

Letters from Socrates Hotchkiss Tryon, Sr. to his wife Francis

The first group are from his time in Hawaii, recovering from an earlier illness which began in Iowa. The second are from his travels on the Oregon Trail from Iowa to Oregon. The last are from his years in San Francisco during the gold rush days, running his family lumber business.

(Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii) July 23, 1844 No 5
via whale ship Maria Theresa

Dear Franny,

It is about one month since I wrote to you by an American sloop of war over the land and if it has a quick passage it will reach you about the first of October or November and if the whaleship by which I send this should have a good passage you will get this about the first of March. This is the first bound home since I arrived here but they will be leaving this port every week from this winter until next January and contrary to my expecting when I wrote the last I shall come home by some of the last ships that leave. I shall get home some time in July next in all probability and perhaps sooner at all events. I shall write every month after this so that you will know about what time to look for me and when I start I shall come quick as possible. The reason of my deciding to come home is that since I wrote a Doctor Winslow from Nantucket has come on with his family and concluded to stop here which will of course get some of the business which will not be profitable for me. I shall undoubtedly do a good business at all events support myself handsomely and when I get home I shall go to my farm and spend my life as quickly as possible. My health the same as when I wrote last. I want that someone should attend my apple trees and Fanny you can do as you please about the farm, I do not know where James is, but I heard as soon he would have the place as anybody else and tell him it will make me no difference if I do come home he can have the farm as long as he wants it.

The business you must exercise your own judgement concerning it make all the collecting possible. Now I want you all content yourselves as well as possible until I get home which will be some time during next summer without fail, life and health permitting. I have been a long time from home it seems to me to have been five years at least but in all human probability I am on the last half of my time from home and if so fortunate as to get back to Iowa, I shall be very sure to stay as long as I may be (*****) to live. I shall not go to Connecticut on my return home as it would detain me some days. I may go up to (Beaumont) on account of father's business there so that father had better write to Captain Lamb so that the letter shall be there by the first of March next, directing him how to proceed and me also.

Father, you had better write as soon as you get this to Captain Saub. It will detain me but a week to go up to (Belmont) and I shall probably do so and I shall be in a great hurry to get home when I set foot on American soil and may not go to (Belmont).

I send this letter by the ship Maria Theresa of New Bedford.. Captain (Fabel)

Yours in haste,
S.H.Tryon

Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii, July 26th, 1844, No. 6

Dear Fanny,

It is but a few days since I wrote you by the whaleship Maria Theresa but for fear of any accident that might prevent your getting it I take the opportunity to write by the whaleship Nimrod of New Bedford. My health is still mending and by the time I get home I shall be in very good health and I hope that you all may learn by me and not overdo and so break your constitutions as to be obliged to undergo so many privations and anxieties as I have since I left home in fact it seems to have been longer than the last ten years but I hope I am on the last half of my time from home. I want Dennis to be careful of his health as I very much fear he will find himself in a state of decline. You can form no conception of my anxiety about little Socrates as I fear he may not have been well and you may think strange that I did not mention him in your last letter. And finally, all have my best wishes. You need have no fears about my having the necessary comforts of life and I am making and shall make something more than my expenses. The missionaries are very kind to me and in case I were to get sick they would give me every attention and the Consuls lady is very kind indian ** me we shall have from this time until the first of December about two hundred ships here and large proportion of these from home and I shall sail in about six months from this time and probably be six months in the passage at all **** you may begin to look for me in a year from this time. I shall write often until I sail as I shall have opportunity every week. I made about \$40 last two ***** \$20 if it clears at least and when a ***** are admitted into the hospital I call as well. Give my respects to all inquiring friends. Mrs. Ives and family especially Mr. Martins

all friends

S.H.Tryon

August 29, 1844

Dear Franny, You will see that the *** **** if this ***** ** ***** some time since and so was a great mistake that it did not go when expected. I have writing ***** **will at present *****you may look soon for another.

You will be kept advised frequently until I get home and the only reason that I do not come home now is that I find to go on the American coast in the winter and the difficulty of getting home from New York in the winter and the spring might bring on a cough again. Do as you please with the farm as I shall not be home soon enough to attend to it.

S.H.Tryon

Lahaina, August 23rd 1844, No 6b

Dear Franny,

This day completes a year since I left home and when I left my intentions were to have been back before or about this time, and it would be a source of great pleasure to me could I at this time be with my friends, not but where I am I have friends as kind as could be expected but after all they are not the same as at home..

My health is still improving and undoubtedly will continue to do so until I arrive. *****
*****. I live within ten steps of the sea and I am just now out of it and I make it a rule to bathe in the sea every day.

It is now about one month since I wrote you by the Maria Theresa and as the ship by which I am send this is a good sailer you may receive this nearly as soon as you do the last letter that I wrote and you may look soon after the receipt of this for another as I shall write very often and not a great deal at a time. As I suppose you will expect me to say something about the time at which you may begin to look for me I will say about the first of August next which will make it two years; which will seem longer to me than all the balance of my lifetime; the four months that I have been at Lahina seem longer than a year at home. I (eass) compare it to nothing but sickness at home and you know very well how discontented I am when unwell and you may ask why does he not come when so many opportunities are presenting; the answer is that firstly the American coast in the winter is very dangerous season of the year in which we should arrive and it would also be very cold which would operated unfavorably upon a person which had been residing so long directly under the sun. Secondly it would be a very bad season to do the Cape Horn and thirdly it woud be hazardous for me to attempt to travel through the United States in dead of winter by stage; fourthly it would be very expensive for me to remain down east until spring as I should need so many clothes and in fact I could not think of remaining so long in the limits of the United States without seeing you all and you may rest assured that when my foot is once more place on American soil the quickest way will be ***** to in order to go home. Now after this explanation I trust you with wait as patiently as possible for my arrival.

I have written one letter since the one I sent by the Maria Theresa and was disappointed by the ships sailing to early in the morning for me and accordingly you have the latest news as the ship Archer by which this will be sent will sail in the morning. If an opportunity presents I will write over land and you might get it sooner than this.

As to business at home I know not what to say but do in accordance with your judgement should James be on the farm yet and wish to remain give it to him as I shall not be there in time to make any arrangements for next season.

You need not give yourselves any uneasiness in relation to or about me for I can get along respectfully any place almost; and should I get unwell the best of attendance and attention would be rendered. Mrs. Calkins is a very kind woman and the mission **** would give me every attention. Last evening we had a temperance meeting and a large amount tempered ** documments and very appropriate (bass) were received as a donation to the society here from the New York State Temperance Society.

Now comes the subject upon which I feel almost at a loss to say anything for fear bad consequences as from **** ill health with some of you and should little Socrates be well spare

no (having) to keep him so; you must now think that I forgot him in my last as a reason for not mentioning him; but then as now I did not know what to say. allow me to say that I intend my letters for all consequently names are unnecessary and I will conclude by saying that you all have my best wishes relatives and other friends, and you will say so to all.

Frances Tryon S.H.Tryon
via ship Archer

Honalulu, Island of Oahu, September 2, 1844, No. 7

Dear Frances,

As opportunity now presents to send a letter overland by the way of Mexico I improve and I think that in all probability you will receive it soon than three or four of an earlier date than this which have gone by way of Cape Horn.

As when I have written before not knowing your circumstances, am at a loss what to write but will commence by saying that my health is very good, much better than I ever expected when I left home and as yet I have never regreted that I did leave as I really believe that had I remained at home or in any cold climate the winter would have been too much for my broken constitution to have withstood.

As you see from the date I am now at Honalulu and have been for a week but on the morrow I sail for Lahaina which is about 90 miles. I am to go with the King in his vessel of war.

As to the time when I may arrive at home is very uncertain there is a Scotman here now in command of a merchantman of 400 tons that will sail about the 20th of this month for Scotland by the way of Mazatlan, Mexico and Valparaiso, Chile he wishes me to go with him and I may as it all events I shall get home some time next summer if nothing should take place I should leave immediately was it not for the cold weather in the spring. I want the benefit of a warm climate but as I told you before you shall hear from me by every good opportunity and I trust that you all will rest as content as possible as I shall be with you as soon as possible under the circumstances.

Tomorrow I shall put a letter on the John Gay bound around the (Cape) Horn and when your receive this in about two months you will receive the others I think that at this time I can get away from this place with about \$600 so that you can see that I am not altogether blind to my own interest. I do intend to bring home as much money as I took with me and at this time I have \$2.50 of the same money that I had when I left Vermont the same sovereigns and I shall bring them back unless something should happen more than I now know of. I have tried to be very prudent and have made something but my expenses have been large necessarily.

Now is to little Socarates. I know not what to say but sincerely hope that he is well and all of my friends.

As to the business all that I can say is that I wish you to act for the best give the farm to James in case he wants it and on such terms as he and you can agree.

I have only one thing more to say and that is that you see that Charlie has his time and plenty of oats as I shall want the use of him on my return.

Give my respects to all friends,
S.H. Tryon

Honalulu, Oahu, September 3rd, 1844, No. 8
Dear Frances,

As I stated in my letter of yesterday that I was in Honalulu and that you would receive a letter by the way of Cape Horn in about 2 months from the time that you will receive the one that I sendt by the way of Mexico it is not necessary for me to write much as it would be merely a repetitian and as I expect you would not care much about news as old as that would be I shall write but a few lines and my only object in writing this is to improve every oppourtunity that you may get some of them.

At 4 o'clock of this day I shall sail as I stated in my last by way of Mexico for Lahaina but cannot tell you when I shall sail for home but it will be some time between this and the first of January. You will know when you receive all my letters by the numbers.

Now father you must not think that I am reckless by staying from home so long and my thought is that I was determined if any advantage was to be had by traveling by sea and a residence in a warm climated to have it and you very well now that I was fast on the decline when I left and should in all prbability not been able to winter more than once at home and I must say that I am much better than I ever expected to be and when you see me you will admit that I should have done right.

You must allow me to advise you all to use every precaution to preserve your health and all the remainder of the family and I hope to see you all well. I hope that you will see that my family wants for nothing to render them comfortable.

It is not necessary for me to call names as you all have my best wishes.

Yours,
S.H. Tryon

The Travels of S. H. Tryon

Council Bluffs, May 29, 1849, heading for the Oregon Trail

Dean Franny,

According to promises I can take this opportunity to write and inform you where I am. What has transpired on our way and as far as possible make you acquainted with our (prospects). since I wrote last nothing of importance has transpired to discourage us hinder on our journey (impractical).

In my last, I informed you that we were with the City Company and that Charlie Dallas had overtaken us and after waiting on him near three days he left us the first slough hole we got into and as his teams were empty or nearly so he (passed) us and took the south road but after all his meanness we took a better road and got here two days ago ahead of him. Now his provisions are not here and he has to go down to St. Joseph for his loading (for) with his teams which will take him two weeks.

There has been 50 deaths at a point 16 miles below us from Cholera but no travelers have come across by land have taken it above St. Joseph.

We have all been well and are still the same with the exception of Wells who has had an attack of inflammatory rheumatism but is now altogether well.

The Iowa City company differ about their own matters and split up into four companies we left them about four days ago.

Abbe crossed at this place near two weeks ago.

We have joined a company called the Badger Company of 40 to 50 wagons made up from Wisconsin and Iowa.

Charles (Doran) is here and he is all that is here now that you have any knowledge of.

I have written to Isbel and directed him to assist you in going down east and I hope there will be no Cholera.

On the Lakes I shall expect you to go as soon as you can and I hope Captain Rodgers be giving his time to accompany you. As I expect this letter will find you at Captain Rodgers you will all be as good as to consider it written for you all. I shall expect Captain Rodgers will write me at San Francisco in time for me to meet it there which will be about 25 weeks from the first of June and preventing providence.

Our teams are at this time crossing the (Missouri) river so that you see I have waited until the last moment before I write. Warren Marks a first rate fellow, on the road, as near as I can ascertain there was about 500 teams cross the Missouri and about to cross at this place. One company was stopped by the Indians but no injury done. We are in the center of the Mormon settlement and I can assure you that they are the poorest, ragged and debilitated creatures I ever saw more (s**)

take them together than the Indians. However they are very kind and to all appearances strictly pious.

I hope that you will take every measure to improve your health and little Socrates you must take every pains with. I am anxious to hear from you and also from Captain Rodgers whole family in fact (*****) our (people). Please remember me to all. You will hear from me again when at the Salt Lake and possibly before.

Frances Tryon Your affectionate husband
S.H. Tryon

Tryons in Oregon November 1849

Milwaukee Oregon November 12, 1848 No 8

Dearest Frances,

I have written one letter to you since I arrived in August. I think about as weeks ago and directed the same to the care of Mr. Isbel as I did not know where it would find you but I hope that you are in Connecticut or some other healthy part of New England.

I also wrote to Captain Rodgers about the same time. I had not time to make up my mind fully in relation to this county when I wrote but make haste to let you know that we had all got over the mountains alive which is almost a miracle and what hardly any other company can say in truth.

We are all living in the town of Milwaukee, all well and doing well and would be in good spirits had we our families to take care of us.

I hardly know what to say as I have had no news from home as yet. we expect there are letters at the Bay (San Francisco) for us and have taken steps to obtain them but do not know how long first and when we do we very much fear that the news may be unwelcome there is so much sickness in the States if newspaper accounts are to be relied upon.

Now Franny my earnest request is that you take every precaution to take good care of your health and spare no pain with little Socrates. Do not be afraid expense as I have plenty of mney and have a propect of making a sufficintcy in two years at the longest.

Do not let it supprise you when I tell you that I have made \$5,000 in less than one month. Money is as plentiful as dirt and easily obtained by an enterprising person of good business habits. But no more upon this angle.

So far, I am much better pleased with Oregon than I expected to be and have better pecuniary prospects than I expected when I started for California. The climate is mild, similar to England, soil is good and the finest timber in the world.

I have been trying to devise some plan by which to get your mother and Huldah out here but cannot act decidedly until I hear from you which I hope will be soon as our brig come in from the Bay and we expect her daily. Her name is the Forest.

We are about purchasing another as one vessel cannot take away our lumber shingles and framed houses as fast as we manufacture them.

(Dusmout) is working for us at \$5.00 per day. Wells the same. Dorlon and Jesse at \$15,000, Walla and Devillo we give three, father is butchering and we all board with Violet.

Judge MIitchell lives within 60 feet of us and has plenty of money.

I wish you make preparations to come as soon as you receive this and should Captain Rodgers come out you will come with him. I have written to him and should you be there you will have seen the letter, whereas I request him if he comes, bring you

But you must not come any other way, without letting me know as I might return to the States and you come here. I am anxious to learn where you are so that I can direct to you and should you be in Connecticut you had better remain there, if in Iowa I have writtten to Isbel and he will show you the letter so good bye.

Frances Tryon Your affectionate husband
S.H. Tryon

S.H. Tryon in San Francisco April 1850

Dear Wife,

I take this opportunity to inform you that I have finally received two letters from you upon my arrival at San Francisco from Oregon. Your last was November 8th (1849) after you arrived in Connecticut and I must say that your safe arrival is the excellent health of little Socrates and an improvement in your own health has afforded me more satisfaction than any information ever heretofore transmitted to me. Since I became acquainted personally with the Cholera and its ravages upon the road to California I expected nothing but to hear that some of my relatives had be swept away by its (pestilential) influences during its ravages in the valley of the Mississippi. You say that at that time you last letters were from Fort Laramie. I wrote from Fort Hall about the first of August last (1849), that I was going to Oregon and asiging my reasons for not changing my course and as yet I have not regreted my change. Upon my arrival in August I wrote and continued to write every mail until I left for California which was about the 16th of March last.

I have been in California two weeks during which time I have had serious notions of returning to the States for you mother and Huldah. Dummont, Jesse, and Devillo came down to California with me. Dummont goes to the States by the steamer Tennessee the vessel that is to convey this.

I am sorry to be compelled to inform you that father Jesse(II) departed this life on the 9th of February last (1850), after a severe illness of two months from a disease of the head. He was as well as usual two hours before we discovered his illness.

Jesse and Devillo have gone to the mines and I expect to return to Oregon in a few days or weeks but shall write you every steamer until I do go back to Oregon

In my previous letters I have stated as nearly as possible what we have accomplished and Dummont who promised to call upon you can give you more information than I can write upon a quire.

Dennis and myself and Dorlan have done well, better than anyone from our section of country except (Judge)Hastings, who has made \$25,000 already and now has a salary of \$10,000 as chief justice of California. Mrs. Hastings arrived here by the Steamer Tennessee and I have the pleasure to inform you that I dined with her yesterday by special invitation. She is in good health, much better than when she started and says that if she was situated as you are, she would regard it as a very great pleasure trip to come out by way of the Isthmus and advises me to send for you and save the expense of going home. Your advice to me in relation to the selection of Company and associates is very excellent but I trust altogether unnecessary and I pledge you have my honor as soon as I cannot keep the best in most exemplary society in the country I will return by the first steamer so that I may be under your restraining influence. Write every steamer and do not fail to give good advice.

Dear Fanny Allow me to ask that you take every precaution to restore your health and I trust that you will remain in Connecticut until I make further arrangements to bring you, mother and Huldah out to Oregon or I come home. I may be home to Connecticut as soon as this or in forty days as I may not come at all but send for you.

Isthmus in Ia.

The mines some place as I found a letter from him to San Francisco I took immediate steps to ascertain his whereabouts but as yet have not found him out... Mrs. Hastings was surprised to see me as she had heard I was dead..

I received no letters by the Tennessee but Huldah wrote to Dennis and I do not understand why it is that I have not received anything Write, write, Write to Oregon we are daily expecting a steamer and she may bring me something. I have received one letter from Isabel in which he speaks of the Arly suit. I shall board with Mrs. Hastings when I remain in California.

Remember me to Mr. & Mrs. Taite and say to them that I should endeavor to see William as soon as I can find him out and that I expect you to remain with them until I return or make other arrangements at all events do (not) take the child to Iowa. If I do not come soon before I return Oregon I shall send you a draft on New York.

Your affectionate husband
To Francis Tryon
Humbolt Fairfield, Connecticut

April 20, 1850
San Francisco
S.H. Tryon .

San Francisco, June 19th, 1851

Dearest Frances,

As the Columbia leaves tomorrow I improve this opportunity to write you a few lines and should be much better pleased could I communicate with you face to face.

There has been a little change since you left that I have not much to say that is new. I was very sorry to learn you had been sea sick and trust nothing worse occurred.

Rodgers will show you the letter to him and Dennis which contained some news. Spurr and myself have rented a house at \$55. We rent two of the rooms at \$12 which makes it much cheaper than to board. Spurr gets his own breakfast every morning, he bought a stove and set of dishes so that we live much cheaper than to board. Bell is getting out much faster than I expected and I think 3 or 4 months steady and effective treatment may cure her. She looks a great deal better, appears to be anxious to get well and get to Oregon, takes her medicine very willing although she is sometimes very cross. Franny, I hope you will attend to your health, you know my anxiety and the necessity to write and let me know all the particulars and I hope everything is agreeable. Remember my requests. When you left (peace) and you must obey, keep quiet, I will come whenever it is necessary. I wrote to mother and Isabel last mail.

Mr. Watson went to the mines after having a son... she is going on as usual, told me yesterday. She did not want him back soon.

Col. Bagley has gone to Mrs. Burns to board. Mr. Keys is mad about it. Bradley has lost his case in court and consequently broke up .

Mrs. Scott hates Mr. Keyes as bad as ever. Poor Mrs. Scott got them here in our box and Mr. Keyes upset the hen and broke the eggs. She came in to see Bell about her things and depend upon it she found her match. I am glad I was not there. Bell hates her as bad as Mother Scott does. Mrs. Burns was there and give her a few broadside you know she had a hard row to get along with Mother Scott. Mrs. B and Bell to help.

Fanny you must be frank and plain with Rodgers do not be backward in letting him know all your wants. I know he will do all for you in his power. Socrates I do not know to say about but as not let him go near the water or mill. James is in better health than when he came, I wish (Bob) was as easy (governed). Bell says she is anxious to see you and Huldah and expects to come up as soon as she can. The citizens have taken the robbers and murderers in hand last week. They caught a thief in the act of robing a safe, tried, condemned to hang him in less than 3 hours on the Plaza and will hang every thief they catch.

They have driven all the (sidney) birds out of the city. Mr. Spurr sends his respects, also Bell sends here respects to all her husband especially.

I sent two boxes by the schooner Josephine containing furniture.

Your affectionate husband
S.H. Tryon

San Francisco, July 22, 1851

Dearest Frances,

I take this opportunity to answer yours of the 5th instance. I am glad to learn that your things have arrive in good time and glad to learn that you had went to Portland on the 4th. Hope you enjoyed yourself well. Hope you are made comfortable as possible and was not Rodgers there I should feel awfully about you, fearing you are not comfortable and have to work too hard which must not be the case.

I was pleased to learn from the Captain of the Anna Maria that he had dined with you and that you appeared to be as happy as could be expected.

Fanny write me all particulars keep nothing back. I shall send you some chairs by the earliest opportunity and a rocking chair also a feather bed. I want to know when it will be necessary for me to come up in your next, I do not know. I shall come as soon as I can anyhow but want to know how long I can stay should it be necessary to attend to business. I am certain we will be at (year) and am in hopes tate case is decided now as it was tried last Saturday but the judge not give his opinion yet. Show this to Rodgers . he must not let you work at anything hard. Spurr want to go to Oregon and work on the mills. The steamer that Captain Taylor and Myers went home upon was run on a rock below San Diego, reports says no lives lost I will write particulars in my next. I told him not to go on that boat the (Reunion) was her name. Taylor was sick and discouraged when he left out of money had to borrow of Myers. Am afraid he will see trouble before he gets home. I offered him money and he would not take it said he could pay Myers handier.

Franny raise the chickens and save the eggs as much as you can. I cannot find out whether you have any milk, vegetables or anything for your comfort. Write! Write! (Rap) the money you get from (*****) for your own use do not let anyone have it. Call upon Rodgers for assistance about work as I know he will attend to it. You must not bring water or wash much. Do not disobey me, all will come out right in the end. Rodgers must make that cabin as comfortable as possible.

Cousin Bell sends her kindest love to you and Socrates, Huldah and all as says she hopes to be with you in Oregon soon and looks forward to the time anxiously.

Give my respects to Huldah and all of the boys. Kiss little Socrates many times for me and accept of my kindest regards.

Frances Tryon your affectionate husband
S.H. Tryon

San Francisco, August 12, 1851
Dearest Frances,

Yours of 22 came to hand in due time and I must say it was your best letter. I am happy to find you so punctual in writing as it affords great pleasure to peruse three or four times. I fear you are not as happy and comfortable as you ought to be but I shall be with you as soon as possible life and health permitting.

I am very anxious about you and was not Rodgers there I should have left the business and come before this time, let come what would come.

I am sorry the things did not arrive in good order. I thought I took great pains in the packing. They must have been roughly handled. I sent you a rocking chair by the Brig, four other chairs, two feather beds pillows and other things which Captain Cook will deliver in good order. I have no doubt I should have sent you some other things but you did not write for them. And I as not think it will be, as I think they will abandon it without a trial. The fare is down to \$50 now which makes traveling quite cheap. comparatively speaking one half of a reduction is a good deal.

The Tennessee was sent to the relief of the passengers of the (Reunion) but the Northerner had relieved them and the Tennessee returned yesterday without them. I expected to have seen Captain Taylor back here and that had he come back I think he would have remained. Lumber of all kinds is going to do well for the next twelve months. I want Rodgers to purchase some of the lumber or timber belonging to me and Dennis and Dorlan. I am (submitted) to the benefit of everything these are going to have it and no mistake I am dam mad about the way all hands have treated me and shall hold no further intercourse with any one that has misused me.

I spoke as I did to Dennis because I thought Rodgers had left the place for good and that you needed assistance from some source.

I told Captain Lincoln what you said about the things. He wants to come up to Oregon, has been talking about it today. Capt. Nye has returned from the mines as he went Captain Dearborn has gone home.

You may say that Socrates is a great trouble which is just what I expected. I am glad you are going to have a house immediately. Do not fail to write each mail. I shall come up by the next steamer and will come also much improved in health.

She will remain with Charles Dallas until the steamer goes. Charles has been down and is as singular and odd as ever. Charles is keeping a livery stable at Stockton and tell Mr. Rodgers that

he thinks hay will bear a good price after awhile but now it is only worth \$25. It is retailing here at 2 1/2 cents per lb..

Charles says his girls are growing up.

Tomorrow I am going to (look) at Keyes. I am going to get something pretty handsome if Bradley's judgement is decided in his favor. Tell Dennis our case has not been tried.

I am much pleased to learn that Mr. Rodgers take an interest in your prosperity at least enough to see that you are properly cared for. I should come up in this boat was he not there.

Franny, you did not say that you had a cow or a pig or anything about the chickens, you do not say whether you have a garden or not. I wish to know all about such things. Captain Gill told me that you had a cow. It will not be necessary for Rodgers to come down at all until the Anna and Maine returns which will be two months. I intend to have it arranged so that I can remain a few months in Oregon when I come up. Bell and Mrs. Watson join in sending their love to you and Bell wishes to get up there soon as possible. So good by until the next steamer when I think I shall come and bring the news myself

Frances Tryon this from your affectionate husband
S.H. Tryon

San Francisco, July 30, 1851 no 2
Dearest Franny,

As the Maria steamer is expected in hourly, I am writing you in advance so that I cannot fail for any (***) getting you a letter by any regular mail and permit me to here say that I shall not be at all pleased if I do not get a long letter from you every mail. You gave me more information in your last letter than I have been able to obtain all winter.

Now Dear do not allow me to be disappointed when I go to the office and I shall take it for granted that you are sick should I miss getting a letter from you one mail. Franny you know my anxiety and do not disappoint me, keep nothing back about business or your situation. Whether it is unpleasant or unpleasant.

I entirely by my direction in all of your movements neither exaggerated your situation should it be unpleasant or uncomfortable. not keep any facts from me. Franny make the boys as comfortable as you can without injury to yourself. I have requested Dennis to make you comfortable until I can come up to Oregon which will be when you request it or as soon as I can leave the business. When you request I shall come, you will request Dennis to show you the letter I wrote him.

I miss little Socrates very much and at this moment I am trembling for his safety about that River and saw mill. I shipped those things by the steamer Josephine and I expect they will be up there

before you (receive). There was only 2 boxes the receipt for which is herewith enclosed. You requested me to write positiveness when you left so I will try to comply although I am very poor hand at telling an unnecessary story upon paper. After you left Mr. Spurr and myself rented a house back of the Presbyterian Church near Mrs. Watsons and on our last Sunday week the fire broke out just on the opposite side of the street. The wind being high blowed the fire right upon us so that we had hardly time enough to get the trunks and beds out, nearly everything was burned. The fire burnt over as much ground as the last but did not do as much damage. It was the act of an incendiary without doubt. This last fire makes it highly necessary for Dennis to ship another cargo of joists and (sheeting) as soon as possible. He had better ship by a vessel up there if possible, if not have me send one as soon as he can. Fill her so as to loose no time in getting the lumber into the market.

Franny I want you to cheer up the boys, not let the mill stand still one moment, the market cannot be over saturated before fall. and in the fall planks will be good again. Good (micp) timber is going to sell well but it should be sawed out upon the upright mill.

I am very anxious to get out of debt and believe me if ever I do and get enough to make us comfortable it will be taken care of and no mistake. I am in deep trouble and it seems to be unavoidable, it seems like everybody deceives me. You say you only keep 50 cents for yourself, all I have to say it is your own fault, I expected you to keep all that was coming from (Wress). I do not suppose you are comfortable and have only to say that I regret it very much that I have always endeavored to forelay but this time have been complex (***) defeated. I suppose the house is in an awful condition and you and Huldah must have the mosquitoes kept out or they will eat you up. try and get along until I come. Take good care of little Socrates. I think he is a very smart child and think he will make a noble man should nothing happen to him.

The Anna E Marine got in this morning and reported the Mary Malice ready for sea so I shall look for her hourly, was the lumber as good as it ought to be, it would sell very quick but much of it is not desirable. Too many kinds since the fire we have been boarding at Mrs. Watsons for \$20 per week. When this bark comes in, I shall go to Mrs. Scotts or Burns to board. Watson has gone to the mines.

Bell is improving rapidly and I hope she will get entirely well still it is very doubtful. She sews enough to pay her board which is \$8 per week.

I shall regard it as the greatest possible offense if you do not write every mail. Franny I am ashamed to press the subject of your writing as heard it seems to me that you ought to write without it. Let me know by your next when you want me to come up. If it hurts you stop all work. Captain Taylor and Myers both were with us at the time the fire broke out. They went home on the first, Taylor had not enough money to take him home Myers had about \$2000 both come down from the mines sick. Brother Bennett has been here and says that if Dennis will send an order for his money with interest, he will pay for it, wants Dennis to say what interest would be right. Bell joins in sending her love to you and Huldah and all the boys.

I remain your affectionate husband
S.H. Tryon

