

Oakland Sept 5/97

Dear Julia

A few days ago I rec'd
your letter of Aug 21st and as
usual I found it very interesting.
I am afraid you are homesick, and
if such is the case, I would not
continue to stay away out of any
mistaken pride in the matter. Life
is not all architecture and while
you may gain in one direction it
is not needful to sacrifice too
much for one object. If however,
you find your life interesting
and the homesickness is not
abnormal, why then stay as long
as you desire. It is a year and
a half today since you went away
and in some respects it appears
very long and in others the time
has flown rapidly. So far as your
being at home is concerned, nothing
has happened to cause regret, except
of course the natural one occasioned
by your absence. On the other hand
we have all lived with you in

your new experience, which have
also tended to enlarge our own.

Your picture of French rural life is
not to ^{my} mind a desirable one for
any people to copy. Certainly it
would not be suited to us Americans.

Yesterday I sent you a "Chronicle" and
would advise you to read the Trade
reports telegraphed from New York.
The Country is certainly on the high
road to prosperity. True, our prosperity
is partially the result of the misfor-
tunes of other countries, arising out
of natural causes, and for which no
political policy should receive
either credit or blame. On the
other hand, the confidence which has
been created in conservative handling
of the money question and in the
passage of the new tariff, play no
little part in the new conditions.

Unless we should be drawn into
some foreign complications, there is
good reason to look forward to
several years of good times.

Mr. Brown was in Sacramento last week
but whether he has reached Oakland
yet I do not know - possibly he

he arrived last night. I hope to see him soon and
talk you over with him. The next time I go to
San Francisco I will get a Big Tree folder & will send it to
you. Don't they believe your description?

I hope that when you take the next examinations, that
you will have more confidence in yourself and will
not worry over the result. Just show 'em what an
American girl can do.

We are all very much as usual at home. The weather has
been fine for a long time. So far as building is con-
cerned nothing new of importance is being commenced.
Real Estate is the last interest to be affected by
improvement in business, but by next spring activity
in building may be expected. I have hopes that
with the improving conditions, I may before long be
able to get into some business which will be
agreeable and profitable. There are one or two things

in prospect, which I hope may turn my way.

So far no Volney machine has been presented to our
Commission for examination, but we are in communication
with some twenty inventors, most of whom are still
working upon their devices.

I hope your health is better and that in the future
you will not work so hard and will take better care
of yourself. In the long run, it is the best policy.

Wishing much that I could see you, with much love

Yours affe father
C. B. Longmire