

Sept 2nd 1832

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As the board of health have done reporting, I shall no longer have a plea for writing to you every week on account of the Cholera, but my dear Maria, there is some danger in forming habits if they are not agreeable at first they become so - but when you set about indulging a favorite propensity and fancy it as act of kindness there is no knowing how long we may continue the self-deception, unless our friends admonish us of the fact - now I have been writing so continually upon truth that I think it is time to tell you this is the last Cholera bulletin you will receive - and that in future I shall expect answers to my letters. The people are returning from the country in all directions - watering places are shut up, and the city is again full of inhabitants, and those who have been away seem to lay it so little to heart, that pestilence & death follows in the train of feasting & indulgence - that I fear there will be many victims to plagues & water melons. among those who fled in July, and apprehended no danger in Sept.

Mrs McAlester's bridal visit, has brought her to the house of mourning. The family all went to Willow Grove to avoid the epidemic, and the old Gentleman took cold by being coughed in a rain, and died in consequence. it may be a consolation to her husband to have been here at this period. but poor Elias's introduction into the

family ^{will} leave a sad impression on her memory.
is it because the sacred writings are so full of beautiful
similes of married loves & bridal ornaments that we look
with such intense interest on one bearing that title, and consider
them entitled to exemption from sorrow, or is it experience
which showing us the shortness of human happiness, makes
us sympathize more with those who in the little period ~~of~~
afford for joy unmix'd - should have scenes of sorrow
intended upon them? —

I received a letter - a heart-rending letter, a few days
ago from our dear Sally Mines - giving an account of the
situation of the family, in consequence of that unfortunate
affair of Philch's, and at his request stating the partic-
ulars, by which he is ~~exonerated~~ exonerated from the stigma the
newspaper account left on his character -

"he was consulting some of his friends at the races in April
about ~~marrying~~ a horse, when Mr Stock passing by said
"Name him they took Dr -" and afterwards called him a
"D-D Jew" - Mines challenged him then - he apologized, and
the affair subsided - until some of Stock's friends induced
him to retract his apology, and another challenge was
sent & accepted - a difference about the time of fighting
arose between the seconds, Mr S's friend wished them to meet
on the same day. Mines's insisted that sufficient time was
not allowed to settle his affairs, and proposed the dawn
of the next morning or any hour after that they would
meet. the seconds parted without coming to any agreement
and Mr Stock with his friend went to the ground at
5 o'clock that afternoon, although assured that the other
party would not meet them then - they returned and
publicly pronounced Mines a coward - this next

to the other boys & his dear Aunt & Uncle - and Sarah
eyes glisten & fill when she talks of you almost daily -
one ^{other} niece put in their claim - brothers have better lately
and are well - Ben Elting talks constantly of writing you
a letter - and hints very often of having received a piece one
from you which ^{he} read at sea & on shore - Samuel has no fear
of increasing his coals - and if he gets rid of Rheumatism
they may have nothing else to trouble them - they will sleep
in their own house on Tuesday - one Sister Mary is in fine
health and is growing younger every day - she is certainly

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Miss Benjamin
Grate

Lexington Ky

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much more so in spirits than Elten. Mr E has not yet
returned from Balt where he has gone to settle his affairs. I
hope he will be able to make a better living than before his failure
at least if he clears himself from his embroilments, he will be
lighter hearted than he has been since he lived in Phil - God Bless you
my precious Sister believe me always yours &c