

Copied

~~Monticello~~ Staunton Virginia

August 23, 1857

Dear Loring,

I saw a letter last evening from Mal to Peter dated the 6th August in which among other things she states that you had been to Van Burris to see the way we had just returned and that you left them well. If you had remained a day or two longer you would have come home with them for I have no doubt the dispatch sent for their relief reached Van Burris soon after you left there.

I came here more than two weeks ago to stay with Rhoda & Peter till the weather gets cool enough for us to go home. I am afraid to go now for I always take the fever at home every fall.

I feel grateful to you for going to see the boys. They were no

went glad to see you. Peter and
Phada are both in good health.

I have been very stupid ever since
my excitement about the boys
went down. I slept none for
weeks for I was mad & felt
like fighting all the time. For
several days after I got here I slept
all the time, nearly. I finally
joined a hunting party and
went up into the Mountains
where I was more than a
week, which has partly brought
me out. We killed nine deer
and lined many hips. I had but
one shot and that at Master
luck. I wounded him badly
but lost him. Deer now plenty
ful here than in our country.

I am truly sorry to learn the
death of Sweeney Maguire; and that
John Pithlynn has got into
other difficulties. It seems
our people are intent upon
self destruction.

Being to my many troubles my health has suffered very much. I take no pleasure in any thing whatever under the Sun. I feel broke down in body and in spirits. I some times in order to cheer myself ~~up~~ go into company but soon leave it. The only wish I have in the world is to go home. Perhaps when I start for home it will restore me to better health and spirits. It seems your Uncle Amos is much troubled about the "talk" out against him. Such things never troubles me for I never did a good thing as yet for any nation but was well abused for it afterwards. This is the fate of all men who labour to do good. It is only family troubles that affects me. I know not how long I shall remain here - but not perhaps more than two weeks if that long. I will leave when the nation takes ^{me} to go. I stay here

because this is a pleasant, cool
and healthy place; and the people
very clean and friendly towards
Indians.

I will try to be at home
early in October.

Love to Mal- and the
dear little ones.

Affectionately
Yours.

P. P. Pitkin