

his father,
Mr. William Irving
Canton

My dear Willie

New York May 8. 1834

I heard yesterday that the Italy is to sail this morning, but being so much occupied in preparing my dispatches, and settling up for the packets of today for I had had no time to write - so I am left early to scribble a few lines for you for it cannot be that a ship should sail from this for Canton without some word of kindness for you - I have heard of no opportunity for your port since I wrote per the Logan from Proctor via Gibraltar on the 18th February; in that parcel of letters I enclosed a passport for you from the Secretary of State which may possibly be of service to you, and which we had omitted to promise before - these passports are necessary in Europe, and I promised one also for Sanders at same time which was forwarded to meet him at Gibraltar. Shortly after my letter per Logan we received, to the great joy of all the family, your letter from Canton per the Morrison, and shortly after some others with that from the South of India via St Helena, and one to Pierre from Manila. Others since have come to hand but as I have left them at the counting room I cannot notice them particularly, the last however is now by me of Jan^y 2nd per Cabot, which was received yesterday afternoon. As the last says nothing of your health, I presume it still to continue good notwithstanding the great press of business. I was a little worried on learning that the house was so overwhelmed with business as to keep the clerks at it until after midnight - when the more by your saying that they had recourse to strong tea to keep themselves awake - I would rather you would avoid any strong tea - I fear it is injurious. You were fortunate in arriving in Canton, just

at the time that the House were so much occupied, and as Captain Evans said, were short handed, as it gave them the opportunity of testing your abilities, and of course of appreciating your services. Though we may not hear of your advancement as soon as we had flattered ourselves, still we feel confident that you are in the way to fortune. You said that should we be able to raise a little fund for you at home, by way of venture, that Messrs. Russell and Co. would assist in its being done - as they encouraged their things in their clerks and even assisted them to funds and you said that in hopes that this might be done you would inform one of such articles as would probably pass in Canton - Amstam, Snuff, and Opium. but your subsequent letters have not as yet brought me any further information. We are all so much pleased with the tone of

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Chas Irving. May 8. 34
per Italy. Recd Oct 24. 34

Mr. William Irving
care of Messrs Russell & Co

London

Italy.