

Feb: 14th

These impenetrable clouds My Dear Friend, make us look within for all our employments and amusements and you cannot avoid like looks so beseeching from beneath the picture frame which it decorates that I cannot resist it. altho I am not very well prepared to afford you the amusement I am seeking for myself - you are but too well acquainted with chamber resources to expect much, tho ones are becoming much lighter by the amended health of our dear Sally. she was down stairs last week, but perhaps from fatigue, or seeing too much company found herself more indisposed - and has not ventured from her chamber since Sunday ^{week}. Our city was never more gay than at present every thing seems to give occasion for feasting. the Russian and the Dutchman, are your right polished and enlightened gentlemen, and are the leaders of the multitude this week. the Swedish Minister's family completely the ton - all our Ladies have their hair cut in the Stantoon style. and these pretty Dutch girls put all our Grecian fashions out of countenance - Mr. Logwick called to see us this morning and gives sad accounts of Dear Eliza's looks. I hope she is not worse again - or has any unpleasant symptoms to retard her recovery. has she weaned her Son? beg her to write us a few lines when she has leisure and give the best account of herself that she truly can.

I only saw Mr Remick in the street while in our city, he
paid us a visit one morning - but I happened to be performing
the office of lamp-cleaning too much in Cinderella's morning dress
to make my appearance in the parlour - and thereby lost that plea-
-sure - You have no idea what progress I am making in housewifery.
Sally to be sure, has a thousand and one complaints to make on the
subject - but those who have not her skills - give me due praise
and I hope some day to show you and your husband a fair specimen
if you would only give us such an opportunity.

Since you have been at home - Phil has no inducements to
draw you - or you manage so badly as to be fixed in your rock-
-ing-chair at the proper season for journeying - Mrs Hopkinson this mor-
-ning added a mother son to her large family I believe this is her
eleventh son - If Ann does not hasten to name her daughter
its little cousin will be registered before her - Maria means
to gratify her filial feelings by calling her first-born after her
mother, tho' she acknowledges it is rather an old title - with us
however it is so common, and among the pretty young Quakeresses
that Adelaide or Amanda does not figure more conspicuously
in the pages of a novel, than Rebecca among the belles of Phil-

I hope your delicate little Harriet will be preserved from any
further trials and the rest of your darlings be blessed with health -
that you may have nothing to make your approaching confinement
more unknown, or anxious than such periods usually are.
May keep you self free from colds and let us see you on our next
visit at the head of your family receiving and dispensing that
happiness which so gracefully circulates around you, when in your

Sally bids me say you have affection & love -

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Mr. Ogden Hoffman

New York



Yours truly
John D. Smith