

Philth June 27 - 1863

My Dear Anna

I hope you have not
suffered any uneasiness from my
unusual silence. Tho' I acknowledge
it mortifies me to think I have
been neglectful of your last kind
letter. I believe I have been more
busy, more lazy, and a little annoy-
ed by a cold, which in this damp
warm weather have found it
hard to get rid of. - Mother has kept
me prisoner at home, and so I have
been looking over domestic omphias
which having recently changed
our Man Servant, have been stas-
sing me in the fire, well, but we
have changed for the better, got
an industrious colored man, in
place of an idle white one. My
old is better, and I only wish a
change in the weather to be
free again -

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minded that had they been here last week at the German Opera.
God bless you all, according to his wish with regards you -
affectionate
P.B.

I hope my dear Brother returned
from Frankford in good health
and accomplished his mission to
his satisfaction, without too great a
tax on his patience, and that
Kentucky is quick the changes
and chances & mischances that
reach us from the Political world
do not seem to advance us in
our progress through this trouble
war. I hear so rarely from Washing-
ton, that I fear Lizzie has nothing
pleasant or hopeful to commu-
cate. And that she devotes her self
to private friendship, in taking care
of Sarah's husband, who is still
at Silver Spring - I believe I wrote
to you that his physician thinking
a few months' absence from home
would expedite his recovery. I am
wont home from here, that he might
be satisfied the children were well
cared for, in his absence.

Tell the dear loyal girls, their
soldier Uncle Charles, is recovering

I have not seen Mrs Abbecombie.
Since I wrote - is Mrs Vestee in Lexing-
ton? I cannot help thinking Ross's second
marriage was unwise for them all. It
seems indeed - "The triumph of hope over
experience"

I have always ^{seen} afraid Howard's
partiality would give his father & mother
some discomfort. Minerva entertains the
same opinions, but she has more
discretion, and I hope gratitude for
what they owe in their present situa-
tion would make them prudent in
expressing them - it is sad to see how
families are divided in sentiment
& feeling - and the thought this does
create by this unnatural state of
things. We feel it even where removed
from the scenes of violence & destruction
produced by rebellion. How much more
when driven from home by ones own
guilt - Home is cold & sends heart
love to his mother and all the mem-
bers of your family. May give mind
also, including all my nephews & theirs
The girls would have enjoyed a great