

Edgen Spring. May 15. 1834

Rome. Climatic

New York May 15th 1834

Recd. Feb. in France
My dear Will

I believe some time has elapsed since I had an opportunity of writing to you, tho' I ^{think} ~~think~~ I have written by pretty much my convenience that has offered since you left. Perhaps my letters may not be as acceptable as some, but knowing from experience what it is to be far from home, and amidst strangers, I have felt a good deal of sympathy for you, and have therefore endeavored to contribute to your gratification, by writing as often as possible. I believe there has a vessel sailed, about a week since, for Canton, while I was on a visit to Baltimore, which I knew nothing of until my return. But as there are now a number of vessels about sailing, I will endeavour not to be behindhand.

We have all been more than a little delighted by your letters, to find you writing so cheerfully and contentedly, notwithstanding the hard work you evidently have ^{had} to endure. And if you only weather the first year, well. I have no doubt but that you will by that time find a bright prospect opening itself before you, tho' you may not exactly

find the struts paved with gold - I am very glad to find that - the desponding mood you were in, at the time of writing me of your letter to Theodore (which he showed only to myself) did not last long - as, from all, and the many various accounts we hear of you, you have gained a very high stand in the estimation of those around you, which will secure your rapid advancement; and which, together with the phrasing style of your letter, is operating wonderfully in your favor here - I believe Father & Uncle Nash, are making up an adventure for you, to the amt. of a thousand dollars, which, of itself, will I trust lay the foundation of something handsome - and at the same time, Uncle Nash, has rec'd a letter from W. Cochrane, at Bombay, saying that he would look out for you on his return to Canton, and he knew he would be able to push you ahead - so you see, I don't think your prospects are so very gloomy, as you would think them - I never thought that you would step into a gold mine - at once, but I was of the opinion that if you could make up your mind to pursue this, the many privations you would have to encounter, for a few years, that you would lay the foundation of a fortune - I, for one, after ^{you had} ~~having~~ given it a fair trial, and you should not then have

a fair prospect - before you, would not wish to see you pursue; but - ~~would~~ on the contrary, you would see find me ready to help you along, to the last cent - I had - As for myself, I am glad to say, that my prospects are beginning to brighten up some little - and I have some hope of getting rid of this detestable Marine Commission I now have - Piere & his partner, have made me an offer, by which I will become concerned with them, if I succeed in raising the sum of \$7,000. My only hope, of course, is, to get it - from my intended Father in Law, with whom I have been conferring on the subject; and as he is desirous that I should be snugly fixed at something, better than the Marine corps. He has given me to understand that he will do it - I trust it will all be arranged soon, and that I will join with them by the 1st August - and then, as soon as the warm weather is over, I will expect to end my long "Engagement" in marriage. The life would suit me exactly, and I should have the means of living very comfortably - and perhaps, by the time you return, I would be able to give you a snug corner in my cottage, with a lot of stephens & thiers to amuse yourself among! I will write again in a day or so, and will say more - God bless you - I am as ever, your dear brother, most affectionately yours Edgar

I was, some time since, glad to receive one letter from you. I believe Theodore will take care of your requests, about seal impressions &c - by the way - I should like it very much, if you would send me a "note seal" and also a large seal with the full "Coat of arms" and for any such little notions, I will look out - for the expense of them - and if you should meet with any little thing, not-expensive, that would make a pretty and suitable present - for Amanda, send it - to me - Amanda & Emily Tennant

have not attended much since you saw them. He had many talks about - you, you being a great-favorite with them; and when I came away, they both told me to send their love to you -

Theodore's Baltimore friend, Miss Edmondson, is to be married in the fall to one of the young Edgars, of our City. who by the way is a great-sage, as I suppose you know. His Gold I suppose is the attraction, altho' she must be well off herself -

Oh! I must not forget - something that - I heard the day before yesterday, and which I know will interest you - I accidentally heard, that Sustine Livingston's Husband, was in the penitentiary!!! He had been, for some time back, forging in the name of his adopted Father, Peter B. Livingston, for which he had been imprisoned. Old Livingston had had the notes, and is trying to get him out. A sweet - match that! I have not heard or seen anything of poor Sustine for a long while. but I believe she has had no young ones, yet -

William Irving Esq
Care. Messrs Russell & Co.

Canton
China

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Edgar Irving
Climate
Red Feb 35, in France

May 15
1834



William Brown Esq
Care of J. B. Hall Esq

Dear Sir

Yours