

Wash Irving
white

As you have had recent information from our boys, my dear Anna, you will excuse me for leaving your letter so long unanswered, particularly when I tell you that our sister Etting has been ill, and if I had written sooner, it would have been to create anxiety, instead of giving you the comfort to say she has recovered, and was sitting up in her easy chair yesterday, surrounded by so many of her affectionate relatives, that I thought it best to steal away with Rosa Mordecai and leave the rest to entertain her. strength now is alone wanting to make her well again, which in a few days I hope will return. - our brother so writes with animation of his pleasures & improved health at Saratoga. where among his usual friends he found Washington Irving, as bright, kind & agreeable as ever, and very little changed in good looks. I am sure this meeting with his old friend must have been delightful to him - renewing the associations of youthful

days, to one whose spirit retains
its elasticity so unimpaired as our
brother must give rare enjoyment
and from what I hear, Washington
is as little changed in feeling as
to himself - I am glad to tell you
that our Brother Luc has greatly im-
proved, he has had no return of in-
disposition, which makes me feel greater
confidence in his recovery. Sally Hays
too is doing well, she had another son
born on the 4th Inst which promises to be
a fine healthy boy. There had been so
much mortality from child-bed-fever in
the city this summer, that I think her spi-
rits were affected, but thank God the
period of alarm has passed, and she
continues well. - do you ever read novels?
if you do, I have a great mind to recom-
mend "The Days of Bruce" - I have well
over it so pleasantly, that according
to young peoples opinion, it must be good.
and it is thus far a criticism, - comes from
nature, affect our feelings most, and the
romance of history - even when the charac-
ters are fictitious - take strong hold of us, as

Minna will be here in the autumn
Sara is now at Cape May, and will
probably be here next week. Her infant
was sick and ordered to the sea shore.
She has been much benefited there.
Sister Marys has her house full of
children & grand children - they all
send love to you & their Uncle - and
so do our brothers. our town is much
disturbed, and very disagreeable. The
dodging horses in our neighbour hood
with clanging shuttles - either for abatement
or muzzling - and the hammers &
hrowls constantly sounding on our
ears from buildings not improvements
the Gothic mansions is growing place
to an encase structure - a Trippler
Hall & Couch house -

I am just called. Alfred Mordecai
come to dine with me - Adeline May
Dear Ann, believe me always your
affectionate sister

Abigail

Aug 1. 13th
1852.