

are wing on each side. In the east wing is the parlor
and parlour bedroom and close parlor and bedroom
both open out of the hall which goes through the house the
old family taken away. The west wing divided in the same way
a large bedroom for ourselves and small one for the children
both open out of the sitting room the old parlor at present
on the west side of the old sitting room an outside door
and go which you know will shorten the road to see
Mrs. Patch. I cannot spend time to tell you any more about it for
I do not expect it will interest you as ~~Balhamoo No =~~ 1847
it does me now dear Mary do find time to write me a long letter

Dear Sister Mary

I have long been wishing to write to
you and especially since the death of our dearest Willy
have I desired to pour into your bosom the sorrows of
my own desolate heart Your very kind and sympathizing
letter I received this afternoon and cannot let the evening
pass without saying something in return You wish
me to write particulars both of myself and Willy of
the life and death of our dear dear Willy I can say
much but the anguish of a mothers heart bereft of such
a child cannot be told I could not think he
would die until he was nearly gone and
then it seemed like taking my own life Not
a thought now passes but what is in some way connected
with his life and death I love to think of him
as he was and as he is - he was beautiful lovely
promising and interesting all that fond and
devoted Parents could wish or desire but as he is
Oh who can describe the glory with which he is
surrounded far from the ill of him no longer
subject to misery or pain Oh blessed happy
spirit we would not call thee from thy peaceful
abode we would not desire that thy pure spirit should

one year you left you ray - ray - you enjoy wps of my very life
should again mingle with the sorrows of earth nothing
more calculated to touch every tender feeling of the heart
than the death of such a child and yet no death could
be more full of consolation I trust we do not murmur
but my dear sister we do feel smitten and we can
only say have pity upon us have pity upon us for
the hand of God hath touched us Dear Willy had
many very dear friends All that knew him loved him
Mrs Drury and Haro came to attend his funeral but
did not arrive until after his burial They spent the
day and night with us Willy was very much attached to
them and to Mary Penfield We all left the next
monday Frances for New York the children and myself
for Ann Arbor We had our arrangements all made to
have that day before Willy died expecting to take him
as we thought it would be the best thing we could do for him
it sad visit it was to me I expected to remain until Frances
returned but Henry Post called on his return and I gaily
improved the opportunity and came with him My friends
were all very much gratified to see me and did
every thing in their power to make my visit pleasant
but no effort of theirs could relieve the anguish of my
heart I longed to get back to the spot where
the spirit of our dearest Willy took its flight I spent a
number of days with Emily and now you will be
very much surprised to hear that Emily John Turnham
and Charles are living in Oregon nearly opposite Kohn
They did not think of it when I left Kohn wrote to John

my son was very ill ~~left home~~ ^{left home} as they were very young people enough to send them a good teacher for their school John wrote back that if they would give 26 dollars a month and his board he would offer his services & nothing was costlier and the unanimous feeling was to have him come Last Friday they came on Sunday here until Monday then left for Oregon They have a fine daughter which they call Caroline Lucretia Emily is in fine spirits very happy with John but the history of things connected with their living on the farm you would laugh to hear How many times I said to Emily when there and hearing about things Oh I wish I could tell Mary Old Mrs C told Emily that you was a perfect being at the west William did not want you and I said I did not want you so in the course of my stay I took occasion to say to the old lady that you would have returned six months before you did had it not been for Frances I told her likewise that I could not think more of an own Sister than I thought of you How much I should tell you could I see you I have now written you too much and really hope you will destroy this letter Let me know that ~~I~~ have Frank Miller & was married while I was there — a Miss Mann of Ann Arbor She preaches at the Capuchin Church has a child They say she does not speak with all the Miller's Our dear Mrs Welch was taken spitting blood the week before Nelly died They thought she raised a quart For a number of days they did not stir her

at all and now she cannot speak a word nor eat but ~~now how can the message get past young women or men~~

is able to set up and walk about. They hope she will recover. Uncle is now very sick. They consider him dangerous but sent me a note enclosed in a beautiful envelope with an Angels face painted on it, on the seal. It is so good that I must send the copy. --- Dear Sister what shall I say

I will not speak but only breathe. Our Abby is at rest. She little innocent we loved so well is not here. Her earthly career was short. Yes like dew drops new fallen on flowers exhaled by the rays of the sun so pure and so lovely were they. Then earth works as speedily done. Now he has begun a new existence of pure and uninterrupted joy. His gentle voice which does burn music to us is now heard. and she endures. Do we wish the little one back? Oh no. Our Father called him to his own home and sent his angel to take him home. Yes I trust we can say of her soul home. Youthful pilgrim gone home. Her spirit in Heaven grows bright. We mourn her yet mourner would say even in judgment our Father does right with the deepest sympathy.

It is now more than a week since I commenced Sarah's Balch this letter since that time we have had nothing but one continual stream of company and I have found no time for writing. I have a very good girl but she cannot do all when I have company. Uncle is better. Yesterday I called to see Miss BB and very much to my surprise she speaks aloud. I do hope she will get well. Miss Shours and her mother came in on the cars the next day after I returned and spent a number of days with me. Miss Shours spent about three months travelling first to Chicago then East. She is in fine spirits has improved in looks grown fleshy. We talked much about you. Mrs Balch says O how happy we should be to enjoy Mary's society once more. There many things I wish to say to you but probably shall never have an opportunity. For some reasons I shall think more of you than ever this winter as I wish I had your company and assistance. Mr Post has been with us considerable for a few weeks. His report says he corresponds with a young lady somewhere but I have forgotten in what part of the world. She resides Mrs Parsons has recently returned with his wife who was Mary Holt Mrs Evans' Clark's sister. They seem very happy of course. I have heard many new things about some things I wonder if you can understand. Our house is in progress when it is done will be very pleasant and convenient. Still but me but I cannot begin to imagine that it will be the model house. We have built all around it except the west end of the kitchen. It is fifty four feet in front