

Philadelphia Jan. 16th

P

I was quite amazed My dear Anna on receiving your last letter to find how distinguished a correspondent I had been - during the visit of my Dear Brother, I did not write - because you heard more agreeably from him every thing I could tell you - and when I took up yours of the 22nd Nov. I felt surprised that it was found among my unanswered letters - that was the last I removed. What could have become of the Three, you so undervalue I cannot tell, but had they reached me, they I should certainly have thanked you for them - Lady Montague - nor M^{rs} Leighe could not so interest me as your letter, for they could not tell me of the things I love to hear - or the persons whose doings and sayings are dear to me -

and with all your humility my good
sister, there are few persons so well gifted
in the art of making agreeable letters ~~than~~^{as}
yourself. What return can I make you
for the interesting details of your dear
childrens progress in the good gifts God
has graced them with? The mother of
my beloved brothers happy home, is most
grateful to me, and I thank you my
dear Ann, for so tracing your daughter
as to ensure increasing comforts for
his increasing years - one brother my
man is just recovering from an attack
of gout, and I have been shut up for the
last fortnight by a severe cold - but I hope
in a few days to be able to resume my visits
to our afflicted ones. Minnies health has
suffered greatly - her nervous system is out
of order - her spirit so low that it is
distressing to see her - Isabella has much
more force of character & tries to overcome
her own infirmities to aid her sister - Henrys
health is much improved - one sister Mary
is well - but the weather has separated
us for some days past - the summer

never grow out of unintentional neglect
believe me - ever truly your sister - P.G.



Answered
Feb 3^d 1858

Mrs Benjamin Gray

Lexington
Ky