

Dec 17th 1858

I know you will excuse me
for not writing before my
Dearest Miriam - indeed I
have more cause to ask you
to pardon me for writing now -
when I have nothing to say.
but how much I thank you
for your loving, dear letters,
which are ever precious
to me. It is true my Darling!
I have parted with the last
of a most "loving band of sis-
ters," such as few mortals were
ever blessed with - and were it
not for the memorials they
have left, I should mourn
in sackcloth & ashes. but God
permits us to hope for a
reunion in another world.

and while I linger here
to dwell upon their virtues
and am cheered by the
love of their children, I
acknowledge his mercy in
what he has given, and
what He has taken away.

Sara Mordecai has cause to be
grateful that she was with her
Mother during her illness. Such
a death bed, could be rarely
witnessed. "Mark the good woman,
her end is peace." might have
been emphatically quoted - but
O my dear Maman it was agony
to know her life was finished;
that in one little month two
such precious beings had been
taken from me - no more!
I did not mean to utter one word
of murmuring -

Dear Miniam your letter
so beautifully expressed
a tribute to your dear Aunt
Katie - that it made me wish
you would embody it with
a notice of your Uncle, in a
short obituary for the Occident.
Mr. L. never did any thing ac-
ceptable in that way, but some
thing is there due -

Julia received your letter
yesterday I thank you & your
husband for your kind wish
to have us with you - Alas, there
is much painful work for us
this year at home - Morace is
quite unused to all that falls
upon him to do - for the last two
days he had little rest - He
& Julia send their love - and also
Miniam Etting who spent yesterday

here - when you write again
mention her - as among her
peculiarities she figures she is
forgotten - I am glad to hear
Eliza Myers has recovered,
her Mother seems still nursing
about her - her sister's presence
must relieve you, please remember
me to both, and to all your sister
Minis' family - Sally & Philippa were
here yesterday - all with them are
well - I received a very kind letter
from Josephine Myers, which shall
soon be answered - every one who
knew my dear Sister - writes me
that I have lost her - give my
warm love to your dear husband
& children - and let me hear from you
my beloved when ever you can
Bells beautiful ringlet is duly ad-
mired - God bless you my ever
dear Minnie, your affectionate RB