

My dear Wilson: I was <sup>very</sup> glad to hear  
Thanks and money <sup>happy</sup> <sup>activities</sup> of the <sup>New Year</sup>  
from you yesterday. <sup>This</sup> is one of the  
pleasant facts of the <sup>present only</sup> <sup>is</sup> ~~to know~~ that  
the New Year will find you beyond the  
reach of overworking care. You deserve  
it and I am glad with you.

I struck a cyclone at Denver. They  
gave it a lot of names but none as  
bad as the reality. I suppose it was  
really a sort of syndicate of fleshly ills  
which <sup>permeated</sup> in a mild one. Any-  
how, it was evident ~~to~~ that the doctors  
were trying to hedge and I was satis-  
fied I had got to choose be-  
tween coming home on a  
sleeper or in a baggage-car.

I always had an antipathy for the  
latter. So I started - not without  
doubt. Had to stay the day in Florida  
and thought I might as well write  
a Bystander - though I am afraid it  
was a pretty crazy thing.

I have improved since reaching home — but am not able to be out on up a great deal. There is only one genuine convolution about it — I have lost 30 or 40 lbs and walk better than I have for months.

Thus far, I have hardly had two ideas in succession and they were not at all related. However, I think I am going to be all right presently. I felt bad at giving up — it is always an unpleasant thing to do — especially for the daughter who had already her mouth full of anticipated sweets. She is still in Denver but will go on I think.

She has many friends and relatives and the Pullman people — she is distantly related to Capt. Brown — have given her a sort of special order on all agents and conductors — so she will travel, I think safely and pleasantly and perhaps do better than

if trial to me.

You see that Hill captured New York as I predicted. It was squarely against the law but the Republicans had neither sense nor sound enough to make a row nor confidence enough in the people to make an appeal to them.

So he won. Well, he is a great man anyhow and only one thing he sides death can prevent him from celebrating such Christmas as President-elect — and that will not happen. Robert Thineolis' name at the head of our ticket would save us — unless, indeed, he should spoil it by opening his mouth.

But I candidly think nothing else can. Of course, I do not mean to advocate that — I would be a fool to do again what I have done before. At the same time, I make this prophecy today, and you

can mail it up for reference.

- 1 - Hill will be the Democratic nominee for President this year if living when the Convention meets.
- 2 - He will ~~win~~ <sup>rely upon</sup> the application of southern methods, false ballots and false returns in every state of the North.
- 3 - In every state where the voter uses a pencil under the Austen system, it is just as easy to falsify the result of an election as for a twittle to fall off a log.
- 4 - Hill will win unless some wonderfully taking sentiment which appeals directly to the people is interposed against him. Lincoln is the only man who represents such a sentiment. He will not, of course, be nominated. He is not strong enough himself and has won the contempt of too many who now control the party organization.

So, the chances are a good  
many to one that this  
will win. This, of course, on the hypothesis  
that we do not have error in the summation. Chile  
could see <sup>how</sup> ~~how~~ <sup>we</sup> ~~we~~ <sup>could</sup> ~~could~~ <sup>see</sup> ~~see~~ <sup>how</sup> ~~how~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>future</sup> ~~future~~ <sup>fits</sup> ~~fits~~ <sup>into</sup> ~~into~~ <sup>it</sup> ~~it~~.

Regards of the season to  
Mrs Dixon.

Yours

W