1866 August

SIDE TWO

way was ordered of the Lord. My greatest grief has been caused by the sad apprehension that I was not serving Him. So great has this been that at times I have been almost overwhelmed by it. Yet how I never been able to see any way of escape from the course I am on and my only resort has been in determining that just as I am I will strive to serve my Lord. just where I am. I can not find language to express the delight I should experience if in any way I could be with consistent the apprehension that I was sacrificing my duty to my gratification. It does seem a very dark mysterious dispensation. That it is right for you to be where you are I am sure as I am of my own existence. To my reason and to my feelings it would seem equally sure that I ought to be with you; and yet when I look at the state of my practice and the circumstances of my family I am sure I must still be willing to sacrifice my wishes and our mutual gratification to my duty to them and to God. It will not be so forever. We shall be forever with the Lord. and where Jesus is all is bright and glorious & clean from

doubt. Chelton would not be able to attend to my patients and his own. I could not do it myself while he was absent for Hannah & the children during three days. It would certainly kill him to try. I was obliged yesterday to neglect some calls. Nay Ellen is in town very nervous. I was called to see her with Dr Jackson who will be home tomorrow. She and her mother & father at Wm Buckleys. Annie & Jo were obliged to come on from Germantown. They propose to send Effington to Wm Buckley's on Monday or Saturday. Thus you see our trials are not singular. & then how little they are compared to troubles also. I do pity our children and feel unwilling to have them even if I had no other tie to hold me here.

I was fatigued last night & postponed my letter till this morning & now have been interrupted repeatedly till the time to mail it has arrived. I send you some money next week on Monday. You must enquire for it at the landing. Did you receive a box from the Parsons? They asked me some weeks ago but I have forgotten to mention it. Sabbath Mrs Brady will see me & might bring it but unless to the dollars

Your long beloved Mamma