

Paris Aug 29th 1825.

My dear Paris,

I have mislaid your letter so that I cannot reply to it minutely, nor have I time, being very much occupied at this moment.

I should like very much to have a uniform ~~edition~~ pocket edition of my works published; the volumes should be sixteen. The paper and printing of the best quality. I wish never to have my works ~~published~~ published in what is called ^{an} ordinary manner, on bad paper & with poorly type.

The works should be printed so as to be sold either collectively or separately. Print at least fifty hundred copies.

In publishing my works it is best to consult some experienced and upright bookseller, who will give the best advice how to manage. Mr. Barry of Philadelphia had personal conversations with me while I was in Paris. I was much pleased with him and should like to have arrangements made always with his house, on fair & liberal terms. Perhaps they would be inclined to purchase the entire editions

I will write again shortly when I have more leisure,
and will communicate any further ideas that may
occur to me. As your father must be completely
engaged and harassed ~~with~~ ^{by} his own business, I
wish you would take the ^{off his hands} trouble of attending to the
matters in of this edition.

I have felt anxious about your father's health
from finding that he was obliged to leave town for the
recovery of it; and knowing that there was much
business and worry in the commercial world.
Letters from Mr. Hancock however, inform us that
his excursions had been of benefit to him. I am glad
to find that you are rendering him such valuable
assistance. I received a very charming letter a
few weeks since from your cousin Julia Irving, but
have not had time to answer it. Give my love to her and
tell her she shall hear from me soon. Letter writing
is heavy, important on its demands on me and I

must rely upon the patience of my correspondents.

X By the way Julia mentions that her brother Pierre talks of coming out to Europe. I hope he has too good advisers about him to allow him to put ~~for~~ into a project in execution. Has he time & fortune to spare for that most vague and expensive amusement, an European tour? No one should travel unless his fortune be made, or unless his travelling will put him in the way of making his fortune. A gipsy tour of curiosity in Europe is calculated to smother a young man; render him unfit for regular occupation; and I rather apprehend Pierre stands in need of something to fix rather than to unsettle him. The knowledge to be gained by a mere ramble through Europe is of all things, the most useless & superficial. It may give a fashionable finish to a parvenu of England, who is a man of fortune & leisure and merely ~~that~~ seeks to amuse himself for society; but with a young American, who has to earn his mere bread by his talents & his industry the superficial polish is worse than useless. It is like spending his money to buy a ruff, when he has not a shirt to his back.

I speak from my own experience; having been early unsettled in all my habits by rambling abroad; and having been consequently in great risk of peevishness from the want of habits of business. I speak too from my observation on others who have early unsettled themselves & never stand firm. Nothing - I have a high opinion of Pierre and I expect good things from him and in my anxiety for him I wish they. I hope he will fix himself steadily to something useful; and go on to enlarge & strengthen his mind. He will learn more in one year by studying soundly at home than in three by wandering abroad.

Give my affectionate remembrance to your father, mother and all the family. Your affec^d son - W. J.

W 839

Oct 20

Mr. Pierre Irving

Care of E. Irving Esq
New York.

Bushdennora

Washington Irving - Paris
29. Aug - 1835

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