Saratoga Springs
Dec. 27, 1806

My dear Col:

Julie 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 been 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 occurs 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 under with Christian fortitude. Alexander looks at every girl of note that falls in his way, matters with 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 bachelorhood. Julia is pronounced by those who see her, as being more dream-like.
than formerly, 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.sperianisation is not whatever other 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 strictly in her intellect. Your namesake is growing up and he and his brother Alexander falls not far behind, while our little Julia is the brightest and best thing I ever saw. Thus have I mentioned you a couple 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 cup 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 new acquaintances. Many of your old acquaintance are here or have been. Where 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, so that the large and capacious hotels have had to colonize many of their visitors. But the crowd is rapidly
dispersing, and the theatre will soon be devoted by the gay and bright throng of fashionable beau and belles and dashing equipages— for myself when the time arrives for us to depart on our way to Old Virginia, I trust look to my agricultural employments with renewed and increased pleasure. But a new mark is to be made by the fashionable before Septem-
ber. Papers away—all ears are already strained to catch the earliest notes of the Sacred Harp Nightingale, Penny Land, who is according to the papers already on the western side of the Atlantic and is expected to arrive early in September. Barzun is building a new Musical Saloon of dimensions to accommodate 5,000 persons and the papers announce that every place is taken at 5: a seat. What think you gold diggers and dealers in mer-
chandise of this mode of earning money—penny for a hundred nights get 15,000 and Barzun will most probably realize his 206,000. 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 sound of lumps of gold
which fall upon your ear more secretly
than the notes of fifty night
engales united to as many Mock-terns,
I confess that the sound of the church has something
a vast deal more substantial in it. And then
in the pocket ready to make other music
whenever you may please to put it in requisition.
Now all writing about, while I know
that you are aware of such book becomes not
yet I must 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 join
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 venture
nothing in saying that he would be delib-
egant and so true and faithful as you
could desire. He is moreover perfectly unfe-
bale and not proof 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 concealed to you and
he gets nothing from you. It occurs
to me to mention this, so as to multiply
FREH
Saratoga Springs Aug 27
J. Tyler
Col. David L. Gardiner
San Diego
California
By mail from steamer