

Thank you, my dear Ben, for your letter which is quite a treat to us, in the uncertainty we were in respecting you. we are not so much delighted with your removal as you seem to be, as we lack the soldier's joy at the thought of a meeting with the enemy, and consider the hardships and dangers of a winter campaign in tents as formidable tho' less heinous than many other situations the evils of war might place you in as for the obstruction of the Delaware, we have seen many a goodly winter nearly through, without that desirable event, and surely if you wait for it when you are, it would be prudent to add a few more blankets and a bit of flannel to your baggage. What say you to his buffaloes skin by way of coverlid to your bed, it will keep you dryer & warmer than the one you have, and I can send it with your next package of clothes, which waits your instructions, not knowing where to send, or how to direct them.

I left us on Friday morning, rather reluctantly - the comfort of a five mile is not to be relinquished without regret by those who have felt its want on Thursday night our excellent Nancy was married. The wedding was celebrated in our drawing room, in presence of half a dozen of their friends, Rachel, Is Sally Isaac Thomas & my self - Dr. Staughton performed the ceremony, and I assure you all due solemnity was observed on the occasion the bridal party adjourned at ten to the house of the groom, where refreshments was prepared and the evening concluded with great decorum & festivity. we have a respectable young woman in her place, and begin to get reconciled to the change. You are losing chances of gallantry to the Isabelle belles Miss Grace Seixas is in town, going to Richmond on a visit to her sister - her stay in the city will depend on the pleasure she derives from

the being very young, and every thing here able suppose it will not exceed
the time required to gratify curiosity. I heard to day from Caroline. She
was detained a week in Richmond by rain. found her Mother & Sister but
just recovered from a more dangerous illness than the epidemic and gives
satisfactory accounts of the condition an epidemic has left the country in -
Abraham went home with Mr. Moore, greatly to the disappointment
of his parents & friends at home - There is no apparent change in
Francis Key's face yet. Dr. Kuhn tells her time and patience are all
she has to depend on for a cure, continuing the old applications. Isabella Estlin
has also been sick of fever & debility of stomach, but is getting well.

Mrs. Meredith told me last week she had written you a letter, to which she was
very anxious for a reply, and hoped I would inform you so, or communicate any
message you might send immediately. Sally again is in town, and bid her remember
her, to send her love to you. Our dear Rachel, & her dear little girls are just come in
and send you a hundred kisses, they wish very much for your return, and
seem to feel a kind of sympathy for all who wear uniform, in your behalf.

Sally is much as when you left us, or if changed for the better. She
desires her affectionate love to you, and would be gratified if you would
sometimes address her - If you have written me before since your return
your letters have not been faithfully handed - for I assure you none
were received until to day. We last evening heard of Hyman's arrival
at Lexington in good health - Adept the affectionate salutations of
all the family and their prayers for your health & happiness.

God bless you My dear Mother take care of yourself
and believe in the constant affection of your Attached Rly -

Rebecca Gatz



Genl Benj Gatz

Washington Guards

Camp Cadon Castle

near New Castle



all come