

My Dear Ben

You have had such delightful weather for your ride, that even if you have not been fortunate enough to meet with other company I am sure you will not be so ungovernable as to treat the change with a cloudy brow. The Ladies have turned out en masse to welcome the return of the Sun and bask all day in his beams. you are no doubt as much obliged to him for mending the roads as they are for an opportunity of showing their new bonnets, and so in the woods or at Huntington you will have the pleasure of sharing your satisfaction with the Ladies of Philadelphia. Mrs. Tilghman says she is almost offended with you for leaving town without fulfilling your engagement with her. She gave a Ball, instead of a Tea party. The company was small, but quite large enough for her rooms. The decorations were fine. The hostess in high spirits and the evening warm. Your friend skilful enquire if you had written from Lancaster, he concluded you had, and I hoped so. but your letter has not arrived. we are all going on much in the old way. little Gorton better, and the rest of the family well. we have a meeting at Rachel's on Monday Evening - that is a family - case party which did not break up until the butler had twice warned us of approaching morning. after we are a little rested from this dissipation we shall collect them here - and I hope, that will conclude the present revels.

Rachel has had a long letter from Peggy Osborne, very kind, and

affectionate and communicative, she is the says very happy - very much a woman of fashion, very much cheaper in appearance, but not at all in feelings, she has two beautiful boys living, and has buried two - she speaks highly of her husband, and says he is a favorite with his superior officers - attributes her long silence to the difficulty of meeting safe opportunities, and in all respects gives so fair a representation of her situation, that if this had been the first information received of her, we should suppose she had never suffered since she left here, any other sorrow than that occasioned by separation from her family & friends - we were all delighted to hear from her, and her letter is so very characteristic, you could see her exactly what she was seven years ago. Dr Phillips was the bearer of these interesting dispatches - all her family had letters by the same conveyance -

I hope you have written to say how travelling agrees with you - how your horse behaves - whether you have company - will complete your business & when he home - we have many subjects of interest are before you to gratify us - I wish I could anticipate your anxiety about office business here. Miller has time to frolic, so do not suppose he is much oppressed with the double burden of his own any longer yet - what ever may be the case before your return - if you should determine to prosecute Mrs Merediths claim to her place in the Bible Society, I can give you some important information on the subject, and become witnesses for you - Adieu My dear Brother, when you requested me to write, you knew you would have to pay postage



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