Paris June 6th 1822

My dear sir,

I wrote to you soon after my arrival on the eighth of February last, and sent you at the same time, Bachelier's Catalogue of the Société des Arts de la Manufac-
ture, which you might see what has been lately published, and command any works in case you wished to purchase any of the works therein enumerated. I have not as yet received any letter from you, but I hope and presume they reached you in safety.

I had been so fortunate as to gain admission to the Société des Arts de la Manufac-
ture, and as I am now inclined to think I should like to join it, I sent there some time since, that there have been some changes in the administration of the Department. The Direction générale des Arts de la Manufac-
ture has been abolished, and a Ministry of Trade and Industry created in its place. New persons are introduced at the head of affairs, to whom I should have found it more difficult to obtain a recommendation. But now that I have once got footing there, these changes will not affect me.

I have renewed acquaintance with a young man with whom
I was intimate when at school here during my former residence in Paris. He is a young man of remarkable talent, and was through the Polytechnic School, and the Rensselaer with great honor. I said, as you told me, that young men are more communicative, and as he can find no competition from me, I have derived from him a good deal of useful information. I find myself growing more and more fond of the subject as I advance in it. I see more and more how a field of science affords for the exercise of practical ingenuity and skill, while at the same time it enables you to calculate your results by thorough investigation and to predict those results with certainty. I admire the skill and skillful engineers have overcome in this great work both here and in England. Next summer I shall spend, if possible, in balloting in order to examine any great works in the world of steam which may be still going on. I shall try to go to France and the shores of the bridge built there by de la Chambre as a most extraordinary work. He has not finished his description of it, which is I understand, is to be very full and complete, and partly historical, with an account of the other difficulties beside those of a physical nature with which he had to contend.
Paris July 25 1830

My Dear Sir,

This letter you are to open by the steamer for Boston, by which vessel I have sent out a case of books directed to the care of Timothy Williams Esq according to your note. The monies of the books may be sent either to this gentleman, having his name on the back, or he will send you a receipt. I furnished them of Casilian Jones who is the publisher of the greater part of them, having found by the different prices of several booksellers that it would furnish them cheaper than any other. The 6th made me a Remittance of 15% in the shape that I should take all my own books from him and that I should go to him in preference to another for books on the subject which I might have occasion to purchase for other purposes. The case containing the books was closed with an oil cloth to exclude rain from it. This is a more expensive way of packing, but with valuable works it is the most prudent and perhaps economical plan.

My brother3 divided the amount of the bill, and you can settle it either with my name or John Brown if you are in Boston, or with my father in New York. Casilian Jones was paid $809.70. My brother will send a note of this with the other expenses such as packing and conveyance, to New York or to Boston.

I beg you to accept me with great respect,

Your son,

G. De Forest
From his work on the steamboats of the Rhine, I could obtain no account of, nor was I even allowed to name thirty francs instead of the catalogue price which is 150. The work is very nearly coherent and has been in print. You will notice that some of the works

for certain that of Bocquy, and the Dictionary of Architecture, appear to have been used. They have been long out of print and the only copies now to be obtained come from libraries. The binding, though not handsome, is strong. At any rate they were not to be found anywhere on the text book. In the two volumes of Lassus on the canal between the Rhine and the Meuse, I added a third which has since appeared by the same author on the same subject, and which is a continuation. I also read with the humblest respects the appendix, which is of latter publication. I can get only the four

first volumes of Condorcet’s five work, but will send the fifth when it is published.

Some years ago all the French engineers agreed to join

this work and to form a collection of plans of different works executed in France

by them. The result was two large collections of lithographic plates, called

Recueil de Plans de chemins which contain plans of all that is most interesting in the kingdom, with names of many works in Holland as well

as in Italy. These collections are not printed and cannot be borrowed at

the bookstall but they are obtained at the school of the Pont des Chemins

as a favour. As a way of application to the Direcet général, I have it, and think it is a valuable work. If you were to I would endeavour to procure it for

you.

I paid 20 l. for it. There are about 600 plates most of which are briefly explained. If you wish me to send them you the work (would

suggest that it should be better to bound them). It can be done in one half

binding for about 15 l. and would cost much more in America.

About a month since I went to Belfort in the neighborhood of Besançon, to be a bridge which the engineer A. Savignac, in consulting the

specifications, was extremely surprised and went with me himself to

inspect every part of it and examined what I wished to examine.

The bridge is a very difficult work to construct. At this bridge, on the

same spot was blown in the time of the invasion in 1814, and the

specifications of which was to join the footbridge at the foot of the piles for the

foundation. The “tablisse” or parts of the bridge adjoining land (I don’t know

the English term) are still standing and they must be as they are, the

new masonry is being joined to them. Valeu extreme care is taken, the arches

must be joined to the regularity of their form, as they settle after

they are finished, since one part of them which has not been standing for

the past 15 years reach their height from the stage of arching. A direct producer of good work to

contrast with. I am amazed, however, that the widest thing of all

is, to put up with the sense of a rich contractor, at whose charge the

bridge is to be constructed, and who of course sometimes makes

a bad choice and selects a man who is not to be trusted, but that he is on

the bridge, understands and says that he is often obliged to tell them

that he has lost one reputation and once afford to lose it, and that he must

then give up the bridge of promise so do himself judge last. This made

difficulty of one which we probably often meet with in America.
Dear Sir,

In most persons, when time is so absorbed in important occupations as Heaven seems to be, there is an almost universal desire to have a supercargo for such occasions, in order to divert your attention to a letter, wherein only merit is to receive these grateful sentiments, which, with Mr. P. C. and myself, are scanned by your many qualities, as well as for those kind attentions you have shown to me both, but with your kind confidence, more in mercy.

In October next, perhaps will have finished his three years under, or, will have received my brother George into the same time. In addition, whatever money you may have advanced to him, will that time, we will also have some presents for our family, fifteen years ago, when most young men of your age 

Havana, May 15, 1830


date

Mr. P. C.
there seems to be increased entailments, which can be overcome, not by the exhibition of superior talents on the individuals, by the aid of external rewards, or by the influence of powerful friends. Mr. Baldwin, tenure of the post requires, in quiet, perseverance, and he is now inclined not to disturb the peace and order. He will particularly require the friendly and maintenance of the "Receiuer," at the outset, to give him the proper importunity. I therefore hope, that when the requisite money is found, you will find it for your interest to give him some employment under you, as you consider, he would prefer remaining with you, or such a salary as would be equal to paying his necessary expenses, to that of losing the chance of greater remuneration elsewhere.

Since our last letter, Mr. B. himself have learned the enjoyment of uninterrupted health. It remains to be seen how we shall be affected by a tropical summer, but, viewing as we do, the approach of a particular place with usual accompaniments, yellow fever, malaria, our chances of resisting those effects, is good in proportion.

Mr. B. joins me in kind regards to yourself, to Mr. Baldwin and his daughter. — Yours, Dear Sir,

With great Respect,
By most respectfully,

Lamarie Baldwin, Eng.

Charles A.
Boston, 20 April 1880

Dublin, I have sent the case in

which you were jointly ventured

with myself and Mr. Melia. I received the proceeds

of £400. Credit to

Charges from remainder £372
deducted. Your balance is £124. While

I am ready to pay you,

Your most truly,

Samuel Shaw.
I have arrived the season of your;

With warm feelings for L.B.

shall endeavor to keep the Valley more close before the season is up, which consumes greater days than I wish for.

Can you write a letter to your dear friend, the gentleman who has been in the family, to show him your kindness? He is a friend of mine and has been very kind.

I have heard of his presence and am glad to hear of it. He is a gentleman of good character and has always shown himself to be such.

I trust you will write soon and let me know how you are doing.

Your affectionate friend,

Sarah, Aman, and all who love you,

S. L. Haldeman.
Dear Mother,

Mr. Poindexter's recent illness has made him unable to write. I am sorry to hear of his situation, but I hope he will recover soon.

Mr. Poindexter is planning to travel to the town of Farmville this week. I shall write to you as soon as I receive his letter. I understand that he is feeling much better.

Mrs. Poindexter has been taking good care of the children, and I am sure they are well taken care of. I hope Mr. Poindexter will return home soon, and we can all be reunited.

I have enclosed a small sum of money for your use. I hope it will be sufficient to cover any expenses you may have.

Please write as soon as possible.

Yours affectionately,

[Signature]

Farmville, March 15, 1850
Judge Harman Island will not be disturbed till some other person of the court needs it. The brighton bank men have withdrawn from the town, losing a good deal of their former influence.

The legislature adjourned last Saturday at 11 o'clock. I am at present edits Hatfield.

I have been a very good week in Virginia with a view of the University of Virginia as a vignette if these views are to be had separate from the book.

I should like one. I hope you will be at home before a great while that we may have some social visiting again.

New Baltimore seems to feel on the side of the tariff administration — In the hands of the US states the tariff of terms seems to have got on the tariff side.

During a quite dull week I have appeared to be but little or nothing well —

George has made a very nice plan of the canal for you. I sent it & hope he has made some more money in Boston! But if we get an opportunity —

I know very little unless I do not have most of them, but I made but little progress in the selection in search such as one twenty of the children with to be member or else they feel much gratified by your kind & kind letters.

Your wife came home from友善 the last week. They are all well without it.

16 March Morning.

I have just seen Dr. Williams this afternoon. I remember us all & him.
Mr. Weston

Boston, Feb'y 1, 1830

My dear Mr. Weston,

I am of 24. alt. today — I had your letter of the 27th instant about some of the work so you need not be uneasy about your affairs in that respect. I have money now in the bank which I can share for me or you if it is wanted.

Byes came in on Thursday evening & report all well at home. — Lawrence took the writing to-night, he is well — George is well & is enjoying with his brother at Watson's — Copper is with us — Joe Webster has chil dren's school nights with us & your wife spent the day here on Friday or saturday.

Samuel is getting better slowly — D. Warren said to-day he did not think he should come again to see him — the baby has been ill with a cough & cold but is improving — I have been constantly engaged at home as the last fortnight of the month papers have not had much clerking but I can do nothing while the children are sick — Samuel declared this day disabled & will lie a while.
I have thought that your wife gave you weekly account of us, therefore have not written to you so often as I otherwise should. I wrote last Tuesday if you what you would do with the Auburn farm as we must want to know whether he shall stay on it or not. At Beecher Church in Rensselaer Church street burnt down last night supposed where taken fire from the furnace flue. — Yes — road till last week — 160 — majority is 127!!! —

Sarah Nedy was died on Friday last —

Please be pleased to see the marble slab when they arrive —

Yours, L. G.

I saw Mr. Thomas Williams last week at his farm they were well —

Mr. T. show me your letter to him —

Sarah sends her love to you. I thank you for your kind remembrance of me and children. Say Catherine has been very kind and good to us —
Dear Mr. Butter

Mr. Butter

Your sister's illness is quite well, with only a slight complaint accompanying it, which has held her in bed for some time last week. Dr. Wren says she desires she is not dangerous, but that she will be well in the morning. Our family is quite well except the mourning which caused much concern.

Your wife has been entirely better as an event was

I hear that he would take it for 3 years but could not afford $1000 a year. I would

P.S. Since writing the above it has been ascertained Mrs. Butter is quite well. She is

(Handwritten text continues on the next page.)
Dear Mother,

I am pleased to hear that you have been well, and that the health of your family is good. I am sorry to hear of the death of Mrs. Allen. I understand that she was a kind and generous person, and her loss will be felt by many.

I have been thinking about the Supreme Court case that has been decided in the recentriages. I am told that the case was decided in favor of the government. I thought that this was a wise decision, as it will help to maintain the rule of law.

I hope that you will be able to return to the farm soon. I understand that the weather has been very wet, which has made it difficult to work.

I am glad to hear that you are able to work in the fields. I have been reading about the latest developments in agriculture, and I think that there is a lot that can be learned from this. I hope that you will be able to share your knowledge with me.

I am writing to you to let you know that I am thinking about returning to the farm soon. I am eager to get back to work and to be able to contribute to the family income. I hope that you will be able to support me in this plan.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

With love and affection,

[Signature]