1861 March

SIDE TWO

and will act accordingly. She consulted me a few days since on the propriety of employing a wet nurse, which I encouraged. I am very busy, though none of my cases give me any anxiety just now. I sympathize with Mrs Margaretta Robertson who will be left very desolate by the death of Rebecca who is not likely to survive this night or tomorrow. She has been sinking all winter with some obscure internal disease complicating an affection of her heart. Everything in this house goes on as usual. I do not know that I have any thing more to report to you which will be of interest. Public affairs are, in my view, more gloomy than ever. I can not see any mode of reconciling the conflicting views and interests of the two sections, nor of mitigating the asperities and correcting the misunderstandings which are daily producing more serious alienation of feeling. Both parties claim to have the right and refer their claim to God and profess to depend upon Him for protection and defence. We must just leave it in His hand only being careful that we are on His side. I am making great effort to subdue my anxious fretful spirit and to exert a little faith praying for more grace. I came in early that I might write to you this evening & now must lay aside my pen and get ready to make two calls before retiring for the night. I hope you got to church this morning. I saw Mrs Lowdenslack yesterday & gave her the directions how to proceed & five dollars to pay her expenses down.

Monday Morning

The black leaves of the day opposite the little office window confirm the feelings of my forgiven that the night has been a very cold one. The morning is bright & clear so that the day will be warmer as it progresses. After making my visits last evening one of which was to Mrs R who was a little revived, I stopped at Dr Chutters & got a letter which with Hamel & Lessie and himself. Lessie nodding. I do not think there is any room to doubt the nature of the Chutters cough. Hamel seemed quite well. Emily yesterday handed me her letter to you. I did not discuss it with her as you thus I endeavour to keep these matters out of my mind on the Lord's day as much as possible. I think her first offer of $2000 is ample and should not be willing to arrange for more and am quite sure that she should aim at a moderate expenditure. I fear very much that Emily is entering into the arrangement only for our sake, and that she would really be more independent without us, and am very desirous that if such is her view she should not miss the reward of her self denial but find an increase of her joy the result of her efforts to comfort us. I think the investment of her property is very precarious