

Old Mrs. Steeles died last night; she has been failing rapidly the past week and scarcely noticed any thing just before her death. Poor Joe, it is said, seems much distressed. — A child of Rufus King is probably dead; little Belle, of whom Charley T. so often speaks. Ruben Harshman has also lost a child with scarlet fever.

Mrs. Heckler is gone at last, leaving her property to be ^{a contest} quarrelled between her relatives and her husband, I suppose from what I hear.

Persons living on the Cemetery road, say that they are reminded of Cholera times, by the number of funerals that pass them daily. — Truly this is a doleful letter! I hope you won't get it though for I cannot but think, so much do I wish it, that you may be on your way home, before this reaches Washington.

Oh, what a blessed day that will be that brings you safely back to us! — You must never go away again; for we cannot afford to go along and cannot afford to do without; just let us say goodbye to all Public Offices after this it ~~wants~~ more to get them than they are worth

and by David till we meet again, I think I shall not write again. Your own Auguste.

Dayton O. March 12th.
1861

Dear Husband,

Mr. & Mrs. Brady, and Eliza have just left; Eliza said she thought I might as well tell you of a report that is circulated just now; it is that Father is trying to get the Office to transfer to you; that he already has a situation that brings in \$2000 a year and consequently does not need it. This age is apparently not taken into account; then if she could transfer; ^{it} ~~which~~ is very ridiculous. I don't know that it will make any difference to you but thought I would mention it.

William Comly has written or ~~expressed~~ that it lies between him and Father, and that his prospects are very bright. So I suppose they are; an editor who can be used for Party purposes of course will have the advantage. Yet I will in spite of myself keep on wishing that it may be

for it does seem to be exactly that plan
for Father, and his present employment
quite too hard for him. Well, well,
if it must be so, we must even bear
the new misfortune.

Do write more fully; you have no
idea how trying it is to hear so little
about the matter, Mary says tell him
to tell us the worst he thinks, and
not leave us in suspense.

That is enough of my sad forebodings
for you to hear; no doubt your anxiety
needs relief, in cheerful words from
home, when I heartily wish you were
again; I had hoped to bear your absence
much more bravely than I have; in spite
of my efforts to prevent them, frequent
attacks of the "Blues" will come. You will
have to cure them.

Your hasty scrawl (Yes, sir, that's
the word exactly) came this morning,
making me wonder what took you to
New York without satisfying me in the
least. You ^{have} said nothing about having
heard from home since you left,

although I presumed from your having
written to Sella that you had received
at least one letter. I have written three.

I was indeed surprised at the reconcil-
iation of which you spoke. I don't care
particularly about the gentleman, though it
is best to be on good terms with every one,
but I am very glad on account of Mrs. W.

Be sure you show her the pictures
of our little pets, if you have the oppor-
tunity. — Sella pleased me very much
today; she expected to go out home with
Mother and Jane; when the time came,
Frank begged to go too, but could not be
taken; now it has happened several times
lately that she has been taken and he
left, so Mother said, "I'll take you some
other time. dear, don't fret little brother
now", and the poor child immediately
assented and got out of the wagon, though
I could see it was a hard struggle with her.

Of course she got fussed up for it afterwards
but she did not know that she would be
and I think deserved credit for her
conduct.