

was not always ~~now~~^{now off & no send money owing not cash}

46

Camp Douglas

Chicago Ill ^{the} Dec 4, 1863

Dear Basie

It is Sunday and I can't spend an hour any more pleasantly than in writing you a few lines
I attended Church this forenoon at the Baptist Church ~~had~~ ^I heard an excellent sermon from Elder Clapp the celebrated radicalist this is the first time I have attended Church since I got back and I am so much pleased with this man I think I will go down this eve and hear him again after Church I went out on to the Lake Shore and strolled around for an hour or more and in the time visited the grave of the Hon. Stephen Douglas On my way down to Church I stopped and saw two large Buffalo that are kept here and I found them worth looking at also a large ox which weighs 3400 lbs that is a little ahead of anything I ever saw in Vermont — I went down to the Express office yesterday to see if that envelope had arrived there but it had not and the Capt. says he must have it before anything can be done about it so if you have not already got it and don't ~~think~~ you had better as soon as possible for without it I can never do nothing and probably not then without it though that it has been opened but I have no doubt as to that as it must have