every chemist of eminence in France and Germany and that his language toward others in his published papers is of the most unjustifiable character. He has recently for instance publicly styled the 2 French chemists Laurent & Gerhardt "highway robbers" and "liars" and assails every one who ventures to differ from him in the most unscrupulous manner. Mulder the celebrated Dutch chemist has just written a pamphlet in reply to and against Liebig which places the latter in a most unfavourable light before the world. You will probably see it in English. Of Liebig's talents there can be no doubt however and Giessen is not a bad school for one who has learnt accuracy and careful manipulation elsewhere. It is a great advantage to be where so many are at work. One's mind gets well stirred up one converses continually on scientific subjects and during those little intervals which so often occur in one's work in the laboratory, while something is evaporating or filtering, one may be finding out what others are doing and how they do it and so pick up many small scraps of experience. The 2 assistants in the laboratory are kind and attentive and on Saturday and Sunday afternoons we take long walks together and discourse upon all chemical subjects topics at great length in both English and German. Giessen is situated in rather a pleasant country and there are some pleasant walks in the neighbourhood though the season is growing rather late. I do not intend remaining more than one semester here as the laboratory expences are rather heavy and I can learn everything that I require in less than that time. We are provided with nothing but charcoal and the commonest reagents and are compelled to find ourselves in glass, oxide of copper, chromate of lead &c &c. This amounts to considerable at the end of the session and although everything is 75 per cent cheaper than with us. There is some little society in Giessen among the professors families but I do not go into it at all first because all German society is horridly dull and secondly because I only came here to stuff, and stuff I accordingly must. So much for Giessen just now. Thereafter I may have more to tell you about it. Now about yourself. In the first place I sent the books long since to Wislicenus and to Rougé. From the first I have rec^d an answer containing a letter to you which I shall copy off on the top of the next page to make it more legible. From Rougé I have no news so yet though the books went long ago. I found your last letter waiting for me here but had not time to answer it by last steamer as I intended and told George I should do. Your western tour interested me very much and I am glad you are so well after it. You tell me you are well and fleshy and I can only say in return that I am well though looking fishy. Here Mr Wislicenus —