

Boston December 30th 1842.

I suppose you will be rather surprised
my dearest Emma to see the state of my letter not having
written for so long a time to tell you of my whereabouts
as I ought to have done, Euphemia wrote to invite me to
spend the winter with her and after sundry doubts and
difficulties of my power of doing so it was finally decided that
I ought to accept her kind invitation, and here have I been
for the last three weeks spending my time as quietly as you
can be doing in your western village, on my arrival I found
Euphemia very ill suffering from one of those accidents to
which she seems particularly liable she has not yet recovered
her strength except in a slight degree and is confined to her
room the greater part of the time and cannot bear the least
excitement, of course I pass most of the day in her room
and expect to do so all winter for I do not see any prospect
of her getting about again in a long time, I am very glad
I came for I feel that I am of use in cheering her up a little
but you cannot imagine any thing sadder than the long walks
I take by myself for the sake of exercise at one o'clock I put on

my hat and cloak and walk up Washington street nearly
to Court-street and back again above there is a peculiar feeling of
solitariness in walking about a strange city by one self.
The climate of Boston is I think much worse than ours, certainly
colder and darker though Mr. Tabor will not allow it but
thinks it the finest in the world.

I hope your prospects at the West have brightened what has
the doctor determined upon about going South has his fever been
abated or has he gone off there on an exploring expedition,
the climate I have always heard was delightful and there is
certainly something very attractive to the imagination in those
lands of orange groves and light skies but they seem to be such
wild unsettled fighting places to take a woman to that I
have rather a dread of your going but yet I suppose the
doctor will find out whether the advantages counterbalance
the difficulties the distance seems very great from us but yet
I do not know that we are less likely to see than at Belvedere
for I never expect to be rich enough to go to see you and
it is not likely we will ever have a house to invite you to, if you
go to a money making place I shall expect you some of these
days to grow rich and come back to live in New York to
cherish your children as other rich southerners do and we may
meet as old women, whose childhood was passed so much together,
there are none who are so closely interwoven with all my early
association as you and Martine and your looks and your words
come over me constantly as my thoughts dwell upon those
times when I had a home which there is not the slightest probability
I shall ever have again, I have never ceased to regret your visit
of last year which to all was so satisfactory but particularly

to me who missed seeing you so powerfully, when had I known
you were not likely to remain I should have put off my
visit to Boston and been with you those six weary weeks.
Charles and George come on in the same old way the former
still in the Custom House and the latter employed as agent for
the rail-road with little work and but pay the company deeply
in debt to him which he has but slight prospect of ever getting
and still no employment to be found elsewhere so that he
can only remain where he is. The times are said to be worse
and worse every day so that all are suffering many poor
wretches now in abject poverty, among others the Dews and
Robinsons have become very much reduced they are to move
from their large houses in the spring and I fear will have a
struggle to get on, the city is well stocked with reduced ladies
who take in sewing or teach so what we single women are to
do who feel the necessity of earning money it is hard to tell.
Virginia has another daughter named Virginia, Lydia last summer
took on a lease the place at Hyack where we passed the summer
before he has added to the house so that it is now quite large
and convenient and they will enjoy their summers very much it
is fine for the children I passed a few weeks with them in the
autumn, but Fishkill is my summer home and I hope always
will be I feel that I am obliged to Mary in helping her take care
of her mother who is likely for the rest of her life to be a terrible
wretch I felt unwilling to leave her this winter and had I not
felt it a duty to Phoebe who was ill and wanted me best
should not have done so. Cecelia Hoffman is married and gone
to Harrisburgh to live I was invited to the wedding but as it was
not convenient to me to go and Charles had no invitation I
declined. I was in New York a fortnight and stayed at Lydia's
I called at the different houses in the family but saw nothing of

Of the minutes beyond a morning visit I must say my friends
 are more to me than my relations I am so little in the City that
 I suppose they cannot feel much interest in me but the Duces
 and Robinsons are ever ready in their kindness and show most
 attention where I most need it last winter at a boarding house
 with Charles all they constantly came to see me though they were
 two miles off and with the exception of the Letters our cousins

25

4M

W. H. Moberg
 Care of Dr. J. Moberg
 Belvedere

via Chicago Illinois



W 2440

did not seem to trouble their heads about us. it is foolish though
 to write about such things and I did not mean to do it.
 Give a great deal of love to my dear Mother I shall write to her
 in January kind regards to your two husbands and kisses to the children
 I hope your little darling keeps well does she walk & talk yet.
 Remembrance to Mrs. Jane Katy is here with me. God bless you my
 ever devoted affectionate
 John H.