

93
Phil^a Feby 15 - 1850

My Dear Ann

It is so long since I have had the pleasure of intercourse with you that I scarcely know who wrote the last letter - but I take it for granted I am in fault because I feel so much in want of one from you with ^{only} the sense of deserving one - one written since Dear Ben left us that has been very quietly gliding away - nothing to complain of ^{not} even the weather - for it has been mild and beautiful - or at the worst free from violent storms - our ice companions will have hardly enough to furnish a summer supply unless a late spell brings us thus late in the season - Tell my dear Brother I received his package by Mr Butler, and shall do as directed with the melon - I received quite a long letter from Mary this week, giving me an account of her self & her household - she is not as well as I should wish having taken a violent cold which has left her weak, but does not confine her, Miss Florence is at present her guest who being a great favorite with both Mr R and Mary, is very agreeable to them, and I suppose induces a good deal of quiet. They had a musical party on Saturday night which she describes as very successful, among the guests were Sir H & Lady Bulwer, the former she says looks so like Dr Prall that she took it for him on that account. Lady R seems

93
surprised at the skill of our artists, and
asked if it were possible more chandeliers
were made in America! Mary was a long time
before she could get possession of her furniture
but she is now fixed, and I hear very handsomely -
her curtains are like yours and all the
furniture and Carriage of her own choosing,
so that she has had an opportunity of exercising
her own taste - and better still, she is very happy
in the love & admiration of a beloved husband,
she writes as if she took the right kind of rest
rest in her new condition, and had that respect
which should accompany affection - Mr. Claes
sometimes takes his Sunday dinner with them,
and they seem to delight to honor him - I am
sure my dear Ben feels proud of him, it seems
to me his recent disappointment is designed
to elevate him to a more important place
in his country's service, than the Presidential
chair - and that in the Senate he is a
greater man & a more useful one, than
he could have been at the White House -
I only hope that his efforts may be successful,

I do not now expect to see Mary until after
when Sara will probably pay us a visit - her husband
business brings him at that time, and she
promises always to accompany him - her
baby can now walk and is able to travel
without so much care -

I have been very unfortunate in making
the acquaintance of your young friend

- Permitted and a quiet evening will not
deprive them of other engagements
our brothers are all well & send their
love - Sister Etting is still confined to
her room, with inflamed eyes - and
the rest of her household much as
usual - Sister Mayo is well - the devils
her time very equally among us - and
her abated children - her writing days are
spent at home - and these come every
week - but we generally meet every
day some where - when the weather
will permit - Julia Wofford is a
general favorite - her manner is so
quick & unobtrusive, that strangers do
not know what a mine of intelligence
good sense & cultivation she possesses
and that there are the accompanying
of an affectionate warm heart - even
temper benevolence & disposition, all
very good workmen, endowments.

Give your dearest thoughts & a
loving kiss for me - and send my love
and Woodford for all my dear relations
there, we did hope Bremond would have
left his farm for a brief time in the winter
and paid us a visit to my heart & accept to
my kind love - and to my dear Brother
my devoted affection - and believe me I trust
I am ever faithfully yours John P. R.