

Apr 18, 1830

Though I wrote to you only a few days ago My dear Maria I cannot let so favorable an opportunity pass without saying a few words more, recollecting how many times Mr Levy has brought me your remembrances, and moreover that I can tell you that Ellen has arrived, and Dr Phyzick says he can cure her life, her husband was very apprehensive that it might be cancerous but as the Dr. assures him that is not the case he will leave her for a few weeks to the care of her mother in the hope that she will be carried safely through this danger, and return to him before her real trial. She is very cheerful and in good health, tho' thin from the effect of recent indisposition. Of Grant's situation there is such a constant variation that we can form no positive opinion, when I closed my last letter we thought him recovered, yesterday he had another slight attack, to day he is better, but very little dependence can be placed on the favorable changes, as all his physicians agree in thinking that he will long be liable to recoveries of the same disease, and that he ought not return to his former residence & business, yet the poor fellow is so attached to his profession and the community in which he preaches, that he is scarcely able for a day before his thoughts & wishes are directed to them. I believe I am no better, and as the season advances I think they will be struck off the invalid list. If not we shall send them to country air and fresh sports, for I believe the close atmosphere of their chambers, much be inimical to their constitutions.

You have been so kind as to enquire about one Young Reader, and I would rather have postponed the subject a little longer - but as every body has their humbles I may as well tell you his before he came to Phil^a - he had written some essays in "defence of the Jews and Morise Law" which gained him some reputation among a small circle of friends & was his first attempt at authorship and he fell in love with his work - has enlarged, improved, changed, & laboured on it until it has almost become a volume which he greatly desires to see in print - I have read it, and though it gives me a good opinion of his talents

have advised him not to publish - but some other friends
have encouraged him, and he issued proposals to publish
it by subscription - together with a manual he has translated
from the German. now, the latter work is somewhat similar to the
"Elements of Jewish Faith" and therefore will not be called for in
our small community, and except among the Jews would not
be read - the other is an unpopular subject, and tho' in fact
nothing but a comment on the bible, and explanation of the
festivals, and history of the Jews, its title alone would in this period
of sectarian excitement, (or revival) be sufficient to condemn it - nor
do I think his style sufficiently elegant to justify his claims to author-
ship. with these ~~burdens~~ on his shoulders, before he has got through
the first difficulties of his new station, he has taken too much upon
himself and does not seem to get along as happily, as if he
had reserved his whole strength & attention to the duties of the read-
ing desk, but youth is apt to be puffed - experience will aid
in checking, or rather directing his enthusiasm to proper channels
and if he continues to write show him how many obstacles are
to be overcome by a candidate for fame - he is certainly a very fine
and worthy man, and takes very hard the latitude allowed in matters
of religion in this enlightened age - fortunately he is a headless
youth, did he wear the chain of a Rabbi he would be scoffed at
by his own congregation -

But here am I half done my second page without saying
one word about your coming to Philadelphia, tho' I have har-
assed you here a thousand times in both my day dreams
and slumbers. those two dear little unknowns you speak
about and my three sweet nephews that I have seen, all
ever and anon flitting before my mind's eye with you and
"my dear Ben above head, by far the bright a vision to" with in
their air" our Brothers are all very anxious to see you, and I really
do not know how Ben can permit all the companions of his youth ^{one}
days, fade away into old men, without taking a peek at them
every four or five years. I do assure you too, that I am desperately
afraid he will take me for his grandmother, if he leaves it much
longer before he marks my people towards the ninth age -

God Bless you My dear Maria, and speed you all on your
journey. and make you happy - and keep you well - and in
all manners & ways give you that which is for your good and
comfort - and believe me, your & my dear Ben's most affectionate
Sister Eliza

April 18th - 1830

Wm Benjamin Seabrook

Lexington Ky

Wm Leary

To

1830