

Washington. June 8th 1844

My dear Will.

My delay in answering
your last letter has not been owing
to any spirit of retaliation & much less
to a feeling of indifference to you, but
to my having been excessively occupied
for a month past in preparing to go north,
in settling & making things for Charles,
that he may be comfortable while I am
absent. I think your doubt as to the continu-
ance of my affection rather implies that you
consider me of a capricious disposition & let
me assure you that I mean change without good
cause, & you certainly cannot think that I
threw you from leaving the sea life, ^{for} which
you are indebted, when it was by the ad-
vice of our dear brother Pierre. If in a
valuable moment dear Will you will recall
to your mind the many instances of affec-
tion & devotion every member of your
family have given you, you would soon
see the injustice of your harbouring for

William Irving Esqr.
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