

97C 4



# EMPIRE + HOUSE

E. T. TALBOT, PROP.

ROOMS HEATED BY STEAM.

Commodious Sample Rooms.

Large Hall for Conventions.

TERMS, \$2.00 PER DAY.

SYRACUSE, N. Y.

Feb 29 1896

My dear Ralph:

[M. COMFORT]

To-day has been a field day with me, — with my emotions. I have surrendered my library, though it has gone hand with my feelings. I somehow hope to put it down. But I have given it up, with a good deal of heart sorrow. My intellectual life for over thirty years was locked up with that library. I bought the books here and there, in Europe and in America, — when I was a young man and when an older man. I have used them in writing my works and in getting up my lectures.

It was rather hard to give it up,  
but it is done, and my mind  
is calm, let it go! It has  
done almost all the good it ever  
could. Now I must have to  
give it up some time, and  
why not now?

I have taken a back room  
in the Kirk, at \$6 a month,  
shall have the library brought  
there, and shall get work  
preparing a catalogue preliminary  
to its sale. It will take me  
quite a time to make the catalogue.  
But it must be done and nobody  
can do it - as well as I, or as  
much to the credit of myself as to  
mine.

Curious, some of the creditors have  
an extraordinary idea of the value of  
the library. The lawyer of one of the  
creditors thinks the library could be  
made to pay all my debts - !!!!!!!!!!!!!



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On the other hand I think it will not  
bring over \$500, if as much.  
A lawyer here tried a while ago  
to get a loan of \$500, - a library  
which cost him \$300, - and could  
not get it.

Mrs J. M. Andrews came into  
your Mother's office this morning  
and wanted to get to work right  
away to raise money to save the  
library. She thought she could do  
it. Your Mother told her not to, -  
to let the library go, - the people  
seem to think they can get as much  
money out of it. Let them try it.  
Mrs Andrews thinks she can  
raise \$100 to get on another

library. That is all very nice  
but I think so. Let her try it,  
a little later, if she thinks  
well of doing so.

It is making a great deal  
of feeling this giving the sale of  
my library. Let it go on. It may  
do no harm.

Your mother bears the shock  
better than I expected. It agitated her  
greatly last night. Our  
to-day the weather has been very  
wet and oppressive, and she has  
had difficulty in getting up. But  
she is much calmer than I  
could have expected. I hope she  
will be able to keep so. This brings  
the whole situation as before  
her, that it naturally agitates  
her a great deal.

Our letters and Frederic's  
have been very timely and useful  
to her, and bless you both!





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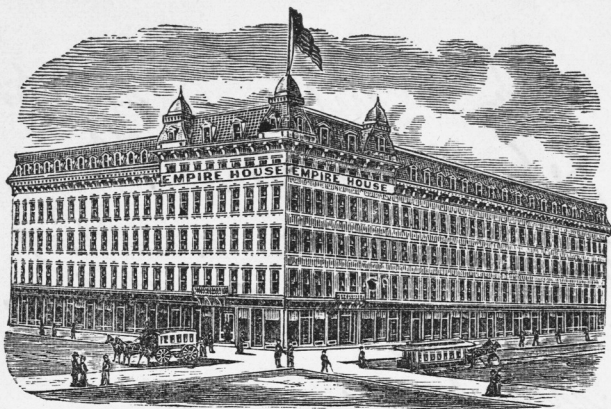
I love you both so, trust you  
so, admire you so, and love  
on you so, — that I am  
at times nervous & fearful  
lest something may happen  
to me & you, & cut you off  
death, or to lay you up by  
sickness or accident. Oh, do  
be so watchful of yourselves,  
that nothing happen you at  
this so important time in the  
history of our family! Be so  
careful about accidents of all  
kinds, and about catching colds  
or any other form of ailment.

After being careful, then have  
quite and of your best will power  
plant yourselves firm in health

and strength, by quiet resolution  
and firm resolutions! This  
is most effective in warding  
off disease, and in establishing  
an iron constitution.

Your line was received  
this afternoon. It is wonderful  
how you bring things to pass!  
I do not yet understand how  
you do it. I'm awfully much  
in remarkable characters to  
do what you are doing.

I suppose most people could  
do greater things than they do, if  
they were only stirred, as you  
are, from the very foundation  
and depth of your being. Perhaps  
this situation will develop you as  
nothing else could. But be careful  
and do not let it break you!  
But, look out for accidents!  
I saw a woman slip yesterday  
turning her velvet hat about



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across the street, — and today  
saw a man fall his whole  
light — the mud — the street,  
so, he cautious (not timid),  
he careful (not fearful),  
he brave (not rash),  
he bold (not audacious)  
he firm (not stubborn)  
he kind (not pimperny)  
he noble (not bombastic)  
he pure (not proudish)  
he good (not sanctimonious)  
he right every way, — but  
above all he careful to avoid  
accidents or sickness, —  
and fit abundant sleep.

Your loving father

[GEORGE F. COMFORT]