from all parts, & I think  
I may find one or two more  
this morning when I get to  
the office. I got one from  
you Apr. 5<sup>th</sup> but I think  
there must be one still missing  
for there are several things  
I don't understand in your  
letter, which you may have  
told me about before, but  
if so I never got the letter.

In the first place where  
have Mr. Cassin & William  
Lamb gone? You say the  
ship did not sail at the ap-  
pointed time &c, but I don't  
clearly understand whether  
the same was a sailing  
ship or steamer, & have not  
the least idea whether they  
are bound for California

or Europe. Mary & Mattie  
Appleton are both with you  
now, & I hope you are having  
the usual pleasant Spring  
weather. I should like very  
much to see them again & to  
go to Central Park, Washing-  
ton Market, or top of Trinity  
with them - perhaps I may  
sometimes in the year 1870.

I have not rec<sup>d</sup>. any papers  
for some weeks now, and  
I don't know whether you  
have sent them or not.

I have not got the map you  
say is coming, but think very  
likely it will come to hand  
today or tomorrow. Those  
things always are delayed  
last. I am much obliged  
for it as it is impossible  
to get a good map here &  
it is often important to

9  
up all Horse Equipments  
in the Dept. & to seize  
all Saddles, Bridles &  
Horse Blankets &c in  
the city of New Orleans  
& forward them to Head  
quarters in the field  
immediately. Gen Sherman  
has also been ordered  
to seize all private horse  
equipments for some  
purpose. They are  
pouring into our store  
house all the time.  
Some of them are the most  
beautiful saddles I ever  
saw. We have the whole  
Provost Guard searching  
the city, but the fun will  
be when the people send  
in their bills. Hill won't  
pay for Shunk is Chief  
Ord. & he has no right

to spend money with-  
out his (Shunk's) authority.  
Shunk won't pay because  
he did not order the thing  
done, & the result will be  
that Gen Banks will order  
the bills referred to the  
War Dept. to be paid when  
convenient. Which I hope  
will not be for 20 or 30  
yrs. For most of the  
people are dead and  
ought not to be paid at  
all. Please give my  
best love to Father, Grand-  
mother & the girls. I  
shall write again when  
ever there is something  
to say.  
Your loving son  
Appleton