Dear Mother,

I write you by a vessel leaving here on the day of our arrival which was necessarily delayed as I had but a few moments allowed me to despatch it. Since then we have been very busy in getting our ships in order, & the next presents a neat & nautical appearance decidedly in contrast with that of the Maybach Squadron.

We have been most hospitably entertained on shore by some very agreeable American gentlemen, local and foreign of course, in Commercial Speculations, my observations have been many & varied. I am aware that I have seen, my letter would far exceed both my time & the ordinary limits of epistolary production, not that I think my Dear Mother would mind with reading my letter, but I have duties which I must of course discharge, & this unfortunately is just the sine qua non for me to inspect my books. So that my descriptions must be postponed until I write from Havana, which I shall do immediately on my arrival there.

Briefly then, Port au Prince, is encamped completely, surrounded with mountains, that present a most peculiar appearance, a hue that I can only describe as a violet buge, the City stretches far along the bay side & really picturesque, so much so, for the physical characteristics, if I employ a better word to give an idea of appearance; for its Architecture, Society, so I assure until I can do justice to the peculiarities of those negro Legislators, their Country, which is one of great fertility with a charming climate being less unhealthy as our friends assure us. Than many parts of the Union; but its great resources are past, & I fear never to be developed under
such a twisted Govt. at this — which is futile for all purposes
of practical good; thing for all purposes of evil! — No use
at all, and no fret about the fearful atrocities which have
been committed by these devils. Their fathers are some of
the most perfect tranquil loveliness.

From Havana I write you of our reception at
The Court of His Black Majesty. The Embajador Solages
who is very black, very fat & very fancy-looking in his dark
uniform — I cannot seriously refrain from laughing at the
importance of Emperor & Court, & such a Court!

On the 11th of next month he resumes the imperial crown
which he once placed upon his own forehead, at a formal
ceremony. His French & English Ships will be present —
I suppose the scene will be a nice combination of the
grand & the ridiculous — by that time however we were in
Havana, — I shall enjoy the luxury of letters from home —
a happiness, which I would not exchange for Solages
Empire — Yesterday I saw a grand procession; the
funeral of one of Solages Generals. For the solemnity
of death, it must have been beyond any conception ridic
ulous: The negro Priest, the negro Soldier, the negro Offic
Staff, & the little negroes of all ages, made up a com-
ical picture — after great difficulty the "Solages" went
out into some extraordinary order of march; the Band
Marched up & down shot moved the Piece, while the little
Soldiers, the drummers burst out delightful sounds — Then Solages
were the flower — Chieftain of the Army; some with caps, some
with hats, & every hue of coat therein — near Virginia Militie
that looked so fine, while these Neroes were utterly
A moment of rest or sleep — at the grave they spoke mildly.

Their valley, which seemed much like the Chautara, Kaltai, at home just about as regular — it was long. As a specimen of their likely to, I saw the Pilgrim solemnly folded their hands

for some time often as the others sat between — while the

sun on the Pilgrim informed me that there was some danger.

But of these things I must write more elaborately.

A Sketch of Society, etc. etc. I venture to attempt under several

pages. And now for home, how shall the word, it is a lamenta-
to guard on decent; for when temptation comes as it often does

I think of home, of my mother's dear face & I have always &

(I will aver) found the place potent for my protection. And un-

independently of any such moral agency, the reflection that

I am now nearly 25 years old & quite a man would control

any disposition which I might feel timidly go in the dissipated, free harry, devil. May, are habits of these

places; & it is a fact somewhat marvelous that in climate,

true life is less certain in its tenure, they adopt habits more calculated

to abbreviate it. — And now Beaurt Mother, by the time this reaches

yet I shall be too off for Pennsylvania, or arrive there probably about

the time that an answer would from home — so that likely you

must let me of all the little occasions of home which will be

a noticeable, one the little scandal of marriages, love-making etc.

Miss Susie has of course returned to H. since the death of Mr. All

of which I heard at St. John de Nicaragua from Dr. Woman of the Mission. 

What effect is this likely to exercise upon her impulsiveness in that quarter?

A dispatch has just arrived from Scatmela, a town near us

on the coast, saying that The Commodore is there, what effect

it may have upon the immediate movements of the ships I don't
A thousand kisses my Mother - love to all -
Arent fear Mary - the common presence
will not affect our movements I send a flower
a jasmine.