

Waldsboro N.C.

Sunday P.M. Jan. 5/28

My dear wife: was it not good to write you a long letter on yesterday so that you could have it to read this unpleasant morning. I thought you would think so when I saw how it rained about the time you would be likely to receive it - Then I thought I would send another kiss by writing to you again today - I have been in my room all day. Could not get out for the rain until just now - Several friends have called in and I have written an article for review on "Innervation" which you will probably see - Judge Robinson and Reile came yesterday and we were talking together nearly all day so that I did not get on as well as I had hoped on "Loinette" - I shall try to finish it however before my return - I have been reading back in it to get the complete run of it. I must say my dear there are some splendid things in it - but I am satisfied it will never "take" - I could write one that would though I think - I can hardly say what is lacking in books this unless it is - Innervation - or

city of tone - Don't you see how
it looks that? There is a deal ever
present through it all which will
make it full flesh. I am sure if it
should even leave the 'swords' of
the press at all - Now you need
not make any protest - I will
finish it all the same. But I am
right nevertheless -

It is well for you that I have
not been at home today - I should
certainly have kissed you to death -
Can it be my dear, that I have been
so unpossessed and careless that you
have got to think less of being
petted and kissed than you need?
Or have you changed so that it
wears you? I have been thinking
ever since the New Year that
I had been very wrong. I remem-
ber thinking at the last New Year
that I would not be so cross and
hurty. I wonder if I have im-
proved any in that respect. I don't
believe I do talk as harsh and get
angry about business matters so
often as I used to do - I know I
have restrained myself many
hundreds of times because I knew
it would pain you and was

wrong. I know I have become ter-
ribly selfish and worldly but after
all it is a selfishness of which you
are at the bottom in the main. I
want all good things for you. I want
to see you have everything you can de-
sire - to see you clothed like a queen
and going in society as its queen - I want
to enjoy all the world's good things through
you - I am afraid that this looking for
ward has deprived you of many en-
joyments we might have had - and
that I have in my very love been em-
el to you - Is it so, my dear? - You seem
to have aged so in the past year - Your
face has gathered a fixed patient look
as if you were all the time carrying
some burden - Now and then you
brighten up into my old Emma but
it seems as if it were less and less
often - Are you getting over your
dum? It is no wonder you have
had so much and I have been
so thoughtless - You look as if the
sickness of hope deferred had
made you much sicker indeed -

I am going to try and get what
joy we can out of life as it goes
along hereafter and let the future
take more care of itself. I will
see if I can get the crows' feet out
of your eyes once more - I wish
I could take you in my arms and
kiss your dear face as I tell you
this, but the week will pass quick-
ly and I will try and bring you
Lorette when I come up on Friday
night - Tell Bob to take good care
of things pick everything up these rainy
days and make a general tidying
up on the place - I shall work a lot
of saw-dust hauled into the yard and
as soon as the truck is dry Harold
will work his rock hauler and he
will work to look sharp and run
things so that they will all come in
smoothly - Please man with you
and me some shirts and cuffs? - The
only one I have, even the one on is so
frayed about the neck that I am afraid to
wear it lest it should saw my head off -
You had better get my trunk from Ed and
put them in it and send down by Exp. I am short
of covers any how and will bring the black