

Rebecca Gratz to Maria Gist Gratz

November 16, 1832

with tears of Joy and admiration _ and Gratitude
My dearest Maria _ I perused your letter and thank
God with all my heart for the blessings he has
multiplied to you and my beloved Brother _
never was letter written under such circumstances
as yours of the 8th. I cannot express my feelings
on the subject and if your boy inherits the Noble
Spirit of his Mother _ he shall carry down to future
generations the history of his natal hour _
“Many daughters have done righteously _ but thou
excellest them all” _ the Kings mother might sing
in her pains when [...ted?] to such [an] proof of heroism
by admiring nobles, and she knew that the renown
of her Song would spread through the land _ but such
an act of disinterested love as you have given
me, My sweetest Sister must go unrewarded except
in the impression it has made on our hearts _
if I were to tell it to the men _ they having never
felt or seen a labour would not know how to
estimate it _ but Ellen shall have the benefit
of your example, and if she does more than
make wry faces _ why she ought only to bring forth
girls _ I embrace my dear Ben with a heart full
[end of page]

of love and gladness _ and share the triumph
of each of the darling brothers _ so Cary is not
jealous _ why need he ~~be~~ [so] _ each of your children
have an equal and individual place in your
love and have no cause for jealousy _ nothing
but good feelings spring up in their innocent
minds, and these are so nurtured _ and regulated
that I trust they will through life exhibited an
example of brotherly love _ it was once a dis
tinguishing feature in our family _ alas! that
there should have arisen any cause of strife _
we are all enjoying very good health _ and
the news of to day will give us a happy Sabbath
the male cousins next door [shall] toast the
stranger with us tomorrow _ the girls are still in
New York _ Ellen is settled at lodgings in Walnut
Street _ where they will continue during the winter
Mr. E. hopes to renew his business here _ they are

both much more cheerful _ and seem in better
hopes. our brothers [send] love & congratulations
Sarah danced for Joy _ and Horace is quite
proud of another boy _ I sent billets to our Sisters
to announce the glad tidings _ and must now
go to tell what they would not credit of any
other woman _ pray dearest Sister be careful now
of your precious health, nurse your self well
and be as happy as you deserve _
[end of page]

give my best love to your dear Mother and
wish her joy in my name _ I shall be obliged
to write to Mrs. Blair _ to claim her sympathy in
this overflow of agreeable feelings _ but I know
she will not write to me even to welcome our
new nephew _

Adieu My dear Sister I am
not composed enough to write _ but felt
obliged to say something to you & dear Ben
though I knew it would be only the repetition
of joy, joy to you both _ [care?] most ardently &
lovingly Your affectionate Sister

RGratz _

Tuesday Novr. 16th. 1832 _

[Address:]

To

Mrs. Benjamin Gratz

Lexington Ky _