

jay march 27 1805

Ever Dear Friend

I with a sorrowfull heart sit down to write but shall not
 write much I hate to tell you a falsehood and to say I was
 in good spirits I cannot I expected a better cup was falling
 for me to partake of which time has Determined to my satisfaction
 but it is my fortune and hard as it is I must submit to it
 I will say no more about it Billy lost the letter you wrote
 which I wish you to make good the first opportunity
 I have a great desire to hear from you and hope you will let me
 chance of writing slip I received ten Dollars for which I
 return you my thanks the present I received from Capt Furvell
 I gladly received and wish you to return my sincere thanks and
 tell him I can reward him no other way than by perusing
 the book which I have read think it to be a good book I feel an
 interest in his wellfare as I conclude he is a friend of yours
 and you are sets out their journey to morrow I hope in
 a short time you will conclude to come home and abandon
 the army I wish you not to write respecting what I hinted here
 unless you wish some thing separate as it is not known to
 any but my self and your friends will ask to see your letter
 I should be glad to write more but my time is short mamma
 is well and the children I shall depend on your writing soon

Near to my heart as lifes warm stream
 That animates this mortal clay
 For thee I court the waking dream
 And deck with smiles the future day
 And thus beguile the present pain
 With hopes that we shall meet again

From your Discosolate Friend till Death Martha Finch

Mrs Isaac Finch

Say March 4 1839

My Dear Isaac

I received yours of the 14. I will not attempt ^{a description} of my feelings, but must say that the bridal eve was but a faint picture of them. firstly because I knew not the joys of a conjugal life, and secondly, by reason of a kind of natural diffidence which I could not hide I had so long been striving against my affections and fearing that you would discover the strength of them that it was, out of my power, all of a sudden to turn and give scope to the joy I felt. I must say that the distant manner which you have ever maintained in our family has given me pain. I supposed however that it was stamped in your nature and therefore you was not aware of differing from others. it has been a source of regret to me since our children have come to the years of man and womanhood because I see it grieves them and especially the girls you remember how affectionate they were when small and have heard them a short time since talking of the same things, how they used to kiss you when you had been gone but said they dare not do it now they believed you disliked that childish fondness. Harriet ^{too} tells the girls of the meeting of M^r Williams and his children at M^r Slater and how affectionate they were. I could plainly read what was passing in their minds and often tell them that people were not all alike and it was not the difference in the love but in the manner of showing it. yet I must say that when I have looked at the children when all here together and thought to my self you little thought how much information you might give them by being a little more familiar in your manner. I hope you will be firm in your resolution and that we shall all be permitted to meet and participate in all those benefits which we have so often shared together through the mercy of the great wise God. often do I think that it is my duty much more than yours to acknowledge my errors in disposition but will not attempt at this time; we have the measles in the family and five of our children is to have it excepting Carl P. you will hardly know our little son he runs all over and begins to talk he has never had a sick hour yet. I hear that M^r Slater continues to go on he has not returned from Wilmington. I believe M^{rs} Sanford expects the Major this evening I think I rejoice for her it has been a matter of doubt whether they ever met here his health is very poor we have nothing of importance respecting our domestic concerns we have 2 calves and one lamb very smart we have had no lambs but this it is a week or so

the Town officers I suppose Josh has mentioned I know but little
about them I believe however that the Edge of white masonry
is rather dabb'd in this Town and you will join with me when you
are told that they have taken in to the Baptist Church one
of the Fraternity without a renunciation the man is Capt John
the you may make your own comments
I must close it is again a time to go to the office

I remain your ever true and constant

Martha Finch

Wm Isaac Finch

*Letter from Martha Finch to her husband Isaac while he's serving as a
Representative in Congress Washington DC no envelope March 4 1830*

Jay March th4 1830

My Dear Isaac

I received yours of the 14th. I will not attempt any description of my feelings but must say that the Bridal? Eve was but a faint picture of them firstly because I knew not the joys of a connubial life and secondly by _____ of a natural difference which I could not hide I had been so long striving against my affections and fearing that you would _____ the strength of them that it was out of my power all of a sudden to turn and give scope to the joy I felt I must say that the distant manner which you have ever maintained on our family has given me pain I supposed however that it was stamped in your nature and therefore you was not aware of differing from others li has been a source of regret to me since our children have come to the years of man and womanhood because I se it grieves them and especially the girls You remember how affectionate they were when small and have heard them a short time since talking of the same things how they used to kiss you when you had been gone but said they dare not do it now They believed you dislike that childish fondness Harriet often tells the girls of the meeting of Mr Williams and his children at Mr Slaters and how affectionate they were I could plainly read what was passing in their minds and often tell them that People were not all alike and it was not the difference in the love but in the manner of showing it. Yet I must say that when I have looked at the children when all here together and thought to my self you little thought how much information you might give them by being a little more familiar in your manner. I hope you will be firm in your resolution and that we shall all be permitted to meet and participate in all the benefits which we have so often shared together through the mercy of the great wise God. Often do I think that it is my duty much more than yours to acknowledge my errors in disposition but will not attempt at this time. We have the measles in the Family and five of our children is to have it excepting Earl P? You will hardly know our little son He runs all over and begins to talk He has never had a sick _____ yet. I hear that Mr Slater continues to gain he has not returned form Washington. I believe Mrs Sanford expects the Major this evening I think I rejoice for her It has been a matter of doubt whether they can meet here his health is very poor nothing of importance respecting our domestic concerns we have 2? Calves and one lamb very _____ we have had no lambs _____ this it is a _____

Pg 2

The town officers I suppose Josh has mentioned I know but little about them I believe that the edge of Anti Masonry is rather _____ in this town and you will join with me when you are told that they have taken into the Baptist Church one of the Fraternity without a _____ ication? The man is Capt John _____
_____ you _____ may _____ your own comments
I must close it is again time to go to the office
I remain your ever true and constant Martha Finch
Hon Isaac Finch