

New York May 18th 1834.

Dear Will -

I have a deal to say to you - but as usual I have
 put it off till the last moment - and have but little time - as I should be now with
 this at the office. Henceforth I shall keep a sort of journal for you of passing
 events, and by the next ship you will have a batch of ~~new~~ nonsense - I have been
 constantly with you for the last fortnight - as in that time I have received three or
 four letters from you; and most grateful I am for them. I was not afraid
 that you would forget me and old times, but it is most delightful to have
 proofs that I am in your memory and among your pleasant-thoughts. Seldom
 do I recall scenes that were passing among the days that are gone - but that you are
~~now~~ mingled with them. And as I am prone to dwell on the sunshine that was
 when the future is cloudy, full oft do I take you by the arm and have many times
 together. I don't like your being in low spirits - you must cheer up. ~~the~~

Consider ~~you~~ the few years to come, but as a sort of purgatory, leading to ease and
 opulence. For as your prospects what they may in the house, you certainly can lay
 up something snug by speculating - by turning the present sum sent you, to good
 account; you can go on increasing the amount of your speculation - believing

certain to be the best spot on the Labrador shore. I would join you there tomorrow - if money could be made - For a clock a day this poverty is a dirty thing, the mother of all meanness, the villainous curser of generous spirits - carving wrinkles on the young brow and - no doubt - on me. if it shall make me melancholy. I will laugh and be merry, even though no money gringle into time. But truly our family motto is revolving - the sub umbra, is passing away and we may soon be sub sole

Edgar's affairs are proceeding glibly - and all things are being arranged to the satisfaction of all parties - I believe I mentioned in my last - that the old Colonel had agreed to advance the ^{\$}7,000 requisite and Edgar was to be admitted into the firm of ^{Jones} Barclay & Livingston. The old Gentleman said they should be married as soon as the warm weather was over - but the tender couple waited with much waiting, expect to consummate their happiness in the month of August

When the happy event takes place, be sure, that I will write you a most particular account - of all things thereto appertaining - Livingston has offered to give Edgar possession of his cottage whenever it pleases him - leaving it all furnished - so that he will have but little trouble to go to house keeping - Ah wait till you come back with money in thy purse, and peradventure I with some more - we will have rare fun up there - Edgar is so truly kind hearted - so free from humbug, that his house will be a home at all times and seasons -

A strange world that we live in - perhaps I may have a piece of my own when you return - there is no knowing, stranger things than that have happened.

Oh Cracky! it would be too glorious! a home of my own, and you to live with me!

But a truce to dreams and back again to reality - Edgar. I have a tale of reality

to tell you that will make you "hopen your heyes" as the Lockneys say - You will exclaim - "no - it can't be - impossible!" nevertheless it is usefully true, and pity too, tis' time - Yes - Alfred - commonly known as Turner Livingston has forged to a large amount - and is now either in Lewis or a fugitive - I believe the former.

It appears that he has been for some time back in the practice of forging Peter Livingston's name - but was only discovered a short time since - he bought the place called Monroe - and to pay for it forged a note for upwards of \$10,000 and had it discounted in the Orange County bank - of course when presented to Peter L. - the whole thing came out - I would not credit this - till I found it in every body's mouth -

George D. says that he met Robt Livingston two months ago and that then in speaking of this Monroe L. he said that it was known to many that he had been

several times guilty of forgery - If Peter L. will not pay the note a note of course he will go to prison - if he is liberated he must leave the country or if he has any feeling he will cut his throat - For here I have no sympathy - he was a conceited fellow, a vain fellow - pated fellow and I am not surprised to find him an arrogant rogue - But poor Justice's situation is dreadful - I believe she has not been

out of the house since - though I do not think she is one to feel deeply - much of her sorrow will ooze out in tears - ~~that is so~~ I really feel much for her, she was a nice, kind hearted girl and worthy a better fate - had she had a mother of more character she never would have married that Rogue Rogue - every one endeavoured to persuade her against it but in vain - I think the fate of the other daughter extremely

me canonis - you know what a way they take of receiving any one at their house - and calling them boys the second time they see them. The rest of the family do not seem to be much troubled about the affair -

I was at a party at Goodhues, evening before last and there met with the lovely Ruth - looking quite as sweet as ever - we had a very long talk about you and I could not persuade her that you had mentioned her in your letters - to convince her I have promised to show her that part where she is mentioned and in return she says she will add a postscript to one of my letters - She says she has given up flirting and is going to wait till you return a nabob. Rather hard work I suppose for Ruth to give up flirting - if she is so accustomed to it - Her third sister is with her - looks like her, but not so ~~pretty~~ handsome. She comes out this winter - Her sister Elizabeth who is an especial favorite of mine, is at

home and unwell -

The first time I met Ruth since her return to the city

she was stepping out of a carriage and entered Fountain's - I joined her there and after a short talk, she said she had been to a party at Mrs Charles Graham's - she went because she ~~heard that I was~~ was told by some of the family that I was to be there and she wanted to talk of old times with me - Of course she did not find me - and the report was only a ruse of Madame T! - they have made a great effort to be intimate with us - but it would not do - her hints to be invited socially at our house have all proved ineffectual - Ruth says she was introduced to one Charles Graham who ~~was~~ was an ardent goose and she had been bored by him ever since, as he had been almost every evening to see her -

The Duen I believe I took you in the main letter have moved up to Bond street, in a very pleasant house - I dined with them yesterday - after dinner George and I adjourned to a very pleasant basement-room where we wine, drank four bottles and ~~we~~ spun yarn after yarn of old times and wished that we were all together to make a visit to West Point and have some of his most glorious dinners - Oh wouldn't it not be happening if we three could be there for one week? as we warmed our own wine and the old feeling came out - when we vowed to stick together through thick and thin - we wished we were in Canton with you to enjoy some of those famous curries you make mention of - George has not changed one iota - I hope that he grows a little more about his prospects - and long for something to do - He should make an effort as now he has the reputation of a mere idler - a character become quite obsolete and in bad repute -

His sisters are no nearer the delectable state of marriage than when you left - beaux have fallen off very much - they are nice girls - but poor damsels are

not in demand in this market - ~~it is~~ ~~not~~ ~~likely~~ to use an elegant expression, it is completely glutted with the article - Young Henry B. Robinson has grown up nearly -

little, good-looking - vain, silly and disagreeable - calls himself Barclay R. much to the amusement of his friends - and obtrudes himself upon society -

The Battery is becoming a place of great resort - as Broadway is in a holloay - The whole front from Barclay to Key Street is lined with the ground and from morning till night - there arises a cloud of dust or dirt from the falling manure that fills your eyes and soils your clothes - It will be two years before the ground

Hotel is completed - The frequenters of the battery - are the Thomes' - they come every evening about five and ~~can~~ walk till six as hard as they can go - and previous seldom have they been with them. They are too thin for this warm weather - Then there is Sarah Major with her ~~be~~ legs and plump figure and languishing air and swimming eyes - it would do you good to look at her - Then there is little Caroline Callender with her sweet little figure, laughing eyes and pretty foot - and our little Emily - and ~~the~~ De Bruce Schermacher's sister - who are proper nice girls and very intimate with our girls - Do you recollect Mrs Tompkins - Miss Wright as was - she went out with us once or twice in the Boat-Club. Well she is the nicest looking woman I know of, and I always make it a point to walk behind her when possible and observe her - she is now in that interesting state that women who love their lords love to be -

The Boat-Club is not yet in operation - I fancy that it will die a natural death - the spirit has passed away - or rather the young men have passed away - some by marriage - some gone abroad - I do not belong to it - and shall not trouble it - the spirit I acknowledge has left me entirely - I have become mighty fond of ease and comfort - and eschew every thing that requires exertion - I am exceedingly occupied now preparing my Book for the press - it will be at least two months before it is ready -

The sketches which I thought of publishing first, I could have prepared in a short time - but the present work is tedious and requires research - but Uncle thinks it better to start upon them any more fancy sketches - this he thinks will become

a popular work because it is a sort of romance in our own country - I will send you a copy as soon as it is published - but I beg you will not think yourself bound to read it.

Falter procured the ragons and he send them by Capt Eneans - they are cheap ragons - but as likely to be good as higher priced ones - Falter has had one in use for many months and it has proved excellent - I send you the impressions you request - in a tin Box -

I have written to Pierre to send me immediately some impressions from his ring seal as I think that the seal is size - even for letters - besides it is uncommonly well cut - I will send them by Mr. Glopunt - who sails I believe in about a week - I will go up now and get you ~~the last~~ a number of the Mirror -

Oh I don't know that there is any thing in it - and in future I will endeavour to send them regularly - the reason why I have not sent you any before was because I thought ~~perhaps~~ the house would receive plenty - I saw young Crane and endeavored to persuade him to come and dine with us but did not succeed

Falter has invited them both here and the Captain frequently but business or inclination prevented their coming - I am in hopes of seeing them to day when I carry up the letter to Burens - I was anxious they should dine with us, as I knew it would be gratifying to you to have any one who had been among the flock - I shall hunt up Catling - though I have not much

respect for the youth from my previous knowledge of his character - I fancy Canton has now redeemed him - still he can tell me all about you and the recent incidents concerning you to me will be interesting -

I cannot tell you much about the fashionable world - as there is a stagnation in gay life - Mrs. Cuyler - Miss Douglas that was - still however keeps it up and

has some every Monday evening - they are compleat of a ship - but I
have enjoyed them - they have very good supper and a billiard room open -

Bess Sumner - keeps very quiet since her marriage - does her wife out-occasionally - but makes no great dash - George Hoppman is going to seek his fortune
in the West - in a few weeks - Maria Laura is engaged to one Mr

Rip - who is an exemplary young man - studying for the ministry -

Cramer of boat club memory - is courting Miss Maria Schermerhorn - rather
he than me - like embracing so many loves - but she will have the latter -

Levi Mason is breezing Miss Langman's sister, a rather pretty, but little girl - rich of
course. There are considerable doubts entertained of his getting her. Mark Don

has gone to Europe said to have been disappointed in a love matter -

But I must be off or I will be too late - I do not expect you to excuse this
apologize - I write as I would be another to - distance & time give an interest
I know to the most perfect. There is nothing new in Bridge Street - all are

regretting that Uncle Sam's sails in the next packet - you would like him much
if you knew him - he told me to ~~forget~~ remember him to you and say that he
was sorry he did not see you - but that as when you have made your
fortune you must return home by the way of England to make them a visit.

Dr. H. has very much improved - Mr. Falter has taken some of his mistaken notions
out of him. They are now at - Ocean. Pray I say good bye dear Will - I must
beg that you will take care of your health - recollect you are not acclimated - and
don't struggle to much - and take as much exercise as you can. I did not say
any thing about your being unwell to father as I knew it would worry him.
For he is constantly talking about your health. You must be dead had worked

I am glad that if a holiday was so near - you would be able to

visit - Make yourself perfectly easy about your letters - I promise

you that no one shall see them. I did not show any of the late letters but
read parts of them to the family - do recollect when you write that it is to me
you are writing and not to the whole family - I know from experience that
there is no greater bore than to write a letter which you expect is to go through the
hands of the whole family - Therefore I repeat - no one shall see your
letters to me. Don't give up to the blues - think of the time when we

shall meet again - Farewell

Your affectionate brother

J. D. —

W 3245d

W 3245c

Thos. Irving May 18
Clematis 1834

Died in Thos. May 35
July 35

Care of Russell Co
Lancaster
China



Clematis

Mr William Irving

W 3245d

W 3245c