

Sunday April 11th - 1813

I regret My dear Anna that your anxiety has been ex-
- cited on my account as I assure you my health has not in the least
suffered by the unusual calls that have been made upon me. we have
never had so much sickness in our family that I remember in so short a
period. little Rose has recovered but her mother, who was very weak from
her former indisposition, is overcome by the fatigue of nursing and a cold
taken by being up at night. she was quite sick again for several days. but
I hope as the spring advances its influence may be salutary to them all.
perpetual care is certainly a mortal foe to good looks and good spirits
so you will most likely have very sad accounts of me, whenever a travelling
report reaches you on the subject. yet indeed I have no claim to the title
of an invalid, and if Sallys health makes a journey necessary I shall
only go in capacity of her companion. this in truth my present solicitude
is more for Rachel. Some spirits have never recovered the shock they
sustained at the circumstances & death of her infant. she is
a fair in a situation to make her present depression of more conse-
- quence, and more difficult to remove - and she has been necessarily
so much alone, that she has nursed it in solitude instead of struggling
to overcome it, or banish ^{it} in society. we shall move in a few weeks
in her neighbourhood and hope to succeed better in drawing her out. we have
taken the house the Mcalls live in nearly opposite to Rachels

65

I congratulate you on your husband's return, who I hear surprised you on Friday, and thus dispersed you of two days anticipation. May all good things come to you thus, even before you expect them - You have had an alarm again from the Enemy I hear - we are surrounded by the reports of war, and hear nothing talked of but captures, bombardments and preparations, - the little town of ~~Delaware~~ Lewis in Delaware has been attacked - a landing was attempted but repelled by the militia, it stood a bombardment of 22 hours but did not receive much injury a few houses were burnt, the British then left the town and went to take possession of a pond of water about three miles from Lewistown, to which the Militia were repairing when the dispatch left Wilmington thus say, the paper of ^{the 8th} - This Russian mediation seems to have little effect at present it was a bubble that kept up the hopes of the people for a few days - but whether any thing is to be expected from it seems very doubtful - our friends have returned to Norfolk but they live in a state of constant apprehension & alarm - The Reges in the interior and the blockading Squadron before them is rather an uncomfortable prospect for Virginia.

I am rejoiced to hear such charming accounts of your dear children how happy they all are now, in their Father's return - I hear Charles Ingham is to settle in New York. I only saw him for a moment when here - but was told by some of his friends that he was going to have some concern in the Steam boats - has he a good prospect of business in that or any other way? -

It was quite a triumph to me, that your husband is Recorder after all. I hope every thing will turn out as it should do, and both public and private good result from it - remember me very affectionately to my dear Eliza, I hope her health will be improved before the warm weather

April 11. 1813

10/2



Mr. Ogden Hoffman
New York

