

Saratoga Springs

Aug. 27. 1850

My Dear Col:

Julia and myself with our little family, arrived here early in the month and took up our lodgings with your mother who had rented the rooms of a comfortable house for the accommodation of all. The time has passed very pleasantly with us except indeed that it has been interrupted by two of her habitual attacks of headache on the part of your mother. From one she is now recovering and I hope that another day will find her as well as usual. For the remarkable fact exists that these attacks however violent, are ephemeral in their nature, and seemingly make no inroad upon her Constitution. This is greatly to be rejoiced at. Margaret is gradually recovering from the terrible blow she has experienced having borne up undaunted with Christian fortitude. Alexander looks at every girl of note that falls in his way - makes up his mind for a moment to be pleased with some one, but soon discovers some defect and relapses back into his previous state of old bachelorship. Julia is monoumed by those who see her, as being more Queen-like

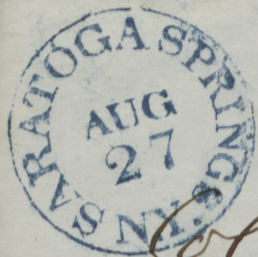
than four weeks from the fact of her having grown somewhat larger, and as to myself I am often pronounced younger in appearance than I was ten years ago - For my own part I cannot disguise the fact that age will tell, and a sexagenarian is not whatever others may say of it as young as he was at thirty - Margaret's boy is small but tall and is in good health and is sprightly in his intellect - Your namesake is growing apace and his brother Alexander falls not far behind while our little Julia is the brightest and best thing I ever saw - Thus have I presented you a coup d'oeil of our household - Margaret and myself regularly visit the fountain of health before breakfast while Julia grows fat on sleep, and Alexander manages to reach the breakfast table in time for his cups of Tea - The rest of the day is taken up in strolls about the village either on foot or in the carriage and in making and receiving visits - Many of your old acquaintances are here, or have been, whose names you will see in the Herald as attendants on the Fancy Ball at which Julia and myself were gazers at a distance - The village has been crowded to excess, ~~the~~ much so that the large and capacious hotels have had to colonize many of their visitors - But the crowd is rapidly

dispersing, and the streets will soon be deserted
by the gay and bright throng of fashionable
beaux and belles and dashing equipages - For
myself ~~also~~ ^{as} the time arrives for us to depart
on our way to Old Virginia, I ~~shall~~ look to
my agricultural employments with renewed
and increased pleasure - But a new work
is to be made by the fashionables before Septem-
-ber papers away - All ears are already strained
to catch the earliest notes of the Swedish
Nightingale, Jenny Lind, who is according
to the papers already on the waters of the
Atlantic and is expected to arrive early
in September - Burnum is building a new
Musical Saloon of dimensions to accommodate
5000 persons and the papers announce that
every place is taken at \$5. a seat - What
think you gold diggers and dealers in mar-
chandize of this mode of making money -
Jenny for a hundred nights gets \$186,000
and Burnum will most probably realize
his \$200,000 - See, in her case, the advantage
of voice over hands - of song over labour - We
shall not return to Virginia without participating
in this fever of song - And now my
Dear Col. how are you getting on at your City
of San Diego - Does the round of lumps of gold

The chance of your hearing from him, as he has brought
himself to think that his letters have not been carried -
all join in love - yrs truly J. G. Taylor

which fall upon your eardrums make sweeter
music in your ears, than the notes of fifty night-
ingales united to as many Mock-birds -
I confess that the sound of the chime has something
a vast deal more substantial in it. And then
it is in the pocket ready to make other music
whenever you may please to put it in requi-
sition. Now all writing apart, while I know
that you are aware of what best becomes you,
yet I may venture to say that if your business
is profitable and holds out the prospect of
future wealth I would not abandon it, or
too soon give it up. If you conclude to visit
us can you not do so, and trust the conduct
of the business to your partner. If you had
Laywell with you, you and your partner
might come and go at pleasure. I warrant
nothing in saying that he would be dili-
gent and as true and faithful as you
could desire. He is moreover perfectly amia-
ble and expresses a strong desire to be do-
ing something for himself.

Alexander leaves us this evening
for New York. He is much troubled
by not hearing from you. His several
shipments were consigned to you and
he gets nothing from you. It occurred
to me to mention this, so as to multiply



FREE

J. Tyler

Col. David L. Gardiner

San Diego

California

By mail
Steamer