

Washington City
Dec. 14. 1856.

Mary,

I rec. your kind letter of the 1st inst, but as I had written you & answered William I deferred writing again until now. This has been a long, dreary, rainy Sunday which I have spent in my room alone.

At much solicitation I have been again speaking, even thus early in the Session. In preparing, making & inspecting the printing of that speech I have been very closely occupied for the most part. But I am quite as well as usual.

I have been as constantly at my room here as I am at my house when at home. I go to the Senate at its sessions & I go no where else except