

Castleton May 5 1862.

My dear Sister Mary

you cannot think how glad

I was to receive another letter from you I really began to fear I should never hear from you again it had been over a year since I had heard from you in any way you too have been called to taste the cup of sorrow but I trust you have felt that "it is well". A mothers heart is so tender towards her little ones that it cannot but be painful yes agonizing to see them wither and die tho their stay may have been ever so short, still there is much to console you in the thought that your little one is safe in the kind Shepherds care freed from all sorrow and suffering. I have visited Br. Edward and Sister Sarah since their little Sammie died they feel the sorrow very keenly. Sarahs health is very poor most of the time I presume they have written to you before this. I intended to have written to you soon after your first letter but had so much to take my time that it seemed as tho I had not mind enough to write a letter. I received a letter from Fannie Taylor near the time I rec. yours, she

had been visiting at Dr Francis' and wrote that they were well and seemed to be contented on their farm: said that Caroline thought it much better to be there than in a large place. You ask how Dr F. was so unfortunate you remember he was very much in debt before you went away - after his store was burnt which was about a year before I came here he built a large Hotel hoping that he would get his property together in that way and make it available. But he became still more involved and was obliged to give it up to his Creditors. I suppose you had know about his affairs or I would not have said any thing about it. An uncle of Caroline's gave her the farm.

John Taylor is at the Oil Springs in Pennsylvania I think I wrote you he failed in business last fall. George boards with Fannie. She intends to spend the Summer at her Father's. Dr. William and Sister Gertrude were well the last I heard from them. The Minister at Prescott went into the ~~parsony~~ and William has the charge of Public worship most of the time; he sometimes preaches himself they are six miles from the Village but attend meeting constantly. He does not write to me often but sometimes has to write to William on business his health is not good his eyes are very weak. I had a dear good letter from Sister Eliza last week

They have had a great deal of sickness in their family the past winter. She was sick herself but they all recovered. Elisabeth was married the 11<sup>th</sup> of March to a young man who has been a neighbor of theirs he has a farm with a new house and she thinks he is worthy, his name is Jacob Gibbard is of Parentage. <sup>\*that is sisters</sup> Edward their youngest son has 3 children the oldest little more than 3 years old I think from what Eliza writes she has a great deal to do considering her poor health. Mr. Morse has taken another wife from Castleton you will be surprised when I tell you where Beulah Moulton is the happy one. Mr. Higley introduced them. I think Cousin Harvey wrote to you in March so you know that Edwin is in Virginia in the <sup>1<sup>st</sup></sup> Cavalry Regiment the same that Gridley is in. You will see by the Papers that the Rebels have again slipped away from our Army what the end will be and when are an impenetrable mystery. We cannot but see that there can be no peace till Slavery is crushed. You enquired in your last letter but one about James Doyatt - he was then in town I saw him and gave him your message - he said he would try to get time to write you. He has now gone west I think to Illinois. He did not succeed in business here to suit him. He wished to be remembered to you.

Dr Perkins is now lecturing in Burlington; he comes home every week. He has good health and has so much business that he hardly has any rest. I am sorry dear Br that he does not find time to write to you; I know it looks very unbrotherly, but he has so many letters to write on business, and such a pressure of care for the sick, and so much to do to keep himself and family a living, that I have given up asking him to do, as almost every other man can do, have a time to be social with his friends by visiting or writing. He has no prospect of ever having any easier times while he is able to do; and I fear he has been <sup>so</sup> in practice so long, and is a man of such strong habits of business, that he would never enjoy retiring from it, as many do, after a laborious life. I think he will keep on the harness while he lives. We often hear from Mary now Mrs. Gilbert. They like their living at Santiago better than at Callao where they were last year. Maria has now two little boys the youngest is four weeks old. She is very well. William and Mary G. are well, and their little adopted boy is doing finely. They think you must be mistaken about their owing you a letter. Mary has never received one from you. If you were so well acquainted with Eliza Foot I will inform you of her affliction. She has lost her only Daughter she was about fifteen years old. They now reside at Syracuse.