

Phil<sup>a</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 12<sup>th</sup>  
 P 1869

use of to keep up & comfort. I hope when the stockings are used, peace  
 will be restored to all your hearts  
 from all of  
 ours ever  
 My dear Ann  
 I am glad  
 to hear of your  
 recovery.  
 We have breakfasted  
 days on your excellent Butter  
 and sent a hint of it to Sally Hays.  
 it was proposed to one Phil<sup>a</sup> made  
 in our household it was taken  
 to the Irish butter so highly  
 prized for exportation, and really  
 you have provided so liberally  
 that it might serve for a winters  
 supply - I send you our sincere  
 thanks not only for what you sent  
 but for what you intended to send  
 and most of all for the affectionate  
 remembrance of our recent inter-  
 course, while we live I hope  
 it will always be there with  
 my beloved brother's family.  
 I am glad to hear of your  
 dear children's progress in all

useful knowledge, and graceful  
accomplishments. The interest  
their parents take in their studies  
quickens their desire to learn.  
and God has been bountiful  
to them, in many good gifts  
which they must cultivate for  
their own happiness - and His  
glory - I am sorry our friends  
the Vertue's have so little comfort  
in their old age, from the beautiful  
Rose they so loved & cherished  
there has been too much attention  
paid <sup>to</sup> external charms, too little  
direction to the right cultivation  
of her mental powers - her talents  
and beauty, should have made  
her a lovely and estimable woman,  
a crown to her husband - to them  
her children should rise up and  
call her blessed!!

to get my cloak, as usual busy  
getting pretty things for her  
distant friends - I think she enjoys  
the occupation - gratifying her taste  
at the same time she oblige them.  
I have had letters from all our  
nieces - they & their families well -  
Minam & Lora both send loving  
embraces to their Uncle & you - he  
has always been their Bran ideal  
& Minam was thrown into ecstasies  
by the arrival of his photograph.

Lulia & Morace send their love,  
she is taking the task of teaching  
her nephews German - Dear Minam  
is fortunate in having her Father's  
help with Latin. it is a pleasure to  
teach such an industrious pupil.

I have heard nothing from the  
Clair this winter - Lizzie's promised  
letter has not yet arrived - Henry  
they said she looked very well -  
I suppose Frank will be very busy  
in the political arena - What marriage  
Harper's Ferry affair, will be made