I cannot express to you my dearest Mother the delight your letter gave me. I had not heard from you for such a length of time that my spirits were beginning to fail, and I was preparing with a heavy heart for a splendid party at Mr. Selens to night when you welcome packet arrived and dispelled all my fears and all my uneasiness. Its contents were extremely agreeable, when I left Washington I found myself very agreeable in Philadelphia with many little intervals of poverty. I was much pleased with them in a short time and I had the honor of poverty bearing me in the face in a strange country for from my own friends and cleats. Mr. Bache at whose house I am staying is a brother of the late Mr. Bache, whom you were so well acquainted with, and one of the most pleasing and amiable men I have ever known. He married Mr. Bache’s eldest daughter, and although not very wealthy, they move in the first circle in Philadelphia. Mrs. Bache is a charming woman, one whom I think you would like very much, she has been truly kind to me, and indeed although strangers have generally complained of the want of hospitality in Philadelphia, I have had no cause to do so, for I have met with much polite attention from young and old. One of the most fashionable beaux has attached himself particularly to me and is constant in my company. He is not remarkably clever, and I would not consider his attentions very flattering in my own state, but how the power of fashion produces the same effect as the magic of fashion produces the same effect. As London and as Lady Jane Greyville says: "oh like the vestry of Venus." This gentleman, for the reputation of talents and is certainly not without them although they have been overrated. Formerly attentive to me, Mr. Conna particularly so, he has known what I wished to return and also to accompany me anywhere in Philadelphia or its neighborhood and in this habit of speaking of me, I am very flattered, my dearest Mother.
Mr Kent has been twice to see me. Dr Weston called and invited me to his house. I spent last evening with him and when I was going away he gave me a most affective parting. My dear friend in spite of my remonstrances has warned himself by hunting half the city to find Spanish ladies for my amusement, which will never be looked into until I return home. These attentions from my friends that I meet at my arrival some young men gave a ball in Dallas and myself a serenade. The band played two or three airs which the gentlemen knew were her favorites, and then suddenly struck up Jefferson’s March.

This compliment was the most acceptable that could have been paid me — I visited the Academy of Fine Arts and saw Mr Milton’s celebrated picture which has been the subject of conversation for several weeks past in the fashionable world. It is very large and has a great many figures; you must have seen a description of it in the newspapers. I was not disappointed in it but Mr Corrin’s now will give you a better idea of the merits than any thing I could say. I say 'each figure taken separately is good but that the artist has grouped them badly, and by so doing destroyed the spirit of the picture.' — The Museum I have visited once and mean to go again accompanied by Mr Corrin when I take probably gain a few more ideas than from my last visit. I saw an old portrait taken there, and said to be an excellent likeness. I have been more than a footnight in Philadelphia and shall not inaugurate it for some days. My visit to Baltimore shall be as short as possible for I wish to be in for home. to think that on the third of May I have been separated from you four months.

I walked yesterday evening with Mr Servant to see the home you lived in with Mrs Hopkinson. It is occupied by tradespeople and to the eyes of common observers has nothing to distinguish it but its air of antiquity for mine it had many alterations and I judge on it with mixed
feelings of pleasure and melancholy, I went visited Mrs. Harris's boarding house, and then the spot where my grandfather lived as secretary of state. I trained my eyes to get a distant view of his lodgings while the view was not, and I do not think that I have been as much gratified by my sight of any thing in Philadelphia (not even the Museum, Academy, Shoemaker's Bridges and Scatto's superb green house) as these new handsome buildings which invite so many visitations of former times and associations in my mind with those on whom my fond affection are placed. I have written as usual in haste and although the desirable hour for writing is past, I am interrupted by the arrival of one of Mathen's Dallas's letters which it is decisive to me to tear. Give a great deal of love to the whole family and thank my dear father for his presents. Advise my dearest Mother to stir this hurried service and because mate make a mistake. I assure you that the last wish of my heart is to be happy again.

E. W. M.