New Jork march 12th /65

Den hellie: -

I fue to for in opinit" to write to you as I should like to Today. I have had a know in any hearth as by as a turning even since I said food the to Jun; and it fets no smaller "very fart' as the time af - firshes for my fing on board the departing Steamer. How Joly and happy I should be if Jou were fory with me. But you may be certain, Than as poor Yar says in the Ing, "I'll not fryer you darling den, in the land I'm Joing to." And you Know, you sue to fo with one to than

land, one of these days - not for dutante - I trust. The hope and longing for that time to come Sustain and Ohur me hi my fun fing an bing Ablys to put to many miles between Jon and me, I am very fortunale in being largely aquainted among Californians and then is a large harts of any utimate friends fing in the Seann of amonow. This is very bucky, for a lonely voyage, among etima - fer would be almost mbearable under the cir - auntances. Ordinany, the Acamers of this side connect with very elegant versels in The Vacifie - but - as is my usual ill fortune, something

has happened in the amangen - meals at fan Francis a, and Instead of the oplandid "Enden Cili " or the "Constitution" or the "faraments", the old teel "It "Louis" is to have the home of returning one to the folder Shows of Cl Dorado. The many disappointments which occur to me on my boyages, remmit me of my many pins, in days by gone, and with be= - coming resignation I bow my head in makiness and contain. I am also Uninded that there is a divinity which Shapes our huds wugh 'te. Atro I and wich That howay was a bar of entry and that the Hearner Costa Rica " was to begin her vayage from the front steps of Miller

Cottage with Lue crying food bye to you and me and mother And and Harris and Eliza and the major and the cesh blering us the this their tears and bidding as "hod speed" as we were about Starting on the bergage of hip and hope together - new more to be separated on Earth : But I think I could willing dispuse with the Son of Sutry and the Steamer and lover the touching farewell of loved ones if this "day of jubilo" had come. With you for my dailing wife The measure of my contenement and happines would be filled. Hall blened day! May Heaven husten and bless our min. I have to ando I your after This fashion . For I belein Ju tun any consections now. and to repear these thoughts as

Niko talking & Jon in Day dreams - as I often do. I lend you the long long weary day" as I firmined you I would I hope you will thank of me when Jon sing But hope he he d anne oncesane and love sue as before" - and get in view of the fact That the dong is a wail over a dear one dead and gone, I may be becaude from the charge of under Selfichness if I septer the hope that you may not have occasion for a food kny time to come to week over my denuise when from Jun 'avendow's highs ' Jon look out on the aughe?

A very worm, Kurd prend of mine, Cope Benin, formery our staff, has fire come I visit me as my hour and to dive with me and Geo. Gorham Today, The Caprain Knows Jow by reputation - for I often Talk I my food friends of Those I love. To entertain tim, I crush bring This hap-hagand writing to an hud. du all Enmetrus Melly-I vay for one - for I med your food, have notiversion in my behalf. Think of me dailing as him who loves you bitter Than any being on Eart and whom deepert hope and deine is to be your nearest and dearest friend. Time my

love to go due and remember me to Hong Huch - nor fritting me W your Brothers when you write. I'm forger to write to one hi Time for the mail of the 23d and be sure and andme Jun letter Ver Steamer. Kin Hattie and Emma for me. God blen and preser Jm. accept much low from yours Herry affectionants Herry R. Mighels Min helli Vinie }

mar 1865 Mis Gellie L. Vernie Normay Village Maine.

New York March 12th / 65

Dear Nellie: --

I feel too "poor in spirit" to write to you as I should like to today. I have had a lump in my heart as big as a turnip ever since I said good bye to you; and it gets no smaller "very fast" as the time approaches for my going on board the departing steamer. How jolly and happy I should be if you were going with me. But you may be certain, that as poor Pat says in the song, "I'll not forget you darling dear, in the land I'm going to." And you know, you are to go with me to that

[page 2]

land, one of these days -- not far distant, -- I trust. The hope and longing for that time to come sustain and cheer me in my great grief at being obliged to put so many miles between you and me.

I am very fortunate in being largely acquainted among Californians and there is a large party of my intimate friends going on the steamer of tomorrow. This is very lucky, for a lonely voyage, among strangers would be almost unbearable under the circumstances.

Ordinarily, the steamers of this side connect with very elegant vessels in the Pacific -- but -- as is my usual ill fortune, something

[page 3]

has happened in the arrangements at San Francisco, and instead of the splendid "Golden City" or the "Constitution" or the "Sacramento," the old tub "St Louis" is to have the honor of returning me to the golden shores of El Dorado. The many disappointments which occur to me on my voyages, remind me of my many sins, in days by gone, and with becoming resignation I bow my head in meekness and contrition. I am also reminded that "there is a divinity which shapes our ends rough" &c.

How I wish that Norway was a port of entry and that the steamer "Costa Rica" was to begin her voyage from the front steps of Millet

[page 3]

Cottage with Lue crying good bye to you and me and mother and Aunt Harriet and Eliza and the Major and the rest blessing us thro' their tears and bidding us "God speed" as we were about starting on the voyage of life and hope together -- never more to be separated on Earth.

But I think I could willingly dispense with the Port of Entry and the steamer and even the touching farewell of loved ones if that "day of jubilo" had come. With you for my darling wife the measure of my contentment and happiness would be filled. Hail blessed day! May Heaven hasten and bless our union.

I love to write to you after this fashion. For I believe you trust my earnestness now; and to repeat these thoughts at even so great a distance is [page 5]

like talking to you in my dreams -- as I often do.

I send you "the long long weary day" as I promised you I would. I hope you will think of me when you sing "But hope he he'd come once more And love me as before" -- and yet in view of the fact that the song is a wail over a dear one dead and gone, I may be excused from the charge of undue selfishness if I express the hope that you may not have occasion for a good long time to come to weep over my demise when from your "window's height" you "look out on the night."

[page 6]

A very warm, kind friend of mine, Capt Benir, formerly of our staff, has just come to visit me at my hotel and to dine with me and Geo. Gorham today. The Captain knows you by reputation -- for I often talk to my good friends of those I love. To entertain him, I must bring this hap-hazard writing to an end.

In all earnestness Nelly --Pray for me -- for I need your good, pure intercession in my behalf. Think of me darling as him who loves you better than any being on Earth and whose deepest hope and desire is to be your nearest and dearest friend. Give my love to Lue and remember me to Henry Rust â€' not forgetting me to your Brothers when you write. Dont forget to write to me in time for the mail of the 23d and be sure and endorse your letter Per Steamer. Kiss Hattie and Emma for me. God bless and preserve you.

Accept much love from yours

Very affectionately Henry R. Mighels

To Miss Nellie Verrill Norway Maine

[sideways in margin]: P.S. Remember me to Augusta and Abner. Tell Lue I will write to her from the steamer.

[Envelope]:

[Postmark] MAR 12

Miss Nellie L. Verrill Norway Village Maine