

Expect to hear from Ferdinand about the 20th,

31

1716 Camb.

Dec 11- '92

My dear Smith,

This has been a busy day

with me and I doubt if I shall  
be able to say much that will entertain  
you, but I will try and you may take

the mail, etc. This forenoon I wrote  
out some German sentences, which I

suppose is about the highest form of  
mental torture, and after lunch I

read the greater part of Steele's "Lovers"

papers. They are rarely "eighteenth century" but well meaning and interesting. There is something unique in the writers apparent seriousness and their keenness in a class by themselves. In my mind they are the best things I have ever written and I shall tell Garrison so in my thesis, although he quite overlooked them in his lectures. The Factor and Spectator are by no means the only 18th cent mag worth reading.

I will now raise the periodical question and I think I can help you.

I cannot think of any more satisfactory choice than the "Critic" and the "Nation".

It is strange that neither of us would have thought of it. By taking hours from papers we could not only keep posted upon literature but life in general. In the "Nation", the literary departments are conducted more upon the plan of the English reviews - but then you probably know it well enough. Perhaps the best way to do well is for you to subscribe for whatever you like and then well see all difficulty. Let me know what you want (if you have not decided on the project) and I will take the other.

Dr Sherman dropped in for the first time yesterday afternoon, and I

how near some rippling. It had to  
confess that it was worth reading. I  
suppose you have seen the "Christmas Century"  
with his poem and Miss Watkins' im-  
itation of the French pastel. It is not  
a bad one the novel she has in the  
November Harper's, but I cannot say  
that I look forward to the day when the  
pastel will be a recognized form of American  
literature. The novelty has already  
worn off so what we know of the French.  
What I am waiting for is the influence  
of the French daily newspaper. Our Daily's  
are a disgrace to civilization - but if ever  
with a few exceptions. I guess I am  
getting a little "frouchy" - no more stuff.

Shirley  
R.