

Temple Jan 3 1842

Dear Friend Abby

I heartily wish you a happy new year, - but in what does true happiness, does it spring from earth or earthly pleasures, which are so transitory and fading? No, there is nothing here that can satisfy the desires of an immortal mind, that part, which will live when these heavenly lights shall be extinguished, and these elements melted with fervent heat, nothing short of God can satisfy

"What nothing earthly gives or can destroy,

The souls calm sunshine, and the heartfelt joy,  
When we are walking by faith, and not by sight, doing the will of God, casting ourselves upon our covenant-keeping Redeemer, then we are happy, whatever be our condition why will we drink, at the puny rills of earthly pleasure, when there is such a fountain of living water, opened, of which, if we drink, we shall never thirst.

Another year of our short lives has rolled away and what has it borne to heaven, does it tell of duties performed, of fervent prayers that have gone up in behalf of a dying world; of souls saved through our instrumentality. I can only say I have been an unfruitful cumbrer of the ground, and would long ere this been cut down, had not mercy cried spare a little longer," where shall we flee but to the atoning blood of



Christ, which cleanseth from all sin to Him we can go for pardon, for sanctification, He sitteth at the right hand of God to make intercession for us that he may complete our redemption. Could and should a friend do for us what Christ has done should we treat them so coldly as we do the Saviour, should we not often speak of their goodness.

How can we lie so sluggish still,  
And never act our part,  
Come Holy Dove from the heavenly hills,  
And sit and warm our hearts.

Yesterday I seemed to see that beloved Church partaking of the dying emblems of our departed Lord, I longed to be with them, it is a year since I have been permitted that privilege, could I hear one more sermon, I think I could go in the strength of it many days.

Dad's As to my health it is pretty good but my back does not gain much I cannot stand or walk much without suffering the consequence, I think now I shall return to Sorrell about the middle of Feb, for if I wait till spring I think I could, <sup>not</sup> bear the ride so well as I shall this winter by sleighing I dread the journey for it probably will lay me down a few days, it will not seem like home to board out, but I shall not keep house again till I am better able to have charge of work than I was before I gave up last year, had I left work early in the fall, I probably should saved some suffering, I have not yet forgotten, how miserably I felt Christmas afternoon and the next day.



can I get back comfortably I can do considerably  
sewing enough to pay my way, I wish you to send  
me word what I am owing and I will collect money  
enough to pay when I return, I suppose you find work  
rather dull if so you must dismiss all of the help that  
is not needed, and if you wish for time you must take  
it, My mentioned going to Mifford this winter if work  
is dull she can as well go as not and stay longer than  
Mr. H. if she wishes, if you are at home I can take the  
work by the piece, It seems that Mrs. H. is not what you  
supposed last summer by her treatment to S, if Lydia  
wishes to know what she shall pay she may pay for the  
wood she burnt and work as much for me as she  
hindered Mr. H. to, full pay of me, These little peo-  
ples teach us, that there is no perfection here in this  
soil. Mrs. Wymon came the nearest to it, of anyone that I  
have lived with, but such women are scarce. — You need  
not take the Visitor nor paper for me, if I am able to  
work I shall take some other paper. —

I am now at my Mothers have been here nearly a  
week I have spent two days with Sister Mary, thought  
best not to stay any longer now, Brother Edward is  
visiting us now it is twenty years since I had seen him  
you may well suppose that we were a little overjoyed  
at his arrival, he feels so anxious about his children  
that we shall not keep him long he left them with  
his housekeeper, Mother and Sally send their respects  
I can see Mother fails she gets tired easy S. is feeble yet  
though she does considerable work she makes herself more  
unwell every time we have company, I do not enjoin



you want to see you and all of  
good friends in it but I dread the  
return give my love to your  
parents and family to the  
ladies at the shop and  
all enquiring friends  
don't expose the same  
the  
Yours in sincerity  
L. H. H.

Joseph W. H. }  
Jan. 7th }  
Miss Abigail Houstony  
Lowell  
Mass

a visit with Mother as I should  
if I could assist her about her work  
you need not wonder at the  
mistakes for there has been  
a number of little chatters  
round in; Corinne is attending  
school - I have not heard  
from you since Mr. G. was  
at to write soon I feel  
anxious to hear from you  
I have heard it was

scribble at 18 below p. was much obliged  
for the letters of p. should not be  
able to give back so soon as I  
will write again, say to the girls  
I shall have to take Corinne  
from one of them when I  
achieve any subjects as  
numerous, but I shall  
have more to say when  
I see you and many  
enquiries to make

