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Letter from Nathaniel Ruggles Whitney, Belmont, Massachusetts, to Anne Whitney, 1868 July 10

Nathaniel Ruggles Whitney

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Your Aunt Sarah, Stone and family I believe are
as well as usual, Fanny who for a long time has
been somewhat out of health, now appears to be better,
I hope you have left Rome in season to avoid the danger
of the sickly season — Your mother, Sarah and myself
desire to be remembered to Adeline allanary with much love
except much for yourself which remain yours —

Affectionately
Wm. B. Whitney

P.S. Since writing the foregoing I learn that the Demo-
cratic Convention after a severe struggle have nominated
Walter Seymour of New York for their President and Frank
Blair for Vice President so Chase may "hang up his
fiddle" for the present.

July 12th Sarah went to Doct. Williams, yesterday, he told her
that she was doing well, and need not come to him again.

Belmont July 10th 1868

Dear Anne

You need not be greatly surprised or
alarmed by receiving from me a few words, instead
of the usual letter from Sarah she having been afflicted
for a fortnight past, with her former difficulty a rheumatic
affection in one of her eyes, and not so far recovered as
to make it prudent for her to use by writing — she is
under the care and advice of Doct. Williams, who says
she is improving, and we, the family, hope for appearance
that it is so, and that with care she will soon be able to
resume her usual occupations — Myself and the rest
of the family continue in the enjoyment of as good health
as when you left — Our family affairs continue about
the same as when you were with us. — We are now
nearly out of the Strawberry season, Edward has abund-
antly supplied us with its fruit and also with green-
peas and other vegetables of the season — Is it not
a blessing to have such a son and brother? Your Aunt
Lufts has been with us about ten days, and has left
for home — Fanny Weston who came about the same
time has also completed her visit. — I do not know
of any important changes in our neighborhood except
the painted house of which I have before given you some
account, has undergone a great change for the better — Mr.
Beyon the owner has put it in nice order by painting

and making other repairs, and ornamenting the grounds in front and around it ~~and~~ making its appearance a very pretty residence. He had advertised it to let, but the summer ~~but the summer~~ was so far advanced before it was completed I fear he will not find a tenant for it this summer, though a good neighbor would be very desirable on our part. — Mrs. Barnard still remains in feeble health and is unable to ride or take other exercise except in a very moderate degree, which her physician (Dr. Stone) so orders, her disease being an affection of the heart. — Your letter dated June 21st we have received it gives great pleasure to hear of your good health, and that you would soon leave Rome for a better climate.

You speak of meeting Judge Ames, I wish you could have seen his wife also who is a very pleasant and agreeable lady, they both have manifested great friendship for me, and I should have been glad had you made their acquaintance. — Our political horizon appears somewhat cloudy when such men as Chase the Adams and some others who stood and aided the administration of Lincoln during the war now advocating and supporting the policy of Johnson but such is the nature of our Government that disappointed men, aspirants for office do sacrifice their principles and honor to attain it. Chase is an example of this kind, he wished

and no doubt expected to have had the nomination for President when Lincoln was elected the first and second terms, and now Grant having become his rival, he goes body and soul into the hands of the Copperheads or Democrats who are now holding a Convention in New York for the nomination of President, whether he gets the nomination of which he is very desirous, is yet to be decided, the proceedings in the Convention are not very harmonious and it is yet doubtful who will be their candidate, but Grant and Colfax the Republican ticket is a popular one and I have faith and hope it will be successful. So Henry Wilson and some other of our shrewd politicians say will prove certain, together with an increase ~~with~~ of Republicans in the Senate and house of Representatives.

It is not necessary for me to instruct you in regard to our political affairs for you get all the information relative thereto from the Newspapers which you are regularly receiving.

I make these few comments to indicate my own views and feelings on the subject. — Your Mother and Sarah were much delighted to hear from you, the improvement of Mary Shannon's health, her brother is very desirous for her return, and says he has written her to that effect.

Mrs Robbins has recently been very ill but is improving, and the family have hope of her recovery.