

Lancaster August 22nd

It is eleven o'clock - and I am absolutely much
fatigued with a walk from Denton - yet notwithstanding all
this, finding you so ceremonious as to count letters with
me, I am determined no longer to deprive myself of your
entertaining epistles - I have been so much my own enemy
in continuing silent this length of time, that you can surely
attribute it to no other cause than that of necessity - I have
indeed been constantly engaged, some how or another, ever since
I parted from you - the Quakers give no good account of
myself in that time - I do not mention the difficulties at-
tendant upon writing to you in order to enhance the value
of my favors - but for the sole purpose of claiming your
charity - and beseeching you to lay aside all ceremony, and
write to me whenever you have time - and I will ever venture
to add, inclination also - for did I suppose that ingratitude
haunted in your letters, I should cease to regret the laps of
them - I should not be so unconscionable if this were the
season of piety and dissipation in the City - but mat-
ters are quite reversed - this is our harvest - and I
will venture to promise, that should I be in the country
next winter, and you in Philada, to repay you three-fold
- at least, in length - but in the greatness of my promises

perhaps I am only holding up to your imagination a
bug-bear that will deter you from gratifying my request -
"What! to be obliged to digest three long epistles for one of
mine!" well be it so Becket - make your own terms -
I will agree to them - provided I am benefitted at present -
call to you did what good-nature you may be blessed with
and if that be not sufficient for my purpose borrow from
any neighbour ——— This learned young lady is
at this moment writing in a wet room at the risk
of her life - I have endeavoured to break the thread

of her discourse, but alas! she is a woman -
I need not tell you this rude intruder was Mrs Hopkins -
I was going to wind up my sentence with a very elegant
period, when the good lady entered, and by the violence
of her attack had nearly brought me to a full stop in
good earnest - as I was just then preaching about
good-nature, I thought it would be quite mal-apropos
to flounce and bounce about - and protest against it -
and therefore very patiently took the scolding - sent her
to bed - and true Roman-like, sat myself down in the
same chair - but as I cannot so easily replace my
ideas, you must excuse my being satisfied with showing
my obstinacy; and then abruptly wishing you good-night -
but not before I remind you that I am anxiously looking
towards the river every day - and shall continue to

Ch. Ewing

August 22nd

Dear Sir

Miss Rebecca Gratz

Philadelphia