

My Dearest Anne

This will be handed you, by your chatilda who is so happy in the idea of seeing you again that I suppose she will scarce be sensible of any fatigue or difficulty which travelling at this ever changing season may subject her to; - I am writing in Sister Mary's chamber at midnight her illness which I mentioned to you in my last. Absolutely baffles the exertions of her physician it is occasioned by a violent cold, which in her debilitated state almost overpowers her strength - she is now in a sleep produced by Laudanum, and which I hope will benefit her. The cough is somewhat abated and we anxiously expect that a few days will make a favorable change - there is a dreadful tumult in the streets and cry of fire - but I feel so much more interested in other calamities that I do not quit my pen - at a sound which last night filled me with terror -

It seems that I have nothing but bad news to communicate and I know you will partake in the general sorrow for an accident which took place on Thursday night and which separates an amiable & interesting family of their protectors and best friends. Mr Geo Plumsted in going up stairs in a state of intoxication fell over the banisters and was killed by the fall - his wife you were acquainted with

and from the sensibility of her character may form some
idea of her present state of wretchedness - the funeral was
to have taken place this afternoon - but upon examining
the body - a little was said about the heart indeed there
was means for his revival - but I believe it was but enco-
uraging a false hope - for from the nature of the hurt (which
was entirely in his head) it is not possible he could recover -
I never heard of circumstances so repulsive with horror -
the situation from which he was called in to the awful presence
of his God, seems shocking - and the embarrassed state of his
affairs may create for this afflicted wife - difficulties of another
nature -

Rachel received a letter from Eliza last week - but it
contains no flattering account of dear Caroline's situation
but we must submit to the will of Heaven! and with
grateful acknowledgements receive the mercy that spares
the dear girl a ~~prolonged~~^{sense} of her danger - and the acute
sufferings she endured in the first season of her illness -

I have not been able to see Matilda to day - but
hope I shall before she sets out in the morning - I intended
to have gone home after sister went to bed - but the rain pre-
vented me - now will excuse this intolerable writing as
I have my paper in my lap and nothing to support
it - besides a very bad pen -

your kind friend for the last time
and I hope you will be the same
from this time on

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1808

Mrs Ogden Hoffman

New York

Miss F. C. Hoffman

Miss Lucy
Mrs Plunkett

