

Letter from one of the Richmond Gold Hunters.

\* We are under obligations to Friend Maule, for the following extract of a letter received from his son. The letter was damaged some by the recent steamboat fire at St. Louis - other letters for the friends of some of the company who went from this county, may have been destroyed by the fire, and this will account for their not being received:

Two miles from Fort Laramie  
June 16th, 1849

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"We left Independence the first day of May; but have laid by some sixteen days on account of sickness - our company have had a large share, principally diarrhoea - we have lost two men by cholera. There have been a great many deaths on this route - the sickness is now abating, and our company are in tolerable health. I had a very severe attack of cholera, but got over it, and I now enjoy pretty good health. The road is lined with people and there has not been a day that we could not see trains before and behind us. We are now six hundred and fifty miles from Independence. We arrived at Fort Laramie yesterday at 11 o'clock. It is astonishing to see the wreck of property along this road; people started with too much load, and now they are obliged to throw a portion away - the road is strewn all along with meat, flour, bread, beans, and provisions of all kinds, as well as wagons, iron, and lead. Yesterday there was a wagon sold at the Fort for three dollars and seventy-five cents - a new two-horse wagon - and one bushel of beans thrown in! To-day, our company is busy unloading and re-packing. In front of us, some thirty miles, is Laramie Peak - one of the Rocky Mountains. We expect to start in the morning and push on through as soon as possible; we have now about twelve hundred miles to make. This is a very romantic country, and to-day is very warm; I am in very good spirits, and have not been discouraged since I started; we have killed "some" Buffalo; there are not many Indians to be seen on this route, they are afraid of disease. It is not worth while for me to try to give you a general account of our journey at this time. Our company from Richmond are all well. I must close, by sending my respects to all enquiring friends.

Charles Maule

*Not in press*

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Another Letter from one of the Richmond Gold Hunters

This letter was recovered from the wreck of the Steamer Algoma, which was destroyed by fire at the wharf at St. Louis on the morning of the 29th of July. Said boat had a large California mail, a large portion of which was entirely consumed.

Fort Laramie, June 17th, 1849

Dear Wife:- I improve this opportunity to send you a few lines