Cincinnati Jan 6th 1859

Dear Major

I received your letter of Sunday last on Friday. It seems that we were both seized with the Epistolary fever on the same day. I thought that your letter was in answer to mine until I read it over the second time, when I was struck by the remark that you had not heard from me & thereby induced to look at the date, when I discovered my mistake. I shall avail myself of your kind invitation notwithstanding your opinion of my memory & the shortness thereof. I shall leave here on Thursday next by the afternoon train if there is such a thing or at any rate Thursday. As I shall be with you very soon after the reception of this I will not trouble you with any more of my remarks at present. Remember me most kindly to your family and believe me as ever

Your affectionate friend
C.H. Rome

Maj

The incident to the last moments of the old year & the beginning of the new year was a fitting place to pause if but for a moment to look back on the days that are no more with a view to derive from their sweet & bitter experiences some little addition to one's stock of wisdom that may advantage us in the still untrodden path which lies through & along the future. We are averse to reflection, but the busiest of us must have our moments of reflection. & at a time like this can not well escape if he would for there is one thing the world

Duncannon
Jan 12th 1859

My very dear Son

How thankful I am that your health is so much improved do take care of yourself. There is & has been considerable sickness here almost an epidemic in Influenza owing to I suppose the continued wet weather we have not had three days sunshine in succession for three months, rain, rain rain, The reason or rather the I did not answer Mrs

Sparks' letter immediately I could not read it & gave it to Miss Higgins to decipher & she had it for one week, I sent for her one evening to come in my room, she did not come immediately & I asked Lily what she was doing (i e Miss H) & L. ans very quietly. I believe she is trying to translate Mrs Sparks' letter. he he he - so we had quite a laugh, All three of your sisters have been very sick in bed with Influenza Ellen & Lily are in school to day but are not well. Mary is in bed & is very sick but I hope will soon be better this morning I felt as if I could not get up. had the state of things justified it I should not have been out to day. exercise is a positive good sometimes - at least it has proven so in my case, The Christmas holidays coming on, the servants run wild & every one seems unsettled so for the last three or four weeks, every thing seems to have remained in statu quo -

Jan. 12, '59

with all its entrancements cannot shut out from the most unreflecting or material mind - & that thing is death. Amidst all the uncertainties of life nothing can be more certain than that, & any great division of time that compels us, whether we will or not to realize that we are so many weeks, so many months or so many years nearer the grave must exert an influence upon even the most insensible, which must tend to make good men better, & bad men good. There is much, then, that is solemn & sober in the hours that tell of the passing year

The many colored leaves are sweeping o'er the heath with rustling sound

And swallows empty & deserted
Nests are found
Beneathe the eaves.
The frequent blast ceases
Groans in the night & moans in lashing
Rends the dead limbs & leaves the nest
Skeletons of the past.

The winds that moan
The leaves that wither, & the limbs that fall
The flight of birds but dying years recall
With many a groan.
These life doth typify leaves
Misfortune is the blast & treasured joy the
And friends the birds that fly the winter
Whence comes adversity. caves.

I am afraid that you can't
read this it is written in
such haste farewell my
dear son God bless you &
may you emphatically have
a happy new year Your
aff't Mother

Lex Sat Jan 15th 1859

My Dear Son

I wrote you on last Monday a week ago – That is the 1st Monday – of this month, enclosing you my check for 300$ upon the Bank of America N York, having had no acknowledgement of it – up to this time I have been led to apprehend that it may not have come to hand – If it has not & should not come to hand in time for your return home – you can draw upon me for a similar amount at Sight say $300 The late inequality of the mails, has increased this apprehension – The check is made payable to your order – So that if it is lost it will do no one else any good

The family have all been sick with influenza – Your Mother is still in good health – well & confined to her room – We shall look for you this day week

All send you much love

Your devoted Father

A. T. Duncan

Fitchburg, Jan 24th.
[59]

Dear Major,

I received your letter this morning and not being driven with business I take this early opportunity to reply. I am vegetating at home with nothing to do but to eat, drink and sleep. Propose to import company from Boston soon to pass away the time.

You should have been in Cambridge the day we got the summons to the Prex. Office. A more scared set of men one seldom sees. F. L. Swan thought he was expelled for the tar-barrel, and

even Mons. Cutting was decidedly nervous. But Ricketson was the most amusing. He prepared to account for himself every evening for a week after New Years and after he found out the sell swore that Maj. Duncan sent them out from Boston by Jamin for distribution.

Goodwin said it was a "miserable hoax".

I called on you at the Parker House Tuesday after tea. Your room was open but I could not find you.

My moustache flourishes and numbers four hairs more than when you left. It is beginning to assume the "Napoleon" twist, perhaps inclining slightly to the "Autocrat" with a little touch of the "Cardigan"

If Horne comes to see you try and restrain his impetuous nature and make him keep a little more quiet than usual. He is to fiery by half, and will tear himself to pieces sometime. Load him with that cane. It will do for ballast to keep him steady on the route to Cambridge. Charley is a devilish good fellow and I wish there were more like him.

Don't fall from grace now you have lost the godly counsel of the Plummer and the Alligator, but ponder deeply upon the words of wisdom and filthiness you have heard from the lips of both. When you have nothing to do, write.

Your aff. classmate

Torrey.

Cincinnati Jan 21th 1859

My Dear Son

I hope you have had a purchaser for the Cattle at 4 3/4 - If you cant get that & 4,50 is offered you cash - for immediate de= =livery take it - Their are 85 head in the lot perhaps their are some in the lot of 20 that may be fat enough to go with them If so let the purchaser have five or ten more

See that Jim Frey & Sam cut the grubs & sprouts in the clover field and meadow opposite - Also the little narrow strip between rail road & ~~fence~~ turnpike Have the fence, worm fence, back of the clover field - rebuilt - & leave out the gate

Have the plows sent to Bedford to have them sharpened & they can bring up a load of Corn from the Scott place - while the roads permit If they do let the waggon haul corn from Scott - when the plows are ready start one plow - If it is warm and dry enough for 2 plows - when the waggon is not in use in going to Bedford - Put it

It is a good season for plowing — run the plows — and let ~~Leo~~ Henderson take the old Carriage team of Commodores for hauling corn — or plow them & send the Black & Sorrel mares for corn which would be better — plow the Clover field first & plow deep —

Do not forget to send Lumberlake's meal Cove of ~~Mr~~ Pope also a box of hams & Shoulders & 2 or 3 weedings — request her to deliver them to Lumberlake and take a receipt for same — Also ½ Barrel Sugar & ½ sack Coffee if needed

I get off to night ½ past 11 OC reach St Louis at 3 & lay over until the following day at 8½ oclock & leave for Centralia and get there in the afternoon of Friday

I saw Charley Horn this evening No news from Cambridge — Charley seemed you had an opportunity to get out of the scrape — by an apology — which he thinks would have quieted all

Love to All

Yr Devoted Father

H T Duncan

I find I cannot squeeze quite all I want to say on that last page, so I must commence another. Will has just received a letter from Bailey, who seems to be luxuriating in the Southern climes, talking of laying off on the green grass, smoking a reed pipe &c.

Write me a good long letter the next time, and let me know how you amuse yourself at home; I don't wish to

intrude into private matters, or to be inquisitive, but would like to know what Henry Fy is up to. Will and rest of our family wish to be kindly remembered to you. I must now terminate this scrawl hoping that you can ~~read~~ make it out.

Write again soon

Yours aff. Classmate

Henry M. Bond.

and poor there, at the present time.

Yesterday (thanks to the skating out here) at dinner, we had the pleasure of the company of Miss Nellie Hooper & Ned, Esq. Richardson and Frank Balch. In the evening my sister's friend, Miss Annie Gotham and another young lady, took tea with us, after which we had several jolly dances. I have been going out evenings till I have got fairly tired of it. A friend wanted me to take his ticket which he couldn't use and go to a ball here this evening; but I wouldn't give a fig to go and shake. I should be delighted to hear from you as often as you choose to write and I will do my best to answer but you will find me a poor correspondent I'm afraid. I am glad you received so hearty a welcome at home and trust to see you back next May.

The only music furnished on the occasion, was the piano, at which Mrs B. presided, assisted occasionally by your humble servant, and once or twice by a German gentleman named Heissenges, or something like that, I dare say you know him.

Primo Casares is now with us, and he of course went with us to the fête. We saw in the gents dressing room,

we saw a photograph of your humble self, which looked very much, as if the person it represented was longing to be with us on that occasion; we wished he had been but "If beggars &c" ——— How I should like to look in upon you in your Kentucky home; I should probably find you laying off in the most luxuriant style, with plenty of little darkies to come to your beck and call. I am afraid however, I never shall have the pleasure of seeing Henry T. Jr. in the State of old Kentuck.

Yesterday I was skating most all day; we had most splendid weather, only a little too warm for the ice. Jamaica Pond has been crowded with skaters all this week but the ice is rather cut up

which was given to the Misses Donaldson of Baltimore, who are now visiting the Dr's family. I supp. you ~~have~~ met both of the above mentioned ladies while you were in here, so you will not care to have them described to you. Ladies were in great demand that night there being almost two gents. to every lady so there was a great rush for partners.

Rocky Nook
Jan'y 28th/59

Dear Sunc.

Your most welcome letter came to hand last Monday morning, and I assure you, I felt very much gratified and complimented, at hearing from you so soon, and all the more so, because it was unexpected (although I asked you to write) knowing that

you had so many other friends to write to. I wanted to answer your letter as soon as I received it, but my work or rather plans for the day and evening were all arranged so that I could not very conveniently, and skating and other engagements have occupied my time up to this morning. I invited your Chum to come and pass a few days with me this week but he made up (very skilfully) a half a dozen reasons, why he could not; however I shall try to get him here next week. Will is going south next Wednesday, as far as Washington, ~~and~~ stopping on the way at Philadelphia and Baltimore. Last Tuesday night we all (excepting my sister) went to a little party at Dr Bowditch,

Salem, Jan. 29, '59

Dear Chum,

You seem to be very comfortably situated and I judge from your letter, that it happened as I thought it would, that your friends were too glad to get you to be troubled at the occurrence which hastened your departure.

I had full time, in the week which elapsed between your leaving and the end of the term, to realise the extent of my misfortune. Before that, you engrossed all the attention and sympathy, but then I and others woke up to the fact that an afflicted widow remained. Mottie made overtures to me soon after you left, and though I like him, I could not bring myself to be willing to receive him in your place,

I am spending my vacation very quietly here at home, and mean to go away as little as possible. Henry B. wanted me to come & visit him this week but I refused. He writes me that he has heard from you. I had a nice letter from Ned a day or two ago and hope to see him next week. Richardson is spending the vacation with him. Frank Balch has gone or is going to Philadelphia to visit Chauncey and Bill Bond has gone to Baltimore to see Brown.

I met Sawin a few days before I left Cambridge and he said the man who was to pack your desk had not done so, then, so he had not sent it. I suppose it has gone before this time. He seemed disappointed that he did not have the sending of the box of books, which on enquiry, I found Bartlett had sent to you. I enclose two letters which I took from the P.O. before leaving C. and Chauncy's bill, which was $13. instead of $13.50 as I thought.

You will be pleased to learn that your friend Mr. Silsbee has been reëlected Mayor. I hope this long letter will suggest to you the propriety of writing more in your letters. With respects to your family I remain Yr. Aff. Chum,

Geo. Chaney

so he asked Fuller who rooms alone, and he was very glad to have him, so they have arranged to room together next term.

As I told you, Ned is the only person I should want and I know I cant have him; so I shall live alone and hope for your return in May. I suppose you will hear about the Pudding oration and poem from members of the Club. The former disappointed me; well-written but scarcely a dash of humor in it. The latter commenced well but that was all. I believe the Club were delighted with both productions, of course. I wish you had been at our last O.K. meeting. Hoteville made his maiden speech. He chose that speech of Mr. Puff's in the "Critic", and did it excellently. The piece was admirably fitted to his style of speaking and was received with great applause. It really seemed as if the members outdone themselves at this, the last meeting of the term. The graceful Secretary was compelled to be absent on account of a sore heel which, you will grieve to learn, kept him in his room several days. I should like to tell you about the performances of each member, but fear time & room would fail me; and beside, it is very probable that your friend — I was going to say John, but he wa'nt there — well, perhaps Hoteville will write you about it.

I scarcely know what to tell you of Cambridge doings, for, I fear, some other correspondent will have been beforehand with me. At the risk of your having heard it before, however, I will tell you, that on the day of our last recitation to Bogney, all the books were missing, so that, it is clear, we could not prepare our lessons; in default whereof, Glennie read to us from his book and closed the exercise by a neat little speech, expressive of the satisfaction he had received from our manner of recitation ~~and the~~ the

Boston Jan 30th
[59]

Dear Duncan

I received your letter a few days ago, and have deferred answering it so as to be able to tell you about our party. It went off very succesfully, every body had a splendid time. And every body in our household was very sorry that you were not able to be amongst us. Clara looked like a beauty that evening, as she had flowers in

her hair. I went to their house the other night to the "old sociable" and a pretty good time nothing like the other though. The best part of the evening was when I was sitting on the stairs talking with the girls. Lizzie Bond sends her love to you, at first she said "give my regards to him, I would send my love if I was not afraid he would not like it," So I took the liberty to give it to you after that. She gave me a watch case just like yours which is very pretty. All the family send their love to you. And I suppose the Ridgway's would if they were here. By the way Clara is coming here to spend the night on her birthday which is next Tuesday. I would write more but there is nothing to tell you therefore I must bid you good bye

from your off
friend
Nat

P.S. Remember me to your sister; And please to write soon.

N. B.

[Jan 30, 1859]

5

friends in Winthrop Place
I wish I could write to you
a more interesting note
but you must take the
will for the deed. What are
you studying? Have you
killed the twentieth ~~deer~~
deer yet? The Dr desires
his kind regards to you

Believe me
Yours truly
Olivia Rowditch

Sunday Eve.

I am at a loss to know
how to commence a note
to you. "Dear Sir" is too stiff,
"My dear Henry" too familiar
"Dear Duncan" somewhat
too masculine. Do help me
out of the dilemma for I shall
not give a commencement
to this note I foresee.
Nat seems to think that
by some invisible telegraph
you must know all about
our movements as he speaks

of the party as though you had left us only a day or two since, though it seems an age. The Misses Donaldson & Miss Deane were staying with me and to make their visit as agreeable as I could I invited some thirty or forty young friends to meet them last Tuesday evening. We all wished you were here and missed your presence. They danced to the Piano and seemed to enjoy themselves very much. On Monday last in making some calls I met your friend Mrs Sparks and introduced myself to her by enquiring if she had heard from you. She told me she had & had been writing to you that morning and reproving you. We were very glad to receive your letter & hope you will occasionally send a line to your

Roxbury Jan. 30th 59

Dear Duncan Jr.

I was very much pleased at being considered a fit correspondent for one become so distinguished - and was glad that you received such a cordial reception at home - At our last meeting of the O.K. we certainly did miss you and your loss was mourned, partly however on account of a "spread" which the Club had discovered was to be given to them, somewhere in the dim futurity by the member whose name begins with D -

All such hopes are now banished - and with them, all expectations of hearing your "musical tones" reverberating through that hall of Homeric Celebrity, vanished -

quantities of knowledge that will doubtless be displayed upon Commencement day - if he should speak -

We are having quite a social time in these regions but not so many parties & sociables as there were last year I think -

When you are lying in your bed while we are roused to prayers - & when you are lunching while we attend recitations please think among many of

Your aff. Classmate & friend
H. W. Fuller Jr.

H. P. Duncan Jr. Esq.

The last meeting of this remarkable society was full of interest and some business was transacted – The names of Balch, Chauncey & Loring were proposed but they will not be balloted for until next term – I have had the pleasure of gazing on your shades – in the shape of a photograph at the Bowditch's where I went to a small party given for the Misses Donaldson – We all had a very nice time although there were more gents than fems – I couldn't help wishing you were there as I reckoned you would have enjoyed it – When you begin in earnest to study as hard as you propose, please let me know & I'll begin – Speaking of studying hard, I suppose you know that we shall recite Italian to Prof. Lowell next term instead of to Monti and I expect that it will require some little study to gain the kind regard of that poet & scholar –

I have seen very few of the fellows – during vacation & suppose they are much scattered – The Bonds are doing well – staying at home and having a pretty pleasant time – Frank Greenough I've seen – he is staying at Cambridge and I should think must be having a stupid time – Blake has gone into a store to keep out of mischief during vacation – Loring is in Boston & Motte in New York – These are all I have seen since Term Closed – Huntington has gone I suppose to Washington with Prof. Cook to assist him in his lectures – I don't know as you know or care but I may as well tell you that I room next term with Motte and expect to have a good time generally – As to being a correspondent of yours, I should like it of all things and will try to do my part of the proceeding as well as I can – Bill Lamb passes most all his time in the Boston Athenaeum delving into works of the most deeply metaphysical nature – amazing

7

Cincinnati Jan 30th 1869.

Dear Major

I have been intending to drop you a line before but that confounded laziness of mine has hitherto prevented me. I saw your Father the other day as he has doubtless informed you before this. I hope my account of your exploits agreed with yours. it ought to for it was mainly from you that I derived my information How many boxes are there to come from Cambridge? I went down on Friday to look after them as your Father requested me to do. The man said that there was only one that he knew anything about & that he had sent that on to G. Barns & Co in Lexington. I told him to be sure & send them on just as soon as they arrived, he promised that he would and I hope he will. How are you

getting on? Don't give up the ship. I think there is every reason to expect a commutation of your sentence. Your Father spoke of writing to Bey & if he can be got to use his influence which I think he will. I think we shall have the pleasure of seeing you back in old Cambridge again long before the examinations just previous to Class-day! One good reason for this hope is the offer which they made you & which you very properly refused. At any rate I will keep you posted with regard to old Cambridge that is to say if you wish it. With regard to the kind invitation which you gave me before leaving Boston & which your Father kindly repeated. I can only say that it will be impossible for me to ~~except~~ comply with it for a week or ten days. That is I can't get away this week. After that I shall be most happy. I believe I have now said all I think of & must close. Let me hear from you if you are not too lazy. Give my best regards to your Mother & Sisters and believe me as Ever

Your affectionate friend
C.W. Horner

in the old "milk cart". Miss Downes was here last night and inquired very kindly after you we placed your likeness in her hands to console her for your absence, her head dress was disarranged in the course of the evening but John Hubbell tried to make good your place good by rearranging it for her. If you wish to send your love to her or any other message I will gladly be the bearer of it; she looked very prettily last night, how would she compare with your Kentucky girls? In looking over this epistle I find I have not written with the sobriety which becomes my age or the relation I hold towards you. I would begin by giving you good advice but whoever follows it? I wish I knew the young lady friend in whom you are so much interested and then I could write you an interesting letter but I suppose you have other means of receiving from her. I have some thing quite at heart and I wish tele you what it is. I wish to go to Europe again now why can't you get your Father to propose to Mr Warren to make up a party and go, for he formed such pleasant impressions when at your Father's that he would do any thing that he might propose. I must say good bye as I have come to the end of the chapter. Hoping you will give your Grandma a hug at my request I am my sincere friend E. Warren.

My own dear Grandpa to your Sarah
E.W.

8

GDU

1850

My Dear Mr Duncan

I received your letter last week and read it to an admiring crowd who enjoyed hearing from you sufficiently to satisfy your self love. Mr Warren returned from Washington last night after having had a grand time but in describing his visit he adds very prettily that he has seen no one in whom he is so much interested as myself or so pretty as cousin Sarah. Now do you not think you gentlemen have a way of saying pleasing things to the ladies? We have had two or three gay parties since you left but not enough so to efface from the memory the fascinating white cravat that adorned our partly. We went last week to Mrs Ohis reception and while we were driving there Cousin Sarah says she dont you wish Duncan was going to be there? Of course I should have been delighted to have seen my what should I call you? Mrs Baker was there and she pulled me by the arm saying was it not abominable that Betty should have sent Duncan off for such a

trivial offence!" John went home last Monday not so much because he did not feel well but "Sake was" I think he was joked so much about Miss Spring that he thought others might think he was serious in his attention to the lady. Is it not too bad that ~~innocent~~ young men cannot pay a little attention to young ladies without their Mothers Aunts and Grandmas thinking they are serious in their attention. John you know takes little matters so seriously that he walked off to New Bedford to shine every case in the house of his home. Mr Thomas has just been reading your letter and exclaim "Hallo what does he mean!" If you are Grand Pa I must be Grand Ma to which I shall not agree". Oh the vanity of men why are they so sensitive about their age? But he liked your letter and I think he rather likes you. If he had not been in Washington I should not have the pleasure of breaking the seal of your letter as he has a bad habit of reading my letters before I do myself. Cousin Sarah has just walked in to the library and asks, to whom am writing, she adds give my love to Mr Duncan (which I think is not proper, if she had said to "Cousin Henry" I should have thought differently as one must send love to relations, is it so) I will send her respects to you, ~~and~~ she thanks you very much both in her name and my own for the fine copies of yourself that you were kind enough to send us. I had a sort of hope that you would not go the day you did but it would not show to meet our wishes. We have been out to the college only once since you left and we both concluded that it had changed its aspect since last we were in that nice upper room. How much you must be enjoying yourself with your family. I hope they will not think too much of you for men cannot bear petting. Please remember me to your Mother & sister for although I have never seen your Mother I feel that knowing you so well she must also know me. As to the corn cake we do not object to it in the way you taught me to make it. Did not your Mother laugh when you told her that you showed off your talent for cooking? Mr & Mrs Merriam are in Framingham passing a few days and if they were here I know they would send many kind messages to you. We have had two little parties since you left and wish you could have seen them. I think you might stop on here for a week or two. I should enjoy it much and would make you some cake and pies perhaps give you a little in your pie; and I might promise a ride

[Early February? 1859]

H. S. aged ( ), having been sent home for bad behaving. (~~not~~) – for no fault save that the Faculty are about to travel. (~~old for want of use~~ – ~~for no use~~ – ~~of no use~~). Begs to assure his friends that this accident has nothing whatever to do with the high ~~bad~~ standing he holds ~~in~~ with that body. ~~they~~ in or are England itself. That, on the contrary he has too much self-respect. and – and too much regard for that in which he is held by an extensive circle of ~~admiring~~ friends to allow himself (fancy) in their eyes or his own by any act, or negative deficiency unworthy of either.

He claims therefore, distinctly to state ~~that~~. as follows. ~~That –~~

~~Namely,~~

(Now this statement is what puzzles me. The sentences won't run.)

That, taking himself nothing but

water . . and sugar.

or that
having our here in
himself a noble example
of —

(Just go on something
in this way. — Try it!

mother for her kind letter. I fear you will be unwilling to draw forth another from me? — but shall be delighted to hear from you. Possibly I may be in an indulgent mood. But if not, for kindness as to please you, it will be very hard. for I have been mining at a formula in your behalf, in which I am not successful. Perhaps if I enclose, you will finish it for me? helping on your third good nature, I come only appeal to your Father, should (you?) it fail.

Always your friend,

Mary C. Peach.

Cambridge.
Monday
[Early February? 1859]

9

My dear Sir.

Thank you for your prompt kindness. One gives a long drawn sigh of relief to find children safe with their parents.

Thank you also for the very nice photograph which Elsie says "truly looks kind & forlorn as if he was sorry" — Independently of its value in this sense to a true friend. It is beyond price as a test for all freshmen who shall in future approach this institution "afraid of raising high expectations by over-exertion from the first"

You will perceive that I am not elated by the "more than compensation" you may have received for the deserved reproof of your alma mater. Your fellows are short "distinguishing

and my regret. You cannot, my dear Duncan, accuse me of any kind expectations (I rejoice to feel!!)

And the "poor Faculty" who congratulated themselves on having one unexceptionable and steady character; stable, though no horse-racer. I had almost said, no gambler, if a trump — ~~having~~ to set a noble example (and vindicate the truth reported in time) among the "lots industrious" of our future masters in the land!

Ah Duncan, should I live to take snuff. I fear you will till figure jovially my young friend!

Mary had better have fewer friends, and I might say condemn her abandonment to one ill-arranged package.

I am glad to hear about Cincinnati.

My kind rt regard to your family, and thanks to you

Cambridge
Sunday Feb 6th [1859]

You cannot but know, dear brother Henry, how glad we all were to hear from you, and of your safe arrival home. I have no "prudish objections" I assure you in regard to our correspondence. But you need never expect long or interesting letters.

I was very sorry you were not here to go to the Brookfield's party, we had a perfectly splendid time. There were about sixty there; among the number was your friend William

Bond, who greatly disgusted Livy by the manner in which he talked to her. The same evening Miss Austin had a party of about the same size, which took off a few of Livy's friends. We had the best time after they had all gone. For seven of his girls and two gentlemen, spent the night there, Charles F. Wells Jr. (my last flame) being one of them.

The weather is beautiful now, and the sleighing very fine. Mr. Riley had the pond cleared last week, and yesterday it was crowded with skaters, we did not go up as Livy was here, and she did not care to go, not being well, poor child! She had a severe cold, which left her very weak. Her father is very much troubled about her and has threatened to take her out of school if she is not better very soon. She has already given up two or three of her lessons, and leaves school every day at one o'clock.

Lizzie and Marie have just gone to church, (Parson Merrills.) Father is on the sofa enjoying a tooth-ache. Mother is feasting on your beautiful

I should not be surprised if he kissed her a dozen times this week and say after that, that he had not yet given the kiss that Mr Duncan sent. We are going to a launch to day of one of the Government ships and then to a dance on board the Ohio and a collation given by Commander Stoddert. Mr Warren is waiting for me to say adieu

From yr affectionate

Grandma

Mrs Morrison requests the pleasure of the company of

Mr H. T. Duncan Jr

on Monday Eve. 21st Feb

2 Monument Sq

15 Feb – 1859

My Dear Mr. Duncan

Pleasure little

your letter that

I have just received by

letter received it

with great pleasure

I hope some of

that will be made

by your Clap at the

Commencement of the

term to get you

back soon. My best

regards to your good

friends & families –

Yours

C. W. M.

My Dear Mr Duncan

Mrs Merriam has just sent this note in for us to mail to you. I wish we could only see you at the party as I think it will be a pleasant one. I wish to state a little fact to you knowing I shall have your sympathy – Mr Parsen received yesterday a letter from your good Father in which he sends a kiss to "Cousin Sarah" of course depositing it to execute his commission. Now I do not object in the least the kiss being sent but only wish I had been authorized to give it – as I have manifested a strong inclination – in that direction already.

Beverly, Feb. 12, 1859.

Dear Henry -

Your letter of the 5th reached me three or four days ago, and reminded me I had not kept my promise of writing to you. I should have done so before now, if I had not been laid up with a confounded influenza for two weeks, which has quite taken the starch out of my correspondence. It is the only consolation I have for losing two weeks of vacation, to reflect how much worse I

should have liked it if it had paid me its visit in term-time.

Chaney and H. M. Bond made me a brief call this morning. They were in their accustomed spirits; and I can send you a bulletin of your dear chum, that he looks splendidly, ut semper. (Does your Latin hold out well enough to construe?) Except Schouler and Stickney, whom I met one day in Boston, they are the only fifty-niners I have seen this vacation.

My time passes very quietly, forenoons reading writing and studying Italian, afternoons sometimes in skating with my sister and her friends, (that is, before I was sick) and evenings in everything imaginable. I am glad to hear of your agricultural ardor. I expect you will begin to raise potatoes before Holworthy after next May recess, and trot out prize balls in a tandem all round the college yard. I will be there to clap and hurrah at your ballmanship. Meanwhile goodbye, and write to me again. With much love

Your affectionate classmate and friend F. E. Abbot.

Boston Feb 20th/59

Dear Duncan

Do you entirely ignore my letter or have you never received it? I think considering you were so desirous to keep up the correspondence you have done your share in it. It would serve you right if I should not write till you answered my last but nevertheless I will have compassion on you. I went down to Salem the other day to attend the Assembly and had splendid time I met your "chum" down there and he was very polite and kind to me, He complained of the same thing that I do so you

get it on all sides just the same I suppose you know that Levy leaves for Europe on the 9th of March, with Father who will be gone for 4 months, only think I shall be the head of a family for ever so long. Levy will be gone two years so I think that if you go out there next year you will probably see her. There is one more bit of news I have got to tell you, it is that I am going with Cooke, and going to take Hayes's place as the assistant of Brown, that sounds pretty loud you know for me but such is the case. I hope to see you on here next Class day, I expect to have a pretty good time. Well now I must bid you good bye for I have nothing more to say. By the I am going to take tea at the Ridgeway, I must now bid you good bye

from your aff
friend
Nat.

P. S. This note has been revised by Mother & Levy so you must excuse all blotches.

N. B

Cord with the stage) and as the tickets are disposed of privately it will probably the most brilliant and fashionable ball that has taken place in Boston for years. My Father desires that I shall be present and as he proposes to present me with a ticket I shall of course go and if you desire it will give you a description of it.

If you had passed this vacation in Boston I recently I should have insisted upon your coming to make me a visit, for New Bedford has never presented so many attractions to a stranger as it has this October.

Hoping that this letter will find you in excellent health and spirits, desiring to be respectfully remembered to your sister & to hear from you again soon I remain Yours & a day

Your affte friend
John H. Rickerson

H. M. Duncan Esq.
Lexington Ky.

New Bedford Feb 23rd/59.

My dear Duncan,

I was happy to learn as I did by your pleasant letter of the 6th inst. that I had your sympathy for the suffering I endured in consequence of "my sore heel," but I am still happier to be able to inform you that I am now fully recovered from all the ills which my flesh has been for some time heir to. I can now write with truth, "Mens xxxx in corpore sano," although I have not the vanity to insert the sana.

I am delighted to hear that you are so happily and comfortably at

home, and I dare say that in years to come you will never regard your suspension, as you can always feel that it was a little romance added to the dull routine of College life, without any discredit to yourself. I have no doubt that the Faculty will be happy upon request to reconsider their vote, and commute the sentence, and thus we shall have you again among us after the May recess.

New Bedford has been very gay this Winter, and the order of things is so inverted, that I shall have to go back to Cambridge to recruit, as the vacation at home has not given opportunity for rest. George Draper has been here visiting his Mum since last Wednesday and will probably remain till the commencement. Jarvis, Junior, Bullard, Sophomore, Robeson, Freshman have also been here. I hope you enjoyed Charlie Jones's visit as you expected. I trust that your mind will not be so concentrated upon your studies that you will have no opportunity for ~~xxxx~~ reading, riding, driving, hunting &c. which you either spoke of. Perhaps however it is not necessary to be very solicitous on that account.

The principal topic of conversation among the beauty and fashion of New England, is the approaching Mount Vernon ball at the Boston Theatre. It is gotten up under the auspices of Edward Everett, he being chairman of the Board of Managers. The Parquette of the Theatre is to be floored on a

Cambridge. 24 July. [1859] 16

My Dear Duncan.

Your unusually solemn letter induces me to remind you at once how gladly your image is recalled, under all shades. Whatever it falls in with the mood of the moment. The sudden close of Mr. S. Cunningham's life of quiet refinement and suffering takes strong hold on us. We have never talk actively associated with him. It is true that circumstances and pursuits have rather had the effect to divide, or separate me from many of my connections since our earlier childhood. But there is a time when childhood comes back upon us. Its array of phantoms flit strangely around the veiled figures of such a scene as yesterday.

I am glad to hear of your unbroken health. Tell Mary the

must not go to Paris. So is the pick being hindered the third time.

Called many a moment I stopped on looking at your letter that you have attained in reality your old kind big nature. If indeed it be ~~indeed~~ a proof of wounded feeling, I should not have begun mine. I am reminded of the many pleasant chats over your photographs on my table. Of the constant question "How could Duncan do so silly a thing" "Because he loves his chief and to do I." The constant reply. But those who love it should be ready to allow it in those whose free many not be so practical as in younger freedoms.

I shall await further enlightening

Always your friend,

Mary A. Hawks.

Winter St.
Feb. 28th. [1859]

My dear Mrs. Duncan,

I am resolved that my letter, already too long delayed, shall not bear the date of Spring. If I had not been such a sufferer from neuralgia for the last month, I should have written to you long before, but for many weeks I have been unable to write any but the most necessary letters; you

[Dear Mrs. Duncan, I am resolved that my letter, already too long delayed, shall not bear the date of Spring. If I had not been such a sufferer from neuralgia for the last month, I should have written to you long before, but for many weeks I have been unable to write any but the most necessary letters; you]

going to Paris and Vienna on professional business. I believe he intends at present to return by July or August.

The term commences again this week, I can hardly believe that six weeks have passed since you left us — I hope you have enjoyed your visit at home, and that we shall see you back again ere long, in better health and spirits than when you left. I advise you to leave your neuralgia at home. The "School girls"

will therefore, with a fellow-feeling for my suffering, excuse me I know.

I wish I had something of interest to tell you of your friends here, but there is little or nothing. The world seems to go on, chiefly on skates, to be sure; in fact, we are skating mad, and it would not be at all surprising if Joe's old joke of President Walker cutting "Jim Walker" on fresh Pond were to prove no joke after all.

You have heard, of course, of Livy's approaching departure for Europe. She sails next Wednesday with her father. I hope she will grow stronger when removed from the excitements to which all the young people in America are too early exposed; nearly all the young girls begin to droop at about the age of seventeen.

Dr. Bowditch is

between 27 & 28

[March 1859]

The following questions were prepared by the Secretary of '58, from similar papers which were used in the Classes of '56 and '57. They seem to contain all the hints necessary for the preparation of autobiographies for the Class-book.

EXPLANATIONS.

These questions are not intended to be answered categorically, nor necessarily in their present order. The lives should be written as narrations in the first person, each writer adopting the style and system he likes best, only taking care to weave into his narrative all the facts alluded to in the queries which are pertinent to his case. To many persons some of these inquiries will have no application, and, of course, need not be noticed.

It has been the custom for each person to write out his life carefully before copying into the Class-book. In this way any necessity for erasures or changes on its pages will be prevented.

Each life should not exceed *six* pages (about *eight* of letter-paper), leaving two pages for future memoranda. Be as *full and particular as possible* within these limits. Do not leave out any circumstances that come under the heads given below, for fear they will not interest any one. The most minute autobiographies become exceedingly valuable in a few years. It is also important that every member of the Class should write a complete history of his life thus far, to serve as a foundation for subsequent records. When a Class are all deceased, their autobiographies, and annals after graduation, are deposited in the Library with the archives of the College.

A serious and generous attention is asked to the above directions, in order that we may have a handsome and creditable Class-book.

Begin on the second line of your first page, turning over to the first line of the others. Do not write quite to the faint blue line on the margin, where the leaves are to be trimmed.

Year, month, and day of birth? Place of ditto? Father's name, profession or business, and present residence, if living; if not, the date of death? Mother's name before marriage? Mention any interesting events in the lives of either Parent.

Pedigree on your Father's side, tracing back the origin of your Family as far as possible, mentioning ancestors in any way distinguished (for example, if engaged in the Revolution), and particularly the history of those who first came to this country? (*State at least the name, occupation, and residence of each ancestor in the line of your Family name.*) Ancestral line of your Mother's Family in briefer form? What ancestors or relatives have graduated here?

Various places of residence before coming to College, with the periods of the same? Schools and Academies you have attended, with dates and Principals' names? When and where did you begin to fit for College? Have you been engaged in any occupation or business other than studying?

What led you first to think of coming to College? Mention the time when you entered. When and where have you taught school during vacations? Mention any struggles you have made, or difficulties you have encountered, in getting your education.

Mention any book, pamphlet, or article, published out of College, of which you are the author. State what prizes you have taken.

Mention any remarkable risks or accidents you may have met with, journeys you have made, and other interesting events or curious experiences in your life,—particularly incidents connected with your College Course.

What are your plans in life? Have you a particular fondness for any art, study, or the like? Are there any hereditary tastes or tendencies in your Parents' Families which are worth mentioning?

(*Signature.*)

Every member of the Class is expected, in accordance with the usage of preceding Classes, to write to the Secretary at least once a year, and communicate any events in his life, such as marriage, honors, changes of business, or appointments to office. Particularly send immediate information of changes of residence, or the death of Classmates. By this means the Secretary will be able to answer inquiries relative to any member of the Class.

Francis H. Swan,

Class-Secretary of Fifty-Nine.

CAMBRIDGE, March 21, 1859.

PAGE(S) TEMPORARILY UNAVAILABLE

WE ARE WORKING TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM.
WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE.

that commendatory of Prof. Cooke and of the arrangement made with him for Nat. — I feel, of course, the deepest interest in my first-born, & I desire that the step he is now to take may be made in a thorough manner — Your remark, coming as it does from one whom he esteems, will have much weight; & I thank you for it, and for all similar which will tend eventually to make a real man of him.

I regret to hear

March 2 1859

was trivial – I
did not taint your
honour. I
said I still
believe that it
will prove the best
event of your
life, for it will
stimulate you to
look at the
path, which seems

before you, and induce you to choose that which leads to true nobleness of character & action

With the kindest regards, and rejoicing that you intend to study a profession before visiting Europe

I remain
Sincerely yours
Henry L Bowditch

P.S. It is barely possible that in directing the letter to your father I wrote ~~Louisville~~ Louisville instead of Lexington

that there are some fair one's here waiting the exile's return.

All your friends are well and are ever inquiring of your state & now hoping to hear from you soon at length believe me as ever

Your affectionate friend & classmate

— Baty Blake

P.S. The family send their kind remembrances.

If there should be anything you want in this part of the country I beg of you to command my services

Baty

March 2, 1859

part exceedingly mild and excessively disagreeable. The only fellows I have seen much of during the vacation have been Hyte, Frank Greenough, Draps & Hal. Draps has been staying some of the time at New. Bedford but has lately returned. There have been quite a number of pleasant parties here this winter but as you know not affecting those sorts of entertainments much I have been to but few

What an unfortunate and disgraceful affair that was in Washington. O tempora! O mores! Sonatus haec intelligit. Alas I fear the standard of morals in our Capital is no better than it should be. I suppose that the ill-fated Sickles will never suffer the penalty of the law. I suppose you are having very pleasant weather at home you must try to get over the bad habits you contracted at Cambridge & do not I beg of you overstudy. I hear that your friend Dr. Bowditch is going abroad to take his daughter to school in England. The Engagement of your friend Joe. Gardner to Miss Stewart of N. Y. a young lady he met in Paris has lately come out. I shall soon expect to hear of your being snapped up. Take care & don't be rash. Remember

entirely employed.
The principal items of news here just now are the "Tigers" and "Mt Vernon" balls. the first of which has already come off with great éclat & the second comes off on Friday eve next at the Boston Theatre which has been finely fitted up for the occasion & it promises to be a most brilliant affair. There has been but little skating and less sleighing lately since you left. The weather for the most

1 Boston Mch 2 "59

Dear Henry 19 –

I have been waiting patiently for some time to receive a letter from you and now at length conclude to open the correspondence myself. I met John Ricketson in Parker's yesterday who said that he had rec'd a letter from you the other day containing news of your well being &c & also stating that you wished to enlist his endeavors to effect your

return to Cambridge after the May recess. I have great hopes that something may be done and be assured your friends here will use their best efforts and if the Faculty be as well disposed as John said they were, we shall doubtless succeed. I am all ready to go back to Cambridge to-morrow having had my room got ready to-day & only regret that we shall miss the pleasant company and the graphic descriptions of "Kentucky" of our ancient carver.

We shall doubtless hear particularly of your bodily & mental condition from our communicative and entertaining friend Horne who I hear has been passing a fortnight with you & who we expect to-day. I have been actively engaged during this vacation in the Calcutta business with Messrs R. C. Mackay & Son in this city and have liked it very much altho it has kept me pretty

Cambridge, March 2.
1859
Sunday afternoon.

Dear Brother Henry:

You cannot imagine how I miss Lizzy, the three weeks that she has been absent seem longer than the four years that I have known her. I spent the last week with her that she was in Boston, and went down to the boat in the mourners carriage. Mrs Boyrikah thought at first she would not go, she said she could not stand it to see the Sh. and Lizzy go off without her.

who are going to take the other parts.

I see your friend Joe Baxter at school every day, and, as cheerfully as ever; he most carries up all those "things and things" you sent her, and is probably wanting more.

Mr. Bickerson called here last Sunday evening, he said if you had been here, you would have been elected second Marshal. I think it is too bad, for you would have felt the honor of being Marshal, as you know it is the highest honor in the class to receive that appointment. Lizzie has not received a letter from Mary for several weeks. What has become of her?

Lizzie sends her love to you.

but at last she decided it was best to go, and she really behaved nobly, she shed scarcely a tear. Livy had a great many friends to see her off, who watched the ship and waved their handkerchiefs as long as she was in sight. I guess Mrs Bowditch will repent having let her go for such a long trip, and I do not believe she will stay two years. I should not be at all surprised if she came back with her father, at any rate I hope she will. Mrs Bowditch received a letter from the Sh last Thursday, from the British Channel, he said Livy was not as well as he had hoped, but thought after they had been on land a few days she would feel better; she was very much frightened the first night they were on the water, but generally the voyage was prosperous and pleasant.

The Howells are going to have some theatricals next week, and the young people in Cambridge are very much engaged, as only the fathers and mothers are to be invited, with one or two exceptions. They are to have Hamlet, Jennie Coburn is to be the Queen, and James Pierce, Hamlet. I do not know

Cambridge, Mch 18
[1859]

Dear Major,

I write to acknowledge the receipt of a beautiful cane yesterday, and this morning of a letter containing the bill of lading. Accept my thanks for your beautiful present, which I shall prize both on account of its intrinsic worth and its association with the memory of Clay but especially as coming from my friend the Major. I assure you in all ~~our~~ reference to the Henry Clay cane I never thought of anything more than a rough stick to be fashioned by myself.

you shall see it in an honorable position on your first visit to my family abode (when I get one)

There is nothing exciting here except Strong Vincent's engagement to a New York lady, in honor of which to-day he received a present of a tin trumpet and baby's rattle from an unknown donor.

Our class elections come off Monday. There is little excitement yet. Balch or Cram will be Orator; Merrill or Huntington poet; Stephenson Secretary, &c.

Charley Home says he had a great time with you, and led me to infer there was some chance of your return before class-day. I hope you will be able to. Cambridge however is almost too exciting now for comfort.

My chum wishes to be remembered. Once more let me acknowledge the handsome manner in which you did up the Ashland promise and believe me,

Your friend,

Torrey.

all Coulleur de Rose and I will not darken its hues - Enough now of my own affairs - Clara stayed with Sing the last two or three days before her departure. The poor girls felt the separation very severely - I wish much that your sisters might have known Sing but I trust that pleasure is in store for both parties. I forwarded your sister Ellen's note to day - We are going on quietly at No 15 - wishing frequently that you could drop in and see us. I dreamt the other night that you had come on for one day only and it was not to be generally known that you were here - Are you still diving into the Mysteries of the Human mind? I love to hear others talk on such subjects but speculative study is not to my taste. I think of attempting German while the Doctor is away. Do you think I am

Boston
March 14. 1859

My dear Mr Duncan

Your kind note has remained unanswered longer than I meant it should but for the last few weeks I have been much occupied in making preparations for Sing's and the Doctor's departure. Let me at once set you right on the subject of my daughter's health. It is not that she is very ill now but from the excessive languor & fatigue and frequent headache her Father feared what she usually might be should a heavy cold or cough fasten itself on her - In re=

due to counteract these tendencies we both thought that the repose of English life might be good combined with change of air, climate, thought and habits. I am no lover of the feverish excitement of American (pehaps I ought to say New England) life and I see the evil effects of it daily & hourly on my numerous young lady friends. I am almost inclined to put up my pen at this point for there is something almost ludicrous in my moralizing & philosophizing to a young man like yourself, but you have shown so much and awakened still more interest in our family, that I talk to you as though you were an old friend of long standing.

Doctor Bowditch has long wished to renew his acquaintance with men of his profession in Europe and more particularly since his appointment as Professor at Harvard. I therefore persuaded him to take a vacation of a few months and escort our dear Lily across the Ocean. She will leave her with my Sister & Brother in London while he visits Paris Vienna ~~&c~~ on the Continent. She will probably take her with him to Scotland & Ireland. I hope he will not feel obliged to return under six months. Our ~~hope~~ is to let her remain for a year or two, spending a part of the time with her Aunt in Paris & Germany so that she may perfect herself in those two languages. Were you of my own age I should probably expatiate on the blank that appears in the world caused by her absence and of my hopes & fears for her future bright & shining but to one as young as you are I can imagine that the trip is

March 14, 1859

too old to make the attempt?
He intends to stay some time in Vienna
and like all enthusiastic young
students will want to continue
his studies in the language on his
return, then you see if I can equal
him, we can climb Mount Parnassus
hand in hand! I wish you were
to be here next week. There is to be a
great Fair for a most Charitable
object and I have been solicited
to preside at one of the Tables. I do
not mean that I wish you were here
in order that you should make large
purchases but I should like all
my friends young & old to give me
their countenance in my new posi-
tion. Nat is out paying the evening
or he would send some kind
message. Do write soon and
Believe me Truly Your friend
Olivia Bordwich

Cambridge March 15th 1859.

Dear Major

I received your very welcome letter last Thursday morning and was very glad I assure you to hear from you again. There is not the slightest need to jog my memory. I have not forgotten. I intended to answer on Sunday but when I reflected that the class elections were to come off the next day I concluded to wait until this evening before replying. Well the elections are over. Such a day's work I hope never to have to go through again. We commenced at two in the afternoon and worked steady until nine with the exception of a quarter of an hour at 8½ & a half at supper time. The result is as follows

tired. I can't say he looked very happy. Now I believe I have told you all about the class elections & when you have read as far as this you will be just as wise as I am myself. I now propose to finish answering your letter, but first I want you to tell me when you write again which I hope may be soon what the prospect is of seeing you here again before C. Day. Tell me all about it. I don't think you need compliment me on my poetical talents at all. I begin to feel dreadfully ashamed of that confounded rigmarole, and heartily wish it safely consumed & forgotten. As to following up any impression in the quarter you mention, you gave me such infernal poor encouragement when I was with you, saying that there was scarcely any hope, &c that the announcement took me completely by surprise. Pete sends his regards & hopes you may soon be with us again to which I cordially most heartily subscribe. The rest of the fellows said something a piece which I have forgotten & will only mention the fact. Fifty-secondly & to conclude I am much obliged to the family for so kindly remembering me although you, you graceless scamp came near forgetting it. Present my best regards in return and believe me as ever

Your affectionate friend

C. W. Horne

Balch - Orator. Huntington - Poet. L. E. Abbot
Odist, Lawrence - Chief-Marshal. Hite &
Strong - Assistants. McKenzie - Chaplain
F. H. Swan - Class-Secretary. Langmaid - Class-
day Chorister. Rumrill, Stevenson & Greenough
Class-day Committee. W. W. Swan & Gray
Class Committee. Cutting Pres of C. Supper
Everett - Odist for do. Blake - Toast-Master
Ames & Ricketson - Supper Com. & Lay
S. Chorister. To give you some idea of
how the voting went I inclose you a card
of all the ballots in order as they
took place. After nearly every election
the vote was made unanimous. After
the third ballot for 3rd Marshal Row
withdrew his name. Blake resolutely
declined his election as Toast-Master
& the election was left to the L. Com.
The two votes for Langmaid as Chorister
were Hite's & mine. Draper declined
his election as Supper Com man & Brown
withdrew his name as candidate. Under
the circumstances the election was left
to the Chair. Every one nearly was asked
and finally Ames & Ricketson accepted.
Stevenson presided & F. H. Swan was
Secretary. After the voting was over
for officers, appropriations were voted
by acclamation to the amount of $100 to the C. Secretary
$200 to the C. Com. besides $59. for the
cradle on the motion of patriotic W. W. Swan.
It was voted that the class meet once every
three years. Then after some discussion
about the Pack-knife & asking Prex to
preach our farewell sermon both motions
were laid on the table indefinitely & the
great bore was over. Some dozen fellows
went into Parker's to take supper after it
was over. They ordered a car at two which
did not come & they all had the pleasure
of an early morning tramp to Cambridge.
Hite got home at 3½ sober but oh! so

announced, because I could not see in him the first qualification for his office, and I thought G. Draper was sure for that place; I have heard since that Stevenson was put in to prevent the expenses of the day from being too extravagant. Greenough & Russell though, will have the control of the business and knowing the above fact, will I dare say, feel inclined to increase, rather than lessen, the expenses for that very reason.

As to Orator, I should have been very glad to have seen John Gray elected but for several reasons, I think Balch preferable. For poet, I saw no true or good reason, to doubt that Huntington was our only candidate qualified for that office. I think already the fellows who are disappointed, are begining to feel better about the elections, and that we will shall soon be harmonious

Cambridge March 18th/59

Dear Dunc.

You have undoubtedly wondered why you have not before this, received a letter, in answer to your last to your honourable servant, but you must remember, that I told you at the outset, that you would find me a poor correspondent; for as much as I like to receive letters from my friends, I do hate to write them. I say this of course that you may appreciate the effort in your behalf on the present occasion, should this scrawl appear to you as stupid as I fear it may.

You will probably have learned from some source or other before this time, the result of our class election last Monday; of course, there were some disap-

pointed, offended, grieved &c as there always has been and I am afraid always will be. But whatever those who were disappointed and defeated in the election of their candidates may say about it, however the unity of the Class may have been broken respecting the various candidates for office, the great Class feeling of '59 I think, showed itself preeminent. As you will see by the elections, the disappointed ones were mostly those of the "Pudding"; whether the elections have been to your individual satisfaction or not, I don't know, but wish that you would tell me, although there's no help now for the defeated and the best they can do is to make the best of it, and be determined to go in Class Day and have a firstrate time. As you may not have been the result of our election, I will give it to you here; viz. for Orator, Frank Balch, Poet Huntington, Odist Frank Abbot, Chief Marshal Geo. Lawrence, Assistant Mar's. Hayden & Vincent. Class Secretary Frank Swan. Class Comittee in addition to the secretary Gray & W. W. Swan. Class Day Committee Rumrill Chairman, Greenough & Stevenson. Class Supper President Cutting. The other officers are not of so much importance except that Baty Blake was elected Toast Master but declined and the office is yet to be filled. I am rather sorry that Cutting was not made Chief Mar. as he of course would not like to take the place of assistant Mar. having once been Chief Mar. and Lawrence would have been satisfied with the place of second marshal. Lawrence's jovial disposition together with his fine figure, is what put him in, but he has not the dignity or the cool self possession, of Cutting. Again I was utterly surprised and taken back when the election of Stevenson, was

go, lately, so that wherever house you visit, you will either see ladies working for, or talking about, some fair. We have had a fair for "the Children's Mission" where I took the place of Marshall at one of the tables; we had a fair last week in the Music Hall, for a Homeopathic Institution, and there's to be one next week, in the Music Hall, for the benefit of a hospitale for Incurables, in which they say all the elite of Boston are engaged. I shall be delighted to see your Majestic presence, at our alma Mater again, likewise at our humble mansion at Rocky Nook, where you will always find a wellcome. Your Chum, will write you soon. Rev. Brown and my Chum & brother unite in wishing to be remembered to the Major. Now you can't complain and must write a good long letter to your aff. friend & Classmate Henry M. Bond.

as ever. I shall leave a more detailed account of the election for some other friend to narrate, while I shall proceed to other matters unconnected with College affairs.

Having spoken to you of what is foremost in the thoughts of '59 at the present moment, I will go back a little to events which have taken place since I received your last, which was two or three days before this term commenced. It seemed to me this last vacation went away from us quicker almost than I ever knew one to before. Your Chum has probably told you, that he spent a few days with me during our vacation and that I in return spent a few days with him, in Salem. I did have a splendid time, in Salem too; I went with Chum to two as fine parties there as I care to see any where. One of the

parties was at a private residence (given by the Misses Nichols in Chestnut St.,) and the other, was one of a course of Assemblies at Hamilton Hall, where I saw a great crowd of pretty girls and where we had the splendid music of Gilmore's Band to ~~play~~ dance by, and a fine spring floor, to dance on. And to crown the whole, I succeeded in drawing your quiet Chum, out into the maze of the dance, and introduced him to several Salem ladies and I tell you, he is quite a beau among them now. Only think Dunc. your darling Livy has gone, really gone to England, for one or two years, so unless you go out there after Class day, I dont know when you will see her again. Will and I went in to call on her ~~some or two evenings~~ on the Monday evening before she sailed, and we found there quite a collection of her young female friends and it so happened that before the evening was out, we had quite a representation of the Bond family there. We found my Cousin Lizzie Bond there, and afterward, my Brother George came in, to make his parting call on Livy. We had quite a stunning time there, I tell you, but it is too bad to aggravate you so, by telling you all that you have lost, by that thoughtless administration of the Shower bath. Livy had a beautiful daguerrotype of your friend Miss Clara Ridgway, which she took out with her.

We have had as usual one round of dissipation here, this winter, nothing but parties all the time, so that I have got almost sick of them, and I don't expect to go to any more this term. Our Jamaica Plain sociables, however, were rather a failure this winter with the exception of two or three. Fairs for different purposes of charity, have been all the

going and the room nicely arranged when I arrived, which took off somewhat the cheerlessness which I dreaded.

My Lien has set. At the first meeting of the O. K. your friend John and myself left our positions at the head of this honored Society in favor of Frank Abbot Pres. & Mottle, Sec. Frank Balch has been voted into the Society and I suppose will be there tomorrow Evening for the first time. I wish you were here to attend. I think we have reason to congratulate ourselves upon the success of this Club. The last meeting was almost better than any we had had before.

We are to have a Class-meeting tomorrow afternoon, to attend to the Wing Chang business; in the Institute room, for the proprietors of the Brattle have locked up the W. T. room and refused us admittance until back dues are paid.

Richetson received a very pleasant letter from you a day or two since, part of which he read to me. I never felt so amiably disposed towards him, as I did yesterday when he came up and told me he had been talking with the Pres. and that the old fellow said that if you would write on to the Faculty, he thought they might let you back by May recess or at least a fortnight before class-day, which would be a great comfort to you and your friends, of whom, be assured, not the least anxious for your return is

Yrs Aff. Chum G. L. Clary

Please remember me to your friends at home, and Write Soon

Cambridge, Mar. 19, '59

My dear Chum,

If you knew how offen I had said, "there, I will write to my Chum to-day", I believe you would have faith in my desire to write, whatever else you might think. I determined yesterday that I would not allow Monday to come without writing to you and thought I should get time then; but preparations for my Sunday Class, and for the O. K. meeting next Monday Evening so occupied my time that Sunday Evening has arrived and your letter is still unwritten.

I do not intend however, now I have got started, to allow anything to prevent its completion.

First and foremost, let me give an account of my stewardship. Business before pleasure. I received your letter enclosing a check for $107.54 about a week since and have obeyed your instructions thus far; I have paid all the bills specified in your letter Excepting Clary's, whom I have not yet been able to see. When I have paid him, there will be $21.06 remaining; which if I follow your instructions must be paid over to

(24)

If you have kept of a promise made for a letter of my activities in Cambridge, I fear I have been very negligent.

Bartlett & Co; or to Leaver rather, for Bartlett has left Cambridge and taken the place of Phillips in the firm of Phillips & Sampson. Leaver & a man named Francis, I think, have the University Books store now.

There is a bill due to Whitney & Brackett of $17.05, which you do not mention & think, that you might prefer to have that paid, with the balance remaining; I have concluded to wait till I hear from you again; before paying it over to Leaver on this term's account. After paying this there will be $4.00 remaining which might be given to Leaver as you mentioned; for there will be nothing to pay for Peirce's lectures as he has decided not to have them published this year; and has therefore assumed the responsibility of paying the reporter. Shall I send the receipted bills to you per mail or shall they await your return?

Henry Bond told me on Saturday that he was writing to you and had given you an account of the Elections. You will probably receive from your other friends, their account of the Exciting Contest and from hearing all sides, will get a pretty fair idea of the state of feeling prevalent in the class about the result. It is hardly necessary to say that I am heartily rejoiced at the Election, and feel confident that the men selected will do honor to the class and the college. I have a full report of the ballots for all the officers, as I was one of the tellers and if you care to see it, will copy it and send it to you by the next letter.

Yesterday the May Exhibition parts were given out. Don't you wish you could be here to listen to my eloquent address?

I had a most delightful vacation. So pleasant that I can hardly realize it was so long as six weeks. Henry Bond made me a visit and to entertain him, I departed from my rooted strictly so far as to go to a large party and an assembly. Then I spent a few days with him and a Sunday with Frank Balch, who also came to see me; and the last two days of the vacation, Ned Hooper spent with me, and we went to another large ball at Mrs. Lee's. So you see I have been very gay.

I sent the key of my room to the Gordy, so find a comfortable fire

towards you. I told him that every man in the Class had signified their desire to sign a petition to procure your return if it would do any good. Dr. Walker said that the Faculty knew that the whole class desired it, and that it would not be necessary or advisable for us to petition. He said that he would write to them that I had been authorized on the part of the class to inform him of their earnest desire that you should be allowed to return. He told me to write you from him that you had better write a letter to the Faculty, respectfully requesting them to allow your return after the May recess, or as soon after as they may see fit, and that if you did this, he thought that the Faculty would permit you to come at the recess or at farthest a week or so afterwards. I hope that you will do this, as the pleasantest part of the term will be during the few weeks before Class Day. Don't forget to say in your petition, if not at the recess as soon after as may be. Dr. Walker laid great stress on that. Write soon & soon & good prospects

J. H. Putnam

25

Cambridge, March 21st 57.

My dear Duncan,

If you were in Cambridge at this moment, you would no longer entertain a doubt as to our being able to finish both the Metaphysics & Political Economy. Prof. Bowen has returned and he recites to him six times a week. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays we recite Metaphysics, and Fridays, Saturdays & Mondays we recite Political Economy. By such frequent and long lessons we shall be able to go over a great deal of ground. Since I wrote last, several events of importance have taken place. The Mr. Vernon Ball and the Class Election of 1857 are the principal. I enclose you the result of the Election as stated in the Boston Courier. The statement is correct. There was considerable excitement and not a little canvassing, from the Friday before to Monday the day of the Election, but the nominations passed off quietly and quite

harmoniously. Stephenson was chosen Chairman of the meeting, Frank Swan Sunday, Cheney, Hatterille, and myself had charge of the ballots. The work which we three had to do, lasting as it did from two in the afternoon till nine in the evening, with a short recess for supper, was very onerous but we cheerfully performed it, and we had the satisfaction of knowing that the class were satisfied that the ballots were counted and the reports made fairly and honestly. The final result of the Elections excited some little surprise among a certain portion of the Class. Gray and Merrill were terribly disappointed but the excitement has now entirely died away, things have resumed their natural course, and there is more unity and cordiality in the Class than there has been since the Sophomore Year.

The Ball as you must have heard by the papers & from your correspondents was a decided success. The Theatre was filled to its utmost capacity notwithstanding the tickets were five dollars. The most fashionable people throughout New England were present and the scene was one of unrivalled magnificence. The Theatre was superbly decorated, the music was furnished by 80 musicians, the ladies were elegantly dressed, and never appeared to better advantage. Among those most conspicuous were Mrs. Hay & Miss Bowditch, Mrs. Chickering (formerly Miss Cabot you know) Miss Motley, Miss Gage, & Miss Hooper, Miss Winthrop, Miss Abbot of Lowell, Miss Bigelow the Misses Shelton, and I might name all the beautiful young ladies whom you know or have heard of. I do wish you could have been present, for all your friends were there. You don't know how much sympathy you may acquaintances express for you. I spent last evening at Mrs. Ridgeway's, and they will never forgive me if I do not procure permission for your return after the May Exhibition. I went to see the President in relation to it on Saturday. He seems to think that the Faculty are personally interested

27

Cambridge March 26/59

Dear Duncan

I heard by Ricketson the other day that you were thriving, although not very contented; you must however keep up a good heart and study hard, so that there will be no trouble about the "Degree".

Cambridge this term has as a general thing, been favored with quite pleasant spring weather but today is dismal enough. I suppose it is about time ~~of~~ for the Kentuckians to think of farming.

We have had the elections as I suppose you have already heard, and got most thoroughly waxed.

I however had the good-
fortune to be chosen Secretary,
and accordingly send you
a list of questions containing
hints for the preparation of
auto biographies, so that
you may get up a lengthy
one before you return.

You are among your friends
so that you can easily trace
your pedigree, and I ex-
pect to see one ~~ex~~tending
back to William the con-
queror. Be sure and have
it completed by Class Day
so that you can immediately
copy it into the Class-book.

I hope you will try
to return by the end of
the May recess so as to
enjoy the last three weeks
of college with us.

The 'Pudding' is thriving.
Last night they had a
play-night and every thing
went off finely. There were
lots of Honoraries present
and funny songs were sung
in great abundance.

I hope to hear from
you in a few days.

F. A. Swan.

St Louis,
March 27th 1869.

My dear Brother

It is now almost a week since I received your letter - which I fully intended to answer before this but have been so much occupied, that it has been impossible for me to write - I will give you my daily programme from which you will see that I am engaged all the time -

I rise at six - and by the time I am dressed - the prayer bell rings - after prayers - breakfast - after breakfast - I go

not elected - for Class day - I think it is too bad - I am very angry about it - I wish you would write and let me know who were choosen to officiate on Class day -

I must say good bye for the present - hoping to hear from you all very soon I remain with much love to all your devoted sister

Mary Duncan

P. S. I am glad to hear you all miss me. Dr & Mrs Webb send love - to all. Mr & Mrs Bell reached here Sunday morning.

out driving with Dr. Webb — who generally is through with his professional calls about 12 or 12½ — then I dress for dinner and some one is sure to call after dinner "Lem" & I walk until dark — then in the evening there are always some gentlemen — who call in — only twelve called on Saturday —

This evening is Mrs. Harris reception — which I shall probably attend — tell "Aunt Martha" I have seen her friend Mr. Pittman several times who inquired particularly for her the first time I saw him.

I attended a wedding in one of the Presbyterian churches on Thursday evening — and after it was over — spent the night by invitation with Mrs Shackelford, Mr. Shackelford was not at home. Mr Scott returned a few days since from Florida and since his return has been attacked with chills — the children were all well — Fissie & Willie appear to be very happy — I have not seen a great deal of them since I left the Hotel —

I received two letters from home this morning one from Father, the other from Mother — I will try and answer them by Thursday — You will have a fine opportunity for studying — now that all the young ladies have left Lexington — I infer from what you said in your letter — about returning to Cambridge — that you were

Cambridge March 29th 1859.

Dear Major

I am much obliged to you for your kind letter & must apologize for not answering it sooner. Last time I had a good excuse for delaying but this time I must confess that I do not know of any except my natural indisposition to write. I shall not attempt to console you for I feel confident that you have recovered from your fit of blues some time ago. that is to say if John Ricketson's letter has not miscarried I saw John the other day & we had a long discussion about your prospects which according to John's account are certainly not gloomy enough to warrant a fit of blues. As I suppose you have received his letter I shall

She evidently occupies your thoughts to a considerable degree & that is said to be a very good & sure sign. Your theory with regard to the connexion between brides-maids & old ones I must confess possesses the charm of novelty. I have always heard that one marriage makes many & it is unnecessary to say that the two theories do not coincide. I thought that you knew we were at Mrs Hoyt's or I should have informed you of it before. Yes we are settled there & a great improvement it is as you will easily believe upon the Donnell Chip-house. Even Ned Hooper can see the difference. I have now answered your letter & will just say a few words more & close. Of course there is nothing going on in Cambridge of any moment. Every thing except the weather is unchanged - that however does nothing else but change. Lowell has gotten out a set of questions to direct us in writing our lives & as I suppose you will have a very good opportunity of doing this at home I inclose you the list of questions. I believe I have now said about all. Give my best regards to all the family including Miss Higgins of course & believe me as ever

Your affectionate friend
C. W. Horne.

P.S. Hite says he is much obliged to you for your kind message & wishes to have his best regards transmitted in return.

say no more on the subject. I am not altogether pleased with the elections. In the first place I think John Gray would have done much better than Balch, even granting that B would write a much finer oration. John would have delivered it ten times as well, & that is a matter of the very greatest importance. I can very easily understand & sympathize with you in your feelings with regard to the disappointed candidate for head marshal. Another officer with whom I am not satisfied is Stephenson as one of the C. Day Com. What possible qualification he has for the position I must say that I am at a loss to see. I always thought that the Com should consist of the ladies men & I hardly think he answers the description. The C. Com have given the job of photographing '59 to Whipple & Black. G. Lawrence & Baty have been taken as specimens & I must say that the samples are the best photographs I ever saw. I do not know whether they intend to take more than one of the large size of every fellow, and even if they do I have some doubt whether they will be much better than the common size. As soon as W & B finish some of the small ones I will try to get a specimen or two & send them to you & you can then make up your mind on the subject better. It will be time enough to get them two months hence & I hardly think we shall be able to get them at all in less than six weeks. I am beginning to think that there isn't so much of a joke in that matter of the future Mrs H. F. D.

Cambridge March 31st
[1859]

Dear Duncan,

I should be ashamed to write to you now after so long a silence - if I had not one of the best excuses in the world for that silence - viz. health. I don't think I have written two letters for months - I would not imply that I am sick but that I have to be very careful of myself - We believe begin to miss you - in Cambridge here I miss your conversation pretty much in the Italian room for there is no one who can quote so easily as I can get the next one to read in my future I suppose you know by this time by heart the contents of all those books you indulge in to so regardless an extent. Take care of yourself and let me like Chas. Lamb sign myself

Yours affectionately uncle
A. W. Fuller

I not been summoned to Sophia's as yet —

I miss your conversation pretty much in the Italian room for there is no one who can quote so easily as I can get the next one to read in my future I suppose you know by this time by heart the contents of all those books you indulge in to so regardless an extent. Take care of yourself and let me like Chas. Lamb sign myself

Yours affectionate uncle
A. W. Fuller

I not been summoned to Sophia's as yet —

and are quite ready for your return – I wonder how you were pleased with the elections? I suppose of course you knew all about them and that all the literary offices were taken by the O.K. This would have been just the term for you – Easy work and not much of that besides a quantity of fun – Our O.K. meetings are as pleasant as ever – You know I suppose that Chaney was elected & Frank Abbot is prep & Motte Secretary – Fred. Hamilton has left for what reason I do not know – We only got that one speech out of him – Frank Balch has finished – You tell me to think of you as hard at work – studying – I think it would be a stretch of the imagination of which I am incapable but I can imagine you shorting sicking – pounding on anything of that sort which is refined & pleasant – Where are our fast horse that we know so much about? Well – what do you think of our friend Miss Benedict's staying in Europe for 2 or three years – A whole crowd of folks went down to see the off – I am sure they wished her a profitable & pleasant sojourn – I hope her absence will not cause much diminution in your weight