

1250/21
June 16th

If I had not so invincible an aversion to
apologies and begging pardons, I should think
my conduct to you required a very long one - and
a most humble petition for your clemency -
but ~~from~~ you, to require it, will be to receive it - at least, I
have so much confidence in your charity as to believe
that an acknowledgement of a fault is only giving you an
opportunity to exercise your benevolence - and parti-
cularly ~~the~~ when that fault was not wilfully committed
on this score, therefore, you will be my debtor - for surely to
call forth the exertion of a disinterested friend is at least as commend-
able a deed as to forgive an offence - you see I have hopes
that we shall soon be able to balance accounts - and in
future each be indebted to the other only for entertain-
ment - It was my first intention not to have left
Philadelphia without answering your short, the affectionate
letter - that it was short I could only lament - not mourning
that you had remembered me at all at such a time, I
was truly grateful - my stay in town was very short -
and in that time I had a number of friends to see - since
my return to Jersey one engagement has succeeded
another - which tho' they occupied my time did not
altogether employ my thoughts - for I frequently remem-
bered what I owed you - and only delayed the payment
because I had no specie valuable enough to discharge

the debt - I am wrote to me yesterday that he was
going to Baltimore this week - I could not neglect
so good an opportunity to write to you - and at least
determined to show you my good intentions towards you by
enclosing him a letter as immediately as I could -
in the hope he will receive it before he commences his
journey - he has been quite unwell - I hope he may
receive benefit from the ride -

As my acquaintance in and about
Baltimore is very circumscribed I cannot ask you
with whom you spend your time - tho' I can vent
to ask you how - I hope as agreeably as mine
for I am surrounded with good society - and a
place where I have formerly spent many delightful
hours - you must introduce to me those who most
est you - for such you will certainly find in a large
circle - that is true - I have one acquaintance
about whom I must caution you - that you make
not yourself too agreeable to him - I will allow you to
be second to me - or indeed equal - but I insist upon
it you keep the bounds prescribed, and rise not supe-
rior - I am very tenacious, you know, of my standing
there - but alas! all this advice is but thrown away -
without I could at the same time command you to
lock yourself up from his sight - it is unnecessary after
all this to tell you his name - you know who it is so
great a favorite of mine - notwithstanding all my fears
I do not feel very maliciously inclined towards you - and
to show you that I am not will allow you to give my

de Loring

June 15

Mrs Rebecca Gratz

Baltimore

