

Bakersfield Sept 14 /58

Dear Son

Yours of Aug 8th came to hand after some delay, being the first we have heard from you since yours of May 25th, We had imagined all sorts of things & reasons & at last concluded you must be sick which proved to be the case. we are glad that you are about & hope you will soon regain your usual health could you but know or realise the anxieties we have in regard to you, you would be more punctual in writing-- how do you get along in your business--have you sold your Goods--found your horses &c &c-- I have not engaged in business, I now design to build a store & again sell Good[s] for a living--this has been an unpleasant & tiresome season to me, I do not desire to be idle You will learn from the Messenger that old Vt is right side up we have swept the state as usual. I was elected to represent our Town. we had a spirited contest the Demo^s threatened to annihilate every Repub & old yellow belly from office we have swept the kitchen clean of Bogus Democracy, they have not even one Justice of the Peace, they fought with their usual weapon Rum but it did not avail, they feel quite sore I assure you they growl spit fire threaten &c &c business is very dull money scarce & not much prospect for the better at present yet I hope the screws will soon be loosened & money be more plenty--if you can arrange your business so as to leave it & suffer no loss, we think it would conduce to your health to come home & spend the winter.

In my last I wrote in reference to land operations &c which you have ere this recd. I should [like] to have your opinion in reference to future prospects, to me it looks rather dubious yet I hope that you & others may be able to hold on & weather the storm-- if you had sold your mill last spring I think it would have been for your interest report says that John