

Washington Oct. 18, 1855.
At the White House.

My dear father & Mother,

The President has hospitably taken me into his house during my visit here - which will be probably brief, as I expect to know tomorrow whether I can or not have despatches to carry.

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I think I shall take a short trip
home again —

My journey was very pleasant —
the weather being fine — and no
impediments occurring — excepting
that I was detained last night
at Baltimore instead of being here
as I should — on account of an
accident to an engine —

I have called on the Johnsons —
who are in mourning — not only
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and have made my official (!!) call
on the Secy of State —

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The President himself went about
with me this morning, and
introduced me to his Cabinet,
and to other distinguished men—
You can send your letters to
me safely by mailing them under
cover to the Secy of State—
I will write again if I have
time before I sail;— otherwise
immediately upon my arrival in
Europe; with love to all the family
I remain
Your aff. son,
Josiah.

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