

Philadelphia Jan 9 6th 1805

My dear father,

I have not replied to your affectionate letter before because I wished (as I promised) to give you an account of the past week - You may now be quite easy with regard to my health, I am as well as ever, I no doubt I shall continue so - I wrote to Mary last week & I am quite impatient for an answer to my letter - I was at church last Sunday, the weather was not very good & Mr Meredith did not accompany us - we had a sermon from Mr Blackwell, who is not a very good preacher - I hate to see such jolly fat looking clergy men in the pulpit - It takes from the solemnity of the thing very much in my opinion - He looks as if he thought of his dinner more than his prayers - I never see him but I think of Falstaff's personating the king of England - He did not however fatigue us much by a long sermon, Maria & I went to see Mr Bayl after church, where I intend to dinner

I returned home, Mr Nicholas paid us a morning visit,
In the evening we went to see Mrs Meredith, there we
found Col. Morris & his daughter from S. Carolina, she
is a very pretty interesting girl, Mrs Meredith joked
a great deal about Rachel & my finding fault with
her frock - (By the bye) My dear papa, I never have
yet told you what I think ^{Mrs Meredith} of her, indeed I have had very
little time to judge; ~~she~~ is a very sensible fine wo-
-man with an unusual store of wit, her conversa-
tion is often very agreeable, but I think she is too rough in
her manners & in very apt to hurt your feelings by
her remarks, she is perfectly independent as to the
opinion of the world, says whatever she thinks, her
temper for rather spirit is very high, she scorns to
bow to the rich, because of their riches, but is very
choice of her company, she cares for very few here
but those few like her very much & as her dis-
-position is domestic she lives very happily -
Mr Dennis is there constantly, & Mr Abernethy
visits there very often, she has all the learned

about her - We left her about 9 o'clock & then went
to see Mr Bowen & Mr Otting, & then Mathew & myself
returned to school, we went through our usual occupa-
-tions - Vous m'avez demandé si je pourrai apprendre
la langue Françoise et vivre sagement en sus mon
cher père car je ne quitterai pas cet école sans
la savoir parfaitement bien - Nous sommes à
apprendre une petite comédie françoise pour jouer
l'ai la rôle d'une vieille coquette - On Tuesday
evening (the following day being New Year) we left school
there was nobody at our house in the evening, there
was a large ~~business~~ party given to General Baton
on that ^{day}, the Philadelphians are quite honored at
mes ent, we have with us, General Moreau, ~~General~~
Madame Moreau, General Baton, Capt. Leathur
&c - Madame Moreau is admired exceedingly here -
On New Year in the morning I went to see Miss
Morris, there we met the elegant Miss Green & the
likewise elegant Mr Lenox - We went to see the
Miss Swifts & Miss Potts - I met Walter

Patterson in the Street, & altho' I am a Philadelphia
I was delighted to see a New Yorker - He told me that
you were all well - In the evening we went to
the Theatre - I was quite frightened, ~~excited~~ to squeeze
through a crowd for a half an hour there is
but one door by which you can enter which ren-
ders it very unpleasant - The play was "The wife
of two husbands" ^{translated} ~~taken~~ from the French play of
"La femme de deux maris" - Mr Coquelle performed
I was much pleased by, altho' the play was
not a good one - I saw Wood & liked him very
much - There is a Mr Watts an Englishman
here who writes a kind of Magazine entitled
the Theatrical Review which is very amusing -
we ^{have} a Mr & Mrs Woodham here, I saw her
but not to much advantage, she is very hand-
some, & is generally admired - I was quite
delighted with his singing, he does ^{not} play well
but sings sweetly, very much like Moore -