n.d. Emily Hollingsworth letters

SIDE ONE

I have been spared a portion of that anxiety by being in Elizabeth, but need not add, I am sure, that my heart is with you in all this distressing sorrow, & suspense, & my most earnest prayers that our Heavenly Father will spare our Hannah to us. So give my best love to them when you write, most likely I may write to Gally this week myself. It is too late for to-day's mail from here to Europe, but will write nothing procrastinating by Saturday's mail. It was very considerate to put the direction "Open this first" on your last letter as I obeyed, "being sure there must be some sad news in the others, & thus, was relieved by the later, better account & saved the shock of her illness & your design of sailing to-morrow to join them. I am most thankful that you were not obliged to go, for neither of you, my dear Brother & sister, is able for such a hurried & sad voyage, (as far as I can judge), and it would have been distressing to me to have you go.

so explicit & graphic that they being not directly with them. I am not astonished at Hannah's calmness & sweet resignation, for it is just herself; I have loved her so dearly & do pray, most earnestly that our Heavenly Father will raise her up "to new life & strength". Perhaps it may please Him to make her stronger after this severe attack, but we will try to leave it all in His hands, & thank Him by our loves, as well as our lips, for His present great mercy, the strength to do so being all from Him.— I am glad Mrs Pleasants was with them, how wonderfully God adapts all things & how short a way our sight can go. We thought of Mrs P only as cheering companion to Hannah, little knowing how much deeper aid, her presence would supply; for though Gally must have longed for you & for Annie B, yet, no doubt it was a comfort to have some one from home, tho' only a friend. And the attentions of the people around them must have been sustaining also. Indeed