Dec 22^d/98.

My dear One,

As I wrote you so long a letter a few days since I will not take up your busy hours with a duplicate of it, only to write, your last to me was Nov 29th tis true it was 22 pages, but if it had been as many I should n<u>ot</u> complain; after the Memorial services, I had lovely letters from Miss Kate A, & Miss Cage, this last sending me a box of lillies-of-the-Valley taken from Sophie's bust. Mr C. on the 16th got an exquisite bouquet of lillies of the Valley & placed them under Sophie's picture he had made in China, what sad memories those days recall; enclosed find a little X-mas offering, use it daily to open letters and cut leaves, when able, will do better. —

Mrs Milliken and Mrs Richardson writes me letters of 5-6-& 7 pages, but you give me the most, — knowing the tr<u>eat</u> [underlined twice] they are to me. Mrs M, & Mrs R always speak of you. Our city has an epidemic of pneumonia & grippe & Mr C. and I have been victims to it.— With Mr C's X-mas greetings & best & all good wishes my love from as ever,

Jo.L N—

Mrs C'^{lain} always desires love to you.

Envelope addressed to: Miss Alice Bowman 1232 Washington Avenue New Orleans, L—a.