

209, CENTRAL PARK, WEST

NEW YORK CITY.

Friday - March 18 - 1892

My dear Mr. James:

I suppose your Sunday evening engagements are made long in advance, and the suggestion about Drunkle may reach you too late to have any effect. Nevertheless - let us see. Kate has just received a message from Mrs. Alden, saying that she will pass Saturday and Sunday with us. It is now still undetermined whether the two are to go together to one of the Stedmans' receptions, and the arrangement will now be carried out. This being the case, Kate thinks it might be pleasant for Mrs. James and you to take tea with us at your school Sunday, and afterward go over to Be Street. One objection to this may be that you have quite recently visited the Stedmans, and will not care to be so generous in your attentions as to call again within a month. But if that does not stand in the way, it will give us such a much gratification to have you enter into the plan. In case you are not actively impeded by the proposition to make a double night of it, we should be heartily glad to have you all to ourselves, and hope the second part of the scheme; but inasmuch as I am still in a very doubtful condition, and not sure of my ability to shine resplendently as a host, the brilliancy of 78th Street may compensate for the dulness of Central Park, West. The main thing is, that we hope you will find it convenient and agreeable to join us at tea. The "subsequent proceedings" can be regulated after your appearance here. With your kindly

E. H. House

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Send me a line in answer, as soon as you get this? The mail will bring it by Saturday evening, and that will be all we want. Indeed it will be all we want if you say "yes". If you say "no" it won't be what we want at all. So we trust you are entirely at liberty, and that we shall have the chance of welcoming you.

Do not be downcast at sight of that un-  
-promising word "tea". I don't know why we say tea, except to indicate that on Sunday we are more domestic and informal than at other times. Notes will tell you all about it, and we will call it breakfast, if you like.

With best remembrance to Mrs. J. J. J. J. J.

Yours sincerely

E. N. House

