

East Hampton Aug 16<sup>th</sup> 1846.

My Dear Mary

Your's mailed Aug 4<sup>th</sup> came to hand about a week since, and I would have immediately noticed it by writing you again, had not I then expected to be at Castleton this week. I now find that I shall not be able to arrive there before next week, and hence I have concluded to drop a few lines. You must excuse me though for writing a short letter, as I have really but a very short time to write.

I rejoiced greatly to receive a letter from you at last; and to know that you had read mine, and was made happy thereby. It always does me good to know that I have made others happy, and I trust it ever will. I waited long and with a good deal of anxiety for your promised communication. I concluded that mine was misdirected, or had miscarried as you have doubtless learned ere this by

receiving a second letter from me.

I wrote a second letter something more than a fortnight since and directed it to the care of your nephew at Keeseville, requesting him to send it to you wherever you might be. On the supposition that your my first was misdirected, I could not devise a better way to ensure that you should receive the second. Whether or not you have rec'd it remains unknown to me. I rather expected you would write me again, when you rec'd that letter.

You are no doubt anxious to know definitely when we are to sail. I have not heard from the Secretaries since I left New-York: and hence I can say no more than I then said in regard to it. It will be wise no doubt for us to be in readiness to sail in Oct. From what I have seen and heard about the Steamers however, I have more expectation that we shall go by them than I had when I wrote that letter. We shall know in a few weeks. My choice is decidedly to go by the steamers, if there is



nothing in crossing the Isthmus, or  
in any other part of that way, rendering it  
decidedly difficult. We shall not sail be-  
fore Dec, if we take the steamers.

I have <sup>heard</sup> nothing since I saw you of  
Bro, Atkinson: neither have I heard anything  
much more definite or later from Oregon  
respecting the Indian difficulties. We shall  
no doubt have definite news soon.

You inquire, 'in case we take the  
route by the Cape, {giving us it doubtless <sup>will</sup> of-  
portunity for study} will you not be my  
teacher, and will we not together study the  
strangely varied volume of nature spread  
out before us?' Yes if need be I will be  
your teacher; but I would rather say, we  
will be mutual teachers; we will aid  
each other as much as possible in un-  
folding & understanding the mysteries  
and wonders of Nature; We will strive  
to make each other happy, and to fit each  
other for usefulness. But time admon-  
ishes me that I must close. You may  
expect to see me soon

Yours unchanged.  
Horace.