

St. Louis June 7<sup>th</sup> 1866.

Dear Father,

Your kind letter came safely to hand & although it grieved me to think of your illness yet still I am glad to hear that you are improving & I hope before this reaches you that all of you will be entirely recovered. My health still continues good although I am getting quite thin as the travel wears on me, but I do not mind that as I think it is really doing me good. Every thing is very quiet. Business is slow & nobody wants to buy on advancing prices.

Barnes was two weeks ahead of me in Louisville & from what I can learn his sales were not very heavy. It was stated to me that in his circular to some of the firms he had appended some remarks but whether derogatory to our house or not I cannot say as I could not get ahold of one of his circulars. He has very few friends among the staple houses & I do not think H. Bros. find him as profitable as they supposed he would be. His success in this town was very poor. I do not know where he went from here.

Genl. Grant is stopped at this hotel (the Lindel) but keeps in doors as he does not want any demonstrations. I have not had a sight of him yet but see plenty of his staff. They take things quite easy & do not seem to be troubled with too much to do.

I leave for Chicago tomorrow & if nothing happens will be in N.Y. on or before July 1<sup>st</sup> or I hope to be.

Give my love to all the folks. Hoping this finds you all entirely recovered.

I remain  
Your Affectionate Son  
Frank.