

Wilmington 12 mo 2nd 1861

Dear Children

It is now more than a week since the receipt of James kind Letter, which mentioned that Margaret was rather more comfortable, which we were truly glad to hear, and hope she continues to improve, and will still continue to improve till her health is again restored, my dear Rachel has often within 10 years been so ill that none of her friends but myself ever expected her to get about again, now she is favored with pretty good health, about as good as she has ever had since we were married taking her age into consideration, yesterday we took Charles and rode out to brother Bernys and dined, spent a few hours very pleasantly and returned home to tea, Charley is very much pleased with his new suit including his long tail Coat, should he not wear it out this winter it will certainly I think fit rather better a year hence, but it is a good fault, this day Eli is 31 years of age, business remains pretty fair for selling, but our Country Customers, are very bad pay, John, was away 5 days last week, and got but 200 Dollars and had bills with him for more than 2,000 we must patiently bide our time,

Fanny and her Children has been near a week out at Robinsons. Eli goes out every Evening, I presume they will get home some time this week. Third Day Morning, I have just receiv'd thy very welcome Letter of the first Instant, we are truly glad to learn that Margaret is improving if it is slow, I hope it may continue, and my R. and self are truly glad that sister Ann is willing to stay with you and take charge while Margaret is unable to look to House affairs herself, I have no doubt she will have her reward, in knowing that she has added to the Comfort of others, for am a full believer in the Doctrine that no one can be happy, who lives for self alone, when sister Ann can be spared by you we shall be very glad to have a visit from her here, I am glad to learn thee is about to get a good supply of wood saw'd and put in the dry for winter, it will be found Economy to do so, it will cost less to Cook, or keep a House warm, with dry wood than green, and with much more comfort, I see by the Delaware County paper that Randall Malin's property has been sold for 10,000 Dollars but it did not mention who the purchaser was. I presume it was Becky Malin, please

inform me when she next writes, whether  
or no, she was the purchaser, and whether  
that part near the Meeting House is inclu-  
ded, we receiv'd quite a long interesting  
Letter from Edw. Lewis on 6th day last, he ap-  
pears to be happy, and improving very  
much in Letter writing, If his improve-  
ment in other branches corresponds  
with that, he must be doing well.

I find he anticipates much pleasure in  
paying you a visit the last of this week  
This day Henrys two little boys are 7 years  
old, they thought they ought to have a holi-  
day and stay from school, and having  
had several little presents, they have  
enjoy'd the day more than usual, I see  
by the papers to day, that the Emancipa-  
tion of the slaves of the Secessionists,  
has been introduced to both branches  
of Congress, and it will no doubt occupy  
a place in the Presidents Message, and  
in Seward, and Cameron, the signs  
of the times for the slaves deliverance  
is brightening, if the slaves of rebels  
become free, those of others must soon  
become free also, after which we may  
have, what we never yet have had, a  
United States of America,

Rachel sends her love to you both, brother  
George Sister Ann, of the Children, she  
is glad that Fannys bonnet fits her  
in all of which I most cordially join  
and remain your attached Father

Thos. Garratt

Howard and Charlie were very much  
pleased with their visit to John  
and Mary a few days since