

THE CHELSEA
WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET
NEW YORK

Jan 5th 1904

Dearest Clara,

I fear we have not written much to you, but we don't like to take up much time scribble work - We have so much to tell you all & must go over it - with the books & illustrations so that you may have some clear ideas =

Whelanephin is a very attractive place & there is so much culture, & dignity without the usual show & display - the women - rich element - quiet in the back - in quiet & old families still living instead of bustling modern dwellers in fashionable parts - Washington is full of palaces of millionaires & the smart set - rallies received the foreign legations, & some old southern families of distinction - We saw the Luter, Walsh & other great homes - more like hotels - The pace is very rapid indeed - The politicians & the President don't seem to count very much except for the state functions =

Here of course you know the style

We had a delightful day at the
Metropolitan, saw many really
fine pictures - I glanced at the
Cimale collection, & other antiquities
which always fascinate me - The
pavement of the old Egyptian common
did the pyramids & temples - I think
wealth of the U. S. compels all the
rulers of the earth to pour their
treasures into her bosom. At least
it is comfortable to reflect that all
concerned have been paid for their
labors - no more forced work -

We got letters at Philadelphia
twice or thrice - how nice -
but trains are all blocked up
here -

I so thankful that West Astoria
is at last captured!

Much love dear, I do hope
you are not having a hard time

Love
Mother.

I will write to my sister
from here -

Clear