

March 23rd

My Dear Ann

I cannot deny my self the pleasure of congratulating you and my Dear Brother, on the occasion of this visit of your sons. For I think you will be happier in receiving them in such good health & spirits, and bearing such evidences of improvement. The few days they are willing to spare us has given us much satisfaction, and we are rejoiced to find them willing to return and pursue their studies. So affeared quite determined to return to West Chester, and from his growth and healthful appearance I think his constitution has kept pace with his intellectual improvement. They are so delighted with the thoughts of going home that they cannot consent to giving a single ^{day} longer to Phil^a than suffices to prepare for their journey. Our dear Ben's letter received yesterday reports you all well, for this I am thankful, and tho' I have great cause for gratitude for the many domestic blessings that surround me, feel that this is a period of trial. Our brother's accident has given me much sorrow, he is improving very

slowly, and perhaps may long be under the necessity
of using crutches. I perceive that he is getting more
accustomed to them, and that his limb is gaining
a little strength, thus far his health has not suffer-
ed from confinement, and he is enabled to drive
to his office every day, which for six weeks he
was deprived of. - Lizzie Lee is at present
here, waiting the departure of her husband for
the Gulf of Mexico, - and my heart shares in her anxiety
for my own home is going out with him - and in these
troubled times, to trust our dearest interests to the
caprices of war, makes my coward spirit quail.
The love of excitement & enterprise does not with
the mature in age, & I cannot partake of any
ones tolerance of this war, tho' involved in its
anxieties.

In one of our Brothers letters he says if Bay
did not return home he should continue to see him
some where during the summer, now as such were
his intentions, he may be able to give us
that happiness independent of the condition to which
he fixed it - and as you have never seen this side
of the mountains could not you continue to accompa-
ny him, and bring little Miriam to see her father
himself?

Mary enjoys very good health, tho' occasionally

our sisters desire their best love, Adieu My
My Dear Ann, believe me now never more affec-
tionately yours P. G.

Mrs. Benjamin Frothingham
Lexington Ky