

Feb 17th - 1857

I thank you my Dearest
Ben for your affectionate
letter, I know my brother
that you take a full share
of all sorrows & grief that
befalls us. your heart is
identical with ours in
the destiny of the family -
and that the will of God,
in all His dealings with
us will be met with due
submission - our brother Jo
is nobly attentive to all things
that pertain to our comfort
and our aged Sister is sup-
ported by a strength of mind
far surpassing my expectation,

Dear Laura's gentle attentions
and cheerful kindness has its
beneficial influence - and I
hope when you come home
we shall be able to talk and
weep together, without any other
grief to bewail. I think Jo
feels strength to carry him
through his difficult business
and wishes the work to be
over before you come, as he
has told you. he looks better
within a few days. Horace
has been to New York to see
his Father - and is expected
home to day - with Becky
who has been only retarded
from coming sooner by the
difficulty of travelling - which
I would not consent to see

I am just going to pay
my daily visit to our sister -
and am sure to bring back
warm expressions of love to her
own dear Ben & his whole fa-
mily. God Bless you all
Believe me Dearest Ben ever
fondly and affectionately yours
Sister Ed.

I shall try to smooth the way for you my dear
Ben - so that when you do come to us, you will
not endure the pain and mortification which has
assailed us the last two months - come the last of
March when the travelling will be much pleasanter
You no doubt got my little announcement the sale
of our Centre County Land - with which I am well
satisfied - I received \$5000.00 from the purchaser
who appears as well pleased with the purchase as I am
with the sale - that is always comfortable -
Nathan BK at 113 1/2 and Rutt at upwards of 110 paid buying
my love to all with you - ever yours No 9