

Philadelphia And 17th
1861

My Dearest Minnie, In anticipation
of greater difficulties in our
communication with each other
I come to tell you of our condition.
Julia is still a suffering invalid
unable to assist herself in the least
degree and has given us great
anxiety but her constitution should
give way under the severe trial of
her long illness. She has a very good
nurse, to attend on her, and Horace
has given me his room to occupy
in her neighborhood. My own health
is perfectly restored and the great
care they take of me, in my old age,
reminds me that my period of
usefulness is passing away and
yet my Dear Minnie I do not
feel more feeble than when you
last saw me. Then alas private
griefs were all my own. now for
now, on sorrows multiplied the dis-
tressed state of our beloved loved

I take you love the towers of the night - I the arrows that streak by day

try, the horrors of civil war,
separation from dear friends
and multitudes of unknown
troubles seem ^{to} hover over us in
brightful array - It strikes me
that there is no glory in such
a warfare - which ever side
succeeds - His Brothers folks -
I have not yet learned to
narrow my patriotism to a
single section of my country.
May God assist us, to bring
a right understanding about
without bloodshed - in this un-
happy struggle -

Dear Minnie pardon me for
intruding my sad thoughts on you
when I might tell you that I
have just heard that both
your sisters are well, and their
children bright & happy ^{them} as usual
Nannie also is well - Betty sends
news of Edmund, which perhaps
she has communicated as she says
she has

just written to you Luca & Laura

Mordecai are with us to day but will leave for home tomorrow, the Major went on Monday. They propose spending the Sabbath at West Point with Alfred. I have received a kind letter from Caroline Church dated Florence, where she has been spending some time. Her health was bad, and they sent her to Italy for the winter. Her position is a very trying one, an unhappy marriage, for which there is no cure. She is separated from her husband & assumed her former name. Mrs Fox continues in uninterrupted correspondence with Jane Foster.

Little James was at Sunday school and said a good lesson in ~~St~~ like. He is perfectly well - is too fat for a good figure but grows as fast as children of his age do. - 18th I was interrupted yesterday by Dear Minam, and as every day in these stirring times develops some affairs new & terrible in which the evil passions of men ^{are} brought to light we find "The war spirit waking up" around us. I went this morning to the Foster home, after parting with our Sue & Laura Mordecai and there heard on physics &c. Dr. Mofo. was starting with the Washington

Greys, in which John Mackoe and many
other of our young gentry were included
were on the march. - Horne brought me
your dear letter to read which greatly
comforts me, for I longed for something
from the South, to which my heart could
respond. - he bid me say if he possibly
could get time he would write to say
if not you should hear from him to mor-
row and I dare say he will have some
thing to say about Gratz's family as he
frequently hears from the Das.

I am glad to tell you Leticia is better to-
day. has passed a good night - we had
early visits too from the other houses in
the family - who assembled to "spend our
parting guests" - Sally Hays is better - Phil &
Edward much the same - (which means
sick in heart & feeble in frame) they all
send love to you - I saw Nell Samuel at
the home, she bid me say they were very
desirous of hearing some accounts of Mr
Phillips as they were not yet apprized of
his arrival at Savannah - can you tell me
any thing of my young friend Fanny
Butler? she accompanied her father some
weeks ago to Georgia. Give my love to your
Dear Husband & Children - remember me to
Ezekiel and always trust in the love of your
affectionate RB. May God bless you