

Phila Dec 23rd - 1861

Truly my beloved Mamma, your
letter, with your dear husband
and the perfume of little Mamma's
blossoms brought to me odours of
the sweet South of happier days.
I had just closed my book
on Friday eve, and was meditating
on the scattered remnant of our
most cherished home hold; your
image was foremost in my thoughts
and with the wish, came the deter-
mination to write to you - when like
a fairy gift William brought
your letter, to stop my Sabbath eve
Shall I tell you how grateful I was?
no, I cannot, - but, waited impatiently
till Horace came in, to take his
share - and we ate our supper with
good cheer. The next night Lewis
Mathew came to spend part of
his vacation with us and brought

Mrs S. thanks you for the exquisite amount of her
Grand Child. We hope it has made a second choice
Mr B. Phillips
is in Phila.

and brought good accounts
of your Sister & her family.
Ben, is preparing for his Thirtieth
birth days confirmation. He is
a little fellow for his age, but
very clever. We had a Baumitz
last Sabbath from our Foster home
and the boy read his portion
very distinctly. Jimmy was present
he attends regularly at school &
on Sunday also. Rosa Mordecai
has a fine clasp from the home, to
which she gives & takes much satis-
faction. Your letter was duly read
to Isaac, and I suppose has been
answered, but I can give more
recent news, that they are all well.
& she talks of paying us a visit -
which please, my Dear Mician
I mean to oppose, because I fear
it will ^{be} attended with too great
a sacrifice. a winters party you
may come alone with the anxious
thoughts turned home ward on
her six little children - would

indeed be "dragging at each
remove a lengthened chain." If
it pleases God to lengthen my
days through another year, I
may have the happiness of em-
bracing all my dear children again
without fear of injury to any.
at any rate to know all your
hearts are loyal in your love to me
will be a consolation in my last
hours. I need not tell you how your
husband's tenderness affected me.
indeed my dear nephew, I receive
all your love, and pray the
time may come, "with healing
on its wings" when there will be no
human laws to separate us.
we are here all, as well as circum-
stances will allow, except Edward
& whose old disease is gaining on
him most fearfully. His poor wife
is devoted to him, none ever could
do painful duty more faithfully.
she seems gifted & supported by divine
aid, and to me is more interesting
than she ever was before. Sally is wise
if they knew I was writing would

have messages of love. I rejoice
to hear of your Gratz's improved
health, and the advances of all
your dear children in excellence
and graces. Give my love to all
and a Kiss to sweet Mamma for
her delicious Poppennae.

Sam Etting got home safely, & they
think him better, but he is confined
to his chamber with little hope of
recovery. His sister Rachel sadly
leaves him. So says Josephine, from
whom I received a letter to day.
our beautiful mild weather has
made winter very bright this year.
to day it rains but is not cold.
a little rose-bud shows its bright
tint in our garden - but will not
blow! it looks chided, and is alone.
with hardly a green leaf to shade
it. Horace had a letter from your
nephew Ben, he writes to him, more
calmly than to me. so I do not crave
his letters at present, & write to his wife
my dear niece & nephew, I address you
together, as you dwell in my heart
& are remembered in my prayers, advice,