

Sancti Spiritus de Cuba February 10. 1842

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Maria Wright

My very dear aunt

Some short time since your truly accepted
the letter of 24th of last November reached me, and really I was very
glad to get it for I was extremely anxious about you, as you
will have perceived by the tenor of mine of October 31st and
although I fully accept your excuse for having permitted that
of May 17th to remain so long unanswered I am sure that you
would have replied earlier, if you had been aware of how very
uneasy the delay made me. I keep no copies of my letters,
written other than on business, but I dare say that you were cor-
rect in saying, that the style of mine last mentioned, was differ-
ent from my customary one, for we are to a certain extent af-
fected by the circumstances in which we are placed, and
I had then for several months, been thrown out of my general
quick course of life, but I presume that you will have found,
that when I last addressed you, I had got back to the old
type. What you say of novel reading is generally speaking
correct, but I think you will be willing to admit, that when
there is not a family established who speak English, for the
man of business to fall back on for some relaxation, it may be
found almost a necessity to relieve the mind by light reading.

I am much pleased to learn, that safety and tranquillity continue to reign with you, for I had some fears, that the change of ministry, would have been followed by a high state of political excitement, and consequent uneasiness amongst the quiet orderly part of the community. I am glad to be able to advise you that my brother Nehemiah says to me under date October 30th last past as follows, "Father's health is decidedly improved, his legs are I may say well, though his rheumatic pains are not much ameliorated, yet from his general appearance now, I observe nothing to prevent his being spared to us many years." "While William is able to be about, and attend to his business, and manages very well, but his bodily strength - constitution and general appearance, does not promise much." "Father's financial and commercial affairs, they are very badly situated, all through the United States, they wanted to go ahead too fast, and the usual result of that spirit has overtaken them, and Ohio suffers perhaps as much as any other State of the Union, and I think it quite probable from what Nehemiah writes, that disappointed expectations is the fate of many about Pelmont, and that my presence there, will not come amiss, for I shall do what I can for all the branches of the family, that consolation will be at least mine after so many years hard labour. It is satisfactory to learn of Nehemiah's restoration to the blessings of health, and I should be pleased if Jonathan had given me a chance of replying to a letter from him, tell him so. I think it will be satisfactory to you to know, that we believe the government of the Island, has at last determined to put a definite stop to the slave trade,

and it certainly is the wish of the great majority of our best
people that it may be done, in consequence of which the Spa-
nish vessels of war, have begun to capture vessels engaged in
that traffic, and if they continue to do so, which we all expect,
we shall soon have it completely put down. The Royal
Mail India Steam Packet, have commenced running, and
they calculate to reach this port the 25th day from Plymouth,
so that henceforward, our comm. pendence to and from Europe
will be on a perfect footing, and it is pleasing to be able
to say to you, that our firm had been appointed the agent
for the Company, as this is a proof of the respectability of our
standing in England, and we are also agents for an English
mining concern that exports 12 or 15,000 tons of copper ore
yearly, being probably the second best copper mine ^{worked}
world ^{but} I continue firm in my determination of with^{ed}draw-
ing from business on the 1st of next October, at which time
our association expired by original contract, the business
will be continued by the other partners, and I have but
little doubt but what I can satisfactorily arrange for my
interest with them, especially as I am disposed, to make
very considerable sacrifices to effect my object, and
having so done, I shall very soon after begin my travels
by a visit to Ohio, my stops at which point must be
governed much by circumstances, but must in some mea-
sure also yield to my very great desire to tread once more
the soil of my native country, always dear to my heart.

I have not been as well for the two or three past months as usual, I am now however getting better, and consider myself convalescent, but have to be very abstemious in diet, it is not perhaps amiss, to be occasionally brought to a recollection of our entire dependence upon Providence by some infliction.

SWANSEA
SHIP STREET

F.R.F.
APR 30
1842
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You need not be afraid of my being so much a man of business, as not to be sensibly alive to the personal of your communication. I remain my dear aunt
Yr affected nephew
James Wright