

266
My Dear Ann

I have just received a letter from Howard
announcing the death of your little darling son
and most truly do I sympathize with you and
my beloved Brother in this bereavement. I know
the tenderness you bestow on your infant loved, and
how you live on, and cherish their soft endearment
but I know also that you appreciate the blessings
as the gifts of an Almighty Father, to whose will you
are subject, and who often chastens us in mercy,
withdrawing from us treasures here, to be restored
in the higher and better world to which we are
hastening. These are trials of faith which purify
and bring us nearer to the God who gave them.
and I pray he may visit you with consolation,
in the hour you most need it, and enable you
to submit to this dispensation with pious resigna-
tion. Your lovely Miriam pleads with her innocent
smiles for the Brothers cheerful smiles, and
my dear Brother too expects you to console him
for the loss of his son.

I hope the other invalids are all recovered. Beas's
last letter mentions that Hyman & Miriam had been
sick. Our brothers Joel & Isaac are both absent. we all sym-
pathize with you, and shall be anxious until we hear
that you are comforted & that your health does not

suffer, pray dear sister write to me a few lines
or ask my brother to do so, & let me that you are
supported under your affliction. dear Marys absence
is a loss to you, but you are surrounded by partial
friends who will endeavor to soothe you.

give my best love to my dear Brother and
believe me very sincerely your affectionate
Phoebe

June 29th 1846



Mrs Benjamin Gratz
Lexington Ky.