

Philadelphia August 31<sup>st</sup>

I have received your messages - both from Mr. Hopkin-  
son, and from your brother. have time, and inclination - met with  
all these. Dare scarcely venture to write, because you have said so  
many fine things, that I am unwilling to disappoint you - and know  
it is not in my power to afford you the amusement you expect -  
however it may be some gratification to hear that I received - and  
am grateful for your epistle. it speaks the language of cheerfulness  
and pleasure. which though not in unison with my present feelings  
is recognised in my friend with a sensation that is somewhat allied  
to it. Sally is very much indisposed. with a violent cold and sore  
throat she went to bed early - and I seated my-self in her chamber  
for the double purpose of attending to her, and discharging my debt to  
you - when the cry of fire - and the watchmans battle made such  
disturbance in the street that I was obliged to desert my post -  
this hour twelve - all is restored to quietness. but in the turmoil -  
I have lost what few ideas I had arranged for you - and in the delirium  
that succeeds to fright, seem not very probable to collect new ones -  
I must therefore resort to news - and as this days mail brought  
me a letter from Baltimore mentioning Miss Pascoulls ~~marriage~~  
shall introduce you to the wedding party. all of whom are not indifferent  
to you. Bonaparte & House, were the General attendants. Miss Haslet  
& Miss Stucker the Brides. I believe you are unacquainted with these  
Ladies. I mention their names, as a memorial of some heed in the speed  
with which they made preparations for the splendid Occasion -  
What apartment in the Temple, think you, Madame Reabelle  
will inhabit. I hope chance may conduct her to a peaceful abode



tho' she has had little time to consider the merit of her companion -

I congratulate you on the acquisition of your Brother's family to your charming circle. You have in Amelia the companion most to be desired of any ~~other~~ female friend on earth - the happy combination of sister and friend appears to me as one of those extra-blessings with which Heaven intended to counter-balance a thousand of life's sorrows and privations. I rejoice that you are restored to each other's society - had I known Mrs Ewing & Amelia continued in town this morning I would have paid them a visit - remember me to them, and also to Mrs Hall. From all accounts this must really be a season of Jubilee at Lamberton. I have no idea of rational pleasure beyond that frank-hospitable and cheerful enjoyment of domestic life said to preside in your family - and did not your letters contribute so largely to my satisfaction. I should be "charitable" enough to subscribe to your proposal - but at your "harvest" when plenty abounds, what could you glean from the city to enrich your crops? unless indeed the force of contrast would enable you to estimate more highly your abundance, from a comparison with our poverty - and that is giving a false value to real benefits - which ought to be acknowledged for themselves alone, you hold out a great allurement - three-fold payment in the winter, but suppose you get tired and consider me well paid for the trouble I give you by total desertion. We once made a bargain with the Scalops to visit them in the summer, because they lived in the pleasantest situation for an evening walk, and that they should return them in the winter - how I rather would compare you unto them - nor the motives of these season plans - but the proposals being similar, I could not help reflecting that the consequences might prove so too - for you must know our intimacy could not stand a frost - it began in moonshine and there ended -

My Mother, Sally & Rachel unite in love and good wishes to you & Mrs Hall - in which my Brothers join - Jim returned last week, you



Mrs Margaret Ewing  
Lamberton

what  
to the

James Frost