

Rebecca Gratz to Maria Fenno Hoffman

March 25, 1805

Philadelphia March 25th. 1805

My dear Friend

your silence and Eliza's departure for Albany has created some alarm about our dear Caroline. whose indisposition I suppose the occasion of Eliza's unexpected journey _ Rachel has written to Harriet. but it will be so long before she can receive information from there _ that I must importune you again, my love. to relieve our anxiety _ and in so doing I feel great reluctance _ because I know your heart is so tenderly interested, that it must experience pain _ from the idea of the [slightest] danger _ yours however is not a common mind, to be startled at an enquiry, arising from solicitude and total ignorance of her situation, Matilda tells me she has not received a letter for a week passed _ poor girl! she was sadly disappointed to hear her father would not be here in this month _ but she has regained her spirits, she went with us to the Theatre on Wednesday Evening. and spent yesterday at Mrs. Merediths _ her cold has quite left her and her appetite returned. Catharine Hammond is a sweet little girl, agreeable, intelligent _ and appears very amiable _ they are much attached to each other. and both seem much in favor with Miss Grelaud _ where friendship no doubt procures them, many advantages in the school _ they often walk out with her in the afternoon [end of page]

which exercise must be both beneficial & agreeable _

What has become of Ann? _ her sister complains of her not writing _ is she still in the country?

I was nursing a little babe yesterday about the age of yours and fancied the whole time _ it must be very like her _ you cannot imagine how much I want to see her _ unless you have a friend you love as well as I do you, who has just such another. every time I see a young happy mother _ the image of Maria dances before me _ Mrs. Otto (Eliza Todd) lost her first child, and is now three weeks the mother of a daughter _ I went to see her on Saturday _ and really never saw so much joy in a face before. I have been thinking of her ever since _

Sophia Dallas is going to be married to Richard Bache very shortly and Patty Jones to a Mr. Adams. I believe you know both the ladies _ there are also several [other] weddings talked of _ among the next B. U. _ but that, not so confidently as the others _ and will not certainly so soon take place _ I suppose you see James frequently and hear all about the family from him _ Andrew is expected home this spring _ but not a married man _ poor fellow! he has another

disappointment to bewail _ but I guess this loss is greater to his
purse, than his heart _

My mother & the girls send you their best love _ make mine
acceptable to your dear husband _ Ann _ and Mary _ God Bless
you, my dearest Maria, let me hear soon of your Caroline and
accept my best wishes for your happiness _
ever your own

RebeccaG

[Address:]
Mrs. Ogden Hoffman
No. 87 Wall Street
New York