

19 Bible House N. York
Monday morning Dec 18. 1854

My dear Sarah

I wrote to you some ten or twelve days since in reply to yours of 17th of last month. My letter apprised you that your wishes for the removal of Willie's remains from Washington, to our family plot in the "Tarrytown Cemetery" adjoining ^{the old} Sleepy Hollow Church, had been anticipated, and that they now rest near those of his grandfather and grandmother Springs, and those of his good mother and little sisters: the account was considerably in detail as you desired.

I embraced the occasion to remind you of the papers relating to the claim that Willie laid before Congress at their last session, and urged their immediate remission to Col. Morgan if they were still in your hands: I presume you have sent them, but as I am not aware of it, and the Colonel in a letter to Charlotte, written a fortnight or so since, repeats his wishes that he might receive them promptly, and his intention to urge the application ~~to~~ through; I thought I might as well remind you again. The claim might possibly have been got through at the last session, had it been presented early, but as the bills that embrace such matters are usually deferred until towards the close, Willie thought there was no need of haste; in that instance however it happened otherwise and Willie, of course found himself too late. You are perhaps aware that the Col. attempted to introduce the claim by way of amendment to one of the bills, but could not succeed. Col. M. will do his best in the matter and has strong hopes of carrying it through. Doctor Watson in his reply to Edgar says that whatever he can do in the

matter shall be cheerfully done. As the present is the short session, no time should be lost. All the work before Congress must get through in nine or ten weeks or remain unfinished.

You are aware I believe that Theodore for the last twelve months or more has been preparing to enter the Ministry. I received letters the latter part of last week from him and Pierre informing me that his ordination would take place the next Sunday (yesterday) at the Church of "The Annunciation" Rev. Dr. Seabury's.

The arrangement was not quite such as the brothers wished and would be inconvenient to several interested. Doct. Tynge who examined and was to present Theodore to the Bishop, could not leave his congregation; nor could Pierre leave his at New Brighton to preach the sermon on the occasion as Theo. desired; but it seemed that it could not be altered. As I wished to be present at the time, I came from Longfild on Saturday, and calling at the Bible House to learn something definite from your brother as to the ceremony, I found that they had just effected a change; the ordination is deferred until Wednesday next, then to take place at "The Church of the ~~Ann~~ Incarnation" corner of 28th Street and Madison Av. - a sort of off shoot from "Grace Church." This arrangement is more agreeable to the parties immediately interested and will allow of a larger attendance of friends who could not well otherwise be present - Doct. Tynge will present Theodore, and Pierre will preach the sermon. Doct. Seabury and his church are "ultra". Dr. Tynge & St. George are dubbed "low" ^{and Incarnation etc} grace ~~about~~ ^{about} ~~moderate~~, and so is Pierre, but Theo. I think is as low as Dr. T. I trust however that they all will do their master's work faithfully and successfully.

We have another snow storm on us which began about noon yesterday, it is however light and cannot be fairly called a storm. I propose calling on your sister, Mary, I believe you call her,

to learn if she has any late letters from you, and to ask if she knows how your eyes fare, for you say nothing in your letters to me about the complaint that afflicts them some little time since. From your silence on the subject I infer that you are nearly if not entirely rid of it.

Before I left home I asked Sarah whether little Kate was calculating on a holiday visit to her Aunt Jonathan's, but it seems that she has said nothing about it. I shall ascertain whether it be ^{still} Mr. Jencks' wish that she should spend her holiday in N. York, and if it be the case I will bring her down the latter part of this week.

I add as usual my best respects to your good Mother and my blessing to Willie and little Frank Wallace. I wish it were worth "a penny" to each

Thine very dear Sarah affectionately

Mrs. William Irving
at 55 Hancock Street
Boston. Mass.

[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

MS. A. 9. 2. 1. 1554
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