

Rebecca Gratz to Maria Fenno Hoffman

March 25, 1813

Philadelphia March 25th. 1813 \_

I am very happy my Dear Maria so soon to gratify you with the intelligence you denied \_ the return of health to our invalids \_ and I assure you the pleasure I received from the information of your dear Family being all well again deserved such a return for we had began to be very impatient of your silence. and kept a look out every morning until the latest port home. I hope you will keep your good looks, and your good health to greet your husbands return. and reward him for his turmoil and exile it grieves me that any thing has occurred to widen the distance between him & V \_ you & E \_ must act with your usual discretion \_ and single-hearted-ness on that subject. avoid as much as possible to enter into it on either side \_ and by your moderation prevent any ill effects there \_ H's resentment may have on V \_ Eliza so perfectly understands your husbands disposition that she will know how to conciliate and I hope my dear friend you will both be able to combat every differently \_ and preserve that harmony which is so essential to the happiness of each \_ Eliza must cheer up her spirits, and shew every confidence in the firm affection, she need to value so highly \_ which she may have opportunities of doing without abating aught from the dignity of a most dutiful wife. and when these [...?] [...?] invitations are passed away. every previous vexation must be buried with them. There are many kinds of trials in this troubled life \_ but an unsubdued spirit may overcome them all. and you My Beloved have borne those already appointed so virtuously that I doubt not of your constancy [end of page]

in this \_ we are emerging two into a new domestic trial which I assure you requires some fortitude and a great deal more patriotism than the present war inspects to sustain \_ Jo & Jacob are both attached to military corps that are under orders to be ready at a moment to march. and tho' I do not believe they will be exposed to the fire of the enemy. they will perhaps soon have to under go the severity of a campaign some where on the shores of the Delaware between the city and Capes \_ Jacks is a new Volunteer company formed by the members of the Washington Association, who have offered them-selves to the U & To protect the harbour of Delaware river. and may have to [...?] [...?] on the grassing fields &c Jo is a member of the first City Troop \_ they were Yesterday received in marching order \_ and some commotion was [raised] in the breasts of wives, parents & sisters on the occasion \_ Our Norfolk friends have retreated from the city. John Myers wrote to Mr. Moses a few days ago, mentioning that the females of their family were the last who left Norfolk. they have for the present only gone a few miles off and keep up a constant communication with them \_

they are quite heroines and prefer being near to the scene which involves the destiny of parent & Brothers than seek personal safety at a distance I received a letter from Adeline dated 15th. which discusses the [...?] -ous scene exhibited at N\_ with great pathos and many wise & [...?] reflections \_ she has promised frequent communications, but suppose the bustle of moving & anxiety has prevented her writing again \_

Is it possible Maria Moore will marry a foreigner of so little rank after all her conquests?  
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remember me most affectionately to my dear Eliza \_ I hope she does not allow her Boy to depend entirely on her \_ she will find nursing much more debilitating in the spring & summer than it has been \_ and must remember her own constitution requires some care if she expects to continue nursing, she must do it moderately \_ My love to Ann & Mary \_ I hear Ogden has gone in to the country to [pursue] his studies \_ embrace your dear children for me \_ accept the affectionate love of all here \_ particularly Sally's who hopes soon to see the promised letter \_ and believe me my dearest Maria ever most severely & truly a participator in all that interests you \_ May God Bless you and guard your Happiness is ever the prayer of your RG

Burn this

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