fit of balls and parties. It is high time he was at work again & to fall into the routine of banditism will kill him among business men. His chances are growing worse all the time that he is indulging in gaiety and looking so excessively fancy. It is well enough if he was going into the matrimonial market. Mother has had a whole chapter of casualties among my old friends. Lizzie Cummins illness & Lizzie Chandler's fame by misfortunes. I believe she is a little fearful of me in the last quarter, but independent of distance there is no danger, though I really admire the lady's good qualities & her wit exceedingly. But I have no intentions whatever. Give my best regards & tell me more I think it is his business to write to me first as he is the youngest. but I shall open on him before long I have such lots of writing to do anyway that I am well tired of it. I wrote Hall a few weeks ago glad to hear Mell Hatty is such a beauty. Tell mother I shall not have to draw on her for money & I wish her to apply any dividends either to my own debts or to the incumbered expenses of Francis return. I only trust it is all I can do. I think you had better ask Carstens what links will be required to fill out the chain of claims in his hands - Perhaps other papers may be accessible - & it is probable that old accounts & books of the house are in the hands of the Channing heirs. Ascertain what is the total

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