

will be at the Henry wedding. - Sent  
Southern Union to be distributed as  
mentioned to you. She misses the children  
greatly.

Roxbury, Nov. 14, 1876.

My Dear Fanny:

You are most attentive to your father, in the matter of correspondence; and, were it not that you write with ease and rapidity, I should insist on your devoting less time to me.

As to the Presidential election, it is still a hotly contested question as to whether Hayes or Tilden is chosen. In reality, there is no more doubt that Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina and Florida have gone for Hayes than that Massachusetts, Maine and Iowa have done so; or, rather, would have so voted but for the deadly shot-gun and the assassination process, which have made the trial of political strength in those States a ~~political~~ mockery. I am not at all cast down, however.

Yesterday was the first fair day since you left us. I went to Newburyport, again to consult the town records as to my birth, &c. I found myself registered as having been born December 12, 1804 — and that, too, by my father! — for the handwriting is unmistakably his own. Yet here is his letter, dated Granville, April 4, 1805, telling his parents that he was preparing to remove to Newburyport, to make it henceforth the place of his abode, and bidding them an affectionate farewell! Now, here is a Gordian knot that it is difficult to untie, if not to cut. In either case, how the blunder as to the year could have been made, it is hard to conceive. The presumption is certainly in favor of 1805, because it is easier to date a year back than a year in advance. Moreover, my father may have delayed recording my birth until he had the years somewhat mixed.

Last evening I went with William, Ellie and Frank to Mr. and Mrs. Lewis's, where were gathered a parlor full of young ladies to hear a German play read, and to decide upon forming a German reading class. It was a very pleasant occasion. William and Mr. Lewis, on the one side, and Mrs. Thaxter and myself, on the other, were partners at whist. Six games were played, all of which were won by William and Mr. Lewis. Waterloo, all through.

Chickering's men have just come and carried away your piano, preparatory to sending it to New York; so you will doubtless receive it in all this week. I suppose you took with you what musical compositions you wanted. Our parlor looks considerably enlarged.

I have mislaid the cards of invitation to Clarence Hovey's wedding, but have supposed it is to come off on Thursday next. You mention to-morrow as

the time. If I ascertain that you are right, I may conclude to remain over until Thursday; yet I hardly think I shall do so, as I shall feel quite isolated at the reception. You will know by half past 6 to-morrow evening whether I am with you.

This evening I am going to the Boston Theatre with William, Ellie, Frank and Lissing to see Col. Sellers in his mirth-provoking farce,—"There's millions in it."

Tell the dear children that grandpa is made very happy to know that they think so highly of him, and that his loving regard for them is equally great.

I am relieved of anxiety to hear that your throat is better. Your visit to the Park came near being a serious one to you. That Lucy seems to be herself again is most gratifying.

Your loving Father.