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"Stay, gaoler, stay; I am not mad, but
soon shall be!"

RESIDENCE
6 CUSHING STREET

My dear Deane,

PROVIDENCE

January 14, 1912

You send me a puzzle. The hand is that of Esauy
but it must be more than the word of Jacob to confirm it. I
have no recollection of events nor the date of the occurrence nor have
any of the family. I have no photographs placed at 21 Westman St.
nor do I recall any costume like that in which I am depicted yet
certainly it is not Corcoran's presentment. I seem almost as old as
now, yet how much older am I? The whole thing is queer. I re-
ceive it with a sense of the unreal enclosing it. No one offers
any light. Queer! Queer! If you ever find an explanatory letter,
please let me know. In the event are the elements of gloom if
not even tragedy. Is not this desperate weather? Each morn-
I look at that date with a rising hope to find instantly only
O! Give me but a unit on which to build! Let the weather
has its exquisite sides. This morn the atmosphere was full
of drifting iridescent spangles - every glaze consisting of iridic-
tore hexagons. Every last thing is today steady with yester-
day now in a thrilling blizzard. It is two weeks since I have
ventured out.

Ever your perplexed

Old Botanist
Bailey



Bailey, William Whitman. 1912. "Bailey, William Whitman Jan. 14, 1912." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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