this part of the country and strike for some other mines. Do not under yourself unhappy at my dull prospects. I have patience and resolution, good health & hope for the future without and shall try and profit by the experience of former mistakes. As for the rest have no fears. I never touch liquor and do not gamble. I find myself generally both liked and respected and there are many men around laboring like myself who are intelligent, moderately well educated and are both pleasant companions and very obliging good friends. The only trouble upon my mind is that I cannot discharge my debts at home as I hoped long since to have done. I left none in Oregon except a mortgage for a few hundred dollars

to sell out & pay that off. If hereafter I can realize a few thousand dollars, and that not many, I shall come back to you again, but I cannot do so poorer than when I left.

I have given a note of introduction to a Mr Liscom, a sensible, honest and every way worthy man, who is going home to bring out his family. He has been very obliging to me in various ways & I should like to have you ask him to a family dinner and get Laura to play on the piano for him. He can give Wolcott a good deal of practical information about the mines. I also gave him a note to Wm F. Channing. Unfortunately my sack containing a box of seeds of shrubs &c which I had collected for Aunt Sarah is at my last camp, 25 or 30 miles off waiting for an opportunity to come down by some pack train or I would send it by him. I will try and forward it to some express office however on its arrival. Tell Aunt Sarah that I have made three separate collections for her and lost them all. The last one had varieties of acorns of different evergreen oaks nuts of the bay tree or Indian olive, a superb and fragrant evergreen &c. I have now a quantity of seeds of the great scented California mountain lily, the manzanita & other shrubs & will try to add some sugar pine nuts, and those