2-3-1828

Peter Kean to John Kean, February 3, 1828

Peter Philip James Kean

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Philadelphia Feb. 3rd 1828.

My Dear Boy

I came here on Friday and found your young friends the Biddies all well and learning fast. Some says he likes Latin better than any of his studies and I am not surprised at it, as he has made himself acquainted with the principles of the language and translator Virgil very well. I hope soon to hear you say you like Latin and Greek too, as I know you are trying hard to make yourself master of the Latin and one day you will succeed. The difficulties you meet with and overcome strengthen your mind, accustom you to think and to reason and fit you better for the duties of life these studies which now appear more easy. I was gratified by your last letter to your mother particularly that part of it which mentioned your working hard and being constantly engaged in your studies. The habit of regular industry which you
are now acquiring will enable you to overcome many difficulties in after life if persevered in, to fulfill your duty as becomes you. Nobody, in this country particularly, can expect to be idle, if you should be poor it will be your duty to work in a profession, to gain an honorable livelihood, if you are blessed with competency it will be your duty to work in the interest for your own sake and for the sake of society. And also to show your gratitude to God from where goodness all our blessings proceed and whose will it is that all His creatures should employ themselves in some way or other for the benefit of their fellow beings.

Your Cousin Julia Lawrence is here and very much admired as is Henry Palmer. I saw them both yesterday and am to dine with them at Mrs. Camac’s today. They all enquired very kindly about you.

I hope you will go soon and spend a Sunday at Mr. Beverly Robinson’s. Your friend Williams is now at home and met with a sad accident handling gunpowder carelessly the other day and I should like to know how he is. When you go to Town call on Lady Mary Watts and Dr. Watts and do not forget to visit Mrs. Jay and your cousin. The boxes occasionally.
Continue to write about what you read in History and be very particular to spell every word correctly. Whenever you are at a loss about a word look in the dictionary and make a list of all the small words that I have at different times written you about and write them over frequently.

Remember me kindly to Madame & the help.

Permit - Believe me very truly your affectionate Father

Peter Kearns

Martie Kearns
Master: Rees

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