

**Rebecca Gratz to Benjamin Gratz**

**September 20, 1814**

Phila. Sept 20th. 1814

My Dear Ben

We had a mischievous report in town Yesterday, that [an] election was held in Camp, and Your Ensign promoted to the First Lieutenancy of the company \_ This we did not believe \_ for many reasons, and among them the agreeable letter Jack recieved from you \_ which was written in such easy spirits that I was sure you had experienced no such mortification \_ within the last few days Sally has been confined to her Chamber, and is better for the retirement. tho' she suffers a good deal of pain with a blister, she has written to you several times and is always anxious to hear from You. we live rather a dull life without you & Jo in which however, we share but the common lot. Phila. streets are completely deserted, except by the few military [companies] who parade of an afternoon \_ Jack bids me tell you he fears their company will fall through \_ they are dividing it for a marching company \_ the Capt. will not go \_ & they have only thirty signatures \_ he is very anxious to effect its marching \_ but is less sanguine of success than when last I wrote \_ for my part, I cannot regret it he is not very fit for a soldiers life tho' I trust in the hour of need would be able to do his duty \_ could you not get some business to bring you home for a day or [end of page]

two? say from Friday till Sunday or Monday \_ that you may feast and Fast with us on the approaching Great day \_ we long to see you again and if Sally was well enough \_ should certainly pay you a visit at Wilmington. it seems very tantalizing that you should be so near and conveniently situated \_ yet for us, in vain \_ I rode to Bloomfield this Morning with Richea & Adeline, you are a great favourite with the latter and we did you the honour to say a great deal about you, Richea you know is quite Maternal in her regards \_ she was so eloquent and affectionate in her remarks that we allowed her to have the last word on the subject \_ as great a compliment as two talking girls could pay to I believe I mentioned before that Adeline had changed her home and is now with Richea, Sallys indisposition made her stay here very confining and constrained, she was averse to propose it, but I perceived she wished it. and felt she must be happier when relieved from the continual scene of agitation & exhilaration that alternately possessed our poor invalid \_ In losing her society I have much to regret \_ but it is altogether a selfish feeling and therefore easily

checked \_

Poor Becky Rawle is very ill \_ for the last two days the family have been much distressed on her account \_ Dr. Kuhn thinks her situation dangerous, but not hopeless. Mrs. Levys recovery from a similar attack gives hope for her \_ all who know pray for her recovery \_ Our Sisters & their dear Children are well and always send you Affectionate Love \_ Rachel charges me with so much  
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seriousness to send her love that I beg you will take particular notice of it in your replys. lest she should doubt my attention \_

God Bless you, My dear Brother, Jack wishes to add a few lines and I cannot entertain you better than by leaving this space for him  
Adieu Believe me always most Affectionately Your Sister RG

### **Jacob Gratz to Benjamin Gratz**

Dear Ben

All the labours which ever were performed by Hercules were mere trifles when compared with the ones in which I am now engaged, our company without regular commissions from the state is but a rope of sand. all confess this & but few are willing to receive commissions as we shall then be subject to the orders of the Govr. & liable to be marched to camp immediately \_ a few of us are endeavouring to form a marching company from our ranks tho' our success is uncertain, we can calculate on about 40 persons \_ our Capt. & 1st. Lt. will not go to camp so that we shall be in want of a leader if you have a deserving & ambitious soul at camp competent in every respect for so desirable a situation mention him to me, has Williams been promoted to the command  
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of the Fencibles, were it not for his youth he would be the proper man, our success will entirely depend on the selection of a suitable Captain, if Fairman had it in his power to go down he would be accompanied by every member of the corps \_ observe that what I have said about Williams has emanated entirely from myself, I have no authority from the company to make any proposals, altho' they look up to the officers to nominate the person \_ I have heard Col. Raguet speak in the highest

terms of Jno Mc Call' military acquirements  
but the objection to Williams will apply  
more powerfully to McCall unless we are  
able to form a marching company I much fear  
we cannot exist in our present state \_ Do you  
W\_ would accept the command if it were proposed  
you can make an indirect enquiry  
let me hear from you early, I hope you will  
have it in your power to be here on Saturday, God  
protect you prays Jac \_

In the paper (Jacksons) which Gratz is putting up for you  
you will see the advertisement of our electing committee \_