

Philadelphia Dec 16th

I have been counting the days for a while back
My Dear Friend, in hopes each would have brought me a
letter from you, and tho perhaps one is on its passage
I shall not wait its arrival, because my busy time is pressing
on and I may not find leisure to write again, until I
hail you on the New Year - I have been up to Bordentown
to see Grath's little son, he came to town and seemed so
proud & happy in the character of Parent that I had not
the heart to disappoint his wish to introduce him to my
love - and as all the children of my Sister have a peculiar
claim upon me, it would have been churlish to refuse.
his wife is really a fine woman, so rational, and mild
and kind hearted, that this would alone entitle her to the
regard of his family - but she adds the charm of a well
cultivated intellect, and strong principles of rectitude
which must claim their respect also - her mother is
still with her, but as soon as Mary is well again, she
returns to Camden, where she expects to be before the 1st
of January - Peggy & Jane are so fond of being with Grath,
that I do not expect to have them both at home for
any length of time during the winter - and I am yet
uncertain whether Julia will make me her annual visit
or not, so when you think of me on a morning, in the
little breakfast room, say what would I not give for some
of the interesting conferences we held to gether - out of
which we both I must gleaned some useful knowledge

it is true we each have the means of improving ourselves
from the same book in our separate homes, but I believe
we gain more by comparing opinions than by solitary study -
and so my dear sister, if you like me what portion of Scripture
you are engaged on I will read it, and our meditations may a
gain be communicated - in my Sunday school I have taken the
life of Samuel to read & comment on - and find it deeply interest-
ing. Hannah's earnest desire & prayer for a child - and her
self sacrifice, in devoting him - is almost as touching in the
language of Scripture - as Mrs. Hemans has made it in her
beautiful poem "the Hebrew Mother" - Dennis too, in one of his lay
sermons was very eloquent, on this example of maternal love.
our favorite orator Mr. Farness gave a most beautiful lecture
the other evening on Genesis, and verily - I thought he illustrated
his subject most aptly, the hall was crowded, and the most
deep & fixed attention prevailed, I wished you could have heard
him, for I never heard him more eloquent in the pulpit and
he managed a popular lecture so as to abate nothing from
the reverence & dignity of his clerical character - on Tuesday
next our dear friend T. J. Wharton is to enlighten us - I
omitted going last week because the orator had been making
some violent unpopulor speeches at public meetings on the
disorganised state of our political situation, and the outrage
was felt by all the Whig party or in other words those who
respect the laws - I do not know when Kansas may be
left to civil government - the military are still there to
keep the peace - but I am not going to trouble you with
subjects you can learn better from the newspapers - if you
wish to learn them at all -

Sister Mary is improving in health & spirit, her anxiety
about Ellen has subsided, and sleep is restored to her, which of
course improves her frame -

may indulge me with some of your characters in sketches
of them, and let me hear something of Sarah Brodley's family
and your sister. present my love to them. Freeman saw Mr
Clay when he was in town - but gleaned nothing from him about
our Kentucky friends. except that he had seen Ben the day
before he left home. God bless you May dear sister may the
approaching New Year find you in health & happiness - which I pray may
increase "even as your lives do flow" believe me are affectionately
Yours P. G.

Your little sister's love to your dearest Aunt - & to her
dear friends - & to her husband & children - for
me - and with love to you from mine. - Wm. G.

Leaving for Edg

Mrs Benjamin Foster

