

Feb. 15th 1846.

I am extremely sorry my dear Ann
 to hear that you have been so much unwell
 indeed, as one recent letter from Sister Weston
 says she then told me sister yesterday that you
 would probably spend the month of March at
 the South, that has made me fear that you
 have not improved since our dear Bess's last letter
 as he says nothing of such an intention - but
 I should be glad to have this communication
 confirmed by yourself - it would be a much more
 agreeable remedy than the drags of your physicians
 and no doubt more efficacious. you would take
 Mary along as a nurse & companion - and escape
 the rude winds of the coming season most pleasantly
 Susan writes that Spring has already opened and
 the sweet violets in bloom in her sister's garden
 indeed she wishes one that performed her letter.
 Miriam would be delighted if you would make
 her a visit, and then in four days you might
 come on to Phila. and complete the good work by
 a sermon among your husband's family. we should
 be so happy to welcome you here - you must not
 consider this my first letter of enquiry, for I have one
 before me which was commenced some ten days ago
 when interruptions prevented my finishing it - and some
 how, or other (as you know sometimes happen in house keeping
 arrangements) it was neglected. I now rise up against me
 I could give you a long string of cogent reasons or
 apologies from the kitchen - if you knew anything about

"hired help" - but "where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise"
I will tell you tho' what I know will be interesting from the kindness
of your feelings towards your relations. our dear Sara Maudslayi has
lost her youngest child Emma, after only the illness of a few
days, her fatigue and distress produced rheum and she is still
confined. tho I hope the worst is over. our venerable brother
Etting is quite ill. he has rarely left his room during the winter
tho' a part of every day saw his friends and enjoyed cheerful
conversation in which he freely partook. he is now in bed and
when I left him last evening appeared to be suffering intensely
the effect of severe cold on his nearly exhausted frame. it was
in with a chill succeeded by fever. and seems to have assumed
the character of intermittent. Henry, who is his very attentive
care taker when at home - is now resident at the Navy Yard
at Brooklyn, but his wife and the rest of his family are around
him and the magnetic Telegraph could recall the absentee in
a hour, should he be required.

our boys have not once written since they returned to school
I wrote to Camp and enclosed him invitations to his cousins wedding
and party, as they promised to write if any thing was wanted to
contribute to their comfort, I interpret their silence favorably -
for boys find no pleasure in letter writing unless some particular
subject requires it.

I shall lose the society of my friend Julia Hoffman
earlier this spring than I expected. her brother is mar-
ried and about to settle at "Wiconisco" as engineer
of the Lyken & Valley rail road. and she will accompany
her new sister, to her new home. some time next month.
The bride & groom are going to make a peripatetic visit
immediately and they carry my Horace with them, he
has taken employment again as an Engineer, with the
hope of obtaining a situation more to his family in the
vicinity of a furnace. the road is to lead into an Iron
region which is the object of his present engagement.
Horace feels the necessity of advancing him self in life

Chas. M. Clark 23
1846



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