

I have expected daily to have news to tell you

My dear Maria, and have put off writing so long, that I begin to feel the bad effects of it my self. for I want sadly to hear from you and dear Charles. tho' I have not deserved it, and could not expect it. If I could have foreseen that Rachel would have been all this time well & walking about. I should certainly have passed the week so was at Albany with you. and I can not tell you how much I have regretted that so good an opportunity has passed away unimproved.

I am much gratified at the accounts I gave of Charles' improvement, and hope the period of his sufferings is almost past. and that his privation will be less keenly felt than we apprehended. he has borne his misfortune with such heroism. that we may expect the same firmness will accompany him throughout. and I know my dear friend you will bear, and teach him to bear every visitation in the best manner a mortal can do.

I saw Ann last week. she is well and I think looks better than I have seen her in a long time. she is more delicate than usual, but this is becoming to her. she is cheerful. and her society will no doubt make her husband so.

I have seen very little of her since her return, but she has promised to spend a day with me, and then she will find that it is charity to visit me, without waiting for return visits or particular invitations. I have been a good deal engaged lately with the business of our Bazaar Society, providing for winter purchasing clothing &c. and now we are preparing the children for their annual exhibition. Betsey Abernethie is my fellow-labourer, and I am glad to find she has resumed her cheerful ness. The family appear to live happily together. Mrs A. behaves kindly to the girls & they are now walking together constantly with great apparent good will. The Parson retains his station in the Church, is giving public Lectures, and we hear no more of his private affairs.

Are you not looking out for Geoplauch this season? There is great expectation among his literary friends of something very entertaining from his travels. The Gentlemen of this place who met him in Europe, say he will bring more than a common travellers journal home. Washington Irving they say is going to become an Edinburgh Reviewer, so you will lose him altogether. There is quite a dispersion of that society of young men from N. York. These changes are imperceptible to a daily spectator but one who is a few years absent from a place, returns almost a stranger to their former home. James P. expressed great feeling on the effect it had produced on him. He has been writing a book which will soon be published here —

Mrs Ogden Hoffman

New York

Mr D. Chas.

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