

to give one of the Sunday lectures
in the Presbyterian lobby, he
aired all the modern views as
to the limited period of punish-
ment in a future state, when
Dr Mc Vicar felt - compelled to
arise & denounce these heterodox
views - I declare he will give a
counter lecture, & if so I will
certainly try to hear it - I don't
think I ever heard the old view
defended on any but tradi-
tional grounds wh. certainly
are somewhat shaky -

Miss Linn says she does
not care about the bracelet
Mrs Redpath always inquires
after you & received your
message with due gratitude

The sample of brocade you
sent is very handsome & also
uncommon - the quantity will
be quite sufficient - indeed there
is abundance of the grey itself
if it does not look so very out
of the way in style either

I will make a final
examination of all my needs &
send you lists wh. will
likely contain things I have asked
for before only don't get weary
if you find difficulty in doing
so - Florence needs much more
intermediate coat or cloak or
dolman or cape - she has been
wearing her fur long before this

was any necessity as regards
weather - I now to have better, &
seems inclined to stay.

Mr. Thos. Craig has got
into difficulties in his bank af-
fairs, apparently owing to specu-
lations unrecognized by his directors
& his large house also seemed to
have been a white elephant when
a meeting was called, he was
absent - & has I believe ^{been} absconded
altogether, this an example of the
usual carelessness leading to
knavery & shady dealings. It will
be a great blow to all his circle
& poor Mrs. Craig every one feels
deeply for, & yet one can scarcely
offer sympathy without offence.
The Exchange Bank is I fear broken
without hope of recovery & Bernard
is trying to pull out - show for us
if the brother Craig is involved
but I fear both W. & B. are too
busy & too ignorant of affairs of
such nature to take very efficacious
action but they will do what seems
best.

Florence & W. have allowed me
to persuade them into going to
Judge Mackays tonight - I hope
they will find it pleasant
& not drink coffee wh. seems to
keep both of them awake, they
certainly are kindred souls in
many little particulars.

It seems rather out of place
to wish you a Merry Xmas
for it seems so connected with
home & home pleasures, & yet
you may have a most jocular
time on yr. Mediterranean stop
& certainly ought to be happy in
a pleasure trip, some one who
had seen you, reported that
you were not looking well, but
that both Eva & Papa were
blaming. I do hope that you are
not being jaggled with all the
quick change & succession of events.
Do enjoy on the continent on yr
home coming for that I fancy will
be the least-distracting part of it.
It is very good of you to wish to
do so much for me & I thank you
in advance for the parcels you
have sent wh. I am sure will
be delightful, as even stockings
create a keen interest in the
trivial mind. Eric talks of
trains still & all his cry is for
Engines. I have put off his desire
to have a new supply for Xmas
by saying you may bring him
one. If you think that dear
any machine, or even a coal-burner
locomotive wd be dear to his soul
I don't like to stifle this cry, but I do
pass it - by as often as I can - that in
any not be all engine. Geographically
almost fascinates him as much
I am feeling very well again though
I have not yet entered, we must have
cold weather, cough & a few lines of
little out of parts has delayed - the