

FAMILY LETTERS 1881

1881

San Luis Rey

Dec. 2d. 1881.

Dear Mother:

I have just this moment
finished running off the first page
of next week's paper. The paper
will this week be filled, locally,
with a great deal of good read-
ing matter relative to this part
of the County, though I could
insert more, I have not the room
for it, as advertisements are
crowding my reading space. Any
the consequence is that on or

Tivoli
San Diego Sept 19th 1853

My Dear Sister

I hope you are not offended at my long delay in writing to you, but I have not forgotten you. No indeed far from it we think and talk of you every day, but better late than never. You cannot imagine how troublesome it is to track in a private family. I am busy from eight in the morning until five in the evening. Tivoli is a beautiful place. It is about 10 or 12 miles up the Hudson River formerly called Red Hook. If I had some of my family with me I would be more contented, although they are very kind to me still they take very little ^{pleasure} in themselves but we go out riding and walking very often. Still it is a dull place. The people do not understand enjoying themselves being afraid to be thought vulgar. I have been with the de Neijter family four months and will remain until the first of November not any longer. They are very anxious I should remain all winter which I will not do on any account. The house is beautifully situated near the river we can see all the boats pass up and down and the cars pass before the house which makes it a little more lively. Enough about Tivoli. You do not know how disappointed I felt to find that you had gone before I arrived in N. Y. How is Mr. Whaley? He never writes a word for us. Tell him I think he might. Then I would know that he has not

forgoten us altho gether give my best respects to him
and tell him that he must bring you home soon
(also) that he will write a few lines for me in one of
your letters I will not ask an entire letter from him
that would be to much the first time but as many
lines as he wishes And how dear Anna how do you get
along with your housekeeping and your Maurice now
what you have a pair of your own and more that
you have your dirts and your dog to take care of
I hope soon to hear that you have something else
to take care of and to assure you I do not know
how glad I am to hear that your health has improved
so much you needed it very much; as to as our
all well at present with the exception of Peter who
has been quite sick; he is very well I have been trying
to get him to spend a few days with me in the
country you know how he is he will not do it
Mother spent a fortnight with me and it was all
I could do to make her stay her two weeks out she
was so very anxious to get home to her dear Peter I
am afraid that he will not make very old bones
he seems to be in such bad health most always
I do hope that he will be spared to us. And to
bring my letter to a close dear sister do try and come
home as soon as possible you do not know how happy
we will all be to see you again Enjoy yourself as much
as you can to make the time pass more quickly and
keep up courage we will all meet again I hope

in health
to you,
as you can
to Mr. Whitt
you advise
soon

to him
soon
one of
you him
as many
you get
in now
on that
case of
of else
to know
improved
as me
Peter who
been trying
in the
do it
Liam's all
to the
Peter I
old times
always
And to
and some
have happy
self as much
well and
I hope

in health and prosperity we all send you love
to you hoping to hear from you soon write as often
as you can and do not forget to give my respects
to Mr Whulay and now dear Anna I bid
you adieu hoping either to see or hear from you
soon And believe me ever your
affectionate sister
Annie

Handwritten scribbles and faint text, possibly a signature or address, mostly illegible due to fading and bleed-through.

Mrs Thomas Whately
San Diego
California



Things going down to Mars was it is very
old have attention as well as with I
and I am in a more estimate.

Don't spend health is not very good he
has had another for his legs and think
if he were he would like to come to
Washington as the estimate would suit

things may occur like to go to Longport
they want me to ask you what you
think of it and if you think - Don't think
a matter pay me if a you can ship a

young man they can in young but not in
Helen speak she would want to practice
to please find out all you can and let
me know as soon as possible if they should
come out I think we would come out in

have one next in Longport, have one
you are not that are you getting along
we are all well at present has a letter

Don't and Tom this morning all well

My (D. getting along nicely) Give me only

weight 145 have you heard from

Mark Henry lately has in bank

please write as soon as you can and

-let us know all you can

Love to all

From your Mother
& S. Mary

Went to 77 Paul Street

Palmer

Ms. J.

Care of Dr. Roberts

Received
April 18th 1881
Australia in John's
May 9. 81

Dear Uncle Tom

St Albans N.H. April 16. 1881

I suppose you
think I have forgotten to answer your
letter I have thought many times
about it rather serious a letter from
you not long ago I do not know why
we are not answering yours either be
it an oversight or about writing) I am
I think seems to be putting I must have
a week or so ago she was asking how
about you I have had in a short to

1881

Monday, Aug 4
Second afternoon

My friend
Uncle Tom.

Looking
in my stand drawer I find I
have never answered your letter
well to begin I hardly know what
to write about as if I always
feel so sad as it seems to me now
my life will always be a hard
struggle I often wish and sigh for
that rest that comes so welcome to the
weary. Since you last writing your
Mother and Bob's father have
passed to that because whenever we
travel every returns. She was a
Mother that you could not love as
you ought to as she grew older she
seemed to grow cold and

Edible I have no doubt but you
would like to have seen as it has
pleas'd me of the happy time it
has spent with you when you were
young, the always seemed so unhappy
the life in the last day you spend
you would scarcely ever see her
at Laas in her power to be happy
and make others happy, as of the
old you, if you'd have cared to
be her, I have not seen her, I wish
in me a month I know he must
miss her when ever he came to the city
he always had some reason to go for
the sometimes she would keep him
a short day before for a number he also
not seem well of late had a very bad
cough when I saw him last, we have
had a very pleasant summer here so
much rain, so not any good crops
have of the city the summer

The Briss family has gone to George
Dennis and son had spent the
lake for last week, Dennis the
summer at Cheever's Bridge
for we think it is of some more
high to have feeling in the fall months
the the girls are well and often speak
of you the Misses Briss has been meeting
in relation in the next she has been
about from the city in a month
times with me on about the same
& still live at 489, she looks it
shall miss I must some day the
rooms are dirty, want fixing, and
the boarders will not pay them
for me the place does not look so
cheerful as of late, as if need to be
& what want and more an of some
very little, it seems I cannot get any
thing else but by God alone knows
how good I do by

4
Clara and Mamma work when they can
get it to do. I have tried to get them in
a store but have not succeeded yet.
Clara thinks she would like to get
in a book binding I do not know
of any one who could get her there.
The girls both are so anxious to get some
thing to do to help me the children and
I often talk of you ^{think how often} in times
of distress, you have given us your
advice. Bobbie has not changed much
only grown taller he is a good boy
he often talks of you he seems to love his
little Mother dearly I being away
from home so much and no Father.
He like other children runs the street
and that I am afraid will ruin him
unless the girl could get something
to do. I would be at home then with him.
Lily is well grows tall looks about the
same often wishes she was back with the
old Lady B. home there was so different to ours.

3 and as the world goes on we hoping from
day to day for something better.
remember me kindly to your dear Mrs
and Frank and each member of your
little family there are some of them
who have never seen me but I expect them
to know me from hearing you Lath of me
thinks of me often kind friends and
pray for me in your distant home.
you speak of Lerty that is darling baby
of being your constant companion yes
she was more of a companion than those
that were older many hours when I felt
sad and weary has her winning
ways and sweet looks made me
cheerful and her love for me was so
very great that I felt I had one being
to live and work for, the other ones
are older and their love for me is
different to what hers was if it had
been God's will to have taken one of the
older ones and spared her, I must not

to complain he took the one he thought
best: If it could only get something to
do and the girl could too why then
we would have something to live for
but this same mess day after day
month and year it seems more than
I can endure: it may be wrong for
me to complain but it is a hard
life for me a frail woman to battle
with the world & trust I have not
tired you with my troubles but
you know when you were here I always
felt that I could always go to you
and you would counsel and advise
I go to Francis every week now to help
her she is very miserable her Mother is
not living with some her Father died
I am troubled a good deal with short
ness of breath and palpitation of the heart
other wise I am feeling well. I trust this
will find you all well. Write when ever you can
as I am always glad to hear from you all
with my best wishes and love to all your friends
M E Birrell



81
Brooklyn April 13

Brother Thomas

Our Mother
left us for a bet-
-ter world at 3
P.M. this afternoon
her death was
very easy she
was not conscious
when I see her
as I just came
down in town

Share through
Tom Strong in
some way he
is also an ex-
ecutor if you
have any sugges-
tions to make
you will please
do so I would
write more but
I have the funeral
to see to ~~it~~.

Recd Recy 9.1887
Ans'd May 9.81

Wrote again Feb 26.1882

April 25th 81
New Jersey

My dear Mother Thomas

I send you
word of Mother's death &
we are waiting anxiously to
hear from you I have
attended to every thing so
far. I have tried to find
how much money
there was I got 2 Bank
Books from Libby and
found about \$2700 or
in all so you may get
500 or 6 hundred dollars
after the bills are paid
the funeral cost about
\$300.00 and some debts
to pay I suppose Harriet
will have the largest
bill what it is I do not
know just yet will

as soon as we come to
settle the estate I will
administer if I can do
so but I have to give 2
Sisters \$5000.00 each
and residents I will
try and do so if poss-
ible if I cannot I sup-
pose Harriet will I do
not want her to have
the settlement of it
she gets enough she
has gobbled every thing
so far watch & Chain
spectacles rings and
every thing except a few
old under clothes if I
ask what has become
of this or that article
she says Mother gave
them away or to ~~her~~
or Birdy so there is XX

get switties if I can not
she must take it in
hand it grinds me to
think she must give
me my share of the Ma
ry all her personal effects
its amount to about \$250.
6 dollars if that is Cash on
hand I valued them myself
come on if you can do so
I have sent Henry word
about the same as I send
you what he will do I
dont know I wish you
could see him and
hear what he has to say
this is all I know at
present if any thing turns
up different I will let
you know soon to all
from your Brother
Now for California G. J. Healey

I hope to see him and
hear what he has to say
I dont know I wish you
could see him and
hear what he has to say
I dont know I wish you
could see him and
hear what he has to say

It nothing left worth
having as she got Mother
to destroy her will &
sometimes think she
may have one in her
favor as Mother was
very afraid of her so
we will have to fight
it I have engaged Mr
De Grove to attend to
our interest I will do
the best I can in the
matter I wish you was
here to help me but I
suppose she will get
the best of it any way
you must answer this
as soon as you can do so
as you may suggest some
thing for me I have done
all I can so far I will
go down in a few
days again and try to

The New York Floating Elevator Co.,

Office No. 47 Pearl Street.

GEORGE D. PUFFER, President.

New York, January 2^d 1887

Friend Tom,

our enclosing for collection come safe to hand. I will attend to the matter and will write you immediately upon receipt of funds, in a not paid will let you know what I intend to do to get it. I have no objection that I will pay, but shall press him hard you may be sure. I will put the note on the Bank for collection I think but first I shall enquire about him. I am going to be in New York in a week or six of my wife and child better health with a change of climate, I shall not stay

any but one year furnished, and of I find
 the return of my
 and they are
 family are
 health better
 climate, I shall not stay

Yours truly
 G. D. Puffer

of I find
 all in
 members of my
 when
 again down in
 of
 of
 of
 of

Feb 1881

A Cheverie
Rented for \$150
for the season
by J. F. Farrow

THE NEW YORK FLOATING ELEVATOR COMPANY.



OFFICE No. 47 PEARL STREET.

GEO. D. PUFFER, PRESIDENT.

Received
March 3

New York, March 17 1881

Friend Tom

Yours of March 1st, and paper, to hand. I have delayed writing you hoping Mr. Young would turn up trumps. I have nothing to say as yet, although I have called upon Tom three times since I received your last letter. I have just come from there now, and he tells me that he will see Com. Garrison to-morrow, and he thinks he can talk to the point on Monday - we shall see. I have two or three friends in the tea trade, and they tell me about the same story, - that is - Young is a hard worker, trying to get ahead again, but thus far with very poor success. They all agree that if he had the money he would pay, if from no other reason than pride, and all agree that it would be throwing money away to sue. I will push matters, and write you as soon as I have an answer from Young. If he will give me \$50. cash I will take notes for the balance, otherwise I will let the matter rest. Hoping your family are all well, and business in Real Estate active,

I remain your old friend
Geo. D. Puffer

THE NEW YORK FLOATING ELEVATOR COMPANY.



OFFICE No. 47 PEARL STREET.

GEO. D. PUFFER, PRESIDENT.

Audward
May 11, 1881

New York, April 20th 1881.

Friend Tom,

Mr. Douglass told me to-day of the death of your Mother, she died last Wednesday, and was buried Monday from the house of your sister. Mr. Douglass thought that your brother would write you fully on the subject.

Mr. Young called at the office since I last wrote you. I was out, so he left word that there was no change in his matters, but that he thought a few weeks would bring things to a head, and he would then call upon me. I shall now wait until I hear from you, unless he should offer to pay some cash, and renew balance of note. I think the end will be that he will want time with no reduction.

On Monday next I move with my family to Ridgewood New Jersey, to try the air for one year. I have my hands full just now on that account, so will close this short letter with Love from Wife, and Children, to Yours.

I remain your old friend

Geo. D.

EDWARD MOORE

ARTHUR R. WRIGHT

MOORE & WRIGHT

CONTRACTORS ON

Quebec Harbour Improvements.

*Received Receipts
Account in
Bank of Montreal
of the 11th*

Quebec, Jan 22nd 1881

P. O. BOX 515.

My Dear W. Walley

Your Inventory received yesterday. Why in the old herry don't you write a fellow - this is my third letter to you - first envelope with Christmas card and no letter now for some time. Our Aunt of mine died in December last at Salem Mass and has left me \$3,000 - and if there is a balance left (after the bequests are filled) I am to receive an additional \$2,000 if said balance is over \$4,000 but if \$4,000 or under I am to receive one half - this of course I will not receive until next December as it requires 1 year to settle the estate. Besides the above she has left me gold watch & chain also several articles of silver 2 dog forks and some other things - I mail you a ~~letter~~ Paper to day with a notice of a concert to give here last night cleared \$7th - over and above expenses

I do so hope you are getting on your feet
again - Our work here will be finished this
fall and I have not yet made up my mind
what I shall do - do let me hear from
you, once in a while - I hope you Mrs W
and your children are well Mine are
and some times I feel as though it was
stringent funds that I had them as - still
I would like to have a few thousand to
try and see if it makes any difference
as I understand it the R.R. is now a
settled fact to San Diego - I care the shorter
of this letter and I will try to do better next
time - Mrs Proctor James my dear love
You and yours and believe me I am
Sincerely your friend

Vincent Proctor

Received February 4, 1887

MOORE & WRIGHT,

CONTRACTORS ON

Quebec Harbour Improvements.

Quebec, May 16th 1881

P. O. BOX 515.

My Dear Whaley

It is a long time since I have heard from you in writing. I recd this morning a paper from you of date of April 26th. I have sent you lately a book & letters by myself also photographs of myself and the children - hope you have received them all right. I see times must be picking up with you. Here we remain about the same very little change in anything - excepting the weather and that changes about every 24 hours - I trust you and yours are all well we are, and I suppose as long as we have health we should not complain. Our work here will be finished I think by September. When another contract will be let to complete the enterprise - who will get it will remain to be seen. Moore and Wright will not tender for it so I cannot see now as I shall remain here after September next

Miss Proctor joins me in kind remembrance
to you and Mrs. Whaley and the
children and we sincerely hope you are
getting sufficient compensation for the

support of your family. If we always
can do that much we should be glad and
if we could do more and save some
we should feel more than glad. I really
think I may see you in the fall of this year.
Hope you will let me hear from you
one in a while.

Yours sincerely
G. H. Proctor

THE NEW YORK FLOATING ELEVATOR COMPANY.



OFFICE NO. 47 PEARL STREET.

GEO. D. PUFFER, PRESIDENT.

New York, July 13th 1881.

Mr. Thomas Whaley,

Dear Friend,

I have put off writing, hoping to have a talk with Mr. Young, but I now give it up, as I cannot get hold of him. I have called several over again at his office, left my card, and sent my office boy to wait for him; twice the boy found him, and each time he promised to call, and see me, but up to this time I have not had the pleasure.

Please write me if I shall return the note, or hold it for future action, for at present Young is not worth a penny, from all accounts.

We are living at Bloomfield New Jersey, and like it much. My wife has improved in health, and I think I may say all of us have gained by the change. Mrs. Lord often talks about you, and hopes to see you once more before she dies. We all talk over the happy time passed in your company, especially the Christmas Eve in Mason Street. With kind regards to your wife & children

I remain your old friend

Geo. D. Puffer

THE NEW YORK FLOATING ELEVATOR COMPANY.

OFFICE No. 47 PEARL STREET.

GEO. D. PUFFER, PRESIDENT.

New York,

February 17th 1881

Dear Friends

News of J. W. Young's receipt, and
I have to say that I placed the Note in Com. Exp.
Bank for collection. Mr Young being notified
came down to see me; said his business was
not paying him, and he could do nothing at
present, but if I would take the Note from the
Bank he would try and make some arrangement
I told him I had advanced on it, and from what
I heard, expected to have no trouble in collecting.
He stood very hard, but I was firm. Fearing the
Note would not be paid I sent word to the President
not to protest it. This morning I called upon two
of my friends in the Tea business. One did not know
much about Young. The other knew all about him
and was back up to the present time. Told me of his
riches and good business capacity in old times,
and how he was trying to get along now, but
thus far with poor success, and said if he held
a note of Young's he would extend it as he

I think he will pay all he is able to, and no more.

15th April,
I have been
I will be able to
I will be able to
I will be able to

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riches and good business capacity in old times,
and how he was trying to get along now, but
thus far with poor success, and said if he held
a note of Young's he would extend it as he

Mr Young was working up a business that would pay him in the end. This afternoon after business hours Mr Young walked into my office and said he called to see if I would not give him some little time to make a settlement. He said he would give me a new note and thought by the time it became due he could take it up, as he had some matters in hand that looked well as something to that effect. Having heard from my friends the same, I should have accepted the offer, but your letter says pay or see. I told Mr Young I would take a little time to consider and he should hear from me. I am writing to address you to do as I wish.

Yours truly
Wm. Dwyer

New York February 17/81.

After writing this I thought I would hold the letter and get from Mr Young just what he would do I advised with my father and he said care upon Young, get all you can from him in cash and take notes for three, six, and nine months for balance. These days have been lost in trying to see each other, but to day we meet at my office and after a long and warm talk all I can