

& with whom I trust to renew
my agreeable intercourse before
very long. I write a line to the
Prof^r to send no message to him,
but beg you to accept the sincerest
regards of yr very Aff^e

L. Carey

Mrs Gray.

New York, 3^d Dec^r. 1851.

My dear Mr.^s Gray,

This morning brought me your
kind note, & kinder invitation, &
I regret that I cannot, at the
moment, say when I may hope to
see you. About three weeks since,
I undertook to direct the planting
of a shrubbery for an esteemed
friend, on Staten Island, & the
frost of last week has arrested
our operations when we had
only about two days work re-
maining to be done. As the
shrubs & trees are all ordered
from a nursery (at Newark) we
wait only for a warm rain
to enable us to finish our job,
& altho', of course, there is no

sort of certainty as to when this may be expected, I feel compelled, in kindness to my friend, who counts upon my superintendence, to be upon the spot, ready to take advantage of the first suitable Weather.

I have just been at Mrs. Farrey's & have explained to Jane the uncertainty of my movements, & have greatly regretted that I cannot be her escort, which would have afforded me unusual pleasure. She is only just recovering from her late attack, but talks of leaving N.Y. at the close of the present, or commencement of the ensuing week. However, Mr. F. (who, I regret to say, appears but feeble) is writing to Eliza to-day, & she may possibly speak with certainty as to when Jane will be with you. I can assure you

that I wish much to see you, & should be very pleased to join your "merry circle in the parlour". As soon as my little job is accomplished, I will write to you again, & learn when it may be convenient to you that I should come on.

I do not wonder that your correspondence has been neglected since your return, & so far as I am concerned - much as your letters always gratify me - I would rather forego the satisfaction, for a time, than to add ought to your epistolary labours. Nevertheless, in justice to myself, I must censure to your Book-keeping, for, assuredly, "Mr. Carey does (not) owe D.^r Gray" since I wrote to the worthy Professor last.

I am very sorry to hear of Eliza's illness, & beg you to say all that is kind to her, on my behalf - also to the several members of your family, whom I have the happiness to know,



Carey, John. 1851. "Carey, John Dec. 3, 1851 [to J. Gray]." *John Carey letters to Asa Gray*

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