

Washington
15th Jan 1859

My dearest Mary/

I have received your letter – I must take a couple of days to think it over before I write about it ^{Tho' I cannot agree with you.} You are doubtless prompted by a high sense of duty & I have to thank you for the sweet & gentle tone in which you have announce your decision. I will say nothing therefore in reply to your letter to day.

I feel very thankful that you are so much better.

I send you a pretty bouquet by your father which I hope will cheer you if you still suffer any pain.

Your affectionate

JBH

