

I send you a few
 little trinkets, by
 Mary, which I hope
 you will ever for-
 my sake. But I am
 sending you her best bl-
 low, and all the chil-
 dren send you kisses by
 the wholes ale. Added
 to Robey's and Jess's kisses
 they send you a parcel
 of Will Gate seeds,
 which they have themselves
 done up. I don't know
 and send the children
 word, when they go out.
 Yours ever
 Mary M.

Do not forget to write
 to Phil and to answer
 this.

Hill Gate June 24th
 1838.

My dearest Emma,
 Although you try me with a dimen-
 sion of love towards still I still not believe that you
 really think so but that you only felt a little out
 of spirits and melancholy and therefore imagined
 that my not having written to you for so long, was
 the same as if I had sent no express mail
 to Bedford, to assure you that I had ceased to
 love you. I forgive you the expression you used with
 a heavy heart and will only consider it as a lasty
 word but which was not my own, must not be
 repeated. You know that I love and that I al-
 ways will love you most dearly. And I know
 your heart too well not to feel certain that
 you will always love me. I intended to have
 written a letter to you last week, to have had
 ready to send by Monday on Wednesday, but
 was prevented Monday until today; and it
 is now to late that you will receive but a
 short epistle. I received and took the liberty
 of opening a letter from you, to Phil dated
 May 24th. Phil sailed the first day of May,
 and has therefore now been gone nearly
 two months. I am just beginning to be used
 to his absence. I have heard from him
 twice already. The first which I received, by the
 Terminus, was written the evening before he
 landed. And the next, which I received

[illegible][illegible]

engraving to the western part of Pennsylvania, I believe. I saw
him when I was in town. I never saw him looking better.
I suppose that you have read all kinds of reports about Uncle
Oden and Miss Southard. When I saw him in Washington
last winter he asked me solemnly that there was no truth
in it, but I gave him two or three times since I have
seen him. But they are positively engaged. And I spoke
of, believe it, first. I must confess that when I saw the
young lady, I thought that it was the most likely thing
in the world. She is really delightful. Beautiful, peculiar
& very intelligent, agreeable and with the most fascinating
manners I have ever known. The very person
I should think Uncle Oden will fall in love with.
But yet he has not acknowledged it to me. He is
now in town. I started to call upon him the other
day, but was prevented by hearing of the
death of Mr. D. W. Thickett. Harriet King, you know
the lady. She has been ill for two or three weeks.
She was an old friend of mine, but I have not
seen her much since her marriage. She has
two little children. Did you not see her in the "For-
rest," her of the top of the Steam Packet House from
Charleston, last fall? She had a most horrible
reputation of the accident last week. How possible
to us because those we knew were on board.
The Steam Packet "Perlaschi," from Charleston, was
wrecked on Sunday last off Cape Fear. She had
on board 180 passengers, 50 of whom were ladies.
Out of the whole number only 17 were saved,
and among them only 2 ladies. Mr. Nightingale
saved. She has lived at the South, since her
marriage, about two years ago. And was now
on her way home to pay her parents a visit.
Her husband on account of his business could
not leave his plantation, so that she was travelling
with a gentleman, named Mr. Cooper. He was
killed, and was also the child's servant. Out
of 180 persons only 17 saved and can we be
too thankful that those were some of the number.
The other lady who was saved was named Mrs.
Fraser. I do not see how people can trust
themselves to those Southern Packets. I have no time
to write any more and with best love to your
mother, Malinda, & the children, and my compliments
to Mr. Whitman, and with all regards of love for
yourself believe me ever your sincerely
attached Aunt Mary C. R.

attached to the Mary C R.