

Phila^a 23rd July 1843

Dear Sister

We have had quite a treat by a visit from Mr Bonny, who will be the bearer of this, I have asked him a thousand & one questions about Camden, and for the two last nights, in my dreams, have been in every street, wandered over Kershaw District and mingled with my old associates as tho' living, most of whom have gone down to the grave long since. I have often wondered what dreams were for - I now know, since I have been going the down hill of life - they serve as a record of events of older time, which would be forever gone from memory but for them - the mind ~~when~~, when we sleep, seems more active than when awake. This life is a dream, at longest, but a short one -

Yours of 21st was rec^d. yesterday morning, I am glad you are recovering, hope a trip to the east will perfectly restore you - Remember to take flannel along with you - The stormy in N. England are cold, warm clothes are required at times.

Septimus has gone to sea, as Mr Bonny will tell you -

Mr & Mrs Wheeler left N.Y. on the 3rd stopped at Bishops, who took them down to Mr Hunt - They attended the ^{on the 4th} Temperance meeting, saw all of our family except Betsy, partook of a Pick-Nick and reached Boston that evening highly pleased with Seaboard & the people - They are now

out of the City about 4 miles, at a milk farm to spend a week or two - where Mr. W. will sail for Liverpool - The family may remain longer at the farm, but I think not.

I got a long letter from my mummy dated
12th inst. all well - Nancy talks of staying in Springfield
as her school is prosperous -

I also got a very long letter from my daughter by the Bannock - it was full of interest, he thinks of remaining in Canada (Kirkwood) this season. I hope not, he is too valuable a man to throw away his life - it is 9 years since he spent a summer there -

Our Brothers Estate and my Douglas have divided their lands in Indiana, except the place near Madison, called Blairdenville - This you can mention to James. I may see him this season but fear I shall not.

my health is improving since the weather became warm - indeed I feel quite well most of the time, but some times -

affectionately you

HB Cansling -

I understand that Mr Natterger will be on in
September - by the way of Boston -

Parsonal 6. Bunting's Daughter, Mary, that married Capt Cobb, of one of the Liverpool Packets, died in Chile last some 10 day since - she went on voyage to Europe with ^{an} age of five

Jul 25th

I was not able to get my letter down to Mr. Bonny so that it is yet on hand.

Yesterday Rachel visited the Insane Hospital and, for a wonder I went along - and for the first time saw the Wire Bridge & crossed it - We found Mr. McWillec tolerably composed but not altogether right - Dr. Hollowell is better, seemed glad to see us - Mr. Long's Son is hopeless, the doctor says they never had a worse case.

Dr. H. is attending to Natural History; in a small brook he has found a new Craw-fish, as he thinks, resembling the one I found in S. Carolina -

Our ride was a hot one - from 10% to one in a cloud of dust for the country suffers for rain, there must have been showers not

far from us, as this morning is quite cool and pleasant and we again breathe freely - A city is a hot place at best, & we must expect to suffer, who stay in it.

Mrs. Shurlock leaves the House of Refuge, tomorrow week - she resigned and a new Matron has been elected -

Rachel has lost all her hair from her sickness and now has her head shaved once a week - a fine crop is now coming out - Her recovery was a remarkable one, so perfectly has she recovered -

We have a charming day -

W.B.

18

Mrs Lucy Carpenter,
at Mrs Simonson's,
134 Adams St.,
Brooklyn, N.Y.

PAID

PHILADELPHIA
JUL 25
1876

~~Mr. Simonson~~

[illegible]

decisions must, and collect specimens. How delightful it
would be, to go out together. But we cannot. Can you not, when collecting
minerals for yourself, gather duplicates, & lay away one specimen
for me, & then bring them when you come home, or when anyone
else is coming whom you can trust. Send them to me. Oh how
happy I should be, to receive a box of the choicest minerals from the
west, & that too, from my dear Miss Blanding. How I should value it.
But I can see there would be some difficulty attending it, & perhaps
it is too much to ask of you. You will probably visit Haverhill &
visit the grounds shall you not? Perhaps in company with that
Lutheran minister boarding at Mr. Barnes. Why did you not tell
me his name? But perhaps you will tell me more of him anon.
You will not forget one especial promise you made me. I spent
last fall very happily, at home - saw Miss Barney - who is now at
Singing Mt. & Miss Jennings, & her mother, a good deal, & had
many a pleasant ride & run together - &c &c
Miss Jennings is at Geneva, New York, at the head of the female
department of a large Sem. I often hear from her. She is happy
and probably doing good, as she must, wherever she goes.
And now I write about myself at present. I am teaching a public
school in the south part of Spencer, of seventy scholars. About two
thirds of them are boys. My oldest scholar is nearly twenty-one, the next
over twenty - six are between seventeen and twenty, & so down to five
years. The oldest girl is sixteen - fifteen & so down to five years.
The school had had the reputation of being one of the best, north
and I found it in a sad state of anarchy. But I have been enabled
by divine grace, to get very insufficient for such a task, & by
my school daily trusting in a high power for ability to govern
myself & my school, & I believe I am rapidly gaining the ascendancy
over the minds entrusted to my care. I have been visited
by the committee, who said that they had not found a school
this winter, in such good order, or that promised such thorough
rapid progress in study; which makes me hope that I have
taken a right start, & shall by & by, be able to do them a great deal
of good. My great boys are as respectful as I could wish, or as
young men would be any where; but the younger boys are
very bad. I open my school with the reading of the testament &
prayer, as it has ever been my privilege to do, when a teacher,
but which has not been done here, for many years, as I can ascer-
tain. The first day there were but three testaments, I believe in the
whole school. I assure you my heart sickened at the prospect before
me, for the Christian religion, we know is at the foundation of all order,
and where the Bible is not, there is no good seeds. The people in
the district are, ^{almost} all universalists, & infidels, and last winter, & two
winters before last, the teachers of my school were professed
infidels. So you can judge something of the nature of the ground
of my trial. But then I trust now throughout my school I am
preaching for religious things, and it seems jarring. I do
pray for me, my dear friend, that I may have wisdom, and
goodness, & snare exhibit everywhere, the religion of Christ in
an attractive & winning manner, & that I may do much
for the salvation of this heathen people.
I have a wide field, & I feel that I am worthy, even the privilege
of labouring in the vineyard of the Lord. May that be faithful
that I may not be cut down as a cumber of the ground, but
that I may go forth daily, bearing precious seed, & every where
sowing the seeds of righteousness & truth. May that I may have
phys. ex. strength, for I often feel my strength failing, & fear I shall not be
able to keep my school through.

Dear Mr. May, my dear Miss Blodgett, for having so long delayed a return to your letter. My time is wholly occupied with my school, & my studies, & I should not now feel that I could command the time to finish this letter, if I had not pledged myself. & if it were not a real happiness, to redeem that pledge. Oh how I should like to see you this eve. I would give a better apology, than this, for putting off my duty to my friend until the last day of the month. It is which I promised to write. And I would ask a great many questions too, about your school & other things. How do you get along. Is there any plan for me and them, in case I should conclude to leave my happy home for the wilderness. But I need not ask that question for I shall mean, probably be able to get the consent of my family to go so far with me. I suppose then you do not call yourselves at the West. There is so much territory beyond you. But I am indulging myself in writing what I must be very shy to you & uninteresting to you. I will tell you something else. I have had two letters from S. Gladly. One from my dear friend Miss Catharine Wright. I had not expected a letter from her, as she has so many cares at present, and especially as I had not written to her, or even requested a correspondence but you know I was intimate with Martha, & saw considerable of Catharine, & loved her too. Is she not very amiable & good. The letter was full, & at least I assure you. I wish I could have been sitting with me to night & read it. She says Martha has gone to Peekskill New York to spend the winter and most of the year. That she relinquished the design of returning to the Seminary soon after Anniversaries for the benefit & pleasure of more extended intercourse with the world. She says respecting the Seminary that every thing is as usual. That the Senior Class numbers more than any former year. That the family is pleasant & happy. That they have very frequent prayer. Miss Gist's that she is very well & happy in her heavenly Father's kingdom. That Mr. Perkins writes in a letter to Miss Lyon, "we have learned Miss Gist's real worth." - That they have not yet experienced a revival of religion there, but that some Christians are praying & striving for the blessing. They will not a blessing ever rest on that Seminary. I do not think any one can go there, & not be made better. By the blessing that is continually descending through heaven upon it. Miss Wright says, moreover that health generally prevails, although she adds, "we have this year mourned the departure of one of our number, from time into eternity, Miss Hatchback daughter of Miss Jones, with the Cherokee but we lamented not as those without hope - that she had now already commenced her song of praise to God, we cannot doubt. She relied alone on her Saviour & sweetly resting on him for support breathed her last. The other letter which is from Miss Moore & partly a business letter, contains no particular intelligence. One remark of hers I must give you. "I feel more & more the advantages of a well-disciplined mind, & the power it gives one for good." So let us study, my friend every leisure moment. Oh every moment seems to me of immense value, &

no day passes without a wish to recall the past, that I may
 better improve the early days of life. But they are gone &
 no power - no repentance ~~can~~ bring them back; but
 so I will seize the present, & make it do its utmost, both
 in doing & getting good. Oh that my strength, & capacity
 were equal to my desire. But God has promised strength,
 & wisdom, so let us look upward, humbly, & press forward.
 Miss Moore says, "I have just come from the hall where Miss
 Lyon has been giving expression to some of the warm feelings
 of her heart, in regard to the cause of Christ. Oh may her
 spirit be ours." Miss Moore gives some account of her
 journey home vacation, & her happiness in ministering to
 the enjoyment of her mother & brother, an only one. I
 cannot, of course tell you all she writes verbatim, but this
 all that will interest you.

25

Alfred Moore
 Feb 8

Miss Juliet Blanding
 Evansville
 Indiana.
 Care of Rev. J. R. Barrett.

Direct your letter to Mrs. M. B. Barrett, if
 you please.

I am afraid you will not be able to understand or read all I have written.
 my chirography is so bad, but I always write badly to friends, & you must
 try to get familiar with my miserable, hasty penmanship.
 I have so many friends, with whom I correspond, & have so much
 writing to do, beside letter-writing, that all I can expect or try to do, is
 to write so I may possibly be read. And I hope you will not be discou-
 raged at this. For indeed I will try to get into my letters, intelligence
 enough to pay for the labour of deciphering. Let me hear my next letter
 in due season, full & warm, & fresh from the heart of my Holyoke friend.

Phila. 12th Jan'y 1844

Dear Sister

Yours of the 7th was rec'd on the morning of the 9th instant - I had thro' James O. Murray received dreadful news of Horatio's, (it would seem) untimely death; from appearances, when I parted with him at the depot in Providence, no one of all his friends could expect to outlive him but he is gone - we must not pry into the ways of Providence - "Not Gabriel asks the reason why, or God the reason gives!" So we should all say.

I have not heard of the illness of Lucretia, but by you - On the 9th of November I sent a box of sundries to her and a day or two after wrote her, but have not received a reply as yet - but on the 30th of last month received an Evansville Newspaper on the margin of which was written "16th Dec - Box arr - safe" this was good news as it was in her hand writing - I concluded she had too much to do, to write just then - but now I fear she has not recovered, not able to write, sorry she is so far from her connections; if still sick I think Nancy has gone to her long as the journey is - & great as the expense will be.

We have heard nothing from Ohio of late, too busy fixing for the Spring move to Illinois

Have not heard from Brother James yet; nothing about the well - the building to be repaired - the timber to be cut - how the Sweet Potatoes turned out - Abrams School - the Hunt estate or any thing else - all of which I feel an interest in - he is too weary, after the labors of the day is over, to write; he works hard for a few comforts - but he seems to have less anxiety than falls to the lot of most of us - & happy the man who can do so -

I was looking daily for a letter from Dr. S. B. at Columbia to whom I shipped some goods some time since, such as Teeth, Gold foil, Instruments &c. - he and Dr. Reynolds have dissolved the Copartnership; Dr. R. has recovered his flesh but not his strength - he too is growing older -

Rachel is hard down on the study of Astronomy and I am instructing ^{her} in Trigonometry, with ^{out} some knowledge ^{which} of she would make but little progress; the lectures she attends are very fine, delivered by a Baptist Clergyman, at the same time exhibiting a great number of splendid Diagrams - she seems devoutly engaged.

Th. 16th Jan'y 45

Yesterday Rachel attended the lecture by Mr. Gough, on Temperance, at Dr. McDowell's Church, in the afternoon; so fare well to Brandy in minced Pies - now look for bran bread and black Tea - at the idea of such fare my Stomach begins to grumble. There is one comfort for me, they don't prohibit Cayen Pepper - nor Salt.

This evening R. has gone to the lectures by Mr. Ketchum on Astronomy, so I will give you a lecture such as it is and try to close this letter, already some ^{have} days on hand.

You would before this ^{have} received one or more of the newspapers from Liberia West Africa but all we have received have been sent away & in a day or two shall get some more when you will be remembered. I will try to send you by the mail that takes this the last Annual Report of the Ladies Liberia School Association which I think is a very good one; Ishmael Locke their newly elected teacher spent an hour or two in my room yesterday - he is a coloured man from Salem N. Jersey. we are highly pleased with him; tis time to stop sending white men to Africa.

When I last wrote you at Sea Hook, the letter was sent off with another to Dr. S. B. standing without sealing, nor was the postage paid on yours as intended; I was unwell at that time and had to send letters &c. to the office as opportunities presented -

It is now more than two months since I have been out
once excepted, and that was two days since, crossed the
street to ~~buy~~ some coal - You must know we have a coal
yard on the corner opposite to us (N.E. corner) - about 8 or 9
weeks since I was suffering dreadfully with Neuralgia,
a nervous disease of one side of my face and head
it lasted about two weeks, since which I have kept in
the house, where, perhaps, it is best for me to remain
thru' the winter, if we have any winter as yet we have
had none nor has there been any ice put up for next
summer - I have seen 72 years and as far as I can re-
member winter has never disappointed the people in this
latitude - if not in Dec'r or Jan'y it will be here in Feb'r
and then look out, you good people on the heights of
Brooklyn - have a string fast to
your Bournet and hold on with
all your might, or you are Bon.
not left

Our friend Dr. R. has moved from the City to the Farm
belonging to his wife on that came by her, three or four miles
from Bristol, Pa. 20 miles above this - his health has failed
not able to practice - perhaps about 75 years old -

Our friend Justice has not been in for a week or more,
when he does call again I shall be left alone or 8 at the; for
he and Rachel will soon be on their way to some Planet, per-
haps Uranus, left being known of that than of those in our
own neighborhood, such as Saturn and others - well, they will
soon come back for it used to be said

"One moment's cold, like theirs, would pierce the bone,
Freeze the heart's blood, and turn us all to stone."
very cold place no doubt, I shall go with them, lest such a
degree of cold should bring back my Neuralgia -

Remember us kindly to the good family in which you are
affectionately yrs William Blanding

Have not a had a letter or any news from any one of our friends since this was commenced. Shall look hard for something tomorrow morning -

I now enjoy better health than any winter for some years past perhaps because I don't expose myself - my amusements are copying medals, finishing & bringing them & my books - Rachel reads to me two to three hours every night, when at home & no one is -

Should like to send you some of my rare medal, for I have many, finished in quite a superior style to any sent before this -

Oct 18th 3
Could not get this to
the office yesterday, so
slow way -

PAID

M

Mrs Lucy Carpenter,

care C. Cornell,

Rail Road Office,

Brooklyn. N.Y.

single

Jan 17th It is now 22 days since we rec'd a letter from our only son, our friends expect you of 1/2 mile - one consolation is, no more to pay - The weather is so warm that our spring purification is commenced, carefully & with a water flying in every direction, this with Rachel and Harriet is in an agreement - 4m H.H.B. I send you the "Colonization Herald" will send the other shortly, in which you will find the Ladies' Report.

Paris. 18 February, 1844.

My dear Mrs. Carpenter,

My father is just getting ready to leave me, after a good winter's visit, and I am very glad to improve the chance of writing you a line. You must have heard before this I presume of my father's visit; he has spent with me about 3 months, and very agreeably I believe to us both. It was a funny idea his leaving practice and all the attachments that tie him down in Providence; he had to get up the excuse of being on a tour to Egypt, and set off in company with two young gentlemen, Torr and Allen, but he soon concluded it was dark enough here in Paris, and settled down in the house with me, became a good student, accompanied me to hospitals and lecture-rooms; and on the whole we never lived so much together, never had so much real home-feeling, as by our fire-side here in this foreign land.

I saw you for a much shorter time than I had hoped to in Brooklyn last summer, on account of hindrances of about embarking which I had not foreseen. For that reason I know less than I wish I did of your present situation, and ~~of~~ how I am to imagine you to myself. That is a thing I always wish to do when writing to my absent friends. I may be pretty sure that you are at this moment getting ready for the exercises of Sunday, and there is no better time certainly to write. I hope you still continue to like Brooklyn as you have done, that being I must suppose your residence, and I cannot but hope you have the same pleasure in your teaching and your scholars, which you told me very decidedly used to outweigh the troubles. Don't think your much obliged young friend is ungrateful or forgetful, or that he does not often remember your many many kindnesses; and take an interest

in learning of your happiness.

You will want me I know to write about myself.

Since I left you, now nearly eight months ago, I have become to some degree initiated in the mysteries of Paris life, and have been pursuing my medical studies here with very considerable industry and amid the greatest advantages. I had a delightful month on the ocean, saw little of its sublimities. In Paris, we muster a strong array of Americans; and here I was soon in good hands and well guided in the track of studies here. So I go to hospitals every morning, and attend lectures in the daytime, and am pretty constantly kept busy in availing myself of the opportunities offered me. Paris is certainly a remarkable place for instruction & education in all sorts of things; the free instruction, paid for by the government, is of the very best quality; on all imaginable subjects of interest in science and literature, there are daily lectures by first rate men.

Paris is now in all the gaiety and dissipation ~~the~~ of the closing carnival. Parties and balls are incessant, and people making up well for the coming Lent. For myself, as you may suppose, I have not much to do with dissipation, or with social life indeed. There are several people whom I have formerly known nowhere, but very few ladies, and I have little to do with visiting and parties. Mr. Eliza Dyer Jr. of Providence, with his wife and sister, have been here through a part of the winter, and given me some specimens of old friends. But there is no better substitute for society than constant occupation, and I get along without pleasures of visiting to which I am accustomed. As for sight seeing, it is a topic all persons who visit Paris are expected to write about, and I might tell a long story about the interesting

objects I have been seeing. The picture galleries and the old palaces are those which have taken me the most, except those connected with my professional studies. The great museums contain many pictures of the greatest painters, and I have greatly enjoyed, and I think got real good from the hours I have spent in seeing them. Then the magnificent palace of Versailles exceeded all my ideas of show and splendor, by the profusion of gold and rich marbles and the extent and beauty of the grounds. Putting these sights together with the historical reminiscences that belong ^{to} them, they become exceedingly interesting. The collections of natural history are you know very rich and complete; I need not say I have derived great pleasure from them. They would be more particularly ~~to~~ your taste, and I wish you were here with me to visit. The geological museums, which contain the collections of Cuvier, on which he founded his science and his fame, are magnificent and most interesting.

I expect to visit Italy in a few months, and make just a flying visit to the principal cities and objects. In about a year I hope to see again my native land and my old friends. I can only say I hope I shall find them well and happy, and glad to see me.

You will remember me I trust to your brother's family in Philadelphia; and thank them for the kind reception they gave me last winter. Father's preparations for departure have hurried in this letter, and oblige me to close it sooner than I would like.

Believe me most truly & gratefully,

Yours,

Charles W. Parsons.

Mrs Lucy Carpenter.

Brooklyn.

N.Y.

Philadelphia June 9th 1844.

Dear Madam,

I am to leave town early to morrow morning; and having vainly tried to find the time to go and bid you good bye I take this method to express to you dear Madam, the affectionate esteem, which I shall carry with me of yourself and your respected husband; of whose health I wished to have been informed before leaving town. The medallions which I have of his workmanship are carefully treasured, and will afford amusement and instruction to the young ladies of the Troy Seminary.

I need not say how much pleasure it would give me to see you at my own home.

With sincere regard
Your friend and sister
In Christ.

Emma Willard

Mrs Emma Willard
Philadelphia

June 9th 1844

Mrs. Dr. Blanding
Philadelphia

How pleasant it is to ramble through
woods and groves and look at the lofty trees and the gentle stream
as it wanders through the trees in its winding course until it appears
in yonder meadow and as it glides smoothly onward until it reaches
the ocean and there it bounds restlessly onward, ~~which~~ ~~first~~ and
buries many a poor sailor in its depth. But hark do let us go back to
the forest where the birds are singing so sweetly, the berries and
flowers which are given us for our enjoyment. But hark do you
hear the roaring of distant thunder and see the sharp
lightning play upon the black clouds which are rising
slowly out of the west. But let us meditate upon the goodness
of God for giving us the comforts and pleasures which we enjoy.

S. M. Blanding

April June 12th 1844

Dear Sister

Philad. 7th July 44.

I rec^d. your letter of 14th may last together with
adams - at that time you was about to visit our friends
at Seabrook, when you promised to write again; not hearing
from you, from that quarter, I fear your health is bad, or no
other cause would prevent your writing that I know of.

I feel anxious to know if your health is still bad; at
our ages it requires time and good nursing to recover from
severe illness - that is the case with myself at this time, but I
am now doing very well except weakness in my limbs, not able to
walk much - some affection of the nerves of one side of my head
and face, at times troublesome; Rachel enjoys fine health, as well
she does, as I require ~~so~~ much nursing. she works hard; we keep
only a half girl, at this time, and as our table is reduced
to the simplest fare we require no cook - we are now on Black
Tea with brown sugar, of which we are very fond. I will try to
send you a pound of our Tea - in a box I am making ~~up~~ for
Abram, (books &c). At length Nancys box from N. England
has been sent her - but the one I have packing for I expect
is yet on hand. I wrote her some 6 or 8 days since.

Well, what would you say if I should tell you that
Mr Murray & family speak of returning to Illinois - not but
that I should like a farm on Fox River much better than
selling goods in Springfield - but Mr M. has yet to learn how
to manage a farm - a little too old to go to school - and like
myself too old to work. - The farmer wants to become a mer-
chant, the merchant wants to be a farmer.

I should like to hear you & give you some account of our household at present.

While I write the bells are sounding for the military to turn out to quell the mob, that are said now to be 2000 strong in the south part of the city - Cannon are firing down street - Companies of Horse & foot also with martial music - strange way of keeping the Sabbath, how unlike this day in the country - where not a sound is heard, save the Red Breast, or the Plover's cry.

Mo. 8th July

I can give you no idea of what has passed, during last night, in the south part of the city but will send you a newspaper - Harwood & Joe Smith is nothing to Philadelphia accounts from that quarter -

I have been sick all night pain in my face and jaw & now in a tooth - run up to your old friend Mr Neil, he has put something in it, helps it some -

This morning rec'd a letter from Mrs Murray, Springfield Ohio 2nd inst. all well; Mrs M. slowly recovering - Mr M. says James will be on about the middle of August, he wishes me to go to N. England with him - my health forbids my leaving home -

Rachel has now gone to be with Miss Kellie, while the operation is performed on her, you remember she is Cross-Eyed.

Mr James G. Holmes of Charleston, with his oldest daughter called this morning - left at 3^o for home - he is Cashier of the Bank where Abram was - he says Caroline is very well and is staying with her Brother, Dr D. in Buford District whose wife is dead & left 4 children; the 2 youngest of her sons are at school in Charleston - I fear their property is not much - perhaps William is now able to help her -

Tu. 9th July } I have been trying to write some days as
you see - and give you something about our troubles, but
must now give up - and send you two newspapers that
you may see what the Riot has amounted to - where it will
end no one knows

I shall direct to you in Saskatoon as above will be near
the office every day or some one going to market will pass there.

Do inform me what fruits the farm will produce
and what the prospect generally is in Richwood -

On 17th June I wrote James on the subject of the Rent of
the farm and that you should have half of the rent &c. &c.
which no doubt he has communicated to you. and as Wm
is now the farmer I am in hopes of hearing from him on
the subject, soon, as well as from you -

Is Maria teach^{ing} the School near you?

Has Susan gone home? How does

Noah & Elizabeth get along - is Mrs

Wheaton with them - on what conditions does he have
the place? how comes on the Sash manufactory? What
is Henry doing -

I should like to walk over the fields with you &
pick berries - sit under the Elms, collect snails in the
brooks and once more sleep quietly free from a city
of mobs & Riots -

Fruits are abundant in the market and very fine
money only is wanted to fare well -

Rachel attended the Ladies Liberia School Association
this morning, this afternoon at the House of Refuge -
we have no girl today,
not much to cook, I attend
to the bell, always ringing } Affectionally y^{rs} W. Blandin -

Miss K. stood the operation very well.

July 12

Mrs Lucy Carpenter
Seekonk
Massachusetts

PAID

ALPHABET
SING

Phila^y 14th Oct: 1844

Dear Sister

The day we left you we did not leave the Depot till half past 11^o. The Boston Cars did not get in as early as usual - but we were soon at Stonington and took the boat for Greenport - our dinner was a poor one - arrived at G. Port from which to Brooklyn was a charming ride, quite fast enough but it was dark before we got in, where we popped over to N.Y. and slept soundly - The next morning crossed over to Jersey City took the line of Cars to Trenton at which place we crossed over in to Pennsylvania and down to Bristol and took boats to Philad^a and found every thing as it should be in good order, for Sally was there - she remained two weeks with us and went and joined her sister and both now keeping house in the lower part of the City - She is up often to see us, is in good health.

Rachel was only a little girl to help her, but fatigues on hard work - her labours out doors are more than at home, Societies and the poor take much of her time - My health has been unusually good since returning - till three days since when my head became out of order with a violent pain in it and in my face and jaws - my teeth refused to do their duty could hardly use them - a hot fever & sleepless night of the 12th and yesterday morning called in Dr. Kitt, who administered 6 grains of the Blue Pill - followed by Rochell salts, sweet Sp. Nitro - Flaxseed Tea - Gual. de. de. and last evening my medicine operated freely, the pain left me and I slept soundly, no Bull tost me on his horns, no Giant held me in his grasp, did not fall from a lofty bluff on the Mississippi, nor swim in troubled waters - and today I have had the remains of our last years hominy washed well and have feasted on it and Black Tea - Now feel quite free from pain but not very strong -

a few days since I learned thro' a letter to a gentleman in this City from Dr. Litch of Columbia that W. S. Blaudy had been taken very ill in Pendleton District so that his life was despaired of, his wife and Daughter were sent for, he was said to be recovering by last accounts - all is gone when they lose him

We have not heard of Mr. Hallenger's arrival at Illinois, not a word nor have we had a line from any one there - tis said, "No News is good news" when we examined the dry cherries intended for you, they were all spoiled - so we shall have to eat your dry Apples, without being able to make return in cherries -

Sat. 19th Oct. } As soon as we reached home I sent for six barrels of
Sweet Potatoes but not till today did they reach us - I have been down to the
wharf and find Capt. Baker who with sail, this sail, on Tuesday 22nd week by
him intended to send Abram's Potatoes, 3 barrels; we have opened ours
and find them not so good as last year. fear they will sweat before re-
ceiving you - They must be taken out to dry as soon as received.

I must request Abram to send me two barrels of Irish Potatoes
well assorted all of one size as far as convenient, black ones or
any he thinks good - I could get no potatoes of Mr. Tatum in-
der so lately and he advised me to send to St. England for them.

Sweet Potatoes sell at \$2. a barrel - The finest apples sell at
25 Cents a bushel - plenty of common, not hand picked 18 64
I bot a barrel of cider for 125 - to make vinegar of - but find to send
to Mr. Tatum for a keg of vinegar for present use - it cost 12 1/2^{cts}
Mr. Galloway, he gets all the cider he can and is making vinegar, he
thinks it good business, when he caught it at \$1. which is now
the price.

Tell Abram that I shall send him an old Dictionary
and Douglas' Virgil.

When my apples & Potatoes come on I will thank Horatio
to send me a bushel of Corn meal, (white Southern Corn) for I can
get none in this market but what is ruined by being ground too
fine, won't make "Sourne Cake" - I will send him the bushel, if I re-
member right his grand mother has plenty of stock kind of corn
from the mill. While unwill I at all, the cost, of the St. England Ho-
mery and now have to pay 10 cents a quart for it in this market,
but it is very nice, made by hand in a large Saffer mill.

I got a letter from Sarah a few days since she was well, and
yesterday Rachel rec'd a letter from Mrs. Bullard, who says, Mr
Nathaniel had made them a visit, and left for home on the
first of this month - She thinks he will not be induced to move
there - she says they have seeded down to wheat 30 acres of ground
that sounds like farming.

Did Betty Hunt recover?, does the fever yet prevail in
Richmott.

Last night we had a great fall of rain and heavy snow,
the shipping must have suffered.

Sun. 20th }

Again we have charming weather, and since I never
saw a more pleasant fall, thus far -

James O. Murray will find that he is not at home for the first
quarter, after that he will be pleased with college if he has his health - I
have seen young men, from the South, come there, who were in delicate
health, stand the winters as well as natives & become stout fellows in a short
time.

I find my white socks so small at the top that it is hardly worth while to lengthen the feet, I shall try to change them for others and give you no trouble.

Do write me if you have sold the cord of wood and with the cash got your cloak - do line it well - make it warm, can't have to much flannel on you - I want to hear all about the new well, how far down - water any better than the old well for washing - Began to shingle how does your stove work - got it put up - mended - Tell ~~him~~ that he can not write me too long a letter. about Shingles - Well - Hinges and roof of the Garden House - a dragging door - &c. &c. - as you have so good a use of the pen I must beg you to fill a sheet often, when you get quietly seated by your stool, snug in a warm room -

Tell Maria & Caroline that I have each a Book Box, making, the wood of which was got out and sent to me by their father three years since, for as I can't get them done to send this time, nor many other things which shall be sent this fall yet, if I keep up -

Fatlett says her school is doing very well, but I think Elizabeth is doing best of all - I leave room for Richard to say a word -

affectionally yours
William Blanding.

Dear Sister I notice what you say in regard to the caps I am sorry they are too nice for Providence. There are a very

great quantity of the german ones in this market that sell very low. If you should knit anymore I think you can improve the stitich by knitting two rows of the heel stitich instead of one, it makes a closer cap & does not stretch so much. I am making one to send to Mobile & I like it better. For large caps if the yarn is used double it makes a very warm & useful cap. I should like much to show Maria a lamp stand I am trying to make, I say trying for it is nothing but my rough hands catching in the Lysbys prevents my doing it. When she sees it she will give up teaching her scholars on the old plan. I am glad to find Caroline is pleased with their domestic arrangements. I have felt

quite anxious about Elizabeth & expect Sophie must have had a hard time nursing the babe & Mother. I hope James has had no return of his indisposition I should like to know the nature of it I expect his Parents will think much of his exposed situation You must give our best love to him

In the box I will send one dollar with William & say it is in the best from my own pocket -

Perhaps it is best to get the coin metal there too -

13

PAID

PAID

single

Mrs Lucy Carpenter,
Seekonk,
Massachusetts.

I have received a letter from Mrs Thornton since my return the first in two years she mentioned the death of Mr Reynolds & also that of Caroline Desaussure she had been married to Dr Watkins about five months a great trial to Dan & Fanny. Please to remember me affectionately to the family as the named & believe me yours
R. Blandings

Phila^a 15th Dec^r 44

Dear Sister

Yours of 20th Nov. was rec^d on 25th and I note all you say with much interest. I have no disposition to controll your movements, if you see your way clear to visit Brooklyn - some expense would be unavoidable even if Mr Cornell was to call for you and give you a free Ticket, porters & cabs must be paid and then in case of sickness, from exposure at this season, there are Doctors bills, Nurses bill, Washwomen's charges &c Maria is now not at liberty to leave her School and become a kind nurse - and then again you are laying yourself under still greater obligations to our kind friends in Brooklyn, they will soon own us, for we can never pay them - in any other way than by becoming their property -

I think you managed your cloak well, wish I could do so with mine, now it is hardly a Cloak to my rags - am glad Maria has got into such a school it is a pleasure to teach the higher branches -

Your stove is rather a bill of expense and a smoky room is a tax on our eyes & tears - you must do the best you can, don't know how to direct in such cases.

Your account of Mr Gray is distressing, the strong man has become as a Child - I feel for his family -

We rec'd a newspaper, a few days since, published at Springfield mas. which gave an account of the death of Josiah's Child -

Abner has begun his troubles and they are not a few the first two or three weeks - I will remember how I felt on going into my first school and I have heard you tell yours

On the 6th of Nov. the Richard Rush arrived and on that day got from on board

4 Barrels Apples

2 S. Potatoes

1 Keg apple Butter

1 Box of dry apples

1 Bag grits & 6 corn meal

Freight of
all \$1.87 1/2

They were all in charming order - The apple butter, grits and meal are all good and I live on them as well as the potatoes - The blue or Purple skins eat well but James Carter has been up while I was sick, he saw them wishing to get them for seed, he offered me a barrel of the Jersey mercers in exchange which I may do at Christmas when he makes his yearly visit -

Yesterday I rec'd a letter from Dr. S. Blanding, he has but just got down from Pendleton, still unable to do any thing, he has been very low - (slowly recovering) - Mary & Lucy have been with him - sent for - he will have heavy charges - cost him much he says - the said dog wont eat dog, but Doctors will eat Devils.

I am thinking I shall not send any more letters by U. S. Mail, ~~but~~ by express to the care of Wm Blanding Providence, letters between the two places are only 6 cents and two for delivery - so save 12 cents every letter - I wish

James would call on William Blanshard in Providence & mention the thing to him and learn where the Express office is in that City - I don't know but that they require the postage in advance - have sent none in that way yet -

It is now going on three weeks since I have been out three or 4 days confined to my bed, high fever, but blue Pill salts &c got me up again, with a small blister on back of each ear - The Doctor called my complaint by the hard name Neuralgia, disease of the nerves, mostly confined to my face, head & teeth - the latter are still sore, some times dreadfully painful - hardly think I shall be out this winter - and it matters but little if I am ^{only} free from pain - Rachel reads for me two to 3 hours every evening and thro' the day I amuse myself as I best can -

Three weeks since I got of Julia's box to her in Evansville, Indiana; hope by this time it has reached her - It was a perfect "Omnium Gatherum".

I advised, her on it arrival, to take it into her room, close the shutters & bar the door, and fill the key hole with cotton - for should any one see the contents they would surely think she had an uncle close verging on Millerism. But it will amuse her no doubt, if not instruct.

I hope Elizabeth has by this time quite recovered -

Has Gilbert made you a box for wood & chips - If I remem-ber right there is a sheet iron stove (small) in the garret, which I sent to our Mother which she never used, if still there, why not try it - I use the same kind in my sick room and in five minutes, with some chips, can have a good fire - Does not the air-tight stove require solid wood -? Will small brush do -? I suggest these things only, you & James are the bad judges -

We now have for help, Harriet again, tis a hard matter to get help in these times - Rachel desires her love. W. Blanshard -
affectionately yours

...in that city - I don't know but that they were the first
...the thing to him and then the eighth office
...would call on William Johnston in Providence &
...stage in advance - have been in that way yet -
...it is very good on these cases since I have been out
...three or 4 days compared to my last, high fever, but blue
...I'll write the first one up again, with a small addition

back of each card the doctor called my name
the last name - I'm sorry - I don't know
...I'll write the first one up again, with a small addition
...it is very good on these cases since I have been out
...three or 4 days compared to my last, high fever, but blue
...I'll write the first one up again, with a small addition

13

Mrs. Lucy Carpenter,
Seekonk,
Massachusetts.



...it will answer for no other
...I hope Elizabeth has been recovered
...it on Gilbert made you a day for
...the night there is a great deal of
...I want to see whether which the error was of the time, why not
...try it - I see the same thing in my book - and in five minutes
...with some sleep, can have a good fine - but not the first thing
...requisite solid wood - Will you all break do? I suppose that
...only, you know one the best judges
...We now have for host, Harriet again, for a long matter to get
...back in the time - I shall write her letter - W. Johnston

Ruins of Pompeii.

The city of Pompeii has lain in oblivion eighteen hundred years. It is supposed to have been a large and flourishing city under a state of high civilization at the time of its destruction from the appearance of things which have been dug out of its remains. Not only has a barber shop been discovered but stores taverns hotels and not only these but many other things. They have discovered every pattern of cooking stoves and other stoves that are in use at the present time. And houses where the table was set for dinner, where the sentinal was stationed at the gate they were found but was so charred they would fall to pieces if they were touched.

In the short distance which they have dug out they have found several hundred silver cups and they have found tables where they were set with silver cups to drink out of so it seems as if they must have been silver smiths in those days or else they could not have had them made. Shops with their painted signs over their doors so it seems as if there must have been painters in those

or they place would not ~~have~~ had these ornamented appendages again they were undoubtedly at peace on the place would not appear so undisturbed and its inhabitants would not have been found at their labors. To make point a knowledge of Chemistry would be required and it is probable that the other sciences were not unknown, In digging mines for getting iron various instruments must be used which would require blacksmiths. From these facts we may suppose that this City had attained to a high degree of civilisation, and had this city been spared and continued to advance in learning and the sciences to what ~~perfection~~ might they not have attained? -

Sarah. M. Blanding -

Very Good

Dec 5th / 44

James M. Mending
Compositor
No 1