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An Annotated List of the Writings of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton (3)

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Elizabeth Bayley Seton was the first American-born canonized saint in the Roman Catholic Church. She was the foundress of the American Sisters of Charity and is credited with starting the parochial school system in the United States. Coming from a Protestant background, converting to Catholicism, and becoming a co-worker with John Carroll in the formative years of the Catholic Church in the new republic, she was one of the most influential Catholic women in the early nineteenth-century. Elizabeth Seton’s writings offer a rich insight into her life and her times. Her spirituality and deep personal relationships as well as the detail of her life as widow, convert, single mother, educator, and religious are revealed in hundreds of letters, personal journals, meditations, and instructions to the sisters, some never before published.

The thirteen religious congregations which comprise the Sisters of Charity Federation have undertaken the publication of the complete corpus of Seton writings. Documents have, to date, been located in fifteen repositories in the United States and Canada. Their publication will provide rich source material for those interested in religious history, women’s history, and the history of religious life as well as those with a special interest in Elizabeth Seton herself.

As a step in the publication of the writings, an annotated list of the holdings in each repository will be published in several issues of *Vincentian Heritage*. The first installment contained listings from all archives of the Sisters of Charity and the Daughters of Charity except Saint Joseph Provincial House in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The second installment included listings from all non-Sister/Daughter of Charity repositories, and began the listing from Saint Joseph Provincial House, the repository for the largest collection of Seton writings. Installment number three, and subsequent installments, will continue in documenting the entire listing from Saint Joseph. We hope those interested will find this material helpful, and we invite additions to, or comments on, these listings. Send your comments to Judith Metz, SC, 5900
Documents from the Archives of
Saint Joseph Provincial House
Emmitsburg, Maryland

Letters from Elizabeth Seton to Madame Chatard

October, 1812. To Madame Chatard. ASJPH 1-3-3-4:80.
She has waited in vain for Mrs. Chatard's visit, but is at peace. Does not know what in her letters warranted inquiries of her afflictions - all is well with Sisters and children.

November 6, 1811. To Madame Chatard. ASJPH 1-3-3-4:86.
She waited in vain for letter. Anina worn out with cough and fever; William gravely ill; she had boil under arm. Sisters ill by turns, but always someone for daily tasks. Has not seen Charles [Chatard]; still hopes to see her.

Saint Martin's [November 11 or 12], 1819. To Madame Chatard. ASJPH 1-3-3-4:87.
She prays for the Chatard family and their adult young sons. No word from William, but Richard is happy. What comparison is separation in this life to union in the next. Wishes Emily [Chatard] had made her First Communion at St. Joseph's.

Saint Andrew's Day, November 30, 1819. To Madame Chatard. ASJPH 1-3-3-4:88.
Grieving, all pray for Dr. Chatard, seriously ill. They pray for recovery while accepting God's Providence.

December 1 - Joyful news that he is recovering; she will share her Communions.
Last day of 1819. To Madame Chatard. AS/PH 1-3-3-4:89.

Still thanking God for Dr. Chatard's recovery. There were 15 happy First Communions at Saint Joseph's. Wishes Emily had made her First Communion there, but knows her greater maturity will enrich her reception. Mr. Dubois and Mr. Bruté both well. Tell Mrs. Tiernan her little one is well.

Sunday morning [n.d.] (Before Nov. 1816). To Madame Chatard. AS/PH 1-3-3-4:90.

Does not know what to tell Mrs. Duncan about her child because the Reverend Superior has not spoken. He wishes to tell you that he considers the Sisters part of the Chatard family and wants Dr. Chatard to see Sister Betsey who has constant pain in breast and side. Little Emily fell out of bed but was unhurt because she was wrapped in bedding. Emily is thoughtful to Rebecca.

[n.d.]. (Probable date: First Week of May 1816). To Madame Chatard. AS/PH 1-3-3-4:91.

Little Bee's tumor stopped, inflammation and blister followed. She is very weak with only more suffering ahead. All is well - Richard goes to Mr. Tiernan next week. Give this cross to [Bruté] and a word to [Babade].

August 24, 1820. To Madame Chatard. AS/PH 1-3-3-4:92.

She thanks her kind friend for writing, and speaks happily of Sister Xavier's being appointed her assistant. Sister Margaret [George] will return to school. Good Sister Jane who died peacefully [July, 1820] blessed your Emily on the reading of her letter.

Sunday morning. [n.d.]. (Probably May or June 1812). To Madame Chatard. AS/PH 1-3-3-4:93.

Mrs. Dupleix fancies to take Rebecca to New York for treatment provided the leg bone is not injured. Unless Dr. Chatard thinks otherwise, she will permit this. Please send Dr. Chatard's opinion by Mr. Groun who will shortly return from Mr. Abraham White's.

Thursday afternoon. [May or June 1812]. To Madame Chatard. AS/PH 1-3-3-4:94.

Speaks of her child (Rebecca) in her friend's care. Her one request - Dr. Chatard to forbid her being taken abroad. She speaks of a last gift to Anina which the latter treasured; and promises share in her Com-
Sunday night [June 1812 or 1816]. To Madame Chatard. ASJPH 1-3-3-4:95.

Warm and grateful thanks to Dr. and Mrs. Chatard for their care and kindness to little Rebecca. Please send her back to Mother as soon as Doctor permits. She will never forget their goodness.

[n.d.]. (Probably December 1819). To Madame Chatard. ASJPH 1-3-3-4:96.

She did not receive Mrs. Chatard’s note until after Mrs. Tiernan left. All have prayed and rejoiced in the good news. Mr. Brute had everyone pray and announced your husband’s recovery. Preparing here for Christmas. Please forward this (enclosed?) letter to Mrs. Goodwine.

Wednesday evening [n.d.] [1818 or 1819]. To Madame Chatard. ASJPH 1-3-3-4:97.

A late night thought to remember God’s comfort. She promises remembrance in her upcoming retreat. Please see that Mr. Hickey gets the enclosed missive.

Letter from Elizabeth Seton to Jerome Bonaparte

[n.d.]. (Probably Summer 1816). To Jerome Bonaparte. ASJPH 1-3-3-4:100.

She sends a note to the boy with the requested Agnus Dei. She prays that he will be true to his graces and promises prayers.

Letters from Elizabeth Seton to Julia Scott

April 16, 1798. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:1.

She points out how she makes time to write amidst trying situations and how important that she too hear from Julia. She offers understanding of Julia’s pain yet need to depart from her family and of the erring, unkind judgements made.

April 23, 1798. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:2.

She acknowledges Julia’s safe arrival to Philadelphia and joy in hearing from her. Recounts individual’s regards for her including Elizabeth’s own father. Reference made to increasing indisposition of
Father Seton and resulting demands on her husband.

May 9, 1798. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:3.
Admonishes Julia on the lesson of SUBMISSION and love of virtue over foolish desire for SWEETS. Cites her on conversion from feeling the delights of this world would always be enough — to knowing she was truly just a PASSENGER. Comments on over-attentive affections of a Miss Shipton.

May 16, 1798. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:4.
Shares a lengthy description of Fortitude. Shares her families' affections for Julia and reports on visiting with Julia’s MAMA who fares poorly from Julia’s departure.

[May 29, 1798 (Postmark)]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:5.
Elizabeth and children deal with fever, sore throat and dysentery. Questions Julia about her mention of melancholy foreboding of EVIL and is quick to offer concern and prayer.

June 3, 1798. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:6.
Papa Seton gravely ill. William in mute anguish and closed to Elizabeth's anxious solicitude. Elizabeth shares pictures of her children and comments on her current pregnancy.

July 5, 1798. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:7.
Drastic change in Elizabeth’s life with death of Papa Seton. William suffers severe affliction in the loss and now has only Elizabeth to lean on. She also inherits a big, demanding household of six children.

July 9, 1798.
Dispatch of her two little boys to Connecticut for more regular education. Her confinement continues. Trust in Him. Seldom sees her father.

August 20, 1798 (Draft). To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:8.
Birth of Richard Bayley Seton after severe illness and life-saving assistance of Mother and Baby by Grandfather Bayley.

August 20, 1798. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:9.
Describes the circumstances and severity of her illness surrounding the birth of her son — with every exertion made to save her and
her son. Little Richard Bayley Seton thrived after being given forced breaths by his Grandfather.

August 30, 1798.
Anna and the Baby ill. Expresses concern about fever conditions in Philadelphia and notes the deadly kind existing around Stone Street and her husband, father and brother in the midst of it. Intense anxieties. Her girls are a comfort to her with their amiable dispositions.

August 31, 1798.
Her father communicates to Julia via Elizabeth some measures for dealing with Whooping Cough. He has been almost too busy to breathe himself.

September 8, 1798. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:10.
Sorrows and concerns for Julia with our poor brother gone — an unlooked-for devastating blow. Anxiety also persists in New York during this season of horrors. Though in most part deserted, people continue to die from the Fever. Dr. Richard Bayley spending every hour in the Hospitals and Lazaretto. Elizabeth aware of his exposure and desires to stay in the City with him.

September 28, 1798. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:11.
Elizabeth so sensitive to Julia's sufferings and would fly over mountains to support her aching heart. Reminds her of the Good Brother still left to her. Reports that her William was ill with the Fever, though gratefully a slight attack. She was terrified of the consequences. Her sister and Post also had been attacked but recovering. She complains of extreme pain from the bile on her arm.

[October 13, 1798 (Postmarked)]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:12.
Describes her grave family situation in New York including eighteen in five small rooms, yet continues with deep concern for Julia's extreme dejection. She admonishes her to think of what her loss would be to her daughter who would then be without a mother's tender care.

October 14, 1798. (Saturday Evening)
The smiles and health of her precious children save her from melancholy and trials of the present season. Shares how the merciful Conductor mixes the sweet with the bitter and throws the veil of Peace over the soul that confides in Him.
Reflects on the realities of present demands trying her peace and the call to perform all as well as possible. How different her prospects in the last year from the present. Future plans may never be realized; therefore, be thankful for the present. The fever is better.

October 28, 1798. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:14.

Elizabeth is well occupied with the children. She wishes for a letter from Julia as she is anxious to hear of Charlotte. She speaks of her yearning to enjoy Julia’s company and of her yearning for the next life but she resigns the present and future to God. It is easy to express herself to Julia more so than others. She speaks of everyone’s health and tells that they will go to Wall Street tomorrow to arrange their winter habitation. She reports on members of the family, including her sister Post who had a baby daughter.

November 3, 1798. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:15.

She is happy to be home and looks back to past pleasures while resolving to brave the future. Her father is in perfect health after many dangers. Post and William are well but the girls and her children are ill. She is looking forward to returning to Stone Street. Glad to hear Charlotte had so fortunate an escape.

November 25, 1798. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:16.

She has been ill and since her recovery has been busy around the house. She hopes Julia is getting settled in Philadelphia. She speaks of her own busyness with teaching the children at home but prefers that to them going our to school. The two older girls are at Brunswick and Rebecca is the most admirable young woman she ever knew. She has grown to recognize her qualities since they are under the same roof. She is working hard and hoping for Heaven.

December 19, 1798. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:17.

She was disturbed by Julia’s last letter as it regarded her Brother Henry. Our friend Giles and his Brother visited this morning. I visited your (former) house this morning but did not go in. Remember me to Brother Samuel.

January 3, 1799. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:18.

This past year has been to us the reverse of Our dearest Hopes.
Please write so I know that you are well. Rebecca Seton is very ill. Happy New Year.

January 20, 1799. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:19.
She pleads for Julia to write. The Colonel called to say you are neither dying nor Dead. My poor sister is better and my children are recovered from a cold. Mrs. Sadler is arrived after four months at sea and Poor Sister Emma’s wedding will take place soon. Her relations with Mrs. Sadler will be mixed with vexation because she could never visit without expecting to meet those she did not wish to meet. She has been told Julia is depressed but questions if that is true. She tells Julia to cheer up and wonders how Charlotte is. Perhaps she will surprise Julia with a visit.

February 20, 1799. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:20.
Julia’s last letter filled her with sorrow that Julia has been separated from those she loves, but better days will come. She has had long letters from her father and from Miss Shipton. She comments on each of her children. She wishes Julia well, gives her words of encouragement and asks to be remembered to Charlotte and Brother Samuel.

March 15 [1799]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:21.
Elizabeth commiserates with Julia’s sorrow and comments upon her own. She comments on the fine qualities of Julia’s daughter and hopes her own will equal it though she is of a different mold. Perhaps Julia will one day assist her. Her father is in distress over two of her brothers. He has obtained permission to carry out his plans on Staten Island. She gives other family news and asks to be remembered to several people.

March 27, 1799. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:22.
Sends her love and remarks about her son Richard’s good health. Reminds Julia of her promise to visit New York. Rebecca is ill and Elizabeth has been caring for her.

April 20, 1799. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:23.
She knows Julia is probably not going to visit New York because of her health. The fear Julia is not well and Elizabeth asks for a letter. This month has had a variety of disagreeable circumstances, but Richard and Rebecca are now well. She knows Julia has the same state of affairs in her life but fears she does not bear them as lightly as herself.
She received Julia’s letter. Rebecca and Harriet are sick, two of the girls are coming home from boarding school and it is time for her children to be in the country. She is sure the approaching season will restore the tranquility Julia has lost.

May 14, 1799. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:24.
Elizabeth is distressed at Julia’s sorrow and disquietude and encourages her to go to Easton. All the children have had the fever and all are recovering except her faithful Mammy who is sinking fast. She encourages Julia during her father’s illness and hopes he will recover.

n.d. [1799]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:25.
Reminisces past daily visits with Julia. Implies Julia has delicate physical and mental health and should take care. Defends Mrs. Platt of the Widows Society and deplores malicious tongues. Inquires about Julia’s family with affection. Comments on indispositions of Jack.

June 2, 1799. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:26.
Elizabeth speaks of summer plans for herself and her sister. She is disappointed, and is losing hope of seeing Julia. Elizabeth expresses concern over Julia’s father and urges her to trust in God. She tells of difficulties regarding the summer place they were to have and she is not sure where they will spend the summer.

June 11, 1799. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:27.
Elizabeth is enjoying her situation and imagines how wonderful it would be if Julia would join her in her enjoyments. She is going to Emma’s wedding and is still not sure of their arrangements for the summer.

November 20, 1799. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:28.
Dick has been ill since Julia left and Elizabeth has been very busy caring for him. The business is in trouble because of failures in Hambro and London. They shall be going to Washington City. She tells of outfitting the girls. Will and Anna are well.

December 20, 1799. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:29.
Richard is well. She comments on the fire which was on Julia’s street. She comments on her feeling of second marriage. She asks Julia to sent old flannel petticoats for Old Stone. Bec suffers much pain in her breast, Seton is more engaged than ever. Her father often comes to
January 3, 1800. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:30.

After wishing Julia Happy New Year, Elizabeth describes the events surrounding the decline of William’s business and the economic situation in which they find themselves. She inquires about Julia’s children and comments on her own.

January 16, 1800. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:31.

Elizabeth gives further news of Seton’s business affairs and comments on the children and her father. She also gives news of the Wilkes and other family members.

March 18, 1800. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:32.

She has been busy assisting William by writing letters for him. She likes to do it and it gives her insight into his affairs which continue to worsen. She is his only companion and truly his all. She comments on Brother Samuel’s visit. Julia’s invitation to visit is impossible under the circumstances. One of Seton’s creditors has already filed suit with others to follow. Elizabeth is distressed and in pain which she believes is the consequence of the Shadow. She expresses concern about Julia and wishes to hear more about her children.

July 1, 1800. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:33.

A note from William Seton to inform Julia that Elizabeth has given birth to another Daughter.

July 26, 1800. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:34.

Elizabeth apologizes for not writing but says she will not express suffering and so has chosen silence. Now she has her little cherub and feels health returning every day. She describes the house where she is spending the summer on Staten Island with her father. She gives an update on William and each of the children. She wonders if Julia is coming for a visit and speaks of arranging for the baby’s christening.

She inquires about Julia’s children, Maria and John. Seton is well and has two years to settle his affairs with his European creditors.

November 19, 1800. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:35.

Although she still bears true affection for Julia she has lost the enjoyment she once had in writing. And, much attention was required by her father during the summer. Cate was christened and Elizabeth
describes the event and who the godparents were. She then comments on each of the other children. The House is to be declared bankrupt and faith and hope are her only refuge, although she still has much to be thankful for. She hopes Julia is better. Rebecca and Cecilia are her companions this winter.

December 7, 1800. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:36.

She wonders how Julia is. Inventory is being taken for bankruptcy proceedings and while the cloud hangs heaviest she trusts where her trust has never yet failed. Mrs. Sadler is recovering and Emma’s long anticipated happiness is fast approaching.

December 26, 1800. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:37.

The Philadelphia paper announced Julia’s sorrow and Elizabeth wishes she could be there to wipe her tears. Bankruptcy proceedings are going forward. She asks to know what arrangements Julia’s mother is making.

January 16, 1801. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:38.

She is grateful for Julia’s letter and hopes she will be coming to visit. She comments on Kate and the anxiety caused by her receiving an inoculation. She questions what arrangements Julia will wish when she comes. She comments on the advantage of Julia’s mother being with her.

March 10, 1801. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:39.

Elizabeth comments on how busy she is and describes her daily schedule including the education of the children. She has been attending Mrs. Wilkes who had died a hard death. Rebecca has done her part at home while she was away. They move to the Battery in May.

June 11, 1801. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:40.

Elizabeth is disappointed that Julia has not come to visit. William tells of her attention and kindness when he travels. She has not the smallest chance of traveling to see Julia. Elizabeth describes her situation where sick immigrants are landing and they are not permitted to go further than the Gate. (The outside is addressed to Mrs. Scott in New York.)

June 1801. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:41.

She expresses concern for Julia since her letter seemed to reveal
some sorrow or perhaps some illness. Miss Chippy (Miss Shipton) has
told Elizabeth that Julia has had distress caused by John’s (Julia’s son)
indisposition. Miss Shipton has also said that the children (Elizabeth’s
and Julia’s) are lovely, but Staten Island would restore the looks of
anyone. William, Elizabeth’s husband, will see Julia soon so be sure to
send letters. She wishes Julia could be with her now to share the sea
breeze.

September 5, 1801. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:42.

Elizabeth describes the last week of her father’s life. On the after­
noon of August 10, he was very cheerful, noticing the beauty of a
rainbow and the sunset over the bay. He enjoyed tea with little Kit
followed by an evening of his favorite music. The next day he was up
before dawn, took his breakfast in silence, went out as usual to the
barns where they found him later. He had to be helped home and
became delirious. Then followed a week of terrible pain, wrenching
fever, and cold. He was tended by Joseph Bayley. Near the end he
became easy and calm, dying August 17. Because of the cause of death
(yellow fever), he was buried first near their house, but shortly after
was taken by barge to Richmond where he was buried by Bayley, not
by the sexton who would not dare approach. She marvels that she
lived through all of this. Kit and Richard were sick at the time of her
father’s death but are well now. She will visit Julia in October when
she hopes to be rested from her summer hardships. Her support --
“Thy will be done.”

October 27, 1801. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:43.

She has been with Sad (Elizabeth Sadler) the past three weeks. Sad
has been partially paralyzed, a situation she experienced a year before.
It seems as if it is her lot to be the only earthly support of suffering
friends. She speaks of yellow fever and the death of her father, but
always “Thy will be done.” She must cancel an October visit with Julia
since she now has the care of her sister-in-law’s infant and William’s
two sisters Cecilia and Harriet. William has troubles in his family but
he sends love to Julia. Her children, Kit, Will, and Richard, are won­
derful. She wants very much to see Julia’s children, too.

January 7, 1802. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:44.

William hopes that Julia is not still angry with him. She wonders
if Julia is sick since it has been a long while since Elizabeth or her
friends have had a letter. Her children are “wonders of perfection,”
and she is teaching them their letters and spelling. She promised her father she would wait a year to teach them to read. Her full household keeps her busy so that she rises early and retires late, at 12:00 or 1:00 sometimes. She gives bits of information about their friends.

February 1, 1802. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:45.

She expresses her affection and esteem for Julia. Cecilia Seton has had to leave her to help out the Maitlands, and William has had to send food and supplies to them. Her boys have measles. She has heard a rumor that Julia is to be married. She thanks her for the contribution to the Widows Society. She advises her to be sure to go to church if she hears that Mr. Hobart is to speak.

August 19, 1802. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:46.

She writes that all is going well and hopes Julia has had an enjoyable summer. She quotes William reporting that Miss Shipton has gone abroad.

August 20, 1802 — (William writes).

He adds a note that Eliza (his wife) has given birth to a beautiful baby girl (Rebecca). The mother is well, in fact, better than expected since they had no doctor until a quarter of an hour after the baby’s first appearance.

November 16, 1802. To Julia Scott. AS JPH 1-3-3-6:47.

She tells Julia that she (Elizabeth) has changed. She realizes that everything in this life is only interesting or endearing if it points to the next life. She knows that Julia attaches much importance to this life, so she hopes and prays that Julia may see the truth. She then speaks of the health and happiness of her children.

December 8, 1802.

She adds a note about holding the above letter until this opportunity to send it. She sees no prospect of ever meeting her again in this world.

5 July [n.d.]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:48.

Elizabeth speaks of visiting arrangements with Julia, Mrs. Sadler and her husband.

16 July [n.d.]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:49.

Elizabeth speaks of arrangements for William to be in Philadel-
phia and Mrs. Sadler leaving the summer place. Dick has been ill but Ann and Will are well and the place is charming.

[n.d.]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:50.
Elizabeth received Julia’s note after she left. Mr. Seton is perfectly at home.

October 1, 1803. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:51.
She reports that they are about to leave for Leghorn as Seton’s decline is very rapid. She relies on the mercy of God.

October 28, 1803. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:52.
Writing from just past the Western Islands she reports that William appears to be getting better. The peace and hope in Christ sustains her.

July 15, 1804. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:53.
She is grateful for Julia’s expression of sympathy. She explains their financial condition — assisted by Wright Post, her brother-in-law; Mrs. Startin, her godmother, and John Wilkes, her brother-in-law. She is not asking Julia’s financial help since there is no necessity. She would love to see Julia, but that seems impossible at present. Rebecca Seton has died.

November 28, 1804. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:54.
She has been occupied mending the children’s clothes, tending their whooping cough, tending their sick mammy, and being like Job’s sister. Mr. Wilkes tells her ideas about opening a boarding house for school children; Filicchi (Antonio) tells elaborate plans. Both want to help her to make a living. It is in God’s hands. She thinks often and is grateful for the visit that Julia and her children paid her family last summer.

December 13, 1804. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:55.
Julia must wonder if Elizabeth can still pray while doing such tasks as rising early, making fires, washing and dressing the children, making breakfast, etc., etc. Besides that her “friends” seldom come. She prays that Julia may turn to God as she has.

March 5, 1805. [Not sent until March 25]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:56.
She will use some of the money Julia has sent to hire a person to do the patching and mending so that she can devote more time to Anna, talking with her and teaching her music and French. She thinks that Julia should contribute $150 not the $300 she sent. She tries not to think about the inattention of every other friend except Julia. It is a thorn but she must remain at peace. Antonio Filicchi is bringing this letter.

May 6, 1805. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:57.

She thanks Julia for her kind attention to Filicchi. She would give anything to have Julia share her beliefs, to point out to her the truth of her next existence before she is called to it. She is now involved in a plan to teach in a school to be conducted by an Englishman (Mr. White) and his wife.

July 10, 1805. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:58.

She is sorry to hear that Julia has been sick. Her own living is good, but the school has not become a reality since they have only three enrolled besides their own nine. She regrets her state of dependence but is grateful to Mrs. Startin, Filicchi, and Julia. Both Kate and herself have been ill but are much improved.

August 28, 1805. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:59.

She is now at Greenwich with her sister Mary and husband Wright Post. Mr. White had no money to pay the rent for the school, so it failed. Post rushed her, her family, and possessions off to his home. This situation had certain advantages, but disadvantages, too. She thinks of and prays often for Julia's soul. She attended to Mrs. Bayley Craig, her half sister, on her deathbed, and she pities the two daughters left behind.

November 20, 1805. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:60.

She has not written because she would have nothing but troubles to write about. Mr. Wilkes has proposed a revival of the plan to open a boarding home for children of St. Mark's School and next Monday the home will open. It is in a little house two miles from the city.

December 6, 1805.

She has been so busy that she falls asleep at her prayers. Henry Craig has died and is mourned by his father. It is a joy to be able to help support her family with the $3 per week from each boarder. The
$100 that Julia sent is being saved. In part, it will pay for dancing lessons for Anna, mostly to please Aunt Scott (Julia).

January 20, 1806. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:61.
She prays often for Julia and in the inevitable hour of judgment, that will be what matters. She tells Julia that even in Julia’s state in life she can be good and can give service to God and be assured of salvation. As for her own religious principles, which Julia had asked about, she says she is “gently quietly and silently a good Catholic.” Her boys will be going to a college (at Baltimore) at the expense of Antonio Filicchi.

May 12, 1806. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:62.
Her two sons are on their way to Georgetown College in Washington City (D.C.) and will stop off a few days in Philadelphia.

November 10, 1806; November 20, 1806. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:63.
Julia is a consolation to her, one of the few of her life. Elizabeth has great concern for Julia, her family, and friends, even though her life is so different from Elizabeth’s. A gentleman from Baltimore has tried to interest her in getting a position at a school in Philadelphia which would please her since she would be near Julia, but nothing more on that.

January 12, 1807. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:64.
Her Anna is growing up, and Kate has a good disposition and promising talents. Cecilia (Seton) helps with their education. She wonders, at times, if she should take them away from the influence of some rude and unmannered relatives.

April 10, 1807. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:65.
She has been spending days at the death of Eliza Maitland (William’s half sister). It has been difficult, not only because she leaves behind five small children and an “unfortunate” husband, but because the poor woman had such a fear and dread of death. Elizabeth begs Julia to think of eternity.

April 15, 1807.
Her generosity is always appreciated.
April 22, 1807. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:66.
Mrs. Startin (her godmother) always requires a receipt for any money she gives Elizabeth and says that a receipt should be given to Julia, too. Elizabeth does not know how to date the beginning of Julia's remittances, so she suggests Julia should do it herself.

July 20, 1807. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:67.
Mrs. James Seton (William's sister-in-law) has died, so Cecilia is leaving to help care for his eight children. She reports the relatives and friends who are traveling for the summer, leaving her and the children alone.

August 4, 1807.
She begs Julia to stop sending money or, at least, to suspend it for the time being. She manages on money from Filicchi, Wilkes, and her boarders' fees.

November 29, 1807. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:68.
Parents of her boarders have complained that she gives the children too much liberty. She replied that she thought her only responsibility was to feed and clothe them. Nevertheless, she has lost three, and that hurts her financially.

December 8, 1807.
She is weary of work but content with her situation. She is saving Julia's latest contribution for some later necessity. Her home is located near St. Mark's Church, Stuyvesant's land, Bowery.

December 12, 1807.
Anna and Kit are both sick. She held the letter because there was no one to take it to town.

January 16, 1808. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:69.
Mr. James Barry has died; his widow and daughter are going to travel abroad, so there is no reason for Elizabeth to go to town anymore, except to St. Peter's.

March 8, 1808. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:70.
Julia should take consolation in the fact that she (Elizabeth) would go to any length to help her in any need. She praises the virtues and accomplishments of Anna and Kit.
April 25, 1808. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:71.

She has moved to a smaller house with cheaper rent. She now has only five boarders so her income is diminished. Mr. Dubourg of St. Mary’s College, Baltimore has offered to give her a piece of land near the college on which she could build a boarding school for girls, and he would take her boys into the college, thus freeing the Filicchi money for her other needs. She protested to him her lack of talent for such a venture. She must see Wright Post and Mr. Wilkes for their approval. She comments that Filicchi, besides his $400 annual contribution, has given her the right to draw unlimited funds from Murray and Son.

June 1, 1808. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:72.

Having consulted Post and Wilkes, she is ready to proceed to Baltimore to follow Dubourg’s suggestion. She wants to know if Julia would like them to stop off in Philadelphia. If so, they would leave New York in two or three weeks by land; if not, they will go to Baltimore by sea.

July 4, 1808. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:73.

She has been totally occupied in getting settled in Baltimore. She hopes that she might be able to get to Philadelphia to visit Julia in August. Everyone has been kind — Reverend Dubourg and the priests of the college; Dubourg’s sister who manages the seminary; and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Barry (Robert is a nephew of the late James Barry). Her children seem happy with the new arrangement. Financially, she has no current worries. She has saved $500 Julia had sent earlier plus another $100, and the Filicchi’s $400 for last year.

October 10, 1808. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:74.

She has given up the idea of seeing Julia this autumn. She is perfectly happy in her new situation. She has only four boarders, but with her own girls, that is all she can manage. She has not been well, but in the spring she hopes to improve and then she can accept more boarders. She is taking great delight in having all of her children together again. Since Julia has mentioned getting old, Elizabeth tells her to think of the eternity to come and to begin to realize how sweet it is to have God for a best friend. She tells Julia, in answer to a question, that the fee for one year at her school is $200. Then she again marvels at the low cost of wood because she is buying it through the college. She will be happy to accept the used clothing that Julia has
proposed to send.

**December 6, 1808. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:75.**

She is very busy from 5:30 in the morning until 9:00 at night. She has ten girls, three of them almost women. She has had offers of women wanting to assist but she wants to keep things as they are for now. When each school day ends (5 pm) she meets with a tutor to study arithmetic and grammar. John Cox (Julia’s nephew) has brought the promised clothing from Julia and also news of Julia and her family. She and the girls are grateful for the clothing. The girls loved the beaver hats, especially. As for herself, she is dressed for the grave. She is ever more attached to Julia, her faithful friend, who has remained unchangeable through so much.

**March 2, 1809. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:76.**

She has been distressed lately over Anna’s actions (an attachment for and an exchange of letters with Charles DuPavillon, a college student from Martinique). However, when Anna saw her mother’s concern or alarm, she became docile and attentive to her mother’s advice. A gentleman of Baltimore (Samuel Cooper) has a plan to set up a factory for the use of the poor, and a school for the rich and poor, in a place called Emmitsburg some distance from Baltimore. He has offered her the position of caring for the children. She is happy because this will be in the mountains and it will be away from distractions of the world. She asks Julia if she could make a loan of $2,000 or $3,000 to be repaid in one year. She wants Julia to look upon this as the request of a stranger, rather than of a friend.

**March 23, 1809. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:77.**

She gives more information on the proposed Emmitsburg venture and on Mr. Cooper. She says that she and Cooper have an interest and esteem for one another. She will be the head of the community which will conduct the school. They will live under rules of order and regularity, but Mr. DuBourg of the Sulpicians, not she, will serve as superior. The Sulpicians, residing at the seminary, will always protect Elizabeth and her community as part of their family.

**May 9, 1809. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:78.**

The visit of her brother brought back memories and she felt a sense of melancholy when he left. She will give up her house in Baltimore (Paca Street) by the middle of next month to go to Emmitsburg. She will have all that she needs including assistants,
pupils, and most of all, a priest to say daily Mass and to regulate their religious exercises.

*September 20, 1809. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:79.*

Julia may hear reports of nonsense about the community at Emmitsburg, but they have true happiness — order, peace, solitude. All that Elizabeth has to do is give her opinion, see that everyone is in her place, write letters, read, and give good advice. Anna is very happy and better off without DuPavillon; Cecilia (Seton) takes care of the children; Harriet (Seton) seems content to be there since her fiancé (Barclay Bayley) has written from Jamaica that he plans to stay there eight to ten years longer to earn his fortune. She is puzzled to hear from Murray and Son that they have no more funds of the Filicchis. She has not heard from them since leaving New York. She is not worried about finances since all her needs are met here.

*December 27, 1809. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:80.*

Cecilia (Seton) is very ill suffering from an abscess of the liver. Harriet (Seton) after a long illness has died (December 23, 1809) and is sorely missed by Anna. She hopes that Julia will not listen to the numerous ridiculous stories being spread about their manner of living at Emmitsburg. She assures Julia that they have true peace and comfort.

*March 26, 1810. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:81.*

She wishes true happiness for Julia. She recalls how happy she herself was when she had her father and Will and her six-month-old Anna. Even then, she offered all this to God rather than ever to be separated from him. Anna is doing well, and with Julia’s contribution, can act independently. Mr. Cooper is most generous and thoughtful, giving them provisions and even cloth for clothing.

*May 30, 1810. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:82.*

The trip to Baltimore with the ailing Cecilia (Seton), their three-week stay there, and the return trip after Cecilia’s death were all financed by Julia’s $100. Anna remained with the Barrys for a while, not with the Caton family, who wanted to show Anna more of their fashionable ways. It was a separation for her from her “much loved” (Charles DuPavillon) who was about to leave Emmitsburg for Martinique.
July 20, 1810. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:83.

Julia's last year's gift has been deposited with other dividends already accumulated for Anna. She herself will never want to leave the Valley (Emmitsburg), but she has promised Bishop Carroll she will see to it that her children have their rights.

October 23, 1810. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:84.

Her health is better than it was a year ago, so pay no attention to stories being spread about her health or fatiguing work. Anna has received no more letters (from Charles DuPavillon) after the first two, but Elizabeth fears he may return when least expected.

February 1, 1811. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:85.

She hears that Julia's daughter (Maria) was married. She (Elizabeth) has not been well, always cold, no cough or acute pain, but a slow fever. She notices her own symptoms because she has seen them so often in others of her family. She has warmth, proper food, and a good doctor (Chatard). She needs $10 or $20 from Julia since she cannot touch the savings in Barry's bank. She dislikes having to ask for the money, but doctor bills for William, Harriet, and Cecilia took more than she expected.

March 10 or March 11, 1811. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:86.

Springtime has brought her improved health. She sincerely wishes that Julia would come to Emmitsburg for a visit, for it is almost impossible that Elizabeth would go to Philadelphia.

July 10, 1811. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:87.

Anna has learned that Charles DuPavillon has met someone in Martinique and will stay there. She (Elizabeth) thinks that Anna has already realized that she was too young and inexperienced to be connected so seriously. She herself is in better health, active in soul and body.

October 19, 1811. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:88.

She, Anna, and William are all sick. Julia's money will be used for their comfort.

December 2, 1811. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:89.

She and William are better, but Anna shows symptoms of consumption. Maybe Elizabeth is imagining how ill Anna is because she
(Elizabeth) has had so many hard trials.

February 18, 1812. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:90.
Anna is dying but resigned to the will of God.

March 20, 1812. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:91.
Anna died peacefully without excessive suffering at the end. She was buried next to Harriet and Cecilia.

April 29. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:92.
Julia's last money was used by Anna before her death, paying a debt with $50 for her brother's summer expenses.

June 15, 1812. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:93.
She is happy to hear that Maria (Julia's daughter) is to be married. She thinks that an unmarried woman, unless she is dedicated to God, is pitiable.

September 14, 1812. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:94.
She is anxious to hear about Julia and all of her family.

[October 29, 1812]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:95.
She wishes she could have been with Julia when she was ill. She knows Julia is missing Maria who is now married. Kitty (Catherine) is 13 years old but at times has pain in her side or her breast and has had a cough since infancy. Rebecca, 11 years old, is very talented in music. Last winter she fell on the ice and has become lame. Elizabeth is probably no more of a nun than Julia is. The aim of her life is to preserve a distance from the world. Her community is not like those of Europe but must have rules for the sake of order.

January 25, 1813. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:96.
Rebecca cannot be cured of the lameness and the pain that accompanies it. They have tried all remedies including trips to Baltimore to consult specialists.

March 12, 1813. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:97.
This is the first anniversary of Anna's death, a death she so vividly remembers. Mr. Cooper is in Philadelphia acting strangely; she begs Julia not to laugh at him. Cooper's brother wants to claim the $7,000 which Cooper put into the Emmitsburg property, but Cooper ar-
ranged for the Sisters of Charity to have exclusive rights to it. Rebecca is pale and thin; she must still use her crutch but is in less pain.

[August 11, 1813]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:98.

Julia has once again sent money. Mr. Dubois is in Baltimore to negotiate a property settlement after Cooper's family has claimed it. Cooper has signed the property over to her since the community is not incorporated.

September 27, 1813. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:99.

She is praying for Maria, Julia's daughter, who is in some kind of danger.

December 15, 1813. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:100.

She begs Julia to come to Emmitsburg to see for herself the happiness here. She will use Julia's money for her boys who have only one year of school left.

June 1, 1814. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:101.

She begs Julia to write because she is greatly concerned about her and JM (John Scott, Julia's son) and Maria (Julia's daughter).

March 14, 1814. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:102.

William wants to go to war, especially since some of his fellow students have already received commissions. She told her daughters that Aunt Scott (Julia) was more to them than Aunt Post (Elizabeth's sister).

June 14, 1814. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:103.

Julia has sent money and Elizabeth is happy because it is one way to hear from her friend. Elizabeth begs Julia to take time to look up to heaven.

December, 1814. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:104.

William, age 18, has applied for a commission in the Navy. Richard, age 16, hopes to get a farm, but she fears he, too, will change and want to leave. Though she is not in as much pain, Rebecca is still lame. The $50 which Julia sent will be given to William when he leaves. Sisters Rose White and Susan Clossy have gone to Philadelphia to start an orphanage.
March 30, 1815. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:105.

She consoles Julia (on the death of her daughter Maria). She wishes that she could go to her but obligations kept her at Emmitsburg. William has decided on a career in commerce and will go to the Filicchis' in Italy. She thanks Julia for the $100 which will help to outfit him for the trip.

[May 20, 1815]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:106.

She consoles Julia on the loss of her daughter and was happy to learn that Maria had been influenced by religion, the only real support in life. William is right now between a besieged Bourdeaux and an Italy in insurrection, but he is the kind who takes whatever comes. Louise Caton has suggested that Kitty be sent to Julia to help her in her loneliness, but Elizabeth says "No" because Kitty would not want to; because Kitty is the only companion to Rebecca; and Elizabeth would miss her too much with the boys being gone.

August 14, 1815. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:107.

She thanks Julia for the money and sympathizes with her. William has arrived in France after a rough voyage. His ambition is to be able to take care of his sisters when his mother dies.

November 10, 1815. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:108.

Rebecca has returned from Philadelphia where she had been taken to consult with Dr. Physic (sic) about her leg. Julia had lavished every kind of attention on the child and Rebecca cannot finish talking about it. William has been set up in a residence in Pisa by the Filicchis.

[December 24, 1815]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:109.

Rebecca, in good spirits but still suffering, tells Elizabeth about the pleasures and conversations she had with Julia in Philadelphia. Elizabeth is grateful to Julia for paying so many of the bills of the Sisters at the orphanage.

February 16. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:110.

She wants Julia to send a doll to Rebecca who is suffering terribly with the enlarged tumor on her leg. The girl is so weak and miserable that she no longer want to see her former companions. William is working in the counting house where his father once worked. He has visited his father's grave.
March 23, 1816. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:111.

Rebecca is resting more easily since her tumor broke. Anyone not living in community cannot imagine the ties of affection formed there. Thanks given for the $50 sent; it will be used for Richard's departure. She has asked Mr. Barry to get him a position in a counting house.

June 15, 1816. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:112.

Rebecca has had a severe attack of inflammation in her leg but has recovered somewhat. Eventually such an attack will finish her. Richard now has a position in Mr. Tiernan's counting house in Baltimore. Kit has gone to Baltimore to spend some time with the Tiernan girls who were formerly boarders at Emmitsburg.

November 14, 1816. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:113.

Rebecca has died, set free of all her sufferings. Kit keeps close to her mother every minute.

February 4, 1817. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:114.

She thanks Julia for the $50 note and admires Julia's constancy over the years; Kit, age 16, is the picture of health.

April 10, 1817. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:115.

She dreams of fixing flowers for the top of Julia's curtains. Richard continues at Tiernans but a change might be coming in that business. William may return for a visit soon as he has written about his original ambition to join the Navy. She has written Filicchi to ask him not to keep William on if he does not have the requisites for business.

[June 9, 1817]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:116.

Kit is sick so Madame Chatard came from Baltimore to take her to see a physician there.

July 24, 1817. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:117.

Richard has been displaced and has returned to the Seminary waiting to find out William's plans. Her $150 note was welcome. She finds great consolation in her religion and prays that Julia might experience this someday.

October 5, 1817. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:118.

William has returned and lives at the Seminary until he will be called by the Navy. Richard has sailed for Leghorn to take his place.
with Filicchi. Poor Richard spent money foolishly in Baltimore and had to depend on his mother for money for his trip to Italy.

January 19, 1818. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:119.

She and Kit have decided that Kit should go to Philadelphia to visit Julia if that is convenient, or to visit the Cauffmans who live in Julia’s neighborhood. Every April and May Kit has been sick and they think it is due to the fact that she cannot go places on the muddy, impassable roads at that time.

[February 19, 1818]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:120.

She is sending Kit to Julia’s, along with Julia’s $50 note, so that they might buy suitable, warm clothing for Kit. She hopes Kit’s former school friends will not call too often.

[April 4, 1818]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:121.

Kit has written that she wants to go to New York, so Elizabeth leaves the decision to Julia. She fears that Kit’s expenses might be too much for Julia, and each year she hopes it will be the last one in which she must call on her friend for financial help.

[Included is a note to Kit]

She tells her that Aunt Scott (Julia) will decide about the trip to New York. If she and Kit were together, they could talk it over before deciding.

May 5, 1818. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:122.

Kit will be home next month with many stories to tell. She herself feels old.

October 2, 1818. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:123.

Kit has returned and seems to have been favorably influenced by Julia. William is gone on his three-year voyage. She herself is not any worse in health, though experiencing hoarseness.

October 25, 1818. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:124.

She has an ulcer in the breast, a consequence of inflammation of the lungs. She is grateful for Julia’s $100 bill which helped William refurbish his belongings lost at sea. He was home on leave for eight days. She says that if her two sons turn out well, it will be much to the credit of Julia.
January 12, 1819. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:125.

Kit, who must have seemed a silly, unmeaning girl to Julia while there on her six-month visit, is settled at home, studying her lessons and rejoicing in her mother's better health.

February 19, 1819. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:126.

The $50 Julia sent has been forwarded to William, about to embark on a two-year voyage. She is grateful to Julia.

May 18, 1819. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:127.

Kit is visiting the Smith family at Carroll Manor (Baltimore). She speaks of trials and separations that they have endured and the unchangeableness of God.

May 26, 1819. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:128.

Kit is having a wonderful time at Carroll Manor, but has written for $10 if Aunt Scott sends any money. She needs it for essentials. Elizabeth's health is renewed and her cheerfulness is genuine. Richard is still in Leghorn.

October 18, 1819. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:129.

Perhaps Julia did not receive a previous letter in which Elizabeth asked her not to mind withholding money during these hard times and when her own grandchildren might benefit from it. Kit is receiving invitations to go to various homes, but Elizabeth thinks it unwise to put a poor girl in the environment of the rich, and Kit does not even think of herself as poor.

[March 15, 1820]. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:130.

She thanks Julia for the offer to let Kit stay with her (Julia) if anything should happen to Elizabeth. However, the Harper family made such an offer sometime ago. She explains the connection she has with the family and mentions some of their kindness to her. She does not want to refuse their offer. Next month Kit will visit the Tiernans in Baltimore for a few weeks. William was off the coast of Peru when they last heard from him.

April 18, 1820. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:131.

She asks her not to write if all is well; but to write if reports about Julia's planning to leave the city are true.
June 21, 1820. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:132.

She is concerned that someone in Julia’s family is ill, but that is the human penalty — that disease must destroy the body. The extreme heat is beginning today.

July 19, 1820. To Julia Scott. ASJPH 1-3-3-6:133.

She has received her letter and note; she hopes that Julia will not send the latter when times are hard. Kit is with her, but no word from the sons. She longs for January when William will return.

Letters and Notes from Elizabeth Seton to Eliza Sadler

February 8, 1796. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:1.

She has received, after five months in transit, Eliza’s letter, descriptive of Sunday balls, so very different from her own Sunday evenings at home. She wishes Eliza well on her departure for France, a trip she almost envies but the prospect of which she has long ago put aside. She details the beauties and charms of her little daughter (Anna). She thanks her for the box of music.

August 11, 1796. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:2.

She is happy to have received a letter from Eliza and she reflects on the value of friendship. William’s health does not improve, a situation which causes her hours of melancholy, lessened only by her time with her baby (Anna), and her practice of “looking up” to heaven for help. She is saddened that Mama Fitch (Mary Fitch, Anna’s godparent) has not been as friendly as formerly. Julia shows interest only in sickness or sorrow. W.C. (William Craig, her half-sister Emma’s husband) is her most reliable male friend after William and her father. She is spending the summer on Long Island near the Posts where William comes three times a week and her father, very often. She wishes Eliza were home, not in Europe.

June 18, 1797. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:3.

She thinks of her often and knows of no other friend with whom she would rather share the delights of her present situation. She and William and family are sharing a summer home, located on the East River opposite the Battery, with her sister Mary and husband Wright Post.

June 29, 1797.

She is sad because her friend Catherine Cooper is dying. William
Craig, whose health worries her, has told her that Eliza will return in four or five months. She describes the beauty of her daughter Anna and adds that the child's personality is just like hers (Elizabeth's).

_August 1, 1797. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:4._

She has had no letter from Sad, but others have reported that she (Sad) is enjoying Paris and all that it affords. That is as it should be, and contrary to the opinion of others, she (Elizabeth) knows that they will still be friends. She is concerned about Anna's ungovernable temper and asks Sad's advice on how to handle her, even though she has had many suggestions from family members.

_August 10, 1797._

She is disappointed that Sad still delays in Europe since she (Elizabeth) has no one else to fill the place of adviser and friend.

_August 15, 1797._

Little William (her son) has been very sick but has recovered. It gave her many anxious moments, but such times draw her nearer to God.

_March 27, 1798. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:5._

She and William are both looking forward to Sad's visit this spring. She has spent time with Julia Scott whose husband has died, leaving Julia in almost a deranged state. That crisis is over and Julia will move to Philadelphia where she has relatives.

[_n.d._]. _To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:6._

She is in town to prepare for William's departure on the Northern Liberties. She hopes that Sad will be finished with her other engagements and come to visit her any day after Thursday when William leaves.

[_n.d._]. _To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:7._

She hopes Sad's pains are over and will soon come to see them.

_Wednesday morning [n.d., but 1799 is penciled in]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:8._

After Mrs. Scott left, she (Elizabeth) thought she would enjoy absolute retirement but Mr. Stone decided to keep her company until Julia's return. Anna is now a "perfect angel," so different from her
previous conduct.

Sunday afternoon [n.d.]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:9.

She enjoyed Eliza’s letter, but after a three-hour visit with Miss Chippy (Miss Shipton) this morning, she has little to say.

[n.d., penciled on sheet 1801?]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:10.

She says that everything is going smoothly with “our little circle.” They discussed “Holy Nature” with few questions and answers. The four children are well and happy.

Wednesday morning [n.d., probably after Dick’s birth, i.e., 1799]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:11.

The Little Lady (Julia Scott?) returned along with her daughter (Maria?), who conducts herself just the way she would like her Anna to behave. She wishes she could meet Sad in town for a visit of a few hours.

[n.d., but after Dick’s birth, i.e., 1799]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:12.

Her honeysuckle is blooming with great profusion. The children are all well.

June 23, 1799. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:13.

Their visit has been a happy memory. She wishes that when William goes to Baltimore, Sad could visit and they would spend hours with J. Jacques (Jean Jacques Rousseau). Mrs. Scott is leaving but talks of returning when William returns. She (Elizabeth) wishes she would since Julia has no summer home and there is danger of yellow fever in Philadelphia. It is a privilege to give a friend what no one else can give.

July 4, 1799. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:14.

She wants Eliza to come now since William is not home — he has gone to Philadelphia seeking health and a release from business. Julia may return, but she will be visiting other friends.

September 9, 1799. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:15.

She wishes for peace, but she is concerned about her father who endures danger at Staten Island every day. Baby Dick took his first steps today.
October 2, 1799. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:16.

She fears that she and Sad will not get together again until winter. She worries about William and the possibility of his contracting the fever since he must go into town every day.

July 20, 1801 [penciled note: “1800?”]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:17.

She asks Sad to find a cook for her; her father is willing to pay any wages since they are living in Quarantine. Dick’s third birthday brings thoughts of Sad and their visit three years before. [A note in Bruté’s handwriting reads: “Never let go this poor Mother 1797!!! — perverted to Rousseau and Emilie by her unhappy friend Mrs. Sadler—”]

[n.d.]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:18.

William has been with her the past three days and Anna has delighted in playing with him. She (Elizabeth) finds time to read *Emilie* (Rousseau’s). She has finished the three volumes, and if she could express her thoughts about his religious ideas, she would lose the limiting circumspection she has so long experienced. She could be E.A.B. instead of E.A.S. and belong to J.J. (Jean Jacques Rousseau). Sad has her share of E.A.S. [Bruté notes: “Oh read at the End!!! O providential 1799 - 1805 - 1821!!”]

Monday morning [n.d.]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:19.

She praises J.J. (Rousseau) to whom she refers in times of sorrow because he makes her forget herself while impressing consolation on her thoughts. She hopes that they may enjoy him together. She has enjoyed the novel *The Children of the Abbey* which Sad has recommended.

[n.d.]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:20.

William is better and all is well in their household.

September 27, 1800. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:21.

Her father does so much to prove his regret for the past which makes her very happy. William has been home the past ten days.

[n.d.]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:22.

She has had little time to write, but she begs Eliza to come if she can tolerate the cold. She herself is almost lame from the cold.
Sunday morning [n.d.]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:23.

Peace and happiness have returned.

June 18, 1801. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:24.

She thanks her for sending the music of a popular Scotch song and asks her to send “Kate of Aberdeen” for her father. She asks Sad to tell her husband that one of her maids sings “Pat’s Wedding” all day long, and the children call it Uncle Sad’s song. She remarks on a passage she read concerning happiness being found only in liberty, an idea they both believe. The dress she sent to Anna fits beautifully.

June 22, 1801. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:25.

Their domestic scene is tranquil, including Rebecca (Seton) who is now with them. William is thinking seriously of accepting his grandfather’s mercantile situation since Mr. Curson is too old to support it by himself.

June 26, 1801. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:26.

Little Dick is so sweet and so good. He is well or, at least, as well as anyone who has been near the unhappy immigrants, whose situation has improved because many have gone and others are housed in new buildings. She asks Sad to take care of William when she sees him because he looks more indisposed than she had ever seen him.

Tuesday morning [1803]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:27.

Everything is ready (for their trip to Italy) for their departure on the 25th, but William grows weaker by the day. She asks again if Sad likes the idea of Anna going with them (to Italy), even though Sad has already advised that Anna should not be separated from her mother and that the voyage will be useful for her and long remembered. As for herself, she trusts in God. Last week she had the pleasure of walking through Quarantine garden where her father had often walked, and then of being rowed around the Island as he had been so many times. Little William visited his grandfather’s grave and wept uncontrollably.

September 2, 1803. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:28.

It is the day to sail, only being detained by some paper not ready. All say that it is a presumptuous undertaking in the light of William’s severe suffering. She relies on the mercy of God, but it seems as if it
is her last hour with all that she loves.

October 3, 1803. To Eliza Sadler. AS/PH 1-3-3-7:29.

They have been on board ship 24 hours. William is improved, Anna is seasick, and she herself is well, with time to look upward.

[n.d.]. To Eliza Sadler. AS/PH 1-3-3-7:30.

The prayers she had sent to Sad were meant to remind her of the necessity of preparing for death. We must reflect that the hour must come to all, prepared or not, so we should pray every day that the mercy and grace of God will be with us in our final moments. Resolutions made on our birthday on earth more easily transfer to our birthday in heaven.

August 28, 1807. To Eliza Sadler. AS/PH 1-3-3-7:31.

She wants to hear how Sad and Due weather the storms as they travel to Ireland. She had found a note written years before by Sad advising her (Elizabeth) on some course of action regarding whether she should stay with the Posts. The advice given sounded so much in word and expression like that given by her Reverend friend (Reverend Tisserant) when she was seeking peace and reconciliation. Her new reverend friend (Reverend Sibourd) speaks the same way. She prays that peace may accompany her dear Eliza.

October 6, 1807. To Eliza Sadler. AS/PH 1-3-3-7:32.

She has been busy nursing sick relatives — Anna (her sister), Mary Post and Helen. She does not know where Eliza is, nor how she is, but she knows she is her friend in spite of the inconsistencies and contradictions of her own (Elizabeth's) nature. Her director reminds her that each day she must begin again to acquire virtue.

November 13, 1807. To Eliza Sadler. AS/PH 1-3-3-7:33.

Lately the parents of her students have become dissatisfied with her management. Mr. Harris (Head of the school) assures her that she deserves no blame. Mr. Wilkes has advised her to give up the position, but where will she go? She hopes that Eliza's journey is going well and awaits word about Due from Dupleix (Due's husband). Cate (Kit) is not well at all, but she (Elizabeth) accepts whatever God wills.

March 20, 1808. To Eliza Sadler. AS/PH 1-3-3-7:34.

She chides her for not having written, especially since letters have
come for other friends in America. She forgives Eliza, though, because of the letter and gown that came for "the little Lady" (Catherine).

April 8, 1808.

She is sorry to hear about Due’s trials and disappointments and would willingly share her sufferings. She has had no letter from London, but has been told by Mr. Cheverus that Mr. Tisserant’s return is uncertain. Her children are more endearing every day, but she does not understand Anna.

January 20, 1809. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:35.

She describes her move and her situation in Baltimore. The school, with its ten boarders and her two boys at the nearby college, along with the $400 per annum from Mr. Filicchi, have been sources of peace and contentment. She is in a situation that Eliza has so long wanted for her, almost in another world. Her girls are being educated in the French system which trains them to be religious and discreet. She endeavors to drive away the past as much as possible — "to receive the daily Bread, and do the Sacred will in the fixed point." As she is drawn on, she looks with greater tenderness on those she loved in the past. When she left New York she was assisted by Brother Post (Wright Post, brother-in-law), James Seton (her half-brother) and Craige (William Craig, widower of her half-sister Emma). Her heart was ready to burst as she sailed past the house on State Street, the quarantine, the shore, but she would not change one detail of the Adored Will.

January 9, 1810. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:36.

She hears that Eliza is back in America, but wonders why it has been nine months since she has heard from her or from Due. She explains her situation now. It is like the System of the Sisters of Charity before and since the Revolution in France. The rule amounts to a regularity necessary for order. Their object is education of the children and sewing and knitting to provide clothing for them and for themselves. They also visit the sick in their limited surroundings. Eliza would be delighted with the simplicity and sincerity of the Sisters.

March 8, 1809 [Dated 1809, but contents indicate 1810]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:37.

When she recollects the past, she immediately follows that with a look upward accepting all as sweet or bitter. She tells about Anna’s
involvement with a student from St. Mary's College, a man of good fortune and superior talents. Anna has the good sense to know that she is too young and that a relationship is tested by separation. She suspects that very soon Cecilia will die.

May 6, 1810. To Eliza Sadler. AS/PH 1-3-3-7:38.

Cecilia (Seton), despite consultation with physicians in Baltimore, has died and is buried in the woods close by their dwelling. She asks Eliza to have Craige take the enclosed receipt to Murray's in exchange for money to pay the boys' bills. She wonders if Murray will make the exchange since it has been so long since she has heard from the Filicchis. If Murray refuses, Craige will interest himself. Anna is in Baltimore with Mrs. R. Barry, who will be vigilant.

May 27, 1810. To Eliza Sadler. AS/PH 1-3-3-7:39.

She tells her to thank Craige for carrying out her commission. She is well except for a weakness in the breast. Yesterday, about twenty Sisters and the children went to the grotto to say the Divine Office and then dined on cold ham and cream pies. Richard is a loving boy, while William wants to make money and gain reputation while, at the same time, to serve God and to please Him.

November 27, 1810. To Eliza Sadler. AS/PH 1-3-3-7:40.

Eliza should be pleased to hear that Blessed Cheverus will take their messages to Eliza soon. She hopes that Eliza will hear him speak.

May 12, 1811. To Eliza Sadler. AS/PH 1-3-3-7:41.

She feels that Eliza is suffering in some way and she would love to relieve her. She sympathizes with her on the death of her uncle and wonders if Craig's illness should be decisive. She gives little details about each of her children. She begs Eliza to come to visit and wishes that both Eliza and Due could see the beauty and peace of her surroundings.

July 22, 1811. To Eliza Sadler. AS/PH 1-3-3-7:42.

She hopes that all the loved ones in New York are well, but she hears that there is much sickness there. How she would love to visit with Eliza, and Due and Mary (her sister). It would be good for their health and they would appreciate seeing Anna as she is now — advanced in character, spirit, mind, and religious practice. The flowers of spring on the graves of her loved ones have withered in the
drought.

[n.d., the outside is postmarked August 3, the content suggests 1810]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:43.

She reassures Eliza about her present situation, so congenial to her own sentiments and disposition. She loves the solitude, the country life, and the necessities of life without the care or trouble of providing them. She can only continue in this way of life as long as it does not interfere with her duties to her children. She talks about the order, regularity, and quiet of each day even in the midst of 50 children.

November 25, 1811. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:44.

William (her son) and Anna have improved after an illness; so has she, after suffering with boils under the arm, such as she had had in New York. For every pain, though, there are one hundred comforts. Would that Eliza and Due could see their mountains and bright skies!

February 13, 1812. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:45.

Anna is dying. Both mother and daughter are resigned. Fits of coughing, gasping breath, and agonizing pain give evidence that the end is near.

March 19, 1812. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:46.

Anna has died (March 12) and is buried beside Harriet and Cecilia in the little wood. Kitty and Rebecca reflect the peace and rest in God found in their mother, while the boys, after a reminder from her, took the news like men. She asks Eliza to have Craige draw the enclosed (from Murray) for her boys.

May 3, [1812]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:47.

Anna was born seventeen years ago today. She talks about Anna’s virtues and her courage at the time of death. They have found the word “eternity” written in Anna’s books, music, and copies.

August 2, 1812. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:48.

She hopes this letter will not reach Eliza too late for her desired plan. If she arrives in Baltimore, she must find a way to the valley. A private hack is $25, and there is no public carriage. Elizabeth will write to Dr. Chatard’s wife in Baltimore who will certainly assist her.
September 11, 1812. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:49.

She is disappointed that Eliza had traveled so far but had been unable to get to Elizabeth and her children and the mountains. She talked with someone who had known her family, a pleasure that was so exciting. How much more so if she could see the family themselves! The children are well and so sensitive to her feelings.

November 10, 1812. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:50.

She writes for Eliza and Due because she has been busy — children with measles, her own breast fatigued, and many letters to boarders’ parents. Children are well and happy except for Rebecca who is in pain and will be lame for life.

September 17 [n.d.]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:51.

Though letters are not as frequent, she still regards her with the same affection as in past years. She is excited about Due’s forthcoming visit. Due will find a welcome place to stay in Baltimore with Doctor and Mrs. Chatard.

1813. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:52.

She is concerned about Mary’s (Post) health and the voyage Mary is taking for her health. She remarks that Helen (Bayley) has had to endure as many separations as she (Elizabeth) has. Giddy Kate will grow wiser after a few whippings.

[September 28, 1813]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:53.

Due has arrived and is now resting after her journey. Only Eliza could understand how happy Elizabeth is to have Due with her.

March 23, 1814. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:54.

Her greatest anxiety, at present, is the future of her two sons. William, age 17, must part from her and go out on his own, as some of his school friends have already done. She has thought of asking Craig to take the Filicchi $400 and set William up in some counting house; however, she hesitates when she recalls that Craig has had previous trouble with the Setons. As for Richard, age 15, he is still dreaming.

[1815]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:55.

She asks Eliza to be kind to William while he (William) is in New York. Craig is to meet him to send him on to France and then to Italy
where he will get into the mercantile business with the Filicchis. The friend who accompanies William is Reverend Mr. Bruté.

October 8, 1815. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:56.

Catherine is in New York and she (Elizabeth) wants Eliza to write about how Catherine is getting along, and, also, how Wright Post is. Rebecca has been taken to Philadelphia to consult a doctor about the tumor on her leg. William is now settled in Leghorn where everyone is so kind to him. He requested that his mother thank Aunt Sad and Due for being so good to him in New York.

[n.d., but written after November 3, 1816]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:57.

She assures Eliza that her long silence has not been due to any coldness or neglect caused by her (Eliza's) religion. On the contrary, it has been her religion that has brought her thoughts closest to Eliza. As for faith, she has learned to leave that to God except when it is her duty to speak up. Her life has changed somewhat since Rebecca's death since she now has time to resume management of St. Joseph's and has more daily contact with the hundred souls in her care. She feels old and, because of her constant sitting with Rebecca, one of the sinews of her left leg has contracted, making her lame and slow moving.

August 24, 1817. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:58.

William is back, having discovered his unsuitability for a mercantile career, due to his weak fingers (poor handwriting) and his persistent desire to join the navy. Richard has replaced him in Leghorn. Sisters Rose and Cecilia are in New York, and she hopes that Eliza and Due will call on them. Kit is in New York.

May 5, 1818. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:59.

She wants Kit to come back from New York, especially since her health is delicate and she could soon die as her sisters had. If she would want to return to New York in the winter, she could. She is anxious about Mary's (Post) trip to Nassau for health reasons and about her poor sailor boy William. It seems Sister Rose has found relief for rheumatism. She will write Due so Craig can try it.

[n.d., but Sad went to France in 1819]. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:60.

She is amused and surprised to hear that Eliza has gone to France.
She thinks that Eliza will be more in the element she was made for. She wishes Eliza could see Kit in her home surroundings instead of the picture she got in New York. The "circumstances" in which Kit was caught up simply prove that she is a child of nature yet.

April 2, 1819. To Eliza Sadler. ASJPH 1-3-3-7:61.

She is happy to hear about Helen's (Sad's daughter) babies. William wrote in December and should be near the Cape now. With the return of spring, all is well.
Since, by the grace of God, we want only what He wills, we will await with great patience the time His Providence has ordained for the fulfillment of His plans.

(Saint Vincent de Paul, letter to Edme Jolly, 27 September 1658)