

Miss Katrina Living
Reading of the Vestition
Georgetown D.C.

Longwood, Irvington, N.Y.
Tuesday April 4 1861.

My dear Katrina

Your kind letter of March 31. reached me 2. instant and the previous one to which you allude and which you fear had failed, came also in due course of mail.

I have thought repeatedly of replying to the latter, and can scarcely offer the shadow of an excuse for my commission, but I beg of you not to attribute it to any lack of kind feeling.

Several months have elapsed since my last was written, and in that time several changes have taken place among relatives and friends. Your uncle Theodore Living's health has been but indifferent for some time past, and he was persuaded to try the effect of a voyage to Europe. He sailed in the Steamer Adriatic about four weeks since for Southampton, and I see by this morning's papers that the vessel arrived at Incester on the 23^d ulto.

He intended on arriving in England to proceed immediately to your uncle Sam Wats, in Birmingham and pass some time with his family; he expected to be absent from his family and parish some three months or so. I trust that he will return with reestablished health.

You are aware that his daughters, your cousins Fannie and Lizzie were married some twelve or fifteen months since; both of them have made him a grandfather by each bringing into the world recently a little daughter.

Your uncle Pierre P. J.'s daughter Lillie's wedding is deferred for a while; the business of Mrs. LaSalle's firm requiring a visit to Europe, it was concluded to be

best to put off the wedding until his return; and his daughter Anna (Mrs. Routh) is nearly in as ill luck, for the house in which Mr. Routh is a partner have found it necessary to dispatch one of the partners abroad. Mr. Routh sailed for Liverpool and London a short time since and may proceed to India and China &c so that your cousin Anna has become what in slang parlance is called "a widow-bewitched."

I mentioned in my last that your cousins the Horows, had returned from France and settled themselves in the manufacturing town, or city of Lawrence, Mass^{ts}. They changed their quarters after I wrote; they left Lawrence and hired a neat snug house opposite the Post office in Irvington, within less than a mile of Brooklyn side, where they are snugly and comfortably situated; and what makes it still more satisfactory to

all is, that the interchanges between them and the Brooklyniders are incessant.

The late anniversary of my birth day, Jan 27th was attended with rather more of interest than was the case with those that have preceded it. I that day completed my eighty fifth and commenced the eighty sixth year. Your uncle Sanders and his wife and your Aunt Pierre and Theodore I were with us; and what added much interest to the occasion was the performance of the baptismal rite by your uncle Pierre P. J.

Robert McCalland our gardener and his wife Maria you know well, he came as gardener, and the cook nearly about the same time - the two soon

took a fancy for each other and agreed to be married asking your uncle Washington if he had any objection, he told them none whatever, provided that it did not interfere with their respective duties, so they were married, and seven children have followed the ceremony. I was not aware whether any of the children were baptized or not until my late birth day was close at hand, when the circumstance was mentioned to me and that Robert and his wife had concluded to have the rite performed ^{on} ~~not~~ that time and by your uncle Pierre P. J.; it took place accordingly and passed off to the satisfaction of all; the little ones behaved admirably & they are a fine set of little ones, and well they might be, for the parents are a most worthy couple.

Your cousins the Grinnells have enlarged their establishment adjoining Brooklyn side this winter. Mrs. G. has added a considerable piece on the North side, or face; it will embrace a library, billiard room, looking room &c &c. It is not yet entirely finished but very soon will be when I shall indulge my self with a good look at it.

From what you say respecting your brother William's affairs it would seem that his return to Stockholm is in doubt. Tell him that he must not forget us, and say that he would be able to pass some days pleasantly between the "Old Roost" and the Horows quarters.

From my dear Katharine affectionately
Thos. Smith
(You see that I think the Kate)

[illegible]

I am very much interested in the
 progress of the cause, and am
 glad to hear that you are
 doing so much for it. I am
 sure that the cause will
 be successful in the end.

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