

Soun

Rev. &amp; dear Sir

I send you by this post a copy of the Free Press, containing a notice of your Exhibition. I fear it will be impossible for me to accept your kind invitation — We are menaced with the cholera, and have already had three or four fatal cases, it would therefore be difficult for me to absent myself even for one day, and to acknowledge the truth frankly, my pulse is at this moment very low — almost in the last stage of consumption: and you are aware that in so fatal a malady, a trifling matter will sometimes cause immediate dissolution. The patient has been very near this sad catastrophe several times I assure you.

But for these combined causes, I need scarcely say how much pleasure I should experience in a visit to Notre Dame, particularly on this occasion. —

The health of our city, up to this time, has been unusually good. — I hope it may so continue, but I fear it will not. A man and a mule were struck dead by lightning yesterday in the street near our house. The Bishop is a little indisposed but not seriously so.

Believe me to be ever  
Very sincerely yours

M. E. S. James

Detroit June 28. 1849.