1828-1830

SIDE ONE

Hagers Town March 20 —— 1828

My Dear Sister — you request me to write immediately to you, and acquaint you particularly of your Brothers Health. I am sorry to say he is still in the same situation accept that he now has I think an unnatural Appetite. he seems to think of nothing but eating and drinking, at all hours. I am sorry, truely sorry to say there is no chance of our meeting you in Baltimore — as the bare Idea of going from home or seeing company is terrible to him, our Court begins on Monday next. and the expectation of Capt Lynn and perhaps Mrs L— being here next week has caused him more uneasyness than you can conceive — however last Saturday about 5 o'Clock Ann and myself was setting in the Parlour, I had just come down stairs, where I had left your poor Brother very unhappy on the above subject. I had been endeavouring to make him easy by telling him I could not suppose Polly would stay here but go on to Fanny Sly — after some time he seemed to think probably it would be so — but just as I began to feel a little composed, for my Dr Sister you cant think how very weak I am — I heard a Carriage stop at our door. O bless me Ann that is Capt. Lynn. she said no indeed Aunt it is Daniel Fitzhugh and Ann — from the Genesee — O my Dear Sister I was so overcome I could not meet them. but was obliged to go out to compose myself — I was actually afraid to go up stairs — but sent word up. I am afraid I at last gave them an awkard reception — in a few minutes he sent for me, I wished him to lay down, I thought he appeared aggitated. he would not. but assured me he would not leave his room that night. but about ten minutes he forgot his promise and came into the Parlour — my feelings have been more call'd on for some time past. then I can bear for any long time — I feel myself declining very fast. I try to exert myself. but often give way, I have a sleepless night. and feel very wretched this Morning. Daniel and Ann only dined with us on Sunday Monday at Mr Hughes. Tuesday at our Williams and yesterday went in the Country to Williams St Fitzhugh's, to stay till Tuesday when they return to Town — indeed I do not know when or how this way of living will end — I dont doubt your sister much shocked at poor Maria Ringgolds Death, I was extremely so, I believe she was only ill a fortnight — Doctor Hammond was sent for by the Stage on Friday night, he returned in it at 1 o'Clock. the General was sent for on Saturday and writes of immediately also. she died early on Monday Morning — I saw those letters writing by Dr H, to Mary — in the first he says she is extremely ill & found it necessary to Bleed and Blister — the next says she is I think better, and as I feel uneasy about my little Boy. & talk'd of returning, but the family are so anxious for me to remain another day I shall do so — third letter says — at 12 o'Clock the delirium returned and I have every thing to fear. I think she departed at 7 the next Morning — the Family all seem to feel her loss very sincerely — I am sorry Mrs R does not rise her spirits more — she is a very cheerfull Woman — but at this time I think it would show respect to herself she is in black with a white collar — but as it is quite cold — she wears her Plaid Cloak with a bright pink Ribbon to tye it — we have had another Death very near us — that has excited great sorrow — little Daniel Meriweth — you know his Mother was Miss Hughes he was an only Child and the darling of his two poor Aunts, I dont suppose either of them will ever change their situation's — and the Family are on such terms and so situated — that this little Boy was their all, he was confined for weeks to his Bed extremely ill all the time — lost his speach three weeks and lay constantly with his eyes shut — at length recover'd it, and also, it appear'd his perfect senses — Miss Susan was also ill nearly all the time that he was and is still so — I have never seen her. Ann goes down very often and lodges in her room. which is pleasing to her and a relief to Hetty — but my Dr Sister this, may well be call'd a World of sorrow and Trial —

12½

Mrs Ann Thruston

West River

Md

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