


1827

## 25: 1827 November 5: R.T. Dunbar to William Dunbar, Jr. "Brother" (Natchez)

R. T. Dunbar

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in rather evening, since, to the former Grand of Tivoli, (an imitation of  
Vauxhall in London,) for the first and certainly last time; for I found it  
extremely dull, though all the little trifling Frenchmen around me ap-  
peared to me very happy and enjoying themselves. But they can be am-  
used with the music trifling, people perform which seem to give plea-  
sure to any, but the children, of any other nation. And it is not the  
least amusing feature in one of these sort of exhibitions, to see the  
Englishman, proud of his superiority over their national rival, enter the  
hall and strive to excel the French, and make himself even a greater  
foe than his own countryman. This character of frivolity and even child-  
ish disposition, has always been cited as a prominent trait in the  
French, and it cannot but strike every one, as being too plain to  
be denied. But it is strange that its shades be found in other traits  
of character so different, for no nation is more energetic, more more  
nearly devoted to the pursuit of science, or who can number more  
distinguished characters in almost every branch of knowledge, than France.  
To portray the character of the French you must have every Italian  
and every extreme of light and shade. They are a mighty queer  
people as a gentleman from Virginia is good coming up stairs I will  
be you good bye, until we have got through our discussion about  
General Jackson and the distinguished characters who have honored  
Virginia, by having been born there, from Gen Washington down  
to General Gibs -

If you know what miserable fate of homesteads I have every way  
and then you would have spared yourself the trouble of cautioning me a-  
gainst getting too fond of Europe. I assure <sup>you</sup> there is no sugar that I ever took  
for comfort and happiness elsewhere than in the society of you all. I must  
be near them who love me and whom I love too feel very comfortable; and  
the longer I stay away, the more intense grows my wish to be with you all  
again. and when I am with you again, I feel that I will value more than  
ever the comforts, advantages and blessings of my situation. I have five  
hundred schemes to put in execution at the Grange, which will employ  
me the rest of my life so I shall never be idle. The first of my schemes  
will be some affair during the execution of the next month, it is a specu-  
lative to their ultimate perfection - this is to get out of debt. My millinery  
business is one step towards this scheme. You know I was always a schem-  
ing, venturing fellow from a boy, and I must also confess, that I never  
in later years cost me money or time without pleasure or profit in de-  
termined. I have made no schemes however for a long time, except this last one  
which I am tolerably certain will not cost me much. I want to know  
whether the whole country will not laugh at me; I shall be glad of it, if  
it is the case, for I should then have my sanity confirmed in the success

of my speculation. — You speak of the Mexican cast in our cotton. I think I told some of you what the merchants here said of our crops & you ought to think about it and try to change the character a little of our present productions, and while you are vegetating for yourself please put in a vegetation or two for the Grange, and let St. Louis know the result of your intellectual calculations. — I was very sorry to hear poor Sim had been so very ill and wrote him a long letter on the strength of it. But I hope he will be quite well by the time it reaches him, for it is a real plantation letter, and if he is at all predisposed it might throw him into a fever. You tell me nothing about the health of the town and country, but from your silence I hope you have escaped for this year, although it is the hottest fatal odd year of N. Orleans we have had here, the accounts, probably however somewhat exaggerated — we have also heard of storms and hurricanes ravaging the country, principally the coast. I hope they have not extended far and intend to cause you give a sufficient account of my crop, which being most as good as yours, is of course as good as can be expected —

I was to Paris when you saw him, tell him I have only seen one brood of yours as yet — and as to his second question it's so long since I was in Adair County that I have forgotten the form and elegant legs of Natchez. I really must confess I don't understand. I was glad to hear he was in id; ask him if I shall send him a new patent tail made in here and which is in Berccan, à la Giraffe — Giraffe here, since the arrival of that animal, if he had hats à la Fayette de — This is indeed a very singular beast. Naturalists have been at a loss to decide whether it was a horse or a cow (stupid fellows can't tell a horse from a cow) they have however at length decided that it is more of a cow than a horse, and it is clasped with cows deer and sheep as a horrid Ruminating animal — I am extremely sorry that Brown did not find my sooner. I wanted to send a heap of things by him, particularly Sister P's commission, which has bothered me not a little, as to one article see here! lace!! why she might as well ask your Congo Jack about the respective merits of different poems, as tell me to choose lace. Now if Brown had only staid one day how nicely I could have fixed it — as it is I must look out for other assistance —

I suppose you'll have with you this winter Mr Green of Liverpool, poke him in the eye, don't him in the Paps, and rounce the cotton scaffolds, you will I think like him very well. I thought him a very strong fellow indeed; and extremely good looking. — I believe I told he has a handsome sister about 18 — Give my love to all the folks and believe me very affectionately Brother R. T. DuBose — If I think of any more nonsense I will try to find Paris November 7 - 1837 — up the blank spot of this paper, if you send it

rather with Charlotte's side. does Mamy mean to say that  
Charlotte was following her example. What was independent fellow.  
I am to be joking my sister. but when I read that part of her  
letter I could not help laughing heartily and you know it would  
not be manners to laugh and not tell the company what you are  
laughing at. Good bye dear brother and I bid you in ever yours  
R. V. Dumbler - Nov 5. 1887 -

Received by Mrs. Brown

William Dumbler Esq

Great Am

Natchez

Miss M. M.

Nov 5 1887

Nov 5 1887

ask Mr. Huntington to take the grain under his special care. give him my  
love, and some fine shooting, and be sure to tell him how is shooting with my  
gun and my dogs, and am interested in this for I shall be in England next  
fall, and I remember having seen in their stable two most beautiful  
printers. - I have just finished the enclosed and must hasten  
to tell you good bye again as this is the fifth, and I want to  
make sure and get all ready for the report which sails in  
a few days. Between you and me I don't visit each other a lot  
at Mamy's expense. she says for the summer past Charlotte has  
not been very well and that she has mirrored grown my sister and  
derived all from her example. now I have heard what was the