Saratoga Aug 2d. 1853

My dear Sarah,

I arrived here safe about eight O'clock last evening, after what would have been an abominably ~~~~ tedious journey in former times; but which I found rather tedious from interruptions and delays: waiting at certain places on the single track for down trains to arrive and pass and above all, being detained between three and four hundred hours in Troy, one of the most noisy, rackety places on the whole world; especially in front of the hotel where I ~~stopped~~ stopped and where all the rail road trains and omnibuses in the world seemed

to have a rendezvous - and all the porters, hackmen, loafers and Rowdies combined to make a clamor; the only thing that quieted them for a time was a storm of rain that came on of a sudden and threatened to produce a second deluge - It lasted until late in the evening and at intervals in the night - but has ended by clearing the sultry heat and producing bright tendered weather.

At Jamestown I found young Mr McVickar about to take a seat in the cars on his way to the mountains and lakes of Hamilton County. He was equipped as an angler, and was to be joined at Saratoga by Robert Winthrop. We kept together all day, and I found him a most agreeable companion. No one could be more kind, obliging and attentive; more thoroughly the amiable gentleman. This morning as I walked out to take the waters at the Spring I found him. Robert Winthrop and Emily Constant just about setting off on their excursion, all equipped in angler style, with their patent rods neatly bound up to the dimensions of walking staffs. Three nicer or better suited companions I have never seen; I gave them my parting wishes for plenty of sport and a pleasant excursion. The latter they are sure to have; from the stock of good spirits and right feelings that they carry with them.

I found an excellent room ready for me, which Mr Frank Granger had vacated in the morning - though I deeply regretted

her departure heavily calculated much on his society. I was received with a hearty welcome by the Kennedys, and by several of my acquaintances of last year. and Old Mr Gray is in full force; his little Grandson Louis is a addition to here, and he has had a piano brought up from Albany that she may practice at the cottage which he and the Kennedys occupy. So we shall have a relish of the life we led at Meads Mills; and somewhat of the same set gathered together.

Last night I slept soundly and sweetly after the days journey. This morning I have commenced taking the waters - and feel that the change of scene and the meeting with friends have already had an influence, about upon me -

My paper is full - I have barely room to send love to all the families & the two Henrys Yours affectionately ever W. I.

P.S. We shall see Jonnard [illegible] this week & tell him how we left Mrs Lady Dunmore & Miss Van Buren

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