Dear Doctor:

To-day being Sunday, and consequently having more leisure, I availed myself of the opportunity of writing to you. The lectures commenced on Monday. The first I heard was delivered by Dr. Howard on medical jurisprudence. He is a dry lecturer. He prefaced his lecture with no introductory remarks at all. After calling over the roll, he said, in a very manner, well gentlemen, the subject of to-day's lecture will be, wounds. He lectured for an hour and a half in a very plain manner; and at the conclusion, said, well gentlemen, you will meet in this hall again on Saturday at half past nine, and will be examined on this lecture. I shall expect you to be prepared to answer promptly, and correctly. The questions I shall ask you. I went to my room, studied the subject until I thought I was prepared to be examined. When I went to the lecture room on Saturday, and heard the roll called over, my name coming second, I calculated that we would be questioned in the same order. But, he commenced at the other end of the list, on those names beginning with A. I then thought that it would likely be sometime before my turn would come. To my surprise after examining one or two, he said, Mr. Austin, do blows inflicted after death, ever resemble those inflicted before death? I answered that they did somewhat resemble each other to which he said, yes. He then asked what were the results from blows before death, that never occur from blows after
death? I assumed that swelling from extravasation was one, a yellow margin around the black spot was another, and that coagulated extravasated blood in the subjacent cellular tissue was another. Well, he says, now tell me the best sign of all, that a blow is inflicted before death. I answered that necrosis of the blood with the whole thickness of the true shish, rendering it black, instead of white, and increasing its firmness, and resistance was one of the best signs that a blow was inflicted during life. He then paused to another. I observed that some answers were very promptly indubitable, but when I examined farther, I found that they were reading from their books in their lap.

Dr. Cobell delivered his introductory lecture, which was pretty good but greatly inferior to that of Dr. Rogers, Dr. Davis lecture on human anatomy, and I think it very good lecture, his introductory was quite pretty. He is very young man does not appear to be more than twenty-five.

I find that it is necessary to have a skeleton, but fortunately there is a medical student in a room adjoining ours by the name of Kyle from Bottow, who, by the way, is first cousin to Mrs. James Spiller, she has one, and very kindly offered its use to it. It seems that by some means or other, that he has been very favorably impressed with either Harry Howard or myself. The stage nearly all of his time in our room is quite favorable, and I think will not be any disadvantage to us. He seems to be a man of respectable understanding.

I have purchased all the books which it is necessary for me have now. It will be necessary for me to have interior Spiller when the time for reflection comes. In the purchase of my books, I exchanged Druggist's dictionary for which I was allowed $3.50. I was out for my books about 36.50 in cash. After making a deposit for my ticket, and other college supply, say buying my books, traveling expenses $10. I have $19.00 left. I have not been able to get my book yet but understand that it will be required in advance. That is for the month which will be about $40, including room rent & washing. My washing will cost $10. The regulation for wearing a uniform has been altered. Mine is required now. No particular in women among the students, some wear gowns, some don't, some one thing and some another. In the boarding house just opposite was there a student from Texas, whose name is Sears. I am not acquainted with him. He writing to me you must give me the Texas news if you have gathered any. You may hear the newspapers for me, and let me know what the newspapers they say, and do. About boundary question. Billy Howley speaks of having his Examiner sent here, which will be a very good thing. As that can be read without detriment to any one he's willing to what it may. I wrote to you on Tuesday last, according the news which I sent back. I wrote also to Tom the both of which letters I presume have been received before this. I wrote also to Minnie a day or two ago. As that is the third page of the sheet, and will hold but little more, I must begin to think about stopping. You must give me my love to Sister & Frances or Grace, if either is with her, but as it is an article which is not valued so highly by my own self, I will not ask you to accept any. You must write to me as often as convenient and tell my sisters to do likewise. Nothing more at present but remain yours,

J. Austin