

Cassides, June 22^d 1852.

My dear Sarah,



I write merely to keep you informed of my movements, for I am in no mood for pen exercise this warm weather, and the letter I scrawled to Kate a day or two since gave me a weariness of the brain.

Mr John Kennedy and myself left Elliotts Mills yesterday (Monday) morning, in the train which passed at nine o'clock. I left ~~that~~ the hospitable nest of Mr Gray with great reluctance, having passed a most delightful time there; but I left it with the consolation that I should return there after my excursion among the mountains. We had an extremely hot drive of about a hundred miles, but through lovely scenery. The road was

follows up the course of the Potomac
to its head springs - and a romantic
stream it is throughout. The road then
crosses some fine open fertile country
on the summit of Elk ridge and ~~then~~
~~down~~ descends along the course of Republic
Creek and the Monocacy to the Potomac
all beautiful; At Harper's Ferry we
changed cars and pushed on to
Charleston, where we found Mr
Andrew ~~Kennedy~~ Kennedy waiting for us
with his carriage. A drive of about a
mile and half brought us to his seat
whence this letter is dated. Here
I am in the centre of the magnificent
valley of the Shenandoah - the great
valley of Virginia, and a glorious valley
it is - equal to the promised land for
fertility; far superior to it for beauty
and inhabited by an infinitely superior
people - choice though not chosen.
Mr Kennedy inhabits a fine spacious

stone mansion, standing on a rising
ground among noble forest trees and
commanding extensive prospects over the
wide varied region comprised in this
valley. Here I am made completely at
home, as I am every where - in their family
connexion. Mr Kennedy was with us for a
time last winter at Washington, so that
I met him as an old acquaintance.
His daughter Mary Kennedy, who supplied
the place of a niece to me at Washington
was at home, and I find her still more
amiable and charming in her own home
than she was when gracing her uncle's
establishment at the Capital. The weather
is excessively hot - but we manage
to get on pleasantly by keeping windows
closed until evening. And as there is good
company, cheerful and intelligent conver-
sation - and occasionally a little music
time slips away ~~with~~ delightfully. Tomor-
row ~~I expect~~ to go in company with the
two Mr Kennedys on a visit to Mr Washington
Lewis, who has a noble ~~estate~~ about 10 miles

under off, where we shall remain until
the next day. ~~the house has been~~

I have several places to visit in this
vicinity connected with the history of
Worcester, after which we shall push
on to the mountains where we shall
find a cooler temperature. Notwithstanding
the heat of the weather my excursion
hitherto has been one of constant enjoy-
ment; how could I be otherwise surrounded
as I continually am by hospitality and
most agreeable people and in the midst of
glorious scenery.

Give my love to all ladies



Your affectionate uncle
Worcester Spring

affectionate Uncle

This is a ~~very~~ warm but I cannot write
a better one - I find my head will not
bear work of this kind.