

Novis. Sunday. Augt 12th 1843

How the summer seems to have run round dear Alf with
out any thing very particular to mark it; except your absence. & your
occasional letters which are dear in our lives; the last that we
received were to Mary & G.L.S. from the Pyrenees. where it would
seem you had passed your time most agreeably. Gage was some
what disappointed that you did not give a more minute account of his
friend Mrs Soundes, is she still witty? & sharp as she was said to have
been? we of course think of you now quite ensconced in your own
apartments, though we shall all be most happy to have our
suppositions confirmed; for as Ma says there is no knowing in these
troublesome times what might happen. Should you be mistaken for
an Englishman? though I suppose it is quite as much to think that
the secretary of Legation could be mistaken for any body but him-
self - John Espartero is the object of interest & compassion here, for
now in all this confusion ^{is} to add that he ~~should~~ ^{seem} be the winner
I cannot conceive; just before your last letter arrived Bo had
brought us up a book written by an Mr. Taux, describing his
~~travels~~ ^{tour} to the Pyrenees. so that we felt quite familiar with the
places you visited, I have been trying to read Beckford's travels
in Spain & Portugal, but we find them too egotistical to be amusing.
I am quite disappointed as I had formed an exaggerated opinion
of them, & had expected great pleasure. As to our movements
there is little to be told, though we do contrive to be on the move
yet the circle is small; Mary has told you of our visit to Sandy
Hook, since then one Picnic has come off in a most getting rain
highly ludicrous, we had appointed the day some time before
invited the Mintons, prepared the baskets, & accordingly though
the clouds looked promising set sail without any wind &
drifted up to Silver Hook. when there we thought it was best to

try for the master of the cottage. So Bow was deputized a committee
of sixteen & succeeded in buying off two mid-winter's storms. The
with a small but choice addition to the larder, the best loaf
of bread in the world; we then crept out to try to get the Hoffman's to stay
but in vain, by this time the work commenced operations, & a
& Mountain we had a capital dinner & a great deal of fun
when in the midst of all, down came the rain in torrents. The cabin
became warm, the sky light had to be taken off to admit the
air, & the water of course followed. We had had a great deal
notwithstanding for the angelic Mountain is being flung on such
occasions & he is a truly good fellow, full of merriment & mirth
Mountain upon every thing that is going on, so it ended in our all
coming ashore at the cottage. His leading the carriage round
for his, their going immediately home. Of the friends passing the
night with Mountain. He had written to you, and about about
the drought, you will now have to hear about the floods. It com-
menced raining in the evening of Saturday, a week ago. In
the morning though it was clear, we found all the bridges
carried away between Farm town & Dobbs Ferry our last
entrance impassable & we were obliged to still a week in
embodiment. But they cannot use it. The cottage was at last
run up to the drains, a great triumph. George, who was laughing
at, when he built them, on the edge of them. The fun went
up all night & along out. I was in town last week, & saw
our Uncle & Aunt Phil in their new house, it is the smallest
boy you can imagine it appears to us who are accustomed
to moderate sized houses, what a place. I saw the palace
however, palace or cottage. There was a more complete
picture of happiness or delight seen than the worthy Gohltz
face, smiling & showing every thing. The wife included
as he always does - with the greatest gladness.

the course let us sit through our happy - she had
been with us a little but Mountain
have much more to say. He had behaved very well & would be
going down by the Duane today when the tide makes, at three.
There is a young wife there & then in the railroad tomorrow to London
to pass some days. From there to Aunt Sam, & to home. I am
going down the end of the week to Litchfield. I. Bowdoin is
here in the Green, which is a very good house. He is
the son of a rich man & in short a very good deal
odd bodies of that kind. They were expecting Mr. Smith
to spend a few days with them, but I rather doubt that his business
at this particular moment will not permit him to go. He is
much worse to be sure. The lady who is engaged to be
married to a young man, had been staying at Mrs. Seldons, who got out at
the stupidity of the country. Good & Jane Leggs, sister of the
Springs, Boston & New York. Said is a man of great talents, very
gentlemanly, good for a hand through the face, plain, not at all
from China upon which subject he was wonderfully copied
for coming he passed in it. In the Constitution of to Boston
which is the great place of business for you. Paul Schuyler has
returned from Boston came up with Mr. Grover to the cottage
on Saturday. He went down with George this morning, where
he stayed. Though I don't know whether you rather will allow
him to stay long. As you know the release I can appreciate
his father. I am a dear little baby & I am beginning to walk
and is so small that it appears very comical. He had a
wonderful fall from a high place last week he is completely better
now. He is a very good & kind hearted man. He is a director & came
on in business. Wrote to you as ever. He says he is going to Europe in the

fall - to pass the winter in Italy, the spring in Madrid, I wish we could induce him to renounce it, as it would be much more agreeable for you to see him directly from home, you see we calculate upon a prolonged absence, that is - I do not flatter myself that we shall see you soon, as I should hate to be disappointed. It seems to me best to think of your coming as a thing at a distance. Then the sooner the letter, or the picture - the picture when can we to see that, I want your face as it now is with the additional

from Angelica.
 Aug. 14th 1843

Alexander Hamilton
 Secy Legation U.S.
 Madrid

I am writing this on Monday. the 13th of Aug. You will have later dates from home. I do not think it would be safe to keep this any longer - I had well time to Mr. Henry's other Manuscripts. But I am both looking as well as I can take them - I must see them

of Monstrosities &c, I was interrupted by the sound of wheels - it proved to be MacKenzie & his wife & Mrs. Perry, we were there a few days ago, I found a Mr. Foster from Boston there, who was sent to take his lady's allston's picture has been opened, & is found complete, except the figure of Belshazzar, which had been rubbed out; it is said when he first heard it, it was finished except some unimportant strokes but that he tried to improve several of the figures & had not finished the King - the Philadelphians have sent the Lord to MacKenzie which is said to be very handsome.

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