

Philadelphia Oct 11th

1855

I received your letter this morning
My Dearest Maria and can but
scarcely as yet get at the burning of
your Brother Asylum - it brings painful
memories of our more fatal one - I hope
your valuable Mother may be restored
and that you will have no other losses
to repair than such as Money may
restore. I had intended to write yester-
day to tell you that I had a letter from
Montreal stating that Sava & her boy
were doing very well. he received the
name of Henry in due time, and his
little sister, with a young daughter of
Sophia Joseph's were at the same time
born. Sava's daughter, called Matilda
after a sister. The other child was called
Henrietta Corine. how very silly to give
such a title to a child - particularly
before the end of the war. Major Menden
is not a little disappointed at the policy
observed by both sides in keeping her

begging - but did not get in time for their papers - keep the
darlings for me and believe me my ever dear & shielded friend
your affectionate
O.R.

so long away from the scene of action
Sara has no expectation of his return
home this winter. Ellen & Josephine went
home to day, leaving your great Nieces
consolers, tho' still too feeble to leave
her chamber. Your Father had a letter
from Gratz dated at Niagara Falls on
the 6th he was married on the 2nd. They
were en route to Montreal, where after their
visit to Sara would stop at Boston & be
in N. Y. about the 20th so I suppose we may
expect them about the beginning of next
month. I feel as you do on ~~this~~ subject
of their Marriage - until I see the Lady
she will not be free from very uncomfortable
feelings about the dear children. She is
a Roman Catholic, and if bigoted in
her religion it will be cause for much
trouble to them. Poor Gratz was so easy
with his first Mary, that he permitted
her to desert the faith of his children
and if that is unsettled he will have
a fearful responsibility. Since little
Mary has lived with me she has gone to
Synagogue & Sunday School with me

and feels that she is getting good instruction, tho' the question of what her religion is to be must be left for ripen years. Alas! that Gratz should have been so needless - so indifferent to the observance of his own belief! Young Gratz is a charming boy looks like his father but is more sedate. He goes to morrow morning to Washington and will wait there for his Father's orders. The children are acquiescent in regard to this marriage, and all this passed to receive her affectionately. Mary is trying to make up her mind what to call "Mrs Atcheson".

Friday Morning - The fatigue of house-cleaning and fixing the pantry yesterday quite put me to sleep before I could finish my letter. My dear Minnie, and so I come to apologize this morning for bad writing. But I know you will have the skill to decipher it - if not you will translate it into a love visit and be content.

I am not quite sure that I sent you the constitution of the Jewish Foster-home if not I will send one - it is getting on very well. We have 12 half orphan children, well provided for, but Mother gives us some care because we never feel secure of keeping her. She is a young

woman, who has been many years in
this country - an excellent house keeper, very
neat and is fond of teaching the children,
and is more over a strict Jewess but her
temper is so ragged that we are continually
troubled by her complaints she calls her
out breaks neuroses. which does not signify
any thing but an apology - is often repeated
to be satisfactory. her salary is \$156. per Ann
and a comfortable home. -- Is there any
one in your Jewish community that you
could recommend to such a situation? you
know exactly what are requisite for a
maker of such an institution - she has a
domestic woman - and with careful in-
struction may soon teach the little girls to
be useful - it is necessary the mother should be
able to read & write English - the one we have
knows Hebrew & German & French - but as we
do not expect any occasion for many tongues,
except Hebrew to teach the Hefsegg & prayers
in that language will satisfy us - it appears
to me, from what I have heard of your poor
Jews, they are of a better class than those in the
city or N.Y. - give my best love to your husband
I sent him a jar of peppers by Express on Wednes-
day. prepared for him in unexpected shape they will
prove good - they were intended to go with Mr. Munn's