

New York

Phila June 14th 1838.

By a letter I am received from Washington, My dear sister we were informed of your loss, and most sincerely do I sympathize with you, for I know your heart will be grieved at the severed tie which nature & affection bound - and yet I hope you were prepared for your sister's removal - tho' I felt greatly shocked to hear of her death - she was extremely interesting to me - from the peculiar misfortunes that made her widowhood more desolate, and perhaps if we could think wisely & kindly, without the particles of selfishness, of which is mixed in all human affections, the removal of those most dear to us, under similar circumstances should not be lamented - long life would not have been a blessing to Mrs Boswell - for the dearest wishes of a mother's heart were disappointed, and she seemed to love her children as much as if they had repaid her with duty and respect. What then had this world to offer her? God has been merciful to call her to "where the wicked cease from troubling, & the weary are at rest." Let me hear from you soon My dear sister, that you acquiesce in this trial, and that your own precious health has not suffered. I hope Mrs Bledsoe too is well, present her very love, and say that I continually think of her sweet kind treatment, and am grateful -

I am happy to tell you our dear Joe is quite well, he is beginning to look better, and is more cheerful - he wrote to me

clear Ben a few days ago and I suppose told him so
himself. He often talks of you all, and brings your domestic
scene to my mind's-eye as I left it - except that he says
you contemplated some changes in your sable household
so that I find even among your own, you are no better off
than we are - for I too have been changing. Old John is the only
personage you would know in my establishment but I
hope you will not find much difficulty where I know you
have not much taste for occupation - and speaking from
experience, find it exhorcise & unsatisfactory -
our friends here are well - Sister Mary hopes to spend the
winter at home, tho' every now & then, a letter arrives from Ball
- more directed by Sam Etting which threatens to invade
that privilege, if Ellen can but keep herself quiet this season
she may be well hereafter. but if her husband has a dinner
or wine party, I would not give much for her chance -

Harriet took her departure this morning for Richmond on
a visit to her parents - the weather is so fine & mild as to
tempt her. she took the children & her husband will follow
next month & bring them home. Mr Marks health is so pre-
- carious that she could not bear to let the winter set in
(if we are to have any this year) without going to obtain
his blessing - and Ben thought so too - Nathl Moses has
gone to Carolina to be married - he received your affec-
tionate message before he started - and stopped long enough
at Washington to see the Blairs - Lizzy wrote that he thought
of returning by the same route, and then she should see
"Sister Mary" first. I hope indeed he is providing for his

633

'Chy

Am Am



Handwritten flourish or signature in red ink.

Miss Benjamin Grant

Lexington Ky.

17th Dec