

Philadelphia
July 3rd

I am not in your debt for a letter
My Dear Anna, but it is so long since
I have heard from you, that I hope
you will be willing to receive another
from me, in consideration of the
affection which induces it. Whay
my sister, you would perhaps be
amused, with the vain & various
conjectures that have occurred my
brain as to the cause of such an
unusual remissness in your usual
justice & punctuality, but in order
to come at the true one, (if any
cause there be) I have come to seek
you: My dear Brothers have been
more regular correspondents, and
from Peter's letters I have heard
of your health, and the dear
childrens growth & improvement
and if I had only a clear wit &
cheerful mind, it would be quite

No apology to write unbrotherly to you,
but on second thought, even in my
present state, I think my sister will
readily accord her interest to the
family annals deep in the gloom
as they may appear - one brother
Jas's health is evidently much sha-
tered. he has had such repeated
attacks lately, that we are kept
in a state of constant anxiety about
him. Sister Mary does not require her
strength, as hitherto after her indisposi-
tions, and the efforts are all in
vain (I mean Henry & his sisters).
There are my immediate concerns
but I will not pursue the picture
but quote an example - which should
make me ashamed of having uttered
a complaint "Shall we receive good
at the hand of God, and shall we
not receive evil also?" asked Job, in
the day of his deepest trouble - and
have we not received abundant
good thro' long years of health.

she must not think I love her less on
that account - I beg you will give
my best love to my dear Mother, and
my darling little Bob, they must not out
grow that little, until I see them again
and give them another more fitting
than statues. - can you tell me anything
about Mrs Dick - Appos sister - I was
about enquiring for her when Mr. Black
was in town but could not find her -
Mrs Rogers being out of town, where is
his cousin - Give my love to all my
dear nephews. it seems ridiculous
to call them boys - I wrote to Howard
last week. pray tell me Dear Ann what
you are doing - what reading - and
what flowers you are cultivating
So Shelly's beautiful Japonica gave
me one splendid flower last winter
and then died! a great many buds
were destined never to blow or if
the cause of its perishing I could not
find out - Accept our Sister Mary's
& brother's love, and believe me my
dear Ann, ever most affectionately
your sister & friend. Eliza