## Litchfield February 23<sup>d</sup> 1818

We have at last dearest Charles arrived home and I can again enjoy the dear pleasure of writing to you and without having any person to see me write\_ I cannot, and I will not write, when I am obliged to have any person in the room with me, for I always think they are reading my feelings in my face and I only wish to have you enjoy my bright ideas\_ "Home is the dearest place in the wide world I do think," I have often exclaimed since I have been gone, and how light hearted and happy I feel this morning- and not only because I am at home, but that I can again hear from you, and write to you\_ I should have been much happier while gone if I had written to my dear Charles every week, but I cannot write when away from home\_ Aunt Mary wrote you from Lansingburg and I believe gave you description of our journey up- but she could not tell you how happy I was again to see my dear friends Cornelia and Mary. Charlotte was still in Albany but has since returned home, she must have spent a most delightful winter for she felt quite unwilling to leave Mary, she has a great number of beaux around her, but I suppose that she has not found one to please her. I suppose Aunt wrote you that Cornelia was married. I feel very anxious to hear [p. 2]

from her, for she was so much out of health when we left her\_ but I hope she is better for I very much fear if she does not get rid of her cough soon it may end in consumption\_ Thomas is extravagantly fond of her they go to housekeeping in the Spring \_ and have made me promise that we will make them a visit

We started went from Albany to Catskill a week ago last Wednesday a most dreadful cold day- the newspapers stated that it was the coldest morning that has been known for these many years, and had I known it was so very cold I should have suffered most amazingly- but as it was we got along very comfortably. We found all our dear friends in Catskill very well – my new sister is a dear sweet creature, I love her very much- she and my brother stay with my Aunt this winter, but they will go to housekeeping the first of May- how I long to have you become acquainted with her and my brother. I know you will love her. We staied in Catskill only a week for I felt very impatient to get home again\_ And who

do you think we became acquainted with in Catskill? Somebody that you know\_I know you could not guess although you are a Yankee- so I will tell you – it was Mr. and Mrs. Dexter – Franklin Dexters brother- we met them at Mrs. Ways where we were invited to dine- when I was first introduced to him I had no idea that it was Franklins brother but he had found out it seems that I was the [p. 3]

being engaged to my dear Charles so he began to say that some of his classmates had been in Litchfield. I then immediately knew it must be Franks brother. I turned around and looked at him and exclaimed are you Mr. Dexters brother of Boston- he said -yes we soon felt quite acquainted he enquired about Mr. Sprague Ben Greene and all your class mates but yourself – if he had any thing to say of you he took care to address himself to Aunt Mary\_ I became quite acquainted with his wife, and found her one of the most sensible and friendly women I most ever saw- at dinner she asked me if we should not drink to the health of absent friends and smiled very significantly- she found out we were going over to Hudson on our return home, and [? wax seal covers word] upon our coming and spending the day with her but we could not possibly do it, and then she said that we must and we should come and drink tea with her, and we at last consentedwe had a most delightful visit we were <del>deli</del> very much pleased with both Mr. and Mrs. Dexter And do you really think I am so great a coquet that after being as faithful as a dove nearly five years that I am "now trying very hard indeed to make some English officer or other beau fall terribly in love with me\_" pretty well I must confess and pray when do you ever expect I shall be [P. 4]

contented with the affections of but one\_never I believe- for you would always think I never loved you that I never thought of you "out of sight out of mind" is an old saying of yours, and very lately I have been reminded of it again\_ I had a great mind when I saw it to give you a scolding, but then I knew it would do no good – it would fail to convince that I spoke the truth so I thought I would say nothing about it- but I thought if dear Charles only knew

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[postmark Litchfield Feb<sup>y</sup> 24 CT 1818

**Boston** 

how much I do think of him and oh how do I long to have the months pass that intervene before seeing you again- how I do long dear beloved Charles to see you every day it seems as if my desire grew stronger\_
I received Helen guessing letter just before I went to Albany & have since not found time to answer it in the same manner or returning good for evil give my dearest love to her – if she thinks it worth accepting- & oh dearest Charles I wish I could make you believe how much you are loved by your Anna