

Phil^a April 3rd
1862

Wm^r

My Dearest Ben - I thank
you with all my heart for your
kind letter which reached me
yesterday - I cannot say my
brother - that I felt as much
disappointed at the further
postponement of your much
desired visit - as might be
expected - I knew too well
the noble character of your
nature - to expect you would
leave home, while your lan-
guage was suffering such painful
suspense for the sake of my
son - but whole letter made me
feel very sad, notwithstanding
my ill-luck with the appearance
of your intended visit - I
could not help telling the

your
affectionate
sister
O.S.

Believe me fondly,
Ever
Your Mother

grad telling to those who
would before with me - but
hardly entertained the hope
myself when I considered
at what a sacrifice it must
be effected - give yourself
no trouble my beloved on
the subject. We love each other
too well to indulge selfish
regrets when unforeseen events
impose on us new duties, May
God help us, to endure the
portion of evil allotted us
in this unhappy struggle.
I am sorry so many of our
associates have adopted the
wrong cause, yet pray we
may succeed in the end, and
miss no more who are dear
to us - Howard was in Phil^a
for one day, came in the hope
of seeing you - I suppose

a friend, that they lived
in great elegance at Paris
and were very happy. I can
not account for her long
silence. Elisha spoke very
patriotically. I even said
he had some idea of joining
the Northern Army at the time
of the disaster at Bull Run -
but ^{now} prospects are all recovered.
Edward & Sarah Elting still
suffering. I do not believe either
will ever be well - but may
improve as the spring advances.
Please give much love to Ann
& the dear girls for me, and
also to Bernard. When you
can spare him we should
rejoice to see him here - its
very long since he has been
with us. Anne sends you
much love - so would all the
rest - if they knew I was writing.
May God bless you my