

Tuesday 15th Sept.

It is a long time My Dear Brother, since I have been your debtor for a charming letter, and the delight I always derive from such an indulgence ought to have been sooner acknowledged, but in truth I have been led into the scrape of helping to get up a Fair, for the teaching of Free acts, and find it so troublesome & unusual a business (for me) that I cannot devote my time for any of my favorite occupations. It is true I have done very little for the fair. That will be of any account, but have to run about much unwitted, set other heads to work, and keep very much like one in a confusion of tongues, like the builders of Babel. Now however, that the time is fixed, for the 7th of Oct. I can look beyond to a season of repose, near like Mary and Theodora who kindly mean to contribute, not to let their offerings come too late.

I have another piece of business to trouble you with, and then can turn over a new leaf and fix my eye on your beloved domestic scene and subjects nearer to my heart. Mrs. Ligoire called on me to state that an injurious report had been spread abroad that she was going to give up her school and in consequence that she had very few boarders, among other mortifications she had no pupils from Lexington. I have heard that Mr. Pich had just received one (Miss Gibson) from - that place

she hoped you would have the goodness to condescend
such a report, if it prevailed in yr city - or if you
thought it would answer a good purpose, to have her
advertisement announcing the re-opening her school
copied in your papers, for which she would most
willingly bear the expense. I am rejoiced to hear
Dear Cary will return with Jo Shelby to begin the next
session at Holmwood's. I hope Ann & Jos's other friends will
be satisfied with his improvement. When I saw him he
was in excellent health & spirits. He will test the strength
of his desire to improve, by venturing home at the first
vacancy, resolving to return - poor fellow he experienced so
much in his first struggle, that he is brave to venture
on a second - but Dear Cary is coming to a second home
where his nearest relatives (after you & his brothers) are
ready to receive & love him most fondly - and so can I
hope bear witness, that they try to consider a boy's taste
& happiness when they are permitted to leave school
for a while - we depend on Cary's resolution, and you as
too dearest Ben, for I know it will be a hard struggle.
I hope Dear Ann, will excuse my long silence, if her
little boy does not so engross her thoughts that she
has forgotten her claims on me - pray what name
have you given the young gentleman? Becky called
his little cousin Jonathan we left her doing well, when
he was nine days old, and since have heard good
accounts of her - Becky was always a favorite with her
companions & friends for the excellence of her heart
the amiable & cheerful disposition & cordial frankness
of manner that was so attractive in her - now she shines
in a new character. Her husband is poor & her family
large - she is quite cheerful & content - active in the

embark for England, where her father & sister
are very desirous of receiving & protecting her; her
letters have long urged her most affectionately to
come to them - she has left many friends here who love
her truly & cordially - and respect her with an admiration
which nothing but her excellence, her virtues & her mis-
fortunes can equal - So never looked better than he
does on recent his visit to you, made him very hap-
py & did him much good - and his favorite waters
corrected the effects of your hospitalities - Jac's
gallantry & refusal took him on to N.Y. yester-
day with Mr. Muller, he will return to-day &
will with them as far as Newton & returned to dinner
Myra & Laca are both well - and they all
unite in affectionate love to you & Ann & the
Boys - we drank your health on the 4th with
wished wishes for many happy returns -
our sisters - Ruben Etting - and the younger
members of the family desire to be included
in messages of love - cheap postage subjects
you to great imposition my dear Ben, I should
not have scabbled over a whole sheet if
you would have to pay for an envelope - but
indeed it is hard to part with you even at
the end of my sheet - tell Howard & Mary I will
write to them soon, in the mean time they must
accept my love - and now God Bless you indeed
my beloved Brother - I wish may you
always be happy pray you devotedly
Your sweet
cheerful Minnie for me -
Shocked Sister Rhoda