

New York July 22^d 1853

My dear Sarah.



SHR

In the omnibus at thirty first
Street on Saturday I found one of the Misses
Routh and with another lady of a very
sweet engaging countenance, who I have
since learned was her sister, Mrs Mann
a widow. She does not look like any of the
rest of the family being of a fair complexion
with light hair. I good looks were favor
it will be her own fault if the countenance
remains very long - however - let that pass.
Miss Routh informed ^{we} ~~that~~ ^{that} a boat
left their hall for Brighton on Sunday morn-
ing at 20 minutes past nine. This was
confirmed by Louis Eugene Mother Pierre whom
I saw at her office and who wished me to
go down with him in descending afternoon however
I remained in town and set off by train in
the morning. Early wind - threatening a
storm. I began to sprinkle before I reached
the ferry boat and I had no umbrella -
however I kept on. By the time I reached
near Brighton there had been a slight fall of

rain, which made a glaze of ice and rather slippery walking. I pushed for the church. Before I reached it I was overtaken by Theodore, and had the shelter of his umbrella. I was one of the first in church but had not been there long when I found dear little Kelly by my side. The others soon came in, with the rest of the congregation, which, owing to the weather and the ^{longer the year} season, was not very numerous. It was a deeply interesting sight to see, Theodore and his brother off-eating together in Pierres church. For a time I felt my heart swelling in my throat and could hardly restrain my tears. Theodore acquitted himself extremely well. His canonicals became him and he makes a good figure in the reading desk, as you will easily suppose. He read the early part of the service rather fast, as I told him afterwards, and as I have likewise thought. He had some things nasal also in his enunciation, which I trust he will amend. His delivery of the

sermon was very interesting; and the sermon itself excellent. Upon the whole I was very highly gratified and make no doubt that, with a little practice, he will make himself a popular preacher; as I am sure he will attract an attention and conscientious pastor. ✱ SBR

I dined at Pierres and had a very pleasant repast. You know of course all about Theodore's call to Bay Ridge. By his account of the place it must be the very situation he could wish. He found himself at home there immediately, among most agreeable friends. Mr Pierres the first warden, at whose hospitable house he stayed, married a Miss Pierrefort with whom Theodore was acquainted in his younger days. Another lady, the wife of a wealthy member of the congregation, claimed them as an early acquaintance. He proved to be a West Point (I think) one of your schoolmates was asked to visit you at Bond Street. He seems already to have caught the good will of the congregation who unanimously express a great desire that he would accept the call. If he goes to a passage

will be built for him by Jones. The country
about Bay Lodge is pleasant. The neighborhood
peaceful and agreeable, it is within a short dis-
tance from the city; not far from Peeres
and within the reach of all her conveniences.
It's very gratifying to see him so promptly
fixed to his station and advantage.

He will be up at the Cottage on Saturday to
stay until Monday, and I have asked him to
bring Lizzy and one of the other girls with them.
Lizzy and her lady have holiday from school
from Friday until Monday, and are well disposed
to come up. The other girls are engaged in parental
duties. I think it probable your mother
Percy will pass Saturday with us, as it is your
father's birth day. Dr Creighton must be
oppressed with the course of the week, that Theodore
is ready to officiate for him on Sunday next.

I returned to town in the boat that left New
Brighton barely minutes past three. The walk
from Whitehall up Broadway to the cars at the
foot of the park was one of the bleakest walks
I have taken for a long time. In the face of a
cold wet east wind; that seemed to penetrate

to my very bones; notwithstanding I was protected by that 'Palma' which Maria had lived so comfortably. However I got home safe; and ~~where~~ we were in Casey completely quarters looked back upon the day and all its terrors and occurrences with beautiful satisfaction.

I may be kept in town for part of the week as I have business transactions with Mr Polnam and have to make arrangements about my new publications: I will also to collect some money for that poor widow the wife of Oliver Goldsmith. However, I shall be home again as soon as possible

With love to all bodies



Your affectionate brother
Washington Irving

Mrs Sarah Irving

