

Aug 27th 1837

99
Coke
Denny
remainder

Your letter my Dear Sister was forwarded to me to Cooperstown, where it was really a treasure - we were so far away from Kentucky, that the sight of your hand writing seemed an assurance that a sisters love can find us through all space, and the chain did not drag or ever remove but seemed to lengthen and ~~base~~ ^{bind} me lightly through bright scenes each day with the thought how much you would have enjoyed them with us. Sae wrote to you the very day I received your letter and I suppose she gave you a sketch of our travel - at Fitchkill where the good old Judge was so pressing for you to visit his hospitable mansion - and his mantle has fallen on his nephews for they are all kind & friendly as he would have been - and such a noble estate ought to be in liberal hands for there is nothing wanting to make it the seat of elegant and tasteful enjoyment. Our dear Julia is treated like a daughter of the family and she has passed the summer with her friends pouring balm into their wounds and sharing their sorrow for the early fate of the daughter they have lost - then, to Albany & Utica & the Falls of Trenton! Oh how I wished you had been there to gaze & wonder & admire - but where could you go that your heart would not glow with admiration? I am sure not through the north or belt of our highly cultivated country nor through the mountains & glens, the rocky shores of Canada Creek nor the cascade of the Mohawk - in fact we have been ^{making} a tour of pictures - we staid several days at Cooperstown, and made acquaint-
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with a number of agreeable people - it rained so constantly
that we did not mount to Hottel's mountain ~~case~~ but we
skipped the hills & wandered along the Lake, and saw the old
Hall - but the magician who drew such graphic sketches was
not quite so good in hand - he had got into a snarl as the
newspaper says, and kept out of sight, in fact I was sadly
disappointed at not meeting him where I could hear him talk,
he has offended his neighbours & they have banished his books
& would not care if he were to visit the ^{mountain} ~~monks~~ in New York
James Paulding found ~~us~~ out, and seemed as glad to see me as
he was twenty years ago - we talked a whole day together
and renewed so many agreeable passages in our lives, that
I would willingly go to N.Y. annually for such another conference.
Washington Irving came in too, and they were as brilliant as
in the days of their youth - one brother is recovering his health
at Saugatuck, and looks so well that he has been complimented
all round on his improvement - we returned on Friday - and
the girls will follow next week - we found Joe, languid &
then, he has been indisposed & depressed for several days,
Dr. Hays has him in hand, & I hope will soon effect a
cure, I have just put on a blister at the back of his
neck, to relieve a tightness across his eyes - men are
the worst patients, I would rather take the pain, than
see them bear it - but we have no right to choose even
our trials, but much cause to be grateful for the bless-
ings that are mingled with them in our cups of life -
Rosa & Sara are both with their mother, the former has
entirely recovered, and looks very charmingly - Sara is a
devoted Mother, and rarely has her little Laura out of her
arms, it is a sweet little babe, she is going to take it to
Richmond, to receive a grand father's blessing - the family

I heard a few days ago from Washington you & Lee & Ledy
back at the Worcester Shanty.

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Mrs Benjamin Graft

Leaving for N.Y.

I see there is a little space unfilled - and "hoping" I
don't indicate a wife just send something to her Aunt -
Marianne - Newell Hunt - and Rev Howard Wyman & my dear -