

*Below is part of a letter that John Sedgwick Billings wrote from New York to his son John Shaw Billings who was staying at Redcliffe Plantation.*

New York, February 22, 1904

Dearest of Eldest Sons:

The doctor came yesterday and brought you a little baby brother, as Grandmama and Aunt Julia have already told you. And his name is to be Julian—get Grandmama to tell you all about *her* brother Julian, his namesake. You took all the cold weather away with you in that snowstorm—it is very warm and rainy and all the horrid dirty snow is being melted and washed away. So dirty old New York will be a little cleaner by the time you are ready to come back to us. Tell Grandmama that everything goes splendidly—that Mother is as well as possible, and the little baby the same. He slept without a whimper or a cry from 9 last night to 9 this morning. He has a folded left ear...but otherwise is fine...

Henry misses you very much—he sends his love, and says if it were not for new baby brother he would come to Redcliffe too...When you get your trunk unpacked get Aunt Julia to write you a letter to Mother for you. All of us send you kiss after kiss, and tell you to keep well. For the farther off you are the more we love you.

Your loving father,  
John S. Billings