

1861 #
Philadelphia Aug 19

My Dear Miriam

In sorrow & in grief we natural-
-ly turn to those we love, and
I am sure you will have a tear
to shed over the grave of our dear
Lang Gratz who fell in battle at
Springfield in Mexican nobly fight-
-ing for his Country! but alas!
with those who should have
been friends - natives of the same
soil and but taking our brethren!
the horrors of civil war, we feel
size in our hearts - we have
not yet heard from my dear
brother, whose home is thus bereav-
ed of a darling son - May God pre-
serve you from such misery!

Finding that the opportunity of
communication between us will
soon ^{be} cut off, I could not delay to
a calmer hour to write, lest some other
calamity might arrest my pen, and
prevent me telling you of the condi-
tion of our present home circle.

your brother, & we your friends here - and - before me - as if your
affectionately, and devotedly yours R.G.

I sent your letter to Dear Sara
and hope you have heard
that she is restored to health.
her husband spent one day with
us in Phil^a but as his visits are
always on business they are necessarily
very short. Becky writes to her brother
every week, I think she is more than
-ful & in better health than we
have found her for many years.
her occupations not so entirely in-
-groped at home. The children have
outgrown her absorbing watchfulness
and leave her at liberty to extend
her sphere of usefulness. Happily for
your poor old Aunt Becky moves
to those comforts she most faithfully
attends us for as her very limited
means can supply -

Edmond Estess, brother is very bad, he
has just returned from a short visit to the
sea shore! unimproved, indeed he looks
like a very feeble old man, and poor
Philippe suffers from great anxiety, as
well as very delicate health. They talk of
leaving home to either, in search of pure
mountain air for mutual benefit.
Sally Vays is struggling with symptoms

of her periodical attack, which was
greatly eased, as she has very little
strength to carry her through it.

Major Mordue has taken a house
in the western part of the City, some
shells above the Dr in "Solomons Place",
a new location to you, south of Spruce
& between 18th & 19th Streets. we shall miss the
girls exceedingly when they go to house
- keeping, but I think Sara will be
happier when she gathers her family
around her in a settled home, she
does not enjoy living at lodgings, yet
the opportunity of getting them among
us even for a days will make
us feel the change, a loss -

I am sorry to send you such a Cata-
logue of friends, falling into the soil
and yellow leaf. "but much cold, Sat
- tling to the list - he & Josephine passed
through the city about three weeks ago
to go to Long-branch - but the sea has
not been useful to him, and to day
they journey on to Saco by the Dr
order - he has symptoms of Dropsy -
which seems the breaking up of his
constitution - poor Josephine is in
much trouble! and with sufficient
- cause

The Baltimore family are scattered
abroad driven from home by the
disturbances of that excitable com-
munity - Bernard, his sisters & Aunt
Sally, are at Emmetsburg.

I am glad to hear your coach
is still in your vicinity, give my
love to him, and his sisters I can
no longer call them Children Bob
looks like a woman already judging
from her Photograph, and in the South
all things come early at maturity
The human character may be sup-
posed to ripen in proportion -

We heard of Mr. Beebe's death.
It was fortunate that his widow
was so near her parents - present
my regards to her. She appeared to
be very happy when I met her
at Saratoga some years ago.

I hope my Dear Minnie you will
write to me again, while the Express
is permitted to carry letters afterward
we must trust to Providence for the
means of frustrating the machinations
of evil men - Give my love to your
husband, and accept the love of