

Limy Side Livingston, Westch. Co. N.Y.
Sunday evening Sept. 21. 1856.

My dear Sarah

I have heard nothing from you for a long while, I might perhaps have learnt something of your affairs had I called in 14th Street, but I have not been in the city ^{more than} twice within the last three or four months and then only to return the same day, and of course had not time to call in the upper part of the city: my last visit to N York was a week since, and among the memorandums I had made of business to be attended to, was a call on your sister Mrs. Jones.

The very warm summer weather we have had, with the omission of exercise, have weakened my frame so much that a moderate degree of exercise brings on fatigue: I had fully intended to call in 14th Street when last in the city, but by the time I had finished my business in the lower part of the town, I felt too tired to attempt anything more.

The post of last Wednesday brought Catharine a note from your sister Mrs. J. informing that your little Kate had arrived from Boston and would leave again for Washington in a fortnight. I proposed going to the city immediately to bring her up for a few days, but Catharine said it was not necessary for me to go, as Matilda, my cook, a good woman and who knows Kate well, was going to the city on Friday, and she would get her to call for the little girl; and Catharine wrote it over to Mrs. J. to this effect. We were of course not a little surprised by Kate's appearance at Limy Side on Thursday afternoon. It seems that your sister had heard of a very good opportunity for sending the little girl on to Washington, but it would admit of no delay, and as she no doubt thought it would hardly do to send her, without having first called on the relations

here, she availed herself of the kindness of Mr. Palmer of Dobbs
ferry, to send her up, and Mr. Palmer drove from the latter
to the cottage. Little Kate could stay with us but that night, as
the opportunity for Washington would start the next afternoon
we despatched her down safely in time, and as she would
have to travel all night, I am somewhat anxious to hear that
she reached you in good condition.

You may have heard that Piers had gone to Europe, but you
could not have learnt it from me for I do not recollect that I
have written to you since he left. Piers, between his Parish
duties and his Missionary business had been overworked and he
was of course pretty well fagged out; both these bodies ~~became~~
became sensible of it and very considerably gave him leave
of absence, and his parishioners made up a handsome sum
for his expenses. He had the satisfaction of meeting his daughter
Anna and her husband (Mr & Mrs Routh) in London, but much
of his tour has been performed alone. The want of a com-
panion operated against a full enjoyment of the scenes
he passed through. I have seen some of the letters he
has written home and have read them with much
interest: they are considerably in detail and very graphic, but
have a tinge of homesickness; this last feeling had half
determined him to shorten his stay in Europe, and would
probably have hurried him home had not his friends
on this side urged a longer stay. He had made his
arrangements to sail, ^{with Mr. & Mrs. P. & the} in the steamer "Persia" about the beginning
of October; but the alarm that our newspapers have sent
abroad of the prevalence of "yellow fever" it seems frightened
him from his propriety, and induced him to change.

from the "Persia" to the "Asia" to sail the 4th of this month, and
the arrival of the latter was announced two days since.
Your uncle Wash^r was in the City on Friday and says
that he understood that Piers purposed coming up here the
early part of this week. I am glad of his safe arrival,
but regret that his haste betrays a deficiency of judgment
and want of due consideration - if his presence here would
immediately stay the ravages of disease, or if his family
were suffering from the lack of funds, or means, there might
be some excuse for his haste, but I doubt whether any
miracle will attend his journey.

You may have noticed by the papers that the
"yellow fever" had invaded "Bayridge" on Long Island
a little south of Brooklyn, and that it has driven
off the inhabitants at least such as had the means
of getting away. Theodore you know has a parish there
he held on until the last of his parishioners left
when he removed his family to Geneva - he was a
few days since at Charlotte's on Cayuga Lake - Charlotte
says that he had been quite unwell, that he had in
fact brought away from "Bayridge" something of the
malignant complaint, but that he was now entirely
well though very thin. He expected to go to Mount Morris, in
Livingston county, where his brother-in-law, Rev. Ch. D. Crofton formerly
had charge of the Parish - and purposed afterward to go to
Philadelphia taking his daughter Lizzie with him; his oldest daughter.

Fannie, is now there with her Aunt and Uncle (Rev. E. D. Cooper is now settled in Phila). Fannie has been, and is still much out of health. Charlotte says that Theodore feels somewhat uneasy on her account - she has been a great part of the summer with her Aunt Cooper who appears to be greatly attached to her - Mr. C. has no children.

I was asking little Kate whether her Aunt Lavin was still with you, and was answered that she was expected that day in New York - I was in hopes that she was still at your right hand and yet hope it is the case, and if it be so, commend me to her kind remembrance; if she have left Wash^{ton} little Kate will gladly supply her place.

Thine very dear Sarah affectionately

Wm. Irving

Mr. William Irving

N. 28.

4th Street

between E. & A. C. Street.

Washington D. C.