

New York August 29th 1807

My dear Ann

I have not been able to procure you any jet buttons buttons, I send you some bone ones which will answer the purpose untill you return, which I hope will be in a short time, we are all very anxious to see you once more, and I particularly so, for I am afraid if you stay at Coldenham much longer you will have the Locket and besides, quite cut me out with my dear Aunt.

How did you like your riding dress? I could find no ~~dr~~ gown of yours that it could be made after, and Mama thought I had better send it up unmade than run the risk of having it spoiled. I was confined to the house with the Influenza when Charles Fenno and Papa left us or I should certainly have sent ~~you~~ the muslin you asked for.

Gertrude Kimble drank tea here the day before yesterday she was quite well and desired her best love to you, she wishes to correspond with you but cannot determine to write the first letter, that poor little child at their house suffered a great deal from convulsions, and at last died of the Lock Jaw. Perhaps you have not heard that poor poor Blauvelt is very ill he has been speechless for several days, and there are very little hopes entertained of his recovery. Jane Watts has returned from the springs she brought letters from M^{rs} Rodman who is quite unwell, but, I am in hopes jaunting about will entirely restore her to health. We went over the Theatre yesterday with M^{rs} Fairlie and Mary, it is totally altered the whole inside has been pulled down and four rows of boxes instead of three been put up with pillars between every box burnished with silver, there are three private boxes on each side directly on the stage in the place of the immense pillars which used to be there, with a number of other improvements too numerous to enumerate.

Mary Fairlie has again began her Italian but she is the only scholar the old Lady has at present I believe so she stands clear of all plays.

Sally Gratz has returned to Philadelphia she was detained here some time longer than she expected by Rachels having a pain in her little finger which made it quite necessary for Sally to stay with her. She was very anxious for me to go to Newark with her where she stopt for a day or two. by the bye Caty Ogden is very angry at your not writing to her, you had better do it quickly and make your peace.

Washington says he saw a beautiful girl at Goldenham whose name was Ellen. Tell her that. My love to Aunt and Uncle, tell the forever her worked cap shall be forthcoming in a short time. Kiss my dear little Mary Ann for me, and be assured you are loved most fondly by your sister

Matilda Hoffman

Burn this letter as soon as you have read it, I beg of you I cannot bear that such nonsense should be seen by any one.

Mary Kellie has again taken her position but she is the only
member the G.A. Lodge has at present I believe no one stands closer to all
give.

Early Grace has returned to Philadelphia and has obtained some more
time longer than she expected as Rachel's having a pain in her little
finger which made it quite necessary for Mary to stay with her. She
was very anxious for me to go to Newark with her where she stayed for
a day or two. By the way Grace is very sorry at your not writing
to her, you had better do so quickly and make your peace.
Elizabeth says she saw a beautiful girl at Gettysburg whose name
was Ellen. Tell her that. My love to Aunt and Uncle, tell the boys
not to worry and when he is returning in a short time. Give my love
to little Mary Ann for me, and be assured you are loved most fondly by
your sister

Mattie Hoffman

But this letter as soon as you have read it. I beg of you I cannot
post that such nonsense should be seen by any one.