

Miss Anne L. Sturges
Philadelphia
P.S.

Philadelphia

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I have been debating for the last
half hour, whether I should write you
to night or defer it for a more convenient
season, for owing to the waiters tardiness
in procuring me paper, the hour is late
& my ideas from being so long pent up
have all taken flight, but lest
thy Dearest Ann should think me
indifferent to her correspondence,
I will endeavour to overcome all
obstacles, & send you something, having
the semblance of a letter, a ~~small~~
dribble of news is as by no means
uncommon, then marvel not dear
Ann that I cannot relate an affecting
incident to call forth your sympathy

or a merry tale to excite a laugh.
Your letter after having visited
several of the northern city's came to
hand, it however partook of that warmth
which is the characteristic of all
southerners; I was gratified to see
Robert, as also your cousin, the former
has improved in conversation as
well as appearance, I have repeatedly
tried to prevail on him to dine
with us, but on his declining, thought
I would send him a special invitation
which we regret is not now in
our power, a I received a letter
unexpectedly this morning from
Reading stating that Uncle would
come the day after tomorrow for us
of course we will be much
engaged the rest of our time
I have a violent headache (in earnest)
besides a wretched pen so I must
bid you adieu. I forgot to

mention having heard, you were
engaged to be married to ^{your} brother
James I think it is not kind
in you to keep it from me,
perhaps in your next I shall
hear it, that was the only thing
like news which we could
not extract from Bob.
We love to your Aunt, & all who
enquire after us. excuse this scrawl
& believe in the sincere affection
of your friend Martha
P.S. always direct
care of Genl George M. Peim
& it will be received
good night & write soon again