

Phil^a Feb 22nd 1841

My Dear Sister

We have almost got through the second month of the New Year, yet this is the first greeting that has passed between us - and in this cold world one does not love to lose sight of the sunny smile that at all seasons reveals a glow to their hearts. Now I have so often thought over good wishes and loving messages to be sent to you and my beloved brother during all this time, that it is unaccountable how my part of the deflection has grown to such a shameful length and I would begin with an apology, if there really were any turned one I could get hold on - the truth is, I have been lazy & sick and stupified a good deal of the time, and put off in the hope of growing more agreeable, but time is not thus to be wasted, and lest you should find my lacky increase, and my letters less worthy perusal when you are a little weaned from them, I have even taken up my pen in as questionable a manner as ever was inflicted on you -

We have just had a letter from Howard, giving a very good account of himself. He has come to the conclusion that in a dull country school, the best thing is to study, and is determined to be fit for college in due season. His Christmas visit to us was delightful, he has so many fine qualities to attach his friends to him

that he become a general favorite. He is still listening
Etting special pol. and claims the privilege of participating
in the wedding festivities on Louis Edwards return. but these
must be postponed for him until the 1st April when his school
year closes. we last evening heard that Henry Etting joined his
brother at Charleston, and accompanied the party to Savannah
his lawsuit is happily terminated at New Orleans, the jury
giving a verdict in his favor and the full amount of damages
claimed \$5000 - this has relieved his parents of a world of anxiety
and given us all great satisfaction - we look to him as the
source of much comfort & happiness to his parents -

Sarah's last letters from Lizzie are most flattering, she says
she has hardly any remains of cough and has grown fat - this is
really rewarding her Mother for the sacrifice she made in parting
with her, and I hope her health will be so well established
that a return to our climate will not impair it. What has
been the matter with Dear Myman? is he perfectly recovered -
may we hear from you soon - I know you have a
great many claims on your attention - and the young
folks who depend on your counsel expect to be particu-
larly healed to your kind recommendations on which
account I have more patiently submitted to my pecor-
ations all the political world is in motion - and
hastening to the scene of action - while the poor North
souls are well fallen - and predicting worse & worse
times - I have heard of many fluctuations in the
wheel of fortune - and suppose the same revolutions
will be going on as long as men are engaged in the
struggle and wayfare of life - Grace has been
home a few weeks, but will again in a short time
be going near to Lake Erie and perhaps for
a long absence - but we consider him fortunate in

including Mr Beecher particularly. Many could not be
bid me farewell on Saturday and I hear her father arrived today
she accompanies him to Washington. I think she has greatly
improved in appearance & manners, and her health is excellent.

Have you ever heard any one mention Mrs Alfred Ingraham
(Elizabeth Meade) who went last autumn to Lewisville to open
a school & teach music. Her husband was unfortunately here
& accepted an appointment in the bank at Grand Gulf, but
not finding his salary sufficient to maintain her large family
she was advised to go to the west, and there to seek him. His father
accompanied her, and they fixed on Lewisville. but I fear with

you need not Alexander has been a good neighbor
from Philadelphia in his head & eyes, but also is
better. They last love to stay nearest Washington
Yardons, and your own dear left they will
believe Maria believe me ever that your
affectionate M. G.

too slender resources to wish her fortune seems full, even
among the liberal Kentuckians, in such a large and busy
community as Lewisville the rich would ever look her, and
the poor, cannot be expected to patronize a stranger. I think
she would have done better in your neighbor hood.

How does your Bobbin Society come on? ours are beset by the
US bank stop, and the general depression of the times. but
we have a full house of healthy children - and plenty to keep
you from the bounty of providence. Mrs Willows has been an invalid
all winter, and Mrs Piddle absent from these causes