

Washington City
Dec. 20. 1857.

Mary,

I have rec^d. no letter from
home the past week but, presume I
shall have one in a day or two, & in
the mean time I shall presume all
well.

It has been a very busy week with
me especially for so early a stage of the
session & before the holidays.

Mr & Mrs. Douglas & occupying much
public attention to remark. His opposition
to the course of the President as to Kansas
is quite a topic of political circles. He
has built a new house here, which is said
to be a very nice one & the same is now
opened for company & all were invited
to attend Mrs. D's first reception at
any time from 11 A.M. to 4 P.M. The