age the matter against Sohier, a safe man I trust.
I wrote you some mails ago about Childs and hope
that you will be able to set that matter straight - Woodruff
will I am confident do all in his power to assist. I am very
glad to hear that one of the Residents multifarious daughters
is disposed of, but they begin at the wrong end of the line.
If I should go down to California again, I shall certain
ly see Mrs Patterson, but I do not expect to soon. She
has had a hard entry upon life for one so little prepa
red for it. I did not know that William Johnston had
gone home, it accounts for my not hearing from him on
some business concerning which I wrote. As to entering up
on the law in California, it is too late, as the vagamuffin
told the Dutchess of Orleans. It might have done at first.
I must now hoe out my row as best I can. I think,
as near as I can judge here that you have done wise
ly in purchasing the house for Laura. I have several
times advised you to sell that in Broadway, but was
perhaps wrong, for how to invest again at present
prices would be a hard question. Broadway seems to
be doomed to shops from end to end, & I suppose to
high rents unless the evil of war should come on
us. Yet I cannot but believe a revulsion must fol
low the extravagance of living. Your hit of marriages
is funny enough. All the bibs & tuckers of my day ~~are~~
are assuming the "toga virilis". What you tell me of
Lauras energy & thoughtfulness does not surprise me.
I hope she will be as happy as she deserves, for she
has been a good child. You must not let her residence
at the point separate her from you altogether. And
when at home you ought to find relief in our good
old Dutchess & her babies. I have a letter from her
and Lucius for which tell them I will make a re-
turn soon. We are of necessity swarming off dear
mother from the old queen bee, but ~~it~~ should only give

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