Dear Mary,

I had a beautiful time at the dinner last night, and sat next Mrs. Lawrence and Mrs. Howland Shaw the other side. The table was beautiful with some print orchids on it and we had everything that was good—brandy peaches with the ice cream! which I look upon with special satisfaction. It was meant to be a ladies dinner but Mrs. Richard Hunt had suddenly appeared and so he and Mr. Brimmer were invited to join and we were very gay. S. W. was there and Mrs. Bell and Mrs. Pratt and Mrs. George Hale & Miss Agnes Irwin. Mrs. Bell is coming here today to breakfast with Mr. Jefferson.

Mrs. Fields didn't get home until between four and five and she was so tired poor thing, and had a little supper up here in the library and went to bed early. Louise, the seamstress had got my white crepon dress done with little of my help so that was hung away last night. Don't you know it was caught up at one side, not very pretty and this year it looked all pulled, so I had it made even all round. Your sister was deemed to be much dressed last night by S. W. & remarks were passed.

The wider lace looks very nice and makes the effect of a cape which is all in fashion and makes the dress look lighter at table—it (the velvet) is so black at night. I was reminded of a humble detail. There is some of that peppermint cordial. I thought it was the other in that little flask in the glass closet, so do use it up, but put some ice in your glass! and be sure Cousin Maria and Auntie have something nice every day. I meant to give them some champagne but I forgot all about it! There is the Madeira and the other—but you will know. ---This invitation has just come to a "small breakfast at the Victoria Hotel" from Miss Wilkins and a Mrs. Delano of the Oxford—with the favor of an answer is requested" written at the bottom!!! People do generally answer such invitations! but I daresay it is a stand-up one & kind of reception, in spite of their saying 'small & informal'. But I couldn't help laughing!!! I must say goodbye with ever and ever so much love. Mr. Jefferson is coming at eleven and I want to go out for half an hour first to get the air and do an errand!!

Sarah

Do give Auntie some champagne. I should be so glad & it would do her good. Don't ask her!