

Leeds March 7<sup>th</sup> 1890

I being left alone for a few moments I thought I would  
set down and write, and to write what was last in my mind but not least  
in my esteem would be to write to and of you. Indeed I have your  
miniature before me when I go to sleep and when I wake and  
were it not painted it is imprinted with an indelible stain on my  
heart and ever prominently ~~and~~ visible in my mind's eye —  
I may have spoken reproachful May have written "admonitions" to you  
my Dear Cor. yet I always possessed that sensitivity toward you that ~~would~~  
~~me even a partaker~~ <sup>should have made me to be a</sup> partaker in your joys and a companion in your sorrows  
to say I feel for the happiness of Pamela would be superfluous  
Perhaps she does for mine — what shall I say of myself? —  
That I am almost in a state of ennu! neither business or pleasure  
hope or fear love or hatred seem to exercise any dominion over  
me — but now and then a little resolution of fate seems to come  
patting over me and I am in some hopes I shall shortly look  
about me and endeavour to find a little fortune and ambition  
and once again make some kind of figure in the wide world  
Some part of the past winter I have spent very gay and lively  
have been to many parties sleigh rides &c have taken several plays  
sung ~~Ripost~~ &c — and have seen many cases interesting and some  
able entertaining have not improved much in the art of potting  
or in the state of crossing have seen but little to interest the  
heart the eye or understanding except what the great expanse  
of nature unfolded to view on which in a leisure moment I  
cast an eye of inspection where we always find something  
new and pleasing to mankind, But stay says you! your letter  
is all a digression! I beg pardon — your kind letter I read & told  
Peckskier <sup>Dec 14</sup> and not having any thing to interest you will please my  
~~even for~~ <sup>not answering</sup> you, sooner and now I have nothing to write  
I begin — nothing did I say — I have every thing to write —  
It often came to mind how much pleasure we enjoyed in Peckskill  
real solid comfort of which I was then sensible as well as now  
but more forcibly when deprived of it — Oh now that I  
could now ~~be able to~~ <sup>be able to</sup> take hold of your right hand.



I would tell you ~~nothing~~ <sup>but</sup> what strange things ~~imagination~~ <sup>imagination</sup> will put in ones head but come my  
Dear you will take my own I hope and we will take a walk down  
to our Log by the ~~shed~~ <sup>shed</sup> where we will sit ourselves down and  
meditate ~~on~~ <sup>on</sup> the Pray in forms me in the great room where the noisy  
cup of junkies would salute the ear together with the sweet  
melodious of the flute violin and clarinet have dwindled to  
word spent Lanny and steward and the ~~crow~~ <sup>meowing</sup> of one solitary  
cat how unlike the former house of joy and mirth where  
I have met Pamela oft with a reciprocated smile that  
would seem to bespeak our hearts at ease

Oh what incoherent sentences my imagination is so prolific  
my heart is so full they so confuse my head I can not write

The very reasons that should urge me to say more

I saw you letter to my ~~dear~~ <sup>Beloved</sup> sister (who by the way talks  
of her Dear cousin Pamela almost every hour in the day)

It contained a great many little incidents pleasantly  
gratifying to my feelings ~~and~~ you can not write anything

that would not be ~~so~~ "you cant help yourself" when I

can steal time I sit myself down and read over our

course of letters together which pleasure I have indulge

myself in eight or ten times since I arrived in this place

when I have no fresh supply of thoughts of future happiness

I go back and partially live over those hours ~~that~~ I have

passed away — I must introduce you to my cousin Ann

a young lady who has (notwithstanding my drowsy writing)

such a flow of natural talent that would almost animate

a statue — she has wit sense <sup>Beauty</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>myself</sup> ~~a~~ <sup>poetical</sup> talent nothing

but cultivation wanting to put her in the superlative degree

I wish you had her as a scholar you would be so pleased with

her ~~says~~ If you see my young friends at Peckskill you will not forget

to say to them ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> good things I should care I then myself

I have more than once resolved to burn this letter and resolved

I have thought how ~~unwisely~~ <sup>unwisely</sup> you answered mine from Redhook which

was written in the deepest sincerity I have again thought what

obliging letter you have sent me how much your last did

please me how ~~corresponding~~ <sup>corresponding</sup> with my friends is the last pleasure

I am not yet displeased of



40 3/7/1820 *From:* R. B. Howard

*To:* Cousin Patia [Bailey]

RBH-0e24a

Leeds

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

Leeds March 7th 1820

My Dear Coz,

I being left a lone for a few moment I thought I would set down and write, and to write what was last in my mind, but not least in my esteem would be to write to and of you. Indeed I have your miniature before me when I go to sleep and when I wake and were it not Painted it is imprinted with an indellible stain on my heart and ever prominently visable in my minds eye.

I may have spoken reproachfull, May have writen "admonitions" to you my Dear coz. Yet I always possessed that sinsability toward you that should cause me to be a partaker in your joys and a companion in your sorrows. To say I feel for the happiness of Pamela would be superfluous. Perhaps she does for mine. What shall I say of myself? That I am almost in a state of enui! Neither business or pleasure, hope or fear, love or hatred seem to exercise any dominion over me, but now and then a little resolution of late seems to come fully over me and I am in some hopes I shall shortly look about me and endeavour to find a little fortitude and ambition and once again make some kind of figure in the wide world.

Some part of the past winter I have spent very gay and lively, have been to many parties, sleigh rides &c, have conversed, played, sung, <> &c. - and have seen many lasses interesting and more or less entertaining have not improved much in the art of Politeness or in the skill of wooing have seen but little to interest the heart the eye or understanding except what the great volume of nature unfold to view on which in a leasure moment I cast an eye of inspection where we always find something new and pleasing to mankind, but stay says you! Your letter is all a dirgression! I beg pardon - your kind letter I received dated Peekskill Decem 14 and not having any thing to interest you will plead my excuse for not answering you sooner and now I have nothing to write. I begin - Nothing did I say. I have everything to write. I often call to mind how much pleasure we enjoyed in Peekskill, real solid comfort of which I was then sensible as well as now but more forceably when deprived of it. Oh that I could now take hold of your right hand I would tell you, — nothing but.

What strange things imagination will put in ones head but come my Dear P- you will take my arm I hope and we will take a walk down to our log by the Hudson where we will set ourselves down and meditate. Now Mr Pray informs me in the great room where the noisy <> of Yankees would salute the ear together with the sweet melodies of the flute violin and clarinet have dwindled to Ward Aunt Fanny and steward and the mewling of one solitary cat. How unlike the former house of joy and mirth where I have met Pamela oft with a reciprocated smile that would seem to bespeak our hearts at ease. Oh what incoherent sentences my imagination is so prolifick. My heart is so full. They so confuse my head I can not write. The very reasons that should urge me to say more.

I saw your letter to my Beloved sister (who by the way talks of her Dear cousin Pamela almost every hour in the day). It contained a great many little incidents pecululearly gratifying to my feelings and you can not write any thing that would not be. So "you cant help yourself" when I can steal time I set myself down and read over our course of letters together which pleasure I have indulged myself in eight or ten times since I arrived in this place. When I have no fresh supply of thoughts of future happiness I go back and partially live over those hours that I have found away. I must introduce you to my cousin Ann a young lady who has (notwithstanding my drowsy writing) such a flow of natural talent that would almost animate a statue. She has wit sense Beauty and a musical poetical talent nothing but cultivation wanting to put her in the superlative degree. I wish you had her as a schollar. You would be so pleased with her. If you see my yong friends at Peekskill you will not forget to say to them for now all the good things. I should were I there myself. I have more than once resolved to burn this letter and reresolved I have thought how <ironically> you answered mine from Redhook which was written in the deepest sincerity. I have again though what obliging letter you have sent me how much your last did please me how corresponding with my friends is the last pleasure I am not yet deprived of.

[R. B. Howard]







because I was poor and without business Now when in  
business to spend <sup>my</sup> leisure hours with you would be the  
delight of my life, but <sup>it</sup> seems I must remain a pupil of adversity  
~~but~~ <sup>for every thing</sup> is adverse that carries me from my friends  
at the deprived of your society There is nothing shall deprive  
me of your good will or at least I am resolved to deserve it  
Make it your study my Dear Cox to be kind & dutiful daughter and  
obedient and affectionate sister and ere long you may be a  
worthy <sup>and</sup> happy companion at any rate if you will be a good girl  
you shall have a cousin when you count one & now if I should  
not live to see you again ~~which is a great possibility~~  
This will remain as an other proof of the <sup>from your</sup> love ~~of you~~ Cousin R

Cousin Joseph, altho last not least in my remembrance  
since you lived with me you have ever seemed  
to me like an other brother I feel much interest in your welfare  
and as I think much in your future life will depend on your  
education I would press the propriety on your mind of improving it  
as much as possible while you are yet under twenty that being the best  
time for improvement I know you have a good heart and  
generous feelings and a mind susceptible and capable of  
improvement Therefore as you grow older there will be much  
expected from you and I trust all expectations will be agreeably  
answered & It requires much to make the man and that  
knowledge ~~that~~ which is most beneficial in life is to know  
yourself - I had I been successful in life I would never have  
willingly parted with you But as it is you <sup>may not</sup> ~~will not~~  
apart ~~that you have~~ the love & esteem of your cousin R

P.S. I shall write to Benja. when I hear from  
Everet and know whether I leave this City this fall  
or not - may come to him and all the family  
Remember me to Ward & the de I shall write to  
Ward ~~in a few~~



Dear Brother

I shall inclose this in a letter to the Pastor



Don't you want you to know  
What I have for you  
I love you so like any other  
I don't know what to do  
And yet I hate to let you know  
It makes me feel all over

Don't you remember other way  
When you was talking in the pugging  
you had a hair on your head  
But on your neck there was no digging  
And yet

There by a tree close to the pond  
I stood and while you pulled the reeds  
I peeped through a small hole  
You went almost in sight

And when you raised round your head  
And turned your eyes towards the tree  
It made me feel amazing shame  
It made me feel that you would see  
I look right at your cheek and chin  
And all from when your hair had fell  
It makes me think of little things  
But you were like it if I tell



---

41 9/1/1820 *From:* R. B. Howard

*To:* Doct R. Bailey

RBH-0e24b

Harrisburg

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

Harrisburg Sept 1820

Dear Sir

I Received yours of August 25th five days from the date. It was the first letter that came to hand with which I was much gratified and am highly pleased to think that I can have intelligence from you so far in so short a time. As it respects the \$5 bill I sent you it was not of the Allen money in that was only one 5 doll Bill which I took particular notice of at the time. It was of the <Nowhaten> Bank & Guard. And as it regards Wards Note you write you thought of sending it to me. Now if he has not money of his own he has of mine in his command to pay two such notes as that and you know I was in want of money when I left your house. However if you choose send the note and I will forward the money and interest immediately as I never intended (God know) that any of my friends should loose any thing or suffer any inconvenience from me. As for Crawford his bargain is good enough if he had lost the Allen note. My horse to be sure is a very good horse old & heavy and I could not sell him for fifty Dolls. And it will cost me that to Winter him. I have not heard from Evert yet. I want you to write me very often. It will not take you but a few minutes and afford me hours of pleasure.

Yours affectionately,  
R. B. Howard

Doct R. Bailey



42 9/1/1820 *From:* R. B. Howard

*To:* Cousin Patia [Bailey]

RBH-0e24c

Harrisburg

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

Cousin Patia

I was very Agreeably surprised when in opening your Papa Letter I found my Dear cousin Arvilla (seemingly in unison with you) had been so good as to send me a few lines. I suppose She has left you before this or She would claim of right this return. She writes affectionate and sensible to coz sarah too. I have many acknowledgements to make especially for her thoughtfulness in requesting Arvilla to write. I feel too sensibly the loss I sustained in leaving my such good cousins and as for my "returning in a few years as happy as fortune can make me" is altogether Problematical. All at present is that I am comfortably situated and am as yet in good health while they are conveying many to the silent tomb about me. It is now very sickly and one half of the inhabitants at least are sick with the fever or the fever and Ague but I never was so well in my life. I was quite unhappy when I was last with you because I was poor and without business. Now when in business to spend my leasure hours with you would be the delight of my life, but it seems, I must still remain a pupil of adversity for every thing is adverse that carries me from my friends. Altho deprived of your society there is nothing shall deprive me of your good will or at least I am resolved to deserve it. Make it your study my Dear Coz to be a kind & dutiful daughter an obliging and affectionate sister and ere long you may be a worthy and happy companion. At any rate if you will be a good Girl you shall have a beau when you wantt one. Now if I should not live to see you again.

This will remain as an other prof of love from your cousin R.

Cousin Joseph, altho last not least in my remembrance since you lived with me you have ever seemed to me like an other brother I feel much intrest in your welfare and as I think much in your future life will depend on your Education I would press the propriety on your mind of improving it as much as posible while you are yet under twenty. That being the best time for improvement. I know you have a good heart and Generous feelings and a mind susceptible and capable of improvement. Therefore as you grow older there will be much expected from you and I trust all expectations will be agreeably answered. It requires much to make the man and that knowledge which is most beneficial in life is to know yourself. Had I been successful in life I would never have willingly parted with you. But as it is you must rest assured of the love & esteem of your cousin R.

P.S. I shall write to Benjm. When I hear from Everet and know whether I leave this City this fall or not. My love to him and all the family. Remember me to Ward Seth &c. I shall write to Ward.

Dear Brother

I shall inclose this in a letter to the Doctor.



New Orleans Oct 18<sup>th</sup> 1820.

Mr. Honland P. Howard,  
Dear Sir,

I have this day received your  
Letter of 18<sup>th</sup> inst. and was not a little surprised to find it dated at a  
Town so remote from the place where I at first had the plea-  
sure to become acquainted with you. I very much regret  
that your mercantile pursuits in my own dear native State, were  
not crowned with success, and wish that I could give more encourage-  
ment for coming to this place in order to retrieve your former  
losses.

This City is a great place for trade I assure you, but  
there are so many Americans stepping in for a share in it, that  
I scarcely dare invite you to take up your residence here.

But this much will I venture to say that if you was here at this  
time I could get you a pretty good situation with a Grocer, who wishes  
to engage a young man immediately. There are many situations  
vacant at present owing to so many young men having died with  
the Fever the past Summer, but as the Merchants are now returning  
to the city they will proceed with their business immediately.

18<sup>th</sup>  
43<sup>rd</sup>

Forw of



Mr. Honland P. Howard,  
New Orleans



Lucius P. Howard

Mark



you would also be informed that they were erecting a Tomb for him, or getting a Coffin made. I have taken great care of myself, and have been remarkably preserved through the sickly season, and another year I shall not feel much apprehensive as to my fate, considering myself as having become somewhat inured to the Climate.

Now Sir, after all that I have said relative to the uncertainty of your getting in business here, six weeks or two months hence, you should think proper to come here for that purpose, I and my friends will try what we can do for you. I mention six weeks or two months hence because I suppose you could not reach here until some time in the month of Decr.

With much respect,  
I remain truly yours,  
Jas. D. A. B. C.



---

43 10/18/1820 *From:* Larry Dusenberry

*To:* Mr Rowland B Howard

RBH-0e25

New Orleans

Harrisburg Pennsylvania

Forwarded to

Lexington Virginia

---

*Source:* Bowdoin

New Orleans Oct 18th 1820

Mr Rowland B Howard

Dear Sir,

I have this day received your Letter of 16th ult. and was not a little surprised to find it dated at a Town so remote from the place where I at first had the pleasure to become acquainted with you. I very much regret that your mercantile pursuits in my own dear native state, were not crowned with success, and wish that I could give you encouragement for coming to this place in order to retrieve your former losses.

This City is a great place for trade I assure you, but there are so many Americans stepping in for a share in it, that I scarcely dare invite you to take up your residence here.

But this much will I venture to say that if you was here at this time I could get you a pretty good situation with a Grocer, who wishes to engage a young man immediately. There are many situations vacant at present owing to so many young men having died with the Fever the past Summer, but as the Merchants are now returning <[torn page]> proceed with their business immediately,

[torn bottom of page]

you would also be informed that they were erecting a tomb for him or getting a coffin made. I have taken great care of myself, and have been remarkably preserved through the sickly season, and another year I shall not feel much apprehension as to my fate, considering myself as having become somewhat inured to the Climate.

Now Sir, after all that I have said relative to the uncertainty of your getting in business here, six weeks or two months hence you should think proper to come here for that purpose. I and my friends will try what we can do for you. I mention six weeks or two months hence because I suppose you could not reach here until some time in the month of Decr.

With much respect,  
I remain truly yours  
Larry Dusenberry

[Envelope]

Forward

Mr Rowland B. Howard

Harrisburg [was crossed out] Lexington

Pennsylvania [was crossed out] Virginia

[Postmark] New Orleans Oct 22

[Postmark] Harrisburg PA Nov 29



Parkhill Dec 20. 1820

My Dear W.

You have no doubt ere this received a letter from cousin Ward containing the afflicting intelligence of your brother Everett's last illness and death. - I would my dear cousin if it were in my power endeavour to console you under this dispensation of Providence. When I consider your lonely situation, as I should term it, I think the death of your brother & must be doubly afflicting to you and conclude that though I can do but little towards mitigating your sorrows, my letter will not be unwelcome and I really wish I had something to send you that would serve as a cordial to your spirits. but alas! all I have to offer is a sympathizing heart. Undoubtedly you very well remember my inability to express my ideas as I would wish. I am sorry to say I have not improved in the least since you left here and I fear I must always leave my friends to imagine my sentiments.

When I wrote to you last I had no idea of spending the winter here but have been persuaded so much by a few that I have at length yielded to their intreaties and have taken my winter quarters at Mr. Birdsells. - The present state of society in P.K. has been no encouragement. I said a few ago. You will naturally conclude so when I inform you that in point of talents it has made a retrograde movement for months past. - To be true we have some few persons of the first rate natural and acquired abilities, but you know the same few seldom associate with the young people of this place consequently we derive no benefit from their superior knowledge which with me is a matter of deep regret. However I spend my leisure moments very pleasantly in reading and have recently read some of Doct Johnsons writings. and must say if I could write with as much ease as his writings appear to have been

Parkhill  
December 22

Mr. Howard to Howard

Exington  
Virginia

25

W.H.



written. I should desire no more in that particular. I have not  
recd any new productions of late except Mr Irving's Sketch-  
Book and of course I must be delighted with his sketches - for that  
is the fashion and if it were not I should for once in my life  
be extremely ungentle and admire his writing.

Thursday Dec 21<sup>st</sup> Yester even Mr Birdsall and lady with  
myself and their young son Daniel took tea at Mr Medad Raymond's  
had a very pleasant visit, was introduced to a brother of Mr R  
who arrived in this place a few weeks since and remains here  
in the character of a Pedagogue - whether he will be an acqui-  
sition to our society or not I am unable to say. I understand how-  
ever that he excels in singing. - By the by what think you  
cousin R. who in former times sang so much for you have  
almost abandoned the practice. Sometimes two or three weeks  
pass and I do not sing one song. I have added but few new  
ones to my list of songs this season.

I thought how occurred that you may not thank me  
for my egotism I will therefore try to give you something  
about your associates. - Mr Pray is in our town  
but never troubles any persons. I mean he seldom goes out.  
From every appearance his office is the only attraction  
for him in this place. I do not see him often, but since  
his return from Maine I think him unusually agreeable  
and ascribe his good humour to his extreme good fortune  
in obtaining the "Boy of life".

I know but little concerning Dr Shango family. The  
counsellor is quite as attentive to his business as ever, and  
nothing more. I have not visited Miss C. A since last  
August and have not had the pleasure of meeting her at  
any party but once since that time. I hear she has  
been to town this fall and has returned with the  
fashions a la mode New York. Judge Constant and  
daughters are almost my only associates in this place.  
I frequently spend a pleasant hour with them. - Well  
here we have Uncle Seth and lady & Mr Gilbert and lady.  
I know but little concerning them - and care as much.

I go to Judge Johnston's very often and am happy to inform <sup>you</sup> that  
Lucia enjoys very good health which is something new for her.  
I presented your remembrance and love for which I received some-  
thing equal to them for you. - You must pardon me but really  
I have forgotten what she said. - however rest assured it was no  
small compliment.

My sisters are studying the French language this win-  
ter - and I have taken several lessons but do not profess to  
be a proficient in that accomplishment. - However by what  
I have learned lately with the little I knew before I am en-  
abled to read French with a little satisfaction and as my sisters  
have the advantage of a teacher. I hope to profit by their knowledge  
when I go home.

I have spent a fortnight very pleasantly at Keenburgh this  
fall, left all friends enjoying good health about ten days since.  
When I arrived at P.R. I had the pleasure of perusing a  
letter from you to your brother R. and am happy to learn  
that you have once more found society that accords with  
your taste. - Your brother Valentine sent cousin R. word in  
detail of cousin Lucretia's marriage which took place on the  
eleventh of November. - You of course have heard the particulars  
from Maine. As for Mrs Ladbetter she has quite neglected me  
the past summer and I intend to pay her in her own coin.

Uncle Bailey's family are in good health. Cousin Benjamin  
is engaged in the study of Theopie with Doct. H. of this place.  
Cousin's Seth and Mary are very well. Little Laura walks  
and is a very interesting little girl.

I can think of nothing more to tell you that would  
be in the least entertaining.

With my best wishes for your health and happiness  
I am your affectionate cousin Pamela.



---

44 12/20/1820 *From:* Pamela [Phillips]

*To:* Mr Rowland B Howard

RBH-0e26

Peekskill

Lexington  
Virginia

*Source:* Bowdoin

---

Peekskill Dec 20, 1820

My Dear R

You have no doubt ere this received a letter from cousin Ward containing the afflicting intelligence of your brother Everett's last illness and death. I would my dear cousin if it were in my power endeavour to console you under this dispensation of Providence. When I consider your lonely situation, as I should term it, I think the death of your brother E must be doubly afflicting to you and conclude that, though I can do but little towards mitigating your sorrows, my letter will not be unwelcome, and I really wish I had something to send you that would serve as a cordial to your spirits, but alas! all I have to offer is a sympathizing heart. Undoubtedly you very well remember my inability to express my ideas as I could wish. I am sorry to say I have not improved in the least since you left here and I fear I must always leave my friends to imagine my sentiments.

When I wrote to you last I had no idea of spending the winter here but have been persuaded so much by a few that I have at length yielded to their entreaties and have taken my winter quarters at Mr Birdsall. The present state of society in P.K. has been no inducement I can assure you. You will naturally conclude so when I inform you that in point of talents it has made a retrograde movement for months past. Tis true we have some few persons of the first rate natural and acquired abilities, but you know the same few seldom associate with the young people of this place, consequently we derive no benefit from their superior knowledge, which with me is a matter of deep regret. However I spend my leisure moments very pleasantly in reading and have recently read some of Doct Johnsons writings, and must say if I could write with as much ease as his writings appear to have been written, I should desire no more in that particular. I have not read any new productions of late except Mr Irving's Sketch-Book and of course I must be delighted with his sketches, for that is the fashion and if it were not I should for once in my life be extremely ungenteel and admire his writing.

Thursday Dec. 21st. Yester even Mr Birdsall and lady with myself and their young son Daniel took tea at Mr Mcdad Raymonds, had a very pleasant visit, was introduced to a brother of Mr R, who arrived in this place a few weeks since and remains here in the character of a Pedagogue, whether he will be an acquisition to our society or not I am unable to say. I understand however that he excels in singing. By the by what think you Cousin R I, who in former times, sang so much for you have almost abandoned the practice. Sometimes two or three weeks pass and I do not sing one song. I have added but few new ones to my list of songs, this season.

A thought has occurred that you may not thank me for my egotism I will therefore try to give you something about your old associates. Mr Pray is in our town but never troubles any person - I mean he seldom goes out. From every appearance his office is the only attraction for him in this place. I do not see him often, but since his return from Maine I think him unusually agreeable and ascribe his good humour to his extreme good fortune in obtaining the "Joy of life".

I know but little concerning Dr Strang's family. The counsellor is quite as attentive to his business as ever and nothing more. I have not visited Miss C.A. since last August and have not had the pleasure of meeting her at any party but once since that time. I hear she had been to town this fall and has returned with the fashions a la mode New York. Judge Constants niece and daughters are almost my only associates in this place. I frequently spend a pleasant hour with them. Well here we have Uncle Seth and lady & Mr Gilbert and lady. I know but little concerning them, and care as much.

I go to Judge Johnston's very often and am happy to inform you that Lucia enjoys very good health which is something new for her. I presented your remembrances and love for which I received something equal to them for you. You must pardon me but really I have forgotten what she said, however rest assured it was no small compliment.

My sisters are studying the French language this winter, and I have taken several lessons but do not profess to be as proficient in that accomplishment. However by what I have learned lately with the little I knew before I am enabled to read French with a little satisfaction, and as my sisters have the advantage of a Teacher, I hope to profit by their knowledge when I go home.



I have spent a fortnight very pleasantly at Newburgh this fall, left all friends enjoying good health about ten days since. When I arrived at P.K. I had the pleasure of perusing a letter from you to your brother W and am happy to learn that you have once more found society that accords with your taste. Your brother Valentine sent cousin Ward a detail of cousin Lucretia's marriage, which took place on the eleventh of November [Lucretia Howard married Jabez Leadbetter]. You of course have heard the particulars from Maine. As for Mrs Leadbeter she has quite neglected me the past summer and I intend to pay her in her own wise.

Uncle Bailey's family are in good health. Cousin Benjamin is engaged in the study of Physic with Doct Wait of this place.

Cousin's Seth and Mary are very well. Little Laura walks and is a very interesting little girl.

I can think of nothing more to tell you that would be in the least entertaining.

With my best wishes for your health and happiness I am your affectionate cousin.

Pamela [Phillips]

[Envelope]

Peekskill

December 22

[Postage] 22

Mr Rowland B Howard

Lexington

Virginia