

Mission Creek Janry 15<sup>th</sup> 1856

Dear Thomas,

I recd your letter of 22<sup>nd</sup> ult in a week after it was written, and as Edmund wrote to you a few days after, I have deferred writing to this time, indeed we have had so much snow and rain since we have had no communications from the village for upward of ten days; and Edmund having had another attack of chill, I have had but little inclination to write to any one. He is now up and as well as usual, but I shall look for another attack in three or four weeks, tho I think the last attack was lighter than the preceeding ones. We now have the third snow in the garden since about the 20<sup>th</sup> December. The first barely covered the ground. The second about two inches deep and a goodeal of it lay on the ground untill last Friday night (11<sup>th</sup>) when the present snow fell to 7 or 8 inches deep, and has melted very little as yet, being hard enough to bear a man all the forpart of the day, so you see we have very cold weather here. Willie came down to see us on the 4<sup>th</sup> Janry and returned on the 9<sup>th</sup>, he looked better then when he left home and said he had not had a days sickness, he seems pleased with Greenville & his business and thinks Mr. Issac's well satisfied with him, he has been staying for some time with his aunt Eliza Earle and Emma says in his letters, (she is in Greenville) that

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his aunt says e is one of the best boys in the world and that when Theodor comes home Will must still stay part of his time with her. She is much pleased with Emma and begged so hard for her to stay <sup>longer</sup> in Greenville that we had to consent for her to stay untill February – she has given Emma a handsome dress – sent your Ma one & Lucy two dresses with some other things. Your Uncle Henry says he likes Emma better than of his relations he ever saw. Butler T. + Mary returned from N.CA about the time Will went up – he inquired where Emma was and said he was going to send for her – Henry went up with Willy and remained one day he was pleased with his trip and said his aunt Eliza told him not to think of marrying untill he was 25 and his face would get him a wife anytime. Agnes Thompson speaks of coming home with Emma. You see I have (contrary to usual habit) written you a goodeal of nonsense, but as I had little else to write it may not be entirely uninteresting.

The boil on my head is well, but there is itching on the scalp occationally, without sores, so far as I able to judge, my general health is better and I am more fleshy than when you were at home, and so is your Mother, more so than she has been for several years. Lucy is well, so is Sam & Henry, and Sam is as full of fun and mischeif as he can be.

Our election for Ordinary came off yesterday. Wallis & Langston candidates, it is thought Langston is elected

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Judge Watts consented for me to remain (blob) the place this year, with the hope that we could make satisfact=ory arrangements by next winter. Old Eqr Allen died about a week ago. We have recd no letters from Georgia for a week or two, but hope we shall hear from them or yourself tomorrow, as some of the family will go to ~~the~~ town tomorrow.

Dock Goodman sent me a card respecting your appointment as valedictory orator which he said some Doctor give him in Town requesting him to give it to me. Should the faculty grant the examination & you receive the appointment I hope you will be able to acquit yourself hand=somely, both in the address and examination, to which purpose you should and nodoubt will use due deligence. I don't know how long James Harrison remained in Georgia, but hear that his Mother & sister went to Florida with him. Barkerdale and A. Thomas have returned home they staid a night with James H – Doct Thomas has settled somewhere in East Florida.

I suppose you have heard that your Uncle Waddys little son had small pox in Wilmington N.C. which detained them there a long time – we heard he had recovered, but have not heard whether they have either come home, or gone to Florida.

We have no other news worth your attention.

Your Father

All the family joins me in much love

Tho F. Jones