

Harrisburg, Dec 31st 1848

My Dear Uncle

It is a long, long time since I wrote you - and if you will only judge me by yourself, you will know it is from no want of regard - but merely a vile habit of procrastination which we have both fallen into - Now let us commence the New year with good resolutions of future reformation - if life is spared us - for there is nothing so uncertain as that - I deeply lament Uncle James' death, it was an unlooked for bereavement, to you that were with him it must have been terrible, poor Sarah, how could she live over it, for her whole heart and soul seemed to be bound up in her Father, I feel very anxious to hear from her now, and know whether she will put off her marriage or not, I hope not, for independent of my desire to see, and have her here, I think it would be much better for her to marry at once, as she had her Father's consent - I suppose Mr Harris is with you before this, and perhaps they are already united, what do you think of him? he is not very showy, but what he lacks in looks, he makes up in goodness, I regret her coming away on MA's account, she will be so lonely without her -

I am not much given to stationering, but will venture a little with you, and you must pursue your influence with others, many of Mr Sherman's friends here are anxious that he should apply for the Marshallship of Texas, there are many applicants for the office, it is