

West Chester Aug 10<sup>th</sup> 1850

Dear Fritz—

The Song looked for has at last come and as you require an immediate answer I hasten to comply with your request –

For the last week or two I have had mighty easy times – Our Latin teacher started off to Philad [sic]– on Friday afternoon intending to remain till the following Monday.

But for some cause of other best known to himself is still among the absent—

Grant-Smith left a few days ago with the intention of trying to get admission into a college in Philada. [sic] I suppose he will succeed –

In regard to that affair of Mons. Mackan I do not think I can furnish more intelligence on the subject than you can — However to the best of my ability I will relate the facts which came to my knowledge. But at the same time I will by no means vouch for their authenticity.

When Panama went to N York some time back in returning to this place he stopped in Philad—for a short time – where by accident I believe, he saw Mackan – just about going on board a vessel bound to England some place – which he ascertained in the conversation that took place between them. Also that Mackan went without a cent of money and knew no other way to pay his passage than by disposing of some of his clothes—and that he intended bringing his father or whoever was in France near relatives to him over to this country—

He also spoke very disrespectful of Bolly on account of his not having paid him his due – the truth of the latter assertion appears very doubtful in my mind – for I do not deem Mr. Bolmar a man of that character – on the other hand should it be true – Mackan has been very badly treated for I also do not think him capable of deserving such a thing—

Panama says he saw a letter written by Mr. Bolmar to Mackan which contained a refusal by Mr. B—to give up money kept back from Mackan – That is his story on the other hand heard from fully as reliable authority that the whole thing is a hoax.

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Did Mackan write to you? If he did and in a manner bordering on the above then would I give more credence to the account.

I pity you that you were deprived of going up in Wise's balloon.

Also I am sorry that the ascent proved to be a failure for I desire very much to know to what distance a balloon can move through the air without risk of life –

I suppose he will try it again.

I expect to take a trip to Lititz in vacation. I wonder if it can serve for a pretext to see

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Loruco says he will answer your letter today if possible if not before long and as an apology for delay says he is only paying off an old debt – Do you remember some kind of debts also. [sic]

I am at a perfect loss what to say – you must excuse want of news – and I know you will after considering my situation –

I suppose my letter is not as well filled as yours but it contains as many words and that is sufficient.

Have you read Mr. Clays [sic] speech made before the defeat of the compromise – it is splendid – if you ever see it read the part – where “he describes man” it is as good as Young pure poetry is in many places – I believe he has surpassed it by a mighty effort since – I have not read his last yet –

I am sorry the Compromise was defeated by the meeting of extreme opinions. Write soon.

Yours truly

Roland K—

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