

Boston May 3^d -

I regret Dear Rebecca you should ever torture yourself to

apologize to me for any thing you thought justifiable at the time you executed it, believe me I never can think it necessary or require it of you; it is one proof of friendship to be tenacious of its rights; and I should fear a diminution of affection where one particle of its difference found entrance, I should indeed suffer did you not remark my silence when it excused its proper time. The smile of welcome you beamed upon my last letter fully compensated for any little impatient whisperings that reached me through your few lines to Catherine. And I felt the warmth of your recognition of it quite here, it was a language my heart fully comprehended. Do not believe me so selfish as to indulge the fancy that there can be no subject more interesting than myself indeed I am not forced to wipe my glasses to feel how impotent & insignificant being as myself must ever be in the grand scale of happiness. I rejoice in Rachel's pleasure and am perfectly reconciled to know myself entirely forgotten by you my friend while engaged with the sufferings and rewards of your sister, tell this little Father and Mother for me I should admire to peep at them and see if they are as slightly interested in each other as they appeared to be while in Boston, Genl Jackson insists Solomon must have bought a ginger bread baby and wants to know if they are plenty in Philadelphia, at least those like your nephew are very common & assure you with you and almost all husbands soon learn to bear their blushing honors. - Has your sister yet concluded upon the name of her boy. I suppose ere this, according to law it must be so - and your new treasure has smiled upon his own titles. These little cements as they are generally called bring a wonderful sigh of love and delight with them. But I think were I wife I should never wish to be a mother, there is an

anxiety in my disposition that would never permit me to be satisfied - better never possess
a good than to be deprived of it - and since I have been robbed of so many precious
years in losing my friends I feel desirous alone of keeping the few remaining and not
increase them. This is a dull day my dear Rebecca for me to write you - it tells
just two years since my invaluable Father was taken ill with that sickness which
threw him from his family, a day that has left a vacuum in pleasures callender
that no future sublunary hours can restore, but I will not steal my sorrows on
your time, they have ever been secret deposits which I tenaciously kept to myself -
I have read the Irish Girl, with some satisfaction they are many beautiful figures
in it and some glowing descriptions I thank you for recommending it to my perusal
but she had for a long time been a bell in Boston before I received your
last kind letter; the Biography you recommended to me I have never yet met with
but intend the next holidays we have to read it, I shall postpone it till then
for what with visiting my friends and some few domestic avocations I seldom feel
disposed to take up a book; however as we are blest with a full supply of
festivals we cannot complain of not having ~~full~~ time sufficient to improve our minds -
It pleased me much to hear your warm panegyric on my once favorite B - as it
convinces me there was some little sentiment attached to ^{my} love & ^{my} love - your friend may
have him all alone even should fortune again smile on him for as she has
proved she loved him for himself ~~and~~ her romantic affection should meet its reward
in truth ~~it~~ was wisdom self that taught me how to act, as I never should dare
to enter the list with a fair Philadelphian - ever had my admiration continued
and by this time I should have been exercised by similar misfortunes to the miserable
Dido; as it is thank heaven I can at least boast of not being forsaken -
I observe your favorite W. D. has found new objects for his Pen to praise -
the fair Lady I think justly entitled to admiration and celebrity - the lookings
of her manners and person must ~~find~~ find her respect and regard with every
one - the gentlemen I know nothing of personally - every one from his notoriety

I have
May 3-1807.

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Miss Rebecca Gratz

258 High Street

Philadelphia,

