Exeter, N.H. March 4. 1860

Dear Wife:

When I wrote you before I was just starting on a little speech making tour, taking the boys with me — On Thursday they went with me to Concord, where I spoke in day light, and back to Manchester where I spoke at night. Friday we came down to Lawrence, the place of the Pemberton Mill ~~tragedy~~ tragedy — where we remained four hours awaiting the train back to Exeter. When it came, we went upon it to Exeter where the boys got off, and I went on to Dover and spoke that Friday evening. Saturday I came back to Exeter, reaching here about noon, and finding the boys all right, having caught up with their lessons —

Bob has a letter from you saying Willie and Tad were very sick the Saturday night after I left. Having no despatch from you, and having one from Springfield, of Wednesday, from Mr. Hitchcock, saying nothing about our family, I think the dear little fellows are well again —

This is Sunday morning; and according to Bob's own, I am to go to Church once to-day. Tomorrow I bid farewell to the boys, go to Hartford, Conn. and speak there in the evening; Tuesday at Meriden, ~~Conn~~ Wednesday at New-Haven — and Thursday at Woonsocket R.I. Then I start home, and think I will not stop — I may be delayed in New-York City an hour or two — I have been unable to escape this task. If I had foreseen it I think I would not have come East at all. The speech at New-York, being within my calculation before I started, went off passably well, and gave me no trouble whatever.

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