

Rebecca Gratz to Benjamin Gratz

August 21, [1812]

Friday 21st. August _

We received your letter from New York yesterday, My dear Ben, and are glad to find your journey likely to afford you so much pleasure. the weather has been provokingly unfavourable for travellers, but with so agreeable a party no external circumstances will have power to interrupt the harmony of your feelings _ this day we suppose you reach the Springs do not fail to drink deeply of the water, as you will certainly-[will] be benefitted by it _ I fear you have not been able to visit the curiosities of the country, in such a perpetual storm _ we have traced you in idea, and participated the delight of our friends in viewing the high lands &c _ tell Adeline she has disappointed us by not writing _

I hope you found Aunt & the Dr. well, they must have been delight'd with your unexpected visit _ it is a pity Sally did not accompany you, for their gratification as well as her own _ but all this will be very uninteresting to you, who wish to hear something about home, know then in the first place, all are well, Jack ruminating on a jaunt to Northumberland but is not yet resolved, we have heard from Hyman

Mr. Hopkinson is named as a candidate for the next Congress in place of Milnor, and it is understood will be supported by the federal interest, I hope he may succeed. Your Boss and family are permitted to breathe again, the Hawthornes are all gone and peace & quietness restored to their mansion _ It is scarcely necessary to remind you that the

mournful
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anniversary of our Beloved Parents death is approaching _ on the 27th. inst. is our day of memorial _ a day that must ever be over cast by the deepest filial sorrow _ doubly mournful as marking the period of departure of both the Authors of our being _ within the little space of three years _ pardon me dear Ben, for dwelling on this subject _ last month I would have given worlds to have accompanied you to their sacred tomb _ on thursday next that duty shall not be neglected _

Yesterday was observed here as a day of fasting & prayer the weather was too bad to admit of Church going _ and it seems necessary to exhort the people to abstinence so I believe cooking was as usual a branch of the daily labour _ our Neighbour at the corner. had a given turtle prepared, and many a servant was dispatched by the surrounding epicures to console themselves under the Presidents ordinance _

There has been a very respectful compliment paid to an unfortunate English Captain, who was captured by an american, and wounded

in the previous engagement _ he was taken to the Hospital, attended during his illness, but having died of his wounds, was buried this morning [attended] by military honours, officers & marines were also invited by the marshal to attend the funeral _

Sally sends you her affectionate love, make both hers and mine acceptable to Adeline & S Myers, May God prosper all their wishes, and yours too My dear Ben, prays your most Affectionate

Sister RG_

our Brothers bid their love to you _

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Myer Myers is expected here next week, he is to escort Becky M_ & Judy on their journey _

[Address:]

Mr. Benjamin Gratz

Albany _ New York