

Hamford Sept. 3rd 1861.
My Dear friend

You can scarcely form an adequate idea of the pleasure given by your letter of the thirteenth ultimo. You had frequently been the subject of our conversation before, & we had been talking of you but a few hours prior to its reception.

We had heard nothing of you for a long long time, though we had inquired of all whom we thought likely would have knowledge concerning you.

The older I grow, the nearer do the friends of my childhood appear, & in regard to them, I feel the full force of those beautiful lines of Goldsmith—

"Where'er I roam, whatever realms to see,
My heart untravell'd fondly turns to thee;

Still to my brother turns, with ceaseless pain,
And drags at each remove a lengthening ^{chain}.

And do you know why
I have ~~not~~ deferred answering your
letter until now? It is, that you might
have the promise of your visit fresher in
your memory as the time for its ful-
-fillment drew nigh.

Tilly Pond (Tilly Money that was)
& Sarah Pond, Mrs. Hepburn now, have been
making us a short visit, & left for Mil-
-ford on Saturday, & I am expecting to follow
them on Wednesday & remain a few days
to endeavor to recruit my appetite &
strength. It is not probable that

I shall stay much over a week if as long,
& your Tilly has promised to return with
me & perhaps, make us a long visit. If not
immediately on my return, I hope to see
you very soon after, & we all desire that
you will come prepared to make your
visit a long one.

Grandmother was taken sick last fall

& had a very uncomfortable winter; we
thought many times that she would not
get up again, but she has been surprisingly
smart all summer until a few days since,
& I fear that when the weather comes on cold,
she will relapse into her old complaint.

Aunt Mary & Mrs. Burdell sailed for
Europe, in May. We have received two
letters from aunt M., one written on the
day of her arrival in Liverpool, the
other in London after her return from
Paris. She had been to the Crystal Palace,
walked up three long flights of stairs,
& was carried up the fourth. We had no
idea that she would endure her jour-
-ney so well in her feeble state of health.

Mother is about as usual; as much
confined at home as ever, & I do not know
but that she always will be.

Dear friend, do you know that it is
a candidate for the halter that address-
-es you? Because I have loved my
whole country, better than a part, & will

not join in the Union Cry of Abolition—
of whose bitter fruits, the Lord knows,
we have seen enough— I am denounce=
=ed as a Secessionist &c. To me, the
calamities that have overtaken us have
not come unexpected; I have always
considered them as the inevitable re=
=sults of the wicked agitation that
has been going on for years, & now that
it has become a fact it has added
heavily to my grief, but not to my
surprise. What a spectacle
have we long presented; our pulpits
prostituted into a war propaganda,
& their professed ministers of the Gospel
of Peace, into priests of Moloch!

We should be pleased to see Miss
Emma with you, & hope that you will
not fail to come. We send you a great
deal of love, & many thanks for your
letter. With our respects to your
family, believe ^{me} truly your friend
George