

You was just
longer feeling
about your heart
talk. - I am now
I am sure you will
appreciate me as
the agency ^{now} think
of but I am very much
out of practice - four
months idleness -

Baltimore June 18th 1852

I have thanked you many times my kind
uncle for the kind note - which so exactly expressed
the feelings to which both my heart & mind responded -
& earnestly will I strive to regain the confidence that
my last neglect of duty has so painfully occasioned.
I find the effort greatly increased by the delay - in
wounding myself & believe that living & devoted as dear
uncle to has been, it would have been better had she
obliged me earlier to assume the responsibilities
which from self indulgence, appear more arduous than
they really are - You know that this is my own
precious Mother's birthday & saw realize the mingled
sensations - loving memories & presents crushing realities
that we have struggled to control - but time will
& I trust bring healing to us - & enable me to think
with resignation - & calmness of the past & learn
to calm & to wait. - Dear Father has been
quite sick with a severe cold which has reduced

his strength considerably - His taste is so much affected
that he cannot relish any thing - but goes out to
his daily work at the usual early hours - He desires
his warmest love to you & says he will write you in
a few days. - It appears so very long since I saw
my dear Grandmother - that I yearn constantly to
be near her once more - Give her a loving kiss for
me - I trust she remains well - but enquire of you
if you perceive the least diminution of strength or
appetite to tell me - I shall come to see her - when
Fico has paid her visit to me - from which I
anticipate the greatest comfort - I know how dear
Grandmother will miss her - she has never been alone
for two years & will feel it all the more keenly - from
having had all the family with her during the past
winter - I rec'd a charming letter from dear Laura
yesterday - from Richd. - & one today from dearest
Aunt Sara - she expects Laura home tomorrow -
& had been very busy in arranging the house - & was
sickening another - at a more permanent residence.
They were all quite well - tell dear Fico with my love.

Tell dear Aunt Sally I still hope to have her with
us before the summer passes away - I will write her
soon. - Kips my dearest Robbie - he must not forget to write.
she will write him a letter - he is such a good boy.
I often think you must feel lonely in the evening
if Emily are out - I wish we could read or talk together.
Can you tell me of any book that ~~is~~ would be profitable
for me to read? I scarcely know what would accord
with my present feelings - or share my interests.
I should love to have seen dear little Cousin Beely! to
send her a kiss for me - & to Cousin Minnie also - Tell
Minnie & that I often think of her - her birthday
& mine are the same! - I we are both lonely - but she
must come again to see me - I was so glad to have her!
When does Cousin Henry come? - she is expecting him every
day I suppose. Will Cousin Sara come on this summer?
Perhaps we may meet - I hope so - as I have never
seen her since she was married. - But it is late &
I must bid you Good Night! Your dear letters are ever
most acceptable - & I will pray to become worthy of all
your love. - Ever with the fondest affection Yours
Alice - Your sister Mary.

Josephine Elling

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