

May 13th - 1844

I was rejoiced my dear Brother to receive a letter from you again, and to hear such good tidings of your family. Nothing could have been more agreeable to me, than to accept your invitation and return with our dear Bernard, but Miss Ann Cohen is in New York on her way to pay us a visit, and we expect will spend the month of June here, if she is not induced to remain longer. Bernard left us this morning to pass two or three days in New York with his cousins, for Sara left home the morning after he arrived here, and extracted a promise from him, to do so if he determined to journey westward before she got back - indeed it was hard for her to obtain her own consent to leave him; her arrangements were made & her sisters expecting her, before Bernard arrived.

I regret that you did not send Gary with his brother. You know change of air is always recommended in the whooping cough. Thank God, he is getting well & that it. I am told it often happens that this delicate infantile evil which are to plague us no more. Sally Cohen has had it violently this winter - in her old age. Our Brother Etting is very frail indeed, yesterday he had an attack, from which he apprehended that he would not recover - but in a short time it passed off.

leaving him as well as usual - but admiring as
by how slight a turn his valued life is held - in a few
weeks he will enter his Eighty second year, so we have
only to be grateful, and regard his lengthened days as
a special favor.

I received a letter last week from Howard, mentioning
as a reason for leaving Grady's house, that they had not
room for him, Mrs Groves was confined, and perhaps
his accommodations were therefore not so good - but in
my reply I recommended him to return, as soon as
she left St Louis. - I am sorry my dear Brother, that you
suffered so much anxiety on that account. Howard
has to endure many inconveniences before he will
gain by personal experience, that is to ^{wisdom} ^{which} carry him safely
through the world, but I trust his principles will
bear him out, he has a great deal to unlearn, which
in the careless indulgences of early life became habit.
Grady & his wife have been schooled, to the necessity of
frugality and economy, and they are admirable ex-
amples, that even hardships may be endured with
dignity, you must bear with some waywardness in Howard,
in the hope that, it will be corrected before long. Perhaps
now that he is catering for himself, he will be more con-
-servative, and steadily headed, for the want of domestic society,
or if this becomes irksome, return to his Cousin -

Remind me affectionately to the dear boys and
Mary. I am disappointed, at the relinquishment of her
visit this summer, particularly as I fear, when she becomes
settled at housekeeping we shall see less of her. God Bless you
my dear Ben, believe me ever your affectionately attached
sister P. S.

P
[Handwritten signature]



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Miss Gratz
14 Nov. 1844