

Margaret (Peggy) Ewing to Rebecca Gratz

May 15, [1803]

Lamberton May 15th.

Sam tells me you have not forgotten our contract about writing _ I thank you for the remembrance _ but see no reason why you should not have told me so yourself _ I do not recollect its being part of the condition that I was to begin _ but since it has pleased you to have it so _ why you must take what comes uppermost _ my principal inducement in making the promise was the pleasure of hearing from you _ and I am not content willingly to relinquish so high a gratification _ had any thing occurred worth relating, I should not have deferred untill this period my claim upon you _ the most importance circumstance is Sams visit, particularly as he brought with him Mr. Richard Rush _ he is a well-bred young m[an?] and never says any thing that ought not to be said _ consequently we have supped, breakfasted, and dined on ~~proper~~ sayings and polite sayings _ besides a beau is almost the only pretty thing in which this place does not abound _ I could romance it on the banks of the Delaware from morning 'till night _ and night 'till morning, provided it were moon-light _ but alas! there are no hopes of meeting with a caydon there _ as therefore I am obliged to wander alone, do take pity on my solitary condition _ and join me _ a visit from you would highly gratify both Sister and myself _ I will shew you some beautiful scenery _ and if we can proove no better fare, we will feast upon that _ but I will do all in my power to gratify you in that respect also _ I have written thus far in the midst of criticisms, puns, and conundrums _ and been obliged to listen, and laugh with the company _ take this into consideration _ and make allowances for the heterogeneous matter this may contain _ I plead with Sam that he should suffer me to defer writing untill I could attend to you alone _ but no _ you had told him my promise _ and I must do [the best?] I could _ your word is a law with him _ [remember] [me] most affectionately to the girls _ to your mother and [Mrs. Hayes?] _ in whose good fortune
[end of page]

I most sincerely rejoice _ I shall certainly expect to hear from you very soon _ my next will I hope be better worth your attention _

M E _

[Address:]
Miss Rebecca Gratz
Philada.

[Endorsement:]
M Ewing
May 15

[Editors' Note: This letter is part of an ongoing correspondence during the summer of 1803 that includes clear references to each other's writing. Some of these letters are dated "1803," others not.]