

Philadelphia March 7th 1808 -

You must not imagine by dear chance from the irregularity of my letters that there is any deviation in my feelings. knowing it would be impossible intentionally to neglect you, I am sometimes chagrined of the appearance of it - and really the length of time your last letter remained unanswered was frequently a reproach to my conscience. altho I felt truly grateful for the kindness which breathed thro' every line - So entertained us with many anecdotes of your sweet children, and from Bella Ogden I have also heard of you. she has become quite chummy with Eliza and from her intimacy with her, I suppose has gained something of E's favor. which I expect would be the case if ever you had an opportunity of knowing her well - Mrs Meredith is one of my best friends, and my intimacy at her house has introduced me to most of her family. who all possess great goodness & worth. Caroline is a charming, unaffected girl she has been spending the winter here - and has continued to make herself so universally a favorite in our house, that I believe we are all unwilling to part with her as even her sister - Mrs M frequently reverts to the period of her sojourn for you, and as we both love you indulge many an hours chat together, on a subject so interesting to both. Mr Abernethy too adds his testimony, and on some occasions has produced your letters when he thought they would do you more justice, than his own praise - I wish we could once again have you among us. let me know when next you write. if such an

excursion might not be made, when your husband returns from Albany, and before the summer commences.

I see Harriet Stile conveys the news, a few days ago we got some beautiful lines from an Albany paper for her writing, and as it is a great while since she has written, they seemed to stand in the place of a letter, and assure me of her health. but you have I suppose much later information. does Mr. Rodman mean to continue in Albany? the times will effectually prevent his pursuing the scheme of leaving America. one perhaps begin to experience the fatal effects of the political state of the country, on their fortunes & pursuits. yet I do not find that it has made any difference in the fashionable world - parties & balls are as frequent as ever, and the theatre well attended.

We lament the ~~disappearance~~ of the Salinaquadi how came you to let it die, when it appeared to have attained new vigour? it is a pity so excellent a paper should be given up. when our literature has so little to boast of. the Port Folio grows languid its correspondents are small in number compared with what it has had. and Mr. Dennis himself not very industrious - but I believe you will not feel much interest in this communication. and I have nothing new - but I promise to write, and after so long a delinquency. I ~~was~~ resolved to show, that my promises are still held sacred - present me affectionately to the dear Girls I hope they sometimes remember their old friend - tho I never hear from

March 7, 1868

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Mrs Ogden Hoffman

Broad Way

New York



Thurs. Evng

