

New York December 4. 1800 -

(3)

My dear Child -

I was glad to hear of your safe return to Brunswick, and hope you have again engaged in your studies, with your usual ardor - You will know the great value of your improvements to my future happiness and peace; and, that in proportion as my hopes of you are elevated, so will disappointment mortify and depress me - Remember ~~and~~ though, however cultivated your mind, or whatever personal attractions you may display, unless the heart unites its virtues, great knowledge and an handsome exterior, can possess no intrinsic or real value - I am naturally led to these reflections, by a conversation with your Aunt Fitch, soon after my arrival in this city - She subject embraced her much pain - her affection for you was and is great - It was her duty to inform me of a propensity in you, which

of encouragement, it is difficult to say to what length, it may
extend from the love and approbation of your friends -
I allude to your approbation of your Aunt's temper
performance for one of her children - This would more have
been the object of your own approbation - It would be no
longer regarded as due to your parents' approbation to them
- It must have been referred to you, and repeated
from the maternal Mother; and how ought you to be ag-
grivated, when your sister, that your Relations of distant
inability it may have been merely partly to you
- due to the same Mother - I avoid speaking to you in
this subject; I do not wish to interrupt your amusement
and enjoyment, while in this City; and I undertake a
hope, that of common-sense will be more than
sufficient to begeth - At this hope is repeated - Your love
- that has formed me not a little - It formed angles
with irregularity; for your Aunt has been true to you,
kind, kinder and affectionate - I repeat her for my feelings,
for you know how warmly my heart is attached to
her, ought at least to have expressed thanks on your

side - I do not write to you in anger - I write to you, with
the influence of paternal affection, thinking with
feelings more kindly referring to myself, than that
the possibly can be to you - I never forgive you, but say you
keep the reputation of a saint, who is due to you,
more again reflect on others, so humiliating to the
kind I feel, when I read of the goodness of your heart -
You must write to your Aunt, and by your father
conclude upon her opinion of the fact -
Write that for Albany the letter now at
last I write. How you got my thing you want
for the Mother - If not, write to me at once,
and write for, that they are forwarded to
my return -
Under my request to Miss they
her sister, and believe me, my dear Child,
your forgiving and indulgent parent -
11th

if encouraged, it is difficult to say to what length, it may
detract from the love and approbation of your friends -
- I allude to your representations of your Aunt's improper
preference for one of her children - This could never have
been the object of your own observations - It would be dis-
-ing justice even to your juvenile disapproval to think
so - It must have been repeated to you, and repeated
from ill-natured Motives; and how ought you to be af-
-fected, when your reflect, that your repetition of it, how-
-ever silently it may have been received, must justly be as-
-cribed to the same Motives - I avoided speaking to you on
this subject; I did not wish to interrupt your amusements
and enjoyments, while in this city; and I indulged a
hope, that admonition delivered in this manner, would
never be forgotten - Let this hope be verified - Your com-
-ment has pained me not a little - It pained tinged
with ingratitude; for your Aunt has ever been to you,
kind, tender and affectionate - Respect too for my feelings,
for you know how warmly my heart is attached to
her, ought at least to have imposed silence on your

Lips - I do not write to you in anger - I write to you, un-
-der the influence of paternal disapprobation; blinded with
feelings more keenly distressing to myself, than this sit-
-ter possibly can be to you - I now forgive you, but as you
perge the happiness of a Parent, who is devoted to you,
never again repeat an offence, so humiliating to the
pride I feel, when I boast of the goodness of your heart -
You must write to your Aunt, and by your future
conduct ensure her oblivion of the past -

I shall start for Albany the latter end of
next week - Have you got every thing you want
for the winter - If not, write to me at once,
and send for, that they are forwarded, by
my return -

Under my respects to Miss Hay
her Sister, and believe me, my dear Child,
your forgiving and indulgent Parent -

Yr

Miss Alice Ann Hoffman

at Miss Hays

Brunswick
Newbury

