

Philadelphia May 27th

My dear Ann

The boys left us on Monday morning after spending a week with us which I assure you we enjoyed very much, as they were in good spirits and went back to West Chester with willing minds. I much think so much grown & improved. Grah Brown met them here, his example is a bright one for imitation. He will graduate this summer, with ~~grad~~ credit. He only missed the honor by a single vote. The other candidate having been longer in college. It was pleasant for the boys to meet and encourage to those in the middle of their course to find their friend & companion so near the goal of

I have greeted with you & for you my dear sister in your recent calamity - it was a sad bereavement indeed for you - and the friends who loved him, but for him self perhaps a happy release from hopeless sorrow. There appears no condition in human life more afflictive and destructive to happiness & morals than such an ill advised marriage, as your unfortunate young brothers - and the consolation you leave to lean on is that he died innocent - the victim & not the perpetrator of crime - I have thought a great deal of the devoted affection his Mother bore him - how fondly she anticipated the days on which by appointment they met in the company - when he was some where at school. May not this love begun here between such relations

be continued - and from some portion of the beauty
of heaven? There can be no love more pure more perfect
or more endearing than a Mother's. What a blessed
refuge to the weakened mind - after the disappoint-
ments of such a life - ~~shall~~ to be comforted - "as a Mother
comforteth!" - we are not permitted, Oh! shall we choose
our affections - if we learn to bear those that are appointed
to us by the wisdom of our Creator - and submit ourselves
to his will we shall be visited by his mercy, and our
offerings be accepted. The mystery that hangs over poor
Isaac's fate, adds a severe pang to his mourning family
but there is consolation in the sympathy & respect of his
fellow citizens. his life was solitary and wanting in many
comforts to a man of his disposition. Alas! who can estimate
the loss of a Mother to a young family - the training age
of maternal watchfulness, not only forms & regulates
the characters of her offspring but clears their paths
from unseen & unsuspected dangers. Isaac took his
at a critical period of his life - and had when
his experience taught him - to retrace his steps, but
thou God he did not trace them - and had it pleased
him to have prolonged his life - he might have
been happy in the domestic scene - Mr. Moore's health
is much improved, which is a source of much anxiety
to his children - indeed we all share in this feeling
I hope the presence of his daughter Miss Ann who
is expected this summer will do him good -

Received
June 22^d
1847

Wm Benjamin Gray

Lexington Ky



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