

FAMILY LETTERS 1883

answers right away
please - Mum says to
send up 10 cent pieces for San Diego -
Crocket's bank for when the April 18th 1883
grows up - Michels too.

My dear son Francis.

I suppose you
have ere this heard what a good law
yer I am, as I consider that I
win Violet's case. I talked to our
superior Judge like a dutchman
"you bet", I could see whitey talk-
ing to him that it was all right,
So if you get married ever, and
want a divorce call on me.

We cannot raise ⁴⁷ \$11.50 to pay to
have the decree entered, therefore
the thing is not yet nailed on
the head, and I don't know
who I feel shaky about it; more
afraid of the Meals' interference
than anything else. It has
been the talk of the whole town
for several days, and I feel quite
proud of my success. I hope

New York Dec: 20/83

Dear Tom,

When Christmas comes around I think of you. Do you remember some ten years or more ago Our "Christmas Tree", the one that you and I dressed for the children? Look at those children now, William twenty six, Herman twenty one to-day, Marian (Minnie) eighteen, and my baby Arlie in her sixteenth year. My dear Tom I fear you have forgotten your old Brooklyn friends for it is now over a year since I had the pleasure of hearing from you. I do get a paper every week from your son Frank but that does not tell me of you or yours. Frank is very kind to ^{send} write me a paper but I would rather

have a letter across a whole from him,
I wrote him so but he has not granted
my wish as yet. Tell me, is Grand
married? I meant in his paper some
months ago "Mrs. Thady, the Editor"
Mother, has been making him a visit
so I judge from that, that Grand
is keeping home. When you write
from tell him not to bother sending
me a paper every week, but write
from to write, or write all the state
to hear from him. I would you to
write me a long letter telling me
all about yourself, also how your
wife is getting along, and also
the children, married and single.
We feel deep interest in you all,
my family kept about the same,
the children always well, but
my dear wife suffers with her
head as much as ever. My two

boys are in summer in New York,
Thomas has left school but takes
German, and Latin, Learning, and
Alice still goes to school. Wife
and I spend our evenings now
in card playing, or both of us
find reading by gas light, have
on our bon-eyes. We are getting old,
Our little village is called Glen
Ridge now, and I like the place
so well that I am farming a piece
home built under my direction
in which I take a lease for five
years from next May. I hope
~~that starting next spring I should~~
have the pleasure of seeing my
old friend inside its walls.
I have not heard of Mr. Henry
for some time, but last winter
I enquired about him and
found he was as poor as a church

mouse with no chance in the
tea trade of doing any better. What
shall I do with ^{the} your note?

Now my old friend Tom I want
you to sit down on the receipts of
this and write me a long letter;

this I repeat, for I mean it. Just
think how long it is since I had
a line from you. Before I close
this letter I will say that my old
office 47 Pearl St. will be giving up
on the first of May next, and I will
occupy offices in our new Produce

Exchange. My business is very poor
and I fear it will never be better.

With kind regards to your wife
and family I remain

Your old friend
George

OFFICE OF
The San Luis Rey Star.

SAN LUIS REY, SAN DIEGO COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA.

FRANCIS H. WHALEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

San Luis Rey, Feb 20 1883.

Dear Mother:

We will go to San
Bernardino next Sunday.
So get ready, and I will
meet you at San Luis Rey
Sept Sunday morning.

The possibilities are
that I may get a pair for
you, and I have written to the
Company for mine, but
if you do not hear from me
by ~~Saturday~~ Friday night
mail, buy your ticket and

come on, which I said I
would pay for. It may
happen that I can get your
pass, but cannot send it
to you in time. But you
might purchase your ticket
at this depot on the cars,
or tell the conductor who you
are, (they all know me) and
I will fix it up with them
on the train. This latter
proposition may be the best.

Hoping all will be
O.K. I remain
Yours
Edna

OFFICE OF
The San Luis Rey Star.

SAN LUIS REY, SAN DIEGO COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA.

FRANCIS H. WHALEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

San Luis Rey, April 25 1883

Dear Father:

Please be kind enough
to order for me at Schmidt's
Book Store, one renewal news =
paper, which please tell them
to forward me as soon as possible.
I ask you to do this for me be-
cause they are slow in filling
orders.

I intended going to town
Saturday evening, but other busi-
ness prevents me from so doing,
so I will have to post you my

trip until Saturday week.

Lil is getting along nicely and seems to be more contented than at first. I wish you could arrange to some how, so that I may get the old buggy, as I am greatly in need of one in connection with the paper. See if Moss and Rice would condescend to let me have it on some reasonable condition.

With love from us to all at home and kisses for "Cocotte", I must close,

Your Son,
Frank.

As it is true I cannot pay anything to ride in for love nor money, unless quantity I cannot go far in foot, I might travel over the country for the benefit of the

Sept 11th 1883

People ^{who} lived in
Charado, -

full of news
of every one
and many
places.

Nothing much
of interest of 1860-68
or earlier - 0

San Andreas, Sep. 8. 1883.

Mr. J. G. Battaille,

Dear Sir, I received your letter last Saturday, being a week ago, but desiring to have more time to answer it, I delayed writing until now. It has been many years since you left here, and many changes have taken place. About three weeks ago I was in Eldorado and in company with Dick Grey. We stood in front of Rodasino's store. A feeling of desolation came over me as I looked up the street towards Pagoni's old place. Said I, "Dick, on this street I once lived and then there were Aunt Rosa and Charley Pagoni, Ponchito and John Walker, Charles Skinner and Bill Ross, Mr Rodasino ^{+ Mr. LaRue} and the Madam and not forgetting the old carpenter Petite Jean." Said I "They are all dead now, but Mr Rodasino and possibly Bill Ross. Jed Robinson that once figured here is dead. John Walker went blind and died in San Francisco last spring. Old Isabella died years ago. Mike Ryan died many years ago. Louis Lachapelle died at Sheep Ranch several years ago. Our old friend Scott at Rail Road Flat is dead, also Bill Oslem and Bill Gamble. Mr. Bean, George Johnson and wife and Mike Fisher's wife Georgia died

at the Sheep Ranch. Ren and Cap. Hopkins and Mrs. Rhead died at San Andreas, Billy Cotton is dead and Sam Grey died at the County hospital.

I shall always believe that if Dr. Robinson had been County Physician, he would have cut off Sam's leg and saved his life. Skinner died at San Quentin, he was one of the guards. Jack Swindel still lives in Secret Biggins. Jack O'Hara lives at the old place on Murray's Creek. Billy Bennet lives at the Peter Sloop place. (Tom Devlin's old place). I don't know what has become of Devlin and Brady. Peter Sloop lives at Washington Ranch as does also old man Clark. David and Dower are both dead. Billy Bennet's little Willie is also dead. Tod Tom committed suicide by taking strychnine because his wife would not live with him. Wallace Briggs and family have moved to Tulare County, I think, where old man Hope lived. The old man Hope is dead. I have not heard of Bob Briggs for a long time. Old Pink Smith is dead and Judge Norman and old Mr. Hodaker. Cap. Ferguson and Henry Swank. Jack Swank and family live at the Sheep Ranch. Charly Anderson has a hotel there. He had a little boy drowned this week. Me Hull married the widow Horvost and they own and carry on the Central Hotel at the Sheep Ranch. Charly Johnson, the shoemaker lives there and John Hicks and Walter Knight. Walter Knight married Mrs. Benson, a sister of Mrs. Thorne.

Joe Bogan and family² live at the Sheep Ranch.
Mrs. Bogan is dead. Mike Jischer is married
again and lives there. Joe Raggio has a store
there and Mrs. Meidberger also. You may think
it strange about this place (the Sheep Ranch) scarcely
known when you were here. I took its census
in 1880 and it contained 550 inhabitants.
It has however declined and now does not contain
near so many. Bill Wallace lives in San Andreas
and also John Early, who married a daughter of
John Steel. By the by, Rod Terwilliger is
married. He married Anne Otero. Joe Raggio
and Janie Bean are married. Bill Smith's
wife is dead. Janie Raggio is also married to
Jimmy Jiscornia. Ernest Carris on a Livery
Stable at the Sheep Ranch. Johnnie owns the
Milton and San Andreas stage line. Richard
Ryan is the Constable of Washington Township.
His mother keeps a boarding house at Eldorado.
Mr. Mingo is Road Master. Mr. and Mrs. Asbury
still live at the old place. Dan Pillsbury and fam-
ily live about a mile from Rail Road just below
McCarthy's saw Mill. Mrs. Pillsbury is dead.
He has a very nice ranch and is doing well.
Dennis Burns still lives at Chee Chee, and also
George Banty. Mrs. Banty left him and went to

Bob Jilly and Tom Prichard are over the Mt. Some
Years ago Tom made quite a raise. His wife
and mother-in-law, went to Oakland to live and
eat a wide swarth while their money lasted.
Poor Tom! — Lige Husband and wife have gone
to Inyo County, Dave Parks is in the states
Prison. George Nichols has sold out of the Cave City
Hotel and is now doing nothing. Bill Henderson
still lives at Cave City. Josh is dead. Dick Rhead
is night watchman in San Andreas. Wade Johnson is
Supervisor of Calaveras County. Mr. Rodmans still
carries on his store in Eldorado, and Dick Gray
works for him. I think it likely that Dick will live
and finally die there. He seems to have lost all
ambition. Mr. Daghi carries on business at the
old place. He and Madame Raggio live together. I
don't know how. He and the boys dissolved copartnership.
They took the Sheep Ranch store and stage line
and Daghi and the Madame took the Eldorado prop.
and butchering business. Since old man Raggio went
away I presume Daghi has it all his own way.
Col. Hrazin still lives at the old place and also
Joshua Jones. Mrs. Cleary has sold her ranch to a
man from below. Old lady McLaughlin who lived
near Sam Greys place is dead.

And now having given you a brief sketch of the
changes that have taken place, I will speak of
myself and family.

Since 1873 I have been teaching school. It was at that time I quit that wretched business of whiskey selling. I have been teaching at various places in this County. I taught a term in Salt Spring Valley, then one at the Spring Valley, then two years at Eldorado and two months at Sheep Ranch; then two years at Douglass Flat; then several years at Rail Road Flat, being very little at home in San Andreas.

I am not engaged at present and don't know whether I shall teach any more or not. I am prepared to do surveying and may engage in that business, or I may emigrate to Washington Territory or to Modoc County or anywhere.

Since Doris' death five years ago, our family remains at four. My youngest boy is also deaf and dumb. He is now nearly fourteen and is being educated at the Deaf and Dumb Institute. He left here for Berkeley this morning. As you have heard Mary is married, and Mattie was married last January and has gone to Seattle to live. She got a certificate and commenced teaching in 1875. Her husband's name is Hanscom.

He is also a teacher but does not follow that business there. They want me to go to Seattle and I may possibly do so, though I don't think I

would like the climate. However, if I could do well
then I might overlook that objection. Moreover, I
have good property here in San Andreas and would
not like to make a sacrifice of it. Now I have
given you a condensed statement of what I can
call to mind of the changes around me. Perhaps
I have told you of things you already know and
left untold things you want to know, if so,
write again and ask me. I would be glad to hear
what has become of Gatewood and wife, Fred
Swarren and Ned the barber. What kind of a
place is San Diego for business? Is there any good
paying business that a man with six or eight
hundred or a thousand dollars could get into?

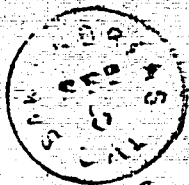
How is the school business? And in general what
inducements are there to induce an outsider to
migrate to San Diego? Mary married J. B.
Riddick. They have a boy over two years old. All
are well. My wife and Mary were glad to hear
from you. They send you their best respects.

I hope soon to hear from you again. With
kindest regards
Yours truly

A. H. Coulter,

P.S. Mary Hopkins is not married yet.

1883



Mr. J. G. Battaille
San Diego
Cal.

