Petersburg Mc 23 Feb 41

Dear Sir & co

When I wrote you in the subject of Office in California, I had made up my mind to go there. Since then I have become satisfied that it is not there, nor will not be for years to come, a place to take a passing to, and will therefore excuse you of the trouble of presenting any claims that you might have disposed to prefer on my account.

Sprouse &c, are very much alarmed at your success in the prosecution of their claims, and if you should ever be a candidate for President, you may calculate with certainty on the support of Sprouse. he thinks you are the greatest man living. Also Grasse Mr Astor is dead, one fifth half so rich as Sprouse does at this time. he will make money with his hatchet he avers, but he can't take care of it.