

It seems very long my Dear Sister Ann since I have heard from you, and yet I am sure you have much of great interest to communicate, I hope your own strength has recovered and that the duties of your nursing, does not in any way impair your health, I confess I feel some anxiety to hear about you, it is longer than usual since our dear Ben has written Mary too is in the country and thus all sources of information about Lexington are unavailable. Now I think of it, perhaps you do not consider my half letter, entitled to reply? If so, I can only say it was in consideration of your age, that I addressed a joint letter, to express my self on an occasion where all felt a mutual living interest, and now Dear Ann, let me repeat not only my love for my little niece, but my anxiety to know what name I must pray for her by - our dear Brooksells visit gave us infinite pleasure, and it would have been extremely agreeable to me, to have accompanied him home, had I not expected Minnie Cohen in Phil^a. They arrived soon after he left, and yesterday we had the pain of parting with her, she is one of the loveliest women I know, and very dear to all her relations, so that one regret at losing her again for an indefinite period

has made me feel very sad - I am accompanied
by sister as far as Baltimore - and the quietness
of the house after the departure of so many
is any thing but pleasant - a friend this morning
sent me Miss Martineau's new work - "Life in the
sick-room" - Essays written by an invalid. This
extraordinary woman, has for years been labour-
ing under a painful disease, from which she
has no hope of relief, yet her mind has been actively
employed, and the efforts of her genius - like Samp-
son's strength, are more powerful at the end, than
ever - have you seen Mr. Miller's poems? I think
them very beautiful - tho they are all short, and
may not gain her any reputation as a poet - to
those who know her, they will appear the genuine
expression of genuine feelings - called out by
circumstances & sympathies - and suffering
and be read with much interest -

Our sister Mary has been absent nearly two
months, on visit to her daughters, I hear her
health is improved, and expect her home
with Isaac in a few days -

I hope by this time Hyman's arm is sound again
and long quiet recovered - and your little daughter
grown into the beauty of the house, I shall expect
a portrait drawn by a mother's hand, of her before
long - and hope to have an opportunity of
recognizing the likeness when we meet

Our Mother is truly no day that he had been
very much enjoyed but will write to her in a few
days - he also reads. Kind greetings to you both -

Q

Mr Benjamin Graft

Lexington Ky.



Wm Graft
June 25. 1844