

Brother Bent is as  
kind as a brother,  
can be, but when  
"Hatty" comes, I shall  
be still happier,  
but you are  
wanting still -

Good night, my  
dearest, and don't  
forget to write  
very soon to  
Your own Abby

I hope my letter  
will not reach  
you too late,  
because you  
will enjoy your  
visit so much  
better, when the  
season is rather  
more advanced,  
and all are well,  
though it is hard  
to give you up.

Love to your  
sisters - Abby

March 13<sup>th</sup> 1838.

I wrote to you in great haste, by  
Mr Lee, to tell you how happy we should be, to  
have you here next week, but Mrs Doubleday did  
not say any thing that would prevent, till I had  
sent your letter. She would like, now, to have  
you defer your visit, until a later day, because  
Elizabeth Doubleday is not at all well, has one of her  
coughs, Mrs Weed is not very well, and Mrs Doubleday  
not over and above well, and, considering all  
these things, they think neither you nor they  
would enjoy the visit so much now, as when  
they are better, and in less of a bustle. So, dear  
dear, I shall not see you so soon as I expected.  
Had you decided to come at that time? I hope  
the change of plans will not interfere with any  
of your arrangements. Do write to me soon, and  
tell me what you were going to do, and when  
you think you shall come. If you will let me  
know the time, I will find out if it is convenient  
for Mrs Doubleday. It would not, on the whole, be  
so pleasant for you to come quite so early in the  
season, the travelling is so bad, and if you de-  
fer it a little while, you will find Mrs Bent  
here too, and enjoy it infinitely more. I do hope



you will get here before I take my final leave  
of the town, for I don't believe any one wants to  
see you so much as myself - How many home sick  
hours you used to save me, and if you had  
been here this term, I should have been one of  
the happiest of the happy, although, for the last week  
I have been quite myself, not melancholy - I know,  
of course, you would like to know where I live  
now, and what changes have been made - I have  
the room in the second story, next Mrs Leabury's,  
just like the one I had at Mr Bent's. Mr Cook  
is out of business, and has gone away, and Ame-  
lia is going, to take his room, when she returns  
from Taunton - I shall not tell you any long sto-  
ries, till I see you, or you write - Mary says she  
saw you in the Ceroton stage, so that I don't know  
where to direct my letter, but, perhaps, Annie will  
do the same favour that she did before, break it  
open, and then you will have the information -

I cannot tell you much news - I went to the  
temperance meeting, and heard some good speaking,  
your friend Oliver Crocker figured at it, and appeared  
very well - I went to a concert last week with Miss  
Baylies, and heard some very beautiful singing - Uncle  
Joseph said the other evening, I must go see them,  
you Sally would want to ask a thousand questions  
about Deborah - I believe they are well, on the hill  
of Lion - Mr Lord has his full number of scholars,  
and says you did promise him some pictures -

I love your little Betty dearly, and Ellen Foster's  
little roguish sister - Ellen is a nice girl, and



am very fond of her - I do like the two schools  
better than one, and I am not troubled now by  
any of the young beauties. I have missed you  
this term, as no one but you can imagine,  
and I am impatient to get some knowledge  
of you, and find in what part of the wide <sup>world</sup> you  
now have your dwelling place - Mrs Weld  
heard from Emily, last week - She is well and  
happy, and was having a great merry sleigh ride -  
are you not glad? For I think it will stop her whining.  
I had a large bundle from home, last evening,  
and some letters - You know how pleasant it is  
to receive such favours. All the people would  
send their love in abundance, if they <sup>knew I was</sup>  
writing. My Boy's sends hers, though she says she does  
not know you - She seems to take quite a fancy  
to you - We are not doing <sup>any thing</sup> very great, at present,  
I don't accomplish <sup>any thing</sup> scarcely, though I  
always making great plans.

I was very much surprised to hear of Mr  
Pule's death - it seems very melancholy that he should  
be so suddenly taken away, in the midst of his use-  
fulness. There is a great deal of sickness in town,  
and a great many <sup>lives</sup> in Mr Bent's parish - Mr Franklin  
is very low indeed, and several, besides. Have you  
heard of Mrs Stevenson's death? It was a terrible  
shock to her family, it was so unexpected to them, but  
she had a presentiment for three months before her  
death, that she should not recover - The family are  
in great affliction, but <sup>calmly</sup> Mr Bent says Mrs Riddell in  
particular appears nobly and views her trouble in  
the right light -



B. B. B. B.



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