

Philadelphia Sept 8th

What a stupor thing it is the talk of ones engaged.
Now my dear Aunt I know you will agree with me & sympathize
with me in the difficulty, I have in telling you this true story -
Only my dear Aunt & Uncle have always been so dear to me &
have so kindly taken a tender interest in my welfare that
this most important step of my life must be so decided
with their free advice - You my dear Aunt have never seen
the being or whom I have placed my future happiness but
as my Father Aunt Betty and indeed all my family approve my
choice I hope you will give me also your blessing. Uncle has
^{never seen} ~~not often known~~ the gentleman with whom I believe they
remember his parents, perhaps you may remember to have heard
the girls tease me about Mr. Nathan, our acquaintance has been
of many years standing, he is about my age & of this acquaintance
I will ^{have} others to speak - suffice it for me to tell you that this my
acquaintance has thus brought me together - & when I have
the pleasure of introducing him to you both - I do hope for
your sanction, he lives in New York - is a lawyer & for me
young & has had more than ordinary success in the
profession, his residence being so near my Father ^{that he} ~~is being~~
conducive to my happiness for at my Father's time of life
and having so many of his childhoods far separated from him

It will be a trial to part with her too; if you were only at No 2
Boston Ave here it would be to tell to you more about
myself as present or completely absorbs all my ideas, but
so far as we separated that I must not take up all
my paper in being egotistical but tell you of other
members of the family that I'll write you with to
hear about - we have all just returned from visiting
Aunt Becky & Uncle Jo very much improved the latter
completely restored & wears as beaming & bright a visage
as when you last saw him - our circle has indeed
very much changed since you were amongst us a
few weeks we expect quite a full quorum you had
better come too & then we should be complete -
Prosa & her husband have arrived they look as young & lively
as when you saw the past tied Minnie is mighty proud
of her then, it has been delightful for me to have her with us
this summer to see how perfectly happy she is. I never saw
a face more expressive of content than hers - She is
coming up next week, I am sure the only one working in
the West - Mary Anne she left here last week with her third
husband to spend this month in Richmond, her father-in-law
is declining rapidly & she wishes to show him his
grand child, which is a lovely fat baby. Garrison's children
increase in number, they are both very beautiful, Rose has
yet arrived, Garrison's father is almost exhausted, Hope
defended herself the best she could, she has indeed shown herself

a wonderful woman to bear up against so many disappointments.
I am so indeed to have met her & aunts of great happiness,
Health, I hear that the D^r are alarmed about her. I do wish
you could prevail on Mr. Polin to let her leave Washington
this winter the next best she is always in there is
dreadful for her weak frame. She is now at Birnie
Springs & I do most fervently pray they may restore her. I
think dear Aunt you will be with her father would be a
great deal you & my uncle would be delighted to see her. Sally
Aunt Susan & Aunt G. are this summer. Their little feet
has quite worned there, & when they get her something
side of the interesting old eye worned by all their
good children. It pleases them much to see how happy
they endure to their parents happiness at their time of life.
The D^r & Sally are well & happy with their little ones &
now I think I have given you a sketch of all the
family ones. To each of my dear cousins you may love
I hope they will not forget me I love them very much.
Aunt Aunt with me a letter & tell me all about them.
Bernard must be quite a young man Howard too.
He kept Wymor & Mary as pets as long as possible.
now I must ask you to excuse this hurried scrawl
but I was determined another day should not pass
without my claiming you as a participant in my
happiness, & as I am housekeeper I have had several
things to call me from you. To my beloved Aunt I shall
before you attend to them.

My father & mine his eldest son & daughter to go to Aunt

Maria

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To Mr. Benjamin Dick

Care of Mrs B. Dick

Lewiston

Y. Westchester

Maria