

Can any thing
most Sincerely
and affectionately
your Son
Stephen
W. Fathin,

Rome March 20, 1843.

Dear Father,

My heart, yes Dear Kate's heart would leap for joy.
Can I do any thing?
Your letter inclosing draft on Manhattan
Co. for \$50, was received this morning, and I have receipted
it on the bond as before. The other little matter, I have
sent to Catherine, at Albany, where she went with me,
on Thursday last. You will receive it in a few days.
According to Mother's request, yet with extreme reluctance
on my part, I have consented to accompany my dear
Wife down to Sing Sing, about the middle of April, after
her visit at her Aunts, and consent to her remaining at home
until the month of July. I feel lost, without her, though
this arrangement relieves us both of great anxiety. Since it
is very difficult to find good Nurses in this Region, She
can have her old and well known Physician, And the
air is so much purer. The atmosphere of Rome is apt to
induce Scrofulous complaints. I have very much re-
gretted since Mother's letter reached us, having again
mentioned our want of the money, greatly fearing we
have put you to some inconvenience and trouble.
The ^{real} cause of the delay, did not enter my head. I concluded
your other business & engagements had prevented your
attending to it, and led you to forget it. So I thought
to remind you, and state our peculiar circumstances, and
immediate need, It may be that I shall spend

a couple of weeks at home. in April, and again come down for my dear Kate, in July. You will still further oblige us, if you will retain the other \$50, and the amount of Mr Ruffles' \$15.00. until we arrive.

I believe I have already said to you, that we both wish and intend to hold on to the principle of the Bond in this as in all other cases, and simply use annually the interest accruing, having, as all should have, regard to those who may come after. Ministers especially should do this, since they are cut off from the means of acquiring for themselves and children any fortunes.

If you can, conveniently in July, give me not only the interest of \$35 but the whole sum of \$70, which would be due ^{on the \$1000.} in December following, thus aiding us in the matter of housekeeping 4 or 5 months in advance, it would be most gratefully received.

The storm extended the whole length of the state. I left Albany on Friday 17. in the midst of it, reached Schenectady at 11½ with the mail passengers. The Cars had gone on, having waited long after their usual time, and did not again get in from the West until Saturday 6. P. M. We then left Schenectady at nine Saturday P. M. with 4 powerful Locomotives and Snow plough, having previously sent men to dig away 4, 5, & 6 feet drifts of snow. On one part of the Road near Rome they were about 36 hours clearing the way for two miles of heavy drift, with 4 engines, shovels &c &c. Of course there was no

preaching in my Church. all the roads are impassable north of this. it is far worse.

The people in Albany have, a large number of them gone quite crazy about Millenism. Processions of Men & Women in their Ascension robes, are occurring. &c. We may well exclaim "O tempora, o mores."

I hope to spend about a month, jaunting a little with Kitty during the summer, to see my friends in Jersey, Staten Island &c, and then to return to Rome pretty well prepared for housekeeping. Some of the arrangements I shall be making from day to day till then. One thing, I shall not leave one situation till I am sure of another and a more comfortable one. I wish you would write me oftener, at all times I think you will find me a docile Pupil, your counsel will be always acceptable.

Pa and Ma, & family, will be always happy to see you and family at the old fashioned house in Greenwich Street, when you find it convenient to call.

There is one subject my dear Sir, that must lie very near both our hearts, and in which, or the truth of which both, all, are deeply interested. Report reached me at least two years since, and it has also gone as far as New Hartford. If I can be of any service in New York City, or elsewhere, in clearing up the matter, ascertaining its truth or falsehood, I beg you to inform me. It went to New Hartford by way of Long Island, Catherine indeed knows much less, than I do, or have heard: it seems to me it is possible, and if possible

it ought at once to be rectified. In all such things, the mildest measures are the best, though prompt & energetic. It appears to me my dear Sir, if you would go to Mr P, and ask him, as a father, what information he can give, to give you, as an honorable man. You would satisfy the minds of us all, and enable us to deny the malicious story when we

[Handwritten signature]

Philip G. Van Dyck Esq.
Grove Hill. Sing Sing.
Westchester County N.Y.

Single }



[Handwritten signature]

P. G. Van Dyck
1 March 12 1843

hear of it, positively. It is indeed great injustice, when one is made to suffer for the waywardness of another; but so goes the world, and Aunt V. R. says the report long since reached Albany. I have thought, & desired to get to housekeeping, and then invite Sister E. to spend some weeks with me, if she would, and thus allude her to a quiet and steady life. Could I do