

Rebecca Gratz to Margaret (Peggy) Ewing

April 1, [no year]

Philadelphia April 1st.

A half sheet of paper which is all I can possess myself of this morning must suffice _ to assure my dear Peggy that I have sympathised in her distress and now with very sincere pleasure congratulate her on the prospect of Mrs. Harris's recovery. I received your message from Amelia _ and should not have waited for the request. had I not supposed you too much engaged in the melancholy duties of nursing to bestow any time on me _ and in our correspondence I can not claim the merit of being dis-interested. I value your letters both from their own worth and the real friendship I feel for the writer _ and to that sacrifice an innate aversion to circulating my letters _ however we have decided on a former occasion that this subject is to be discarded _ and egotism shall not again renew it (even tho' at a loss to find another _) The children were surrounding my desk for the purpose of exercising their wit and the privilege of the season; and I have sent them off, on errands that will make them April fools and prevent their return to tease me _ I wonder in what age, this custom was first adopted. or for what reason. at present there is no need of an allotted period to find them _ and if the world has really been improving _ it would have been more necessary to fix one day in the year for wisdom than folly _

Sally & Rachel send you their love _ and wishes for your Sisters recovery _ I shall be extremely happy to hear from you _ and will try to gather some amusement for you _ by the time I write again _ at present you will not repine at a short letter _ which [proves] how much affected I am by the season _ believe me sincerely at all times yours _ RG _

[Address:]
Miss Margaret Ewing
Harrisburgh. Pen.