

My dear Charlie,

When are you coming home? We
begin to fear that William is playing us a
trick and means to keep you all to himself.
You have been away so long that I really
forget how you look. I was describing you
the other day to a lady as tall and rather
thin with light hair and a roman nose,
but Kate declares I am all wrong and
that if any thing you are a little stoutish.
Perhaps you have altered since you have
been living in the west. But do come home
my dear Charlie in time for your Christmas
dinner at the cottage

With kind remembrance, to William

Your affectionate uncle

Walter Henry Irving

Dec 25th 1847.

New York tomorrow. they have the Knickerbocker dinner tomorrow and they want him to come down for it; he says he will go down but does not intend to go to the dinner. his ankles have been much better of late, and he is very busy writing for two months I hope he will accomplish what he wants to this winter. He said he thought he would if he kept his health. he is going to stay at Julia's. Eliza says they are nearly settled and it looks very pretty and every thing is so complete about it they occupy the room down stairs now as their parlors are not in order yet. We asked Catharine Brighton today in church to come down and spend the evening with us tomorrow and stay all night. for she has no one with her now and she could not come in the evening alone. we intend to send for the Livingstons tomorrow morning and Julia and Sanders are coming we shall send for Julia immediately after breakfast so she will spend the day and perhaps stay all night. I only hope it will be clear, but it looks quite cloudy now. we asked Eliza Fobill if you wanted a chapp made when you came down if she would make it immediately she said she would. for I do not think you will be able to get Mrs. Hickson unless you engage her before hand. and Eliza Fobill has made our shoppes very nicely if you conclude to have it made. but you must bring all the things up. but you must do just as you think best and what you like yourself. ^{as we did not engage her positively to make it} You asked about going to see Nancy. I do not think it worth while if you are only in town a day or two. you can go when you go down to stay longer. but you must not fail to go to see Quat Pains.

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stay longer, but you must not fail to go to see Mrs. Davis.