

Sunday - 1808

Your letter my beloved Becky was welcomed with sincere delight - and altho it charged me with being ceremonious still contained such good reasons for your silence - that I immediately acceded to them - but exonerated myself from the imputed fault - by a consciousness of having acted from the same motives - I was fearful of taxing your patience in perusing another of my letters when I knew your time was so devoted to your friends - and that by the attention of your sister you was not left a day in ignorance of the health of all those you love here - tho I must confess I often checked the inclination I felt to talk ~~you~~ with you on these terms, and relate the occurrences of the day - a great part of which is passed at market street - my second home, where I take my nightly abode - also - and have not omitted one, being the companion of our Sarah - I regret she has so stupid a creature to bear with - for you know by experience, what soporific effects the pillow has on me - and when pressed by my head, how soon all the cares and troubles of life are forgotten - I cannot say with Young the "wretched sleep forsakes" - for I often count him with tearful eyes - and gratefully acknowledge his renovating influence - I was apprehensive you would injure yourself by nightly watchings until you so positively asserted, you did not lose much rest - I hope it will not be requisite for you to sit up more frequently - the accounts you gave last week of Mrs Rodman's amendment of health - flattered those who were so much interested. that they eagerly caught at any information which accorded with their hearts warmest wishes

but so transient are the hopes that are raised by the deceitful progressions
of that cruel disorder - that even that greatest comfort must not be cherished
for it is so often delusive - we must tremble for the change - almost ere
we can rejoice at the smiles of the flatterer - indeed my dear Bechy I often
very often, think of you, and picture to myself the chamber of your
friend - which is gloomy - ~~and~~ despairing - for what can arrest the hand of
death - yet Harriet's situation will certainly divert it of many terrors -
she has naught to fear an entering an unknown world - but dreadful
struggles and sufferings in this - now can her friends wish them to be
prolonged - yet how inherent in our wayward natures, to strive to
ward off the terrific blow which forever severs us from those
our hearts almost burst at parting with - you will have a trying
scene to encounter, but one best calculated to administer, comfort
on to those who require it - for you can quell the violence of
selfish feelings - when exertion is necessary - I fear, yet wish to
hear the distressing shock is over - and fervently pray Heaven will
aid you all to bear it - you are when absent from the thoughts
of your family - who are ever anxious about you - they generally
collect - when intelligence is received from New York and are ac-
tuated by one sympathetic feeling - I have just left Rachel to her
new child asleep - she is quite well - and so as daily now, hourly impro-
ving in some engaging charm - I never met with "Dove" a fellow -
he is the admiration of all who see them - the children of each
house are in perfect health - as are every individual of your
family - so not in addition to your troubles there - suffer an
uneasy thought of home to intrude - this day, as usual will be
celebrated as a Sabbath, tho not in strict conformity to our rules,
I mean if concerning the family's together, may be thought so -
I have promised to dine with Cousin Fanny at Rachel's - as Pember

Monday morning

your letter to dear Sally has just been received
we all rejoice to hear of your health. She will write to monroe
Mrs Rodman's situation is truly desolating - God send her a speedy relief, or
some mitigation of her sufferings. You have a trying time my loved Becky
may you have fortitude sufficient to bear it - Rachel has just
brought Isaac in - and is now reading your letters. He is well as are
all the family - they send you much love - Farewell my dear
friends believe me ever yours



Miss Rebecca Galt
care of J. O. Hoffman Esq
New York

of Coler
June 6 - 1808

Dear Becky

accept your Sally's hearts best love and embrace our beloved
Dear Friends for me. And Oh! may God bless you all and
support you in the hour of trial so fast approaching. I
cannot write to day my soul is full of sorrow, Dear Mr. Harriet!