

a few lines my dear sister, just to express
 the gratitude with which my heart abounds, is all
 I shall intrude on you at this time, as I know
 you will hear all from the lips of your husband
 with more delight than I could impart. that
 which is joyful coming from the source of your
 joy, and being the result of his toil will be most
 welcome, and to recount it to you, his best reward.
 that he has cheered his sister's heart & been the
 light of her eyes, during the period of his absence
 will be a consolation to your generous mind -
 and when he tells you of the estrangement at which
 my nature recoils - you will know how to sympathize
 with me. yet I do not despond of experiencing a
 return of my brother's affection, and shall live the hap-
 pier on that hope. at any rate, ^{the} blessed effects of
 Ben's exertions has removed a load of misery, and
 now not another word of complaint, altho my life
 quivers with the anguish of belief to one so truly & so
 tenderly beloved -
 our dear little niece & nephews have been so happy

in their kinder society & so flattered by the interest and
notice he bestowed on them & their concerns, that we shall
have the pleasant recollection of them to talk about all
summer - Oh how we have wished for you & the
children! before he came, such a thought never entered
my brain for I could not desire you to partake my
uneasiness - but the scene was quite changed under
the influence of his benevolent presence. and I am
now convinced wherever he is, you may safely be.
I shall never again wish you separated. so my ever
dear sister do not think me selfish in the hope that
another year will not pass without bringing you all
across the mountains.

I am grateful for your kind wish to have me visit
you, and assure you nothing would give me more pleasure
at present my home affairs and home feelings, could
not be transferred - tho' none of the pleasantest - but as
I and my children talk constantly of making a grand
tour. if we ever find it possible to effect our wishes
you may be sure we shall direct our face's westward
Baby's imagination is constantly on the wing. and Dr. Sympson
like she is in search of the picturesque & romantic.
Mamma's sober judgment always carries her in the vicinity
of her Uncle Ben. so I think for once these women might

Rebecca Gratz
Assured

To

Mrs. Reapana Gratz

Leedsington N.Y.

