

Philadelphia

Sept 9th

1856

My Dear Minam

I wrote you a few lines from New York, apprising you of your Dear Father's illness and I am sorry to say that every days account since my return home has only been to note his increasing weakness and weaken my hopes of his recovery - the day I left, he was so much better in looks & spirits that I came away with a comparatively light heart, leaving him to the good care of dear Becky & Horace. It is ten days since & tho' I have nothing good to tell you - feel as if it were a comfort to commune with you, because our thoughts dwell on the same object -

Your Pet Fanny came to see
me this morning. she is paler
than when she went away. The
effects I suppose of a New York
summer. she tells me she is quite
well. is going to wait here for
her Mother who will continue
some time in N.Y. Fanny has
stronger attachments in Phil^a
which she seems to think will
bear the test of further trials.
Poor Sally is in the midst of her
autumnal attack, which is very
severe on her constitution. My
Dear Sister has kept her health
very comfortably all summer
and I think both Uncle Jo & I
derived much benefit from
Saratoga air & water. - your friend
Mrs Andover was very kind to me
I could not seek society in the
drawing room, or where the

company gradually congregated
and Mrs A spent many social
hours with me in my room her
very intelligent & amiable con-
versation was very grateful to me
and has left an impression much
superior to what we generally
carry away from such places.

I suppose you have heard that
Lizzie Lee has a son, now a month
old, after a married life twice
as long as you waited for dear
Goat - I hope she may be as happy
in her son, as you are in that
excellent boy. Sara writes that
she shall soon be obliged to leave
her summer retreat, to prepare
for her expected baby. Poor child
I feel very anxious about her
she has had so many trials to
endure that I fear her fortitude
will be overcome, though the
entire recovery of her little Henry
is such an unexpected blessing

that her heart overflows with
gratitude for it. Becky was much
comfort in her family. Rachel Gray
is in excellent health. They have
taken up their residence together
at your Uncle Dace's, so that
she may be at all times with
her Father - the boys are fine
manly fellows, who give her very
little trouble or care - Lizzie wishes
to be a merchant - Grat is to enter
College, and the little ones are
receiving instruction. I could have
passed a few days very happily
with them had not your Father
been ill. God Bless you My
Dear Miriam give my love
to your husband & children
and believe me truly your
Affectionate Aunt RB