

New York July 25th 1853.

My dear friend,



I gave you my reasons for preparing to
retain my broken theorem with me for the
present; but I should be very glad to obtain the
licentiate of mariners for my nephew ~~Edgar Irving~~
Edgar Irving: the same was proved for several years
as midshipman. He on fact held an attestation
for a ~~licentiate of mariners~~ ^{licentiate of mariners} in March 1852, which
has now been withdrawn. He afterwards tried to get a
passage, and it was in his power I originally
applied. On his becoming engaged to Miss Tenant
of Baltimore he relinquished his ~~own~~ thoughts of
naval life finding the young ladies friends had
determined to it. He then determined to enter into
mercantile life; but has not been able to do so,
and feels more & more that he is not fitted for it.
He is now anxious to return to ^{the} naval service, and

to stain the Centenary in question. I rejoice to
find him so disposed, for it seems upon the whole,
the thing he is best fitted for. He is a very
amiable, gentlemanlike amiable easy fellow,
and I think will be a popular officer. He has
always been popular among those with whom
he has served. His long service it has not been
it easy for him to adapt himself in a little
while to the duties of the situation.

Should you think proper to write in his name
to Mr Woodbury I would add one thing. It is usual,
I am told, to order officers recently appointed, to some
post or place, to afford them an opportunity of
becoming acquainted with their duties: if so, I
should like to have you ordered to the Station

at Brooklyn - among various names for them, one
of the most interesting is, that for a time I could
have been under my eye, and direct his studies
and exertions.

Believe me ever very truly yours



Washington Irving

Should you recommend my nephew for the
appointment, I would be glad if you would drop a
line by post informing me of it.

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2/12/41

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To be forwarded to
Mr. Van Buren if absent

MS

~~MS~~

The Hon. Martin Van Buren

Albany



236 Main St
Edgar Young Jr
Mr. Van Buren
New York

To be forwarded to
the Hon. Van Buren
Albany