

and talking "right
 or," so when I get a letter
 my first impulse is to
 sit down & answer it. I
 am always interested in what is
 going on with you & those around
 you - There is so little variety in
 an old woman's life, particularly
 such a stay-at-home person as I -
 that the letters of my friends
 and the books I read, are the
 agreeable occupation of my time
 & thoughts. Next week our abso-
 lute wife returns home, for with
 the exception of Sully Hays I saw
 no one family is missing here -
 Philopha took her children into
 the country, but our health required
 a little change - Ben Elting was
 induced to accompany his family
 in an excursion to Niagara, & the
 musical girls are scattered abroad

visits to their friends
Laura's letters from New
York tell how happily she
spent a month at Mr Brimley's
until the last, yesterday
announced the death of Mr
B's only son, a fine youth
who joined the army, and
fell a victim to disease in
the Solinas Hospital.

Mrs Meredith used to say she
never lamented the death of
a child, whose mother was dead.
But Goodford died some years
ago, I might have realized her
feeling - but he had become
of so much value & importance
to his Father and sisters, that
I truly sympathize with them

embrace my sweet nieces
for me I believe me Dear Ann
Affectionately your sister
B. Gray

Friday Aug. 28th