

Philadelphia Feb. 30

1861

It is a long time dearest Ann since I have written to you - yet I have a very interesting letter to answer and a day seldom passes without my thinking of you and my beloved brother. so many sad & stirring things happen in this unhappy state of our history. that ones mind is continually harassed & troubled to know what is to happen next. I am joyful about Kentucky and hope her loyal sons that they will be afraid to show their faces on the soil that was honored by their father's blood. Mrs Vestner left unexpectedly to me or she should have born some testimony of my remembrance last evening Howard arrived here and this morning Mr & Mrs Harry Boddy it is so long since I had seen him that I should hardly have known her she has increased in size & sometimes looks like her Mother. They left me to pay Mrs Alexander a visit & will return to dinner Mrs A with her daughter Dick, have Appo's children in charge until she comes back. They seem much perplexed about Frank's position. Howard tells me the climate of Brooklyn does

not agree with Minnie and they will
remove to Morris town, he is in good
spirits about his business, is here on
account of his machine, and will go home
to morrow - Phil^r is much upset about
the recent disasters, in which many of
our prominent citizens are involved
our friend Mrs Fisher sadly grieved
about her grandson Capt Mackoe, who is
a prisoner & wounded (slightly they say)
but from accounts of the Richmond
hospitals, they are destitute of any care
for - We thought as you do, about
Mr Blair's mistake in the Fremont affair
but he justifies himself on the plea, that
it was a public affair, &c - The great
mishap which they suffer, is having a party
to place them in power to do so much
mischief - it seems to me that our friends
are deficient in knowledge of human
character like other sanguine people
they act from feeling - and misjudge
those they love. Who they trust are
as guileless as themselves. They have
now made enemies of the Fremonts
and the struggle will be between
the General, and Frank, if the former
succeeds in his present command
what will the government do?
as I have no faith in politicians
am hopeless of seeing the right done

give my best love to my own
Dear Brother, your two girls,
Bernard, and My man & Laura.
Morace & I are both well, send
our accounts from Isaac & Becky
are satisfactory on that point
and on the progress of their young
families. I resisted Sara's kind
offer of a visit this autumn
knowing at what a sacrifice she
must come, either with all her
children - or leaving any of them
at home. In happier times
I hope we shall all meet again.
We my beloved brother how
my heart yearns to embrace him
May God bless you all
yours affectionate

Arthur B. Gray