

Philadelphia March 24th

I was delighted My dear Anna to receive your letter
giving a favorable account of your health I hope your
recovery will be rapid as the spring opens upon you and
you are induced to go out and meet the glad offerings
the spreads over the face of nature. wherever the first
buds are coming out on our trees the willows in their
fresh green and the various colored crocuses ask a
welcome most willingly accorded - your husband will
rejoice too in the presence of your son and I think you
will find him greatly improved in health as well
as in his studies. The boys have only been here a
few days I should be glad to keep them a week
longer if I did not find they were yearning to be at
home. I shall give this to Jo with a charge that he does
not deliver it until the day after his arrival. That
you may enjoy his company first without the inter-
tension of even a letter. Jo seems to have the spirit of
mirth inborn in him, for he is as merry as a bird or
rather as a boy let loose from school, which he illustrates
in a way to justify the adage. I saw your friend Mr.
Horton a few days ago - we went together to hear
Mr. Hudson lecture on that subject. The character of Hamlet
was his subject and he viewed the play in some new
lights. he is a very eloquent and original person and
has been quite popular here - an eastern man, who had
his fortune to make & began with mechanics going thro'
many active notions as these Yankees do working with
mental as well as bodily activity until he found his
vocation was to impart as well as receive and I believe
it is now his plan to study for the church.

but I should think the stage would suit him better than
the pulpit - there are such transitions in his style manner
and voice - he does not observe any rules of oratory
disposes and speaks aside - or rather apart from his
subject, if any sudden idea crosses his mind with an
accompanying expression of countenance sometimes
of deep sadness & sometimes of mirth which he has
- fused to his audience - but perhaps he is awkward
and plain looking - yet I should like you to hear him
for I am sure you would enjoy the time spent in
listening. one young gentleman much preferred the
circus or theatre or some other more youthful entertain-
ment & so can give you no account of him - I was in
Company last evening with two Kentucky Ladies from
Hopkinsville Mrs & Miss Hick & Miss Croft but did not
find that they were familiar with any of my friends -
the elder lady was intelligent & the younger modest
but I doubt if they were much entertained it was a
Bristol family party - and if they were tired I could
sympathize with them.

I am glad my dear Mary is coming so soon, and under
the escort of Hyman this is really joyful for it speaks
well for the condition of his son - change of climate may
freshen the good work by its effects, or his constitution
my dear Brother will be shorn of all his sorrows & save the
truly but I must happily. his purchase for Personal
must give great satisfaction. and I hope prove the com-
mencement of a prosperous & useful life - in a little while
he will be looking for a wife. I now I hope he will be directed
in that important search that his heart & his eyes may
be fixed on such an one, as will be a happy meet, here
and a quick & a space & a companion here after - he is so good
that his wife should make his home a little Paradise
- even if she had to make butter, as well as "dress his quiver"

It will be hard for her to leave her sister, who
expects to increase her family during the summer
and will not be able to accompany her home.
I shall give your message to Morrie - he is at
Wiconisco and probably will not be home all
summer. Julia Hoffman will leave me next week
for the same place - present my affectionate love to
my dear Brother, and embrace your little darling
for me - My love also to my dear Mary & Mrs. Throckley
and to all my dear nephews -

I have been necessitated to write such a long
letter to an invalid - but I hope my dear Aunt
you will soon drop that little sickness you
every happiness & health to enjoy it believe
me to be my dear Sister most affectionately

Montgomery

Our brothers desire their love