Richard Ellis Esqr
Cork Ireland

Mr. & Mrs. Burns
Lower Fredericksburg
Shenandoah County
Virginia

Recd Aug. 15th 1842
Answd Aug. 17th

My Dear Mr Burns

I Recd your welcom letter of the 2d of November I need not tell you the Happiness it gave me altho I was at the time not able to Read it. My Long Illness prevented me from writing to you sooner as I could not stoop My Head for any length of time I wrote to Copey by the packet as soon as I was able which I hope you has Recd Long ere this - in it I Mentioned the particulars of My Illness But thanks to god I am getting well - yesterday was the first time I was able to be in My Mothers or through My own house for Nearly Eight Months - Nothing My Dear Friend but My not being able would have prevented Me from writing to you this last Month I was able to write but Mr Napier & I has been so worried & Disappointed about the people he was to go to you changing there Mind about going that I Dealey did not know what to say to you about them - the first Carpenter he Engaged to go there & also did the Second - he has one or two men on hands but he says he can not be sure of one of them going they are so Changeable for the Moment at first proposed to go but before the time the came to go some friend or some Circumstance prevents them & so on - he is very unhappy at not getting them sent before this but he Cannot help it - I think Parts Printing & Drawing back in general has been a great means to Discourage the Others I Suppose before this you have heard of his not being Determined about going - I indeed I am quite provoked at the Manner in which he has acted - we all Made our Selves Happy during the winter with the thought to of his coming to you in the Spring & sent for them some time ago & said a great Deal to him I told them I was going to write to you & wished them to tell me what he Intended he said he was Bordered about