

I had a nice
 letter from ~~Sam~~
 Miller & ~~John~~
 since ~~July~~
 hit your letter
 last ~~Friday~~
 and ~~last~~
 from ~~London~~
 Bridgeton N.J.
 West Commerce

My love if I had my will you should
 live forever more in Newport - You think
 I treble as much of me and never wrote
 me such charming letters in the whole
 course of our long intimacy - The im-
 =provement nay total reform in your
 immoral habit of irregularity is amazing
 Indeed I find this new letter law
 of mine is working admirably - You,
 Sam & Sarah Cuyler are changed persons
 now I get my fair share of letters while
 my own have gone up to their proper value
 I have just rec: your last letter and
 read it - I can just imagine the dis-
 =quiet you feel in your present society
 Such persons are intolerable and are
 enough to put us out of humor even

with Divine Nature in its most beautiful forms

My friend who do you think the good Lord sent to see me today - no less a person than ^{the} Holy Apostolic Bishop of New Jersey - we had a charming chat together and he was especially taken with Tou-Tou. His Grace took a seat on the sofa beside Tou-Tou & her mistress after he rose to go and caressed the slut but the little wretch showed her teeth & growled out "Get out with you I'm a Protestant!" Luckily His Grace did not understand dog talk and he told her a charming story about his cousin Mr Roosevelt's Skye - a dog that has been taught to sit on his hind legs and sing several notes of the scale - then looking in Tou-tou's lovely little face he said she looked intelligent enough to be taught any thing adding that

of all dogs he liked them the best and pronounced Tou-tou a little beauty - Of course he won my heart He is a most charming person - talks easily & well - uses the best expressions for example he spoke of George Sumner whom he knew very well and said he had "a well furnished mind" was not that apt and clever? We agreed in politics and of course I did not tell him I read Revue Germanique & M. Renan though I came within an ace of quoting a passage from an Etude on Education by M. Renan very appro-
-pos to our conversation ^{the subject of which was} ~~the~~ the superficiality of the American mind & culture - After he left I walked up stairs with a sort of ready-to-go-the-state-for-my-religion sort of feeling that was especially healthful & refreshing

Oh Time! Time! why will you fly
so swiftly when one is contented? My
summer is floating by noiselessly
but very rapidly - Don't reproach me
for not writing MSS's. I am not idle,
I am devouring books and my mind
is lying fallow - wait for the harvest
You have read Ladder of Life by this
time & of course like it - I lay awake
Sunday night until early morning
reading it - forgetting or rather expending
the lovely woven indeed imperfect
plot - for the detail ~~is~~ ^{is} so perfect &
vraisemblable - She writes so intelligently
and intelligibly about music - Her des-
cription of that Pastoral movement in
Corelli's 8th Concerto describes very charac-
terizes exactly the music of that day
Beethoven's middle style you know
is full of those "labyrinths of tied notes

and moving inner parts - I have set to
music and sing with intense satis-
faction to myself that song Natalie
sang to Laurent "Those Other Times" -
I have not read "Barbara's History" but
shall this week - Entre nous I like Lad-
der of Life better than any thing Miss
Sheppard ever wrote even Charles Auchester
Her English is so English all the pretty
attractive errors, "real nobby English
talk (of course you know the distinction
between "nobby" & "snobby") which remind
me when I hear them from the lips
or see in the books of educated Englishmen
of what Mme. de Maintenon said
cleverly about women's ungrammatical
style in writing, in a letter to her spiri-
tual director Abbe Gobelin - "Vous savez
que, dans tout ce que les femmes écrivent,
il y a toujours mille fautes contre la gram-
maire, mais, avec votre permission, un
agrement qui est rare dans les écrits des hommes"

I would give my two dear little fingers to write such a book as *Sadder of Life* - but then I never shall for I fret over a plot if it is not tightly linked in every part and I am too exact.

St. Martin's Summer! Heaven bless you my love I don't know anything about its October prospects - I only know that Sept. must become pregnant speedily & promise to be delivered at some given time if not I shall withdraw the MS. from him and take it with me to Boston to try my luck there among the Athenians - I have a half dozen things flitting through my fancy noted "summers" - I shall not work this summer nor autumn I am living enjoying existence - When I return home in Nov. and am settled I shall go to work and do something.

I shall take on that musical sketch about the mysterious death of the singer at a sea side Hotel and try to push it into the Atlantic if possible - not the Ocean of that name my dear but the monthly so yept of course.

Lincoln to be re-elected! Not if any thing can possibly prevent it - if he is the country will be entirely ruined that is there will be no longer a United States - of course there will be a great and mighty government here but not the old Union - The past four years ignorant reckless misrule with that Imperial looking Gorilla at the head of affairs has well nigh destroyed us - for the sake of the dear old Constitution let us pray most heartily for the Democrats to be enlightened.

& helped in the choice of a leader that
all may go well with us yet for with
all my sympathy for the South I don't
wish to see ultra Southern rule estab-
-lished - Good Bye to real democracy
'and true liberty then - We shall see
a Military Empire established or Dic-
-tatorship in three years time should
Lincoln be re-elected & Lee or Davis
be our ruler - for the South with all
its resources cannot stand the struggle
much longer - Indeed just so sure
as this draft is enforced the reaction
will take place - The very ones who
fomented this unholy strife, those
detestable Abolitionists see it and
are already striving to grasp peace
as senselessly as they seized on war
Mr W. writes to me constantly about
public affairs - He wrote a famous

I have not
written on
half I have
it long - so
write down
to give me
3
a chance to
reclaim myself
The tone is
like Frank
from lovely
than ever

article in the Intelligencer a fortnight
since, which caused a great sensation
It was called "Our Late National
Humiliation", and the President
& government were rebuked in the
superb and most scathing English
it was on the subject of the late siege
of Washington - A Cabinet meeting
was held, for the President & Secretary
at war were furious, and a propo-
-sition
made to put the Editor in Old Capitol
Prison, but three members of the Cabinet
coolly & endorsed the Editorial & said
they had already congratulated Mr
W. on his manly utterance of the
truth & had also thanked him. Of
course the Cabinet meeting broke up

like Macbeth's banquet with ^{the ghost of} Banquo
at the board "in most admired disorder"
The next day the F. Master Gen: called
on Mrs W. & invited him to take a
drive with him - They visited the
ground occupied by the besiegers &
could nowhere find proof of a larger
force than 500 men ^{having} ~~being~~ encamped
in front of Washington! This is en
confidence except Mrs Tiers of course
she will be pleased as she agrees with
me in politics. Give her my best love
Tell her I did not write that letter
to her to inveigle her into a correspon=
-dance - but to express an apology
for an omission of ceremony, and to
acknowledge her courtesies - While I
should be very happy to hear from her
and should enjoy a correspondance
with her undoubtedly, at the same
time I do not wish to bore her into one

I can form some idea of how much
her mind and heart are burthened
with her new cares - I never lost a
good husband but I did lose a good
brother who through ^{the influence of} what one of
Shakespeare's termagant exasperated
wronged queens' would call "a
devil's dam", was turned into a
bad brother and I had not only
to manage my business myself
as she is bravely doing but protect
my little all from dishonorable
unjust claims forced on me with
all the wicked cunning of a skilful
angry lawyer - So I can sympa=
-thize with her and hope I shall see
her as safely through all her be=
-wilderments as I at last came out
But such women as we are were
never intended for "Widow Black=

-Acres" - All business & money affairs
are foreign to our natures & men should
protect not wrong us - Some how
however men instead of feeling for
women's helplessness nine times
out of ten take advantage of it. But
she is blessed in having male relatives
that look to her interests - May God
& His Mother keep them upright and
watch over her! And now dear
good bye - You cannot tell how I
love your letters so write often. I sent
you a Chronicle & so did Frank con-
taining an account of the "Hanging
Match" by Frank himself - He is more
satisfactory than ever and "grows in
friendship's grace" daily & hourly - I am
enjoying about once a fortnight the charming
society of Sophie Buck's handsome intelligent
stylish husband. He was here last Sunday
even: till near midnight God bless you Love your Aunt