

My Dear Anna

Your sweet little voluntary letter took me by surprise and gave me a great deal of pleasure. I am glad you enjoy your vacation so much, but I believe ^{all} changes are enjoyed at your happy period of life where the kindly affections are so cherished and cultivated by the loving members of your dear household.

If you keep to your good resolutions, I do not think you will grow weary of your holiday days. Indeed there are such stirring times, that no one

can feel at liberty to be idle,
Yesterday while talking
to one of our "Lone Nighten-
gales" I felt my energies
so roused that I sighed for
the power of other days, that I
might go forth and try to help
the sufferers, collected in so
many hospitals around about
our city. I admired the regu-
lar system, as well as the active
benevolence which makes our
man's aid so effective. You
can help too. Bear up arms
and enjoy the means immo-
dified by good concerns, to fill
the coffers of the benevolent
Ladies Association. I am glad
you have patriotic Ladies
to sustain the reputation of
our sex, for we have reports

of many in your midst
whose sympathies are on the
wrong side. The same evil
exists here, which I am sorry
to say interferes with the har-
mony and good feeling so
necessary in social life.

I must beg you to thank your
Dear Mother for her interest-
ing letter, which I read with
great pleasure. I am glad
Dear Miriam has enjoyed
her first trip abroad in the
new character of a "Young
Lady," on her entrance into
the world - she is so modest
and retiring that she no doubt
felt it an important step
to be made without her
Mother & you, give my love
to her, and your Father,

and brothers. Your
Grandson sends love
and duty to you

We have had three or
four days of exceedingly
hot weather, which must
add terribly to the suffering
of poor sick and wounded
soldiers. Edmund Estlin
we think better, he was
able yesterday to walk unassisted
across his room. The
rest of the family well,
including Horace & your
old affectionate Aunt,
God Bless you my dear
Anna — R. Gray

July 10th 1862.

[July 10, 1862]



Miss Anna Gratz
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