

you have a mother whom you profess to love
more than any one on earth, and I am
sure, loves you in return, as much as she
does her own children, then for her sake be
all that you know she would like you to be -
attentive to your studies, not touch one drop
of any thing to drink and not play a game of any
^{kind} for money - I know what you will say as
you read this, I wish mother would say some-
thing agreeable and leave off lecturing, but I know
the day will come when you will say all young
men need such advice, the accounts of the dissipa-
tions of San Francisco are horrifying and I know
you will have every temptation, and will deserve
the more credit if you resist them all - accounts
are daily reaching us of Frank Lifford's habits, a
^{from San Francisco} man, says the woman whom he kept is from
Liverpool, and that he was when he was there
one of the tightest fellows at Monte, in the place,
Indeed we are all convinced he is a dog and always
beat me - my only fear is he will lead you in to
dissipation, Edward left for Cuba yesterday?
he thinks it a fine opening for a young man
I hope sincerely he will do well - he has the
intention if he will not drink or gamble -
write to me -
Your Mother. M & E -

August 8th 1851

My dear Eugene.

You may have discerned the
cause of my not writing for the last six weeks, the
sickness of another fine boy and consequent confinement
to my bed, has prevented any efforts in that way -
My baby is now six weeks old. I call him James,
it is a name which calls up the most delightful, the
dearest associations and yet the saddest. This
is the third child, and a father by the same name,
and only one left to represent the four - yet I
could think of no other name. So near and dear
has that one become - I have never thought my chil-
-dren handsome, indeed I know they are not gift-
-ed in that way, but I can truly say this last
one is lovely - and yet as I conjure it and lavish
upon it the love and devotion of a fond mother,
a fond father, a fear lest it be a fatal name, ~~but~~
~~the~~ affection, which with every hour increases,
since your arrival in San Francisco I have
received two letters from you, and many of
the other members of the family have been remembered
in the same way - during my illness I begged them
to write often to you, but know not whether
they did so - My health is improving, thanks be