

Rebecca Gratz to Benjamin Gratz

[undated Fall 1814?]

Thank you, My dear Ben for your letter which is quite a treasure to us, in the uncertainty we were in respecting you, we are not so much delighted with your removal, as you seem to be, as we lack the soldier's joy at the thoughts of a meeting with the enemy. and consider the hardships and dangers of a winter campaign in tents as formidable tho' less heroick than many other situations the evils of war might place you in as for the obstruction of the Delaware, we have seen many a goodly winter nearly through, without that desirable event and surely if you wait for it where you are, it would be prudent to add a few more blankets and a suit of flannel to your baggage. what say you to Jo's buffello skin by way of coverlit to your bed. it will keep you dryer & warmer than the one you have. and I can send it with your next package of clothes, which waits your instructions, not knowing where to send, or how to direct [there].

Jo left us on Friday morning, rather reluctantly _ the comfort of a fire-side is not to be relinquished without regret, by those who have felt its want on Thursday night our excellent Nancy was married. the wedding was celebrated in our drawing room, in presence of half. dozen of their friends, Rachel Jo Sally Isaac Moses & My self _ Dr. Staughton performed the ceremony. and I assure you all due solemnity was observed on the occasion the bridal party adjourn'd at ten to the house of the Groom, where refreshments was prepared and the evening concluded with great decorum & festivity. we have a respectable young woman in her place. and begun to get reconciled to the change You are losing chances of gallantry to the Israelite belles Miss Grace Seixas is in town. going to Richmond on a visit to her sister _ her stay in the city will depend on the pleasure she [dirives] from it

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she being very gay, and every thing here dull suppose it will not exceed the time required to gratify curiosity _ I heard to day from Adeline _ she was detained a week in Richmond by rain _ found her Mother & Sister but just recovered from a more dangerous illness than she expected and gives doleful accounts of the condition an epidemic has left the country in _ Abraham went home with Mr. Marx, greatly to the disappointment of his parents & friends at home _ There is no apparent change in Maria Hays's face yet _ Dr. Kuhn tells her time and patience are all she has to depend on for a cure, continuing the old applications _ Isabella Etting has also been sick of fever & debility of stomach, but is getting well. Mrs. Meredith told me last week, she had written you a letter, to which she was very anxious for a reply. and beged I would inform you so _ or communicate any message you might send immediately Sally Ogden is in town, and bid me remember, to send her love to you _ our dear Rachel & her dear little girls are just come in and send you a hundred kisses, they wish very much for your return, and

seem to feel a kind of sympathy for all who wear uniform, in your behalf _

Sally is much as when you left us, or if changed for the better _ she desires her affectionate love to you, and would be gratified if you would sometimes address her _ If you have written me before since your return Your letters have not been faithfully [...ed] _ for I assure you none were recieved until to day _ we last evening heard of Hymans arrival at Lexington in good health _ accept the affectionate salutations of all the family and their prayers for your health & happiness

God Bless you My dear Brother _ take care of yourself
and believe in the constant affection of your attached RG _

[Address:]

Lieut Benj Gratz
Washington Guards
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near New Castle