

per Clematis
Mr. William Irving
Canton.

New York May 17. 1834.

My dear Willie I wrote last on the 8th Instant for the
Ship Italy, via Batavia - just afterwards Theodore received your letter of
26. Decemr for Tartar and I received for the Neponset at Boston
a Canton Price Current of Jan^y 14, inclosed by you in a blank envelope

I would hint to you when writing or forwarding by vessels to
other places than New York to write as much on a single sheet as you
conveniently can to avoid unnecessary postage - The Office had charged
60cts. (treble) postage on the price current, but receiving it myself, and
opening it at the office they deducted one, or 20cts. it was the
same with a letter to Theodore received some time before they
changed 60cts. but opening it there, it was found to be a single letter
enclosed in a blank envelope - When letters are received at
our own office by ship, you are aware the charge is only six
cents per package though each may contain any number of
letters. Let no consideration of postage however prevent your writing by
all the vessels you can, if only a few lines; they are too acceptable
and too anxiously looked for to allow postage to be an impediment.

I called again, with Theodore on Captain Evans to ask him again
to take a family dinner with us but did not see him the ship having
hauled to the ship yards - we fell in however with young Mr. Crane
at Mr. Muen's, who gave us some gratifying accounts of you - we
asked Mr. Crane to dine and to bring the Captain with him but he
excused himself, saying that he was going out again in the Clematis
and both he and the Capt. were of course much occupied - he
promised however to call as I wished he should see the family that
he might report to you, as the time for the sailing of the Ship is at
hand it is not likely that we shall see them in India Street - In one
of your letters to Theodore you wish him to send you a pair of razors - the
article being new and dear in Canton - I find by Capt. Evans, a half doz.
of the same kind I have used for several years - They are of French
Manufacture and Damascus blades - you will no doubt find some of
the half dozen good though they have not an elegant appearance - the
true value of a razor is in the quality. Those of ordinary appearance, are very
often far superior to the costly - I will send a pair of different style

by Mr. Oliphant who sails in the Morison in about a week. These may perhaps reach you first as the Morison will go direct to Canton. Mr. Oliphant takes out with him his son, and one of his step daughters, Mary Archer, the latter takes the voyage for her health and will remain at Macao, the Chinese not allowing foreign ladies to reside at Canton.

May 19th Monday morning. On Saturday I received yours of January 3rd per Galeonda and in the afternoon yours of 22nd of same month to Theodore per Timor came to hand. I will do the greatest with the tea and candy, and let you know hereafter how they are disposed of.

After the sailing of the Timor, I presume all the hands in your establishment must have got into easier times, and the idler is most welcome entertained, for such idleness would soon wear them out. It is sincerely gratifying to us however to know that you have buckled to it so determinedly - It satisfies us that if your health is spared you will get on well. We may have been mistaken in our expectations of your soon getting an interest in the establishment, but from all we can learn of the frequent changes in the partners we still think your prospects good. You say that Mr. Heard leaves this Spring having amassed \$150,000 dollars in three years.

Capt. Low of the Cabot and others had informed us of this and the Captain said also that all who have been concerned in the establishment have been fortunate in making money - but then, with some it was at the expense of health. Since we have purchased

ourselves that the prospects before you as to fortune, are good, we begin to feel anxious for your health - from all we learn from yourself and others, all in the establishment "fare sumptuously every day". May not this be one source of evil - may not the temptation of the table be one of the causes of declining health? They usually are - and I would have you my dear Willie Exercise temperance and forbearance. Health at the expense of health is dearly bought.

I learn that the quarter to which foreigners are restricted, affords them no opportunity for exercise. This is to be regretted, for exercise is as necessary to health as wholesome food; but I find that the river is free and that strangers may amuse themselves upon it. I know that you are a good barrowman, and fond of the amusement of rowing - and as you say that the house

owns some fine boats, I trust you will frequently take the exercise they will afford you - You must be careful however not to interfere with any of the prejudices, superstitions, or customs of the Chinese.

We have all been highly pleased by a letter from Mr. Coolidge received by your Uncle Washington by a vessel from Bombay a few days since - it was in reply to that which your Uncle wrote to him by you and which you forwarded to ^{Canton} ~~Canton~~. Mr. Coolidge's letter is all we could wish, and we are flattering ourselves that you will find him a gentlemanly, worthy fellow and a good friend. He mentions that he was to return to Canton in April - & that he became a partner in the house 4th Jan^y last.

I have said already that we have been greatly pleased by all the accounts thus far from you, and of you - we believe and see that you are determined to get forward, and if so we are confident that you will succeed. You will find us well disposed to second your exertions, and your Uncle Washington & I will endeavour to send you a few hundred dollars to with - we hope to arrange it so as to send the funds by the morrow - and they will probably reach you before this letter does. It will be well to keep on good terms with the Captains and supercargoes, especially those of correct habit and enterprising and smart fellows. They may be aware of many little by speculations, which our own will in small amounts.

We are all well at home - and Pans quite recovered again - all getting on pleasantly - Your Uncle Frank sails in the Sheffield on the 24th for L'pool on his return home - when he is off - I shall try to visit Pierre - I cannot well do so before as it is necessary for me to be with your Uncle Harry till he leaves.

I observe that the ship Merchant from Canton is announced as below and by your last mail cannot obtain that she is from your house.

Adieu my dear Willie, receive yourself of my constant and affectionate remembrance - nothing yet from Sanders. again adieu - Edw. Irving

Thoson has put up in a tin case a few impressions of our family seals on gray
china - the facet, as also another with the 1/2 doz rings are wanted to keep
them.

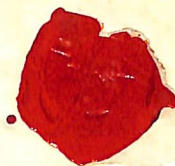
Mr. William Irving

care of Messrs. Russell & Co.

Carroll

china

Chenets



Rev. Mr. G. May 17. 1834
Chenets.
Rock in America for