

Santiago de Cuba December 30 1838

Dear Aunt
Martha Wright

DUBLIN M.
HISTORICAL
COLLECTION

Due to the position of Perrotin
in Kingston I did not receive your very acceptable
letter of 10th of 5^{mo} & 9th of 5^{mo} until the day before yest.
Today please to direct for the future & follow

James S Wright Esq

care of Messrs Longmore & L'Weste

Kingston Jamaica, unless

the late change in the Packet be continued, in which
event as they touch here on their way to Kingston you
can direct. James S Wright Esq

care of Messrs Wright Proves & Co

Santiago de Cuba, this

change which has had effect upon the two last packets
appears not to have been published in London, &
our letters from England still continued to be addressed
us via Jamaica even those of Parings Brothers & Co and
there were no European Mails made up direct to the
Island, which ought to have been the case if the change
had been regularly published which it must be if
the present Packet route be continued.

I avail myself of Sunday to acknowledge the receipt of
letter already referred to, which contained the receipt
of my draft of £50, which is all right owing to
kind attention, & letter from Brother Stephens of 8th
last past advised me that he had written to Dublin
forwarded the necessary documents relative to affairs
of Aunt Rachel's children which by the bye are
England visit few and far between I advised me
that all goes on well with all members of our family
in Ohio Father enjoying himself and Uncle Wells
~~quite~~ I take it for granted giving no cause for
doubt as he had not mentioned them I am sorry
to say that I cannot as yet realize my hope of
a visit to Ireland, had I done so, I would most hap-
pily have accepted your kind offer of the neat
bed room and comfortable bed, for although I did
all in my power to sell Estates to a safe man, pay-
ing in 11 Annals in instalments I couldn't effect it, and
order to be eventually free of them I sold to our own
Commercial House, but they would not purchase except
with a condition of my undertaking the direction of
the business of the firm for 4 years beginning Oct
1st 1838 which I had to agree to, so that I am again
hard at it, and have very little time at my own disposal
as it is a Commission house, and we do a large

business to give you an idea of it our cash account of last
year was \$1,280,000 dollars and will I presume exceed
1/2 Million the present, which is a fair legitimate business
and as you may see a good deal about the slave trade
of this Island in the Paper, I think as we are so far
apart that it is well to say to you that we at least have
nothing to do with it, in fact for so far as I have any to
state that I shall be British Consular for this City
in February next and I presume under the entire sanction
of Lord Palmerston and our authorities here, I refused
the Office some time since and do not accept it now for
any pecuniary or business advantage that it offers, but
with a view to keep the situation secure for a friend
of mine, who cannot take up his residence here before the
commencement of the year 1840. I think I told you that
when in active business here before that I had several
years American Consul indeed the present Consul ob-
tained his appointment by and through U.S. the United
States is certainly a great country and must be
a very powerful Dominion if the States do not split
upon the Negro or some other question. I look upon
the black population of that Country now a power
of 3,000,000 as their weak point and see no way
for them to get clear of the difficulty. Amalgamation
is all nonsense, for example in Philadelphia the City

which led the Van in Emancipation one might suppose from
reading that kind feeling existed towards them, and so
there does as regards the upper classes of the white
cause there are no points in which their interests clash
but it is different as regards the poor or lower, who
you know are a large part of the great mass of population, they
entertain a much more determined hostility against
the coloured than they do in any other City in the Union
because their respective interests come more frequently
in collision, the labour and industry of the one, is in
the market against the labour and industry of the other
which produces very bad feelings on both sides, the
very antipodes of amalgamation. I though I have
engaged for 4 years but in all I expect to be able
to go to Europe in about two, say on return of
Mr Proctor who is to be absent about 18 months
and if you put me in mind of it again I shall with
much pleasure procure you some insects & birds to
gratify your young friend William White. I am like
you not naturalist but I didn't think when I began that
I should have written you a long letter, and as I
have to enclose it I will do it in one of our Circulars
thinking it would be pleasing to you to have it
member me to relations & friends and believe me
ever & always your affect Nephew.
James Wright