

[TO: ELIAS CARR, Esq., SPARTA, N. C.]

New York

Apr 13 1842

Mr Carr

I have lately become a very poor correspondent, but because I write so seldom don't think yourself forgotten. I often think of the pleasant days spent with you and sincerely hope soon to have an opportunity of returning your hospitality. Come to Gotham, our theatres never were running such good plays and we have two operatroupes, all the Beer Gardens are waking up, and soon we shall have plenty of mist for juleps.

Yesterday Jim Whitney dined with us, all is once more serene, it is impossible for me to keep my mad up, when the face of an old friend turns up I think of the fun we used to have, and all the spirit fire vanishes. After dinner I called on Rockwell of the Reviver, and after

receiving a sufficient amount of spiritual
consolation, three of us started for the Park
Coming back we indulged in Beer. It
went well, the day was warm and our
throats dry, the Germans were out in force
a band gave us choice music and all
was salubrious, until an insane desire to
hear the "Watch on the Rhine," seized one of
us & we spoke to the band leader, but that grandee
heard us not, but one of us said alrigh and
his ears were opened, he drank, the band drank
and we drank, the music started up, while
enjoying it a waiter rudely demanded pay
for the Beer. Now we were all broke but
neither knew about the financial condition
of his companions, each one supposed the
other had lucre, our pockets were searched
and after two minutes foraging we got
sixty three cents together, our score was
only sixty so after dividing the balance
so that neither of us should be penniless
we sorrowfully started for home, you
know yesterday was the 14th which accounts.

for my financial distress,
I have something new for you, it was gotten
up by McBride Davidson & Harry Feller two
old thorough bred sports, they sent the follow-
ing telegram to police headquarters,

Supt Police

I have just found the body
of Josephine Mansfield opposite Blackwells
Island floating in the water

R. Superwards

Do you see the point? After sending the
despatch they started in a coach for the central
office to see if the sell would take, they
arrived just as a coroner was leaving the
building, of course they stopped him and
the only request held was over a dozen or so
of the sparkling grape juice.

I do not expect to get out this spring
in fact it will be almost impossible for
I am nearing a state of ruin,
You see that notwithstanding my good
resolutions it is impossible for me to be
a good boy, what is bred in the bone will come

out in the flesh, my great trouble is
I don't know when to put on the brake
and check the speed, but I look forward
with pleasure to the good time coming when
you arrive in this village,

You requested me to send pictures of
Fisk & Mansfield or States to some one but
I have forgotten who,

Please remember me to Miss Carr and
the boys,

Yours etc

W J Bruce

P.S. I find that I forgot to head my
private property, please excuse the neglect
as I am hurried,

Yours
W J B