

Philadelphia May 15th 1808

Will you my dearest Becky deem me intru-
sive for thus trespassing on your time, which I know is so devoted
= to your friends, but as I cannot have my question immediately
answered - will presume on your long known affection for not
rejecting a few lines from one who sincerely loves you - I have
thought of you daily, many hours, since your departure - and
many times felt inclined to tell you so - this evening seems better
calculated to "hold converse" with my loved girl than any that have
passed - all is quiet around - your good mother is enjoying her
evening nap - as is Joe reposing in an arm chair - fatigued with
having walked to the falls of Schuylkill, Sally has gone to
Mrs Merediths to bid farewell to the Bgdens - and all are
well, as if you was home your heart courts with - I have
just left Rachel's, her gardening boy - has been most entertaining
this afternoon, and never omits when aunt Beck's name is
mentioned, to wipe, by uplifted hands his sorrow at her long
left him - he grows every day more engaging - and is the very image
of health - a family party assembled here this day - of females
I mean, for your brothers stole a march, to the falls - and
left their three wives in some little consternation - at the tenacity
of the undertaking - Mr. Hays being the least of a pedestrian.

complained most of fatigue - but as some carity, all were pleased,
and enjoyed the day - Mr. Lisk put a stop to my pen for half
an hour - he enquired most particularly after Mrs. Rodman - and
seemed distressed to hear of her situation - indeed every person - that
is not callous to every feeling of humanity must, sympathize with
her friends ~~on~~ the deplorable state she is reduced to - you my dear
Betty have to witness many distressing scenes - but your mind is
so well fortified - that I feel no apprehensions of your suffering
it to be increased or overcome so as to injure your health -
all your family's fears are ever alive, and pray most earnestly
you will not wish that precious blessing - poor Harriet, how
great a delinquent has she proved - but Heaven who ~~will~~ ever
strengthens the fallen - will summon her to recruit on a kinder
shore - and not lengthen her sufferings - the stroke will afflict -
most severely her friends - but they ought to be prepared, ^{and}
Sally and our dear Rachel seldom suffer their thoughts to
wander in any other direction than heaven - and are in constant agita-
tion about you and their afflicted friends - tho' they do not indulge hopes.
Their reason tells them would be fallacious, we do not suffer them
to be alone - but join the trio of families each day, Sally, being
is quite indisposed with a sore throat - Betty's mind here, they will
not go away this week - from the girls you hear every thing you
wish so I will not long detain you with my scrawl - my good
mother - begs you will accept her affection - with that of the girls -
to the kind Mrs. Leeg her good parents and family present me with
true regard - you no doubt see them often - and any of our friends
in relatives you meet - make known our enjoyment of health -

S Cohen

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Sally McCallum &
Sally Gratz

Miss Rebecca Gratz

1808

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New York