

Washington Nov 22, 1871

My Dear Sister,

I write to tell

You of my safe arrival back  
to Washington - and found my  
family all well and the child  
ren doing well at School.

I reached here on the 12<sup>th</sup> - had  
a hard journey to the Rail  
Road - the road being bad, and  
every place we stopped at  
was over crowded, so it was  
best that you did not come  
with me for you could not  
have stood the trip. Should  
you ever come to Washington  
I advise you to come by the  
way of Little Rock - but how  
can you come at all if it  
should ever become necessary  
<sup>for</sup> to come - because you would  
not be allowed the use of your  
pipe in the cars. It may become

necessary for you to come  
next Spring - therefore you  
ought to commence now  
and see how if you can't  
break yourself of the prac-  
tice of smoking.

I am anxious to hear from  
you and from our aged moth-  
er and Sister Betty. This may  
have reached you & reach  
you by the time you get  
back to your old home.

I don't think you started  
back as soon as you said you  
would to your old home was  
prevented no doubt by bad  
weather. I don't want you  
to be uneasy about your  
Book - it is here safe - and  
I don't <sup>want</sup> you to be uneasy  
about any thing in regard  
to your business here for I am  
now confident no one

will be appointed to fill  
your deceased husband's  
place in the Delegation.

I was unwell all the time  
at the Council - I am now  
a great deal better - feel well  
and in good spirits, and  
if spared I intend to do  
big work this winter for  
you and all concerned.

Tell Betsy that I have  
not forgotten about the  
School in New England  
she spoke of - and will soon  
make enquiry about it.

I stopped at Perryville &  
heard of Mr Kellogg being  
there with his family on  
~~their~~ way home from the  
North. I would like for  
him to write to me.

Give my love to Mother -  
I remember her and all of

You who are near and dear  
to me in all my daily prayer  
And may God bless you all -  
Your Brother.

Peter.

P.S. My little folks had  
grown wonderfully in the  
two months I was away  
from them -