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Saturday Sept 3^d 1808

My Dear Bea

We heard by Mr. House of your arrival in New York, and gave you due credit for your studious disposition, your forbearance in leaving the pleasures of traveling, and all your other wise & good motives for returning, add to these the pleasure we anticipate in seeing you again, and the desire of our dear Mother to embrace her darling, and I hope you will feel yourself rewarded for the good resolution which has brought you thus near home -

I lament that all things do not conspire to render your meeting as joyous as it might be as our honored Mother, has been for some days past quite an invalid, in consequence of a very sore Bile on her neck, which has given her a great deal of pain, and continues still to do so - but we trust in God, who cures all sores, for her restoration, and I am sure, nothing will tend to cheer her so much, and of course cheat her of her pain

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as your arrival. all the rest of the family enjoy
health, and expect great pleasure from seeing you
& hearing of your travels. I have not yet said how
much gratified I felt on receiving your letter, but
I hope my Dear Brother, you will believe that
it really did afford me as much pleasure, as you
could have wished, when you were bestowing your
kindness on me - and tho' I have little hopes of
your receiving this, could not refuse myself the
pleasure of discharging the debt your goodness
lent me under. Our Mother & Sisters send you
their affectionate love - remember me to our friends
you are with - I believe me my Dear Ben most
Cordially & sincerely your affectionate

Al

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Mr. Benjamin Gratz
care of Mr. Moses
&
New York —

R Gratz