THEODORE PORTER:

1845

LEHERS OF INTRODUCTION, Bills, Railway

schedules.

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Theodore W. Porter to Thomas Whaley
Washington Institute, New York City
addressed: Mr. Thomas W. Whaley, Rome Italy

February 27th, 1345

Dear Thomas,

I have to thank you very heartily for the highly gratifying letter with which you favoured me from Paris, under date of the 13th of November . 1844. I had been anticipating an epistle from you for some months previous, and when it came to hand it met with a cordial welcome. Let me assure you, however, that I had never charged you with "negligence", as you surmise; for I well knew the hindrances you must have encountered in writing to others than your own immediate family. The letter pleased me much on many accounts:- its long and closely filled pages; the exceeding neatness & taste in its execution; the evidence it furnished of careful observation in your travels; the correct reflections you made on what you saw; and the proofs it exhibited of affection felt for myself and the other members of our family .- The letter was considered pro hono publico, and was read either by,or, to each one of us. I showed it to several of the boys, as a specimen of neat and tasteful penmanship, which it would be well for them to imitate. And it gave me pleasure also to be able to speak of it in respects referred to, in a conversation with your Mother. a day or two since: - for you may possibly fancy how happy Parents are made when they hear deserved praise bestowed on their children. --But, my dear Thomas, how strangely you are circumstanced in this 1845 ! how unlike what could have been anticipated two or three years ago, - especially , when on your sick bed at you uncle's ! how utterly different from the fortunes and chances that have be-

fallen your brothers ! - Well , I am glad of it; -so far, at least: and I shall continue to rejoice, if, as I hope, you are not only not injured, but positively benefited by your so journ in foreign lands. It requires a good deal of moral and intellectual Stamina in an individual to be improved by travels abroad; and you are full young to risk the ordeal. Yet the instructions you have received have been of such a kind, and so long in their !instilling, that you have perhaps more maturity and solidity of character than many of your age; and I cannot but hope and anticipate that with good common sense, a fair amount of education. a respectable share of intelligence, and, more than all, a high tone of moral principle, you will pass through the trial unscathed. and return to your friends really improved in every good thing .-The opportunities you enjoy are not many usual for young men. and we shall have the right to look for correspondent improvement in him who experiences them. Let us not be disappointed in your case. Gain in all useful knowledge. Accomplish yourself in everything that shall make you agreeable and interesting in social life. Polish manners and mind together. And above all, "keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life" .- Should a kind Providence spare you to return to us again; - as I pray/may. let us find you in all respects what we shall love and respect: especially a kind, and dutiful son to your Mother in her widowhood and advancing age. Thus you may look for the blessing of Heaven on your after life; for so God has promised in his holy word. --To the request you made, that I would give you letters of introduction to any persons in Italy, with whom I might be acquainted. I

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I have to thank you were heartely for the highly qualifying lette with wied you jumened me from Care, comber date the 13th of Somewhen, 1844. I had been anticy with an existile from you for some months praniens, and a her it come to house it metine a control me icome. Het me assure you, havenen that I had never vianged you with neg ligenes," as you commise, in I well know the hindrances you must have meantined in miting I at Their than your own immediate james. The cetter views er me must on many accounts: - it's love some scale & picture mayor the securious reactions & texte in its accountion. It amid once it invaria int of constant absence to in your travel The arrest refrection your marks on a inty on tang and the reach it or illited of effection jett in neglet and the atte member of are lamif. The the was considered, my home, method, and was read with by, or to, see none of us I simula it to revenly the hays, as a execution of real and text intramene with which it wand he well for them to mintete since it gave me ileasure area to leady to speak of it in the mornest returned to, is a convenientin with your Mother, a day or this since is in you may possibly jany ion last Darants are made wise the iear incerned nath that we then it non . - - But, my ican disman com strange i com the wind in the wind this 1845! now white a let would nave him anterpreted the a three year age , - se secration, in in on your and he was at your enotics from setting different how the jettimes and chances that have befollow gen both us! - Well, I am glad efit :- 20 jan at less to sure is well on time to rejaine, if, a. I have, your one not only not inside hat presenting herefited by your exame in weigh bours. It require a your real

quaintance moral and intellectual stamming is an individual to be in promo mutual of by travel stroad; and you are just young to rick the ordeal yet Van Wyc. the instruction you have received have him of such a line, and so long in their institling, that you have parished not me thirty and so. is one of . lidety of character trum many of your age; and I amount but have a of educate antisipate tal with year common sense, a jair americant of elecan years, and your aff tion, a respectable sieve so general intelligence, and more than all, - a his i tone of monet principle, you will press through the till health al enseather, and cotton to your friends really improved in nonmy comple good thing - The exportanties you sujer are not nony where for centainly young men, and we stall have the winter to beach, in cornerpordent for your o improvement in him wis superies than tex us not be bringpoint I have be ed in your care fair in all we let know legge . Secomplish young any new: in sury they that while me is your agreement and interesting in me that social life. Telis's manners and mind tagette. and show all, keep interest; " year heart with all suligence, jo out a! it are the wenes of a repetit - life " " " " inened a sind thousand give you to return to us again, -Lamily, as I may be may, let us dind you in all respects what we shall inproved lone and respect se exceelle a send and detilul con & your the Great Methe in her midowhard and atmounting age. Thus you may hut, a las leach for tim blesseny of Heaven on your attentife; for so God has injuonema promised in his nation word . - To the new west your mude, that em gram I would give tetter a fintroduction to any jersons in Staly to huildings with whom I sugar he acquainter, i resurg acceded, and have talk of ready indeasoned to so what you man led will at least it is know us a, excited all I was able to do. Thout a month or rei weeks wince, I renta Tomate as message through a particular and intimate thierde, mene, in this a saifund ye city, to is bothering hem, namin Itale, is seared your autinume. Line, the tistel on your arrival time and make your aconductance. Exe ext supp This he must have received the letter, and I know he will be happy of the m for my take as well as his own to become known to you. The needs as

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