

The children desire their best love to you & the boys - we talk of you every day
our mothers & their girls also embrace you - tell dearest Ben his portrait has been finishing
the work of his brush abroad - and arrived safe home last week & it will be some plan

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July 22nd 1832 -

I was rejoiced my dear sister to receive a letter from you again
and written in such fine spirits too I am now willing to sail round
the world - or through your drawing room - you shall be pilot
and if I lack knowledge of a single phrase nautical or blue
you shall enlighten me with one of your own illustrations -
our friend Miss Peters says her criterion of good society is made
by reflecting on her return home whether she has carried any
thing worth remembering away - I am very sensible that your
letters always put to this test satisfied my heart & my
understanding that I have been in good company - and
I am happier and more agreeable for days after their perusal
Mrs McCallister has not yet arrived in Phil^a - we shall
certainly find her out as soon as she does I think there can
be no doubt of her receiving a kind reception from her husband
family - tho I do not know what impression they will make
on her - the eldest sister Mrs Slater who I know most of has
sailed for England - they are very kind people - but have
too much pretension & nonsense - to be very easy companions -
a little may submit to much of that sort of parasite as-
sion into a new family - but as she is not to live among them
it will be scarcely felt - her Ohio sister is much liked - and
Eliza is expected to stay with her part of her visit I hope
she will soon arrive for at present our city is very healthy -
we enjoy this blessing with fear & trembling - as the medicines
tell us the Cholera will certainly be here, and the daily
reports from New York are so distressing - that should it
make its appearance, I fear she would have but a
melancholy time of it. Mr & Mrs Gossman are here waiting
for an opportunity of getting to Boston, but dare not pass
through the infected districts - they wanted to place a daughter
at school there, but I suppose will fix her here - Mrs G. brings
me a very kind remembrance from dear Mrs Egan, for which
you must thank her, and tell her I love to think of her
and think of but to love her -

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do Maine, when you see Mr. Clay ask what was meant by an
allusion to "Moses Myers the Jew" in one of his speeches. I read it
without understanding, and several persons equally dull have
asked for an explanation - one respectable old friend from
Norfolk, died with us yesterday, and made the same enquiry -
he had no suspicion that he is the object of ~~some~~ remark -
poor old man! affliction has almost worn his heart in
pieces. I never have seen such a monument of parental grief
he has but one son, left, and two daughters - out of a family
of nine, and they all grew up to maturity, and were the pride
as well as the staff of his age - Mrs. Myers died of grief after
the loss of her two youngest sons in rapid succession - she was under
the apprehension that she should be left childless - such an
idea might prove fatal to her husband, did he entertain it
with equal force - but stern was right. "God tempers the wind
to the shorn lamb" - and He does not leave the mourner without
consolation. Myers is going to Norfolk to reside, and thus fill up
the gap, and cherish his aged Father, and this has given
him something to look forward to, & to bless the name of Heaven who
giveth & taketh a way. I received a very affecting letter from
my neighbor Mrs. Rutledge the other day - she is now with her
mother in Middletown - and is going in Oct. to Charleston to
reside with her husband's. Mr. Rutledge died poor, and
if the climate is unpropitious to her children - she will have
nothing but her own exertions to depend on - The old lady
is a noble spirited, affectionate woman, and I hope they
will be happily situated in Carolina - for her relations in
Connecticut are not able to assist her.

Grath has finished his college studies and is preparing
for the commencement. he has chosen the character of Isaac
Laurence for the subject of his oration, and written a very
pretty little sketch - which he is reciting he says to the fishes
in the Delaware, from whose shores the echoes are very flatter-
ing - he is with Campbell at Devon -

Ben Elting & Samuel & Merriam, are at the Yellow Springs
to whose waters Chapman has commended the Rheumatism

the bitter from the poisonous chalice. and enjoy a
happiness - one from the best of children - and the other
from a mother's love - whilst they retained charity & affection
with the memory of what they had endured - as you have met
a bad husband, Maria - and my opponent had none at all -
may let my argument stand - even if you do not approve
I desired me to present his love and hopes your hearts have
arrived without being rubbed on the journey - as they are the nearest

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Wm Benjamin Graft

Leicester Pkz

I shall not send you the books you can have
from your bookseller. unless you wish to justify
them - the leaves will carry one or two vol. not named
in your letter - Adieu my sister



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fashion from the Emperor's palace at Peking - embrace the
Dece, boys for me - how I should love to come to you. if I had
not so many immovable ties in this quarter. but now danger
surrounds them I cannot get away - I hope another year will make
up for the disappointments of this - tis thus dear Maria, we cheat
our selves, and grow old without accomplishing our desires. but if I
live, I hope to see Heathcote and all the beloved ones there - Good Night
you all - believe me most fervently your attached Pkz -