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My Dear Sister

I am sure it will give you pleasure to hear that Sarah Cleveland has a little Daughter and is doing well. The child was born on Monday the 5th Inst. I passed Sunday in company with Naomi at the ancestral, and was much pleased with the comfortable arrangement of her house hold and the beautiful preparations she had made for the expected stranger, and sincerely hope she may have a safe getting up, and much comfort in her Maternal duties. Sister Mary has been with her a fortnight or thereabouts, after Ellen went away we thought the best thing for her was to go to sea, as she was then I said from parting with her child, and really I could not but wonder at the change in her appearance, the pure air and beautiful face of nature quite revived her spirit, she has been gathering flowers and listening to singing birds instead of tramping away the dust raised by noisy omnibuses that ply our streets continually, and as Dennis said of the high-heeled shoes of his landlady "makes life loathsome" - but you will think all things much more smoothly with me, when I can say to find fault and make complaint of trifles. Well dear, I am not disposed to be quarrelsome, or I hope ungrateful, and thank God, the dreaded evil, is passing away lightly from our Brother Hyman. his face is nearly well and in every other respect his health is unimpaired. I went to New York yesterday morning, and I hope

will receive no injury from it tho a very little exercise
over comes him, and I believe if he could have staid easily
at home, he might have been well a month ago - Mrs Etting's
protracted stay will give him a good deal to do which is
very unfortunate for him just now - besides the sad dis-
appointment to his wife & family - Rachel behaves as
well as woman could - but her heart failed when the
Liberty, the ship sent out for him, returned without him.
but his letters say this will not detain him a day longer
than he was obliged to stay, and he hopes to be at home
in July. it seems difficulties in trade have even reached
China, and he was not able to complete his business.
at time, and preferred taking passage in another ship
to detaining his own - His brothers are very affection-
ate & considerate for Rachel and as the children would
suffer in town, have determined to take a country house
for the summer and move the family. this will be good
for them all Isabella & her mother will be benefited
and I hope they will succeed in getting a suitable
place. Mr Moore's health is very bad, and the losses
and crosses of the times, have perhaps increased it
by their effect on his spirits.

Mrs Westcott gives good accounts of you, and seems
to think, she is indebted to you for the chief good of
her location, she tells me how industriously you & her
husband have been improving the college lot, and how
beautiful it looked when she left - but I have seen
her only once, I cannot find her at home - the news paper
coming on a week was about your professors. I have
not seen Caldwell's pamphlet, nor any of the controversy
except in the Lewisville paper. but I hope Lexington
will continue to be the seat of learning, and its chapel
hall be filled with intelligence & wisdom

a love letter for your self then embrace the
boys for me and believe me with unalterable
affection yours our Beloved

Caricature

Q

Wm Benjamin

Ly
Lexington

Maria

Becky



June 7 1842