

Paulo Brazil Dec. 14/65

Dearest Augusta

We arrived at this place from Santos on the evening of the 13th. by R.R. and have not yet been able to complete all arrangements to visit the southern & western portion of this province but hope to start tomorrow morning. If my information is correct we will during this trip see some of the best lands in the empire though many of them are a long distant from a market. I felt a deep interest in the lands in the vicinity of Santos and looked carefully for a suitable one, as this is a good market with all the material facilities a town could wish, but the lands are not suitable for our settlements & consequently we will have to look farther from navigation. We hope to procure suitable lands near a R.R. running from Santos to this place & from hence to the interior. This town is the capital of this province, distant from Santos on the seaboard 45 miles, located in a very poor undulating country almost without timber, contains about twenty five thousand inhabitants, a large law school, numerous churches, some handsome buildings, many beautiful shrubbery, clean streets &c all in all I think it the most pleasant & clean town I have seen in the Empire besides. The climate is more agreeable than any other we have found. This R.R. is owned by an English

Company and has been in course of construction for the last
six years ^{almost} is managed entirely by Englishmen, many of whom
we have met in this place, they have treated our party with
much respect & I assure you it is pleasant to meet with
persons who speak our mother tongue in this land of
strangers. They all speak favorably of the climate of this
country, many have their families here & say they enjoy
good health generally. Strange to say I have not met with
any no. of house flies in this country, have not seen a sin-
gle fly brush nor have I seen the want of one; occasionally
we meet with musketoes but not in sufficient no. to
amount to much annoyance, have seen as yet but one
flea that I got from a dog that occupied a place at my feet
in the car, ~~in the insect, generally, but not to be annoyed as~~
yet nor have I seen but one snake, but I cannot tell
to what extent those things may be found in the wild
woods remote from the tramp of civilized man. In this im-
-mediate neighborhood the ants is to be found in the great-
-est abundance, really it surpasses anything you can imagine
they appear to have mad small mounds from one to 4 1/2 ft.
high all over this poor land, as far as the eye can reach
but I understand they are to be found only in sections.
I write you on the 8 inst. from Santos & sent the letter
to Rio to be forwarded to the U.S. by the next ship, hope you
will receive them in due time; I suppose you begin to think
I should give you some positive information as to what
I will do or expect to do but I have been as yet unable
to visit the most desirable lands at any rate. ^{the} ^{me}

ing lands are yet ahead of us; should I find lands unobjectionable in every respect I fear the subject of labor will be a difficulty that will give us the greatest trouble, from what I can learn the natives though numerous, hard & poor cannot be relied on as plantation laborers, they will travel with you on foot, horseback, or on a boat, carry trunk & baggage or anything of that sort but to work in the plantation from Jan. to December they will not do it, for any amount of money. Perhaps a sufficient no. of slaves can be had for a few emigrants for clearing lands, building houses, marking lands &c at a reasonable price but as yet I cannot find them to hire, but hope to do so when I visit the larger plantation while enquiring the above a friend has informed us that a capitalist of this town has proposed to hire a lot of negroes, but it is not yet known at what price or what no. but this is all premature until we find a suitable settlement. This is Friday P.M. and we have just learned from our companion & guide that we will not be able to leave until Sunday morning which is spending precious time for but little purpose besides we have to pay \$2.50 a day board which does not suit us very well. Dearest you cannot imagine how anxious we all feel about our friends & loved ones at home, things are so unsettled, yet we hope all things will turn out well in the end. Since my arrival in the country I have to study as much as possible of the char

acter of this people and think I state the ~~case~~ ^{case} correctly when I say they are a proud, lazy & thriftless people, they in many cases dress and decorate their persons with every fancy & in many cases expensive articles, ~~when~~ ^{at home} they live with but little comforts & perhaps with a scant allowance of the necessaries of life; the above remarks are applicable to the natives, here we find persons from almost every portion of the globe many of whom are industrious people. As to the women of this country I am unable to give you any information of importance from the fact I seldom see one, except by accident you see one with her head thrust out of a window, or often peeping through closed blinds; as to persons appearance many of them look well enough & dress well & in good taste but poor miserable beings from habits, fashion or some other cause they live the life of a hermit from childhood to old age, this should not be if it is to be hoped ladies coming from foreign lands will teach this people that woman is the fairest of Gods creation & that she must enjoy all the invigorating effects of exercise ~~to~~ ^{to} make her what she was created for viz. the help & companion of man and enables her to ^{reary} ~~reary~~ her family in such a way as to give moral tones to the inhabitants of this world. You must suppose from the above remarks we never see