

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1872.

The last Three Weeks

The Fifth of December came and Nelly complained of a severe headache and had to lie down. I had felt ill for several days myself and on Thursday morning the 6th went up stairs to see her as was my usual custom when she was not down. She was suffering severely but gave me the "Morning Kiss" even though in agony. I was again going down stairs when I felt a slight blow, as it were, on the back of the neck near the base of the skull, and a pain shot rapidly upwards and settled all over the region of the Brain. From this time Nelly's ^{illness} and mine became as one. On Friday Dec 7th Dr Kennedy came and pronounced both cases congestion of the brain, with general prostration of the nervous system, large doses of opium were prescribed for me, and smaller ones of the same for her, but her stomach was also disordered and would retain nothing that she took, after getting my first I was put to bed and remember little for ten days only an occasional waking up and renewing the draught to again sleep. Dr Evans came on Sunday and seemed to be satisfied with the treatment, prescribed some things for Nelly and again came back on the following Thursday. All this time I can remember little only hearing Nelly's wailing cry "Oh my head my head" although I have been told I left my bed several times to see her and she often came to see me. She resisted taking the Opium after she had seen its effect on me, telling Jane that "she was only trying to get her to take it so that they could get her to talk foolish as Pa did and then laugh ^{at} it. On the 13th they