

Washington D. C.  
Sunday eve. Apr. 20<sup>th</sup>/62.

My Dear Mother.

I wrote father a hurried letter from the Dr. Masters Office at Alexandria, yesterday, telling him that I had received the Charter, & had left the Achilles for a few days in order to finish up the business. I shall probably be able to get the certificate tomorrow, & I shall then find out from Capt. Fergusson when he expects the boat back. If in a few days, I may wait here for her, & join her when she returns, but if she is to be away two or three weeks, I shall go down & join her on the first transport.

I hope she is coming right back, for I should like to wait a few days, & hear from father that the certificate



is all right. I am staying at Aunt Lottis, & am writing in the back parlor, while Aunt Lottis & Hannah are reading in the front.

I could get along very well even if I knew no one in the city, for all the steamboat men know me & I know most of them. I could stay on board any of the boats here, & be certain of a welcome.

Of course it is much pleasanter to be where I am at home, and can do what I like, & both Aunt Lottis & Aunt Kate have been very kind to me since I came on. I am surprised to find so many people whom I know, & who know me.

Every where I go someone is sure to hail me with "How are you Mr. Sturgis?" At the Dr. M.'s in Alexandria on the ferry boat, in the stage, or at the P.O. it doesn't matter where - I always meet somebody to speak to.



Very often I cannot remember who it is, or where I have seen him, & sometimes I talk with a person half an hour without finding out what boat he belongs to. They know me on the dispatch boats too, & never think of asking me for a pass. This does not look much like Easter Sunday.

Raining hard all day, & quite cold. I'm sorry for you N. Y. ladies - very few new bonnets will "come out" this week. Did you dye any eggs yesterday? Hot cross buns seem to be at a discount here - I haven't seen one this year. I received the medicine you sent all right, but lately I have been quite well so I shall keep it for an emergency. I am much obliged to you, & Dr Kellogg, but hope I shall not have to prove the efficiency of the remedy - at least not yet! I also received the letter you sent to Fortress Monroe. The



steamer Brooklyn (Illinois)  
was there, & drew them out for  
us, & when she came, brought  
them to us. The boats very often  
make arrangements by which  
some friend receives their letters  
& so they are kept for them & do  
not go to the Dead Letter office, just  
as Aunt Kate keeps mine. - I pre-  
sume Russ is at Port Royal. - Tell  
Ed I will write him tomorrow or  
next day - I meant to have done so  
before this but have hardly had  
time. I would write more now but  
it is getting late & I must go to bed.

My love to Grandmother, Aunt Esther,  
Father, & all. I should like a game  
of Chess much, but for this time, Aunt  
Esther & Annie, will have to fight  
alone on the checkered field.

Your loving son

Appie

Has the Society "gone in" as yet - when  
& where? What do you do on Tuesdays.