



Gloucester December 10 1853

My dear Hetty,

I have delayed answering your letter much longer than my usual time the pressure of work, and hurry of business causes all of this, and I shall be compelled to be brief in this letter, I hope you will excuse me for that, hoping for the time to come to do better. This evening I ought to have gone to a party at Mr London Davises given to Cousin Tom Field and his bride Miss Davis that was, so he is married at last after many difficulties and long trying he has overcome them all, he is much pleased, the girls have gone they will go from Wilton Green I expect there will be a good many parties this winter. Mr Thackelton was married thi

morning to Miss Hester Rowe, they started for  
Baltimore as that is the favourite trip for all the  
bridal party. Pompey Campbell is not married,  
I do not understand about his love matters so  
I cannot relate any thing about it, by some  
it is thought he was discarded but I hear it is not  
so the day was fixed for his marriage.

Sister has another baby it is a boy I do not  
know the name but I suppose it is had to find  
a name as she has named <sup>so many and</sup> all sorts of names,  
You have never heard the like of so many  
babies as there is in Gloucester throughout the  
whole country starvation must take place as  
there will be a greater demand for every thing.  
Your Aunt Fanny has another daughter and calls  
it Betty I have not seen it. Martha Waller has  
a sweet baby her name is Ella. Sally Field  
Clara's baby is a sweet little babe she is much  
smaller than Ella. poor Clara has a rising  
breast she has suffered much, she rode to see  
me this week the first time she has been out,  
the horses could not go out of a walk for  
fear of the jar to her breast, Martha Jones was with  
her De Jones stays with her to attend to her, they  
are at Aunt Fields. They are all well at  
Springfield I suppose Mamma is all alone  
as the girls are not at home.

I received a letter from my father that is  
in California the other day, his health has  
been good not sick a day, he has made a  
good deal of money and lost it in various  
ways the fire was the principal cause, he is at  
this time at Sonora mines he is doing well,  
he thinks after paying all expenses he will  
have about twenty thousand dollars, ~~of the~~  
he sends his likeness a breast pin to Mary and  
some specimens of Gold, he wants them to  
see how he looks in that country ~~the~~ the  
letter was not to me it was to Mary she  
sends it to me he is pleased with <sup>the</sup> country and  
thinks of making it his home, Kip the children  
for me I shall soon have that pleasure myself,  
I anticipate your coming much I hope it will be  
pleasant for you to travel. Mr Baytop sends his love  
to you and Mr Fitzhugh he says you must not  
forget the apple tree slips, give my love to Mr Fitzhugh  
your very fond and affectionate sister

L. Baytop.

Ms Betty & Fitzhugh  
Stanardsville  
Green City 1820