

with a fretful babe and crazy husband. though our sympathies have been very much enlisted in her behalf. Eliza Brodick keeps pretty much the same. - I am making me a mantle after Mary Wormald's pattern. I intended wearing my old one this summer, but I got paint on it the other day, and it is so ragged to stand much rubbing. The materials for my new one cost not quite \$7.00. - If I had had the most remote idea that you had looked for me last week I should most certainly have come. I think now I shall come down in two or three weeks so as to attend the children's "exhibition" but I have promised my next visit to Eliza. I must leave room for sister Gae to add a few lines so will reserve the rest for the next

Your aff sister  
Lizzie.

Friday morning

My dear sister,

We did not receive your letters till yesterday, and you may rest assured it was with no ordinary pleasure we read them. I wept real tears of joy over the one to Mr & Mrs Collins. It took me back to those bright and joyous days when of my first experience of the happy effects of faith and hope. I have not had anything for a long time to so strengthen and refresh me as that letter did. I am aware some are rather incredulous as to the propriety of such a step being taken so early in life. but "these things are hid from the wise and prudent and revealed unto babes." Mr McElroy remarked when I told him that "he had no doubt Annie was a well qualified for church membership as many at 25. that he himself made a profession at 12 years of age and he <sup>had</sup> never regretted it. He thought there was more harm done in discouraging young persons in such matters." I do not repeat this to flatter Annie, but merely for her