

Tuesday evening
Nov 12th 1843.

Well dear Alex so twelve months have nearly run round
since we said good bye to you on board the W. Nicholas
in that beautiful bay of ours, can it really be so -
& I rather supposed that it has appeared shorter
to you who have been among new scenes & new
people than to us who have trod the same paths
so often that before, & I thank heaven we can
say so. For as yet there has been no great change
since you left us, saving the matrimonial connections
which of course we are to hope, at least are for the
better. we are again at Bevis, looking ^{where} steadily this
spring. I do not wish to raise your hopes too high
but the trees do appear nicely from the house.
I cannot boast much as yet of the display from
the river, we ~~do~~ enjoy it prodigiously, & this season
~~makes~~ ^{as} reminds ^{us} constantly of you who ~~are~~ ^{were} about
assisting nature. we hailed the arrival to day
with some anxiety & great delight, the arrival of
the new piano at its own home. its answers our
expectations fully. - Mary has no doubt described
to you our visit at Mrs. Miller's their great kindness &
the opinions that we formed of their character one
& all. to show you how little we can judge of things
& people at a distance we went to stay ten days &
I staid four weeks, - last Monday week we were
sitting very quietly sewing & reading when Crotns
bark missed us we looked out & who should pull up
himself loaded with bag & basket but Mr. & Mrs. Bow

we were very glad to see him both on our account & on his
own, but does enjoy the freedom of the country, we passed
a very pleasant week, he read to us in the morning
we sewed the afternoon we drove, once to ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~outlands~~
mill & the scales proved to us that our life in the city
had been one of excitement or fatigue at least. Many
only weighed one hundred & Bow ~~is~~ ^{his} general weight
is about 130 lbs, his picking or not picking does not seem
to agree with him - George L.S. made his appearance today
afternoon, who had returned a few days before from taking
his mother on to Bristol, so we had the last account from
him. Patrick is that Lanny Gorton, is really engaged to
Long fellow, who as Chatty says has offered him self five
times, he deserves success, Bow is of course in despair
now that he is quite safe - Papa is a good deal in
town & very much interested in all the different schemes
they at least amuse him, even if they come to nothing
& that is very important at this time, when if he had
nothing to occupy his mind the loss of so much of his
property would prey upon him - he is sanguine you
know & so much the better - I am sure I feel very much
indebted to George who exerted himself to induce Pa to
go into these matters, on that account as much as any
other - for the first time I believe since you left, a
steamer arrived ^{on Friday last} without any delay, ^{from you} she only sailed
five days after the protest so I suppose you had not
time; what a delightful excursion, it was to Toledo, & Orange
an enchanted spot, oh! kind fortune who throws such
pleasures in the path of one who is so capable of enjoying them.

Bow came up again today with Pa & the Piano he tells us
that Mrs Mrs G.L.S. Mrs Bowdoin & Miss Angelica went last
evening to Nick's, they have a french company playing there
they enjoyed themselves of course, the Angel is discried as
being upon the whole a small talker, how does that
agree with your experience, on Saturday afternoon, P. & Geo.
took her out to see the Reservoir, it seems she has never
seen any thing in or about the city; she goes up the river for
the summer on Thursday, do you remember last year, the
certain gentleman stationed with glass in hand to watch
the boat, I shall have to play the part ^{of the spy} & report what
sister Ann sees. Julia Livingston is expected ^{to go} down the
river from Haverburg, the end of that week to go immediately to her
own house I believe; what a blessed day that will be!
There is a good deal of excitement at present among the
Steamboat people about the Empire & the South America, who
it seems beats the queen ^{of the river}, as the new boat was supposed to
they passed here at ten minutes past 8 o'clock; pretty well
if they left at 7 the South ahead, a little more than a minute
Did Mary tell you that Jones the widower is going to marry
Maty Thomas, his sister in law, very soon, bad taste we all
think he ^{had} better have taken Elizabeth, I have seen Sam Oak, who
says you are looking precisely the same, no moustache or starting
You must attribute the stupidity of this letter dear Ab to
my having been stitching as Bey says all day - for we are
hard at it making our annual wardrobe; with the
assistance of an intelligent nig from Baltimore - Uncle
Phil who has just returned from taking Bey home describes
them all as well & assembled at Bohemia; Bob has taken
a walk at Phil's Mr. W. is coming home to live with them.

2 Squad are soon to sail in the Brandy wine - You must try & get the Neighbours & several other words, translated from the Ave dish, by Mary Howitt, they are quite the rage now & are certainly most excellent works - perfect nature. Master Phil Paulding who we only see at church, keeps him self entirely to himself avoids us completely. He has made quite a snail for himself in a small neighbourhood - We intend mounting Ben book upon some as he comes if possible, though I doubt very much our being able to get him -

Spring on later can of water very hot seems when in Spain as at the Sprinklers do - - We is very well & very fat - constantly in the garden, & taking care of the chokes. Good bye - We shall certainly have letters by the next steamer - Argentina

Alexander Stewart Esq
Secretary of Legation
Of the United States
Brazzaville

From Congo
May 22 1873
Wed. June 17

Wednesday Morning - Bo. Moly. & I. have just returned from a delightful stroll on the river, we had a grand shower last night & this morning the atmosphere is as clear & the wind from the west as refreshing as can be, the vessels running fairly up & down. Papa says he is to go to town again on Saturday - to meet Dr. Sparks by appointment relative to the everlasting papers - the Dr. you know is now dead & said in debt - the school broken up - are you not sorry that Everett has declined the mission to China - Rushing

[4877]