

March 23rd - 1812.

My Dear Maria

The glad tidings of Anna's safety and the birth of her son has no doubt already reached you. I did not hear of it yesterday until too late to communicate by the mail, but I suppose Charles did not neglect to make you acquainted with his happiness. She spent Saturday evening at Mrs Eings sent for her Dr at three in the morning and had a very good time, the child was born I believe at eight. They are both well or to use Mrs Mullens expression comfortable. She has been fortunate enough to obtain the above named celebrated & excellent nurse and I hope will do well but as this lady is a great stickler for etiquette we shall not be permitted to see her until the third day. I have heard from her this morning, that she had a good night's rest and that her son & niece is in no flourishing condition as any little gentleman of his age need be.

And now My Dear Friend let me thank you a thousand times for your charming letter of the 16th which I assure you gave me the most heart felt pleasure. I am delighted to hear so good an account of your dear little family; and as the Bankbilious passion hopes you will soon be restored to the enjoyment of your husband's society - we are enduring great privations in our family. Aisle Hyman has followed Go to Kentucky, and we do not expect to see either of them for three months. I was in hopes Eliza would have so soon taken their place that we should have been left sensible of the loss, but as she is establishing her own house we must wait patiently a little longer, but do not discourage her from making the attempt when the spring is more advanced. She will either get over, or become accustomed to her present difficulties and then the journey will do her no injury, and I hope afford them both some pleasure. I wrote her a long

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letter last week, but the gentleman who was to have taken it, neglected to call for it, and from your account of her present feelings, I thought it better not to send it at all, as she might have thought herself obliged to make some exertion to entertain him, had he been recommended to her attention. So you may give my best love to her instead of the letter, and tell her she is neither neglected or forgotten, but from pure kindness in this instance withheld from what was really her due.

I am very much gratified at Rodmans recollection of me in a foreign land, and shall greatly value the testimony of his friendship, with which you are charged. present me affectionately to him and tell him I shall bear our Dear Harriets hair intertwined with his, not only as sacred to her cherished memory, but in commemoration of the happiness I have enjoyed in their society united. I am much better pleased that the hair is bleached, than if I only owed him the kindness of having the bracelets made for me.

I am sorry to hear New York is so sickly, our city is not so healthy as is usual at this season, but I have not heard of any fatal diseases, nor throat & colds seem very prevalent but only in a slight degree. Sam Nicholas has arrived from Canton, and brought the distressing news of your old friend George Biddle's death. The family have been very anxious for the arrival of the Spring ships and were anticipating the happiness of getting letters from him. A gratification they only enjoyed once a year - when to the sad tidings of his dissolution arrived. they are in great affliction. his misfortunes would have long held him in banishment from his country. yet the violation of death in a distant country. were no friend or tender relative could soothe by their attentions the last parting scene of existence leaves a more awful & melancholy impression than any other circumstance on the bereaved heart -

March 23 1812

P.L.



Mr. Cyden Hoffman

New York

