Washington March 4th 1857

Dear Sir:

You doubtless think it a little strange that you have not heard from us before this; but there has been no news from George since that letter I sent you; Uncle Charles had a talk with Capt. Hart since his return from California; he says that when he was in San Francisco George & Cornell & Storm were all suffering from Fever & Ague but Storm was well & he advised them to leave the place as soon as they could; so there was no home employment; with the sand blowing in, I should think they followed his advice as soon as possible; he said the morning they left was lovely and the sail set. The boys and mine very much felt; so much so that it set George on his feet again; the fever here at once and he appeared almost well (so much for enjoying) and resigning the good that is before us, he went on going ashore; the lads said he was pressed for time but as he seemed so anxious he would indulge him if he could; so they all went on shore built a fire and cooked a meal. He says you look off against towering hills; that occurred with wild life and the food on cold out. This grew as wild as the setting but George gathered some of the sort as a trophy of his mesh and seemed to enjoy it very much and assured me that he thought down to the last cat food for such an expedition he didn't know where (that was storing) talked most to me much about his apple trees. I was interrupted very agreeably with Thomasine coming flying in.
Smith seemed in first-rate health & spirits; he & Smith continue at London yet; Mott in the Factory, etc.

Smith in a Public House (odd business for a Unit)

by what I can find out, Smith & his partners had a blow-up & dissolved, Smith taking one part of the property

and the rest another its very fine house South on's

entirely new and well furnished; I hope he will make

Smith boards with him; though their business is separate

there has been but little change in affairs since you left

consequently there is but little to write about,

Several of

those men here a few days since they were all well as usual (with Rufus Burton 3rd & G.)

Franklin & Elizabeth had been at school but had both left

and went to New York.

Frankly and Rufus could not agree; it seemed they had pre

mission to make a visit in neighborhood; and Hank

and two or three other overheard Rufus telling the girl

that if any such boys came there after they got there they

must come straight back, so the boys put on a show of

and got there first, so as not to disobey orders, and spent

the afternoon with them, which offended Rufus highly,

so that she came home; Frankly's plan of leading the

girl was quite a failure. I thought it

to think that I should look upon this, but I supposed

I should as I want to hear from you; tell her

I think it full-time. I heard from her last,

I think; I still think of seeing you

at another occasion, whether in the summer or fall.
I do not know yet what depend on circumstances

I want you to write and let us know when we get in
the California papers so as ever we meet, and I want you to

have little Norgren going with her talking. I did not like to