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Indeed my Dear Maria, I shall not practice so much forbear-
ance as to follow your example, particularly as I had it in
contemplation to write you a full week before the arrival of your
letter, and you have written so agreeably as to make me more
desirous to place you in my debt again. Yet, perhaps had I
proper humility I should turn from commendations, too grateful
to my heart to be humble. You must not praise me, Maria, for
you know how I rely on your integrity - and if you make me
vain you will no longer love me - and then I shall be punished
for your fault. I am glad to hear your husband has returned
home again, we expected to have seen him last month in Phil-
del. but now I suppose it is too late for him to visit Washington this
season, and we must give up the thought of seeing him - You
have no doubt heard of Charles Nicholas' appointment, it is
thought a very good one, and adds 1000\$ to his salary. how will
Ann like to reside at Richmond? she will scarcely go there until
the autumn I suppose, as the summer climate is not agreeable,
in other respects she will probably be as well pleased to live there
as any where out of New York. I am told Charles is very much
pleased with his prospects and I sincerely wish they may be real-
ized.

I am glad to find you have been as much interested
in Graham, as I have, and as great an admirer of it. I
believe I felt a little extra pleasure from the circumstance
of Rebecca's being an Hebrew maiden. but she is certainly the
most lovely female character he ever drew, and indeed
I admire the whole work as much as either of its predecessors.

Pois Guilbert too is an admirably drawn character - and almost every scene would make a good picture, or be fine in dramatic representation. I am surprised it is not an universal favorite, we have some critics here too, who "would draw it with faint praise," but I hope we shall have a series of English tales as agreeable as the ~~scotch~~ ones. You may believe I feel grateful for this justification of the Jewish character, even old Isaac's aversion is more the effect of persecution than natural baseness of mind, and the goodness of heart sometimes glanced at, and his strong attachment to his daughter, shows that in other times, and other circumstances would have made him a humane being. It is worthy of Scott, at a period when persecution has re-commenced in Europe, to hold up a picture of the superstition and cruelty in which it originated.

Mr. Verplanck has had the kindness to send me De laevis's discourse on the Religion of the N. A. Indians which I have read with great pleasure. I wrote him my thanks last week, but my note did not go, and now it is so late, that I must get you to express them for me. tell him I am very much gratified to have been recollected by him - ~~and~~ when you tell me you have been sometimes speak favorably of me, you make another attack on my humility - but if your friendship does not make me proud, may I not bear the good opinion of other people? -

Did you hear Mr. Everett of Boston preach? I did, and was so much pleased with him, that I could not help wishing you might go to his church in New York. Mrs. Meredith would not go but several clergymen, and a large congregation of different sects of Christians did, and I believe all were gratified, and none offended. I cannot comprehend the Unitarian doctrine from what I have heard or read of their sermons, and De laevis account of them. but certainly there is great contradiction in their belief & preaching -

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an episcopal bishop, might have said amen to the whole
of Mr Everett's service the evening I heard him, without betray-
ing his faith, and his eloquence is so simple & touching that
his taste as well as his understanding would have approved
I hear he has become the Editor of the Non-Resistant Review.

I am sorry to hear Elina Rodman is in bad health
your account of her makes me desire to know her - I remem-
ber many endearing traits of her childhood, and our dear
Harriet's attachment to her, gives her an interest in my regard
I am glad she is so great a favorite of yours. a young female
so destitute of relations of her own sex, must feel such a
friend all important to her happiness, particularly one of
so gentle a nature as you describe Elina. Where is Mr Rodman
is he in health? and comfortable circumstances?

I long to see your dear children again. Minnie
seem to have a great respect for Julia since she has been
a bride-maid. They are also pursuing their studies with great
avidity. they commenced music about the time Julia died, but
Bessy who is nearest her age, knows nothing of French. Your
sons will enter college earlier than our boys.

Rachel bids me present her affectionate love, she has been
slightly indisposed, her little Sarah is one of the prettiest
& smartest children I have ever seen. she is a great chatter
box, and talks remarkably plain. of course is the pet of the
family. The city is now very gay notwithstanding hard times.
people in the beginning of the season meant to economize
but have grown tired of such an effort, and such a crowd of par-
ties have come into vogue, that it is difficult to find evenings
to put them in - Isaac Hays has just taken a D. S. degree, to
the gratification of his parents & friends - remember me to
Mr. G. and believe me very sincerely & affectionately yours, R.

Aug 16
New York

New York

Mr. J. A. Hoffman

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N.Y.

My dear Sir

Aug 16

I found this letter, a few hours ago, in John's pocket, and by accident it fell into my paper.