

9A

This, we see from dear cousins letter, was about the time you were passing through "deep waters". - Could we have been with you - could we be with dear Cousins John & Eliza, now for a while, it would be a satisfaction to us. But at this distance, we can only offer our warm sympathy & tender love, which increases as our precious circle becomes less. -

We had written to dear cousin Eliza & Sally, not very long since. "I was just thinking," as cousin Margaret perhaps, cannot write to me yet, on account of her eye, I will write again to her & not wait longer. - Little did I think with what saddened feelings it would be undertaken.

Dear, dear Cousin Sally - in her weak condition - this break must have been overwhelming; & Cousin John's nervous system can but ill bear so much, & Cousin Eliza - nor thyself, dear cousin, were at all prepared (as regard bodily health) for the trial. But the Lord's time is the right time - always - and I know He can strengthen & invigorate the mind & body, under every trying circumstance in life - blessed be his holy Name forever. And my dear cousin, our dear Savior said "Ask, and ye shall receive" - May we all remember that promise - & be constant in asking for a supply of faith, & of the Holy Spirit. - I do hope thy eye is better by this time, so thou canst write & give us any particulars concerning our dear Cousin during her illness - Whether she expected to recover - or not - & any remarks to that effect, & how she was held - all will be interesting to us who loved her so well. My dear Sister cannot write just now - but joins me in dear love & sympathy to you individually, as does Catharine. Lizzie is with her Mother & Philip. Sister Hannah had an attack of bilious colic, & they both were with her. I have had one of those colds so prevalent, from which I am recovering. The epidemic has been somewhat general here. I was ill several days, fever high - sore throat & other disagreeables. - And this while both the girls were with their Mother. But my dear Sister was uncommonly well for her & proud herself to have lost none of the qualities of a first-rate nurse. Meanwhile attending to all household duties. I was truly afraid she would be worn down. If thou cannot write perhaps our Cousin Miles will or dear Jane or Francis, to whom with thyself and all the dear Circle, both individually & collectively, please present much love. Very affectionately
Thy Cousin Rachel.

9B

To Margaret N. White.

Sister, in thy soul's deep sorrow
By thy side I would be found,
Did not distance separate us,
And the Alleghenies frown.
Great the distance seems when loved ones
And the comfort we might give -
Could we join the precious circle
Which so lately did receive -

Warning from the King of heaven
To loose their clasping hold,
On a shaft which He had polished
For a place within his fold.
Brother - Sisters - shall we murmur? -
God hath but required his own -
May - ye do not - will I know it,
Though your hearts are sad & lone.

Grateful form, and gentle bearing,
Heart unselfish, warm and true,
Worn with pain, yet ever wearing
On her face, a smile for you. -
This I more we may remember
And revert to day by day -
We will not forget our treasures
Passid from earth to heaven away. -

"God is Love" - My early play mate,
And he takes our props away
Lest our hearts should settle downward,
Knowing well how short our stay
On this earth, whose pleasant pictures
For awhile to us are given,
Then Our Father - all in mercy -
Takes one by one to heaven.

While we feel the vacant places,
While our eyes oft fill with tears,
In those hours of solemn musing,
Oft the Comforter appears.
And we ask that each beloved one
May repose as on his breast,
Casting all your care upon him,
Trust in him, and sweetly rest.
As one family, O, may we
Trust in him, and sweetly rest. - R. M. M.