

Ashland 19th July 1851.

My Dear Eugene,

I received your letter of the 30th of May, and I was glad to hear of your safe arrival in good health at San Francisco, and that you were pleased with the country and with your prospects. I was also much gratified to perceive that you had a due sense of the great responsibility of your present condition. You are at a great distance from all your friends. You are very young, and you will be constantly exposed to temptations which if you have not the firmness to resist them may lead to your ruin. Let me entreat you to avoid all dissipation, and above and beyond all the vice of gambling. It is always attended with loss of character, loss of health, and often the loss of fortune. Those who indulge in it most, and if apparently successful in the hazards of the game, are nevertheless finally losers. Let me also entreat you to avoid all bad company, and to seek the society of those who are respectable intelligent and upright. This advice is given you by one who has lived long in the world, and who has had extensive opportunities