

Philadelphia June 4 1840.

It is a little singular my dear sister that the evil you complained of three weeks ago I am experiencing at this moment - in the midst of house cleaning with all the carpets up and the walls half white washed there has come on a streak of wet weather that has lasted three days and arrested our domestic proceedings to the great annoyance of the gentlemen and discomfort of the whole house. Then here comes on the Pentecost and Beckys wedding in such rapid succession that I have no time to dispose of in such troublesome matters - perhaps too the latter event, keeps up a little nervous excitement that makes small things appear troubles, which at another time would not be thought of - it is hard to part with children we have loved and watched from infancy, when they leave us for life with all the hazards and responsibilities of a new station and new duties to encounter - but Becky seems so happy and confident that it would be a shame to cast a doubt on her views, and indeed I have no reason to feel any apprehension for her happiness other than that we cannot avoid feeling on such occasions - The girls are delighted at the prospect of having dear Lizzie again in Phil^a - her parents have consented to let her come ~~as~~ a proof of their regard for Becky. Lizzies health has not been good, and Frank told us that there was no prospect of her Father's consenting to be so with her, but I hope the change of air will be of use to her, Becky is to be married in August, and will only remain with us until the following Sunday, they are to reside for the present with Mr Nathans Father

but as he is in good business as a Master in Chancery
I expect they will soon set up for themselves - the present
arrangement was her own choice - we are disappointed
that our dear Ben will not be here, from your last letter we
were daily in expectation of his arrival - but I am reconciled
for we shall have a more quiet enjoyment of his society
and as he must needs leave home late next month I
hope my dear sister you will be induced to accompany him
it will be just the season for travelling - and you always
enjoy sea bathing. I shall be delighted to accompany you
there or any where else you prefer. Fanny has not yet
returned from journey it is quite strange to miss her from
home but she writes that he is in perfect health and I
am glad he should have some change from the constant atten-
tion to his office - I have executed your commission by pro-
curing a Mantilla & Cape for the bridal presents - I am sure
you desired her when Becky was to be married to perceive
for her the first named Article, and as that was wanting
in her wardrobe, and the most acceptable acquisition
I thought you would approve of it - and added to it a
French Cape in the name of her Uncle Ben, at your request
both of which she will value according to the affection
which induced the offering - I am glad the purchases made
for you were approved, Julia and I took great pleasure
in selecting what we thought would suit you -

I have been very much shocked by another recent
sacrifice committed by a citizen who no one would have
suspected. John Miller Jr who yesterday disappeared
with the whole of poor Mrs. Walshs property of which he
was trustee - his former wife - happily for her she died before
this evil came, was Mrs. W's sister, and they thought her for-
-tune safe in his hands. She had no children and the estate
would have descended to the relations of her first husband
had it not been abstracted by this unfair means -
do you remember how she pinched your husband & loved me -

Becky too is happy in leaving the home of her youth thus
 cheered by such a mother's care - and Jacob's feelings are raised from
 the lonely idea of a total separation on all accounts we think
 well of this arrangement - our sisters send affectionate
 love to you - Reuben came in the other day when your last
 letter was first received - and I read it to him - he said
 no body could write like Maria, and went away so much
 charmed, that I have been obliged to repeat the good to others
 of his household - tho' I do not always share my recollections of her
 out with them - I am sure you would not object if you saw how
 happy it makes them - Now Grace I only saw once. She is

Red ink scribble



Wm Benjamin Gatz

Lexington Ky.

Faint handwritten text: "Washington"

Faint handwritten text: "Gatz"

These I have too exhausted to attempt
 of your money - the present amount to \$58.75 -

home again I suppose before this - May make my best love
 acceptable to my beloved Brother, and your sons and remem-
 ber me also to yr sister, Jacob Bodley and all my other friends
 We will endeavor to let me know when she arrives in Philadelphia
 God bless you my own dear Maria, I send you a short
 letter against my will - but offer you true love in all sincerity Wm