

May 28th 1837

Memorandum

Your two letters my dear Maama, reached me safely last week and I immediately repaired to Marshall house in the hopes of seeing somebody who had seen you - but did not find Mrs Westcott at home! Pray give Mrs Eaton a letter or decanter to our house as I should be mortified not to know immediately of her arrival. (One Brother My man came home very unexpectedly on Tuesday last, and I was reasonable enough to be sorry that he had not taken time either to see Miriam at the South or pay you a visit - and yet as things have turned out I am very glad he is at home, for he has had a slight paralysis of his face, which being with his own physician is more satisfactory than if he had been abroad, we recovered it on Friday - since which he has been blest & happy, and I hope in a few days will be well again - he told the Dr. he would go out to morrow, and received for answer that he might be well without if he was permitted to do so in a week. God knows we are poor, frail creatures, and keeps us from the knowledge of our weakness, that we may be enabled to bear it. Hyman looked to be in perfect health on Wednesday his complexion brightened by travel, and as the girls thought handsome as ever, and I saw nothing of his disease, until Friday afternoon after he was blest, then we dined together, and he sat immediately opposite to me, as it is confined to a single nerve, I fervently pray he may soon be restored. He found the country very warm, suffering actually or in anticipation of hard times, and could do nothing with his Alabama lands but look on them. So is better, and down stairs but by no means well yet, that is, he is obliged to be so prudent to keep well, that there are many lapses in his recovery, which a woman might avoid by the sedentary habits of her life without any great sacrifice as the weather grows warmer I hope he will get strong again.

but we must not forget that in the autumn of life, the
changing year does not renew our youth, and that disease
is the natural warning of the wear & tear of our frames, preparing
us for other changes to which they tend. In this great struggle
for the riches of this world, which the political & commercial
community are so much engaged in - I cannot but pause, and con-
sider what a waste of happiness has been made, with health and
competence, in this beautiful country, how much real enjoyment
might be realised! if men would be content without riches -
the ideal good - the idolatry of modern worshippers - I wonder
if there will ever come a time when it will be the fashion
to care little about money, and only value as riches the
faculty of being happy? would you not like to visit the earth
at such a period? does not the bible promise such a time
when knowledge of God is spread over it, as the waters cover the sea?

We have had a visit from Horace, of two days - and were struck
with the improvement three weeks of entire self direction had given
to his manners. he went away expecting to be immediately employed
under the direction of an Assistant Geologist, but some difficulty in
their arrangements detained him three weeks in Bellefonte, until the
return of Mr Rogers from Virginia - when he sent for him, to meet
in Phil^a - and take a new stock - during this time Horace rode about
the country, made acquaintance and enjoyed him very greatly
and has now gone to work with a spirit that promises to make
his task easy. I am very thankful that my pet is not spoiled for
better things, he was never much indulged, except by being left alone,
and if being told of his faults and warned of their pernicious effect
did not excite him, his own experience was sure to admonish
him more harshly - I feel great confidence in his truth & integrity
and, for the rest, trust God will enlighten & sustain him aright.
My letter last night from Mission says they leave Georgetown on
the 1st June, and will probably be here on the 10th as they mean to stay
a few days in Charleston. It is quite time to leave that climate, and
the M. writes as if she was very well & very happy. I have a suspicion
of Georgetown that makes me suspect that she should not tempt it

thank God for all his mercies and pray that we may be enabled
to submit to his will in all things. - Mr. & Mrs. have gone to Boston
town, with Mr. Mival, to spend the day - and Jane has gone to hear Dr.
Furness preach - but they both - and all the rest of the family cherish
affectionate remembrances to you and my dear Ben, and I send
mine most warmly to my dear Boys too - I ought to be ashamed never to
have dispatched the many messages of Miss Peters - but I have left
them to the love ends of my letters - and they would not hold them in
their own language - and so I have played truant - but imagine
in my very best style, and her very warmest expressions of remembrance
and love & all that - and speak it to your self as often as she bids
me -



Benjamin Grant

Lexington Ky.



I was concerned to hear of the death of Miss Crittenden - I did not
know her, but any misfortune to that family would call for my sympathy.
May present them my regards - did you ever receive "Latter Testament," and
how do you like it - when you go to Cavebrook again tell Gary to take
care of my tree - and tell all the boys to think sometimes of me - God bless
you my dear Sister & Brother - I offer my best wishes for your health
and happiness, and am always with sincere affection your attached
remember me Sylvia, Anne & Mahinda & George & all the rest - Sister R. Grant -