

Boston March

1852

Mr. May

When in Florence in 1835, I
saw in the studio of M^r. Greenough
the painting by Bezzanti (Painter to the
Grand Duke of Tuscany), of Columbus
going to Court to ask aid in promoting
his contemplated voyage to the Westward
with which I was much pleased &
was desirous of purchasing it - Thru
Greenough I succeeded in purchasing the
painting, and became ~~the~~ acquainted
with the Artist, who told me he
was led the subject by having shortly
before read your Columbus - The head
is the copy of that of Columbus which
I have seen I think in the Palace at
Florence - The Monk, had often sat
as a model, and was alive in 1835 - The
Monk is a favorite, or was, of the Painter
and who told me, he took him on

his carriage to Lighorn, and made him
follow the Carriage on his return to
Florence, when he took his Portrait.

I have just given the painting to
my friend H. M. Prescott, and have
thought you would like to have
a Daguerrotype Copy, which I send
to Mr J. Cary of N. York to be
forwarded to you -

With much respect, & the
hope that you would do me the
favor of calling on me, should you
visit Boston before I leave it for
the long journey -

I am

your friend & servant

Washington Irving

W. F. Johnson

