1833

Boston March 17th 33

Dear Sister

I have just returned from a visit to Mr Audubon. The Audubons. But I will tell you all in order — Saturday I went to see the prints of [illegible] They are superb. Full size on elephant paper. [illegible] as small birds as large as life & the colouring & execution beautiful, they are many of them all inanimated as in the act of feeding, seizing their prey or in some natural & striking position. The landscapes birds, butterflies animals etc are very fine — His portraits. The flowers & branches of trees on which many rest, from nature, they are very beautiful. He has not near finished his collection though about two hundred are done —

Yesterday Miss Dix was here & Woolly & When that a butterfly was coming out of one of my chrysalids she took the box & found that I had put the pin through the top & prevented him from getting out. She took it out & laid the cocoon on the table & in a few minutes he came out & proved to be a large & beautiful sphinx, like the two dead ones I found last summer the room was hot & dry & we found his wings would not expand. Miss Dix said that they would only grow while the moisture remained, so I breathed upon him gently & put a cup of warm water near him, as he