

Phil^l April 25th
Tuesday 20th

My Dear Dear Ben,

I have so constantly been called on to express my gratitude for loving kindness & liberality to you and our brothers that I want words to express my feelings. I can only thank you for the gift of money - all other gifts of your abounding love, my heart warmly & faithfully reciprocates, and in this world my precious brother, what treasure has the gracious God bestowed, so fruitful of human happiness, as affection? how the past & the present are cheered, by its influence, and the future brightened by the hopes it inspires.

I hope you will realize much gratification from your visit to St Louis, I had a letter from your sister Mary Snow lately, dated from Cassy's office

from which I find he has commenced
the battle of life - I trust he will be success-
-ful. I am sure he will deserve to be so
he bears such an index of goodness in his
face - I wrote to Howard & Minerva, to
thank them for giving their little
daughter my name, it was a very con-
-fiding compliment in his wife, whom
I have never seen. Sister Ann's things
were dispatched last week and I hope
will arrive in time, for the weather was
-ther, which has been very far behind
the usual season - we have still fires
in our grates, tho' the sun shines out with
more warmth to day than it has done
before - our sister is getting on very well.
Thank God - this time last year, we were
-bled for her life, and I felt great anxiety
lest the papsver might again disagree
with her - she has been troubled, about
Rosa, who is still suffering from having
been upset in her carriage some weeks
ago, and very much bruised. she was pre-
paring for a visit to her mother, & of course

both are disappointed. but nothing more
serious is apprehended from the
accident. I am as well as usual. I think
he is more careful of his diet, and his
recent attacks have been less severe. My man
is quite well again, and begins to look
finely after his goat - I went yesterday
to Henton, to see on Shad. The journey
was pleasant - a fine peep at the country
quite desirable, but of the dinner - he
said nothing - so I conclude it was no
better than he could have got at home.

If you cared as much, ^{for} of the pleasures
of the table, I should wish it were possible
to send you some of the abundant shad
now seen in our markets - and much
over the neighbourhood - but only to be enjoyed
when fresh from the water -

Sister Mary spent this day with us, and
requested me to enclose a note for her in
this. her sight is still imperfect, and she
has not been able to get any aid from glasses.

Give my best love to Dear Ann and the
darling girls. and believe me ever my

My Dear Brother most devotedly your
outbrother, Perce
& Julia send their love. Affectionate P. Gray

Mr Riggs I hear has given up
his intended voyage to California
which Mary wrote to me was fixed for
the 20th - so I suppose it has been sudden-
ly relinquished. The 2 her children were
broke.