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[In different hand: Answered 4 July 1854]

Villeneuve Hotel Byron

30 June 1854

Dear Brother

We arrived at this place on the 30th ult, having left Florence on the 16th ult by railroad for Pisa, thence to Genoa a journey of 3 ½ days by carriage. Thence to Turin 111 miles by railroad, thence to Geneva 5 ½ days by carriage over Mount Cenis and through the valley of the Savoy from Geneva we took the lake steamer to this place. The whole route from Genoa to Geneva was new to us, and [although] the mountain scenery we [passed] did not compare with that of the Swiss Alps for beauty & sublimity, we found the valley from the foot of Mount Cenis to Geneva in many parts exceedingly beautiful. We were also particularly pleased with the city of Turin in Piedmont. It is full of activity & enterprise and the people looked really

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as though they would maintain the constitutional government that is over [there] I had some [curiosity] to see a man who could make so great a fool of himself as our Charge Daniels has done at that place, but time did not permit. How the fellow can remain there after the publication of his letter in all the principal cities of Europe is more than I can imagine. The babies proved rather unruly as travelers [*Sic*]. The inside of a carriage being altogether too narrow a space for the confinement of 8 or 10 hours each day of two such excitable & rebellious spirits, and we are right glad to get to this beautiful spot where there is elbow room sufficient to enable them to give vent to their superabundant energy without molesting each other. This Hotel is a sort of great boarding house in the country at the head of the lake, amid most charming scenery. The accommodations

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are splendid and the table excellent, and board costs about 10 dollars a week each. It is now very early in the season, and there are only 6 or 8 persons in the house. "But all this I think I hear you say is very well, but does not touch upon the point of your coming home." Very true, and I think that matter must be deferred for a while yet. Mary's sister Mrs. Rose of Canada is coming next in June and is very desirous of meeting Mary abroad as well as Mary being equally desirous of meeting her so the plan is to meet and have a [*struck word*] good time together on this side, and return together in the Autumn. I know you have a right to be [incredulous] upon any further plans for our appearing on the other side but we will see what can be done if we are alive and well before another cold season. I wish you would write me if there is any prospect of my getting a two-story furnished house at any decent rate next season in any decent street uptown. I am told that expenses in New York are enormous

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so much so that I suppose I shall be driven to live in the country forthwith indulging [*unclear*] in an occasional visit to the city. Neither Mary or I at all relish the idea of living in a New York Hotel or boarding house. I am not particular whether the house is 2 story or small 3 story.

I wrote you in the 12th islt from Florence enclosing a [note] of lading upon a shipment from Naples, and one upon a shipment from Leghorn¹ requesting you to effect insurance upon both. the former I think to the amount of \$150 and the latter tot the amount of about \$300. The shipment from Leghorn was by the vessel Anna [Tift]. I merely mention these things to guard against the [miscarriage] of the letter from Florence. If you have not already insured the shipment from Leghorn I wish you would effect it to the amount of \$450, as the pictures are really worth more than that and to me much more—I also requested a remittance of \$200 to [Barings] with usual instructions. I am myself talking of a trip in Germany to be almost 4 or 5 weeks, leaving the family here. My intuition is to make a flying visit to Vienna, Munich, Dresden, Berlin----

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and get a general idea of them all. I have always been desirous of spending a year in Germany, and at some future day it may be a great satisfaction to have my mind made up as to the particular city.

Tell Ed that I am getting quite behind hand in Danbury news, and that I hope he will find time some [rainy] day to favor me once more before my return. If he has answered my last already, I have never rec'd it. I suppose that you are going to Danbury as usual to pass the summer. When you get there please present us both to them all with such affection & regard.

As to funds for the future as I do not wish to feel short, you will favor me by remitting (in addition to the \$200 which I requested in my last from Florence and which I suppose you will remit about the 10th [inst]) \$200 say about the 10th July and on the 1st Aug send me a letter of credit on the Business for \$500 more upon the terms that I had it ~~before~~ when in Europe before, [*unclear*] 2 ½ [perct] for names drawn and no changes for names not drawn. This will probably be much

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more than I shall need before our return, but it will make me feel quite at ease

Our kind love & regards to all your family

Afftely Yours

Edmund

¹ "Leghorn" is the anglicized name for Livorno, Italy.

[along bottom third of page]

I wish you would write at once and give me all the news particularly if you have not done so of late upon the supposition that I would soon be with you. Do not suppose that I wish you to see about house hunting for me. I only desire to know whether such houses

[along middle third of page]

as I have mentioned could be had, and at what rates. I hear that there is a hotel and lounge house on Union Square with furnished apartments. If it is not too much trouble to give me the *[stuck word]* rent of a parlor with 3 small bedrooms I should like it. How are the meals supplied in their house or hotel? Are there any other buildings in a state of *[prosess]* for furnished apartments?

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When you receive information by bill of lading or otherwise of a shipment from Rome of a package containing *[bust &]* effect insurance on the same to the amount of \$325—this box will be sent by *[Tues]* the *[seventeen]*. I have also requested *[Chapman]* the artist to advise you of the shipment of a case containing two pictures for me. One painted by *[Brown]* cost \$300, and one painted or to be painted by himself for \$150. If you hear that the case is shipped with *Brown's* picture only effect insurance for \$300, if with both for \$450

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It strikes me that I have written about the bust and pictures before but have forgotten to make a note of it if I did.