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[In different hand: Ansed 23 March; March 23 sent to Baring Bro Co \$100—]

Florence 23rd Feb 1854

Dear Brother,

I wrote you a few days since [enclosing] letters for Edgar and Libby and I intended to have spoken to you about the landscapes bought of Mr. [unclear], which he is very anxious to have exhibited, and I believe I have already written to you. I suppose the "National Academy of Design" continues to have its annual exhibition commencing on the 1st April as usual. If so, I wish you would send the Landscapes there. One of the pictures represents an imaginary scene on "Lake Nemi" before the Christian era "a sacrifice offered to Diana," and the other, the twilight scene, represents the same Lake as it is at present. In sending them you had better describe the one. "A

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Sacrifice at the temple of Diana on Lake Nemi, an imaginary scene before the Christian era" and the other "Lake Nemi at the present day" by "Mr. [Yilten] of Maine now in Rome. The Christian name of Mr. [Yilten] I have forgotten, but it is not a matter of much consequence. If there should not be an exhibition at the Academy in the spring, I wish you would consult with some of the Artists as to the best mode of exhibiting them

I have nothing new to tell you. The winter here has been most favorable, clear, & cold enough to freeze over the small ponds in the neighborhood so as to give [in] 3 or 4 inches thick in sufficient quantities to fill all the ice houses. Day before yesterday the sun

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Was shining so warm on the Arno that I saw an old fashioned John Bull protecting himself from its power by an umbrella. I suppose the steamer that carries this will also take news of the declaration of war against Russia. As however Austria is believed to be seriously opposed to the Czar, and friendly to the allied powers, no alarm is felt about any commotion in Italy, and I hear of no Americans or English leaving Florence from any apprehension.

I trust you have already forwarded the \$200 [unclear] in my [time] last. Upon the receipt of this please forward to the [Barings] as usual \$100. I am [expecting] by every steamer an annual statement. With love, regards to you all from [unclear] I remain Afftely Yours

Edmund

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I should advise you all to get your lines insured against fire in New York, by removing out of it. That is an [unclear] [unclear] for you. Kind regards to Marlton [unclear] Butter Winters and the Caules when you see them. Do you ever hear from John? I almost forget that he is amongst the living. Remember me [kindly] to Benedict & Bob—

Truly Yours,

Edmund