

May 1822

I will not be long your debtor my dear Madam, for the charming letter I received this morning, for I have been some time wishing to write, and only wanted material to tell you that we were both again. Grate's illness came down to the family meeting this spring, and having spent the forenoon with us, and happened the full time of Mrs. Winter's trial took his departure and had proceeded but half a days journey when he was taken ill and obliged to turn back, since which he has continued an invalid for four weeks, and is still a prisoner in his chamber, but on the recovery has been pushed for Canton or to the day, full of regrets at leaving home under such circumstances, and indeed he did feel his departure as a great deprivation, while his mother was suffering so much anxiety, but a little time will reconcile her to it as Grate's recovery will afford occasion for grateful feelings, and at present her attentions are all due to him ~~to~~.

I was much amused at your preparations for the day, you are quite in the fashion, and should you learned Professor be unable to give satisfactory developments of the structure, you may no doubt get relief by applying to the agent of the central physiological society, of which Dr. Hall is a member. Dr. Bell the lecturer entertained us last evening with some structures on the cranium of Dr. C. they mean to procure him to the society, and if he finds any fault with your paper after being enlightened by the splendid display of science they are preparing for him, you may make him over to Galen himself.

be all charmed with your account of Grate, how I should delight  
to see the dear fellow running about, and hear his attempts  
to talk, he will no doubt be a genius. do not I beg of you loose his  
head, if he should have the family projection on the crown, which  
these new lights denunciate the organ of obstinacy. for you  
know himself is a man is really becoming. and then if he  
is taught to think right, there is no danger to be apprehended  
from perseverance - I am glad my dear Ben begins to  
suspect it is time for him to write, as I may then hope when  
you find it inconvenient, he will favor me with a few  
lines. one brother the man is recovering from his phrenitis  
and begins to look well, Rachel rallies him about a visit  
Adeline Myers proposes to make me during the summer  
but he does not apprehend any danger from it, and the  
only effect I anticipate is his flight, for he acquired such  
a spirit of roving in the west, that I feel no security in his domes-  
tication. So has been so constantly engaged with business since  
his return, that I believe he has made no arrangement for the  
summer, and I do talk of so many that I feel assured he will  
stay quietly at home and amuse himself with talking of them,  
it being impossible to execute them all -

I wish you were with us now, that all our brothers are  
home, so ought to see you. Son, and it would make us so happy  
to assemble the little darlings & their parents together. Horace  
has grown a noble boy, but he does not talk, he is smart enough  
and makes as many intelligent signs as other dumb persons  
and succeeds so well in making himself understood that  
there is no hope of his using his tongue very soon -

When people are very sensitive on a certain subject  
there are a thousand chances, to one of them being disappointed

our brothers & sisters & friends send their best love to you  
all - adieu - May 27<sup>th</sup> -

B. Smith

27. May 1812

Leopoldo

Mrs. Benjamin Smith

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