

De Soto, Havannah Ga.
December 22nd 1892

Acc. 976

My dear George

We have this morning
received your letter of Dec 8th & are
delighted to hear that you have had
a good passage & have taken a
rest. I personally thank you for doing
so because not only will you be better
able to begin again to work but it relieves
me of some anxiety as you looked so
tired at Montrose & N.Y. I have already
told you how comfortable we made our
journey here & how luxurious this hotel
is - we certainly, in things temporary - "have
all about". Dining is expensive, \$2 per
hour, but in city I think Col. he more fully
provided with the electric cars to touring

^{money} to, all the places of interest in the neighbour-
 hood. As we use Carriages in cold days
 only, as we can wrap up better & intend
 also to indulge, in two or three long drives
 to places not yet vulgarised by electricity.
 Get I assure you we have much enjoyed
 excursions to a large new Cemetery - an old
 estate - with haec Annus haec haec, with
 noble old live oaks & those draped, all too
 abundantly, with the parasite called Spanish
 moss. it has the weird effect & suggests weep-
 ing & when looking skyward through a green
 one perceives there is a thick mist. Another
 day we went to a favourite suburban place,
 on the Skidaway river, resorted to for heating
 & oysters. where we saw the latter being drugg'd
 up & women & girls shelling them into buckets
 to be handled for exportation & for cooking.
 We also saw a terrapin Crawli - a large low
 building intersected by shallow troughs & the
 whole place covered by thousands of these terrapins,
 sold I believe on the spot for 75 cents each & in N.B. for
 90 a doz.

Another day we started at 10 A.M. &
 did not return till 5 P.M. spending a
 long, sunny, warm day on the beach of
 the fashionable bathing resort called
 Lybe. now as title as the "Pierres billay",
 yesterday was one of our gentle driving
 days, to an upper class Club Park, tickets of
 admission to which were presented
 to us by a Mr. Leakin, a lawyer living
 at the hotel. The races here are all
 sandy & the best of them are made hard
 & smooth with agates shells. Very nice to
 drive over when not under repair, but
 smelly dusts are disagreeable when much of
 this is going on. One race track over
 a grass one, bordered most of the way with
 great variety of trees & shrubs almost all new
 to us & very some of them that we can refer to
 their relations. 3 varieties of pine, the needles of one
 I measured this morn 13 in in length. 4 varieties of
 oaks, gum trees, plumes, pride of India, alencars
 hallies - 2 kinds - palmettos, scrub palms &c &c.

the Indians seem to like best the sea shore - as
 at dykes they seem luxuriant at high water
 mark & gave us, as we strolled on the shore,
 a good picture of tropical scenery - the shells
 too were all new & the old men assist taking back
 reminders of this pleasant day. After this prep
 into our future experience - if you credit me
 with enough of the delirious spirit - you will
 not be surprised when I say that the time
 seems far off when I shall tired of such men
 & enjoyable phases of nature. As to paper, up
 to the present time, he is quite as pleased
 & happy as I am, having in addition to this
 unusual amount of fresh air every available
 hour, given to the correction of his, "Salient Points"
 interesting work done. I hope, in such a quiet
 & leisurely way as will insure its being satisfac-
 torily finished. He has also other subjects
 in contemplation - I am sure only trust that
 his increasing strength will get justice him in
 fully establishing it, while giving the time to
 where he believes to be valuable & useful work.

I think ~~that~~ he is decidedly gaining
in strength, altho' ~~there~~ still remain
signs of a less vigorous state of body.
One of these is ~~that~~ his feet & legs continue
to swell towards evening, & we notice
~~that~~ it is best for him not to walk much
& to keep his feet up while he is writing.
Irregularity of his hours also have given
some trouble but I think ~~that~~ is passing
away. As a whole he is really well & were
it not ~~that~~ one is watching every turn so
closely ~~we~~ he inclines to say ~~that~~
he is as well as before, there is, with the
amount of work he has here. The weather
has been warm but with a good
deal of rain, chiefly during the night, which
however gives us decidedly a humid atmosphere
which has not affected his lungs at all
unfavourably. The water is excellent & we
have both taken a little mine & water after
dinner. Altho' we have not yet tried the

California since you returned
 as we have not finished the ^{Ray} Michael.
 We brought with us. A few days ago
 I got a letter from a friend of mine
 in Toronto - Mrs. Sturgeon, who is sister
 to your friend, Mr. Robinson. She
 enclosed a letter from Mrs. Howard
 giving a very clear detailed account
 of Manchurian - which they like very much.
^{they} ~~there~~ it is very quiet & they are afraid
 to walk out, especially in woods. ~~preparing to~~ ^{preparing to} ~~have~~
 she calls, "an insect which bites mostly
 called a tick". They propose to go to a place
 ten miles from Kingston where a fine new
 hotel is being opened just as soon as the
 heat will make it safe for them to remove.
 Now I must close because because paper
 tells me it is time to close to proceed on
 a new expedition on the cars to a place 15
 miles distant called, Lake of Hope. It is very
 bright, warm, & sunshine but I earnestly wish

I ed. above with you, & Rankine. Pass follows he writes
as if he had not surmise the miserable Cull of Paris. I do
wish you ed. more I try to discover where is the matter
write him - he is so unhappy. I have had a hard pen
that has made me quite nervous I submitted me from
pulling my own thoughts but I must abruptly conclude
with you - but I cannot find wishes per 1893. Am sorry
you had to pass by Essex on your way to London.

With all love

Of course you know where Mathes lay etc. 3. Why all hell
I was, I actually I will all thanks to Mrs. Stregher & pale
thanks to Mr. Robinson.

~~I think that it is desirable to~~
~~in thought, rather than~~
~~steps of a less vigorous state of being.~~
~~one of these is that his first step~~
~~to make towards evening, & the water~~
~~there it is that for him but to walk round~~
~~to keep his feet up, which he is waiting.~~
~~importance of his business also being given~~
~~down there but I think that is passing~~
~~very, as a matter of fact, he is really~~
~~to get that in is waiting for him to~~
~~clearly, however, he is inclined to say that~~
~~he is as well as before, that is, with the~~
~~amount of work he has done. The~~
~~has been known but with a few~~
~~class of him, chiefly during the night, which~~
~~has been given as a result of his~~
~~which has not affected his work at all~~
~~importance, the water is excellent & the~~
~~have had a better time than~~
~~himself, but he has not for some time~~