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Well my dear Maria since you have overcome so strong
an aversion for the pleasure of hearing from me, I shall not play
off the airs of retaliation and keep you longer from your well earned
reward, hoping that your hydrophobia is cured I shall expect a letter
within the next month, and should you have any longing within my
reach I beg you will inform me of it with all speed. We are still to
be found in the old place, if our friends will take the trouble of hunting
us out from among the conestoga waggons which form an almost im-
penetrable phalanx around the door. Some days a carriage would not possibly
approach, and it is only on a Sunday we can give a stranger any idea of
what was once the most beautiful part of Phila. we are making diligent
search for a convenient house in Chestnut Street, but have not yet succeeded
we wish to continue our near neighbourhood to Rachel which renders it
somewhat more difficult. as we seldom see a large & small house to rent
in the same situation, we shall be obliged to determine on some place before
May, as Mr. Mores must move then. - you will conclude from this that
we are still in the land of the living - but your next question I shall find
it more difficult to give a satisfactory answer - what am I doing - alas!
many things that are of no account - and leaving undone that which I ought to do.
There are so many little things that engage ones attention daily and seem neces-
sary to ones convenience & comfort that would never do to write down. ~~that~~
when the question is asked I am obliged to confess that I really pass my time
in a very trifling manner, and shall have to answer to many wasted hours
when called to my great account. Rachel's children are my favourite boys
and I play with them just as much as your little Charles does with his
bow & hoop. Then I read a little & sew a little & write a little - and gossip a

little for the good of the poor - go about lecturing or sporting the children of the different families, and fall pretty much into the habits of other old maids, not from any disposition to do mischief, but simply & purely for the want of a family of my own to regulate. I have not yet acquired the talent of talking scandal, or railing at the follies & extravagances of my married friends and the world in general, but suppose they will come naturally in the course of time. When worldly experience will teach me how blind and undiscerning my contemporaries have been to reject such a super-excellent individual as I shall no doubt be -

The whole town is mad after Cooke. yesterday morning at ten o'clock seats in the boxes were to be secured for his first performance - large premiums were offered to stout porters - constables and negroes to obtain the best places, and they took their station at the door of the theatre, at ten on Friday night, watched the whole night, and by eight the next morning the press was so great, that they were obliged to open the door, for fear of its being burst open. coats & hats & shirts were torn to pieces in the struggle, and I fear tomorrow night the same scene of crowding, fainting, & suffocation will be exhibited here, that attended his first appearance in New York -

Ann tells me she has a seat in the stage box, and is anticipating great delight in her new situation, removed from the corner of the pit - Dennis is to sit in the orchestra - and I hear it is in contemplation, to petition the manager to have Richard played in succession until all the play going people have been gratified - so you see there is a prospect of Cooke's being well received in Phil^a -

If your husband bends his will this way, why can't you accompany him? leave Charles to his studies and bring the other two with you. They are now so healthy that you need not fear the journey, and this season is much more favourable than when you attempted it before.

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N.D.



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