

Cholera  
B. G. Munnick & Co. & Co. & Co.

June 26<sup>th</sup> - 1833

Your letters my beloved sister & brother are such comforts to us, that I cannot too often or too warmly express my thankfulness for your thoughtful kindness - amidst all your sufferings you have still remembered us - and daily when the mail arrives we are collected to receive your greeting, and pour out our grateful feelings in silent tears. your preservation through such scenes of havoc must be alone ascribed to the goodness of God, and that you are enabled to assist the suffering - and bear the deprivation, it has pleased him to inflict, are further proofs that he will not desert you in your hours of trial - before this I trust the dread pestilence has passed away and the air you breathe no longer tainted with its baleful influence. It grieves me to see by the papers that Cholera has <sup>appeared</sup> at the Springs where many of your citizens sought refuge. I hope their return to their deserted homes, will not bring the "monster" back again.

It has been such an awful - far spreading scourge borne on the wings of the wind to all the country of the north, that one is reminded of the prophets appalling vision of the cities without inhabitants & the houses without man, and the land utterly desolate. We shall have an anxious summer. For our physicians / the only prophets of these deplorable days / are of opinion that we shall not escape. However as they make no pretensions to infallibility it is wise not to anticipate evil, and thereby

near the blessing which is still in our possession -  
you will of course be very cautious here & when  
you return to your own house use the chloride of lime  
plentifully, and endeavor to accustom your <sup>thoughts</sup> to  
bear the services of strangers. where you have <sup>been</sup> used  
to receive the clutches of affectionate dependents. I can  
imagine how severe a trial this will be, tho I have  
only known the interested and cold hearted exchange  
of hired servants, who rarely live long enough with  
you to feel much regard - Elizabeth has however  
evinced a deep concern for you all, and remembers  
so many instances of your kindness - and the anecdotes  
of your faithful servants which she loves to repeat  
that I feel a pleasure in communicating the daily  
comfort your letters give -

Pour out all your sorrows to me my dearest  
sister, my heart sincerely sympathizes in them all.  
you have consolations which few daughters can  
claim. and when you recollect how the few added  
years of protracted life are burdened by infirmities  
and shorn of powers both mental & bodily. you can  
hardly repine, that the you loved so dearly, departed  
before her eyes became dim, or her excellent mind  
decayed - when I think of poor Aunt Bess, and the  
change that <sup>a</sup> year - a dying year made in her whole being.  
how tremblingly the cup of life was held to her lips  
till she had drained the last drops, I cannot but marvel  
that her children should still mourn - still appear uncon-  
ciliated to the dispensation which freed her spirit from its

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Mr. Benjamin Galt

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