

~~Fairbury, Astoria 18~~
June 19th

Mr James Watson jr.

Wm and Mary College

Mail. }

Williamsburg.

Brackets. 18th June 1872

Dear James,

We got your letter of the 9th yesterday evening, and I must try to answer it; but I have not had time to think of it, with my people in the harvest, & the house & plantation in the bustle usual on the occasion.

Upon considering all the circumstances of 4th July business at Collier, Steam boat passage, stage conveyance &c. &c. I have determined that your horses shall be in Richmond on the Saturday after the 4th, so that you may leave Richm. on Sunday - which according to your statement, will enable you to remain at Wmsburg if you choose, on the 4th you say nothing of how you are to dispose of your baggage, but I think you had better bring it all as far as Richmond, & whatever may be your future movements you may easily come at it: I do not expect that you will go to Green-bridge; the probability is, that you will return to Wmsburg. You can leave your trunks books &c. with your uncle G. or Mr. Eustace. We shall send the portmanteau, & two pair of saddle bags for you. Your mother or Mary ~~or~~ or Louisa must finish my letter: I have not time. I only write a few words to show some light upon what Louisa has said. Make haste and get up to see Aunt & Uncle Morris married. S. Watson

It has fallen to my lot to finish Father's letter to you, but I shall so soon see you, that it is hardly worth my while to sit down to write & I can tell you all about the wedding & the parties in these parts when I see you; but I can find nothing better, or nothing that would be more entertaining to you but about the wedding. Aunt Lou was married about three weeks ago, on Friday which was the day she was married there were no persons invited except her near relations, the next day all the neighbours were invited and nothing would sat ^{off} Uncle Jarris (who was very much pleased with the match) but a dance, & as we had enough of both ladies & gentlemen we danced all that day, the next morning which was Sunday, Aunt Lou Mr H, Dr Morris, Mother, Ann Morris, Mary, Eliza, Ellen & Mal Dorothea Munro, Virginia Brockman & myself all came up to Mr H's & dined, Mr & Mrs Hackett were there ready to receive us & a better or more plentiful ^{dinner} table I never saw, Mr H observed to Mother as they were coming up that he considered that as the grandest day of his life. Oh! I had like to have forgotten to tell you that Uncle Oventon was one of our party, I can assure you he & Dr Morris afforded a great deal of amusement for us. Mr H, gave a party the Friday after we all came up & every body agreed that it was one of the pleasantest they had ever been at in their lives.

Uncle George, Uncle Joe Uncle Tom & all his little children are now at Grand papa's, they all expect to go down the last of this week. Uncle George & Uncle Tom came up last Friday, but Uncle Joe has been up a fortnight he is very poorly & has never entirely recovered from a spell of sickness he had after his return from Georgia.

Mary sends her love to you, & says you & John need not despair of being at some body's wedding, for one will take place about a mile from here about the time you get home, & she is to go on tomorrow & help to get the rigging ready; for fear you should not be smart enough to guess who it is, I must tell you something more: the gentleman lives 2 or 3 miles from here; he has gone at this time to Richmond & will I expect go to Batterow before his return; after which the marriage will take place, his house is at this time in great disorder having no less than 6 or 7 men at work upon it, making alterations in every part, Father being the planner of it. Cousin Maria has a fine son whom she

calls George Watson, but whom the Col^l wants called Thomas Jefferson. George & Lawrence went on Saturday last & Henry says George cries heartily when he came away: he says he must see you when you come home.

Shelton will be sent for next Saturday he seems very anxious from his letters to get home. Last Sunday there were no less than 31 white persons here including our own family. Mrs Carr & Aunt Terrell are now here but will go up to-morrow, Cousin Emily's love to you yours
L. M. W.