

Sarah (Sally) Gratz to Maria Fenno Hoffman

February 24, 1813/14?/15?

Philadelphia Feby. 24th. 1813?/14? 15?

I am so happy my dear Maria to escape from my confinement, that I must communicate my pleasure to you, my faithful Friend. in sickness and in sorrow I have ever found sympathy in your bosom. I regret your feelings should have been so much excited on the late occasion. my illness was of a much more painful nature to my Friends than to myself. my fever was not so violent as to make me delirious but excited my spirits beyond their natural bent to reduce which Doctor Kuhn tried all his skill, and after spilling 50 ounces of my loyal blood, poisoning me with 6 ounces salts, 16 grains calomel, two large blisters, frequent warm bathing, cataplasms, large potions of foaming draught, oyster shell, prepared, [calcine magnisia] &c &c &c. too tedious to mention. I am again on my feet and right glad to once more visit these lower regions my Doctor took his leave on Monday after giving me strict injunctions to be careful in my diet and so on _ and above all to keep out of the hands of the
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Doctors. for which advice, and his cure of me, I [pronounce] him the best Doctor in christendom not bating your Post and Pillar Esculapius who may be a very good Doctor for New York. I have of my own accord put on gauze stockings under my silk ones which expedient dear Maria I would wish you to adopt _ they are comfortable and salutary. March you know is a most trying month to invalids and you cannot be too cautious in preserving your valued health. are yours well as when you last wrote to me? Rodman gave Becky a hint that you dresst too thinly _ as soon as your Husband returns I wish you to familiarize him to the Idea of your promised visit to us, I already begin to enjoy it in anticipation, and thus you see by a delightful future cheat the dull hours. How is Anne? and how is dear Eliza and her bouncing boy? too much occupied with him I suppose to bestow a thought on her poor sick Friend give my love to her notwithstanding
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and to Anne too _ was she not astonished at the

consummation of "The youthful pair"? Becky [wishes]
to write a postcrip so I must cease my nonsense
May God Bless! you with perfect health and every
happiness is the sincere prayer of your faithful and
affectionate Friend till death!
Sarah

Rebecca Gratz to Maria Fenno Hoffman

Thank you Dearest Maria for your kind letter _ it just arrived
and as Sally has given such a good account of her self there remains
little more to be said on that subject _ she is much stronger than you would
think possible after such a list of reducing remedies to a nervous
disease _ her appetite is good _ and my greatest apprehension [...] from her making too [free?] with herself _
Jo is waiting for this letter so adieu embrace the darling
children for me and believe me ever most truly
Your RG _

[Address:]
Mrs. Ogden Hoffman
New York