Chapel Hill May 13th 1864

My Dear Mother

Logic, notwithstanding it is in many respects dry and even abstruse, is in fact much more than a whole a very entertaining study. I myself am highly pleased with it, especially that portion which treats of the detection of fallacies, some of which it would puzzle a Philadelphia lawyer to make clear. There is one in De Mennezius which struck me as exceedingly ludicrous. Thinking that perhaps you may wish to puzzle his brain over it, I hereupon quote in full—

"So natural, indeed, to the morbid activity of men are these revolving forms of alternate repulsion, when flight turns suddenly into pursuit and pursuit into flight, that I myself, when a schoolboy, invented several. This, for instance which puzzled a man in a wig, and I believe he bore me malice to his dying day, because he gave up the ghost by reason of a fever before he was able to find out satisfactorily what screw was loose in my logical conceptions, and..."