

Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 1829.

I was charmed my dear sister not more by the intelligence than by the tone of your last delightful letter, and feel my confidence in your constitution restored, by the very natural cause of your late indisposition, and trust your lungs will <sup>now</sup> become as sound as your liver did on a former occasion. You are somewhat more indebted to Dr. Dudley for sending you on a pleasant tour to winter in the mild climate of N Orleans, than to Chapman for covering your side with those blood-thirsty reptiles - but I think with both these experiences, the growth of your family will not in future introduce any new diseases into your system. You are very unreasonable to complain of Hyman's age on this occasion - he has grown so much out of the way, that you will have cause to give full attention to your first daughter, and as she may be born a belle with four brothers to help spoil her. I trust you will give even old-fashioned attention to the case of your own health before she comes to claim her share. I have been very much amused this morning by an old medical essay of Dr. Rush's in which he lays such stress on the powerful influence of bile over the diseases of the body, that I do not wonder women so frequently long for indulgence in the restless state they are doomed for so many months to endure, and that their bills obtain such importance in the eyes of their anxious friends - if it had not been recently decided by the enlightened college for a Philadelphian, and then my dear brother would bring you here and let his native city have the honour of being hers also -

I shall certainly give Ellen a hint when to apply when her time comes to languish - but her letters are so full of other matters now, that I do not believe she has been at all sick. parties & balls, and preparations

for house keeping seems to occupy her altogether and her pent up affections which during her long probation was only quelled at by the saddening effect it produced on her naturally cheerful disposition now overflows in an exuberance of happiness which comes her back full ten years in youthful pleasures and tastes - her letters are filled with her husband's perfections, and her own grateful acknowledgments of the blessings which surround her - she will not make us a visit before the spring. I am delighted to hear you have your niece, A. M. Morrell with you, and hope you will make her the companion of your journey when next you visit us. it is full time we should see some of your own family here. I am sure our girls would love her dearly, and make them selves agreeable to her, and we should certainly all try to gain her regard - You will see my sweet little interesting friend Mrs Erwin present my love to her dear Maria, and tell her I often think with much regret of her & desire to know that her hopes are realized and that her health is restored -

Ben Elling has not yet returned from Richmond. the sister of his mother is to be married in a few weeks to Mr Mager and I suppose he will await that event, unless it should be postponed by the death of S. Miers. who is in a very precarious state of health - poor fellow! he has been long languishing with that incurable disease "the memory of a rooted sorrow." his life has been marked by sadness ever since the rash commission of a crime, from which there is no escape. and perhaps it is wise & merciful that his life is called thus early for in the eye of heaven, it is not length of years, but sincere repentance that must exonerate offenders. I trust his has been accepted, and that pardon awaits him at the throne of grace -

Mrs Marks family presents an instructive picture of human life at this moment - one of his daughters attending the death bed of her husband - another preparing for bridal festivities, and a third in that state full of hopes & fears, which preceds the change most important to happiness in all that is to ~~remain~~ come of after life -

best wishes and affectionate greetings of Brothers, Sisters, Nieces & Cousins  
 here. Aunt Belle & Rachel were much gratified by your kind remembrance &  
 the latter is recovering, and able to walk about her room wrapped up over  
 head & heels. I could not read her what you said, as it would be reason to remind  
 her that any body sympathised in her former misfortunes, or remembered that  
 she had suffered, but she shows that they are not forgotten, and bears thank  
 for her lost lover - let me hear from you again, and if you tell me you are  
 getting well - or as well as you expect, you will most sincerely rejoice  
 the heart of my dear sister most affectionately attached P.S. -

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Rev. Benjamin Grate

New Orleans

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My dear Charles you must excuse me for not writing a few words to  
 you thinking on this week past that of Betsy; before I commenced day  
 my any thing & time having me to offer you my most truly love & day  
 and good wishes for your amendment & the quantity of sleep -  
 begin which is now and has caused the price to get down to 4 p. 1/2  
 & the day of magnitude can be made the price will not be suffering &  
 advise you not to touch them at any thing beyond 5 p. for the price greatly  
 and twice promising to be a good article & if the price continues low  
 & both you will stick down on your own account & the market, than