

Home Allegheny City Feb 19 1858

Cousin Margaret

Yours of the 1st lies before me and I am cosily seated at a small table in my own room before a fine grate of black coal now all in a glow of red and at my left is my dear wife in her rocking chair having put down her work into her workbasket. She is reading her Testament at the window Fanny is seated altering a bright green dress and Sands is mounted on a Piano Stool to which Uncle has tied a string for a bridle for his horseback ride. ^{John & Ada are at school} out of doors the ground is covered with a mantle of white and the merry sleigh bells are making music. all day it has been snowing so hard that I have not ventured to go to the office. but have spent the day at home reading and now at 12 past 3 P.M. I am penning this Epistle great was the relief yours gave us all, on its receipt to learn you was better, and if our poor prayers and supplications can avail in your behalf long will you be spared to all who love you and especially those who so much need you in your own home. I did not know until you informed me the position we

occupy and it is as well perhaps that I at least fulfil
the wise saying "little folks should be seen not heard"
We shall always be interested in our Kansas friends
and trust all will ever bear in mind that there is
a better Country, while all in every place need the
favor & protection of God, especially do those who
are strangers in a strange land, but alas! too many
who emigrate to the far west go in their own strength
and the difficulties and dangers which assail them
they are unprepared for and unprotected by Him.
Who alone can be their refuge & their strength in
time of trouble, despair and destruction is their
end. While he who trusts in the Lord shall want
no good thing, and they that trust in the Lord
shall be as Mount Zion which cannot be moved.
May Charles while flaunting his Steam Engine also
plant his faith (not in the promises of fickle man
for a few yards of earth) in Him who has promised
(and cannot lie) "an inheritance incorruptible and
"undefiled and that fadeth not away" and the Silver
"and gold are His" and the Cattle upon a thousand hills.
Who alone can give "grace & glory and no good thing
will He withhold from them that walk uprightly"

Commend us to all at home and afar off as
interested in their true happiness. I trust Richard's
health with your own will be permanently restored
but is not every touch of affliction wisely and
kindly intended to teach us that this is not
our rest, that here we have no continuing City
and lead us to seek a City whose maker and
builder is God. Oh what so desirable in a world
of such sudden changes, where our dearest social
and family relations are subject to such sudden
and unexpected severances, to have "a good hope"
"of being theirs together of the glorious life", where those who
"have loved shall meet, to part no more, where"
"sickness & sorrow pain & death, are felt & feared no more"
Emma Alfred Frank & Anna Sands share our deepest
solicitude may they be all we wish and the Lord
be their God now henceforth & forever more. I desire
you not to forget that often, if not long will be
appreciated in your prayers & letters we cannot but
love those for whom we pray. The time will come
when all who truly love our Lord Jesus Christ in
sincerity shall see & know, all they desired to see
below and every power find great employ in that eternal

world of joy. I have no recollection of burning
tars on New Years day but I do remember of
the thought whether Mr. Leland would make
you his annual visit. If thought could transport
our bodies how frequently would I drop in and
hold converse with you. but as this cannot
be let us prize the privilege of the present speedy
conveyance of our thoughts and be "fellow helpers"
"of one another's joys" time is short. whatever
our hand findeth to do let us do it with all
our might. "I commend you to God & the words
"of His grace which is able to build you up"
"and give you an inheritance among them that
"are sanctified". all you write about family
and friends is always interesting as it is
the only source from whence it is obtained
to you alone am I indebted for all I
have hitherto received. and that it has
been highly appreciated you may rest assured
my Sister Mr. Patterson & Mr. Stays also kindly
receive any intelligence from your families
they each have families around them and are
comfortably situated my Sep. mother has ever Cousin John
resides with Mr. & the eldest & direct as before Pittsburgh

JOSHUA HANNA.

W. K. HART.

C. P. CAUGHEY.

HANNA, HART & Co.

BANKERS,

N. W. CORNER OF WOOD AND THIRD STREETS,

Pittsburgh, Pa. Dec^r 24th 1857

Cousin Margaret

I am this moment in receipt of yours of 21st post marked 23^d and I deeply regret that I did not answer yours of August. it came to hand when I was confined at home and when I was able to attend to business the duties of our office became such that I could not think of writing our Monetary affairs were for a time all absorbing. Since then I have been two or three times laid by. and when I had leisure I would feel in my pocket for your letter & find it was in another coat at home. Yesterday I felt for it and again made the same discovery. I now wait no longer. at present my health is remarkably good for me

We have been quite uneasy on
your account, and now feel that
it will require great care and
good nursing to sustain you
my own experience convinces me
that the less medicine the better
but I dare not make my experience
a universal standard since my
health failed. many of my friends
and acquaintances have doctored
& died while I am to day better
apparently than I was eight years
since. I have found scarcely one
but on the failure of health would
be on the constant search of some
medicine to restore them. I began
at myself but soon found that
medicine would bring me on my
back, then I would have no hope
I resolved that I would take no
more medicine and rely on the
care & attention of my dear wife
(under Providence) who has since

nursed me, as a child and by
good nursing care and attention
in diet & clothing. I am as I am
The Lord take thee under his care
& keeping His promise is sure I
will never leave thee or forsake thee
all things shall work together for
good to them that love God.
Jesus is a sympathizing Savior
in all our afflictions He is afflicted
There is some wise design and
intended good. He does not
willingly afflict and yet whom
He loveth He chasteneth & scourge
every one whom He receiveth. There
is a need be for what you are now
suffering seek to sink into all His
will get by earnest persevering
prayer firm hold on God by faith
in Jesus that you may be joyful
in tribulation and with David
know that it is good for me that
I have been afflicted we shall

bear your case in our poor but
earnest petitions to a throne of grace
our united desire is that the Lord
may restore your health and give
you to Richard & your dear children
and numerous friends. Should writing
be any injury to you ask Richard to
give us frequent information concerning
your state or could not Emma write
to me, get some one to write often
I fear your friends will not find their
anticipations realized in Kansas. God
be with them and preserve them. I
hope your dear brother Charles will
see in the circumstances in which
he is now placed that while man
proposes God disposes and that
crosses in His sovereign hand are
blessings in disguise and that He
can bring good out of evil. Jacob
said all these things are against me
may he trust in the Lord and do
good so shall He establish his way
I have written this in haste and can
not speak of all but commend them
to God & the word of His grace which is
able to build them up and give them
an inheritance among them that are
sanctified. There the inhabitants are never
sick
to thy and sympathizingly
Cousin John

Mrs Margaret M Tweed
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New York
City