

remainder

you have taught me one thing my dear Sister and it is right you should profit by it - to scan my letters before I read them, and if they will not bear a second perusal at home not to send them on their destined course - and so with a sheet full of idle thoughts which I penned in the shadow of a closing year - when my Dove had gone forth and could find no rest for the sole of its foot - and a flood of anticipated evils were overwhelming my! what you call regulated/miner. I have taken counsel by your example and condemned the paper to the fire. how many outpourings of the heart are thus devoted! traced "in tears that covered down the writers cheek fast as the periods from *these* *fluent* *flows*" - but this I cannot withhold because I experienced its power that writing to you acted like the Harp of David on the secret spirit of the King. and by the time my paper was full. I looked for the grief of which I complained and found it not - but I remember that your affection and my dear Brothers sometimes construes silence into causes for anxiety, and so as I do not know that any one has written since the year commenced, I just come to greet you with warm wishes for your continued happiness through many circles of revolving time. and to tell you that all you love here, loves you most truly & devotedly, that you are the theme of every days discourse - and cited as the point to which all our young folks direct their ambition! Sarah said the other night - that Aunt Maria was the only being she would be willing to change her self into - now when you

take into consideration the bright visions which float
in the enthusiastic brain of sweet Lillian. The aspi-
rations after unattainable bliss & perfections of all kind
you will appreciate how highly you & yours are held.
I think you will be delighted in the improvements of
your little favorite. She has so much brightness, so much
joy in her heart, that one can scarcely wish to see with
other eyes than hers. the map she sketches for her life's
journey. yet what says experience? you will answer, nothing
to pluck one feather from the wing of hope for - and
I - my sister - with the memory of many sorrows and disappoint-
ments may still encourage her thus far, that if she misses
the favorite path ^{to happiness}, she may find another leading to content.
I can never realize the picture some moralists draw of this
good world - calling it by such hard names, that one would
think God had withdrawn his favor from the beautiful
planet he created in love - and bestowed all his treasures
on another state in which the beings he has placed in this
must centre all their joys - now how can we mixed creature
of clay be fitted for celestial transports. if in this our
probationary sphere no glimpse of heaven can be made
visible, no touch of happiness enter into our hearts -
the soul that is within us would not be pained during all
our natural lives in such a world and after be fitted for rest
in heaven, as we can conceive of - if this blessed earth were
such a den of care & sorrow -

I received a note from one of my neighbors a few days
ago, requesting the loan of my bible, as she found according to her
the time was near at hand when the Jews would be gathered to their
own land - on returning it she expressed in another note her joy at
finding my bible the same she used - she begged me not to let the
light that was in me be darkness -

that our best love to our dear Ben and embrace the chal-
lenge for me. I am vexed that you should have been uneasy about
the banishment, when we gain so much by it - I truly believe Sally
Norris would have gone home unsought & heart whole - if it had
not been for that frightful disfiguring disease - Dr. Hays is a
reverse fellow - was quite removed by her beauty - and never dis-
covered her character - until her face was not fit to be looked at,
but she is a sweet creature, and will be our loving niece - as the
leaves parted in the same hour they exchanged vows, I suppose
they will not make a long engagement - as the poor Dr. Editor can
not be often or long from his labors - God bless you my own dear
Sister many a long life of happiness be yours - and every new Year



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find you loving & beloved, as you are at this present time -
our Sisters & brothers greet you and the rising folks send
love & respect - accept the benediction of your attached
Janey 6th 1834 Rhyto