

(John Hopkins. Am)

New York, April 13/77

16 E^t 43^d St.

My Dear Samies

A much longer time than I wish had elapsed since the reception of your letter, but you will pardon it, when I tell you that I have been much more unwell, and forbidden to indulge in more brain exercise than I could help. The harsh cruel spring weather - has given me much the same sort of set back, that it did last year, the consequences of which were so disastrous for our enterprise. Much the same result obtains now - I have been for more than a month unable to do even the little, I had been doing in the way of systematizing and arranging materials, and recalling memories, and I am not yet in a condition to return to my work - For the last six weeks I have been under Water Treatment - from which I

have just emerged - not I fear greatly benefitted by it. It seems hard and slow work to pull me up from the depths into which I descended after my Beloved friend - and I almost believe now it is not to be done at all - I shall try this summer again what change of air will do - and if this fails - why - the will of God be done! -

You will see by this - that there is no hurry about your contribution to the work - I do not see any immediate prospect of the completion, or even of the prosecution of it, and indeed I doubt whether you are any better able than I am - to top your brain.

You can well understand how this inability tries me for I have this matter so much at heart, but I am literally helpless - just as I was last summer, Now dear friend I am anxious to know something about you - how you are getting on - and how Mrs. Samies is - where you are and

all about you.

Let me hear from you - but do not tax yourself too
much - I will keep you informed of my progress, and
the moment I see any prospect of getting on with the
work I will apprise you - meantime there is nothing
for it - but patient submission to the higher powers -

With kindest greetings to Mrs. Lavinia.

I am ever yours faithfully E.S. -