

#211

(14 5 sheets
transcription)

Copy of Letter of
Rebecca Gratz
to
Miss Mary Elizabeth Jenno

In the possession of
A. S. W. Rosenbach
Philadelphia

NB: Original of this letter & letter of RG to MEF of 11 Feb 1806
located in bound Rosenbach volume titled AUTOGRAPH LETTERS
AND DOCUMENTS RELATING TO AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY (located in
Rosenbach case),

(HS) 30 Mar 1994

1.
Addressed to

Miss Mary Elizabeth Jencks

Pearl Street

New York

November 23rd 1802

And why my dear Eliza with fear and
trembling did you address friend. A
thousand times welcome was your
epistle after so long an interval that
I began to fear the promise you gave
was repented of and that I should
not be gratified with your charming
letters indeed my love your corres-
pondence will be most highly
valued but I hope your expectation
of entertainment from me will not
be ^{too} great. My affection for you will
ever make it a pleasant employment
to write and if you can make them
interesting with all their imperfec-
tions. think upon them" we shall
at least have the satisfaction of
hearing frequently from each other
and keeping alive those sentiments
of friendship which are my pride and

happiness. Your² compliments are very flattering but it is my duty to say they are very unmerited however I will not discourage you but trust that the sincerity of my attachment will induce you to continue your favors.

Miss Pemberton whose death you lament with so much sensibility is much better she has been extremely ill and I suppose the ~~relative~~ relapse gave rise to the report of her death - the family are prepared to take her to Charleston and Mr. Goellet has his hopes renewed - but her situation is very precarious, and perhaps they will not be able to accomplish their design. Mr. Goellet is a faithful lover. he has attended her constantly during the whole summer. I hope she may recover and reward his attachment with many years of happiness.

Mrs. Ley's visit has given us great pleasure I wish my dear Eliza you had accompanied her tho' disgusted with Phila. last Spring. A few weeks

past in the society³ of your friends here
might afford you some pleasure
but I still expect our dear Maria
this winter and you must accompany
her.

The girls have gone to dine out with
Mrs. L. - they desired me to present their
best love to you¹ in which my Mother and
Brothers unite, you are a favourite
with them all. When at Sandown
we often talked of you and regretted
you were not there where so many
beauties would have attracted your
admiration.

The ~~gayety~~^{gaiety} of your city has com-
menced much earlier than ours.
I am delighted that you will partake
its amusements. The Baltimore Ladies
you mentioned I am not personally
acquainted with. Miss Martin is not
generally admired. Her sister Mrs.
Keene the heroine of Modern Gratitude
has gone to live with her father at
his request during the absence of
her husband who has gone to the
Natchez.

It is a strange circumstance

that so soon after ⁴those violent publications a reconciliation should take place much was to be forgotten before the parental embrace will be given with affection or received with gratitude nor can the injury those pamphlets have done be ever repaired without derogating from the dignity of Martin's character.

Ere this you have parted with your worthy Charles. I most sincerely reiterate your every wish for his prosperity and happiness - you will long feel the loss of his society tho' Geo's return will make his absence more supportable present him my best love also to Harriet, Caroline and the little boys.

I have been greatly disappointed in not getting a letter from ~~dear~~ Marie, ~~and~~ hope the dear girl is quite well. Tell her I should have applied to herself but have been a good deal engaged this week and expect tomorrow shall have the

pleasure of thanking her for a letter
instead of uttering my complaints
at her long silence.

If I did not hope at some time or
other to have something better worth
your perusal I should not dare
to solicitate your delightful letters.
but an early reply will at least
evince the satisfaction you afford me
and in truth I have been so often
interrupted since I began this letter
that I almost despair'd finishing
it tonight.

Mrs. Levy begs I will present her
love - in which Sister Hays unites.
God bless you my sweet girl. May
you always be happy - prays with
sincerity yours

Affectionately attached Friend

Rebecca G.