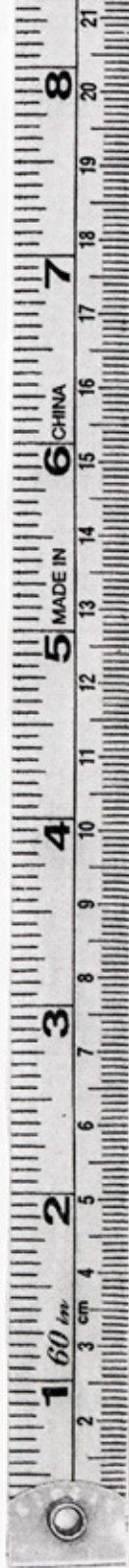


Wrenswick March 4<sup>th</sup> 1861

Dear Tom.

I want you to look & see what brand of ale that is which Mother has. Dr. Adams gave such an account of it that Mrs. Adams wants to get some; & between us both we may get a keg. I want to see if I can't put a little flesh on to Fanny's cheeks: she is as thin as a shadow. Father told me it was Portsmouth ale, but I want to find out, if I can what stamp it is. People here are such blundersers they could never get it without a full direction  
Another thing. there is a book



at West James Crosby's for Art. which he seemed to want to see when I was at home. You can call for it some time.

Where is John now - a - days? I have lost the news of him. I saw Frost the other day & he enquired about John's southern school. Frost is the one who was engaged to go. He said he thought that school was broken up by the secession crowd. I don't think John had better wait for schools, but go about something which will advance him in his professional course, & if a good chance <sup>of any sort</sup> offers here, I will get it for him.

You can be looking for Horacio's medicine by Fri.



day. We have been having  
great times with your sled  
this winter. I piled up a  
artificial hill against the  
barn, & made a long  
smooth track away out into  
the garden, & Daise & Inph-  
lyl have enjoyed themselves  
greatly. They generally slide  
together - Daise behind. She  
can slide alone. There  
is not much need of steering.  
Once in a while the sled would  
go off the track, & plumb  
them headforemost into the  
snow. but Daise says that  
is all the fun of it. I bought  
her a pair of rubber boots  
so that she can go out in  
wet weather - or in melting

days. I see my paper has a little oil on the top of it. I have been having my writing desk oiled lately (it is black walnut) & it rubs off a little yet.

I think I will enclose a note for Sarah, before I send this. I want you or Joe or whoever writes first to be sure & tell me about the ale.

I am just commencing double work in college again - so that I shall have a hard spring of it, but my health is good. Your aff. brother  
Lawrence.

