

July 15th 1837

I have just thrown down Miss Martineau's "Tough"
My dear Maria to infuse a little of mine upon you.
and tho I do not mean to offer you such saucy views
as this lady has taken. nor to argue the point of con-
plaint you make about the hardness of extracting
letters with your own exertions - I must assure you that
you do this so agreeably, that there is some temptation
to make good your charge - and yet if you would con-
-sult to be particular I think you may generally
count two for one, in your favor, your last was par-
ticularly welcome as it told of your recovery, and I
hope by this time you have not even a scar left, so
that you will be able to enjoy Bancroft to the utmost
this lovely summer weather - I was going to rusticate
too today, at Sister Etting's. Edward called for me
in his coach, left his horse unattended at the door.
when the horse not willing to stand alone, walked off.
was frightened by some uncouth method of stopping
him attempted by a passenger, and ran along the
streets until some impediment coupled the vehicle
and demolished it - so I gave up my plan, ^{for good!} and
Maria was bold enough to accompany him in a gig.
Kamettownville is not too distant for a walk on a cool
morning, and the family are very agreeably placed
there for the summer. Horace left us this morning after
a fortnight's visit, he is pleased with his situation
and enjoys the favor of the professor, I am grateful
that so good an opportunity offered of giving him em-
ployment, for I believe he will be happier, than he
could have been in town, where so many obstacles exist

against a young man getting on, in these hard times
and Mr Rogers is so good an example for imitation - not
only in his character & moral conduct, but the success he
and his two young brothers owe to their own unperturbed
escotions. Mr Moses has heard twice from Edmund since
his departure, and I daily pray that he may retrieve the
time and character he wasted here. I am well from
his attention to his anxious parent. Miriam is so happy
that it is really delightful to witness its expression - she
sees nothing in the south to shock her philanthropy
and would not be willing to take a chapter out of Miss
Mrs book - nor enlighten herself on the subject, so freely
discounted on by the traveller - nor would one wish to see an
evil, that has no remedy in so strong a light. I have
only looked into the vol. and can give no opinion of its merit
or injustice, but find it so liberally condemned by some of
her friends, that I suppose shall be obliged to yield up
my confidence of her sincerely & clear rightness - I thought
there was so much fairness in her conversation that she would
write in the same spirit, and that for once we should have an over-
charged picture of our policy & institutions, our domestic sorrows &
political economy - but Abolitionists - and Slave holders seem to
have offered too fertile a theme for an English tourist to pass
over - and this one blot in ^{our} history - has covered all the fair fields
of observation, and balances the many advantages our country
presents over the old world - well, let it be so, until the period
of redemption arrives, and then see if the Americans see how
to rid themselves of this dark inheritance they received from
their British ancestry - I should have liked to have been
my letter which arrived in the midst of your party, to have
taken my Lexington friends by the hand - and seen your greeting

is so interesting an interest to her, that she cannot had
 Saco with her alone & the Capt has professional business
 at Wilmington for a few days. She bids me send her love
 to you and dear Ben. Mr. Hays went to Baltimore to day and
 expects to bring Rosa home with him, but I think it very
 doubtful. Mr. Morris health is so bad, that I fear he will not
 make so long a visit. Next month she must leave the plantation
 then, and her husband cannot leave before then. The last letter
 from Ben says he expects to leave Canton about the 10 of April

Jo

Mr. Benjamin Gratz

Lexington. Ky.



so Houbert looks for him in August. Saco wrote to Lizzie
 that she must come up with James to see the Penn^a Convention
 but we have not heard recently Washington - at this season
 the City rears for far distant so few travellers pass - but
 I hear the Bloirs are well. Give my best love to my dear
 Ben, when you shall with him and believe me my dearest
 Maria, with unaltered affection Mrs. Lyoni Sister P. G.