

My Dear Ann

December 24<sup>th</sup>

I am really sorry to hear of Mrs Vertners reverses, I did not hear of her being in Phil<sup>a</sup>, or should certainly have made efforts to see her.

I have given up the practice of visiting. My friends indulge me by coming to see me - but when any one comes to town who I ought to or wish to see, it is very agreeable to me to seek them out. Marie Abbeescombe has entirely recovered her sight, I was told by the lady she boards with - they have moved from my vicinity, and I did not hear of Betseys visit until she had gone away. Rosas second marriage was very unfortu-

and was hardly contri-  
-buted to the happiness of any  
one - I enjoyed the visits of  
Lizzie & Sara very much - but  
they were too short. Sara gave  
me much comfort in telling how  
her sister bore the calamity  
that had almost overpowered  
her, in the beginning - Her large  
family roused her from the  
indulgence of her own grief  
and the thought of doing some  
thing for those in a worst, seemed  
to possess her altogether - I don't  
think that something can be, is still  
in embryo but it has stired  
up the energy of her mind &  
if health is granted I hope  
to see her capable, of contesting  
her destiny. Keeping her shut  
down around her, and leaving  
them in the hands of God, & the  
respect of the community

My letter has been detained  
several days & I cannot now  
close it without expressing my  
warm & heart felt wishes that  
the new year may bring many  
blessings to you and all my  
beloved brother's family. We  
have thus far had a delightful  
winter - general good health &  
the comfort of a cessation of  
hostile operations which I sincerely  
hope may continue until  
some wisdom and goodness in  
the councils of our country may  
adjust matters permanently  
for our well-being & happiness.  
Nature seems to give smiling in-  
dications which ought to hum-  
anize us. - pray let me soon  
hear of the state of your family  
Hymna's wife gives much encourage-  
ment in her own case, in which I  
am deeply interested. May God bless  
you all in the coming year, say to  
each of them, that love accompanies  
my best wishes, and believe me devotedly yours