

Richmond November 4<sup>th</sup> 1814 -

I should have written to you my dear Rebecca immediately upon my arrival here, but fatigue confusion and some little agitation in spite of my philosophy precluded the power, yet do not believe we should to remember you for indeed you filled our thoughts. Our journey was pleasant and cheerful - some few interruptions arising from a heavy rain which fell the second evening after leaving Philadelphia - we were benighted the moon denied her promised aid and in crossing Gunpowder falls our difficulties increased to something like danger. One solitary man at the ferry found his efforts vain in endeavouring to get the scow over and his neighbours refused assisting us - our driver was willing to give his horses to our only protector and lent his strength to moving us on - the two leaders became timorous and on leaving the scow took fright - broke their chains and runaway leaving us sitting in the carriage with only two horses to ascend a monstrous high Hill halged and wet - it was the first adventure I had ever experienced in all my travels and I charged it to the influence of Adeline, who is more of an heroine than either Henry or myself. we escaped all injury - but the waters rising prevented our progressing as rapidly as we desired - instead of reaching Washington and resting there on Saturday - we were delayed in a little country town about twenty miles from Baltimore, fortunately for us I found a few books that were of value - a large family bible with cuts - an edition of Haines sermons and a couple of volumes of travels - it is best to extract good from evil if possible - and we were in spite of the disappointment - quite



a goodly and contented company - Tuesday evening found us snugly seated at the delightful fire side of my dear family, surrounded by affectionate happy faces - all in good health - my heart rose in gratitude to heaven for the blessing still granted, and while memory paid the tribute of a tear to joys departed the smile of thankfulness beamed on those around me - Wellina is still detained here by bad weather - but intends leaving us - as soon as possible she is impatient to return home where she has been long expected - her Mother has been extremely ill - and at one period her life was in imminent danger - I can easily believe she must be anxious to embrace a parent she has been so near losing - in spite of all your eloquence I could not strike as you did in your desire to keep her with you - but remained silent upon the subject - and indeed dear Wellina - your recall but little of my heart while I was with you - its struggles were mighty and I rejoiced when I found myself some miles from your city - had the country been in a different situation and its present distresses less heavily pressing upon us - I should have volunteered my society to you for the winter, but my mind for the last twelve months has been exercised in a variety of sufferings - I have beheld my nearest friends in danger - having part of my family in Virginia increased my solicitude because I knew them exposed to enemies that could not reach me - and since they could not meet me at my peaceful home my first desire was to partake their dangers - some pains were felt some sighs were given to the departure of my brother to a foreign base - and most bitter was the reflection that the unhappy state of my own country led me to rejoice in that which once would have been considered as an heavy evil - yet amidst all these feelings, you my good friend have indeed comforted me much - your kindness to my sorrow I feel has forsaken you and lament it is not in my power to return it to you - should we be ever so blest as to feel we again are blessed with a

quilt home - and I can become a comfort to you, I will hasten to you. The rest of my life I mean to devote to those whom I love - and you know you have an old and established claim to my affections - now is Sally's health - Catherine wrote her yesterday - I was fearful she met her disappointment in not accompanying us on the day of our departure rather ungraciously - when you write me let me know as much of your situation and feelings as you can - Sweet Maria says I hope is better and indeed well - and Sally Moses has restored some degree of sunshine to her family by speaking - I know not why the world is so full of trials for it appears to me, the mind in the least used to reflection may find in the common misfortunes of life sufficient to withdraw them from without these heavy sufferings. We are tranquil and happy at present here now and then I hear a flaming democratic speech - but fortunately for us we are among those who think and feel as we do - We were disappointed in not seeing my Papist Ben - we passed his Cent on [redacted] and beheld only the stillness of night the [redacted] the [redacted] on [redacted] of his shelter and told us those that were [redacted] were sleeping in peace - Ben has always been a darling with me and I wish he was any thing but a soldier. All the Horsemen we met we hailed as your Brother Joseph - and not until we entered the State of Virginia did we relinquish the hope of seeing him - I would say to you forgive this intolerably bad written letter - but you who know the enthusiasm of my nature can easily believe I am still in rather a confused state - Adeline will write you as soon as she reaches home - poor little Abraham his heart suffered deeply the day she left him - she acted wisely and best no doubt but I think the struggle with herself must have been greater than she willingly acknowledged - her little Lover has not yet reached here - in a few days he is to dawn the light of his countenance



upon us - and perhaps Rebecca I may run a race with friend Adeline I wish  
 the object was more inspiring - I would make the endeavour - but my  
 present indolence and exertions - and besides I am fearful he and  
 I would have too many theological disputes to become a very happy  
 couple - Remember me affectionately to each individual of your  
 family both married and single, kiss my dear Miriam for  
 me - ~~and~~ tell the good Mr and Mrs Moses Richa the girls and  
 boys we love them and that all my family here with Benney and

I have  
 ✓ 8<sup>th</sup> 1814



Miss Rebecca Gatz  
 23 & High Street  
 Philadelphia

to  
 Henry Henry  
 Nov. 7. 1814

inserted  
 blue ink

Myself make them and for the object of remembrance  
 between sleep for my dear - dear Rebecca believe me ever yours  
 James O'Leary