

Saugerties August 21. 1834

My Dear Willie,

I hold myself very greatly to blame for having written to you so seldom since you left home - I have for a month past been constantly on the eve of sitting down to write to you - but when a man has abundance of leisure, he is you know, always apt to be the more procrastinating - I have just rec'd a few lines from Theodore, announcing the rec^t of a letter from you per Albert dated April 1st - One or two expressions of yours which he quotes have impelled me to immediate action - & I am determined not to let another hour pass until I have made you some answer.

You think my idea has arisen from forgetfulness - a fall (as you seem to imagine) from a disposition to throw you off altogether. I need, I believe, hardly take the trouble to enter into a laboured defence of myself to disabuse your mind of such an idea - for if you call to mind all our past lies, you will I am satisfied do me more justice - I do assure you, that no one here and being occupied - as has occupied more of my thoughts - than yourself - scarcely a day passes that my mind does not recur to you - and a portion of my morning & evening meditation is always occupied with you. I feel deeply indebted for your

wellfare. I know you many good qualities - & your capacity - but I know also that your impetuous & generous disposition is the very one most dangerous for a youth in your situation - Hereafter

I will I promise you, write more frequently - My heart smites me when I think of your peculiarly lonely position - & I cannot easily forgive myself for having given you so much cause for complaining that I had forgotten you -

Theodore says that you are disappointed with one of the partners -
I have always felt sensible that your place could not be ab-
solutely agreeable - & I apprehended that the many sacrifices
you have to submit to, would give you a disgust for your ^{station} ~~place~~.

It is well for me now to write urgently to you on the subject -
for by the time this letter reaches you, you will have made a def-
inite election, either to stick resolutely to your work - or you
will have abandoned it in disgust - I pray to God that
you have done nothing rashly - I hope that Father's remittance
of \$500 & will have arrived in time to have encouraged you
to persevere in your undertaking - Don't, I entreat
of you, think that my wish for your stay abroad, arises from
a mere selfish dread of trouble from your hasty return - I am
ever anxious you may find a residence at Canton, I am
persuaded that two or three years stay there would be of
lasting service to you. It would give you a great insight
into the method of doing business there, and might enable you
at no very distant day to start something for yourself - You
know as well as I do, how little chance you have of doing
anything for yourself in the U.S. - and when I urged so strongly
your continuance in Canton, it was that I entertained
a strong hope that a few years would give you a foundation
upon which you might build a small fortune for yourself.

I'm afraid that my letters have not been satisfying
to you - At all events they have ^{been} prompted by sincere
interest, and as such, I think they will be more accept-
table than a mere idle gossiping & scatology from a careless
acquaintance - It is natural for a man to talk of what
is uppermost in his mind - Edgar, for instance, has, I take
it for granted, annoyed you with grumbling letters, showing
upon you his despair & discontent - [Luckily, now at an end,
& I must for a good while] Theodore, I suppose, has given you
a detail of what is going on ~~at~~ in the gay circles of N. Y.
while the girls have given you any quantity of domestic ^{intel-}
~~ligence~~ ^{facts} - I, on the other hand, have been leading a very quiet
& retired life in the country, having at last settled down after
years of turmoil - & no little care - I set out in life
proud - high-spirited - & ambitious - My pride has been
pretty well put down - My spirit is considerably ^{hummed} ~~beaten~~,
& having by the grace of God, found out in time what good
for nothing phantoms I have been running after, I have
here seated myself with the sober intention of contenting
myself with whatever happens - I am far happier
than I ever hoped to be - & I have no ^{wishes} ~~wishes~~ of moment
left ungratified - except that I may be able to pay my debts -

With such views & feelings you cannot wonder that I
sometimes run on in a frame - or in what you may

several persons begin - I have few or rather no cor-
respondents except my old friend Morris - & even he I
dare I say, raises his eyebrows & shrugs his shoulders
when he receives my letters - I can't alter however -
and I must write as I think & feel - & else keep silent
- so just take my letters as they come - If they don't suit
you, pass over the style, & remember always that the mes-
sages are good & well meant ^{the advice} - Pray write to me
more frequently. Take no notice of what I say to you, if it
does not please you, but don't give up ^{entirely} altogether - I long
to hear of the arrival at Canton of Uncle W. I's friend - Courage -
he has promised Uncle to interest himself in you far - & if
there is any fault in promises, his presence will be of advan-
tage to you -

I have not been from home for a day all summer.
except one hasty trip to Albany - The good city of Gotham
I have not seen since I embarked in November last
from Barclay Street Wharf - You may imagine that
I have no very great desire to visit it hastily again - My
life was anything but propitiously a pleasant one during the
few last years of my residence there & I have no mis-
terious many grim remembrances - I think a walk
through Pearl Street would nearly bring on a fit of
the Cholera - By the way, talking of cholera,
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It has again visited our city - altho' but lightly - It
Averts no alarm and as far as I can learn business goes
on as usual - Times have been hard enough these three
years - Many of our old Maryland acquaintances have
gone by the board and were we to visit the purchases of Ex-
change Place together again we should find many new
faces there -

I presume Theodore will announce to you Edgar
marriage - Thus terminates one volume of the poor Co-
modore's life - He has had his share of rubs and I trust he
will for the time to come, sail in smoother water - His
affairs having been very satisfactorily settled with the old
Baltimore Colonel, he was wedded on the 29th of July - The
old gentleman came down handsomely - Advancing him
a capital of \$7000 to start in ~~Edgar~~ Brewery with ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~the~~
giving him a check for \$5000 to commence with - Theo.
Father - Uncle W. I. & the girls were at the wedding & all
hands returned much pleased - Edgar with his wife - Theo &
Miss Emily J. passed a few days at West Point - thence to Capt
Ault - & so on to this place where they arrived on the evening
of the 10th - I had taken for them a very pretty little
Cottage, near the Brewery - & which you may possibly recollect
[I think you were here in 1830] as having been occupied by my
partner Mr Barclay Livingston - It is a snug little house of

about 4 acres, and is in every respect suited for a young married couple - I hope they may be happy there - although I have some apprehension that the fair lady will not fancy a tedious winter's residence there - She appears however to be amiable and sweet-tempered - and if she is fond of the hill like any place for her sake - The bride party started yesterday for the Spring to gratify Miss Emily who appears to have a great passion for gaiety - Theodore returned to N.Y. with Dring's valets who had been here for two days on a visit. Edgar will return in a few days to this place & then establish himself permanently -

Perhaps one of these days you may come home with enough to buy a cottage near us! -

Theo. has been in New York all summer - He really deserves a great deal of credit - He is naturally indolent & very fond of the country - but he has worked like a beaver for months - I trust his duties will soon be ready & that success will reward him for his trouble - It is greatly to Theo's credit that he has not been spoiled - & as he has met with much attention from the ladies & has been his high thought of - His head is not however in the least turned - but he is the same good humored, good tempered amiable fellow he always was - I greatly regret that I have

not seen more of him -

Father has been as usual closely confined to town - He sticks to the old desk as usual - at which I fear he is doomed to stand until he dies - I have urged him to pay me a visit & I have his promise to come up next week - His health is literally good - but he grows more & more deaf every day - Edgar, Theo & I have just clubbed together to make him a present of a large sofa chair - in which he can take his evening nap - I wonder we could do more for his comfort -

We have had but one letter from Sanders - written at Sumatra in January - He was well & in pretty good spirits - He will probably be home in the Spring & he has begged Father to look for something for him to do on his return - I hope he & you will one of these days be able to turn your foreign voyages to mutual benefit -

My letter from Henry Morris are six months old - The glorious fellow as usual grows - at sea, dying to be ashore - & on shore, never lazy until he gets to sea again - George Owen is at New York on a visit - He is doing nothing yet - & I am sincerely sorry for it - He talks of going to Chicago - to Canton - & to the moon! -

Anna is hearty & fat - The children are well & noisy - Everything is as usual in my domestic circle - Write me - I beg of you - I am my dear Willie - always your most affectionate father P.P.S.

Mr William Innes

Thos London
Capt Mac
Carey

Mess Rupert & Co

~~Chew Street~~
~~Chew Street~~

Caution



9.9. Innes
Aug 21
1834

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