vices of the country - though to do the people justice they are in great measure the only ones. Generally speaking they are a fair representation of their class in the States they respectively come from, and the farmers particularly, although indolent, are excellent people - But it is no country for one who has not the power of self denial, and a strong inducement to labor. For myself I shall be contented when the possession of a competence takes me out of it. I have about five years longer of good working time left, which I would almost agree to give for the certainty of it; though I have hopes that half the time will do, And then dear Brother I shall be near you or with you always. It is however miserable enough that a man should spend the little left of his youth in the wilderness in order to pass his down hill among cities. Where one has a wife and family around him it is a different thing, though it is a shame for being a white woman into such a country. You need be under no alarm however about my marrying here.

I am very anxious to see Alfred & hope he will be able to come on this summer, for there is little chance of my going down to San Francisco. I have not been away from here since I came down. I trust he will act with judgment in the management of his property in California - He wanted me to use part of it here but I declined it. I wrote you that Fort had got what he wanted at San Francisco, he bought an engine for a boat & one for a steam saw mill, bringing on men to build the boat. It is to be launched this week and is a right pretty one, 90 feet long, & 14 ft wide, nicely finished with white pine from the East! think of that in