

Philadelphia Oct. 10th

Dearest Ann, I have just received
your letter which has relieved me
from great anxiety at the present
moment but in the present state of
uncertainty I have a longing desire
to have your dear Gals with me
and have only deferr'd telling you
so, because I have been daily
expecting to hear something that
would justify me in making a
request that would cost you the
sacrifice of parting with them -
I know you too well, to think you
would leave your husband - When
you could afford him comfort - or
when your watchfulness & counsel
are so essential to him - Both he
and you, may depend on the
most devoted care, I am capable
of if you will entrust your precious
treasures to me - if dear Bernard
will bring them, it would gratify
another longing of my heart

to see him - I share all your
troubled excitement about the
forlorn condition of our western
affairs. Lizzie had a most
agitated letter from Frank's
sister - telling how he is distressed
having been instrumental to the
great evil of bringing such a
General to rule over the Army
in that important portion of
our country. - whose action against
his benefactors & friends, give
little hope of acting better by
his country - I am glad to hear
my man & Laura come frequently
to see you. Dear Bernard must
not join the Army. He is too impor-
tant to his Father - we must hope
for better times - even in the
midst of our present gloom,
we have suffered so much from
the mistakes, & want of talent
in our Generals, so much from

from the Treachery of women
I men who were not suspected
That besides the natural evils
attendant on war - & the work
of wars - but surely this must
have an end - & the improvement
and increase of the army - we
may hope the horrors of this
struggle will be overcome -

Give my love to my dear
brother and say I hope it
will please God, to grant
me the happiness of seeing
him and all of you again -
You must all come to me, if
it be right, to leave Lexington,
or any portion of the family
who should leave home,

Farewell my dear Ann,
I cannot write all that is
in my heart - but you will
believe it is full of affection
for you all Affly

My dear Sister

Sept 1861