

Philadelphia March 26. ¹⁸

I was just going to inflict a letter on my Brother Ben, when your dear Sister Anne to save him that unmerited punishment, I began to feel anxious for some information about you all, and am sorry to learn that you have been indisposed. I hope you are entirely recovered and that all are enjoying health again.

My man's still suffering with his arm gives me some uneasiness, is it not a very unusual affection? can it be the consequence of his attack of fever? or is it entirely a local disease? poor fellow! it is very hard to be so long disabled. Would not change of air be useful to him as the season advances. I wish my Brother would send him and carry to pay us a visit, it is so long since we have met, that I fear we shall be entirely forgotten by the young folks.

It was very kind in you to tell me so particularly about all your household, at the very time my heart yearned for such information; I began to feel as if I was losing interest in my dear Brothers' regards, as he never addresses a line to me, on any occasion, tho' he knows how jealous I am that long separation should rob me of any portion of his affection. but this idea is not harboured for a moment, he does not love to write, and rather chooses that you should save him the labor and a much more fastidious person, might think

him for such a substitute, My Dear Ann, and so do
I, I had a letter from Howard last week, and then
he gives a very good account of himself, he says nothing
of his studies, so Frank's information is the more gratify-
ing. Howard seems fond of Dr. Hays' family, he speaks of the
children, in a manner that proves he takes an interest
in them, which is a good trait in a young man - it would
be difficult to live with Mary without loving her, she has
so many fine qualities blended in her character, she
is agreeable, and amiable, and sensible and good -
free from all selfishness, upright in judgment, and
"walking humbly with her God" - I am sure you would
be pleased with her. & I think a longer acquaintance
would confirm your good opinion of her. - Their removal
was a great deprivation to us all - I too regret he could not
have settled in Lexington, for then I might hope to see
them again. - Now it seems very impossible that I ever
shall - all you three sisters have frequently been troubled
with colds - and the effects of colds this winter, at present Sister
Hays is more of an invalid - I should not like to be out either to
you for the first time, under present appearances. - This month
has been very trying, it has advanced in disagreeableness
up to this day - having commenced with bright warm weather
putting forward the foliage & green grass - and then being
up rain & storm & ice, when we were looking for spring - but
we shall soon be rid of her - and that her capacious sister
& snow will put a smiling face on - that we may all
- bask the pavilion in bright weather

I am glad to hear My Dear Howard is becoming fond
of books. every gentlemanly accomplishment will increase

of deep feeling - Capt Stockton is suffering great anguish of mind, and mortification at the result of his high plans & expectations. but perhaps at no time could the explosion have taken place, when seven lives would have been lost a few days previous several hundred persons ladies & gentle men, were surrounding the fatal gun - when it was fired with even a heavier charge than that which exploded, it has put an end to the gaiety of the seasonal Washington - next year I hope we shall see better scenes at the

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Handwritten signature in blue ink.

Miss Grady
care of Messrs Grady Esqrs
Lexington Ky



Miss Grady
Dec 1844

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Capitol - will you not meet us there to see Mr Clay in person? we talk of such things with high hopes here, tho a whole year off - and we "know not what a day may bring forth - Good night, believe me very affectionately
Yours truly R Grady