

Hamilton 18 Jan^r 1857

My dear William,

We were very glad to get a letter from you, and are glad to hear you are all well, we were in hopes that you would have been able to have come to see us before your business commenced but as we are disappointed we hope you and Willy will come the first opportunity you get, we are now all with accepting dear Annashe as every symptoms of the consumption. She was confined to her bed in Cin^{ca} for 3 weeks W^m Black wrote for Henry he went down the same day, and found her some better, but very weak, her Physician thought he could do no more for her, but gave her some little Tonics and thought it would best for her to leave the City, and the change may be of service to her, so as soon as she was able she came here now 4 weeks ago she continued quite feeble tho much better then she was then, some days she appears to be getting better, next day she is down again, we think she is going like her dear Father. ~~Do not~~ now let you know that we came down here about 3 months ago to spend the winter with Henry and if we found it would answer us, to remain in Hamilton but every thing is so very dear that it will not do at all, Wood 4 dollars a cord with out the cutting for a fire, Butter 25 and every thing else according, House Rent 100 for the little one, Liffen lived in no garden, and our Income so small, Rent so low that we shall have to sell our Houses in Centerville, the first chance we get, property is so low that we shall have to lose money on them. Joseph came to see us here and wants us to buy joining to him, and says we can live ⁱⁿ the Village and he will attend to our business in planting gathering and selling our corn for us and all he possible can for us, and if anything is needed in want of help he is always one to come to be with us we can live for so little than to what we can here, Wood is no more than ^{one} dollar a cord for the fire, we can keep about Chickens, and he says it is not much if any better, his health and all the rest of the Family was never better, he looks well, and says he ^{is} not need of a over coat but 2 or 3 times this winter he works on his land most every day, he says it is more healthy than Hamilton, and not so much ague than, as here, & your dear Father and Henry intends going there next month to see how it will do. and if we go you will be nearer to us, I now conclude with our united love to you and do not forget to bring one of your Daughters I hope her wife are will run over to them

Your Affecⁱⁿ Mother Ann Howells

With us here from you both when you will be here