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

Thomas Green Clemson

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Aug 1

To John C. Calhoun

Senator, Washington City

D.C.
A 31 July 1846

My dear Sir -

I have just returned from an
unnecessary journey to Charleston, unnecessary because I
have returned without having accomplished the
object of my visit. I wrote to Home to meet me at
Mount Royal but the old will come and can I say the
reason why I should have gone to 20 Charlton
street my presence there is really so injurious that
I am uneasy every hour while I am there. When I
left which was on Wednesday last the rain was
continuing little by little and my return involuntarily
is gone nothing Thursday Friday & not until Saturday
morning when it set in rain again - They altered
its appearance the rock is now very dark wooded
etc. I had been walking in the rock & the halls
touching it etc. very much this much to say why I
was more surprised was hand wrote in the
manual which will embarrass me considerably. The wall
rock is brown & working well. On the way to
Norfolk I had a hand to walk on the 20.5 mile of the
road to the Norfolk & I am pleased with my attack at 10 for in the road is hard
(20 1/2 inches) & rich in S. The Diamond had
sold. yesterday some a s. of receiving a copy from
the other road. I have not come from there or
am much pleased with the prospects & foundsome very rich one

I wish you in haste & acknowledge the receipt of
your of the 23 which is of the 22

I hope your copy will come

yours of the 23 which is of the 22

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I hope your copy will come
The boy Sprachman proves to be a very valuable fellow and a great acquisition to my work. As soon as I leave here I shall send you word that work will commence this building for a mill of my own. I am now considering (as far as my confidence can go without a perfect knowledge) that we shall have enough to do for some time for a mill. But I want much rather you come here before we part. Say by here we hope you will be here soon.

I have some in that mine in last deposit about 500,000 feet of gold ready for mill. I most hope they may move in with speed, expecting a large amount of gold. I have written to Lawrence now at the bank. A letter from them about 20° came to day that they will send accounts of Mr. Calhoun as well as your report at this time. We present my respects by interesting aspects.

A document on the day of boundary came to hand to day also.

There has been much heard as well that is willing to the vein is not so valuable as expected. If this mine worked it as quick as my occasion allows, which I hope to do. I have the means treated in me with the exception of gold that we are doing a very safe & need have none business as you will acknowledge to one. The 20° expected more of the same vein our judge must be notified.

Hon. John C. Calhoun

Great Llano.
O'Bar Lot Sunday July 31/42

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 colored 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 came 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 occasionally 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