Well did I know the Sompbility of our back every intimation prosper for the gratification "greatest Wift" Brot having to perfute Scould not but enjoy mingled conflict of papions which the was sure that The annielies remain but a short Time would from be overlalance Soones, my dear Daughter! the will moved for the Safe heeping -

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by the Maine Historical Society (Local Code: Coll. s-1247 MS-00-448 Vol. 1 Misc. Box 5/5)

Date: May 3, 1800

Description: Letter from Peleg Wadsworth to his daughter, Elizabeth, about the lock of George Washington's hair received from Martha Washington

Philada\_ 3d May 1800

Well did I know the sensibility of my dear Eliza & therefore intentionally kept back every intimation of the means pursued for the gratification of her "greatest wish." But having so perfectly succeeded, I could not but enjoy the mingled conflict of passions which the full Disclosure would produce since I was sure that the anxieties could remain but a short time & perhaps would soon be overbalanced—

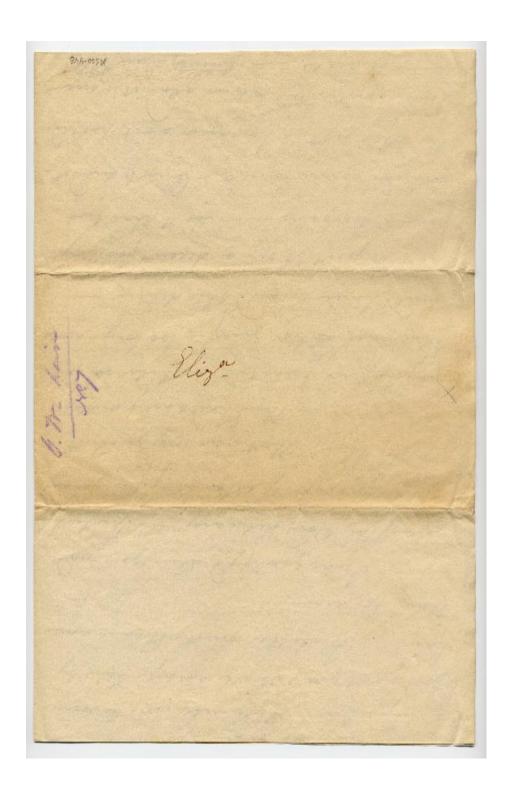
Yours of the 24<sup>th</sup> ulto acknowleging [sic] the receit of the relic, well pourtrayed your feelings--& permit a parent to indulge --your Goodness, my dear Daughter!

We will provide for the Safe keeping--

On my return, which will now be soon. - but don't give it all away - hair by hair - Grabella must not have more than One \_ Ivas gratify Then gow made upe of the Word "delicary" in Speaking of the process of obtaining this facous of Mm M\_ that was my qualent concern - The Phan early within my Letter, Ivanter a shile in compliance of her great - too long - again would have man of the defign how to first it on a decent foothing was a program - in short Than two minds Some Times - One to send it. The Other not - however aget has hade Some contented so own glad it is over - to well - affectionally abren 20m

On my return, which will now be soon.
--but don't give it all away—hair by
hair—Isabella must not have more
than One—

I was gratifyd when you made use of the word "delicacy" in speaking of the process of obtaining this favour of Mrs W-- that was my greatest concern – tho I had early written my Letter I waited a while in compliance with her grief—too long – again would have marr'd the design—how to put it on a decent footing was a puzzle—in short I had two minds sometimes – One to send it – the Other not—however as it has Ended I am contented & am glad it is over ---so well—affectionately adieu PW



Eliz<u>a</u>