

Philadelphia Nov: 20th

The affectionate interest you take in all that concerns us, my Beloved Friend, excites my warmest gratitude. Yet I would not have you suffer an overbearing anxiety on our account - that we should mourn with unabated grief the heavy affliction with which we have been visited you cannot wonder at. because your own heart is full of sensibility and has also been exercised in sorrow. but we are mercifully sustained through it, and enjoy as good health as we could expect. Yesterday we all went to Synagogue, where Rachel, dear little Girl renewed our Beloved Mother's name. it was the first time we had been out and we had need of all our strength to support the trial - the vacant seat which our Parent used to occupy there - made even the house of God a scene of desolation to us. Rachel was so well as to accompany us, and has not felt any ill effects from the walk, so that we may no longer look upon her as an invalid. the dear little Boy you enquire about, is still unwell, the violence of his disorder has left him so weak that we are very uneasy lest it may materially injure his constitution, he has night sweats, fever, and extreme debility, both his spirits are likewise very bad, and he has lost his appetite, so that the greatest care is scarcely sufficient to keep him up.

I have not seen Charles Nicholas yet - but hear that he says, he is the happiest man in the world, and I am sincerely glad that he is so, and with all my heart hope my Dear Ann may realise with him every good this life can bestow on them - he is truly amiable, and I am sure has ever loved her - she possesses all those qualifications which if rightly used, is calculated to brighten domestic life, her genius, vivacity & sensibility may cheer his hours of ease & soothe his hours of care - his prudence will be her guide, and her virtue his reward. Tell your dear husband I congratulate him on the prospect of his daughter's happiness, tell him too I have never been unjust to his mother or his feelings throughout this business and that he last summer accused me of having ceased to love him, he has not shed a more steadfast friend. it was my intention to have written to him, as well to acknowledge my gratitude for his kind letter, which I have read & wept over many times, as to tell him how many blessings I pray may attend him through life - but as you are ever kind to me I hope you will give him these assurances, which ⁱⁿ my present state of mind I can do but too awkwardly to address to him -

I heard this evening that my Dear Eliza was not well let me know if it be true, give my best love to her, and tell her I long to receive a letter from her - remember me affectionately

1868

Nov 20.

L.D.W.

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Mrs Ogden Hoffman

New York