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Vicksburg, Miss.

Mon. Dec. 18th 1871

My dear Kate,

I received your welcome letter on Saturday, just as I was engaged in the pleasing and absorbing occupation, of listening all eyes & ears to Mr. Davis' delightful conversation. To my great regret he staid at the hotel while in Vicksburg; so I did not see him but twice — once the day after his arrival & last Saturday when he came to say good bye & to see Lina on business.

On this last account, all we outsiders left the room, which I did as reluctantly as if there were a forty pound weight hung to each foot. Before that took place however we had some