And perhaps the making of a fine woman after the wild oats are
sown. — I have never seen or know so much of Mrs L Miss Scott as this
winter — there you have two good friends — Mrs S. asks why you do not write
to her. she tells me little traits of you which show her affection and have
entertained her much. and Cornelia told Laura that she could soon learn
to love her from her likeness to you. Mrs S. is at this moment in Philadelphia
with Adeline. she is much better this winter than the last — You must
not sobbisped my dear Son that your standing where you wish it is
as high as it could be. vue you to fight twenty battles. as to the Church
not content. vue you a Genl. I am content rather that you should
smart under the sense of [illegible]
for all the offices who are communicated [illegible] have also
the jealous eyes of many upon them. And their standing is not
a satisfactory as if it vue in course. you know that Kit Carson
is swamped and that Fremont is cut or rather has resigned —
There is a good time coming — Get all the good you can in Mexico
the Spanish language and come home as soon as you can. you remain
— Fontana. he always enquires about you. your number of wounds
and "when you are coming home to run for President?" — Bob Johnston
is getting desperate about the ten regiment bill. he is pointed Lieut.
if it passes. — he needs something stringent to rub him down smooth
between you and I he is very rowdy. — Laura denies me to say that
Mr Powel proposes to go abroad in the spring and carry Sam L Mary.
with his younger children. This will be quite a pleasant change to
Mary for her life has not been too pleasant since her marriage
although Sam is an angel of a man. you say that you like to
hear all sorts of little things. so I tell you every thing as it occurs
to my mind without any connexion.

Last night there was a grand ball
at the racket club rooms. Eerge Laura and I went. he took
Miss Lucy Pearson of Washington whose young and pretty sister
has married Gus Jay. — the lofty and deep room of the racket
court — was dropped like a tent with white muslin in bands
or plaits from top to bottom. White. traversed by bands of
gold lace with a rose in each square the upper edge drawn
towards the middle. and toward a painted centre 20 feet
long and ten broad which will give some idea of the area of
the room — the floor cov'd with grey linen made tight.

