

Nov 13th 1832

It is one month this day my dear sister since the date of your last letter - and tho I have written but seldom, you are never out of my thoughts, and all the anxieties & tendernesses which we so continually feel in periods like the present occupy my heart as mostly as if ^{I were} beside you. I watch the mail box with double interest, and if only a newspaper directed by dear Ben arrives, it affords assurances of your health, and an apology for his not writing, for I knew he is engaged in public matters, which would not be the case, if home concerns were not fair & bright. We are fortunate in this political warfare, that which ever side succeeds some of our friends will be benefitted and when all hopes of our own wishes being gratified are lost, we may find consolation in knowing that private good is enjoyed by some of those we care for. Our Brothers are deeply interested. He says he will write as soon as he can tell of some returns from Delaware. I shall be glad when the great struggle is over, for I hate the dissensions of party, and the excitement our youngsters are involved in. - But Moses has taken the girls to New York and they are delighted with the novelty. His health has been bad all summer and I was very glad when he consented to go, they write that he is much improved. The Italian Opera & Miss Kemble induce them to depart and he is obliged to accompany them - this delicious weather is a source of enjoyment in itself. I never saw a richer autumn, and almost every where the line in view of the variegated forest. Sister Mary walks a good deal with me and the exercise both gives her health & spirits - she never looked better - since your leave adorned her head than at present.

we were greatly surprised by the arrival yesterday of Sam
Elling and his family. It was his plan to remain in Baltimore
until he could adjust his difficulties, and Ellen was to have
come to her mother for the period of bereavement. but he has
now determined to live at lodgings in Phil^a. I am really
grieved for poor Ellen - not that poverty is the worst evil
that could befall, but this want of decision and energy
in her husband indicates less character than is required
to lift her out of it, and she is so changed that I doubt
whether she has exertion enough to rouse him to a sense
of his obligations to her - he gives over the disappointment
and difficulties she suffers on his account, and prays
to Hercules instead of putting his shoulder to the wheel -
but it is wicked in me, who never liked him much to
point out his faults. believe me, I never was half so much
interested for him as now, and if I could only do him some
good, to redeem the slight of my former opinion, I should re-
joice more, than if I had always loved him - Ellen is delight-
ed to get back to her mother, and her advice & example, will
certainly be a blessing to them all -

What an excellent mirror other peoples faults are to us
when we happen to be suffering under the effects of new
our defects, on looking at what I have said of Sam Elling
I am struck with the likeness to my present circumstances
for the last time I have been in suspense about a piece
of business which my want of decision induced me to
postpone last evening - and I am now doubtful if it will
ever be settled to my satisfaction - - - at the moment of
reading the last sentence a ring at the door bell announced
the arrival of my - not very personal woman of business -
and her decision aided me to a better conclusion than I anti-
cipate. the moral of my tale would have been more complete
perhaps had I been disappointed -

of Rosa I ought to say something. the latter scolded
 uncle Hyman on Sunday for not telling her of an opportunity
 to Lexington as she had a something to send - she has been in the
 country for a fortnight with her friend & Immanuel, she has the
 respect of bestowing the poor mens blessing - a house full of children
 her fourth was born last month - a son - little Josephine has
 become quite a healthy girl and is very intelligent, but not
 pretty - Give my best love to dear Ben I hope the time he
 has spent & the mortifications he has had with - will be made

Q

Mrs Benjamin Gratz

Lexington Kentucky.



22

I fear you will not be able to read
 this - my pen makes
 dear Maudie is in a bad

up to him in some other good - even if Jackson does
 prevail which I believe is little doubted here - that foolish
 anti masonry has destroyed the energy of the party - I quit
 politics as soon as I heard the compromising spirit of the con-
 vention - God Bless you, dearest and best my most earnest
 and holy wishes are for your safety & your happiness ever & yours
 Rly -