Bakersfield Feb 15 /58

Dear Son

Yours of the 13th ult is Recd, it appears that you have not recd my last note as in that I put some questions which are not answered-- I wish to know what in your opinion will be the effect on property & emigration if the Lecompton Constitution is passed by Congress, & what effect has the money crisis had on real estate & business generally. Are their good claims for sale near Burlington & how does B-- prosper have you sold your Mill & Hotel & How did you find Matters & things on your return-- I Recd a Line from Cousin Francis, stating that he is out of employment & desires to emigrate to some place where he can obtain a Living. I think he would do well in a Hotel & if he could get there would you rent him your Hotel, his trade is useless now & the prospect a head is not flattering.

I find that your Mother is not willing to go to Kansas. she thinks if [I] go I shall return home sick & be contented to settle in old Vt & that is the reason she is willing I should go. we returned from a visiting tour last Saturday having spent the week Among our friends. they are in usual health. Jared is dady & mighty proud he is of his small image of Sin. I there Learned that Brother Harley designs to go [to] Kansas. John Dee is now at home he is the same old sixpence. there was many inquiries made in regard to you & Nathaniel says that he is glad that there is one Learnard that is somebody quite a compliment I think to the rest of us-- I hope how ever honorable or wealthy you may be, it will not be at the sacrifice of honor or principal. An open fair & honorable course in business as well as politics is the most reliable-- this Log rolling, buying & selling is calculated to undermine all honest Legislation & stability of our republican institutions. You have a sample of such maneuvering in Kansas emenating