

Lamberton 31<sup>st</sup> December 1808

My dear girls, No omission of the kind of which I have been guilty for some time past weighs more heavily on my mind than my apparent unkindness, and neglect of you at a time which called forth the sympathy of all your friends - I offer no other apology for my silence than a total inability to suggest any matter of consolation that would not readily occur to yourselves - And merely to say I felt deeply for you under your heavy affliction, seemed almost an intrusion that might for a time be better dispensed with - From all of you I have so often received every attention and kindness that friendship could bestow, that I should be ungrateful not to acknowledge it by every return in my power, and equally unjust to suppose I can ever repay you - At this time my sympathy, and sincere wish that you may be supported under your severe trial, are all I have to offer.

May Thomson and myself called to enquire how you were - and I had the satisfaction of hearing more particulars of you from Miss Agden - I intended to have called again - but immediately after was confined to the house, and did not go out while I remained in town - Since my return my health has been better - but though not a prisoner in my room, I am to the house for the winter season - You see I take the liberty of supposing you are still interested in my welfare -

I heard of the birth of Rachel's daughter - and was happy also to learn she was well - Amelia and myself

beg to be particularly remembered to all your Sisters -  
Sister Hall also requests she may not be forgotten when I  
write to, or see you - Amelia and myself paid her a short  
visit this fall - my health was so indifferent we were obliged  
to return very soon - It will give me great pleasure  
to hear from either, or both of you, whenever you can  
write to me - in the mean time be assured I often,  
very often think of you - and lament it is not in my  
power to show my good wishes in some way more availing  
than words -

Yrs sincerely, M.E.



Miss Rebecca Gratz  
 Market Street  
 Philadelphia



Ch. Lewis  
 Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 1808

Mr. Lewis  
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