

Ms 124
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Mobile, Feby 10, 1856.

My dearest Eunice,

Some time ago I commenced a letter to you but when it was half written something interfered & it was laid aside unfinished & now I commence again - I am greatly your debtor for I have received numerous letters from you since I wrote you last summer besides your letters to your mother may probably be credited by me to your account -

We are all well, your mother, Ellen & Lucretia have gone out to church - Archy as driver - this morning I hear them driving into the yard - I have helped them out & they are in the house. - The children go to Sunday school, in the little church near here - Baby is up stairs asleep & Ada has been with me during the forenoon - I have just had a walk with her, Abby & Somers - It is a beautiful day - There was a beautiful white frost this morning & the wind has now got around South & the atmosphere is spring like - There could not be a finer day - We have now a white girl as nurse & [?] - This is some relief to your mother - whose health is as good as ever - Lucretia has been for some time suffering from a boil on her right arm - & is just now over it. - Somers goes to the Grammar School in town - he generally rides in town on his pony - Ellen has left school - she did not

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Maine Historical Society

MMN # 100311

Date: February 10, 1856

Description: K.B. Sewall to daughter on names, education, Mobile

seem to be pleased, and as I was not altogether satisfied & it was expensive I thought it best for her to study at home - If she will she can now learn a good deal at home besides being company for her mother - Ada is a very good little girl - she said to me this forenoon, "I am going to write a letter to Euny," please give me some paper & a pen," she is stought & well - the baby is a fine little boy - He dont cry - but generally wakes very early in the morning & then woomin till he is taken up - We have decided on no name for him yet - You seem to have taken a fancy for Arthur - It is a very good name - but not better I think than some others - If a family is not taken on then it is merely a matter of fancy - & I have suggested Cabot - not bad in sound - or form - and historically excellent - besides being in more respects than one uncommon - your mother thinks my name ought to be given him - or at least a part of it - as Bayley - by the by you spelt it wrong - it is not the ordinary Bailey - but I was named for the Rev. Kiah Bayley - still I believe an aged Clergyman, in Vermont. - If a family name be used - I prefer that of my father Samuel - which notwithstanding the sire - is a name of venerable & most worthy associations - from the pure minded Samuel of the Jews to the Patriot of our revolution - Your Mother has suggested Samuel Bayley - but nothing is yet decided on - so he is called simply - baby - and we will take into grave consideration anything you may be pleased to say on the subject - I am glad to hear your health is better - I hope you will

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I am glad to hear your health is better - I hope you will

continue to take all the exercise you can - & take it regularly & not by fits & starts - be sure to keep your feet dry when you go out - & apply to them the recipe - & rule - which I have cut from a paper & inclose - Exercise & freedom from anxiety will do you more good in my opinion than medicine - If I had the money to spare & your grandmother could get some one to stay with her a month or two - so as to spare you - I should send for you to come out here - You could go back in the early summer - & such a trip would make you as well as ever - besides the good effect it would have on us here at home - You could come either by Sea, or land. - in a good ship from some port in Maine, as Portland, or Bath, or from Boston - or from New York by the Steamer - Quaker City - a fine ship - that leaves New York on the 20th of every month for Mobile, - If there was any one coming in that I knew that could take you in charge I should certainly send for you. - I think you had better not go to school in the spring - give up all idea of it - Dont think of it - but what leisure time you have - & feel like devoting to study you can do so at home - Let this be your course for the [?] year - I am glad you are reading history - It is a useful study - & you can not appreciate it & will find it interesting - & connect with Biography - They go together - but dont read too much nor too long a time - & [?] very, careful of your position in reading - if it be a large

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Book - rest it on something sufficiently elevated to keep
you from bending over it. - Have you read Bancroft's
History of the U. S. - or Macaulay's England? - There are
two works by Maine men that I wish to see, Travels in Europe
by Prof. Upham - and also by Bartol - latter first to be had
at the Bookstore in Portland - please enquire some time -
In one of your letters you spoke of spending three hours on
a problem in Smyth's Trigonometry & didn't then solve it -
I have some curiosity to know what it was - I have the book
& can open to it, if you will name it - The mathematics
were a favorite study of mine - By the by I introduced
Smyth's Algebra - into the High School here - you can
mention this to Mr. Wooten - or Prof. Smyth if you should
see him - I have his Algebra & Trigonometry - &
should like to have a copy of his Analytical Equations
& his Calculus - They are published in Portland by Sanborn
& Carter - I think there are no better text books - & hope
to be the means of making them known in the South -
How do you like the French Books I sent you? If you
do not go to school any more - you can, if you please
when your health is fully restored, take lessons
in French & perhaps some other of the modern
Languages - Have you seen any of French's works
- one on "Words" - another "English past and present," they
will give you some new ideas about our Mother tongue
There is an advertisement - I inclose it - I should like to
have you at some of your odd & convenient moments
take the lessons indicated - & if two are not enough
double the dose - in order to understand it - it
can't cost much & I will send you money for it -
Excuse this ill written letter - Give my best regards to your
grandmother & believe me ever your affectionate father K.B.S. -

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