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It is three weeks this day my dear Maria since the last dispatches were sent from Boston now to you and then we were anxiously expecting letters from Kentucky for whether our Brother was at home or still chafficed from your side by business we were ignorant, and various conjectures have been hazarded where to locate you during this long suspension of intercourse. Montpomerie paid his visit to Washington, and could not instruct us from any recent dates - and so I have resolved this morning that you shall not be retaliated on - and as "a fellow feeling makes us wonder our kind" sit down to let you see ^{the} goods & ills that chequer our every day life" can not exclude you from a participation of my thoughts & society. verily dear Sister it would take a nice earnest to decide whether this be kindness or not, for one is so apt to do without reflecting what is agreeable to themselves that they should wait till the result is known before they take credit for any act thus performed, and if I proceed in this style shall rather exercise your patience, than satisfy your judgment. ~~now give you~~ you will say the practice of virtue is beneficial, and what woman can deny from her own experience that patience is a virtue? - and so you have helped me to the conclusion that even this letter may be made profitable - "Thou art peace has beautifully expressed the powers of meditation" to find words in the running brooks - sermons in stones & good in every thing" - and few of us the less inspired but many trace back in our ~~own~~ minds that spark of divinity which may be kindled to our own edification, where no noble object has been present to illuminate our faculties

Does not this encourage us to believe that nature has done greatly
for us? when we feel, what others have power to express. the cultura-
-tion and improvement of faculties ^{more they} are helping, not only to their
-holders, but to their heirs - as long as language is understood that
-these will converse with the human heart, and will march out a
fellow ship. which no distance of time can change, for nature is always
the same -

We have been very anxious about Ellen lately, not only because
her constitution is much weakened, but because she does not take proper
care of her self. and is so long recovering from an attack, that we some-
times think her in more danger when she is over her troubles than
-during her ^{illness} ~~attacks~~. she has been what in ladies phrase is called
unfortunate, and the difficulties of despondence has kept her in bed
all through the hot weather of the last 10 days. when we were all
impatient to send her off into the country or long branch that her
-mother might have the advantage of a new atmosphere to nurse her
in. I hope they will not be many more days deferred - If the July
-thermometer has been in top extremes with you, I shall hardly make you
understand the complaints of our Georgia friends, who complain of our
sun shine, as if that planet were his night cap during the summer
for their accommodation to the south. but they have gone to Sacatoga, and
will hardly credit that we are so cool & pleasant here. that we shut out
the night air, and even add another garment to our wardrobe for the
last 2 or 3 days - I have rarely seen a more lovely family of girls than
Mrs. Minis! she has left two with Sally who are very interesting & intelligent
and my little name sake is a beauty - they make me think of your darling
boys, whose independent spirits would contrast finely with these females of
their own age - do dear sister let me hear something of them soon - in asking
this I put you on your generosity - for I have nothing in return to offer
you - the common place actors of men & women in city life offers nothing
in interest to be compared to the developments of young minds - they are
in pursuit of amusement or gain - and the excitement of political or
professional pursuits are so involved in prejudices & passions of personal
natures on one side, or flatteries & gallantries on the other, that they
must be witnessed to be partaken - I think you would love
our new niece, and admire the spirit in her new character -

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Mrs Benjamin Galt
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