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Published/Created Date	1846-1847
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Container information	Box 14, folder 348
Generated	2023-12-13 02:16:55 UTC
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[Gardiner, Alexander]

Washington Feb. 1846

Saturday.

My Dear Sister:

I received your letter of the 12th inst. this morning. Last night I attended Capt. Anlicks ball at the Navy Yard. It was a very splendid one, and though rather crowded early in the evening, became highly agreeable at a later hour. This evening I am engaged for a small party at Secretary Walkers. I called upon Genl. Van Rensselaer this afternoon & had an agreeable chat with the ladies & himself. The company at his dinner party which I attended the other day were Senators Cass, Evans, Hazard, Dayton, Miller, Johnson, Judge Woodbury, ^{Mr. Thompson} Mr. Wilkes, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Barnette & several other gentlemen. But more of these things when we meet. I have not time to write at length. - The next & last affair my father plans next ~~week~~ Thursday & there will be a large Birthright ball on the 22^d. If David wishes to be present on these occasions he had better prepare to come on

as soon as I return or before if he pleases. I shall
leave as early as Tuesday. He will not probably
find Washington what it once was. I have made
the most of it. I called yesterday upon the
Seaton's & spent half an hour before the
ball last night with Mr. & Mrs. Dix at their
bridal dinner. They intend spending the next
summer in East Hampton. Good bye.
I must write to Julia if possible to-
night & will perhaps write you again
after my return from Mr. Walker. The
afternoon mail leaves in a few minutes.

Yours affectionately written

Alex. Gardner

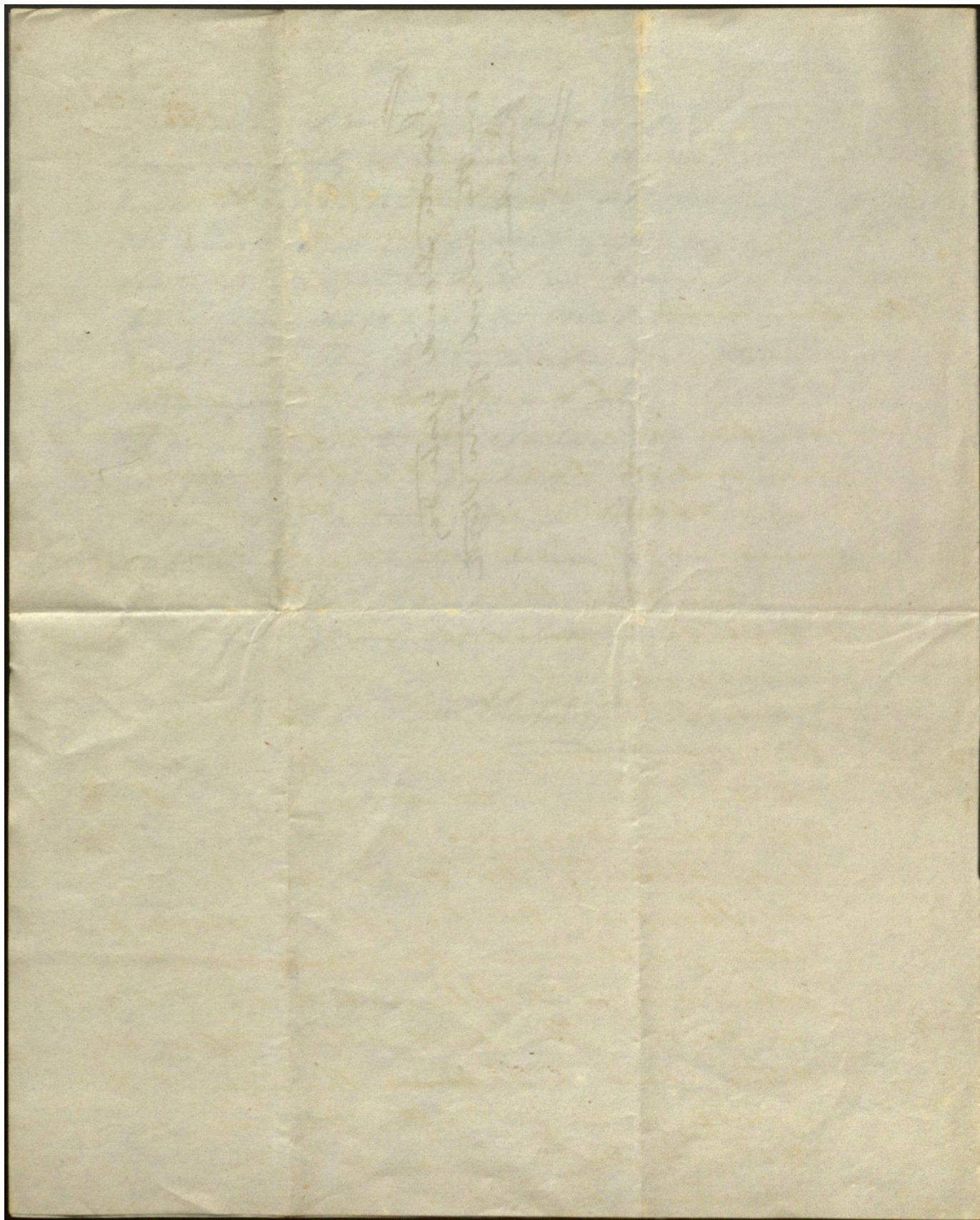
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Wrote David yesterday
on the subject of the street
purchase

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New York July 12th 1847

My Dear Sister:

So it appears that David received my letter (which was put in the Post Office at least an hour before the mail closed last Monday) on Tuesday night - thus far he acknowledges the coin. Well, what does he do? Send the dog to the Harbour by the stage of the next ^{morning} with a note to Capt Ash as I requested? Not at all. He lets that night pass - thinks over the subject the next day - then writes me a letter informing me that the dog will be here on Thursday. On Thursday I receive the letter, and make a third trip to the depot at Brooklyn. The dog is not there, and I return again from a fools errand, to make which ~~the~~ all my business has been laid aside. On Friday I receive another letter, expressing great wonder that I should have him up, and now informing me that I will receive the dog that day. Meantime the weather has doubtless been very pleasant in Southampton - so cool and comfortable that it takes a day to cogitate, a day to write a letter, a day to go to Saf Harbour

and a day to send a dog. After some deliberation as to whether it was worth while, I made my fourth trip to Brooklyn, on Friday. The dog had at length arrived and I brought him to the house. On Monday or Thursday he would have been very welcome; but now I could not leave the city without the risk of missing a letter from Julia requesting me to meet her, which will probably be received to-morrow. The next time I want anything done with promptness and energy, I shall write to you, instead of trusting to the slow coach which was too late for the boat!

I forgot to mention in my last that Mrs. Brumby gave me a piece of Mr. Chase's Polk's wedding cake for you. Notwithstanding her advice, I have carefully abstained from putting a morsel of it under my pillow, lest I might be troubled with ugly dreams. The bride has accompanied the groom on a visit to his mother in Tennessee. Did you see in the Herald "the Doctor's" account of the President's reception by the family of Robert A. Gardiner, of Gardiner, Me?

I passed evening before last with the Clarksons. Dr. Rahm (a Quaker - which?) and his wife were there. Mary goes to Newport with them this week to spend a month. The rest of the family will remain in the city through the summer. I learned from them that Kitty

Livingston had at length accepted Walter Langdon, after having refused him several times and amused herself and others at his expense. Also, that Stephen and Stewart who jilted Mrs. Duckmuntz is engaged to the pale Miss Rheinlander. Mary was full of plans and anticipations for the season at Newport, and will probably be grievously disappointed. Caroline seems resigned to miserable fate.

Last evening I was at the Thompsons - David his wife and eldest daughter formed the coterie. The last did not speak a single word during the whole evening. They are going to Fort Hamilton this week on a visit to remain some time. Mr. T. thought their family had become too large to make a friendly visit in a body, and they do not ~~propose going~~ ^{propose going} to the island this summer. Nothing, of course, was expressly said of John's parting salute last summer. They said nothing about Spencer's marriage which took place at Lyme some time ago, as you may have seen announced.

I have not seen Bruce since you left, but learn at his lodgings that he is staying at Aubrey, and comes up to the city almost every day.

Monday, July 12th. I have no letter from Julia this morning, but will probably receive one this afternoon. We had rain last night and this morning

and have now very hot weather again.
 I am better than when I last wrote - pretty
 well. When is the mouse trap, and where
 the dog muzzles? Affectionately
 Yours

Wm. Gardner

Tuesday, July 13th - I have waited in vain
 for a letter from Julia. I think she must
 be coming on with the President. I received
 mother's letter last night.

47

New York, Sept. 27th 1797.

My dear Sister,

I will endeavor to purchase the peaches for Lucia to day but am afraid the season is too far advanced to get such as very desirable if any. I suppose you received the tapisser and crocheted needle. It was only half the tapisser that I sent. I will send you the balance in the same manner to morrow. Catharine, Lucia's housekeeper, called at the house last night, having returned from the south two or three days since. She was anxious to see Lucia on some account, and enquired whether she had yet engaged another housekeeper. I do not however conclude that she wishes to return as she stated that her husband was coming to live in the city this winter and it did not appear that there had been

any difference between them. Julia
will see her when she comes to the
City.

Mr. Beckman ~~last~~ spent an
hour or two with me last evening.
He had nothing new to communicate,
excepting that his brother in law had
just lost a niece - a daughter of
Mr. Varnum. I saw her with her
sister at Sharon Springs. She died
of bilious fever after an illness of a
week.

The severe storm which has been
raging for two or three days past must
have been extremely uncomfortable
in the country. I have found a few
indispensable, and the library stores
must have been altogether insufficient
for your purposes. Indeed it must
have required all his wit and
vivacity to have kept the blues away.
I write in the midst of the confusion
of the court room. I must be off in
search of the benches.

Affectuatedly yours brother

Oliver Gardner

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any difference bet
will see her when
City.

~~Mr. Breck~~ ~~was~~
born on the 11th

He had nothing re

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old woman

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of 1860

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Miss Margaret Gair

Miss Margaret Gair

Miss Margaret Gair