

May 1st

we have often been afflicted and felt ^{that} it was as much as we could bear
 but never have we had any so ~~severe~~ severe, ~~this~~ this, has caused a thrill
 of anguish in our hearts which none but those who have experienced
 the same can know, and in addition to my affliction your brother was
 taken sick, with the same fever, and was very ill indeed for a num-
 ber of days I never saw him so low, before, in so short a time, but the
 God hath afflicted us, ~~He~~ hath not forgotten to be gracious and in the
 midst of judgment hath remembered mercy, your brothers health
 is now restored and he is able to attend his business and has en-
 aged to build a Baptist Meeting House at Eastport this summer
 I shall be very lonely, could you my dear sister leave your friends
 in Lancaster and come and spend the summer with us it would
 be a great pleasure, may I not expect you and brother ~~to~~ ^{and one}
 brother has often wished that might visit us and ~~we~~
 have not given up the hope that you will, do write me
 what you think of it and how our friends all do it is
 long time since we have heard from you give our
 best love to all I cannot name them all and accept
 a great share yourself from your ~~own~~

alignment
form

P.S. Abby is with us and her little babe affectionate sister ~~Abigail~~
 on a visit and desires to be affectionately remembered to you all and wishes
 very much that you would make us a visit her health is
 pretty good and that babe is well also }
 Abigail J. Stephenson
 after my letter was sealed I opened it to
 enclose a lock of of our little grand son
 hair he ~~has~~ is a beautiful babe I wish
 you could see him