

Phila March 12.

My dear Annie

~~Your~~ came about three hours

ago and lest you should think I was indifferent
about writing to you I am down at it already
and if the size of my paper is to be taken as any
indication you have a big job before you in the
way of reading — I cannot tell you how much
~~amused~~ I was to see ~~the~~ ~~direction~~ in your
handwriting ^{written} I said "well the world is coming to
an end" — but then let me add I was just as
much pleased and delighted as I was surprised
now you know I don't tell stories so you can
believe me — I think it would almost be an
impossibility to write my letter until I first make
a clean breast of the matter and say I think you
have been too mean to, to, to, what shall I do?
well you can supply all manner of invective
and sharp things on my behalf for if these eyes
should ever behold you again I will say my
say, face to face a la Francais Vis a vis —