

Mayville May 14, 1890

My dear wife:

I concluded to put on my clean clothes in honor of the day and am writing to you now in my brown suit trying to get up as sprick and span as may be. Your letter came last night and was very welcome. I know just how you must have enjoyed your stroll about the city while waiting for bootie, though it seems to me you must have travelled too fast to call it a de-ham see, — Earle's, Kelsey's, Parton & Sons, Warrnamaker's, Mrs. Neilson's — you must have felt as if you had earned your dinner when you got home.

I have never had any doubt about Lodie's artistic quality or power since she brought home that head which she

game Angie. There was a firmness, power and strength about it which settled that to my mind.

I think she will be a great painter of men and women — not portraits, perhaps, but figures. If she only hits the fancy, which she seems likely to do, and in which I probably can help her some, she will have no trouble about making her place with American artists.

It is raining hard; has rained nearly all the time since you left, I think; at least this is the third day straight away.

I received Shaffer's letter. I wrote to him yesterday — my head ached so in the afternoon that I could not write, write.

You remember what I told you recently about Bull — that he would get down and crawl on his belly for any advantage. What do you think of it now? The contemptible little midget! I told Shaffer what re-

apprise to make for me — that I had never spent any time hating him nor had I ever given him any reason to hate me. That I had never done him anything but kindness and had received therefore only kicks and curses and while quite incapable of hating any one I was still not entirely lacking in self-respect.

I am afraid you have given Shaffer a wrong notion about the "Patent Court". Of course, if the Circuit Court bill passes, you understand that the other will not. That kills it, forever. With three judges in each circuit having nothing to do there will be no need an excuse for it. If that fails then the other may come up.

I don't know when I will come on, or whether I will come at all, but you just have the best kind of a time and I will not be ill.