7-31-1842

Letter, July 31, 1842, from Thomas Green Clemson to John C Calhoun

Thomas Green Clemson

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O.13 at 11am Sunday July 31 1842

My dear Sir -

I have just returned from an unsuccessful journey to Dublin, uneventful, I say, because I have returned without having accomplished the object of my visit. I wrote to Homer to meet me at New Abbeville but on my arrival there he was away and could not be found. I went to the house of a Mr. Smith who gave me a note of reference which I have written to Homer on. I left Dublin on Wednesday last, the rain was still falling and I went to bed early. On my return to the post office I found the mail had not arrived. I left on Thursday, Friday & Saturday until Sunday evening when it rained quite again. It then changed its appearance as the rain was now very dark and I could not see the mail. The Rock & the Vale touch it and officially like it. It was much to my surprise to find myself in the Tunnel which will embrace my countenance. The wall was damp & wet, the road damp & wet. On the way home I heard a noise at my window. I was surprised and turned on the lamp. The noise of the wind and the noise of the street. I am much pleased to see you and to hear you of today. I am much pleased with the prospect of finding some new work.

I hope you will write and acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd.

I am always in your service and will do as you desire me to do about the article by the present occasion. I am at your service in which the good feeling and wishes to be of service to you is my own, dear sir, with the most affectionate sentiments which I have ever written.
or soon.

The boy I purchased proves to be a very valuable fellow
and a great acquisition to my
As soon as I know where I am to
First I will commence the building for a mill of
I am now confident (as you by letter to me)
that we shall have
enough to do for some time for a mill. But
I want much rather you some time before we
Enjoy
your 300 acres in hopes you will be

I have some in the last report about
500 acres of gold ready for mill. I have had
more in gold promising to large amounts of
I propose
Sierra Nevada Hotel at the branch.

A letter from a man about 25" came to day the

A. 4 I have at this time been present an

by interesting aspects.

A document on the day of business came to hand to day.

There has been much talked about a mill, that is likely
to the vein is not 500 in its extent by hand (since
I have worked it) as great as my occasional visits
to the branch of Virginia had been. Since they go much
through it with the exception of gold on that we
are doing a very safe & well. However business
may still be acknowledged at one that satisfy
the - on any account. The too expected manner of
having all this done via my judge now is not ade-
quate - your affectionate

John C. Murr

Gwen Harley
My dear Sir -

I have just returned from an unsuccessful jaunt to Clarkesville, unsuccessful I say because I have returned without having accomplished the object of my visit - I wrote Anna to meet me at Mr. Mathews but she did not come nor can I say the reason why. I should have gone to So Carolina but my presence here is really so necessary that I am uneasy every hour that I leave - When I left which was on Wednesday last the vein was giving little or no gold, & not until Saturday evening when it set in rich again - It has entirely changed its appearance the rock is now very dark coloured as if it has been smoked or burned - The rock & the slate touching it are equally rich - But much to my regret & as much to my surprise we have water in the tunnel which will embarrass us considerably - The rail road is down & working well - On the morning I left I hired a hand to test on the other side of the ravine to the North - & I am pleased to say that at 10 foot in the vein is large (2 or 3 inches) & rich in gold. Mr. Daniel had collected yesterday some of rich specimens as come from the other vein. I have just come from there and am much pleased with the prospect & have found some very rich ore -

I write you in haste & acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 23 inst. I hope congress will soon adjourn for I am anxious to see you here in order to consult with you about things as they present themselves to me - I fear that the manner in which the gold bearing seams inclines & water at present may give us some difficulties which I had not apprehended so soon (?).  

The boy I purchased proves to be a very valuable fellow and a great acquisition to us.

As soon as I can spare Mr. Daniel to go at other work I will commence the building for a Mill as I am now confident (as far as confidence can go without a perfect knowledge) that we shall have enough to do for some time for a mill - But I would much rather you were here before we progress far as I am in hopes you will be --

I have now in chest since my last deposit about 500dwt's - of gold ready for mint - not less than 300 more in rock specimens & large accumulation of proven ore - Such as Lawrence beat at the branch.

A letter from Anna dated 25 " came today, she gives good accounts of Mrs. Calhouns convalescence. Your property at this time here presents an increasingly interesting aspect.
A document on the Texas boundary came to hand today also.
I have but one turnel hand at work that is Mills. & tho
the vein is rich I doubt if its extent has been (since I have
worked it) as great as it was occasionaly whilst Lawrence &
Sissolm(?) had it -- Nor were they as much trouble as we with
the extraction of poor ore - but we are doing a very safe &
very handsome business as you will acknowledge & one that satis­
fys me - on many accounts - The too rapid increase of hands at
this time in my judgement is not advisable ----

Your affectionate son

Thos. G. Clemson

Hon John C. Calhoun

Excuse haste