

is one of the most important events of a day and to which all other occupations must give way - New York. December: 22. 1838 -
Give my love to all, and especially to little Cydus, as I can think of no way to convey to him one of more lasting value, you must give him a kiss from me as a Christmas gift -
My dear Emma -

As you complained grievously on your return from Hamilton that my letters were so much like essays and contained so little information as to ruffle even your generally even temper, I have determined that the same fault shall not be found with any one of the letters which I shall address to you while at Rishwaukie (excuse spelling as I have a bad pen) - Some great man or other, perhaps Dr. Johnson, says, that the excellence of letter writing consists in bearing as great a resemblance to conversation as possible, I have no doubt that the great man was right - and in order that I may attain in a measure to that excellence, I shall, always, before commencing an epistle to you, place on the desk before me, some figure of wax, candy or any other material, and imagining it to be yourself in propria persona as we say in the classics, shall write as I would talk to you - As you well know my style of conversation to be rambling and its character dictated merely by the whim of the moment, you must expect letters of all varieties, grave and gay, sensible and foolish - but if you will permit me to write in this manner, my letters will have at least one recommendation in your eyes, they will be lengthy for if allowed to write in my own style, I possess that accomplishment so rarely to be found in one of my sex, the ability to write three or four pages crowed and recrowed, about - nothing -

One advantage I hope to obtain by writing this letter in so great opposition to my manner on former occasions, is, that by the aid of your just and candid criticism (let me, I entreat, have no quotations from Blair) I may become in time a passable letter writer - spare not censure for it is the peculiar privilege of a friend to blame -

My regret that I did not see you for the last time, on board of the steamboat, what can tell! not words! - I had met Charles the

Having soon to hear from you again, and wishing you all health and happiness, I remain as ever your affectionate cousin. 82. Little gink

persons in Broad Way, and on his authority, that you would not ex-
-actly leave before Monday, and must probably not before the end of the
next week, I had presumed myself the gratification of dining at
Brandon on Friday, and of spending one more day with you before
you left us -

I was pleased to hear that you enjoyed your journey notwithstanding
say, your dangers by Hood's - How much Mr. Wall's enhance-
ment pleasure I can easily imagine; does he travel with you
to the end of your journey, if so guard well your heart until you
leave whether or not he has any chance of being sent to England -
I hope you have found in "The Liberator" all the beauties and delights
your fancy prompts; you must describe the situation particularly
to me, - I imagine the country to be much like the Lake -

If you do not like the name "Liberator", call it "Liberation"
intelligence - that Henry Stowe has been married before you left -
the city - I forgot - your friend ~~Stowe~~ gave a private party
to the Duke - I wish you greatly at all these little social
parties, I feel the want of some one to whom I can express
my best opinions of persons and things - The best would
be quite unbearable were not Mary in town, as our talks are
generally congenial and our opinions on most subjects the same
her pleasure in town doubles my pleasure and halves my
pain, so the word wanting to complete the quotation, but I
am so filled beyond the common lot of mortals as to be sensible
of no pain - where ignorance is thin &c

Mr. Henry Stowe has been married to Miss Catherine Eschscholtz.
I wish you had heard of the engagement before you left town.

I like her very much - she is not pretty but appears to be perfectly
amiable, ~~and~~ is very lively and pleasant and has been thought
up religiously, three ~~qualifications~~ which I am sure should make
any man happy -

Rev. Robinson has been married to Miss Perkins - so much
for Buckingham - only three marriages of persons that you know
in the course of two months -

Supposing that you receive letters few and far between (as we are
original quotation) and nevertheless still more rarely, I presume a
sympathy of the news of the last six weeks would not be uninteresting
General Whiston has died - he fell down in a fit while returning
from Newcastle - of course he had a most splendid funeral -
I now wish has just arrived from England and set all the
town racing, the celebrated Mrs. Ellen Tree - The newspapers say
that General Jackson cannot recover from his last attack, his health
is gradually declining, it is supposed he cannot survive until
March - The last sentence you may read to Mr. Whiston -
"Mr. Theodore Henry has been called to the Chair of Rhetoric at
in Geneva College, he is now Prof. Irving - Denning does so
engaged to Miss Caroline King daughter of James King - Sit
being certain, that you may not be an exception to your ex-
and may be so singular as not to admire General I mean
small talk, I shall not write any more of this stuff at present
since your departure I have seen little of Charles or any of the
family - Mary being in town, most of my time is occupied
in watching on her - I saw Charles last at a private party at
Loren Martin's, he said the family were all well, but he
was so busily engaged in talking, I did not say anything, with
a handsome young gentleman, that I had not much
opportunity of speaking to him -
My dear Anne, I am sure you cannot comprehend that this
letter contains no news, there is none -

from the beginning to the end which is not as concise as possible
I might easily had I so chosen have speer out the matter in
this last to four closely written pages, but as I had much to
say I sacrificed manner to matter, thinking that if I furnished
the outlines for reflection your own thoughts would fill up the
picture —

4th
Miss Emma Nicholas
Care of - Mr. S. S. Whitman
Chicago
Illinois

25

NOV 24 1847

do not I entreat subject my letters to Aunt Ann's severe
criticism — I may say of my letters with the poet

The gift is small

But love is all —

Although I try to amuse and entertain you I do not even
hope to succeed, and only write to show that the will is not
wanting and in the selfish expectation of receiving letters from
you in return —

It is dinner time which according to my old friend Dr Johnson.