

Waller Post 2
617 whole

May 25th 1838

A rainy morning, has given me, My dearest Maria
what I prize more than Sunshine - an opportunity of writing
to you - for I had made an engagement at the Bosphorus Asylum
which the weather would not let me keep, and I mean to spend
it much more to my taste, in prattle with you - you are ever
- but not to say anything that may encourage the hope of see-
ing ^{you} but on comparing a passage in your last letter to me
with another in Jos's, my imagination & my wishes have been
travelling fast to meet you - and arranged all things with
perfect convenience, and to my entire satisfaction - so that
I shall not be surprised, when you announce your whole
plan, and have told Ellen already - so she is going to be
such an obedient wife as to shorten her present visit at
Mr. Ettings request, that she must urge her claim upon
him to send her when you arrive - I have been very anxious
about Sister Bledsoe, and sympathized with you & Sara while
you were tending her with so much care - I rejoice that she
has been spared to you, and hope you were not obliged to part
with so many teeth, as were condemned when you last
wrote - Dr. Cohen has been patching up a defective row for
some time, and at length sacrificed them all in favor
of an entire set of porcelain - but unfortunately not
getting a good fit, resolved to do without any, and is making
out very well - tho I confess with excellent judgment to
his mouth - but I was conversing with a beautiful woman
the other day, who confessed all the duration of her mouth
was purchased, and I certainly had not the least suspi-
cion that the beautiful teeth she displayed in laughing
were not planted by nature in the very place they occu-
pied - I hope my Sister your health is improved, and
that you will only have pleasure to seek in your summer

town - What think you of a steam voyage across the Atlantic
to witness the coronation of the Queen Victoria? "The great western"
is to return for such an accommodation - and no doubt some of her
majesty's loyal subjects will take advantage of it. I have just
seen an old friend from Albany who has returned from a seven
years residence abroad, in which time she visited all the principal
places of resort - passed several summers in Switzerland &
winters in Italy & France - was a month at Naples while Sir
Walter Scott resided there; and through the kindness of a Scotch
friend enjoyed frequent opportunities of being in his society.
She told him, that in sickness and in sorrow his books had
solved her pain & grief - and that she owed him the homage
of her gratitude - he accepted this compliment with sensibili-
ty, and gave her permission to come when ever it suited her
to his apartment - if he was not disposed to see her she must
stay with his daughters - and it is told (tho not by her) that
Sir Walter said Miss Bridger was the most agreeable woman
he had ever known - The friend who introduced her, told him
she resembled his former Dear, and thus obtained her an
interview, which led to such inviolable results - well now I must
tell you how she has returned home - she has even more simplicity
of manners than when I knew her 14 years ago for time has
mellowed her vivacity into an even flow of cheerfulness - her
enthusiasm has not lessened, but is spent on objects of high
natural beauty - or on exquisite works of art - and she has
so much good taste that she neither obstructs her knowledge
& experience in conversation, nor declines to satisfy curiosity,
but is so natural and unaffected that you feel perfectly
easy and at home with her - her sister the companion of her travels,
on the contrary looks so full of superiority for what she has
seen, that you do not feel inclined to ask her any ques-
tions - I wish you could have seen one friend Miss Peters',
enjoyment of Anna's society - she took her for an entire
Blue and thought to make the most of her - but for all that
Miss P. is an excellent woman - and so it you please I will differ

Raritan boats, and was then transferred to the Capt's office. enquiries at both offices may send out your box too - I am glad to hear my dear little Myron has begun a correspondence with his uncle - it must be refreshing to Mr B. - to exercise his affections on family objects and indulge himself on subjects instructive & genuine - for what so heartless as politics - and from all I have seen of him in private life - I should think the globe must be more helpful & burden than ever allus bore. we were very desirous of having a visit from Elizabeth, and Julia wrote for her to come with Mr May & Ellen - but her parents would not part with her - she had been sick. Mrs Paulding told me she was cheered with your sister - they passed a fortnight in Washington last month - one last letter from Joe was dated 'clocks bay' - and he did not say

that our brothers seemed to be affectionately remembered and so do our sisters Ellen, Fanny & Fanny. Each knows & has wife & child but no one here. She is a fine woman.

Lexington Mass.

Mrs Benjamin Franklin



how much longer he would be there - but he wrote in good spirits - he seems to be up & doing among the lands of our Father's estate and I hope will not be labouring in vain - I seem to hope when all is settled - wages will go out - and all unkind passions be extinguished and forgotten - Pray God it may be so, and I may yet live to see every member of my Father's house dwelling peaceably - & in friendship. present my cordial affection to my dear Ben, and your boys, and believe me my dear sister, with unvarying love your Obedt