

Fishkill September 28th 1837

It is really a long time since I have written to you my dear Sister and a great shame it is, but you know what a lazy thing I am. I received Emma's letter yesterday telling me she had just received the intelligence of Mr. Stow's death, by this time you must have heard of Eliza's too and poor Emma must be in great affliction. I have not been able to hear any of the particulars, except that she was thought much better, but the shock of her father's death was too great for her and she sank rapidly, poor Mr. Stow has returned to a desolate home I should think her sorrows would almost overwhelm her, Henry & his wife I have heard are going to spend the winter with her, he is to get some one to supply his place at Cold Spring that he may be with his mother and manage his father's affairs, he and his wife are very much liked he makes himself exceedingly useful among the poor and does a great deal of good as a country clergyman. I am glad that you are to be more comfortable this winter I hope you may succeed in shutting out the cold winds entirely, I dreamed I was with you last night and your house seemed to me as snug as possible and Squaw Prairie the most beautiful place in the world all covered with the brightest flowers, I could scarcely persuade myself when I awoke that I was actually at Fishkill instead of Illinois for your voices were still ringing in my ears.

Charles passed Sunday here on his return from a journey with Sam among the mountains in Essex County which have lately excited a great deal of attention. They were quite delighted with their jaunt the scenery surpassed in grandeur any thing they had seen before; they ascended above vegetation and saw as their hunter said all creation. You will have the whole account of it in the Spring for Charles intends to make a book about it, indeed his tour was one of business quite as much as pleasure for he says it is time "to get out an anchor to windward" and with legends and descriptions he hopes to make an entertaining book, he is very well and I think his hard work agrees with him says he has hardly any time unemployed, he comes up to see me on Saturday night and goes down at six o'clock Monday morning so that I see but little of him my class at Sunday school and church together keep me employed nearly the whole day he is here. George is still at Elizabethtown and expects to remain until the Spring he has been very fortunate not to be thrown out of employ, I have not seen him since May but he is quite well and ought to be satisfied, I shall see him in Philadelphia often and towards the end of winter I hope to go and stay with him for awhile at any rate. These hard times will prevent my living with either of the boys as soon as I hoped to do, I had intended to have paid my visit to Philadelphia in the Fall and to have boarded with George in Pennsylvania the winter, but I have decided upon remaining here until the middle of November, William is to be married on the 14th and wishes me very much to be at his wedding and it will be convenient for Mary to have me stay with her mother while she is in town in October, she wished me

to pass the winter here, but I had promised Miss Gratz that if I came not with my brothers I would come to her and William is to bring his wife here too so that she will not be lonely. William has given up brewing and is to be a farmer. Miss Gratz and Sara Moses spent the first week in August here and very pleasant it was she was well and we rode and walked constantly she talked about you and said she would be very glad to hear from you, your Philadelphia friends often ask her for news of you, Mr. Biddle has lost her brother John Craig he died in Italy after a few days illness and his child which was left in Philadelphia died just before Mr. Craig reached home. Miss Gratz writes that Becky Moses is engaged to John Nathan of New York he has been in love with her a long time and she always used to ridicule him but a month in his society in New York changed her mind and she is very much in love, I am glad she is going to be married for she never could have been contented as an old maid, and he is amiable and gentlemanlike. Charles will remain at Cousin Emma's all winter she is very kind and attentive to him and looks after his clothes which you know is very necessary for him. Did I never tell you of Cousin Emma's return from Santa Cruz she came back in December, Sarah died the 20th of November after much suffering, perfectly happy, very only that she had been sent away from home. Letty begs to be particularly remembered to all of you she always asks after you with affection and behaves herself so discreetly that I wish you could see her, she is perfectly well so that she walks here constantly, I shall have board for her in the neighbourhood of Miss Gratz. I was at Goshen for two days but Ogdon unfortunately was in town he had been much praised for his speech.

days I hope we will both of us be rich enough to pay each
other visits, I find myself constantly forgetting that I have no home
any longer it is indeed hard to realize. I am glad you have found
agreeable at Rockford when you keep a house 12 miles will be nothing.
I do long to see you all, tell Em I will write to her soon, Mary &
& Phil I hope be able to tell her more of the Stones than I can, when
I go to town I shall go and see Mrs. Stone. Love to all I hope Matilda's rings
yet ever your attached sister Julia C.

APR 29
1844

Rev. J. J. Whitwell

Putnam

Bellevue

Illinois

via Chicago

in Congress, he has determined to send little Owen to Harvard college
where is to board with an Episcopal clergyman he thinks it
better than leaving him in New York without any one to super-
intend him. I do sincerely hope your affairs will prosper I fear
it will be a long time before I see your western home your
village will have almost time to grow into a city one of these