could endure such a trial. But the loss to appearance is a strong healthy child, so such little pretty creature as Evelyn was. I went immediately to the chans that night for I had been so eaten or slept since Monday morning and you can form some idea after so much excitement what state I must have been in. I got to the chans at 5 o'clock undressed and went to bed after taking a tumbler of quack dropped immediately to sleep and slept till Anthony came to bed. When he was in bed I slipped off again and slept till morning and refreshed and been quite like myself today. My mind was not so much at ease for months I might say for 14 years for Evelyn’s marriage was a severe trial to me in my feeble state of health. Last year Anthony says I must give her up for has a strong hand and kind heart to care for her but it is all I have and it is hard to think of such a thing. I wonder if our Mothers had such an anxious schedule for us. She then went to Norfolk on Monday going to the fair and remained many days with the Balster’s aunt and knew nothing of our troubles till all was over.

Philadelphia, Sept 17th

Dear Sister Lydia,

Do you think I have quite forgotten you that I have not written you before? And Lydia and Edina do they think I am better for making promises than fulfilling them. Let me speak a word in videntiation of myself and also give you a programme of affairs since our departure from Boston. Well we left Nathans, Tuesday afternoon escorted by Mother, Nathan, Lydia & I came to the depot, took the 4 o’clock train (Yale River route) and arrived on board the boat in one time, took supper before the rush from the 5th train and were all ready to criticise the crowd and enjoy a deck
promenade; had a nice trip and a pleasant ride in the car, arrived in Philadelphia to the Green St. depot a few moments after 11 and then proceeded to Evelyn's to get dinner; found her all right suffering from Monday evening at 9 till the time mentioned above 11:00. Tuesday morning the Dr. became alarmed and wished the assistance of another also told us that she thought artificial means would have to be used, after the other physician came they decided to wait a few hours and if there was no decided change would be under the necessity of resorting to it. Evelyn begged of them to relieve her immediately, for she felt as if she could not endure such suffering much longer. About 12 (noon) she fainted herself and at 2 minutes after one she was relieved of her sufferings. You know the joy we felt & I will not expatiate. Evelyn's strength and courage was remarkable. I did not think it possible her delicate constitution
Did you get your spectacles?

Evelyn wants a photograph of Lydia's baby. How is the little fellow doing? He walk yet? What is the prospect of China now?

Now Lydia and Chloe ask where is our door. Lydia's you see is there and I hope it will suit. I bought it to Mr. Biggs and as they do not retail I was obliged to take as it came. Some of the pieces are not woven whole as you know of ribbons and trimmings and after persisting several yards those two pieces were found. I thought I could get both for one piece was not exactly full pattern and I knew such little edgings never come amiss where there is a baby. The advice that Chloe gives I could not get there because they came in too yard pieces and I tramped around for several hours but it was a very scarce article and higher price than you wanted to give or that I would give either. Calenzin is used more for thin material and clung for other purposes but neither I thought were suitable. I am sorry that I am obliged to disappoint...
Oliver and Evelyn says that she should prefer campfire cooking put on plain. If you decide to, I will get it for you if you wish. I can buy that in strips of three and to Mr. Piggotts and will do to with pleasure. Lydia’s is 50 cts for lot. 22 cts to see you. It called in 1 piece, one yet in the other. I have been writing while all are shouting (the wife, Anthony and Thomas’s brother & sister) so if words are left out and wrong ones used you must overlook it all. Anthony called this night to see Evelyn and she is very comfortable tomorrow I shall go. I thought best to rest to day. I am sorry to hear that Mother Jones is sick I was in hopes that she was well as usual. It is really too bad, but I hope that this sickness will prove a blessing. I trust she is improving.

I have not been able to look up much as of late. We are going to bed now so goodbye with love to all Mother in particular.”
Philadelphia, Sept. 17th

Dear Sister Lydia,

Do you think I have quite forgotten you that I have not written you before? and Lydia and Eliza do they think I am better for making promises than fulfilling them. Let me speak a word in vindication of myself and also give you a programme of affairs since our departure from Boston. Well, we left Nathan’s, Tuesday afternoon excorted by Mother, Nathan, Lydia & Susie to the depot; took the 4 o’clock train (Fall River route) and arrived on board the boat in due time; took supper before the rush from the 5½ train and were all ready to criticise the crowd and enjoy a deck [over page] promenade; had a nice trip and a pleasant ride in the cars, arrived in Philadelphia to the Green St depot a few moments after 11 and the proceeded to Evelyns to get dinner; found her all well and very glad to see us; then we must take a look at Norristowners; so at ½ past five we started and surprised Mrs Weaver for she was not looking for us till the week following. Looked over our trunks and packed a velisse and two travelling bags and after a nights rest I went to Evelyn’s to make a visit of a few days; remained there till Sat. night then Anthony and myself went to Abraham’s where we yet remain. Now let me tell you a little bit of news. Yesterday afternoon the 17th Sept Evelyn eased my anxious mind by bringing to this world of sorrow a little daughter weighing 6¼ lbs. But the suffering attending it was almost more than mortal could endure; and to witness it was too much for my weak state. She was a sufferer from Sunday evening till 1 o’clock Tuesday afternoon; but she realized intense suffering from Monday evening at 9 till the time mentioned above. At eight Monday morning the Dr became alarmed and wished the assistance of another; also told us that the thought artificial means would have to be used; after the other physician came they decided to wait a few hours and if there was no change would be under the necessity of resorting to it. Evelyn begged of them to relieve her immediately for she felt as if she could not endure such suffering much longer. About 12 (noon) the affair decided itself and at 10 minutes after one she was relieved of her sufferings. You know the joy we felt so I will not expatriate. Evelyn’s strength and courage was remarkable; I did not think it possible her delicate constitution [over page] could endure such a trial. But she has to appearance a strong healthy child; no such puny little creature as Evelyn was. I went immediately to Abrahams that night for I had neither eaten nor slept since Monday morning and you can form some idea after so much excitement what a state I must have been in. I got to Abrahams at 5 o’clock; undressed and went to bed after taking a tumbler of gruel; dropped immediately to sleep and slept until Anthony came to bed;
when he was in bed I dropped off again and slept till morning arose refreshed and been quite like myself to-day. My mind has not been so much at ease for months I might say for 1½ years for Evelyn’s marriage was a severe trial to me in my feeble state of health last year. Anthony says I must give her up for she has a strong hand and Kind heart to care for her; but it is all I have and it is hard to think of such a thing. I wonder if our Mothers had such anxious solicitude for us. Anthony went to Norristown Monday morning to the fair and remained next day to Mr Ralstons ex[-----] and knew nothing of our troubles till all was over. [next sheet]

Now Lydia and Eliza ask where is our lace; Lydia’s you’ll see is there and I hope it will suit. I bought it to Mr. Piggotts and as they do not retail I was obliged to take it as it came; some of the pieces are not woven whole as you know of ribands and trimmings and after winding off several yards those two pieces were found. I thought I would get both for the one piece was not exactly full pattern and I know such little edgings never come amiss where there is a baby. The wide that Eliza wants I could not get there because they come in 7 or 8 yard pieces and I tramped around for several hours but it was a very scarce article and higher price than you wanted to give or that I would give either; valenciennes is used more for thin material and for other purposes but neither I thought were suitable. I am sorry that I am obliged to disappoint [over page] Eliza, and Evelyn says that she should prefer cambric edging put on plain. If you decide so, I will get it for you if you wish. I can buy that in strips of three yds to Mr Piggott’s and will do so with pleasure. Lydia’s is 55 cts for th elot, 22 cts per yd, 1½ called in one piece, one yd in the other. I have been writing while all were chattering; (Abra & wife; Anthony and Anna’s brother & sister) so if words are left out and wrong ones used you must over look it all. Anthony called this night to see Evelyn and she is very comfortable. Tomorrow I shall go. I thought best to rest to-day. I am sorry to hear that Mother Howes is sick I was in hopes that she was well as usual; it is really too bad; but I hope that this sickness will prove a blessing; I trust she is improving for I have heard nothing withing a few days. All are going to bed now so good bye with love to all Mother in particular.

affectionately

sister Sally.

[Over page]
Did you get your spectacles.

Evelyn wants a photograph of Lydia’s baby. How is the little fellow? does he walk yet? What is the prospect of Omaha?