

Philadelphia Jan. 7
12th

My Dear Ann

I hope the New Year found you & My Dear Brother in good health - and happy - our roundel by all the members of your beloved family - your letter gave me a very agreeable description of our dear Ben's improved looks - no wonder he returned home wasted & sad - he underwent so many trials here - but I thank God his own home is peopled with bright & loving faces - and all domestic comforts - The weather has been intensely cold for some days - I have never thirp bathed out - as I find air / even so cold / and exercise essential to my health - except on the Sabbath I have very little inducement

to go abroad - yesterday I rode
out to the "Foster Home" where we
have many little children, and
an ample treasury, so that there
is work to do - for wags & means
to keep out winter winds.

We are more happy with
our orphan-families who have
their own house well supplied,
and an income nearly equal
to their expenditures, without
dependence on the uncertain
tenure of annual contributions.

We have recently lost a
member of the Family, who
was brought there a poor little
orphan, when she attained the
age, three children are put out.
she was afflicted with diseased
eyes, and therefore retained in
the asylum. she made herself
useful, taught the children to knit
was faithful to the best interests
of the Institution, and passed her

in the state he left her - She
comes frequently to pass the days
with us - Julia is with & sends her
love in which Horace & sister
nurses give mine to your dear
girls - we gaze frequently at their
pictures to keep their sweet faces
in view - and imagine how much
they have grown -

Sarah Anna bids me tell you
that when she paid Levy's bill
she reminded the employer that
if your shaft was returned it was
to be exchanged for any you
might prefer of shafts or cloaks
or any thing else in that depart-
ment of the store -

Give my best love to my dear Ben
& his sons - and tell me about
your family when you write
also for Abby & Jo Hays. The latter
daily writes - & his mother has pre-
nt expecting him this winter

Adieu my dear Anna, believe
always your affectionate RB