

Phil^d June 29th 1849.
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every body here true, much love to you & Ben. to whom please make
my best wishes. I have been thinking of you all - believe me
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I have been kinder to me my dear
Ann than I deserved, and my heart is very
grateful to you, your long morning letter re-
mained unanswered - yet you remembered
to send good wishes to me in the season of fes-
tivity at the New Year. most warmly do I recipi-
cate those loving remembrances. and if it had
not been for a flood of extra occupation to me you should
have heard from me before - It so happened that
many postponed duties crowded upon me - some
of the door claims which the top of friends over-
saw - and domestic interruptions which even
house keeper is liable to. made me at last un-
derstand that I might as well yield up my whole
time together - but before the first month of the
new year has gone, I hope to wipe off my old
debts, and feel myself free to enjoy marvellously
the social blessings I hope -
It is delightful to hear such good accounts
from you all - as your letters and our dear Ben's
enrich us with your precious little dispatches
must be perfect loves. Oh dear Minnie too
I am glad she loves flowers and hope they
always be "good angels" to her, which

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nature always supplies for those who culti-
-tain them. I have a friend who has been very
unfortunate in many circumstances of her life
who says flowers are her "good angels" - they have
such power to give her pleasure - she can always
cast aside her sorrows to look at, arrange and
admire flowers. I have sometimes wondered at
their power, to attract notice when her cares are
most oppressive - The loved wedding has been harsh
disrupted on this side the mountain, and I was
glad to have an authentic account of it. Mrs
Lawrence has a great many excellent, among
her better qualities, and has the talent of doing
a good many queer things. I hope the marriage
so distinguished in its celebration may turn out
more rational than one would expect by the
spirit with which it was got up - if money were
as adhesive, as it is proverbially the contrary,
they might always buy notice, but unless they can
be contented sometimes to live in retirement
the world may go hard with them - I am glad to
find you & my dear Ben, are interested in poor
Fanny Butler's history - the judges have not given
Mr Butler a divorce, as was anticipated by those
who knew the law - and I see by the papers that
she is making another effort to maintain herself
by reading the papers to the Bostonians. I expected
she would be obliged to work, or apply to the court
to allow her some ~~things~~ until something was
decided upon - and expected from her noble
proud spirit that the former would be her
choice -

obliged him to be away - Lachos are never at home
on shore - except Lizzies husband, who seems to
take care of her - Mary is well, and has
just made an engagement to sing at a small party
on Monday next. She has improved very much, but
gives most of her attention to Italian singing
which I sometimes rebel against, and obtain
some of the beautiful ballads - but I find my self
growing fonder of Italian music - its richness
and passion seem most adapted to her powers
and is certainly much grander - even tho you
do not understand the lyrics - Italian Operas
have completely taken place of the English
and of course the Drama is no longer what
it used to be - or what it was in my days when
Shakespeare was in fashion - It is completely
Marys especial this winter - which does seem
both good - She does not go so frequently as
to injure her health, and he is brushing up
his old habits of gallantry. What becomes of
pleases him - My man is just recovering from
his painful attack of gout, and all the rest
of the family are well - we get good account
of our girls abroad - Rosa has been ^{made} sad
by the recent death of her husbands sister Mrs
Myers. Edward Ellings family have returned
from Savannah, and one sisters house made useful
by having their little pots again -