

November 17. 1834

Dear Mary

I hear that this is your birth day. You close to-day one more year of your probationary state on earth, & pass forward into another, the issue & events of which are known to God alone. Permit me most affectionately to congratulate you on having passed safely thus far through the dangers of your earthly way. Some 30,000,000 of the population of the globe have died in the year that you have just gone through. You might, of course, have been amongst them. That you have not been - that, through God's goodness, you are still alive; alive too, amidst the privileges of the gospel, with further time for earthly duty & preparation for an everlasting state - is certainly a reason

for congratulation, & I offer it with
all my heart.

But may I not offer also the
expression of my earnest hope that this
new year which is dawning on you
may be an era in your life - the com-
mencement of a course of prayer and
effort which may issue, through God's
blessing, in a thorough yielding of your
heart to him? I know you have thought
upon this subject, & I feel sure that you
must have come to the conclusion that
it is time to be attending to God's calls,
& to your own soul's interests. Well,
then, let your new birth-day be the
beginning of a new life. Endeavour
to devote its closing hours to meditation
on your responsibilities to God - on the
reasonableness of his claims upon you
& on the propriety & duty of attending to
these claims at once. Pray for the influ-

ences of the Holy Spirit to enable you
to follow the convictions of your conscience;
& set out upon an earnest effort to secure
for yourself a new heart - a heart maned
from all earthly vanities, & wholly given
up to heavenly things.

You may be assured of a warm
sympathy on the part of all around
you, in any effort you may make
towards the attainment of this blessed
end. And should such an effort be
firmly, perseveringly, & humbly made,
I should feel no anxious doubt in
reference to its issue. I should hope
to see it - & that too, ere very long - even
to be in a surrendering of your whole
heart to the love of the Redeemer & the
guidance of the St. Ghost. And before
the year in which you are entering should
close, I should expect to see you rejoicing
in the consciousness that God's anger

was forever turned from you; his
arms of everlasting love thrown round
you; his pardon granted you for
all your sins; & your name written
in his book of life forevermore.

How much of happiness would
thus accrue to yourself, to your parents,
& to your friends, I need not say.
And how much of happiness you
would yourself enjoy from the assurance
of a condemnation done away & a
hope of heavenly happiness secured
no one could adequately tell.

Lose not then, dear Mary, this
golden opportunity. Seek instantly;
seek earnestly; God's blessing on the
effort to become his child. And ere
the day is over set out on that effort
with a firm & hopeful heart. That
heaven's blessing may rest on it, & that
it may issue in a glad success, is the
sincere prayer of
Your true friend A. Shira

Dear Mary

I was very glad to get
your note & to have in it a clear
statement of your feelings. It is
a reason for great thankfulness
that you have been brought to a
serious consideration of your condition
before God, & to a desire & effort for
salvation. By all means try to
cherish & strengthen this desire.
Think often of your need of a Redeem-
er. Think of the sufficiency & fulness
of the one that has been provided for
you by God's love. Think of the precious-
ness of the salvation he has wrought - "Who-
soever believeth *** shall not perish,
but shall have everlasting life". And
as you think of these things, try to

realise that the Redeemer God
has given, & the Redemption Christ
has wrought, have been given & wrought
for you - as much for you as if there
were no one else to need them.

And be not discouraged by the
felt greatness of your sins as if they
could not be forgiven. "The blood of
Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin".

Do not be discouraged by the
weakness of your resolutions, & the
failures you will be often conscious
of, in your endeavours to turn from sin,
& lead a truly holy, pious life. Let
this weakness & these failures only
draw you off from trust in your
own strength to trust in the help
& blessing of the Holy Spirit. Let
them lead you to go forth in the
strength of the Lord God, making
mention of his righteousness, even
of his only.

And ere long, I trust you

will see your way clearing & feel
your heart strengthened from above.
Christ, looked to & trusted in, will
reveal himself to you as your Saviour.
The Holy Spirit, earnestly sought,
will graciously become your guide.
Only hold on, & press forward, re-
membering & acting on God's promise -
"I never said to the seed of Jacob;
Seek ye me in vain".

Sincerely trusting that light may
soon spring up to you, & the hope of
pardon soon be given you, I am

Most truly & affectionately
Yours in the gospel

A. Murray

Jan 21. 1855

Miss Mary Kamilar.

To Mary

My dear Mary
While others round
are thinking of their spiritual in-
terests, & praying, as I hope, for God's
converting grace, I trust you will
endeavor to secure for yourself those
spiritual influences by which you
may become a child of God. I feel
confident that you are not without
convictions of the duty that you owe
to God; & as a sincere & earnest
friend, I would urge a present cher-
ishing of these convictions & a faithful
effort to obtain at once the full
renewal of your nature & a calm
hope of forgiveness through Jesus Ch.
And as communication of our feelings
on such subjects often helps to
strengthen them I would affectionately
ask you to tell me one or two things.

1. Do you not feel that it is time to give up the whole heart to the seeking of a Christian character & hope?

2. Do you not believe that if such a character & hope be sought with the whole heart, they may be obtained?

3. Do you think that you are now giving to them the thought & attention necessary to obtain them?

4. If not, will you not try to enter earnestly upon such an earnest seeking of them as may, through God's blessing, be a means of securing them?

If I can in any way assist, in such an effort, by books, by advice, by encouragement, do not hesitate to say so. It will afford me the utmost pleasure to do any thing in my power to aid you in obtaining what it is my heart's desire & prayer that you

may have.

Most truly yours in the gospel
A. Murra

Jan 18. 1855

William, July 1853

My dear Ellen

As Mrs S is not well,
is much prostrated by the heat, &
is busy at house-cleaning, I take
on myself to answer for her your
letter.

We were truly sorry to learn that
you were driven into night-travelling
by the delay of your luggage, & suf-
fered, consequently, so much fatigue.
Hoping that your Father would rely
on my care for the baggage, & go
immediately on, I had given all
necessary directions for sending it
after you by Express. It would, in
that case, have reached home al-
most as soon as yourselves, &
I have allowed you an easier and
more comfortable travel. I trust
however, that you may, before this,

Mrs Mary Howland

have recovered from the effects of your present appearances that they in
fatigue, & be deriving from them ^{to close the windows in the roof}
air & diet the benefit they usually ^{ofen others into the Green-house,}
afford. which will make it quite pleasant,

We miss you both greatly, of my affording a sight of the flowers
Except when we have friends ^{intubule at table.} These are the
us, the house seems strangely ^{silently alterations yet in progress,} but
in the morning & evenings, & the others are in prospect, such as the
table, with only Mrs Murray & myself removal of the Stable to a place back
at it, appears solitary indeed. My my garden, & the putting up of
Pullock & family being gone, we a wood-shed along the wall above
feel almost as if alone, though in our Yard.

Priory appears nearly as full of us. Adele Sampson was here yesterday,
as during term-time. They are ^{re} announced that she was to go to
rously engaged in house-cleaning, England with the ladies, to remain
tations & repairs. They are ^{thru} with them till their return. Maria
the West-Wing & Priory into one - ⁱⁿ Potter is to do the same. We knew
the stairs of the former descend in that these things were proposed before
the School-room, which is being the session closed, but could not speak
extended by the addition of the of them till they should be formally
Pantry of the West Wing & of the announced. Adele's father, I believe
entry which formerly ran in front is to pay \$1000. for her board & tuition
of it, so as to make a very long in England: My Potter somewhat
dining-room. I suppose from less. This, with the \$2000. to be rec

from Mr Water as the rent of the
place, & the \$1000 from the little garden
already there will afford the fan. You are doubtless enjoying very
a handsome income. much again the faithful mini-

A letter from Lucy Schuyler tells me that is enjoying herself, trust, profit the more by them from
very much in her quiet rural the temporary change that you have
retreat at Ashford, Conn; & indeed. Such a change of ministra-
from Libbie Thompson states occasionally of service, like
she was conf^d a week ago by B. a journey, which not only refreshes
Potter, together with a brother. In for the time, but quickens the
she prove faithful to the Savior appetite & relish for home-food. My
whose vows are now upon her hope is that you will reap some
& adorn in all things the doctrine benefit from the influences exerted
of our Lord. Pray for her, that here, & manifest to those around
all her goings in God's path, you good evidence of spiritual
may be upholden, & that, who health & fruitfulness. One thing
in the world, she may be protect especially I trust will abide by
from its evil. She will be exposed you as the fruit of prayer influences,
to many temptations in a way & that is a care for the few poor
& wealthy home, & will need around you, for their spiritual
the prayers of her young friends interests more particularly. You
especially, as she has not just may do much for them by going
factual oversight that we could mis sometimes to them when their days

work is ended; talking with them terribly stormy afternoons I was
a little, to engage their interest; & ever out in. Poor fellow! I fear there
reading to them from the Scriptures is very little hope for him, as he con-
from religious newspapers, or perused his wicked courses to the
tracts. Let the pieces be mainly last, being engaged in extensive
narrative, & always short. The poor defraudations along the shore only
think little continuously, & cannot the week before his death. He
attend to any thing long. was much alarmed in his illness,

One of our own poor & bad neighbor showed very little humility, or penitence
is gone from us. Hudson is dead hence. "He that, being often reproved,
After a feast of lobster, new potatoes hardeneth his neck; shall sud-
& various other improper things suddenly be destroyed, & that without
Sunday week, he was attacked remedy."

most violently, with Cholera-Morbus. For Margaret's father was very
wh ran into something very like near being taken off yesterday from
Asiatic Cholera, & finally became neglect of warnings. He had been
complicated with congestion of the at work in the harvest field the day
brain. He sent for me on Monday before; came home very sick; went
morning early in much alarm. I out again in spite of remonstrances;
saw him, talked with him, warm was prostrated with sun-stroke in
& prayed with him several times to the middle of the day, & very nearly
Wednesday, when he became delirious. To-day, through the prompt
He died on Thursday, & was buried application of remedies, he is able to
the next day in one of the most speak, & I hope may get over it, looking

many days' work however, through
an unwillingness to lose me:

And now Ellen dear, & Mary,
too (for I write as much to one as to
the other) let me assure you, in
conclusion, of the deep interest we
take you will always be remembered
by us. We have & shall have, in
the pleasantest recollections of your
quiet sojourn with us; & shall
never cease to follow you with prayer
that God's fatherly hand may
be over you, His Holy Spirit
be with you, & your path be
always under the direction of
His word.

With many affectionate remem-
brances to Father & Mother & our
rounding friends, from Mrs S as near
as myself, believe ever

Most truly

Your attached friend
A. Murray

Whitman Hill, Phil^a
Feb. 4. 1856

My dear Mary What a modest girl
you are! To think that you should
imagine a letter from you could not
be interesting; & that it could be of little
consequence whether I should hear from
you or not! Why, my dear Child, every
thing from you, & every thing that con-
cerns you is interesting to me, & always
will be, of that you may be sure. When
we took you to our home, I took you to
my heart, too; & have felt for you & in
you since scarcely less interest than I
should in a child of my own. You know
I am (somewhat like yourself,) not given
to special demonstrations of affection;
but you & Ellen may assure yourselves of
a very warm place in the warmest cor-
ner of my heart. And any thing that
either of you can ever tell me about yourself
will always be sure to find the readiest
audience & the most cordial welcome,
whether I have the leisure to tell you so or not.

many days' work however, through
Especially shall I feel interested in any
thing that concerns your spiritual
welfare; & shall not cease to pray & hope
that the good work God has, I trust, begun
in you, He will carry on unto perfection.
I rejoice to think that you have such an
excellent aid to this in your faithful and
admirable pastor. God bless him in all his
labors, & make them issue in much fruit.
We are at last settled, after a fastidious
at Chestnut Hill, occupying about half
our house, & waiting for the rest till Spring
when finished, it will be larger, more con-
venient, & much more pleasant than
that at Pelham - in a more cheerful
position, too, & with beautiful views from
it. It overlooks about 30 miles of the most
charming country, covered with farms
& villages: is lighted, too, with gas, & proposed
to be heated by a furnace. The ch. here is
in its infancy; but its prospects for the future
better than those at Pelham. The town - a
village yet, but rapidly growing - is beautifully
pared, & I can have a walk of 5 miles
chose without being off the pavement
for a few steps. You will see by the case
I send that we are to have a school here
somewhat like that at the Priory. Say a
word for it, if you have an opportunity.

CHESTNUT-HILL SCHOOL
FOR YOUNG LADIES.

REV. JOHN A. VAUGHAN, D. D., RECTOR.
MISS C. BRITAIN AND MRS. A. PRICE, ASSOCIATE PRINCIPALS.

It is designed to open this School on the first of May next.
In the vicinity of Philadelphia, no spot surpasses Chestnut Hill for health;
and elevated more than 400 feet, it commands also a scenery of unrivalled beauty.
A Rail-road, terminating near the School, connects it with the City, nine miles
distant.

The Associate Principals will share the immediate responsibilities of the
School. While each will take part in the instruction, that department will fall
more especially under the charge of the first named associate. The other, with
her sister, will assume the equally important duties which secure to the pupils
the constant attention of maternal and Christian kindness throughout their
home. As an Instructress, Miss Britain unites with ability and experience, a
well tried Christian spirit, and is recommended by the Principal of Troy
Seminary "as qualified to take charge of any institution in our country." A
French young lady (Protestant) of high qualities of mind and character, will
reside in the family as French Teacher.

The Rev. A. Shiras, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Chestnut Hill, will take an
active interest in the School, and occasionally aid in the instruction.

The School in its several departments will be under the direct supervision
of the undersigned. In giving his constant attention to its interests, he will
hold himself responsible, that no pains shall be spared, in rendering the School
worthy of entire confidence, for thoroughness of instruction, the comforts of a
Christian home, and the formation of an elevated character.

Bishop Potter, in recommending this School to parents generally, has the right
to visit at all times, and remedy defects. The appointment of rector, associate
principals, and resident teachers, is subject to his concurrence.

TERMS, &c.

The two sessions of five months each will commence May 1 and November 1.
Vacations, April and October.

The charge for board and tuition, (including all the branches usually taught
in the higher female schools, excepting Music and Oil Painting,) will be \$175 per
session. For these two extra branches \$30 each per session.

Day-Scholars will be charged in all cases, \$50 per session. All payments in
advance.

Reference may be made to the Rt. Rev. A. Potter, D. D., to the Episcopal
Clergy of Philadelphia, or to gentlemen residing at Chestnut Hill.

Communications may be addressed to the Rector, at Philadelphia, until May 1,
subsequently at Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia.

JOHN A. VAUGHAN,
RECTOR.

January, 1856.

many days' work however through

Chestnut Hill, Mar 30/37

My dear Mary

Ellen's letter was found this evening awaiting us on our return from my usual weekly visit to the city. And as she says that no letter has reached you from us for a year - though I wrote one & sent it last summer - I resolved not to let another night pass without writing. And you being first on the list, I address you at present, meaning to pay my respects to Ellen in due time.

We are greatly indebted to both of you for your letters - for the kind feeling expressed in them - & for the news they have given us as to yourselves & other friends. Negligent as we perhaps seem in respect to correspondence, it is from

no diminution of affectionate interest
of that you must rest constantly assured -
but only find the pressure of those daily
engagements which steal away hour
after hour, week after week, & even
month after month, leaving me to wonder
finally where the time has flown. We
talk of you; think of you; pray for you;
do everything but write to you. And I
should have written long letters, had
I not been constantly expecting the
arrival of Ellen's letter which was
promised nearly a year ago, & then
again re-promised in your last. But
as it has come at last, I will not
scold her, but answer her, as soon
as I get a little leisure time. I
have just done by her as I wish you
both to do by us - assured myself that
the friendly disposition to write was there,
& write manifest itself when the opportunity

for its manifestation should arrive.

We are really saddened by what
you both tell us of the changes that
have taken place throughout the neigh-
borhood. The deaths & removals must
have greatly changed the aspect of
the congregation; & if the Texas fever,
of which you spoke in your last, should
spread, & take the epidemic form which
such fevers are too apt to assume,
Grace Ch will soon have to take
Wickliffe into its arms again, in
order to show anything like its
old rotundity. Those of you who
remain will need to be doubly active,
to make up for the numerous, & in
some cases sad losses, that have been
sustained. I can fully sympathize
with your good pastor in the pain he
must feel at losing so many of his
flock; but hope that God will give

him occasion to rejoice in the
rich evidences of this blessing among
those that are still left to him.

And as to those that have gone away,
it may prove only a scattering of the
seeds of truth by the hand of the great
husbandman. As, in the early ages,
"they that were scattered abroad went
everywhere preaching the word;" so
now I trust that religious influences
will be diffused through other parishes
by those who go from yours, & the Ch
large be benefitted, though your own
particular portion of it suffer for a
time.

At Pelham almost as great changes
seem to have taken place. Mr Isaac
Roosevelt you probably know is dead.
Mrs Schuyler had gone before him to
the grave. Miss Helen Prime has
married & removed. Freddy Prime has

17/57
gone from home to school. Miss
Lloyd has left there. In consequence
of these changes the Edgewood family
will probably spend their winters
henceforth in the city & make Edg-
wood only a summer home. The
Schuylers are likely to do the same
& as all the other families except
the Clarks, Gardeners & Scherbulien's
have long pursued this plan Pelham
seems destined to be deserted during
the winter for the future, except by
the family at the Priory & the three
just named. Then at the Priory
the absence of Mrs Bulloch, Mrs Hunter,
the Miss Hunters, Miss Arabella, &
perhaps ourselves, together with the
going to the Institution much more
the school aspect, have made
themselves considerably felt. The
number of pupils has come down to

21, & even Miss Bolton's return was likely to have to abide at home, does not seem at all to increase the number. We dismissed the temporary "help", & installed Ann at the head of the

Tom Parr & his sister Ann, whom you perhaps have some remembrance of, have both left there; & the latter has come to live with us in place of Margaret who had had to return home to take care of her father & her poor crazed sister Kate. Margaret

has come to live with us in place of Margaret who had had to return home to take care of her father & her poor crazed sister Kate. Margaret was with great reluctance, & we of course miss her much; but get thankful that we have now a Protestant in her place. It seems most evidently of God's arrangement that the very day Margaret left, getting some one to serve us temporarily. Our people are very kind to us -

Ann came seeking a place. We once told her to remain till we knew certainly, whether Margaret return, & when we found that

we installed Ann at the head of the
Ann will most likely find a place
& Ann Cusk, the other
Laundry Maid, who has also left the
wants to come.

Whesnut Hill maintains its
pleasantness - is altogether a brighter
place than Pelham -
prospects for the future is much
the latter. Our population grows,
and in a few years there will be here
quite an important Church.

Our people are very kind to us -
for the winter - make
a present of \$100. at Christmas -
with a free ticket on the
the city without

17/57

cost whenever I may please.

It only needs larger spiritual blessings, to make us perfectly happy here - at least as perfectly so as is possible to be in this poor care & sinful world; where sorrows will come, where cares will weigh on us, & where bodily pain must often be felt.

Please present our affectionate regards to all beneath your roof all around you - your good pastor among the rest.

And rest assured yourself dear Mary, of the unfailing regard, unceasing interest, & interceding prayers of

Your attached friend in Christ
Alex. Shiras

Miss Mary Combs

Chestnut Hill, June 17/57

My dear Ellen

It may almost have seemed to you that I have forgotten my promise to Mary that I would reply to your letter in due turn. Not at all, however. It has been in my mind & on my conscience; & would have been attended to before but for the unexpected hindrance of a moving from one house to another, with all the preceding packing & all the frequent fixings to do with my own hands - Mrs. S. as you know, not having strength for such things, & not being rich enough to hire the needed help.

We are "fixed" however, now, in a new & very pleasant house - the only drawback from the enjoyment

of which is that when the Vestry come
to build for us a Parsonage we shall
have to move again. I begin to
wish for a little more of your Virginia
Stability - more quiet abiding in respect.
dwelling, year after year, as the farrows
seat & home. And sometimes I am
almost tempted to come back to
"Virginia"; settle down in some quiet
parish; & make it, if God shall,
my one earthly rest thenceforth.
knoweth whether it ever will be
whether, indeed, the opportunity
be presented - but it is at least
pleasant dream. Whether ever
accomplished depends upon a
power than mine.

unexpected call to aid an embarrassed
relative with funds that will not be
returned for a long while - if ever - has
put a damper on my hopes in this
respect. But as I am sincerely de-
siring to be with you then, if possible,
I beg that I may have notice of
the consecration, whenever it may
be appointed to take place. Should
not come to it, it will not be from
want of disposition & desire to do so,
that you may be sure; for of
all my parishes, the one in which
I first lived & labored has still the
strongest hold upon my heart.

Pray, how does the New Church
come on? Does it look as though it would
be complete this summer? Some one
told me awhile ago that it probably
would not be before October. It would
be a pity if it should be so long delayed
for that.

If your building committee
are not definitely made their contracts

Meanwhile I have been con-
vinced with the idea that perhaps
I might allow myself the indulgence
of seeing you all in your new Church
when the notice of its opening for
worship should be given me.

for interior painting, I would respectfully be able to retain him. Nor suggest to the Minister & them to will he, I think, eventually regret the effect of simply varnishing this declination of the call. For wood. Our people here did so at my house he would probably have suggestion, & are all delighted succeeded there, & been both use it. Three coats of varnish on finely & happily settled, it seems oak, or walnut, give it much greener his present post is, on the richness than any paint, while whole, as pleasant & fine a field is much cheaper than graining & is a city Parish, with its manifold preserves the wood. They could care & toils. Only, while judge of the effect by having a few keep him, hold up his hands strips varnished for them - only refresh his heart by constant prayer being that it grows much richer him, by sweet reception of the in color as it ripens in age. I wish, by earnest sympathy with varnish, of course, should be the aim in his efforts, & by faithful

I only suggest the matter of operation in all plans for good consideration; but feel certain that if the plan were adopted there will be but one voice as to the result on all about you are & how

I suppose you felt some the Parish prospers. I know giving way under you, when when any join the Church, are Whittle was invited to Louisville married, or do anything particu- You may be congratulated on his

us from the Brooklyn friends.
do not seem in high spirits.
Martha & Miss Lydia Hunter
getting slowly forward with the
School. We hope to see some
them here this summer.

Please remember us very
affectionately to Father & Mother
to Sister Mary, to any other friends
that may be with you, & to
over the way, as well as to
Whittle.

Cannot some of you get
& see us this season? We should
be very much delighted to receive
you to our new home.

Farewell. God bless you a
ever affectionately yours
Alex. Mur

Miss Ellen Hornstar
Perryville; Clarke Co. Pa.

her friends. Accordingly I accepted
one near Phil^a, & although my
people here have been remonstrating
very loudly against my going, I
feel that the leadings of Providence
respecting it have, in the past two
days, been made too plain to be
mistaken. So, God sparing us,
we go to Chestnut Hill about
the middle of Nov. We shall hope
to hear from ^{you} when we get there, if
not before.

Without time for more, as the
vestry are just about to meet, I am,
my dear Childers, most affly

Yours in the gospel

Tell Father his money
was appropriated as he desired.

A. Shurtis

I can hardly tell you, my dear young friends, how very much we think of you, notwithstanding the silence wh^{ch} incessant engagements & journeys have lately imposed on us. Mrs Shiras has probably told you that I have had lately some half dozen calls elsewhere — three of them to places wh^{ch} seemed so promising that I went to see them for myself, though one was in Md & one as far off as Ohio. All, particularly the one in Ohio, made a very favorable impression on me, & the western one, to a delightful parish in a large & pleasant town, would have been accepted, but for the fear that Mr S might suffer from so long a journey & possibly be unhappy so far from

Worcester, Pa
Aug 12. 1857

My dear Ellen

Your letter reached
me on Monday morning, just as
I was leaving home for this place.
The journey had been deferred to
the latest possible day, in the
hope of hearing from you when
the Church was to be consecrated;
but as no word came from you,
& Mr. Storer, of Millwood, told me
the building would very probably
not be complete before October, I
at last set off for this place. Had

any word come to me to intimate I can possibly meet the
that I should be wanted in August, will still endeavor to be with
this visit would not have been now, though it must needs be so
But as it has been entered on, saying visit in that case, instead
fear that I may now have to a nice long one.

deny myself the pleasure of being I am truly sorry to hear that
with you at the consecration, our good Pastor has resolved to
it hardly seems right; with regard you. For though there is no
small means & limited leisure of his qualification for the
to incur the expense of time & he is to occupy, & very like-
money involved in taking too good of his being highly useful
journeys to widely separated parts, my impression is that he
I will not yet, however, say at all be less happy & less healthy
no; but will wait to hear from here than where he is. He is too
more definitely, when the consecration to overwork himself in a place
will take place; & if it come with here there is so much to be done,
the time of my three weeks holidays to destroy both comfort and

Wilkes Barre, Pa.
Aug 22^o 1857

health at last. But as he
go, I trust you will try to recover
yourselves to the inevitable loss -
him God speed, & seek for him
blessing - & not despond as
yourselves & the Church. God
who has blessed you so much
to, is not likely to forsake you now.
You may trust Him to supply
your need; & if all unite in
prayer to send to you a faithful
Pastor, He will present one who
can fill the gap. No fear of that.
His past kindness certainly shall
be to you a foundation for stronger
present faith. Believe. Believe.
Much love to all from Mrs S & self
Most truly yours A. Shiras

My dear Ellen,
Your letter came fast
evening, & my first impulse was to
Get down & write that I would be
write you on Wednesday evening
next. But first there had to be
an examination of the purse, to
see whether it would bear me out
in undertaking such a journey.
And that examination shows me
I must deny myself the pleasure
or I find that I have but \$12. to
save, while the journey would cost
me just about \$24. The differ-
ence may seem very slight to those
whose incomes & expenditures are large,
but to one whose salary admits of
no extravagance, & who can only by

careful economy "make both ends meet," it is as effectual a barrier in me some of them, telling
of such a journey as a larger number of ministers were present, what
would be. ~~to~~ ^{to} what they preached from, & what

Had notice of the consecration seemed to be the result.

Reached me before my coming here. And if you are able to lay hands
had been prepared for, I should ~~the~~ ^{the} Architect's drawing of the
have avoided the expense of the interior of the Church, can you ~~or~~
journey, & substituted one to Volary not make an outline sketch
in place of it. As it now is, I get & send me?

can be with you only in spirit & in heart. To Mr Whittle present my very
heart. But it will be my earnest sincere regards, & say that while
prayer that a presence infinitely more truly, sorry at his leaving
higher & better than my own mind, my prayer shall be that he
be amidst you in the services may find God as present in My
you anticipate, & that they may see He has been in Va, & have
be abundantly blessed to all in all labor for Him everywhere
While others are preaching to you the sunlight of His smile.

your old pastor will be praying. To all others who may ask
for you; & perhaps may be why I am not at the consecration,
the instrument of greater blessing simply say, that I found I could
than if he were actually in you not afford the needful means for
most.

Coming from a remote part of Pa.

Chestnut Hill, Dec 18/57

And to all at home, & across
the way, please present my very
affectionate regards, & say that
if God spare me I hope some
day to see them in their new
Church. In that case I mean
bring Mrs S. with me. She
could not have accompanied
me had I made the visit
now.

Farewell, my dear Ellen,
God bless you & all.

Most truly & affectionately
Your attached friend
Alex. Thurston

P.S. Direct next to Chestnut Hill
We shall probably be there again
about Sept 2

Miss Ellen Kounsler
Berryville
Va

You were right, my dear Ellen,
supposing that the announce-
ment so frankly made by you would
be interesting to Mrs Thurston & myself.
Whatever affects your happiness must
touch our hearts; & it is a subject of
sincere rejoicing to us that your
anchor should have fallen where
it is likely to hold firmly, in the
good ground of an earnest Christian
heart. Of course I had my sus-
picions when in Berryville, that
it could hardly be so frequent
a visitor, & so evidently acceptable
one, without some understanding
between you. I whispered my sus-
picions when I came home, in the
ear of Mrs S. So that when your
letter came, it was no matter of

surprise to either of us to learn He has in His most gracious Providence that you & he had formally redence brought her to Jesus - prepared solved to enter into partnership with her, in him, for a higher life than from the little I saw of him, I tis - & if He should see fit to take was disposed to rejoice at the proper early from this world, there will feel of its being so & to believe the light round her departure & hope you were likely to have a husband to her state beyond. We may well fitted to make you happy here in His hands. He will

You may rest assured of our love with her, as a Father, in most earnest prayers that all blessing tender love as well as with unerring may attend you in the new relations down. And while we hope & you are entering & in the new way that he may spare her to home to which you expect to go us, & give her health & strength.

We are truly sorry to hear more, we need not, now that that dear Mary health continues she is safe in Christ, have any still so poor. I have thought much of my anxious on her account. of her since my return, & longed I will try to write to her & hoped to learn she was improve very long - should have done it would indeed, to human views before this but for engagements seem sad, if just as life is open that have occupied every moment before her, the sun should go down my time. For more than three while it is yet day. But God some months past, I have, in addition not as man seeth in these things to parochial duties, had the charge

of the Episcopal Recorder - making
all the selections; preparing all
the Diocesan Intelligence; & mak-
ing most of a large part of the
Editorials. Of course it has kept
me very busy. I hoped to have
been relieved by this time of the
charge. But the Senior Editor
having taken up his abode at
the West for at least a year to come
& there seeming to be no one else
to lay off the burden on it a few
years likely that I shall have to
bear it still. It is a very unprop-
er table task in a pecuniary point
of view, but it opens me a large
weekly audience; affords an op-
portunity of pleasant intercourse
with distant friends; & presents
means for useful influence that
reconciles me to the task. Pray
for me that I may perform it
faithfully. With love to all, most
truly & affectionately yours A. Shura

Shelburn Hill, Dec 31. 1837

When I was with you at Berryville, dear
Mary, I longed to have an opportunity to
tell you how much your open devotion
yourself to God had rejoiced my heart.
And though it may seem late now to
do so, I cannot let the year close
without at least a few words upon
the subject.

The one wish I have for all my
friends, is, that they may be saved. Their
welfare in this world is not without in-
terest to me, for earthly circumstances
are not things to be despised. But far
above all that affects their happiness
in time towers to my view what touches
their welfare through eternity. And
when one of them comes to the Redeemer
He holds up the heart to Him - takes His
yoke upon the neck - & submits to the

guidance of the Holy Spirit - is matter of guilt. You may as calmly rely
for more rejoicing than I am well for His perfect righteousness as the
able to express. And as I looked round upon which God can now be
at your pale face & saw the anxiety racious to you. And having guilt satis-
of friends about you - although I hoped for & acceptance with God secured,
that health would come again, & you may live in happy hope, alike
perhaps be given you on earth - it was God's kind favor to you here on earth,
a subject of true thankfulness into of final admission to His blessed home
me, that the great choice had been heaven. The more you look to Christ
made by you, the good part secured a full, perfect & sufficient Saviour,
& that, whatever might occur, you the more of this happy hopefulness you
were now safe beneath the shadow may enjoy. May it be a light around
of the cross & under the wings of the your path & in your heart continually.
Redeemer. Let that, my dear child. Mrs Shiras begs to be affectionately
be your chosen station from henceforth remembered to you. & Ellen, & to all the
Try not to wander from it; & fear not. You know she will have her
to appropriate the comfort of it. Stand at all times, & the bids you say
come into covenant connexion with the Ellen for her that she certainly never
Savior, by voluntary & cordial embrace shall dare to visit her in her own house,
of His form, there need be no hesitate she will be sure of finding only soaked
about full & happy trust in His. Grackers.
may calmly rely now on His blood as And who do you think has been
satisfying the demands of justice with us during the holidays? Mr Leher =

bully - who desires to be presented un-
cordially to his old pupils for whom he
frequently inquires. We have had
nice time in talking with him over
Priory affairs & recalling the pleasant
days spent there.

It seems that Mr Winter - who has
almost broken the school to pieces & got
it terribly in debt - has gone away
tired. Miss Botton has resumed her place
at the helm. All the teachers have been
dismissed, except a pianist, who comes
up from the city; the new clergyman,
has the classes that I had; & Mr Lehrer
who attends to French, Latin, Math-
ematics, & composition. Miss Botton looks
after the drawing & higher English, brand
& Miss Adele attends to the little ones.
He says they have now delightful

All goes smoothly, & though the number
of pupils is yet small (only 19) they are
very good; & the prospect is that more
will come when the money troubles are
over.

A happy New Year to you all
Yours most affectionately,

Lehestadt Hill, Oct 11/58

Dear Mary

Having waited for some time
in vain for Mrs S to answer your epistle,
I undertake for her such reply as I can
give. Of course it cannot be as satisfac-
tory as hearing from herself, but you
know well how almost hopeless is the
idea of getting a letter out of her. She
has not improved as a correspondent since
you were with us, & if her father and
sisters did not occasionally claim a
letter from her, a writing desk might be
dispensed with in the inventory of her
furniture.

We were truly glad to hear from you
that your new minister has proved so
acceptable. After all the ambitious pro-
jects of the people as to Dr Cummins,
Dr Wayland, & some others, I rather
feared

that a young man from an humble & a fair opportunity to take good care
missionary Chapel in Georgetown would himself. And if Ma could come along
hardly find so free a welcome & draw with him, she knows how much please
so full a ch. He is a good man, & you should be to see her at any time.

did well to get him. My impression is that he will be as popular & useful as
Lucy Ware is quite a pleasant item.
as any minister that you have had would be, I should suppose, a matter
Take good care of him, & try to make him agreeable to all concerned, though both
so comfortable amongst you that he doubts are still quite young. God part
never be tempted to go away. And when happens.

God grant you great good from his labors. You will be pleased to learn that

We could have wished you were matters had much improved at the
able to give us as good news about yourriory. Miss Botton has bought out
own household as about the ch. At the rest of the family, & got the Institu-
is really painful to us to hear of Pa in entirely into her own hands - has
sickness, though our hope is that by giving up the ch to the people, & thus
this time he may be relieved again. moved one great bone of contention -
Should he not be, I wish he would try has set out on an effort to re-visit
the effect of a northern trip, & come to the neighborhood & seems to be suc-
see us at Chestnut Hill. He would be in a very fair degree - and
endeavor to take good care of him, has, for the present session a prospect
rather, as he is somewhat independent "as many pupils as she desires." Now
entirely, give him the freedom of the town that is, we have yet to learn.

With all these advantages & with a minister whom all seem to like & to be united on, there appears to be a fair prospect of the bright days of former years being revived again, & something of the old sunshine coming back to the old place. It is strange that some of the wisdom indicated in these movements was not earlier learned. But better late than never.

Mrs S. has not been well this summer - continues still quite feeble, but keeps about. I am as well as usual, except a cold, which is somewhat troublesome.

Please remember us affectionately to all at home & around you, especially across the way. So Ellen,

Most truly yours

A. Sturges

Chestnut Hill, Apr 15th

Your letter, Mary dear, was rec^d in due season, & very glad we were to hear from you again. In despair of communication from you or Ellen I wrote some time ago to Mr Stebbins for information about you, & was extremely pleased to learn that you were better than in the earlier part of the winter. The news was the more encouraging, as the opening of Spring is usually the trying time with those who are at all weak about the chest. But as I cannot trust to mere reports about you, I am thinking of coming down to look after you in Person; and lest I should not be doctor enough myself, I talk of bringing Mrs Sturges with me. Our plan is to

leave Phil^d on Thursday the 29th ^{or the succeeding day} in anticipation of the inspection you
& come, if possible, as far as Thompsville be subjected to when we arrive,
son's Depot the same day - I shall expect you to be taking all
the night at Mr Thompson's, if the possible care of yourself meanwhile, &
be willing to receive us - & then commencing on the best looks that can
the next afternoon to Berryville by gathered from fresh inhalings of
whatever means of conveyance make fresh spring air. While our great
be at command. Should any of Mr. Moxley's is to find your soul prospering,
Thompson's family be in at Church want to see the body also gaining
will you please tell them of this glad news, if God permit.
& ask if it will be agreeable to them. It is a matter of sincere regret
to have us come there. Of course, when we that there should be the pros-
we reach Berryville, we are at threat of finding your minister an invalid.
command of friends; but I do not hope that when I should come to
forget that the opposite corner have again it would be to rejoice with
a recognized claim to us, if the friend, in your possession of an active
who dwell there desire such troubastor, & with him, in the tokens of
some visitors. Our wish is to spend God's blessing on his work. A higher
about two weeks in the neighborhood than our own has ordered
see as many as we can - & then get home; but doubtless there is some
up to Winchester to greet the friends, lightness behind the cloud. Either
who are likely to be found there at N. will be restored again to health,
the gathering of the convention. God will give you yet some faithful

Spiritual man instead. It is glad-
dening to hear that the Vestry have
acted so generously & kindly by Mr
N. They will be no losers by it. Those
who care thus for Christ's servants
will not be left without God's blessing.

But Oh! I shall miss one
face that I longed to see again be-
fore the last darkness fell on it -
that of the poor pained sufferer
who passed away a month ago
from the sufferings of earth to the
rest of heaven. With all that she
endured, it is impossible to wish that
life had been prolonged; but I mourn
that we could not have been there
to see her, before the last farewells
were spoken & the great journey to
another world was made.

In hope of soon seeing you
all, & with much love to every one
Your sincere friend in the gospel
A. Shiras

Charleston April 6th 1844

Dearest Ellen

A long interval of time fraught with the deepest sadness to my heart, has elapsed since I wrote to you, but over that saddest portion of my life I cast a veil and turn my attention to your own ~~kind~~ unanswered letters, which told me of a deep sympathy which falls like dew on the wounded heart, believe me dear friend that sympathy is fully appreciated, and I thank my Heavenly Father for having given me so many kind friends to comfort me in my distress. I wrote to Aunt Jane last Saturday night, and had several other notes ready to send by Bob, but he did not call, however Papa inclosed them in a note to the Howsler, I was afraid Aunt Jane would be strangely of not receiving an answer to ~~my~~ ^{her} note. Papa saw her yesterday at Glenwood, Annie Willis and Annie Mason expect to go to Battletown to morrow, I will send this by Annie, I wish you would go to see her dear Ellen and become well acquainted with her. You will find her very agreeable on close acquaintance, and as she is an intimate friend of mine, I should like you to know and love her. Miss Anna Page dined with

as on today she is now out at her Uncle's but has
promised to come in and stay with me. I received a
letter from Edmonia, begging me to come home with
her mother, but although it would give me much
pleasure to be with my dear friend to comfort her, I
felt it to be my duty to remain in my own sad
situation. If I live I hope to come and pay my
last visit this summer. Charlotte Alexander says
she would like to come with me, and after that
my dear Ellen I shall expect Mary and yourself to
me a visit. Mr. Sturges expects to have an association
next week, beginning on Thursday to last until Sunday
Dear little Bessie, and Randie, and my little baby. I
am long to see them. Kiss them for me and do not let
them forget me and kiss my own darling Aunt Peggy
and Aunt Jane for me. Tell Aunt Peggy I will write to
her soon. I had intended having a letter ready to
write to you, but Charlotte dined with me yesterday, which
I had appointed for writing it. I hope to see her
before she goes to Kentucky. I don't want to
write to Kentucky I know, and now my dear Ellen let me
speak to you on a subject which has near both our hearts.
I have long thought you were serious on the subject
of Religion, and had learned to appreciate a Saviour's love,
but let me ask you one question. Why do you not make
profession of Religion. Ellen beware! how you wait to
grow stronger, before doing it. Sweet in your Saviour's love,
I may be surprised, that I who a short time ago
was full of gaiety and worldliness, should address you

on this subject, you who deserve the privilege & enjoy
so much better than I do, but Ah! Ellen I have seen
the vanity and emptiness of all worldly enjoyment
through the medicine of a brother's grave, and that
brother, my hope, my happiness, I have clasped his
coffin, in those longing arms, that shall never
embrace him living again, and learned that I too would
die, Now I hope I rejoice in a reconciled Father, but
with fear and trembling, for sometimes doubts and mis-
givings fill my soul, and this bondage of sin, that
warps my Spirit, fills it with the very gall of bitter-
ness. But Ellen, go to him, give up your young heart
to him unreservedly, and do not delay until the
mighty, tear away your dearest treasures, to compel
to be his. The profession of Religion, is in obedience to a
divine command, and will serve to fix your character
among your associates. This is the only way in which it
is of any value. It is in the heart that God looks
for it, but the two are inseparable. The world will gain
no advantage from it if you keep it secret. Yet I do
not wonder at your indision, for often have I asked
myself if Religion were what it is represented to
be, why do I see such inconsistency. Ah it is an easy
thing to make a profession of Christianity, but to be
a consistent Christian is another thing. Fallen as we
are, life must be a battle, but whether it is rugged
or not, we know it is the only way to Heaven, and
Ellen must we give up Heaven because the way is
rugged? Will that light reconcile us to an etern

Jane says she
would answer your
note but she
had written to
Aunt Jane before
she received it
G. B. Galt

Miss J. G. Galt
Proryville

Charleston November 1954

My dearest Ellen

It has been my intention
ever since I heard of your having gone to the Prory
to write to you, but circumstances have prevented.
I was very much surprized to hear you were going &
had not heard a word of it untill two or three days be-
fore you left. However I feel very glad that you are
here my dear Ellen, not that I do not feel the separation
on yourself and Mary, but I feel assured that your
going to school away from home, with the advantage
we enjoy of being with Mr. Shivers, and seeing a little
of the world, will be looked upon hereafter by you
as a very pleasant spot in your life. Mr. Whittle said
as he left you both home sick. Oh Ellen how dear will your
home be to you after your return, I can readily imagine
your feelings, although I have never experienced them.
Doubtless your mind may be amused at times by the
novelty of persons and things around you, but oh that
chord in the heart, which binds us to home and all

its dear associations, is stronger than any spell is sufficient to move the soul, for continual conquests
break, knowing this I feel assured that they let over self, and to enable us "going through this vale of
coming from one so nearly associated with that misery to use it as a well." I will be glad to be glad
and from one who loves you Ellen with the former Mary and yourself have left school, and we can
affection, will meet with a hearty welcome. Be more together, Aunt Lizzie says she misses you very
pose you have heard of the birth of your little one, I shall expect a long letter from you very soon
sister, Aunt Jane wrote us word last Saturday and it is my wish to correspond with Mary and
Bob that Aunt Lizzie was very well, and the boys well, regularly, Now Ellen you must write me a
very plump, they call her after Grandma, Elizabeth account of your proceedings, I wish to know
Sinclair, I feel very impatient to see her, There now you like your teachers, schoolmates, and the country
an association last week in Berryville, Mr. Peter am just as busy as I can be, and in order to convince
was there, Aunt Harriette was staying with Aunt Jane I shall endeavour to give you an idea of how I
then, I have not seen her baby yet, Ellen I don't spend my time, I get up in the morning sweetly, have
staying here, and Frank Shanks, a nephew of my father, the water, and makes the fire, and generally
from Memphis left us to day, he only staid a shave a short time to read before breakfast, after break
and a half, Charlotte Alexander joined the church, I attend to my housekeeping, and read until
Sunday before last, Ellen I feel sure you are 4 o'clock when I go in school, and hear a History
py, although so far away from those you love, find three Philosophy classes, when we have a short
you are leaning on an arm that never fails, those, during that time I generally work on my shirt,
who seek refuge there, Oh let us ever trust a Saviour Jesus I hear three classes in Geography, and
love and mercy, and be continually seeking it too in spelling & reading, and am engaged until
thing needfull, which brings so much joy to the mission for dinner, in attending to arithmetic, and
believers soul, We have a hope, which if well founded we have an hour and a half, which I enjoy

again in working on my shirt. After dinner I
further ~~claps~~ in reading and ~~then~~ in spelling, and spend
the rest of the time, in attending to arithmetic and
I have one scholar in algebra, and one class in
city. In the evening I sew again on my shirt in
dark, and the rest of the time I knit and write
letters. This is my every days work, and feel very
that I have an opportunity of spending my time
as well. I hope I may never trust to my own ability
to do it. Miss Fannie & Annie Willis, are in Prichy
or rather in the neighborhood of Richmond where they
will remain untill Xmas. Give my best love
Mary and tell her I shall expect a letter from
soon, which I will promise certainly to answer.
mind. A long letter from you directed to Miss
schoolman, very soon, I cannot write more to
a Aunt Selby has just been taken sick, the
night starting, and that your life may be given
by our blessed Saviour, will be my prayer to night.

Eliza

P.S. Excuse mistakes, as I cannot read this over

Charlestown Feb: 1855

Dearest Ellen

Doubtless you may have
deemed it unkind in me to have allowed so long
a time to elapse without answering your welcome
letter, and as your sweet gentle face rises before me
I must say I have cause to reproach myself for not
giving you a pleasure, that I feel I have it in my power
to give, for we are bound by stronger ties than those of
friendship, at least my Aunt Sigsbee's children, seem allied to
me by ties of blood. But I will not weary you with
excuses, and thus by going out from the accustomed
themes for letter writing, I may gain my point "your
forgiveness for my apparent neglect," by the novelty of
my course. If excuses were deducted from letters I expect
they would be much shortened, letter writing has become
source of a great deal of pleasure to me this winter, I
have been writing to Miss Fannie Willis once a week, and
customed as I am to express my thoughts to her, I
have taken great pleasure in the correspondence. Dear

Ellen may I use the same liberty with you? I think
I hear you say, go on, and hoping that you speak
sincerely, and as I have assumed, ^{your answer} deeming I may, as
the rest, I obey. Did you ever think what an infinite
source of enjoyment, we have in thought? It is all
the only pure source, and certainly an unfailing one.
Reason, given us in the beginning, like the mighty attri-
bute of God, seems, although fallen in common with our
still left in the goodness of God, as a trace of what
was, thus at the same time forming an incentive, and
guide to what we have it in our power to become.
Reason, by displaying to us in Nature the work of a
hand, lifts us higher in search of that Superior
where it bows in humble adoration. In God alone
is satisfaction and peace, The soul finds no fulfilment
joy else where, This fact in itself, shows the
of God in the formation of His creatures, For possessive
a living soul, endowed with reason, energies, affections far more bright and beautiful, and this little span
and all qualities, necessary to pass through this life will soon be over, and we shall find an eternal rest
God alone we can a motive to put these capacities from every struggle. God grant that we and those
action, and in Him alone, find continual and full love may, find acceptance with a reconciled Father
faction. Dear Ellen how thankful we should be to a prayer I feel sure my dear Ellen will join me in,
we have been awakened to a knowledge of our None of the servants, were here last week from Berryville

infulness, and led to trust in a Saviour's love. Oh let
strive earnestly to live a life of faith in Him, and
thus fulfill our destiny, and let us strive by example
to win other souls to see the beauty of the Religion
of Christ. Ellen Love is the chief thing wanting in
the human heart. Love, holy love to God and Man.
Oh! in searching the hidden reserves of my sin-
darkened soul, that is what I have found most
wanting, and did I not trust the promises of Infinite
Love I should turn away from that cold and har-
dened thing, the heart, with despair. But we must
work we must war against sin. Eternity hangs on
our earnestness. The Eternal God is our refuge and our
underneath are the everlasting arms. It is true that sin
throws a gloom over the life of the believer, but no place
should be given to despondency. The world is still bear-
ing a living soul, and brightens smiles as if there were no sin. Bless
and all qualities, necessary to pass through this life will soon be over, and we shall find an eternal rest
God alone we can a motive to put these capacities from every struggle. God grant that we and those
action, and in Him alone, find continual and full love may, find acceptance with a reconciled Father
faction. Dear Ellen how thankful we should be to a prayer I feel sure my dear Ellen will join me in,
we have been awakened to a knowledge of our None of the servants, were here last week from Berryville

Would you believe me, I have never seen Aunt Liz
since the birth of her baby: I have not seen the
Charlotte's baby either. Give my best love to all
and tell her it would afford me great pleasure
to receive a letter from her ladyship. I sincerely
hope we may meet again next summer. I shall
be glad when you both leave school, it will
be a great comfort to Aunt Liz to have you at
I think you intimated in your last letter that
I should not expect you to write to me. Now I
am going to do that very identical thing. I know
I have no more to occupy your time than I have
as I have become your cousin, my highly educated
sister (for Mary to laugh at, that audience is)
certainly not expect to write all the letters so
need not intimate such a thing. I shall
for an answer to this. You are young and I
not set you up with 40 letters to your one.
suppose Mother would send her love. Good
my darling, I am still teaching school, and
a great many, sewings and readings, and
other things, not necessary to mention. Ever look
me, as among those who love you with true
your cousin

Berryville June 2nd, 1856

My own dear Ellen

It does indeed seem strange
that I have not written oftener to you, but Ellen
believe me when I tell you, it was for no lack
of love to you. We have always been friends, but
now I feel that the bond is closer between us since
it has become that of Christian fellowship, I can
most truly rejoice with you that you have had such
an opportunity afforded you of finishing your educa-
tion at a school, where the improvement of the
mind is made subservient to that of the heart.
My fancy aided by your partial description pictures
Pell as a most beautiful place, and I can well
realize how you may be very happy there. But
no enjoyment here is unalloyed, and I suppose
that the separation from your friends, gives you
a longing even there to be with them, I have
been reading lately Murray's travels in America
in which he gives a description of the Falls of Niagara

hope as able joy must

Ellen your Father is coming for you. by Friday you will pass through Charlestown. I will meet
take you there. It seems to me that to see ~~the~~ you at the cars, or if you conclude to take the
sublime manifestation of the attributes of God, adage there (which you had better do,) we will
work of his hand, cannot - but impress upon you a little while, for we live near the Depot,
the mind of the beholder, a sense of his sup^{er}ior have moved to the other end of town since
and awful majesty, as I send of the swelling note last. I am delighted with the change
soar of those mighty waters, and in imaginand it is my own home too. There are a great
seemed to see the mighty wonder, my souls any trees on the lot, most of them fruit trees
ed elevated to catch ^{the} thought of its amazing deed I am charmed with the house, situation
dear, By all means insist on your Father's going and every thing, and shall be delighted to wel
I know he cannot regret it afterwards, and some. My dearest Ellen & Mary to my happy
of you may ever be so near it again. I am done, where I hope we shall spend many
in my room as described to Mary, writing, happy hours together. Virginia Washington spent the
Digger is lying on the bed. The baby is in her cravening with me on Thursday. I was very much
in your old room with the door open. Lanie is pleased with her conversation, and passed my
Lunt Lane to day, and the boys are in the game very agreeably with her. Another of your friends
so you may picture us at your pleasure, Lunt has become mine. Bettie Mc Guire, I really love her
is having her chamber cleaned for the Summer. she partly promised to come and stay some
I regret very much that I shall not be worth whilst I am here. Has Mary received my
when Mary and yourself return, but I shall ~~not~~ Give my best love to her and tell her I shall
certainly expect you to make me a visit expect an answer to my letter very soon. Ellen please
as possible. If you will write one word which up a stone on Long Island, gather a bunch of

made joy meet

wild flowers from Pelham woods, and a switch of
one of the Pelham trees and bring them to me
and please look at everything most minutely, in
order to gratify my unbounded curiosity. It has
rained most delightfully here yesterday and
last night, and a little now and then to day.
It is very grateful to our ears to hear it &
I assure you for rain is a very uncommon
occurrence with us. The drought has been
that many predicted a famine. You must
excuse my not writing more, but this is
third letter, and eleventh page I have written
to day, and my hand begins to grow stiff
tired. Do you think you will be able to write
again, before you return? You know how
your letter would be. Good bye my much
friend. May our Heavenly Father grant we
meet ere long, and enjoy many happy hours
together, and may he bless and keep my
Ellen, is the sincere wish of a friend who
loves you much. Ever yours

Eliza

Walnut Farm March 12th 1861

My dear dear Ellen.

I hope
will be some little comfort
to know how I sympathize
with you in the affliction
that it has pleased God
to send you in the death
of our beloved Mary, but
Ellen it rejoiced my
heart to hear of her happy
passage to the better land.
I think she has done
the suffering, sorrow and
her spirit redeemed
in the presence of
God. How those long weary
years, an all wise God has
not fit to lay his hand
so heavily upon her. How
that unspeakable joy must

fill her ransomed spirit. What pleases God, I know
The thought of this should accept with joy, though thunders will
comfort you Ellen "How and tempests blow on every side
not? I know that - then knowest mayst can the little
top of the sister who has But pleases God,
grown up with you Jane
from childhood cannot Mr. Moore, your
but leave a deep wound (other) last night - at
in your heart, but God bless but - I did not
will heal it darling, I must a chance to speak
you will seek comfort - her she said Uncle
where alone it may Cousin had seen in
be found. Dear, dear Marion last week, give
it makes me sad, to such love to Uncle
think that, I shall need Cousin & Aunt Fizzie
see her again in this world me. Charlotte and
these partings are hard to send love and
to bear, but they should Mr. English empowered
lead us to think more to send kind messages
of that eternal state him. Remember
to which we are all one to Mr. Moore and
hastening, should make the little ones for
us live more earnestly, cousin Eliza. Love to all
more submissively to Uncle Smiths and

Believe me

Yours devoted

friend

E. Leja

Dear Ellen
J. Douglas Esq.
d-9 Alley St.
New York.

Pelham Place.
June 28th 1855.

The sad word
"Farewell" must be spoken - the
friends whom we love must
be parted from, perhaps for
ever. Yes, it is a sad, sad
thought that some with
whom we have here mingled
our duties and pleasures, have
yet found and embraced
the Gaiety, and may be
called to render up their
accounts to the righteous Judge
who will pronounce upon them
the dreadful sentence, "Depart
from me, ye cursed, into everlasting
fire, prepared for the devil
and his angels."

Dear Ellen
J. Douglas Esq.
d-9 Alley St.
New York.

But running from Christ for our own benefit alone, or
whose conversion we can never that of others.
cease to pray) I think of my time is short - and leaving
dear Christian friends, whom much to accomplish before
I hope to spend a never - en - to - morrow, I must en-
ing life in the presence of the ^{with} ~~the~~ ^{throne} ~~throne~~ upon your kindness
that sitteth upon the throne and beg you to accept
and of the Lamb for ever. The few lines I am able
Then "the Lamb which is ^{into} ~~into~~ ^{with} ~~with~~ me; bearing in mind
the midst of the throne, she that "the spirit is willing
feed us, and shall lead us ^{but} ~~but~~ "the flesh is weak".
unto living fountains of water and now dear Ellen may
and God shall wipe away the ^{tears} ~~tears~~ ^{is} ~~is~~ ^{rich} ~~rich~~ ^{grace} ~~grace~~ ^{strengthen} ~~strengthen
all tears from our eyes. ⁱⁿ ~~in~~ ^{you} ~~you~~ - may the ^{Sanctified} ~~Sanctified~~
to this happy re-union everlasting love refresh you -
shall ever look forward, ^{to} ~~to~~ ^{and} ~~and ^{may} ~~may~~ ^{the} ~~the ^{spirit} ~~spirit~~ ^{is} ~~is~~ ^{holy} ~~holy
while separated in this ^{influenced} ~~influenced~~ ^{ben} ~~ben~~ ^{over} ~~over~~ ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{garden} ~~garden~~
world, and most earnestly of your soul that "the spices
do I pray that we all ^{waters} ~~waters~~ ^{may} ~~may~~ ^{flow} ~~flow~~ ^{out} ~~out~~".
be kept from falling, as ^{with} ~~with~~ ^{not} ~~not~~ ^{the} ~~the ^{smiles} ~~smiles~~ ^{of} ~~of~~ ^{others} ~~others~~
as strengthened by almighty friends entirely efface pain
power to continue steadfast ^{your} ~~your~~ ^{memory} ~~memory~~
in all good things, whether ^{your} ~~your~~ ^{sincerely} ~~sincerely ^{attached} ~~attached~~
yours sincerely attached
E. Phelps.~~~~~~~~~~~~

Dear Mr. ...
I have not had time to write
you since your letter,
but I am still more
kindly than ever,
and I am glad to hear
that you are well.
I am sure you will
be as well as ever.
I am, dear Sir,
Your very obedient
servant,
John ...

is seeing
trying to get the matter settled
with the other party
time writing was given
out of the question, the
I turned to Grand
rather to the
Laird a house
company for a week
and since they left
I have been very
indeed. Thus I have
been prevented from
sending you about
a week ago
I have been very
indeed. Thus I have
been prevented from
sending you about
a week ago

The matter of the
 rights of the
 people of the
 State of New York
 to the lands
 of the Indians
 is a subject
 which has
 long occupied
 the attention
 of the public
 mind. It is
 a subject
 which has
 been the
 subject of
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 and
 controversy.
 It is a
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July 1854
 New York

Thence all the past year and if I should be taken
I suppose Hester has picked again while with
you well informed about you I could not but
Pining sweetest - I spent next the trouble it might
the day with them and give you a sermon, if I can
make before I left - I possibly visit you next so
The Pining looked disappointed I will await my
and the girls were herself of your kindness.
anxiously looking forward Virginia and the Virgin
to the vacation. In hospitality I have a
Oh! my dear Ellenurray heard Randed and
much I would like with Ruth I believe,
accept your very kind judging from my own
invitation, and I am experience. I have another
confident the change friend continually begging
would be of some use to go to Richmond
me; but in the future be missed, saying
please I have no one I cannot fail to be
to accompany me (either shared with the State;

but I am so situated
that I have no one to
travel with me, although
Father is always willing
I have me go.

I believe Lucy had neglected
all her friends who fast me so long ago, and intend sending a
note - several have
complained of her neglect
she wrote to me in
February, saying she was
in society and very
occupied, that is the
last time I have heard
from her - Miss Thompson
has returned from the
South much better
was at the May festival
and by the way they say

Longwood Tanquer Jan 11th 61.

I am tired of writing Nellie dear for
the letter I heard you intended writing
me so long ago, and intend sending
this as a gentle reminder, and not
for any thing I can say interesting to
you. If you do not get it very soon
it will be because I have no stamps
and am in such a poor country that
two attempts to change money in
creation have failed, even at ten per
cent discount, and I have to wait till
I get stamps in a letter from home.
I would like to be sitting with you
this evening, for it is almost enough
to give me the Blues, not that I am oblig
to sit alone, for Miss Mary wanted
me to give holiday this evening to sit
with her; but I want to be with old friends

I find I am such a weak minded creature
I cannot think very submissively of home
and old associations but to be contented
generally have to keep too busy to think
of them at all. However my present
contentment is a wonder to me
after the miserable feelings I had when
I first came.

If there is any visiting season here
it was almost over before I came, in
fact when I came a hard rain of
few days before had washed the roads
very badly, and they have continued
ever since. I have paid four visits
I came down, including a visit of a few days
to Warrenton at Christmas. Every thing was
so dull, and the weather disagreeable, I was
only in two houses, - Mrs. Maria's and Dr. [?]
I enjoyed being at two church services, a
day school celebration, and two very pleasant
concerts. As a preacher I like

I like to have heard Mr. [?]
on the fourth of the month; I am

the Lawrence Minister very much, but feel inclined
to join in the complaints I have heard
made against him as a pastor, for though
he is most cordial in his manner when
I have seen him after church, has invited
me to come and stay all night at his
house, and promised to come and see me
he has never been here except for a few
minutes the first Sunday he preached at
St. Stephens.

Saturday evening. It became so dark yester-
day evening I was forced to put up my
writing for today, as I sit with the
family from dark till Five P.M., and I
come up stairs to read aloud. This morn-
g I was busy with some sewing, and with
last paper, for even I have to be poli-
cian enough to know what is happen-
ing in our world. I should so
gladly see

see by my writing that I
see so I must put up again
another time.

concluded
Lesson

Whiting wrote me word today that it was a very fine one, and was to be finished. As Mr. Barton could not have services here on that day, he tends having the fast day services tomorrow. I cannot help feeling many people at least, are earnest in their prayers, and that if some of the people as a nation, are ed and repented of we shall get. I know this is a land of mess, but I cannot help feeling are in it so many of the real of God that he will choose it place peculiarly for showing our only trust is certainly in in answer to the prayers of his for the minds of men seem against Gov

Monday night. Well Nellie I will make a final attempt tonight. We have come to a warm stove fire, and all writing Miss P. is reading. I have been obliged to give up reading aloud for some nights, on account of my throat. considerably irritated. The rest of a week with a low wood pile, and as it was not replenished till late, a bad fire has made throat very painful tonight. thought this morning we would have a deep snow, and that it was cold enough for it. last for sleigh rides though I cannot say enjoy them much. The only time I have seen this winter was with a son of Mr. No lives in Fredericksburg. While he was

here Miss May and I paid a visit on her parenton till Christmas, when Mr. Moore
back, and yesterday week I went in the sea said he thought he should give him up
way to Greenwich to church. It is five to me while the weather continues so bad.
miles off, and the roads were too slippery was quite scared expecting he was too far
be agreeable: besides I was not expecting to be advanced for me, but thought I had better
hear an agreeable preacher, and I was not disagree with Bettie Smith's advice about putting
ed. Yesterday we had a very good sermon for cool impudence, and undertake it.

Mr. Barten, and the road too hard frozen I have found in the few lessons I have heard
sink deep. We are enjoying to the full that my fears were quite groundless.
extent the Tanquer luxury of being shut the former teacher of my eldest scholar is ex-
in by bad roads.

One Sunday some time ago I heard a word Mr. Moore proposed today that I should
good sermon from a Methodist minister and get her scholars, but I have no idea
and what do you think was one reason her mother will be willing to send
my liking him? It is by you must be to board where there is no mother to
I have quite an admiration for you in the charge of them.

er help, and I thought I saw a resemble also propose to get us scholars the
in appearance and manners to him. daughters of two families of Murrage, who
What would you think to have very near, but I fancy they are not
in and see me hearing a boy of fifteen who would care to have their
recite? He attended the academy children walking across the country, or in fact

leaving home at all. However it was
gratifying, as I thought it a proof that
he is satisfied, and wishes to do what
can to increase my salary.

I have stung out a most provoking epistle, but
cold can make even me feel dull, and I can
only promise to do better next time; if
you will deign to answer ~~this~~ ^{it}. I can
not help hoping by every mail to hear from you
but if I should get a letter when I send this

the office, I shall still expect an answer
Tell me all about your own household
and the D's. Tell Nancy I wish she would
pluck up the spirit to write ^{me} at least
a few lines. I would like to have particu-
lar how all are getting on. Much better I hope
My respects to your good man, but do
tell him what I said of him, as I do not
about his knowing so much of my ad-
viation is lost.

Good night dear Ellen

Your affect. son

Burgville Fe

I fear my dear Ellen that
my very remiss in not having before
to pay my respects to her as Mr. Moore
I hope my remissness will not be attributed
to a want of either affection or respect.
Circumstances I could not prevent have obli-
ged me to put it off.

I suppose you will go to Charlestown tomorrow
as I heard you intended to go today.

As soon as you return, I will (if possible)
follow my inclination which will lead to
your door.

I had hoped dear Ellen, as a slight
proof of my affection, to have added another to
the bridal gifts, which I believe all your friends
made you; but found that just then it was im-
possible to get any thing I would have
liked.

I can now only ask you to
accept for yourself as well as for Mr. Moore

my best wish, which is that your hap-
piness may be in proportion to your worth.
Best love to Bettie and Meg if
still with you, the same reason which pre-
vented my going to see you has prevented
my seeing them.

I hope your Ma and Mary are well,
my love to them.

As bad as the weather is, I have two school
boys & interrupt me so often I fear I am not
writing a very intelligible note, but trust
to your kind heart to excuse it.

Your cousin
Jennie.

P.S. I forgot to tell you I am writing
this note only to Ellen, especially as Mr
More should have a more respectable
looking one, and finding my stock of
paper and envelopes out, will not wait
to get more. B.M.H.

Friday March 8th

My dear Ellen

And have we indeed
been called to give up our precious
Perry. - Sister's letter was delayed
and did not reach me till yesterday
evening, and then I wanted to write
to you at once but I could not.
I could not help knowing she must
go. But it came upon me with such
a shock I could not think.
I cannot yet realize it, and would
sometimes convince myself that
it is but a dream, but I must not be
so selfish as to wish it so. No, earnestly
as I have longed to die I could not be
so selfish as to wish her back if our
places might be exchanged.
We have lost a very dear one, and we

must mourn, for our Father would not have far exceeding them in her happiness now. we forget our treasures, but we have only to wait yet a little longer, and our precious one will be given again in immortal beauty, to be so exceedingly so.

She has not perished with the flowers to be like them renewed on earth, but as they are budding from their dark cold home most deeply feel the loss. I well know she has been gently transplanted to a more beautiful home, but what your grief must be who were taken from early heaven may almost stantly with her. She was never seen her native place.

There were those she dearly loved but as her heart affectionate expanded upon heavenly things, and when she was removed it was to no strange place in which she had no interest. Gradually and gently have her affection been removed and it was no shock when the last cord was loosed. see her no more.

How have her dear bright happy child's face been recalled, but hoping to write to me, and I had de-

Termined not to wait longer than to-
morrow to write again to her, and beg
her not to fatigue herself by doing
it so little did I realize that she
was too unwell to attempt it.

My precious Ellen I can only feel with
you, and pray for you that you may forget
all but her Father's love in taking
her so soon from griefs and trials.
May we my dear Ellen while our dear ones
are being carried before us, not be too impa-
tient to have the work of life over remem-
bering that the rest that remaineth will
be given in this own good time.

A little longer yet, a little longer (will
Life shall be thine; life with its power to
Life with its strength to bear, to love to conquer
Bringing its thousand joys thy heart to fill
A little longer still and heaven await thee
and fill thy spirit with a great delight
Then one joy will seem a dream forgotten
Our sun a darkness, and our day a night.

I wanted to write to your dear Mama, but I did not
feel well enough to write more, and I could only
say what I have done. You must tell them
all at home how I sympathize with them.
May the presence of a loving Father be with
you all in your great affliction.
Your affectionate Jennie

SUPERFINE
DAMASK
PAPER

Belham Parish
April 6th

I expect, my dear Ellen that
you are beginning to give
up all ideas of an answer to
your notes; but because
I have not written before does
not show that I do not prize
them, for I do very much indeed.

I wish, my dear Ellen that
I could tell you what my dif-
ficulties are, but really I scarcely
know myself. But even
they do not seem so many as
they did, and after all what
are they compared with their
object. You think I am unhop-

joy - but I am not, although I
do depend as foolishly the petitions have been answered
every day but that was more that a new heart has been given
from never seen than any. Can I be mistaken, my dear
thing else. Or the contrary. Oh! I do hope that I am
my dear Ellen, I am quite happy & do not think I can be
perhaps truly happier than I was night, my dearest - Ellen
ever been before, for I am certain quite as much for I must
believe that I am doing right, to best as it is after wisdom
in going to the true course
for happiness, and I am

Wattie

confident if I sincerely desire, in given I do not mean that
and ask for this happiness I am made perfectly just, but that
will be granted. I have perhaps learned to love the Lord
for it - I trust that my proclivities are set upon the belief
have not been ~~overcome~~ ^{overcome}, at my sins can only be pardoned
I do not feel as desponding coming to Christ & confessing
now as I did, I feel as if asking them.

Miss Ellen Hawkins.

Pellam Priory
June 27th

My dear Ellen

Among the numerous welcomes that will be showered upon you to day, and the returns that I know you are but too happy to make, can I hope that our little note in your portfolio may be remembered? If it is - let it remind you of a friend, who is perhaps at this time thinking of our pleasant saturday circle, which will always be numbered among the bright hours of 1855. Although I am confident that neither of us would like just now to leave our friends yet I cannot but wish some of those delightful moments spent at the Priory were back that I might profit more by them than I have, for I cannot but feel that I have not improved

them as I ought to have. I shall be very long before we meet again, if
my school for the summer I think not in Virginia, at Felham, next winter
(but perhaps his only fancy) that I will but I shall try very hard to come to
be thrown more on the world. I see you this summer for I do want to
I have ever been, being away from home Berryville as much, for it must be a
and without the guidance of Mother. delightful place if those that I have seen
and I feel both weak and strong, more fair specimens. I know that you
the prospect - weak in the knowledge are tired now and would like above all
of the frailty of my natural disposition to be in bed. And now Good bye
- strong, in the hope that God will and if I do not see you as soon as I hope,
preserve and protect me from all evil I will still remember and often think of
influences. Oh Ellen! how I do wish I were with you with love and gratitude for the willing
was different from what I am. that more with which you have always listened
I could walk more worthily of the character of a child of God, that I persuade and suggestions to overcome
ed more of that humble lowly character. That God may reward and
like and forgiving disposition that bless you, for it, my dear, dear, Ellen, is
is so indispensable to a Christian the sincere prayer of your true friend.
character. But is not it a blessed thing
that weak and simple as I am if
I only ask it, that Jesus will hear my
unknown and grant me complete for-
give me.
I hope, dear Ellen, it may not be very

Yours
Fannie

Rye - July 18th / 55

My dearest Ellen.

Had you not promised an
our sweetest of notes to write soon
after your arrival in Berryville, I would
have commenced our correspondence be-
fore: but as I agree with Lucy in the opinion
that you always keep your promises if
possible, I waited for a letter. But having
waited so long without receiving any,
I have concluded that some ^{good} reason
has prevented. How I wish you were
here, my dearest Ellen, that I might
thank you for your very kind note;
but my talent of expressing on paper
my thoughts and feelings is so limited
my fear I fear I could not possibly tell how
obliged I am. I am sure my dear Ellen
that you can have no reason for re-
saying

proaching your ally with the idea of a Chorus, and that very pleasant little
you did not give me advice and encourage. She has promised to come ^{off}
agreement when I write it, but on the ^{a day} ~~not~~ spend with the Ladies and our
contrary you were always willing to ~~be~~ is not this pleasant? I know you
hear any troubles and in many ways me. I don't mean every either ~~you~~
cases your advice and encouragement don't believe you that such a property
were of much benefit. I shall never your composition. I don't know at least
forget, Ellen, your kindness and should to pay the long talked of visit
always remember you with love and Mr Shiras, and in the morning
gratitude. The few moments I spent in going over to escort her to the
at ^{of the} ~~the~~ ~~party~~ ^{departure} were very very sad, but will seem so strange to visit. The ^{thing}
thing reminded me of all the girls and find the girls all away
so forcibly that it was hard, very hard how reserved the most delightful
to realize that we were all departing for the last. I was more of our
and some of us for good. I wish it a family are added to well here, for
pity that we are never to have although Mother could not possibly
repetition of that happy evening make up her mind to make
spent there? and if that of us though a great deal she sent my
as return, still keep up the services of little brother George
& Sunday meetings, without Miss B's her representative. It is quite late
they can never be the same. no time for all good girls to be in
I meet Miss B. quite frequently in the col. and as I would not like to be ev

secured a card and I think I must
lose soul to Mary and tell her the
promised letter will soon be forth
coming - Believe me ever yours

Friend

Walter A.

I have a very nice and quite long

letter from Lucy the other day - I happily dearest Allen, I expect is begun.
I may feel quite certain in assuming going to give up all hopes of a
love when I answer it - Excuse all the from her friend Hattie,
mistakes &c. - Hope my next letter to you is I have not
may have more in (I doubt it) the best any time, or rather I should
remember of our promise that my hours my time that was con
should be private very private

Rye August 24th 1868

ment for I have been away
so much lately. We have
so many friends that we may
be upon our visiting them if only
twice a few days. As yet we have
been with very quiet good people
such as you would like dear
Allen and this is the highest,

compliment. That I could payen Mr. W. W. Lucas, but have had
them on my eyes. To morrow short note from the far me
"My Sister" and my sister from Rockaway L. I.
are going up to dittofield County before yesterday Mr. Winters
to visit our Grand parents. 9th. Mr. C. H. Bulley Mr. Russell -
really seems as if we were always so brought, a friend of Mr.
on the go and I do want to inters pose us quite a long
remain quiet so much for a visit. I don't seem so odd to
least this week.

I believe I have not written you very very sure dear Ellen
since the Masses B. left that I cannot ~~part~~ ^{part} that we is
for Europe. Mr. Hunkie & myself Berryville for I had set my
spent some little time with them - upon it.

Before they left we went over on Monday my dear Ellen, that you
Saturday evening & remained until will feel interested I write of
Monday morning. If you had the determination to come
I had been there I know forward and declare my love of the
you would have enjoyed Lord and my desire of being to
it. Since then I have not his will of partaking of the

Communion the first Sunday
in September, I felt as if it was
a very solemn & criminal to
wait for confirmation. I wish
my dear Ellen I could be with
you if only for a little time. I
feel toward you and Lucy very
affectionately from the other girls but
feel as if I could never thank
you enough for your kindness.

Your truly

Esther A.

Give much love to Mary and
please ask her if she knows where
Bettie Paller is.

Excuse this sorry envelope but
I have no other.

meanest and blindest
to you I remain
thy young
Esther
What a happy man
I am
Dear Ellen
Dec 18th / 54
My dearest Ellen
As you may
imagine I was wholly unprepared
for the startling intelligence con-
tained in your last letter, because
on account of the long suspension
of our correspondence I had no
way of hearing any thing of you.
It would be useless to tell you
how deeply interested I am in
every thing concerning your happi-
ness and that you have my
sincerest wishes and earnest
prayers for your welfare. You
know Ellen that I loved you, and
hope you have sufficient know-
ledge of me to believe my friends

ship any thing but fickle. I will show to console and sym-
That Mr. Moore is worthy of your wife with her, for my sister
I have no doubt from the very day left me last summer.
fact that he is to your taste, & for the rising life of the army
this man is high praise. It was some found that he had been
seem so strange that so many in Capt. Perry, and (I think) a
of my friends are being married (I am to be married to do
for the marrying mania that has bone of Providence Rhode Island
has swept the whole country this February. Although we all
had been as present here as we can appreciate their feeling and
where I very much fear that again with good will into the
a few years I will be depressed happiness and quiet attending the
of my young companions & be meditating, yet after they are gone
passed among the "old" set where it is a sad blank left in
though at present I feel only too of the family circle that can mean
and too unfit to contemplate on the filial
thing of the kind matrimonia I was unexpressably grieved
line myself. It must be very hard to hear that Mary was in such
hard for Mary to think of your health and still hope
leaving her, being so near. But that the danger may not be as
same eye and having been great as you believe; but what
so much together. I know very in comfort it must be that she.

has exhibited among the fa-
re of Christ and placed her
trult in a higher happiness
that earth can afford. Do you
ever think of recommending
a change of climate to Mary?
is so often found. Better than
any thing else in such cases.
Give her my tenderest love and
tell her I would be delighted if
she would write to me.

You are near Ellen for the
circumstances of the girls, but I
must acknowledge that I have
been very remiss in my attention
as a correspondent and know as I have heard nothing from
you for such a long time,
as I hope you will very soon
in this way prove that you still
mean to keep your old friends
please send me Mr. Shiras's
address as some had stopped

I should like
to meet him
but already like him
Please
have an an-
swer to my
letter to
Ellen
and I prove that I am glad
to get it by answering it so
soon - I really was a little
doubtful whether you were
still in the States or had
gone to Europe as Mrs. Pease
has heard nothing from
you for such a long time,
as I hope you will very soon
in this way prove that you still
mean to keep your old friends
please send me Mr. Shiras's
address as some had stopped

Walter Stone
1840

just where mine did. I knew a baby that was not
named a letter to you I am glad to hear Mary's
wishes but had not the health to write, but sincerely
wishes to write as I was afraid she may not be so
something unfortunate delicate as you think. So
happens you know there give her every love and tell her
as often something to tell should be delighted to hear
and breaking off my eye from her.

How I wish I could see you little boy! I know Emily was married
it must be lovely as I went to Montgomery Ala.
your son. You must give a visit to Bessie Pollard
him a kiss for me & to where I spent six weeks
one from him for yourself charmingly. I found Bessie
My sister Emily who well and looking very pretty
were so kind to enquire she has improved very much
has a daughter. It was since she left school & is
last month & of course very much admired in society
a wonderful child. I met after returning home I was

taken sick with the measles which of course destroyed my enjoyment the only one that you of last Spring - I am making up for those improved very much this year, for I went to Thomas Hill where I ever saw the flowers out to their place at West- looking on a beautiful scene, where I spent a de-

Last September I met Miss Bolton North, for the first time since I left school & I assure you I enjoyed very much. The Prussia looked exactly as it did when we were there, I could have imagined myself again in a school could I have seen more familiar faces -

the only one that you Both she and Maria were very much improved very much. I went to Thomas Hill where I ever saw the flowers out to their place at West- looking on a beautiful scene, where I spent a de-
Miss Bolton North, for the first time since I left school & I assure you I enjoyed very much. They both look very much the Prussia and more care-worn. It is said that Mr. Tomlin didn't manage as well as his sisters, & that on returning, Miss Bolton found the school somewhat in debt, which troubled her a great deal. One of the

Seven Acres Bottom the street while in New York
really married. Did Fannie Peet I saw. She is
ever hear any thing very little changed, & is very
unmerciful? I saw Dicksons. I spent a delightful
Thompson last Fall evening with Lucy at
had been in Europe for the St. Nicholas. She had
about a year, but had long talks about Prissy
come back the same friend, and as you might
away little somebody is know, you had a large
said. I don't think I share of our thoughts
has altered for the better conversation. I really
all. Phoebe Douglas who was not very much to
married about four still about myself - I don't
five months ago to think I am very much
Mr. Warrick of Richmond like the Fannie Adams of
Virginia. Annie the Prissy days, although I
is married. Miss Gurnsey knew wherein I
I heard of through Susan changed - I feel much
Schuyler who was not he colder & more matured.

Dear Ellen

I am still very free
 begin to ~~write~~ ^{write} ~~am~~ ^{am} very hard
 pleased and hard to
 I very much doubt
 Ellen if you can help
 this situation, but I
 just scratched away
 fast as possible, per
 regardless of style or
 I hope however it may
 to relieve the monotony
 a sick room. At pre
 I am the only young
 in the house and as
 much interested in
 keeping it. I also
 fatigue to my smother
 I wouldn't be paid to
 over this letter so of
 out of the way -

Dear Ellen

I received your very sweet
 letter just as I was finishing one
 to our mutual friend Amy Schuyler
 she wrote me about six weeks ago
 asking me to come out there to
 act as bridesmaid. She is to be
 married the twenty fifth of this
 month to Mr George Gayson
 of Providence. It makes me quite
 sad to have so many of my
 schoolmates married, and to feel
 that I must submit to being
 in a measure forgotten. If any
 thing could make me think
 more favorable of matrimony
 it would be the fear of being left
 in this wide wide world with

intend accomplishing it
passionately com. Lettie Ballard
married Capt. Rowman to
Mr. Paul C. Lee a native of
Danna. Of course I was at
that wedding. I haven't heard
of any more of the Pinnys lately? I know I know nothing
excepting the Pales, who I know you, but when I tell you
of through my sister. But what I have been doing and thinking
know I have kept you for hope of being pardoned and one
those little blue eyed Quakers settled in your good
long already, trying to win the first place let me thank
this stupid scratch. This John and your sweet
far me, and when they are visit you this summer. I should
all enough tell them of your like above all things to have
all friend. Think of some one, but Mother's death was not
times, darling them. May God be with you and yours. This up the big house. I then thought I
May for me again and as night go on next winter, but now
I hope she may soon be

Sand Hill Sept 26th / 60

My dear Clem

May I hope for
experiences after having treated you
I know I know nothing
but when I tell you
and thinking
I have some
and one
in your good
let me thank
and your sweet
I should
all things to have
was not
I then thought I
but now
that will

Keep me in Augusta. As my page, were I to tell you what I
dear Ann at all, curious to know of him (I do not intend making
what these important engagements myself or about), but this is what
are? Well then, on the fifteenth most every one will acknowledge
myself. I am to be married to her. What is better than all
The much to be pitied gentleman this, dear Ann, I know he loves me as
is Mr. Joseph Ganahl formerly formerly, better than any thing else on
Savannah, but since our engagement. I trust I have your sympathy
has moved up here, where he settles and will wish
practising law. I am sorry only. I hope Mr. Moore and you
dear Ann that the prospects of the future are well. Has Mary's
so unprosperous for our end certainly improved? Can my best love
much of each other, or for your sake. Where is Mr. Shivers? I occa-
sionally Mr. Ganahl, but I hope personally hear from the Birony
the best of all fully persuaded, was very sorry to hear the death
when we least expect it one will of Miss Brasilia. She died after a
some day, some weeks each other long and severe illness.
Mr. Ganahl (pronounced Ganahl) and this he tells says for me and
I am going to house keeping at once write soon to your sincere friend
When I tell you Mr. G. is appeared Station Adams.
handsome and talented, you must You may imagine that this engage-
not think I am pleased in any way has occupied both heart and
opinion, for I could fill page upon page this summer, therefore will

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