

CALIFORNIA VOTING MACHINE  
COMMISSION.

Oakland, Cal., August 29<sup>th</sup> 1898

Dear Julia

Your letter of Aug 7 written in Rouen was received a few days ago, and I was much interested in your description of the wine cellars and your experiences with the nuns. Since I last wrote to you I have read James "French Revolution" 3 vols and my respect for human nature, or at least the French portion of it, has been lowered. If his portrayal of the occurrences of those days is to be relied upon, the missing link sought by Darwin is not hard to discover. How far removed we are in the United States from the ravages of brute force, may some day be unpleasantly disclosed. The unrest which prevailed during the last Presidential election, and to a lesser degree before the commencement of our late war, may again attack the American people, as soon as the present prosperity enjoyed by the country at large receives a setback. The question of self government will then be demonstrated to be a success or a failure. I am inclined to the belief however that the habit of self restraint and the diffusion of knowledge will prevent a repetition of the incidents of the French revolution. Away as you are doubtless informed left us on the 20<sup>th</sup> for Boston and will

be with you some time next month. We have not  
heard from him since he was in Ogden but I have  
no doubt he is now in New Bedford. He was  
very much pleased and excited in view of his  
journey. Your mother fitted him out finely  
and he certainly has much to make his trip  
pleasant and profitable. The vacant chairs very  
frequently now outnumber those occupied as Sam  
is at times away. Your mother is having much  
trouble with her left arm, but will not do any-  
thing for it. Whether it is a strained muscle  
or rheumatism I do not know. Otherwise she is  
in fair health. Emma has lately taken to strik-  
ing her leg - even before her death in the sewing  
room. Sam has taught her boxing lessons and to  
strike straight from the shoulder. I am the victim.  
Garner is well and getting on fairly well in  
school. He does not like study - at least of books -  
but is improving.

Our commission is to hold but three more meetings  
to examine voting machines. Not as many have  
been presented as I expected. There are one or  
two which are being constructed which are very  
promising - the others are very imperfect.

I am glad the war is over and so few lives have  
been lost - so many more might have been. Some  
time war will not be resorted to, but as the  
world now is, the United States will command a  
respect which before the war was wanting.

With much love

C. B. Morgan

I am much obliged for the vine of Paris - on Postal Card - which  
you sent me.