

Decr 15th 1827

As your last letter has no date my dear sister, I have only the reproaches of my own conscience, to tell me how long it has remained unanswered, and these are the more severe, as I appeared to leave you to your sorrows - when in fact my heart is filled with interest for you and your mourning sister - but the afflictions we receive from the hand of God - are ever followed by consolations - and I trust his mercies have already been manifested to you both - perhaps this sad event may make a salutary impression on Mr B - and work more on his heart during his separation from his family than if he were at home and more immediately in view of its effects.

From my own experience my dear sister, I can urge the duty of submission to the will of providence, even when it takes from us, those we love dearest & best. and tho' we cannot see ^{through the} ~~the~~ ^{mult} of human affections, the wisdom which directs our trials - a few years events bring conviction home to our hearts - and makes us fully acknowledge our heaviest sufferings are but his mercies - to prepare us for others not yet unfolded -

To day being very dull & raining, as it has been for almost a fortnight I ~~happened to~~ open a drawer which contained old family letters, and chanced to light upon a bundle written in 1810 - we were then new to sorrow. the loss of our beloved Mother was the only grief we had yet known, that was indeed removing the corner stone of our whole fabric - and the ruin of our domestic happiness!! but tho' we mourned - we did not know the extent of our loss. Many a time since have I repeated with a full conviction of its force the prophet's words - "the righteous die, and no man length it to hear that the righteous are removed from the evil to come" - nay I have gone even farther. I have mentally exclaimed O my Mother my sisters how successful is God, to have removed you from evils which would have broken your hearts -

but my dear sister, I turn over my paper, and will leave all my sad thoughts on the other side. I have always believed our brothers were proportioned to our strength - and that we shall none of us fail in endeavors to bear them patiently - as our brothers have written to Ben all about these concerns you will know them without my saying more on the disagreeable subject. except to tell him Mr Chauncy has gone to Baltimore on business which will postpone their meeting until Thursday, so he must not expect as early information.

I suppose Scott's new novel has reached you - and his life of Napoleon almost as familiar in Lexington as here - I wish I had time and attention to bestow on it - what I have read gives me so great a desire for the whole - I have had my young friend Julia Hoffman during the months of October & November on a visit - fortunately she has no taste for gay amusements, for really I could not have gratified her, the uncomfortable suspense we have been in kept me from introducing her abroad. She is a well educated amiable interesting girl but from living alone has contracted such a timid reserve, that she makes no figure in society and would not get credit in the world for half she deserves - whilst her brother Charles gains friends & admirers where ever he appears. he has talents, accomplishments, and manners to attract. Ben will tell you why I trouble you with these strangers - they are the children of an old friend whom I valued & have lost. I sometimes think the occupation of "old mortality" was not so busy or uninteresting either, for is not retouching inscriptions on tomb-stones much the same as reading letters - when the hands that wrote them are gone too -

our girls all declare they are out of debt to you, but Miriam seems disposed to increase her demands upon you - Sarah has been quite in exultation all day in consequence of an invitation to a dance on Christmas eve at Mrs Markoes. She has never received such a call before, and there

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DB

Mrs Benjamin Galt
Lexington Ky.

Do
JUL 11 1854

