

I had quite a treat My Dear Maria, in your letter and
 Beplanks pamphlet, which certainly does him great honor,
 it is finely written and extremely interesting - I was surprised at its
 length when I took it up, and at its shortness when I laid it down -
 it contains so much - without any parade of patriotism he is so truly Amer-
 ican in his feelings and so eloquent in his conclusion that I have no doubt
 the Society & the State are very proud of him. he has a great deal of learning
 unostentatiously displayed, we have been looking out for him for a day or two
 as I received a letter from Brewster mentioning he would be here on Friday
 on his way to Washington, and this has delayed the papers he wished to
 see, which however, I shall read by this mail. The Knackwoods man, has found no
 quarters in our city, tho' a young writer in the Qualifier made some of its most
 striking defects more conspicuous by unmerited praise. Paulding must
 be a good deal mortified by the failure of his two last works, on which
 he seems to have calculated so much. I do not suspect him of falling
 on Moors plan of extenuating his own power.

I have been to see Trumbull's picture, and am much pleased with it
 there are several faces I recognize as good likenesses and those who remember
 I knew most of the characters are still more gratified, the costume is happily
 preserved, and the feelings excited by the occasion are not lost when you
 see the representatives of those great men, who achieved so much for their
 own country. Mrs. Meredith & Rachel amused themselves with Mr. Jefferson's taste
 in dress, and were delighted to find him in his celebrated reds. the coloring
 does not bear a comparison with Alston's or West's nor is there the same grace
 and ease in grouping, but then the artist was hampered, he had the
 number and countenances to copy, and he has certainly succeeded in giving
 a proper expression of various importance, to the characters -

I am very much concerned to hear such accounts of my friend Mrs Day. I never met with more gratifying attention, from strangers in my life - or saw a family more affectionate to each other than they are. Mrs Day is a very amiable woman, and an excellent mother. her dear little girls promise to be every thing she could wish to see them, but they require the maternal hand to lead them. I shall be grieved if at the dispensation that removes that blessing from them - and severs so happy a compact of domestic comfort. Dr Osborn too would be a great loss. he has great skill I think in his profession, and his importance to the family of his wife is more to be considered. we do not so keenly sympathize in public losses as in private, for they may take a wider range to supply them, but the domestic tie once broken is irreparable. there is a gay New York widow here, however, who does not seem to take the same view of the matter. Mrs Howe - she is in the deepest external mourning, but goes to parties, and is very gay. she is a good deal attended to, and admired, and only declined going to the Cotillion Party, because she could not put on a white ruffle, and was told no lady went to dances here in entire black.

I have not seen Anne, or Emma in a long time, but heard they were well yesterday. Emma has only been twice to see me since she came to town, she is partaking of the amusements of the season, I now & then hear her mentioned as one of a party. I dare say she spends her time agreeably. Ann is very much concerned about Mr Rhinelanders situation, when I saw her last she told me of a very interesting letter she had just received from him - his solitude must affect his spirits, and tho' it may be congenial to his feelings to be retired, the want of a single companion or friend in his state of mind is enough of itself to make him melancholy, and if diseased would be very apt to rush him to despondency - I hope his brother will succeed in bringing him away for the winter. Ann talks of paying him a visit next summer, and if he persists in continuing to reside there, her presence will be very valuable to him.

enclosed you find Elizabeth's for me -

ND

12th

Mrs. Ogden Hoffman

New York.

Rev. Dr. Lusk