

Sunday March 14th 1813

Blessings on you, my dear Friend: but you have thrown
away your good wishes, health is become a fugitive from our family
and only visits us at intervals and a few at a time - Richd you
know has been very ill - and her infant too - yesterday she left her cham-
ber for the first time, and Sally has taken to her bed again - she walked
out on Wednesday morning - was caught in the rain & took cold in consequence
she was bled yesterday and her fever has abated, but she has a compla-
int in her bowels, and head ach which the Dr calls nervous - however
I hope a few days will restore her again - with the wholesome lesson of
experience to guard her against any future sin against prudence - and
I find my dear, you too have received such a lesson - may we not
hope you will profit by it in the same manner? this hateful month of
ones is a most unfriendly one to delicacy, and other female qualifications
you must not lean too much on its indulgence altho' it first intro-
uced you into this state of being - Myman gives us a most interesting
account of your lovely family - my beloved little George has quite won his
heart - he tells me that Harriet looks very delicate, and speaks of sweet
Julia & Charles as I should wish to hear your family spoken of -

You have had a large share of sickness this winter too in your family
I hope dear little Matilda will soon recover her health & appearance - Will
not Charles soon come to Philadelphia? Sam^l & his wife live with the old
Lady, and I have heard it suggested that Charles meant to settle in New York

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but I suspect until your husband returns he can not make up his mind on that subject, and in the present state of things it seems wiser to make a new establishment in so exposed a situation. Our Southern Friends I expect are on the wing, the accounts from Norfolk are quite alarming. we hear that their old men - women & children are leaving the town, and every preparation making for an attack - I fear we shall begin to feel the war in its effect on our domestic comfort, and the peace of our social circle - we have had sad accounts of our dear Aunt Schuyler's health - she had been ill for three months before we heard of it and is still in a distressing situation, I hope when your husband comes home he will be able to give a better account of her.

I am sorry to hear there is some doubt of the Recordership - political favour is a fickle jade, and never to be depended on - if your husband has sacrificed his interest to patriotism he will have greater consolation in his disappointment than his opponent can enjoy amidst all his losses & fishes - Give my affectionate love to dear Eliza, I hope her son has recovered - remember me also to dear Ann the girls &c - I am sorry they continue to vex you by such unreasonable caprices, but my dear you must practice a little philosophy on that score, and leave the arrangement to Mr. H. when he returns - in your interesting nursery you may forget such cares - Sally sends you her love, and hopes you will write her soon, that she may have an opportunity of telling you of her recovery in due time - Adieu, May God bless you my dear friend is ever the first wish of your unalterable P. H.

March 14. 1813.

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Mrs Ogden Hoffman

New York -

