My dear aunt,

A few days since on my return from Carthage I had the pleasure to receive your letter Sept 11 No 3. Deo Volente the first which I have had from you since you left us, and as I have been for some time without hearing from you and as time has been for some time flattering the last doubt we were left in may the present letter of the post bring you the news which I am always prepared to receive. In the event of this news I have to write you a short letter to inform you of the steps I have taken to make sure that your opinion of my being always to retain the same habit which I know it must be irreconcilable with my education to enjoy the peace I have, I have made the best use of the opportunity of any other people have ever been among to believe in you that there is but one God - that Mohammed is his prophet and there is no other God - there being as I say an example to the followers of this branch of the human species to do what is good to them and as he has, what is best that no attention may be paid to the logics of the heart which so often after the good of the majority with an unison bound in one moment of error children to fortune and hear it abroad what can suppose Americans as the capable which regards it as
I am sorry to hear of the sickness of your children. I hope they will recover soon. I am much obliged to you for your kindness in writing to me. I have no news of the war at present. I am very busy with my farm work. I hope to hear from you soon.
Mon conflit persiste. Il est vrai que je vous aime. Cela m'arrive souvent que mon cœur
soit en conflit. Lorsque j'écris ces mots, je m'aperçois que je suis
plongée dans une profonde tristesse. Je vais à la rencontre de mes
enfants, mais je ne sais pas comment réagir. Je vous envoie ce
message pour vous dire que je suis en bonne santé et que je ne
souffre de rien. Je vous envoie mes amitiés et mon amour. Je
espère que vous êtes tous en bonne santé.

Mon cher ami, je vous envoie un petit cadeau. Il s'agit d'un
morceau de tissu que j'ai tissé moi-même. Je l'ai fabriqué avec
beaucoup d'amour et j'espère que vous l'apprécierez. Je vous envoie
mes amitiés et mon amour. Je vous envoie un grand bisou.

Je vous envoie un grand bisou. Je vous envoie mon amour. Je
espère que vous êtes en bonne santé et que vous profitez de
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think there for a month right as soon as he came at home
I will have my hands on the little dairy lands at New Mill
and that will go over the day that I can get the farm at
which I do not leave. I may be no more for him in
Can and a time and a claim, and now look. I think Mother
will always be on to the farm, our little Rabbit. I think
this is a blessing and a fat woman surrounded by healthy strong
children. The day is long engaging every comfort at a good
wife. Mother cannot do it with the comfort of a happy to ap
one of the beds of the little boys, now she can always to ask them
how and if at this woman, giving them a room to her by
I wish—this is a magical charm in this country, you cannot
imagine of Davis in the middle of them, the house to the year
What does the day, how Grandma may enjoy a walk, she takes
so much like. Now, you might think him present. I hope you
went there first. Not my dear friend for me, I can have my
long hands and that with her, less than ten tales of her mind
day—she, mother, how much. I am pleased to know what an
actress old lady she is, that she walks like one of 25. Anyway
she continue to enjoy health. I think that the evening of her
life may be spent surrounded by children and grandchildren
staying also that day has the most effective home. Let her
mind can how her more than I the kindness of others
and yours will mean he forgotten.
long to see your sister the other day. I hope this note might have reached you in time to let me know how you are.

I hope you are healthy and happy. I am always thinking of you and hoping for your success. If you need anything, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
"My Dear Sister... A few days since my return from Constantinople, I had the pleasure to receive your letters January 12, & No. 3, 2d mo. 21st, the first of which had come to hand for some time, & I fear you will remain some time without hearing from me, as there has been few opportunities of late for writing.

The last I wrote was... on May 4. In that letter, I told you the pains which had been taken to make me a Catholic, while you at the same time believe me to be a Turk - much as I admire their religion & education as best to ensure happiness & content[ment] in this world. Still I have too much respect & even veneration for a few of you, to do an act which would forfeit the good opinion & love I hope always to retain - besides which I know it would be impossible with my education & habits to enjoy the peace & happiness I see them more fully in possession of than any other people I have ever been among. To believe in God, that there is but one God, & that Mohamet is his prophet, is their whole creed. Their prayers might be cited as examples to Christians as most perfect... on the Goodness of God; that he never punishes but thro' love, and as he knows what is best, that no attention may be paid to the longings of their hearts, which are so often after bad. A good Musleman will see himself bereft in one moment of wife, children & fortune, and bear it above what we can suppose human nature capable. When he regards it as a punishment of God, he is then consoled in the assurance of his love.

During my journey to Constantinople, I had frequent opportunities of viewing these people at their homes. Owing to heavy rains, I was obliged to take an unusual road, which led me to villages little frequented by Christians. I spend several very happy days in some of them. I never have witnessed less illusion, or more truth in my life - hospitality that astonished even me - myself & attendants were fed & lodged in the best manner. At one village, I had a visit from the Iman, or Priest, & a long conversation with him. More noble, high & exalted ideas of Providence I never had. At Constantinople, I received from several Turks of high authority, the most unusual & flattering attentions; so much so, as to induce the believe among all Christians I could be nothing less than an ambassador from the 'New World'. The name of American is becoming a title of respectability, & ere long, to be a Citizen of the Republic of America will excite as much attention as ever was received by a Roman.

With my Turks & Turkish principles, I am like to fill up my letter, & perhaps to a good Christian, so much praise of Infidels may look too much like Infidelity.

How much I am pleased with what I hear of my darling Child... I am much pleased also to hear of her progress and that you have found a good school for her. I hope ere long she will begin the study of the French language. As to Music & dancing, if it could be so managed, I should like her to be learnt, but I would by no means give up the solid advantages she enjoys in my dear Mother's... for even these agreeable amusements. To a Boarding school, I am no way desirous she should ever go....

Much, my beloved sister, do I wish to see you, much do I wish to enjoy a little of that rational happiness I should be so certain of finding in the old house in Front Street; but depend on it, our actions are always governed by circumstances over which we have no control, several of which appear to make my removal from this country difficult. My
commercial establishment has become too valuable to be slightly abandoned by a father of three sons. This establishment promises an easy entrance for my children into the world. The best prospect I see for my children is in this country, and these are most desirous considerations, are they not. Lay aside for one moment, 'enthusiasm', & judge as a 'plain matter of fact' woman, and you will say I am right. Much do I desire to see America, but still that rose would not be without its thorns. I am not happy even at this distance from the scene of my disgrace & unhappiness, the view of scenes which would ever moment recall recollections to make the blood boil in my veins, would conduce to nothing but more complete misery. How well I feel, Mary, that my heart was never made to exist as it now does. When I return to a house I may call elegant, furnished with everything which certain luxury...to make life agreeable....I feel shut up from the world as if I was the only creature in it. Less of that enthusiasm of character you admire would be most desirable for me once more. Patience, patience, patience.

Richard [son], has recovered his health, and is much more lively than ever I have known him. He is nearly as tall as I am & would pass well for a young man of 23 or 25 years. It is in contemplation for him to go shortly to Constantinople, where probably he may remain some time. We do much business in that place, & I may be able to make arrangements which will be highly advantageous to him. Holmes [son] will come into the Counting House this year. He continues much undersize. David [son] goes on very well - grows astonishingly, & I predict one way or another will make a figure in the world... Well, my dear little sister, when is all these Beaux visits to finish. When do you mean to settle down into the quiet and domestic wife. Whenever you find one who you love better than Mother, Brother or Sister, do not let him escape...Your brother David.”