

dear your very kind letter But I am so
shocked at the tidings of the death that you
wrote as to be well nigh comforted for anything
Maggie Dinwiddie Thornton dead? did you say
dead? And his soul? What have we ever
done to make ^{him} think of the world beyond?
Oh how often I have thought of him
since New Years Evening I have thought
that perhaps by inviting often we might
have influence over him for good but my
experience has taught me that I am not
strong enough to take deep interest in
any particular gentleman just for friend-
ship's sake And I must confess that
some past events of every life prevented
his reaching me and I have not to Andrew for his brother

is not long I am sure you
will be sure strength and
refreshed by the using
I am sorry you are not
well but perhaps those
bills may perform a cur-
pale Anna continue to in-
prove And how is Cousin
belonging the boys how
they stay By car Franking
be the only little one that
will remember Lewis's
You months only thinking
it I don't know of the
a most affectionate busi-
ness note this week Only
hope that he received it
and will not forget to
answer immediately I expect
he thinks he has his hands
made them filled with sorry
women travelling down I have
wished for a long time to
visit him a more serious
letter but this shaming with
en me has prevented it
may this recent death touch
his heart and shed the light
of heavenly light within Oh how
we all long to hear of what
excellent heavenly services we are performing
I hope with love and prayer
as ever Love
L. M. D.

~~perhaps you will think me getting old and~~
me from speaking freely to you lest
you might accuse me of interested mo-
tives. What weak creatures we are reaching
far out striving to accomplish something
beyond our power when opportunities of
doing good are daily almost hourly neg-
lected. Oh that we were ever watching for
opportunities ^{for} speaking the word of comfort
warning encouragement or reproof that might
ever show that we are truly devoted servants
of the Master that we profess to serve. When
I look back far back ^{over} life's varied scenes
not one serious sensible word can I recal-
l that I have uttered to this departed friend
^{a remembrance of} all that is nonsensical and trifling comes
to mock me with whispers of duty neglected
time unimproved. No more will we be able
to influence this friend but there are others who
are yet far out of the straight and narrow path
for them may we be watchful for them may
we offer our prayers and God grant that as
long as life lasts I may ^{never} have the same cause
in the city I should feel in duty bound to call on them

~~on some account of a burial not so~~
to reproach myself that I feel to night. Alas
poor human strength how weak how frail were
we taught that prayers for the dead would be heard
and answered. Methinks I do thoughts of sleep should
enter my mind this night but that unceasing
petition should be offered until the morning
lights yet this, this would be pain.
The living might be benefited ^{by a night spent thus} and now
the necessity seems to depart as if our personal
prayers were quite sufficient for the protection
preservation and final rest of all all whom
we are bound to pray for. Well at least let us be
more earnest more watchful and leave the results
to God. Very very much am I obliged
to you Cousin Maggie for your kindness in attend-
ing to my many commissions and hope you may
never want for a friend in need. (You acted
wisely I think with regard to Catherine for
there are times I believe when "they" think
they can rule the house and 'tis well for
them to know the place appointed them. I
am quite sure that Belle did right for

she had more impertinence from C. than I should wish to put up with during my last visit. I am not sure when another visit to White Plains will be made I hope one more will be made however before Charles moves. By the way I was at the court house last night and saw Jane and Uncle James. The Lecture was all about the press &c &c.

Cousin Maggie last Tuesday evening while you were wondering where I might be and what my occupation I was listening to a most beautiful lecture "on Shakespeare". I believe I spoke of the previous one on "Ginepro" did I not? I never listened to anything more beautiful. Next week we are to have "Mary Queen of Scots" and as in conversation with our lecturer I remarked that some historian of the present day had spoiled my childhood's dream of admiration of, and deep interest in this unfortunate lady.

This time son of Ireland replied that he would "try to restore them both", and as he seems very favourably disposed toward the sex generally (although he never forgets his own wife and little ones at home), I suppose he will fulfil his promise and all things permitting you may imagine at that time that the little community of Scarsdale are gathered to enjoy an intellectual feast although tis our season for fasting and this reminds me of a book I would recommend to you tis called "Readings for every day in Lent by Miss Sewell" Maggie do get it and each day read the portion assigned. They are selected from Jeremy Taylor's writings and although the portion for each day