

Phil<sup>a</sup> April 23<sup>rd</sup> -  
 May 2<sup>nd</sup> 1860

My Dear Brother

I have long wished to tell you how happy the anticipation of a visit from you makes us. but knowing the same wish was in your heart. I suppressed stating prevented its indulgence. I was not willing to express my own feelings. to add to your difficulties. Your last letter to Jo, brightened our hopes of soon seeing you & the Spring is coming out so beautifully that I trust you will have a pleasant journey -

This days express will carry you a jar of Potted Shad. The season for them has been late. so I hope you

will be here in time to eat  
them fresh. As you say you  
will this time come alone - on  
account of the dear girls' studies  
and as there is so much  
real importance to be attached  
to their not being interrupted  
during the school season

I hope when their vacation  
in July or August leaves  
them at liberty - you will  
bring them & dear Ann to  
join our summer excursion  
and when you have got  
tired of Sacatoga & its water  
come home with us -

Is it presumption in me to  
look so far into coming time?  
I do not mean it presumptuously  
for I daily feel, the liabilities



her Eyes - and was forbidden  
by her physician to Read, write  
or expose them to a strong light -  
our Nieces & their families are  
well - Bucky had a fright - from  
her son Grady's clothes taking fire -  
he was severely burnt in his  
legs - but has entirely recovered.  
Lixas is in a counting-house.  
Miriam Etting is improving -  
Henry in Washington - Dr. Hays'  
family are well - Sally sends her  
love to you & Ann - our Sisters &  
brothers are offered most affec-  
tionately, and so is Norcross -  
Julia Hoffman has gone on a visit  
to her brother - embrace the dear  
girls for me - and my sister  
Ann also - tell Bernard I wish  
sincerely to see his face - in flesh  
& blood - and then can file his  
name satisfactorily. God bless  
you my dear, dear Brother, ever  
devotedly your attached Rb.