

Phila Dec<sup>r</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> - 1857

remember the devoted affection of your own. P. S.  
"It is well for us, to remember our  
dear friends, who are now  
in the land of the living."  
Julia has been in Baltimore  
for a fortnight, and Josephine  
has written to plead for another  
week. of course I could not be  
stupid enough to curtail their  
pleasure, but you may be sure  
I feel the dullness of our present  
home, that her society is very  
much missed. For her sake as  
well as Josephine's I would not  
hurry her return, because they  
seem to be very cheerful. The  
cloud has passed away from  
our sorrowing friends. Mr E has  
been fortunate in business, has  
recovered his health & spirits &  
Josephine interests herself in her  
Sewing School - is learning Hebrew  
and in useful occupations, & seems  
to have changed her character



she was  
and become happier than  
I ever expected to see her -  
after the New Year, Sister will have  
Rosa back again - and then our  
family circle will be filled -  
but I hope Henry Etting will be  
also here before long - for poor  
Minna's sake most particularly  
tho he is a very valuable & dear  
member of our family - Minna's  
health does not improve, nor will  
it until the presence of her brother  
shades away her nervous anxieties.

I am very grateful for the  
happy recovery of our dear  
Sara, & the returning cheerfulness  
of Becky. She & the boys frequently  
write, to Grace or me. I rec'd a  
letter too from Sophie & her giving  
excellent accounts of Grady's family  
and in a charming manner. She  
has cordially improved & will  
continue at school during the winter.



Philippa showed me your very  
beautiful contributions for the Fair  
and I have told her to buy that pretty  
needle book for me, to send  
to her cousin Rachel Grafton - who I am  
sure will value it very much, and  
I hope induce her to try her best  
to copy it - Prue had a letter from  
Edmund, intimating his intention  
to visit you & I said before he came  
for his home - he was well - but  
I never looked on him but with sad  
resp. he looks so prematurely old  
and grave - His Mrs Rusk will be  
miserable in the world of fashion, by the  
gay & selfish - and I hope by many  
with lasting gratitude & love for  
her more worthy ministrations.

I have never seen much of her  
but my feelings are interested in  
her poor - I think she labored  
for a higher motive than merely  
entertaining the public - she strove  
to improve manners & minds of  
those she associated with - her share



ties were altogether private  
and she did not get credit for  
them - I think it wrong for one  
in her station & with her means  
to "hide their light under a bushel"  
The example of the great, has such  
a wide influence. I trust our  
Foster Home Fair will succeed, but  
there are so many calls on the com-  
munity that I have no expectation  
that it will produce what you  
did. I went to look at their arrange-  
ments and saw some beautiful  
wares - if they can find purchasers  
at their real value, something of  
<sup>consequence</sup> ~~and self-interest~~ will be gained - your truly  
& I Aunt Mary, & Minnie send  
much love, like the Minis' we miss  
them all greatly - we have neither  
your nor beauty among us. Kiss obed  
Fanny for me - and tell her she is the  
Minis' belle, who has a very sincere  
admiration of her good gifts. Give my  
love to my Nephews Father, John, & Peter  
and girls & Deacon John, and all yours