

him. However, there is one privilege which we all have - that of thinking what we please. I never had a very exalted opinion of Farmington literature and I think the character of their paper justifies that opinion. I do hope it will die soon. I never have seen but few numbers of the paper, but from what I have seen I judge that the character of it would be a disgrace to any decent town. Considering the size of Farmington and their advantages, I do think there is the least refinement in literature of any place I was ever in. With a few exceptions, they judge a person more by their exterior, than by any qualities of the mind which they may possess. I spent the summers of '26 and '7 there and I can truly say I preferred solitude to the society of the young people. In making their estimate of a person, beauty is an indispensable qualification. I am a great admirer of beauty, but I have ever thought, that of the mind preferable to that of the person. The scenery there is truly delightful and if I were not acquainted with a single individual the place would have many attractions for me. I have however a few friends in it, whom I value highly and with whom I shall regret to part. I have depended on them almost wholly for society, and my qualification has been opposed to my wishes. What I have said I would not be suspected of a secret attachment to my own home for I feel that, that can never be. I should I outlive those whose presence now endears it to me, which is not probable it will be conserved in my memory as the resting place of my beloved parents and brothers.

I feel very desirous to go home but the thought often suggests itself to me, what have I to induce me to go there. True the place is left that once knew the kindest of parents, and one sister, <sup>also</sup> for whom I am not half thankful enough, but it is always a heart-rending task, to go there after I have been absent any time, and yet I cannot stay away. But these are feelings that must be borne in silence. It is not meet that we pour our sorrows into the ear of every one that chance may throw in our way. There was always something in the idea of so doing, completely at variance with my feelings. You gave me some excellent advice in your last letter for which I am very much obliged, and as an evidence of it I should be glad to tell you I had profited by it. I am in rather better spirits now than usual, for my health is better. You say I must not yield so readily to discouragements as I have done and I would stay with all my heart if I could. Write to me as soon as you think I deserve  
Your Cousin Ann