

Pitts-town - Sept. 1st

I should have occasion for all the romance that you give me the credit of possessing in so eminent a degree, to make you any tolerable compensation for your last most agreeable and affectionate letter - Do me the justice to believe that I am quite as solicitous to retain your friendship and good opinion, as you ~~aspects~~ yourself to preserve mine and though I may perhaps no longer consider myself as one of your citizens, yet here I too many ties in Philad^a ever to forget it - I do not therefore consider myself as having parted from you - but I have of late been so much a stranger there, that the probability is I shall see you now as often as formerly - at least so I ~~flatter~~ ^{persuade} myself, in order to reconcile my mind to a separation from so many of my best friends - I did not flatter myself with receiving any compensation here, in the way of society, for what I have left - and perhaps it was owing to my humble expectations, in some measure, tho' not altogether, that I now consider my situation more fortunate in that particular than one could reasonably expect in any country place - very little is wanting to make life tolerable - or even comfortable - but society I consider as absolutely necessary towards making it agreeable and when one has been accustomed to a selection, the mind is apt to become fastidious - I should not therefore submit to such a deprivation with a very good grace - but I'll assure you the people here are not only very kind, attentive, good neighbours, but also agreeable companions - I have scarcely made any new acquaintance that would not assist me in passing an hour, or a day, very pleasantly - we are so fortunate as to be at a visiting distance, which in the country you know is not confined to one or more miles, from Mrs Wilson's family - which at present has the addition of my old friend and acquaintance Peggy - whom I had not seen since her marriage - till I met with her here - I passed yesterday with them - I need not say how much to my satisfaction, when I tell you that her mother and Aunt are blessed with the powers of conversation in an equal degree with herself - I expect to spend a week or two with her before she returns home - her husband I have not

yet seen - therefore I have only her word to depend on that he is
very clever - which, however strong may be her veracity, is of
course too partial to satisfy me - I must see him myself -

I am afraid I shall call my own veracity in question if
I tell you that I had quite forgot till this moment that
your letter announced the arrival of Mr. House - Rachel, at
least, will not give me credit for such a treacherous memory -
I don't know whether to thank you or not for the information
it brought with it too much regret to be well received - and
had I not, in enumerating the agreeable acquaintances I
have here met with, been confined entirely to females, tho'
I did not make the reservation, I should be almost ready
to unsay all I have said in favour of the place - but as I
did not calculate on meeting with another Mr. H. I am not
disappointed that I have seen not even the shadow or semblance
of a bear - you see I am becoming quite a philosopher -
not a natural, but an unnatural one, I fear - Molly
Davidson too was so good as to convey^{to} me the same tidings by
the same post - I thank ye both ladies - but in order that
I may share somewhat in the pleasure, you must retain
as many of his agreeable sayings as you can - and transmit
them to me - if the task be as agreeable to you as it would
be to me, I have not imposed on you an Herculean labour -
tis only retaining one house in your memory - which in com-
parison with carrying a whole world on your shoulders, you
must acknowledge to be nothing - but least I should tax
your patience, as well as your memory, 't were well to bring my
epistle to a conclusion - though not before I charge you
with my best love and compliments to all your family -
and also beg that I may have the pleasure of hearing from
you by my brother James - who will I expect be the bearer
of this - good night - it will add to my happiness to know
that you do not forget me -

M. E.

At Long
Sept 1-1805