

# We much enjoyed your visit. The ladies bid me adieu - So say we all of us.

visit to Authors Club with me kept back -  
for which I shall send you my guests  
card when it reaches me.

It happens that I was "out", upon  
social functions, last Thursday, Friday, &  
Saturday, & am engaged for Friday evening,  
& therefore need all my other evenings just  
now. more's the pity!

You will hear the best of all  
after-dinner speeches from Jefferson. It is  
great "between the walnuts & the wine".  
Trusting that your rheumatism will clear  
up with the weather. I am

Faithfully yours,

Edmund C. Pickens

137 WEST 78<sup>TH</sup> STREET.

March 11<sup>th</sup> 1896

My Dear Col. Pickens,

Your very kind invitation reaches  
me this evening, & I assure you that I  
hate to say "no" to this second one from  
you - especially since I now feel that  
we are something more than acquaintances.  
But, as I have said, these regular dinners  
are beyond my "liberties" for the rest of  
this season. I hope that you will not  
deem me churlish, nor hesitate to



