New York, Jan. 2d/91.

My dear Mrs. W.

I sincerely thank you, for your very long, and very kind letter of Dec. 16\*/90, which was read with pleasure and interest from date to signature. First to know of yourself and dear children, how I should love to see you all — and our blessed Lord willing, I may this winter, but fear to promise or hope, as it has pleased Him to make me an invalid, the Doctor says I have "a pound of energy to an ounce of strength" and when "I feel able I do too much", but as long as I can help myself, and attend to my duties, I will never murmur. I often wish I was stronger, but He knows best. I am so happy to feel my tribute to my Sophie, has so gratified all her friends, and mine, with a few exceptions. I am glad you were there on the 16\*. What do you think of her portrait, that hangs in the Chapel. Mr. Solon Humphreys (not Eddie) you remember, came to see us at Niagara, he could not look at it, he thought it so very perfect.

What picture is it you have of Sophie, could you not let me see it. I promise to return it. You did not let me know, when you were married in New York, in Grace Church, altho' I was at the New York Hotel, and was <u>asked</u> by persons in the Hotel, who were invited, and <u>at</u> the Church if "I did not know you". I am pained to hear of your Ma's illness, and hope ere this she has entirely recovered. She is very kind in coming to see me when in New York. She was looking the same as ever, only so much larger, I never should have known her. Thanking you again for your letter, in showing forth His praise to me.

Jo. L. Newcomb.

## Editors' note

This is a typewritten copy, the whereabouts of the original unknown. Mrs. W.'s name is unknown.