

Sherrard Forest

Oct. 21. 1849

My Dear Sir:

Julia enclosed you by last mail a letter from Fannie and my reply. Since then I have received a letter from Mr. J. M. Speed of Lynchburg, who writes at the request of a person whose name is not given, enquiring into prices &c. to whom I have answered in the same terms as to Prentiss. You see therefore that the applications thicken however long the sale may be postponed. I thought it best to deny the ^{privilege} right to Milford and Harsham to extract iron coal from the Carey vein, for the present at least, in order to make them more desirous of purchasing the entire tract. This conduct in wasting the timber is measurable, after the grant of way for this road thro' the land. This is all that it occurs to me to say upon that subject, except indeed that I fell in with some old agent in Baltimore whose name neither Julia or myself can remember, but through whom you tried to make the stock concern in the property, who said to me that he had been called away from the country before he could complete the arrangement, but seemed to think that it might well enough be done now. What if you write to him concerning it? He is now in Baltimore. Your letter to Stuart &c was altogether appropriate. Mr. King has given us a lesson by which I trust both Julia and

myself will profit. I am done with the
credit system. My first draft on you
for \$1500 was discounted on the 10. July at
4 months. and falls due 10-13 November.
The draft for \$750 was discounted at Norfolk
on the 19 July at 4 months and falls due
14-21 Nov^r. In view of mail difficulties
you had better forward acceptances without
delay. How anxiously do I desire to relieve
us both from the trouble of these matters.
To accomplish it at the earliest day, my
best motions will be directed. It
will not fail to give you pleasure to be
informed that a suit for 2000 acres of land
in the County of Albemarle in this State
in which I am interested to the extent
of 500 acres (a beautiful estate in itself)
has been decided in favor of the Plffs.
with whom my interest runs. Time
of 90 days has been granted the Defendants
to take an appeal if they can prevail
on any Judge of the C^t of Appeals to say
there is error, which it is not believed they
will be able to do. The property is be-
lieved to be valuable and I hope to be
in possession of my position before the
winter goes by. If so, the clouds may
all be dissipated and embarrassments
be put an end to. I have procured
two strong young horses for the carriage
upon whom I can rely for service, at \$250 con-
sidering it idle to give a higher price for
horses to be used but seldom in this retired
region.

It has given us great pleasure to hear

of Mr. Beckman's arrival in California altho' it
was somewhat marred by tidings of his uncer-
tain position. We await the news by the Fal-
con and Ohio with some anxiety. If our best
wishes could avail Mr. B. any thing, he should
return at no distant day with his pockets
well lined with the precious metal. We shall
know nothing of Col. B.'s circumstances from
himself until his return, but when he shall
write that he has made enough to pay his
propose some stock set it down that he is
in possession of \$50,000 in gold dust. We hope
at an early day in Nov^r to see you all here.

One passing incident. We have had a
great celebration of the 19th ~~Nov~~ Oct. the anniver-
sary of the surrender of Cornwallis in this County.
The Richmond Troop of Cavalry and Company
of Artillery uniting with the Ch^r City Hussars
upon being toasted & made them a speech
which was applauded to the very echo.
A more jolly set of fellows you never
saw.

Attend at once to the drafts and
forward them without delay.

Truly & affectionately Yrs

J. Tyler

P.S. I write on this paper
because it gives me most room
for a long letter.

Alex Gardner Esq.