

Sunny Side, Livingston, Westchester Co. N.Y. July 16th 1857.

My dear Sarah



SHR

I love my dear little Kate, replies to her letters of April 20 and June 15. I am not aware that I am similarly indebted to you, for your last is of earlier date than either of the above; though Kate, in one of her letters says that you make such a claim: I must make my excuse to the little girl for the apparent neglect, and shall endeavour to do so shortly. I shall offer absence from home as part of my apology, though that will be a lame excuse, for I might almost as well pretend that I had not my own particular pen and inkstand at hand.

As I have just said, I have been away for six weeks from home - Pierre, Edgar and Theodore, and Pierre's daughter, Anna South, sent me kind and pressing letters urging me to make them visits, and I had made up my mind to gratify them and myself, and only waited for mild and pleasant weather; the season has been so very cold and backward as materially to interfere with my plans. I made out however at length to enter upon them and returned but a few days since from a most delightful sojourn among the relatives on Staten Island: the weather was not all I could wish yet I highly enjoyed my rambles on the Island.

I passed a fortnight at Theodore's near the village of Richmond, then nearly as long at Pierre's and after, quite as long at Fitch's. Knowing that I did ^{not} see a great deal of Theodore while at his place, for he was too much occupied by parish duties, and his attentions at "Bay Ridge".

His wedding took place at Bay Ridge on Wednesday June 26th last and was a very pretty affair. Your whole Washington, with sister Catharine and Sarah came down from Sunny Side by an early train, and with Edgar and Amanda with their little Mary, and Sanders with his family all met at the quarantine ferry foot of Whitehall Street. I had gone up to the City on an errand that morning and joined them at noon at the ferry. We took the boat to the quarantine landing, where another steam boat was ready to take us across the bay to Bay Ridge. At the quarantine we were joined by Pierre's and

(ad Mr. Pierce.)

Theodore's daughter, and on landing at Bay Ridge we found carriages ready to take us to the little church where Theodore formerly officiated. at the Church there was a considerable assembly of relatives and friends. Theodore entered the pretty little church with Mrs. Kitching the bride's mother on his arm followed by the bride on her father's arm, advancing immediately to the chancel where the ceremony was forthwith performed by Rev. Dr. Stone, a relative or friend I presume, of the Kitching family.

The company then adjourned to Mr. Kitching's beautiful establishment where after a little while passed in the elegant parlour, they were ushered into the dining room where a splendid and profuse collection was in waiting; after giving all due attention to this, those from Staten Island recrossed to the Swanton and those from Sunnyside and the City returned by the way of Brooklyn. Theodore and the bride left at some time for a short sojourn at West Point.

Theodore and his wife found their way to his home near Richmond village the latter part of last week and I presume are now settled down as a pair of "old folks." Your sisters expected that they would have stopped at the cottage on their way from West Point for a day or two, but he found that his parish duties would not admit of their doing so; they are to pass a few days with us now or shortly, probably the beginning of next week.

My dear Charlie has been much out of health for some time past; he has been advised to try a change of air, and with a hope of benefit he has been for some eight or ten weeks with us at Sunnyside, and she is at least improving though but slowly. She was unable to be with the wedding party, and Mary, whose health is also delicate, remained home with her.

Little Kate expresses her wishes to make a visit

to Sunnyside and calculates on being able to gratify them: and offers to bring her brother Willie with her should he come on from Boston: the cottage folks will of course be glad to see both; tell her to drop us a line before hand that we may know when to expect her - we have to manage matters thus that we may be always ready to receive the visits of relations and ^{that} those visits may not interfere with each other.

We have been gratified by the receipt of more letters from your brother Markie at Jamestown (Turdumme County - Calif^a) all of which give us much satisfaction - he continues to go on well and writes in good spirits.

My love to my dear little Kate - I will try to write to her shortly, and may give her some account of my adventures on Staten Island in search of the "Black Horse Tavern" near which, as Brigade Inspector, I inspected a Regiment of Militia about fifty years ago.

Thine very dear Sarah affectionately



Wm. Irving

Mrs William Irving
No 28. 4th Street
Washington
D.C.

Handwritten text, likely a letter or document, written in cursive script. The text is heavily faded and mirrored across the page, suggesting it may be a scan of a document with bleed-through or a very poor quality reproduction. The content is illegible due to the fading and mirroring.