

Philadelphia Jan'y 5th

I received your letter
on Saturday My Dear Ann with
its enclosure, and send your
change \$14.60. I am much gratified
that the articles pleased you etc
and that you did not think me
extravagant in these times nothing
is cheap except the demand of
all things human labor which
is pouring out like water. The
disasters of our country keep
us in a constant state of care
and apprehension. yet we have
Thank God many blessings to be
grateful for - in the health & comfort
of those most precious to us. We
have just parted with Sarah
Joseph her husband and eldest
son, who have been spending about
20 days with us. The object of their
winter journey was to recruit Mr
Joseph's health. His physician
thinking a relaxation from all
business essential to his recovery.

Sarah & her boy went home this morning & left him to pursue his journey to Washington, she accompanied him thus far, and thinking him better, returned to her children, who they both thought might require her society, her visit was an agreeable surprise to me & much enjoyed. Two of the Mordecai girls have been spending a week with Peck & Nathan, their school vacation. They will be home to day and Charles Etting, being sick, has obtained leave of absence to be missed at home, poor fellow! I fear the destitution of the house will make a sad scene. Philippa went to Synagogue on Sabbath, and makes great exertions to perform her duties composedly. The terrible events of the war grieve & perplex me. - wrong doings in some quarters. inefficiency in others seem to combine against us. Where are the wise men of the East. The brave men who have hitherto given strength to our good government. and kept us a generous happy nation? - who answers where!

returned to Lexington -
Mamma thought she much
preferred it to her present
residence -

Sally Wags is well again she
has been suffering from Neural-
gia. Henrietta sends her love
and so does Philippe & she
thanks you and her uncle
for your kind sympathy -
She has much hope & pride
in her boys - I trust they will
be successful - and continue
dutiful & affectionate

Love to all my dear Ann
I hope me ever yours & my
beloved Ben's affectionate
Sister
P. Gray