

[Written at top in different handwriting]  
With Aunt Mary after Uncle Obadiah Conger's death

Jacksonville, December 25 1848

My dear Father

You will perceive by the date of this I am at Jacksonville. I arrived here a few days since, after a short and pleasant passage found Aunt pretty well for her and seemed delighted to see me. I left Ossian at Key West perfectly well, expect to spend the ballance [*sic*] of the winter here, and go on in the spring in company with Aunt if my heart does not fail me. I almost feel home sick already but I feel it my duty to stay with Aunt now that she is alone and try and lighten her troubles, but I can assure you it is quite a task for me, the house seemes [*sic*] to wear a gloomy face, ev[er]y thing reminds me of the severity of our loss. She contemplates renting the house next summer, and I think I will prevail on her to spend next winter with me in Key West. I have been looking for a letter from Anna in answer to ~~her last~~ one I wrote her some four months since but it has not arrived yet. I am very anxious to hear from home and I hope you at least will not neglect to write me a few lines immediatly and now I feel so lonesome. I wish you would send me a paper as often as you [can] and if you can spare the money I wish you would subscribe for the Home Journal, a litterary [*sic*] paper published in New York for me and have it sent to this place. I hope Ma and all the family are well give my love to them and believe me ever to be—

Your affectionate daughter  
C.S. Hart

P.S. When I see you next summer I will repay you what ever may be the cost of that paper for one year. I am very anxious to have it now while I am here to give me the news and to think it will tend to make the time pass more agreeable for I feel very lonesome. Mrs. Hart's family are all well and are expecting a letter from Ma.

Transcribed by Nicole J. Milano, University of Florida, 2009