

Girance House
Philadelphia Oct 3rd 1853

My dear Parents,

I have not time to write in New York, as were there but three days & one of those Sunday & the other two almost wholly occupied in shopping & the evenings in seeing friends. Your kind letters reached me there. For which a thousand thanks, I had thought my dear Father all over the matter in regard to Mrs. Williams & before receiving your letter had concluded that her wishes should always be first consulted- she has been very kind to Ben, having given him all he could make off from her share of the property & her age & will even demand from me respect, I assure you it is my wish that she retain her position as head of household as long as she lives & if there be any burden I shall be most happy to lighten it. As to the sitting up I will try & do better, being fully aware of my infirmity & if for no other reason than to please you. I have found myself straightening up wonderfully during the last of the few days.

We met with something of a misfortune today. Ben had his pocket picked of about three hundred dollars, we think in the New York Depot- it seems a good deal to lose but "what cant be cured must be endured" and it is better to be wronged than to wrong. We have had some sport in mustering friends to go home with, but I believe we can begin to see our way clear now & leave here for Baltimore tomorrow morning then to Washington & Home, which we hope to reach by Saturday. I will write as soon as possible from there & give my first impressions.

This afternoon we took a carriage & visited Fair mount-walin-works- Laurel Hill cemetery & Girard Cottage, all of which interested me much, I hope to go into the old Independence Hall before leaving.

I have purchased carpets, furniture, silver & some table linens. Aunt Dinore thinks of visiting me this winter. Do you know Ex Mayor Smith & Lady, really had serious thoughts of coming clear from Brooklyn to attend my wedding. We had intended having our daguerreotypes taken while here for you but the light fingered gentry having relieved us of the wherewithal, you must excuse us till some future time, as we find we having but just enough to get home with, however Ben says it wont break him but what troubles him is the annoyance of being so far from home minus friends. John, Ben & I have been having a council, & have concluded to put all into the treasury. John gives \$44.00 I have \$8.50 & Ben \$2.25 with which we intend making a splurge the rest of the way home.

Ben sends love in which believe me he is most affectionately joined by your daughter Sarah