may do no harm and may even tend to enliven a conversation in a pleasant manner but I think it never does any good.

Now while you are at home, is a good time for you to begin and try to break yourself of it and when you return here you have an opportunity offered you to create a new impression and in a a great measure to cover up the old impressions for the latest impressions I think are often the strongest. I beg of you to think of this seriously, and to forgive me for giving you ~~xxxx~~ a long sermon, which I had no intention of doing when I sat down to write and on the next page will try to give you some news.

Believe me Truly your sincere & aff. friend and sly servant
Henry M. Boutwell

P.S. Cin. 9th if any service to you in regard to your appointment on Clerk Dept. in any way I hope in manner, if so I shall be most happy.

Groton April 5th/59

My Dear Sam.

Having a few leisure moments at my command this morning, I will write a little scrawl in answer to your very acceptable but as usual very brief epistle. I will however, relieve you my dear friend, the necessity of thinking, that either in the commencement or some part of your letters to your humble servant, you must pay some flattering compliments to him; for whether they are sincere or not they are rarely acceptable or pleasant to the receiver, and more often

in my own case, terribly sickening and irksome. But on the other hand, if you have any fault to find with me or if you think I am either doing, or have done wrong, concerning anything or anybody, I will always thank you for letting me know of it. For I think it one of the greatest privileges of friendship, that we may be allowed to commune with each other freely, on all subjects; and I think we derive or ought to derive, great benefit therefrom. And while I am on this subject, will you forgive me if I venture to make an earnest request to you, that you will try to break yourself of the habit of (perhaps now it may be unconsciously) telling white lies; I am aware that I have frequently spoken to you of this disagreeable habit of yours and I should not have alluded to it again, but for the fact that I know that it is not only unpleasant to others, but that it has really caused you to make yourself unpleasant and I might even say disagreeable, to many people. And it is especially disagreeable to people who are strangers to you, because if they are in the least timid or bashful it places them in a very awkward position: they can't tell whether you are in fun or earnest, and I am sure that I cannot always tell, whether you are in fun or earnest. You must see then how dangerous a habit it is; carried only a very little way, it

about here in or as near to us, as Boston, for at least a fortnight beforehand, as the Prex, intimates you can. But don't do anything rash that would be likely to take away your degree. I am glad you are pleased with the Class Elections. Let me know when and how soon you mean to return, and where you mean to station yourself until you are allowed to return.

I have had little to do with your young lady friends lately, & so I can tell nothing about them except that they are all flourishing as far as I know. Charley Channey, Will and other classmates wish to be remembered to Henry T. I must

April 6th 1859

When you see this new date, you will probably feel relieved at once, if you have had the patience to wade through my friendly lecture, as you probably will call it; I am not sure that it may not disturb you so much, that you will tear it up immediately before having read it through.

Now for something that will interest you, if I can find it!

In the first place, let me thank you for that very fragrant and pretty slip of lemon scented verbena, which you kindly enclosed.

But my dear friend, what a rash fellow you were to direct my letter to the "Care of Dr Walker Pres.t of Harvard Coll."; for if the Post Master had used his usual stupidity, it would have gone

into Dr Walker's for which might have made more trouble for you, but as it happened, it only appeared very Duncanlike and absurd.

The principal talk among the fellows now, are the photographs, which are now being taken on tinted paper, so as to give a light instead of a dark background, which is generally considered to be a great improvement. Only a few of the fellows have already sat for their pictures, and most of those that I have seen, have been excellent, especially those of Geo. Lawrence and Baty Blake. Your humble servant with several of his classmates, thinks of visiting Messrs Whipple & Black, on next Saturday. Tomorrow is Fast Day and those of us who are so fortunate as to have homes near by, leave our beloved Alma Mater for twenty four hours at least. The new Catalogue for the second term of 58-59 has just made its appearance, in which I see that Old Copby is made Assistant Prof. in Greek.

Have you received a circular from our Class Secretary (Mark Swan) requesting you to write your life &c; if not you probably will soon.

I am very sorry to learn from Pickeron, that you will not be allowed to return to Cambridge until the Saturday before Class Day. The Prex. however seems to be disposed to have you return in the May Vacation, was it in his power to authorize you to, and I trust you will be

Cambridge April 11. 1857

Dear Sir

Your petition was considered by the Faculty at their last meeting. As you have learned, I presume, from your schoolmate Ricketson, they did not feel at liberty to let you return at the time proposed. The most they can do is to ask. Come you to come back on the Saturday before Class Day. As no new facts have come to light, the discipline of the College requires that they should do for an hour to

their original vote.

When you do return, I hope you will be careful to bring the required certificate of having been over the studies of the class faithfully with a private tutor. After all, the great thing is, that you should be able to graduate satisfactorily with your class, & this I most earnestly hope you will do.

With the most friendly regards

I remain yours truly

H. F. Jackson Esq

James Walker

to say something more but as he did not think it in accordance with his dignity to write it, he wished me to say that if you should happen to be here in the vicinity of Boston two weeks before Class Day, that is one week before the specified time that it will be advisable for you to avoid Cambridge. In other words he meant to say that if you came two weeks or so before, he and the Faculty would wink at your return provided you absented yourself from Cambridge. How characteristic of the Rex that is! The Class Supper will come off immediately after the May Recess a little more

Cambridge, April 14/59.

Dear Duncan;

It was my intention to have written to you several days ago, but various things have conspired to prevent it. You have heard before this, both from Henry Bond and from Dr Walker, that the decision of the Faculty was unfavorable to your hopes, and to those of your classmates in relation to your return. The President himself was surprised and disappointed at the decision. A member of the Faculty told me that the President himself pressed the petition, and spoke very earnestly in favor of granting it.

When I handed the petition to Dr. Walker he was much pleased at it frank tone, and plainly told me that he would do all in his power. I told him that if a petition from the members of the Class would have a good effect, that I would cheerfully carry the paper around and get the signature of every man, but he said that the Faculty knew that the Class were desirous to have you return and that a petition was entirely unnecessary. I regret as do all your many friends in and out of College, that the result was in opposition to our wishes. The President wishes me to write you, and said that he himself should write that the Faculty refused the petition not because they disliked you, for the very contrary was true, but because it would be establishing a bad precedent to grant it, as every man who might be suspended would ask that his punishment might be commuted. I myself do not admit the force of this reasoning, as only those men who happened to be suspended during the 2d term Senior, would have your weare for coming back. The Prex says that he shall be happy to welcome you on Saturday morning before Class day. My his much he probably wrote you. He wishes

new beauty from it. After dinner this afternoon I strolled down to see how the new Gymnasium was progressing. Was astonished to see with what expedition they set to work. It is fast rising and will be finished by June, I think. I saw the plans in the tool-house and should think it would be quite ornamental when finished.

I believe all your bills are now settled and I have a surplus on hand of about $4. which with the receipted bills are subject to your further commands. Wh. & Br. were very positive that that chair was $15. not $13. as you wrote and the rest of the bill was for towel-stand, painted carpet etc. I paid him the full amount and if you think there is any mistake, you can settle it, in June. Chess is all the rage in our class, I wish you were here to beat some of the fellows. I know only the moves, to do not play, though don't know where I should get the time, if I wanted to. Several fellows have asked me to remember them to you, but as I told one of them, I shant, for it would take up the whole letter to mention their names, you wont need their names for you know your friends here and may tell ~~please forbidden~~ assume none of them for off your my respects to Mr fan;

Cambridge, Apr. 12. '59.

Dear Chum,

I suppose you have heard ere this of the fate of your petition. I think you have good cause now to be truly indignant; that is, if John's stories are reliable. If the President really advised you to petition, he ought to have felt nearly certain that the Faculty would grant your request, before encouraging you in the way he did.

I hope you will not let your indignation prevent you from returning to this neighborhood if not to the room, at least a week before your time is fully up, and you must come determined to enjoy the few days that will remain, with double zest.

Believe me Yrs Aff. Cheers
E. Chaney.

We must have Class-day pleasant at all Events, and if the weather is propitious, I trust all clouds of disappointment will be cleared away by that time, and we shall all be united in our support of our really excellent choice.

Fellows are very busy, looking up rooms for the day; there are to be several groups of fellows, who want to invite nearly the same people. I suppose you made your arrangements for the day before you left. Ned Hooper is going to unite with Huntington, Keighler & Loring, to take the four rooms in our old Entry of Hollis, on the upper story. I suppose the rest of the fellows at your Club table are going to unite. I do not mean to invite many, twenty five or thirty perhaps, and so shall have to seek another room.

The Class Committee have engaged Whipple & Black as photographists and the fellows are just in the middle of having their photographs taken. I have seen a dozen or more, of the large size, very nicely finished. Thought them very good likenesses, though some were much flattered. Richetson brought one of yours over from Charlestown, which is almost the best I have seen.

Have you heard of the new engagement? It came out last Friday. Prof. Cooke and Miss Mary Huntington. Suppose you will not be much surprised, as people had already begun to talk about them before you left.

The new organ is finished and put up at last. It is a most imposing affair. Not in looks however, being very modest looking, but from the endless number of pipes and tubes used in its construction I am sure there must be an immense amount of reserved force in it somewhere. It has created considerable attention among the students. Every morning brings out some

April 14, 1859

than three weeks before Closing. It is an occurrence from which all anticipate great pleasure, and I hope that you will be present. The Class depend upon it.

I suppose that the President mentioned in his last letter the importance of your passing your examinations well. The Faculty will be as easy with you as possible, but the Committee you know are a check upon their leniency. However I think that your degree will be all ready for you. Bowen & Wheeler, Political Economy, and the Constitutional Text

Book are the studies for the term, and we shall have to be pretty carefully prepared upon them and also upon Greek.

In conclusion, I must again express my sincere regret, that our efforts to do more that obdurate body, the Faculty, were crowned with so little success.

However hoping to see you just after the May Recess in Boston and soon after in Cambridge and hoping to hear from you in a few days I am,

Your aff. friend,

John H. Ricketson.

In your letters to your class mates please do not mention the time at which the supper is to come off. On a mere reflection you will see the reason why it must be kept secret.

Please excuse poor penmanship, as I have written in haste with a horrid pen

Cambridge. Apr 22nd.
[1859]

Dear Major,

In the midst of a driving North Easter as usual, I am writing to your honored self. I have not a word of news to communicate nor a moment of time to use for communicating it. But my conscience smote me when I looked at the date of your last letter and saw how long I had delayed writing.

Johnny Goodwin still lives, and the faculty as a body are in a flourishing condition.

We are sitting for our pho-

tographs. None have been taken better than yours.

I am glad on your account you are away from Cambridge for a few weeks. The excitement here is so intense that I fear it would be too severe for your nerves. Only think of the immense gratification of going to prayers to hear the dear Plummer, the maddening joy of Bowen's Ethics six times a week, and the tremendous enthusiasm manifested to hear Torrey's deep and learned remarks on Hallam's Constitutional history.

The Pudding Club is all that keeps us alive. That is flourishing. Wetmore has Cram's place and serves up the Plummer semi-monthly in filthy messes to an admiring audience, exhibiting his proportions in all their disgusting features with immense success.

The class of '59 are firm converts to the scripture doctrine that "much study is a weariness to the flesh" and are continually in a state of loaf. The number of privates that some of them carry about in consequence almost defies enumeration, and are in direct defiance of the law of nature which gives all men (except eunuchs) an equal proportion. My chum wishes to be remembered. Write soon to your,

Disconsolate class-mate,
Torrey.

Cambridge April 24th 1859.

Dear Major

I shall not apologize for delaying to answer your kind letter for if I recollect aright you took about as much time in considering about the answer to my last. so that there is nothing left for blame on either side. I am sure that you are not under any obligation to me for keeping you posted on Cam. affairs. for if it were not for the pleasure of hearing from you occasionally I am afraid I should be a demoralized poor reporter. I have been in to Whipple's twice to see if I could get a few specimens of the small sized photographs. but as yet I have not succeeded in getting any. I've told Forney wrote these questions on the blackboard & told us to find out the best way we could. We recite three times a week to Bowen in Polit. Econ. & three times in that other stupid work of his. In the Polit. Econ. we have advanced to the 200th p or thereabouts. The Metaphysics & Ethics has turned out so stupid that I gave it up several weeks ago. and do not know where the lesson is. I imagine however that we have got to the 820th p. from where Boggs left us. We take about ten pages at a lesson in both books. I have now told you all I know about the lessons. If there is anything more tell me in your next & I will inquire. I have already dissuaded Father & Mother from making their appearance in Cambridge on Class-day. Why they should take the trouble to come is more than I can imagine. I have now answered your letter to the best of my ability & also got to the end of my paper. I mean my paper and so must close. Give my best regards to your Sister Mary if she has returned & remember me most kindly to the rest of the Family. I remain as ever

Your affectionate friend & class mate
C. W. Horne.

P.S. Bill sends his regards

Mr H. T. Duncan
Lexington
Ky.

me yesterday that he would have some of them done before next Saturday. If he has I shall send you two or three of them then. The price of them will be fifteen cents each. You need not take this as a hint for repayment for I expect to get them for nothing on explaining the circumstances. I am sorry to say that your knowledge of that racally set of beings yclept the Faculty is only too correct. For my part I don't see how Prex came to say what he did to John unless he had good reason to believe that the petition would be granted. I saw John a day or two after his interview with Prex & I thought that it was a sure thing and no mistake & was in consequence very unpleasantly disappointed, at the result.

How soon are matters to be brought to a crisis & the important question popped? I shall expect to hear all about it, so as to profit by your experience when my time comes if it ever does. Now for the studies. As you know we have only two this term. In History we have been through Shepperd's book from the 53 to 257 pp. with the exception of the Chapter on the executive departments in which we omitted secs 465-6-7-9 470-1-4-5-7-9 480-1-3-4-5 9 490-3-4-5-9 500-1-2. We have had only about four & five lessons in Hallam at the rate of 5 or 6 pp a lesson commencing at Chap II. Before taking up Hallam we had two miscellaneous lessons in Fonblanque. and another about the English kings from William the Conq to Victoria Date of accession - Right to the Crown - Relation to immediate Predecessors - The lines & Houses.

Cambridge April 30. 1859

Dear Sir

There are no difficulties in the way of your return except those of the regular examination, & a compliance with the usual forms, among which the most important is the certificate of your teacher. You may be sure that every member of the Faculty will be sincerely desirous that every thing may pass off agreeably &

satisfactorily to all parties, so that you may have no further trouble. If I expressed myself strongly in my last note, it was from my anxiety on your account, & on your father's account, that all things might go well.

If you reach Boston before the time named in my last note, be sure not to come over to Cambridge until Saturday noon. I would manage it so as not to pass more than one night in Boston. You will have time afterwards to see a good deal of your kinsmen.

Yours truly

James Walker

H. T. Dunlap Jr

At Home May 6th/57

Dear Henry

I am truly sorry to disappoint You on to morrow. I have a very Severe Cut on my foot which is very painfull. I Can neither Bear my Boot or Shoe with any Comfort. Send me word what day will Suit Your Convenience (any day next week will suit me.)

Your friend
John Rodes

H. T. Duncan Esq
St. Louis

Per
Jim

Boonville
April 25th 1864

I received a letter dear brother, a few days since, in which you said I did not seem disposed to write home - I do not think you have any more cause for complaint on that subject, than myself. I have written home - every time an opportunity presented itself - Visiting as I have been near a large city - like Centralia - my time would consequently be very much occupied -

I am in Boonville - at last

and tomorrow is the wedding day - there is a Miss Sloan Miss - Sting Emily - who is to be one of her bridesmaids - every one is busy to day - and as soon as I finish this letter - I am to help Mrs Brand - I reached here on Saturday morning - accompanied by Mr Singleton - who has been very polite - and kind in - going to St Louis for me - and bringing me here - I expect to leave St Louis next Monday for home - but may not leave until Tuesday - Aunt Mary - returns home with me - She told me not to tell you all - but you need not let her know that I told Mrs Brand has a ~~handsome~~ beautiful place - here - ~~and~~ the view from her piazza is beautiful - as they are waiting for me down stairs I shall not write any more to day with much love to all - I am your loving and devoted sister &

Mary Duncan.

and directly, and though, I am sure, it did not deserve the commendation which some have been kind enough to bestow upon it; yet I dont think I disgraced myself and on the whole, am glad I spoke it. Putting that aside; it was the pleasantest Exhibition day, that I ever passed. One of the pleasantest features of the day, was an organ concert, at four in the afternoon, in the new Chapel. There were a great many there, and the music was Exceedingly fine. Ulbert came out from Boston, and under his hands we first realized what a fine instrument the new organ really is; for Levi alias Hemer, is not quite master of it.

We had a meeting of the O.K. last Evening Elected Schuler a member, and resolved to perpetuate the society. We have also decided to have a supper sometime before the 20th of this month, at which, I am to make a speech, when the "absent members" are referred to, and Each of the other members has some part to perform. You must write at once and tell me what to say.

The photographing is going on fast. Black was out here a day or two since, taking the buildings. Boating has begun, I have been out several times. The Harvard crew, will probably be; Ellison, Wales, Cromwell, Abbot, Forbes, & Hickney. The new gymnasium is nearly finished on the outside. Hangar is still giving lessons here. I believe all your friends are well and am sure they want to see you. I met Dyer at a sociable the other night and he was astonished to hear of your misfortune. He wants to be remembered to you, as also does Mr. Newell & others, for memory to mention. Write soon and I will answer more quickly.

Please give my regards to your family and believe me your Affectionate Cheem Geo. Chaney.

40

Cambridge, May 10, 59

My dear Cheem,

I was most glad and much relieved to get your pleasant letter, for I feared your Expectations of a favorable action on the part of the Faculty, might have been too much raised. I have tried, all along, to be just; to look at the whole business with a mind as free from bias as I could, and have felt that you did deserve suspension. I could not see how they could have avoided giving you that, at least; but when, I take into consideration that this is the last term of your College Course; that men are very rarely suspended then; and that you only ask a few weeks with your class, I am really "riled"; to use a vulgar but Expressive word. You need'nt be afraid of your classmates' forgetting you; I often have Enquiries about you and hear wishes Expressed that you could come back sooner. If my mind were not so

PAGE(S) TEMPORARILY UNAVAILABLE

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

is enjoying a vast deal in art as well as in his profession. He has travelled through Holland and for the first time in his life the treasures of art in the Dutch School have been revealed to his admiring gaze. I wish you could hear his enthusiastic delight. He purposes remaining in Vienna during May then going through Switzerland to Paris and le-

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15 Winthrop Place
May 20. 1859

As you have never yet told me how I should begin a note to you, I have still to leave it in an indefinite condition, for I cannot make up my mind to say "Dear Mr Duncan" but a truce to joking, and let me tell you how glad I was to find, yesterday on my

return from Salem, a
note from you. I to tell
you the truth I had been
longing to write to you to
have the pleasure of telling
you a piece of news. The
engagement of our young
friend Emma Lewis to
Mr Arthur Cheney.
It was only announced
to me on Tuesday evening
so that you very soon gave
me an opportunity of send-
ing on the good news. I say
Good for I trust it will be
one of those happy engage-
ments that will promote
the spiritual growth of both
parties. How strange that
you should meet Mr Todd,
What is he doing now? The
Dr was a friend to him
in an hour of need and
I rejoice to find he speaks
gratefully of him. I did not
know he was in South Carolina
Dr Bowditch was in Vienna
when he last wrote and

Cambridge May 22.
Sunday [1859]

Dear Brother Henry,
No church for us to day; the rain has been coming down in torrents all the morning & to this, to us disagreeable state of things, you may ascribe the pleasure of an epistle from your affectionate sister.
Two or three ~~days~~ weeks ago I thought Spring, or rather Summer, had really come — for a few days it was warm enough to have the windows open, and to sit on the steps in the

evening, but to-day I feel as if I should not be uncomfortable with furs.

We attended the last exhibition and enjoyed it very much; we were very much pleased with your friend Mr Chase who had a part, at off course you know, and never having seen him before we were agreeably disappointed, — why didn't you ever bring him to see us?

I have a great piece of news to tell you — unless Lizzie has already informed you through Mary, — Cordelia Lewis is engaged — the happy man is Arthur Cheney a cousin of Mary Charles, very good, pleasant, and better than all, rich, her engagement ring is a diamond the size of a tenpenny piece, isn't that grand?

Mr Richelson said you were expected in Boston two weeks before Class-day; if that is the case, you will be here three weeks from last Friday — how splendid, be sure then, my dear friend, that you may depend upon a joyous welcome from us all, and particularly from

your faithful Sister
Clara

doubtful. Your rose has bloomed the same since you left us in the library chandelier, one of the servants knocked it down a few days since and when I told her to be more careful that you just is there she answered oh I remember him a comely looking fellow. But if you do not come soon the June roses will make us forget you. Write me when you are coming. We are going out to Cambridge to hear the class sermon on the 19th of June.

Dear Mr. Duncan

My wife has carried this with her to Richmond & back to Mt but she always forgets to post it in the right time. We had a very pleasant time in Richmond & Washington & Mrs W. was well pleased with what she saw of the South. We often speak of your return next month, & we hope your father will come on with all the family. Give my regards to all of them, & say how glad I shall be to see them. I hope you have had an agreeable time, & that you will all be ready to take the degree at Harvard. Yours truly

Charlestown May 7th 1859

43.

My Dear Mr Duncan

Have you forgotten the existence of your aged Grand Mother? Or do you think she has let you pass from her memory? I have been overpowered of late with household duties or should have written to you long ere this. I have not yet come my indignation towards the Faculty for not hastening your return but they are a hardened race. "Cousin Sarah" left us a month or more ago and I assure you we have been homesick ever since she left us. I wish she was to be with us always. I hope your family are coming on when you do. I would like to meet to know your parents, of course being your Grand Ma is a natural feeling. When you write me let me know your plans. Remember me to your sister. Has she been foolish enough to get interested in any gentlemen?

We have been thinking of going to Richmond this week to attend the reception of the De Moleys that is to take place in that city, but Mr Brown is frightened off from the point by the hot weather we have had here within the last few days. I am glad he has decided not to go. Shall you be here to the class supper? John Bickerton passed Sunday here and was full of that event; he hopes so much that you will be there. Since I began this letter five days have passed without my finishing it showing you how much occupied I must be or how idle I am. We have decided to go to Princeton as I should say Richmond and we start to day leaving "Cousin Sarah" to take care of the children. They are so fond of her and she was so kind as to come up again that I feel quite easy in leaving home. With many kind remembrances I must bid you adieu hoping to write you a longer letter next time.

Yours sincerely E Brown.

Washington May 26th

If I were not the most amiable of women I should be angry with my husband for not sending this scrawl to you before this time he answers me very impudently that he did not think it worth the sending. We have been to Richmond and are now on our return stopping at Washington but leave tomorrow. We had a grand time at Richmond, a horse fitable race one they say? It is reported to day that young Prince has been shot. It is a pity they have such a prosperity to show at the South. We have just had a reception at the Presidents to day which has been very imposing. The Messrs Rangers in their fine bands and the great room was well filled with the messing with a few ladies scattered here and there among them gave a good effect. I have had a nice letter to day from "Cousin Sarah" telling me what a good housekeeper she is and how well the children are. There appears to be a late gentleman quite interested in her, what a pity young girls cannot keep free till they are 25 years old, but he is a noble fellow and deserves to succeed which may he

lover of German as I think he will, I should not like to have him find me entirely unable to sympathize with him; then too if I do master it, it will be pleasant for Lizzy I know to have me ready to listen to her on the subject. How tantalizing the last part of your note! was talking of swelling in strawberries & cream to a poor wretch who has scarcely seen the sun for ten days and as for strawberries they are a myth.

May 20, 1859

Lizzy is coming to London by the last of June. In July I hope she will join her Father and Aunt in a trip to Scotland and Ireland. I will not that is delightful to talk of them. You will be glad I am sure to hear that she is very much better than when she left me. She desires to be kind by remembrance to you in many of her letters and wishes she could welcome

you back to Massachusetts
Apropos to that Why will
you not come on rather
earlier and stay with
us for a few days before
returning to "dear Havana"
so as to recover from the
fatigue of travelling and
enter the ranks again
rested & refreshed? I shall
only be too glad to have
you come. Our family
is very small now
and though not lonely
we are very much alone
I see Miss Hilby very
frequently as she very
kindly is aiding me in
studying German. Don't
laugh. Perhaps you have
heard that Capt. Cook's
father learnt his alpha
bet when he was eighty
for the sake of reading his
son's voyages. Should he
do come back a devoted

the expense will not be great say $50.00 a piece although I suppose you are not particular in that respect.

As the invitations have to be sent soon if you have a friend to send me a list of those you wish to invite I can send the tickets for you.

Hoping soon to see you once more with us I remain in haste Ever your friend Baily Blake

Cambridge
Friday June 3d
1859

Dear Henry

I ought to have written you some time ago but as you know my habits in this respect & as I have only written my Sister once in two years I hardly need apologize

Charley Stone shows me the letter he recd

in which you men-
tioned that if our
table was going to
join in a spread
on class-day you
would be happy to
come in otherwise you
will not indulge

Ned Hooper having
previously joined
with Loring & others
for class-day & Charley
Howe not caring to
engage the rest of us
together with Nell
Alves & Jack Gray
have made the nec-
essary arrangements
& I have had your
name printed with
those of the rest on
the cards of invitation
which are being print-
ed relying on the
assertion in your note
which sounded absolute
There being 6 of us

Cambridge June 6th 1859.

Dear Major

Notwithstanding your injunction to the contrary I have delayed writing nearly as long as you did before accomplishing your last. I may say however that it was not my intention by any means. The explanation of my dilatoriness may be found in the fact that I have been away from Cambridge on my usual letter writing day i.e. Sunday and could not make up my mind to write on any other. So much for that & now to answer your letter. In the first place then I have given the order at Whipple's & you will probably find the photographs all selected when you get here. When I

received your letter & most certainly did envy you your strawberries but now I have got rid of that feeling inasmuch as they have made their appearance here too. The original plan was for the clubitables fellows to give a spread together on C. Day but was modified by d'Hauteville joining the Pork crowd in Rumrill's Cutting, Vincent & Richardson, & Red Stripe joing in with a select set of righteous men & Porne absolutely refusing to have anything to do with it. John Gray, and Pel Ames have joined with the rest of our fellows, so the crowd will be Duncan, Blake, Hayden Lawrence, Gray & Ames. Baby told me the other day that he had written to you about it & I suppose has told you pretty much all about it so that I need say no more on the subject.

[illegible]

all, & wishes me to give you this particular message — that she intends to give a party on Tuesday Eve'g the 21st inst & she desires & de-pends upon seeing you all on the occasion; & in this I most heartily join.

Give my own best regards to all your family & believe me,

yours truly

G. Washington Warren

42 Court Street,

Boston, June 9 1859.

Dear Sir:

I received your letter yesterday & intend-ed to answer it at once. It was quite unnecessary for you to make any explanations to combat any impressions I might re-ceive from reading a newspaper account of the matter to which you refer between Gen'l Coombs & your father. Any one who knows your father's staid & dignified demeanor, & also the impetuous Character of Gen. Coombs would

readily make all proper allowances. In fact, I did not see the account, as it was published here during my absence at Richmond. I heard it alluded to on my return once or twice; & I stated to those who conversed about it, that I knew both the parties, & that I was quite certain that your father must have had sufficient provocation, & that no imputation whatever could be put upon him. It is altogether useless to attempt to correct any account of this sort in the papers. If let alone it is forgotten within a week, & men of solid reputation & worth very soon live it down.

I have just attended two wedding visits in Charleston. One of Mrs. Chas. H. Hard, the new wife of the Gentleman formerly with me; & the other of Mrs. White who yesterday was the pretty Miss Lawrence of C. We are also enjoying the new Commers at the Navy Yard — Capt. Hudson & Family who are very pleasant & social people.

We are expecting to see you here the latter part of next week; as I understand the examinations of your Class commence on the 16th inst. I hope your Father & Mother, and sisters also will come on with you. Mrs. Warren desires to be remembered to you

Lex June 11th 1859

My Dear Son

All are well — There are in the midst of excitement growing out of the expected duel between Mr Davis and Simms — Every effort will be made to prevent it — I was at a small meeting of Davis friends at the Phoenix Hotel last night Mr Crittenden Gov Letcher Dr E Dudley Judge Buckner and my self — All of whom are so = licitous to stop the affair If It can be done honorably But It is a good deal complicated by the Correspondence There was some movement to last night to convert the parties to avoid It — I brought Davis out

home with me about mid-night – This morning he is in the Rogers woods – practising pistol shooting – with Dudley He knows nothing of the use of arms – has not probably shot a pistol before for 20 years – Mr Davis second – Col Thos Cottenden has not arrived from Louisville – but expected by first train upon his arrival – all preliminaries will be arranged for the fight – Col Mitchell of St Louis is the second of Simms I trust that the affair can yet be adjusted – the idea of killing off such a man as Lyonette Davis – by the Democracy is perfectly awful

You must not permit any thing I write you about it to find its way to the press

I will keep you advised of the progress of things

All send you much love

I trust you have got in, in time – though I fear the examination of your class is over before you get home – as I see by a letter from your Father that the time had been changed & I am surprised that you were not notified of it by the faculty, in time – I hope it will not embarrass your graduation

Yr Loving

Yr devoted Father

W. T. Duncan

Lexington
June 16th 54

My dear Mr. Duncan,

I have made up my mind to leave here a week from tomorrow if possible. I should want you to do a favour for me which will make me everlastingly your debtor.

I fear that Mr. Indor will be aware that I have left town some time or speak to me when I meet her she may probably say something to that effect and as my temper is not any the mildest the consequence

My plans for so uncertain an age I have felt quite unwell for the last week but I am something better today.

Annie Brand is to have a large party on Thursday week next for Emily there are two hundred invitations out I do not think I shall go tho' Annie says I must.

Mr. Garrett Davis has got into some trouble with a Capt. King and I believe the consequence of it will be a duel. Mr. D. was here on Friday and spent the day in the woods practising, the spectators say he did not know how to handle a pistol - so his chances are very poor - poor fellow

Write to Dr. Duncan what he thinks of my plan
Write I suppose he will tell you
Write to Gov. Wood & let him know this if
Write to Mr. Duncan
Write to Mr. Hill

Write
Note

may be a breach between us which could never be made up. Will you try to see her if it will not inconvenience you very much and explain to her that the children have not been able to study for some time and that your father wished to send them to School next winter. These are the real facts of the case. My private reasons for wanting to leave I do not think there is any necessity to speak of and it is no violation of the truth to keep those reasons to myself. Dear Mr. D- I feel I am asking you for a very great favour - but I do not think that it would be wrong for you to do it & I know it would be of considerable service to me. Several persons here say they will try to get me a situation in these parts next winter - I heard yesterday of a Lady who wants a governess to go to Louisiana in the winter and as she spends her summers in Lexington I should have the opportunity of seeing you all occasionally which I need not tell you would afford me infinite pleasure. but as I am not a favourite of fortune I fear that such a pleasure is not in store for me - The Lady will not be here for several weeks. and she may then have somebody engaged - so I do not think it worth while to change

Cincinnati June 21st 1859

My Dear Son

I am gratified to have it in my power to inform you that the affair between Mr Davis & Simms has (this morning) been amicably & honorably settled by the decision of friends to whom it was submitted. The gentleman to whom it was referred for settlement was Gen Morehead (on the part of ~~Mr Johnson~~ ~~Pt St~~ Mr Davis) and Mr R M Johnson pst Scott County on the part of Capt Simms

This result is most happy. The inequality in age positions & ~~rank~~ have made a hostile meeting disgraceful to the Civilization of the age. The Idea of sacrificing such a man as Garnett Davis now almost 60 years of age. One of the few remaining statesmen of that pure & patriotic school to which Clay & Webster belonged & led. In these times of political degeneracy we have too few such men as Davis left to have them taken out & shot down

I ~~kept~~ all well day before yesterday I have my Dear Son never in the course of my life felt a more painful anxiety than

than I have while this affair (for now a week) was uncertain & doubtful in its termination and threatened until last evening to be hostile. Fortunately the seconds finally made choice of was two distinguished army gentlemen — Col Mitchell of St Louis & Mr Triplett of U S A — an accomplished gentleman have every qualification needful for such an affair — of fine intelligence, clear & discriminating judgement — quick perception — and always ready to promote a pacific adjustment — But the urgent interposition of friends — has staid probably a fatal termination

Davis's bearing has been characteristic of himself — In one thing which I will communicate to you — He informed me that he went to the field — His fixed purpose was not to fire at his adversary — that that few men would do — Altho he has the courage of a Cæsar — and would place himself in any peril — to him the Idea of slaying his fellow man in cold blood was revolting — This fact is for yourself alone

I hope you have got through satisfactorily

Your devoted Father

S T Duncan

Brewerton

Lexington June 27th 1859

My dear Son

Yours of the 22nd is at hand — I am greatly gratified to learn the result of your examination & that you are restored to your position in your class — which I presume fixes as a certainty your graduation I hope you have had a pleasant Class day & that your spread went off successfully that you enjoyed yourself & we shall soon have the pleasure of seeing you at home immediately after commencement — The trip & grouse hunt comes off in August — in the mean time spend your time among your friends in Boston & vicinity — a trip of a few days to New York will be agreeable to you no doubt

The Box of Jewelry from Ball Black & Co has arrived — The pair of bracelets for Mary — do not match one is ~~broader~~ wider than the other at least one chain the Article for Ell is too extravagant for a child of her age — Ells watch is returned in an Old Case, but the heat & new Shell Case that it was taken out in which had a place for extra Cristals & also had a new watch spring in some place — If you return through N York Call at Ball Blacks & Co & get the proper watch Case above described

Higgins left this morning for Boston — I am rejoiced at it — She is a woman of uncontrolable temper and sulky beyond endurance Her persistent & obstinate bearing towards your Mother has put me out of all patience — and has lowered her in my estimation much — and my only request is that I had not disciplined her upon the occasion of her "flare up" with your Sister Mary

I wish you to remember us kindly to all friends

Had all things suited I should have been with you also the family at Class day

We are in the midst of Harvest — with fine prospects of crops & fair prices

All joins again in much love to you

Your devoted Father

H. T. Duncan

Dunscannon.
July 4th 1859.

I have not my dear brother availed myself of an opportunity to write to you - and I think it high time I had - I received one of your ever welcome letters two days since and have delayed answering it until now so that I could send my ambrotype - which is thought a good likeness - you must bring it back to me for I have given it to Mr Gibson - and cannot have another taken -

The brackets we received two weeks since and are very much pleased with them - there is only one slight objection to mine - namely - that

will examine you will certainly find it I will send another however in case you do not find the other can be used - I have attended two very pleasant parties since you left - one at Mr Macalisters the other at Mr Brand's - "Georgie's" children have desired me about to give you their love -

Father has given you an account of Mr Davis's affair with Lina -

And I presume before this reaches you - you will have met Miss Higgins - who left here last Monday morning and can give you a detailed account of every thing -

Nothing of interest has taken place recently - for me to communicate - and as I am now about run down - I think I will close for the present - All are well and join me in "a heart full of love" to you

one is a trifle heavier than the other - but I presume you could match them no better -

Since I received your letter and the papers - I regret exceedingly that Ellen and I did not go East with you - but perhaps it is best we did not - at all events I shall endeavor to console myself with that reflection It is pleasant to think I am not forgotten by my friends in Boston & Cambridge as well as elsewhere - I hope you satisfied Dr Mercer's mind in regard to my getting married as there is no possibility of my being north of Mason & Dixon's line before I add another name to mine - in which case any little flirtations I might have carried on successfully are now put an end to - such being the state of things - I have not the slightest objection to your communicating the fact - to my friends

eleven weeks from tomorrow I shall be "Mrs Hart Gibson"!! I cannot realize it - nevertheless it is so.

I am glad you found a cosmo set - for I need such a one -

Mrs Macalister leaves Lexington this afternoon - for the East - accompanied by Lillie and Bettie - They do not intend going to Boston - I spent night before last with Lillie and enjoyed very much the candy you sent her - she is quite "stingy" of it - as well as pleased with the attention. You must be sure to bring Lizzie and Clara home with you - I should never forgive Lizzie if she did not come. I made out a list of shoes - with the alterations necessary - and pinned the same inside of the gaiter I gave you - if you

I hope you have had a pleasant time of it at New Port & elsewhere – Do give us some account of yourself since we last heard from you

Mrs Higgins left some 2 weeks since – A letter has been rec'd from you to her which I placed in your desk not thinking it worth while to forward it – But as it costs nothing to enclose it to you I do so for delivery – So you see I change my mind & send the letter back

All send you much love

In haste

Your devoted Father

H. L. Duncan

Lex July 11th 1859

My Dear Son

It is now some 14 days since we heard from you, In that time I have been much at Bedford looking after my harvest the Barley wheat & hay crops are all harvested & put up my hay is better than I ever put it up – no rain on it the Oats will be harvested this – All these crops are very fine – the want of rain I fear is to very much shorten the Corn Crop – The drouth though fine heavy weather is becoming alarming for the Corn Crop & Stock water So much for agricultural

The stock is doing very well the horses are improving

I have been reading your saddle mare, She is a very superior animal for the saddle - my trotters are improving, we shall have some pretty fast - I trotted since with the Douglass in the Buggy with me from the mile stone this side of the Bridge - to the stone opposite my gate a distance of three miles - in 12 m allowing a loss of 1 m for my checking up in passing some 1/2 doz Buggies on the road - would make the time ~~11~~ 10 11 m making the time 3 a 2/3 m I have no doubt he will make a very fast race horse on the trotting course

The Chesnut mare is all right & your Mother is dreaming dreams we have Coach - they look finely

as to news we have none an invitation to you - to a wedding at Geo Nortons this week, the marriage of a Daughter to a Mr Fairwoody of Graysville

You are all anxious to have you home - we will take a trip for an early hunt to Illinois - The Doctor has his head full of speculations in town lots in some Nebraska City - He had better attend to his purchase of Cattle - and leave off this folly I have not answered his letters making the ridiculous propositions - It is high time he was at home attending his business The Dr is easily imposed by any one - with this sort of foolery & fancy

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Louisville July 17th 1859

My dear Young Cousin

You know I have taken much interest in you, how gratified I should be, to be present at the termination of your Collegiate course in response to your polite invitation, I very much fear that pleasure is denied me but I hope Alice will represent me on the occasion. She left us a few days since, in company with her Aunt & Dr Flint to spend a month on the Sea shore at Cohasett, making in the mean time excursions to Boston Newport &c &c. One of the anticipated pleasures of this trip is to be at Cambridge on "Class day 1859" How constantly will my thoughts haunt those halls on that day. How much I wish Ellen could be with Alice there. I must by Father

is going on - I & Nannie
will take Alice to Newport before
they return - where Son & Mamie
are passing the summer. I wish
you would go over too, & join this
family party - I know how glad
they will all be to see you.

Send me a published account
of Gen Cambridge exercises on
this memorable "Class Day" - I
hope you feel yourself armed &
equipped fully for the occasion - I
have no doubt myself of your perfect
preparation.

Mr Ford thinks of going
on in a few weeks to join our
Children at N.P. He has been
quite sick - & recover his strength so
slowly that I fear the season for
bathing will be too far advanced
unless he get off pretty soon) - to
take the trip for the purposes of health.

I shall claim that long promised
visit when you return - With your
laurels thick upon you - you old Home
being at the "Convent of the Sacred Heart" *
I must amuse you with the best

(* Paris)

material our dull City affords.

I hope to be in Lexington during
the Autumn & see you at your
Fathers home - I shall expect
you to show Alice all the Lions of
Cambridge - Longfellows home, tell
her the history of it - the Oliver
Wendell Holmes &c &c is this not asking too
much? then is the D. to believe
you, that you may not be "on duty"
the whole time.

With my heartest
wishes dear Henry, that all may pass
off, as you wish, & we all wish
on this memorable occasion to you -

I shall be very much pleased to
hear from you -

Your affec Cousin

Mary Jane Ford

Long Branch July 19th

My dear Mr Dickeson

I should be ashamed to do anything
you could oblige me
in declining any
service you could render my
young friend Jackson
but I am sorry to say
that I have not
letters enough
to spare
I shall
remember
your kindness
with pleasure
and
gratitude
for
your
attention
to
my
wishes
in
this
matter
upon
occasion
of
your
return
to
Philadelphia
I
shall
hope
to
see
you
and
express
my
sincere
regret
for
the
trouble
you
have
taken
in
this
matter
and
my
sincere
acknowledgments
for
those
attentions
which
I
have
received
from
you
on
my
visit
to
Philadelphia
I
am
very
truly
yours
&c
J. Buren

I hope now that you
are a freeman, you
will so arrange affairs
as to give us the
pleasure of seeing you
somewhere in our
travels.
My Aunt & Uncle
with Betty desire to
be kindly remembered
to you, the latter
wishes to know if
you have forgotten
your promise to keep
her posted through
a small book on your
absence with regard
to the Tavern.
I am extremely sorry
that my letter or rather

of your great Northern tour which of course required my undivided attention, led deprived me of temporarily through bad management I have not until now been able to spend the time.

Long Branch is very pleasant, the society is delightful, there are a number of young ladies, though bathing are decidedly in demand.

My time is passed principally in bathing walking, driving, gathering sea shells etc. passing quite romantic am I not and amusements of various kinds, but the delights of this place are to be abandoned on Monday as we expect to leave for Philadelphia where we will pass several days & from thence to West Point, then our movements are quite uncertain as we are undecided between the White mountains, Newport & Saratoga.

I see by the papers that Commencement at Cambridge will terminate tomorrow

Lexington July 20th 1859

My Dear Son

Without any of your more valued letters unanswered – I again take up my pen to say to you – that I remitted ~~to you~~ as you requested a check for the funds you ~~requested~~ needed

We have had for 2 weeks the most intensely hot weather I have ever felt in July – Thermometer ranging from 93 as high as 104 in the shade – Should you desire to prolong your stay a little, you had better do so – unless we have a change of weather – The Sea Shore is certainly far more pleasant – than City at present

Do give us some particulars of how you are getting along – How are you enjoying yourself? Have you visited New Port? All well & send you much love

Remember me kindly to Mr & Mrs Sparks – and all other friends

Your Devoted Father

H. T. Duncan

Duncannon.
July 30th 1859.

Dearest Brother

We received a long letter from you a few days since - which was a welcome messenger - we had been looking for you for several days and were on the look out for you morning and evening. It is quite pleasant now and I think you can return without running any risk - we were very much amused at your waiting "until it was safe". but I know you are enjoying yourself - and I would advise you to remain at

Newport as long as you ~~could~~ -
If I were - in your place I would
not - go near the Macalistas - you
know what the Quaker said - "If the
boys would not run after the "gals"
the "gals" would run after them" -
and I think it true in some cases -
It is reported in Lexington that
you and they are travelling together -
I do not much think you will
receive my letter - and consequently
will not write much - Remember
me to all inquiring friends - and
come home soon for we are
anxious to see you
With much love from all I remain
your loving and devoted sister
Mary.

Lexington July 31th 1859

My Dear Son

Your most agreeable letter of the the 25 inst, was duly recieved - In which you give an account of your pleasant visit to Kentucky & mention your proposed visit to New York where I presume this letter will reach you Your visit there I doubt not you have found delightful, as it is centainly one of the most attractive places upon the continent, and ~~where I~~ am sorry to be under the necessity of saying to you - that an early trip to Illinois has become absolutely necessary - Owing to the prolonged absence of Mr Jenkins in the midst of his harvest & Cropping, some 6 weeks ago - he left for St Joseph - for the purpose of purchasing cattle, from the returning emigrants from Pikes Peak to stock his farm - He took with him a large sum, to invest in that way - which I hope he carried in the form of exchange - upon his arrival there he found - Cattle high owing to the exciting & encouraging news from the gold diggings - which stimulated the emigrants to return again & try their fortunes over more - This produced a reaction in cattle & they were in demand, for emigration He declined to purchase them - I recd from him a letter dated the 22nd of June at Omaha Nebraska Territory, since which no tidings of him has been recd - I recd from Coles County yesterday a letter informing me that he had not returned & no intelligence of him whatever - Also a few days ago from his brother James to whom he had written

informing him that he should, write him again & inform him when he wished him to join him as he wished him to take charge of cattle to drive to Illinois for him two weeks having passed & James not receiving the expected letters — she writes to me making enquiry about & expressing some uneasiness about him — Indeed I have felt for these weeks past — great solicitude about him — with much apprehension that something had occurred serious — to prevent his return or any communication since the 22 of June — My fears are most painful I have determined to go out to Illinois next week & should you feel inclined to join me, I shall be most happy — The condition of his wheat crop in particular with the business of his farm left in charge of a set of hands — who may by their neglect or knavery — injure the interests of the place — makes this trip absolutely necessary

Since my last letter to you we have been greatly relieved — by copious showers of rain — which has invigorated up every thing — and made the temperature most delightful — So that I think I can say to you now — with all confidence that your return will be safe — And regret exceedingly that — an emergency made it necessary — to suggest your early return — as I was in hopes that you would have a good long stay at New Port

And out of abundant caution I

Lexington July 31th 1859

My Dear Son

Your most agreeable letter of the the 25 inst, was duly recieved - in which you give an account of your pleasant visit to Rockaway & mention your proposed visit to New Port where I presume this letter will reach you

I send you a small check thinking it possible you might need it - to pay your out and bring ~~it~~ you home

Rodes and myself have just completed a mile track on his farm for the purpose of breaking driving and training our Foaling Colts - the Black Hawk Colts are the most promising in the State & stand at the head of the list for speed & endurance & are satisfied upon our turn pike roads they will break down & out last all other Stock I drove my Drip Colt some days ago upon the turn pike - from the bridge to my pond 3 miles - in a buggy of 210 lbs carrying Douglas & my self - in 12 minutes passing some 6 or 8 bicikels on the road estimating that there was a loss of not less than 1 minute in this process - which is a remarkable performance for a 3 year old Colt - I have dismissed Scott & suppose he returned to N York - he was or became perfectly worthless and unbearable - as do most of them Yankees when they have a begun to wait upon them

All well & send you much love

Yr Affectionate Father

H T Duncan

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All well & send you much love

Your Affectionate Father

H T Duncan

P.S. present my kind regards to Dr Mercer & Miss Young — Mr & Mrs Pringle — Mr & Mrs Bancroft — To Robert & Cousin Mennie that most charming lady — To a Mr & Mrs Bell If you have made them acquaintance — to whom I neglected to give you a letter

If I receive any intelligence from Dr Jenkins in the next 3 or 4 days I which will make the proposed trip unnecessary — I will telegraph you In which event — you need not hasten your movements — If you desire a longer visit

Tomorrow is the election — I am greatly in hopes — that Bell will be elected governor — and that a majority of the Congressional delegation with the Legislature will be elected, nothing but fraud & foul voting can prevent I wish you were here at this moment to cast your first vote — against this Democratic party — the most profligate that ever had ascendancy in this country whose only point (as Mr Calhoun said) of cohesion is the public plunder

Affect
N T S

as many more from other members of the family but you know how indolent they are about writing - you must not however - consider it as evidence of any want of affection, as they are all perfectly devoted to you

One letter I wrote you gave an account of Higgins abrupt & sudden departure - And I take leave to say

[late July, 1859?] 87

My Dear Son

Your letter informing me that you needed $200 is at hand - I send you a check for two Hundred & fifty Having rec'd the other day from Francis a Box by express containing a ~~box~~ suit of Clothes for me, which I presume you ordered - the additional 50$ is to pay for this - If too much use the change If too little advance the deficit, If you have it

You speak of only having rec'd from me 2 letters - I wrote you three and was in hopes you had rec'd at

[late July, 1859?]

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My Dear Son

Your letter informing me that you needed $200 is at hand — I send you a check for two Hundred & fifty Having rec'd the other day from Charles a Box by express containing a ~~box~~ suit of Clothes — for me, which I presume you ordered — the additional 50$ is to pay for this — If too much use the change If too little advance the deficit, If you have it

You speak of only having rec'd from me 2 letters — I wrote you three and was in hopes you had rec'd at

PS Hope you have had a pleasant time at Nahant & New Port — give me particulars & who you have met & how they have treated you

B F J Duncan

as many more from other members of the family but you know how indolent they are about writing — you must not however — consider it as evidence of any want of affection, as they are all perfectly devoted to you

One letter I wrote you gave an account of Higgins abrupt & sudden departure — and I take leave to say that her sullen and unbecoming bearing to your Mother was persevered in, though I had a conversation with her at Dr Thomas — that should have disembarrassed the affair & should have removed all pretext for offence — considering the difference of age & position — her conduct was rude & unbecoming in the extreme — She has an obstinate & perverse temper — We have nothing new all well & send you much love — we have the most intensely hot weather I have ever experienced & continued drought

My regards to Mr & Mrs Sparks & all other friends

yrs affectionately
S. T. Dunegan

Boston, Augt 2nd 1859.

59

Henry T. Duncan Esq.

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 31st ult was received by me this morning. I can give you no information respecting Mr. Bien's address, excepting that he expected to take rooms for his family in Washington Square. The children are out of the City. Mrs. Hayden sends her best regards to you.

Yrs. very Sincerely

John C. Hayden

New Bedford Aug 2nd/59.

My dear Duncan,

Having heard from Mr. Warren that you were to be in Newport this week, I write addressing you at the Fillmore house, and hoping that the letter will soon reach you. I tried to see you before I came home, but when I was in Cambridge, and I was there several times, you were in Boston or elsewhere, and when I was at Parker's you were nowhere to be found. I write to express a hope that you will make us a visit in New Bedford at any time your engagements or convenience may permit. New Bedford is pretty quiet at present, but I think you will enjoy the change of scene, particularly as you have never been in New Bedford before. We can call

drive, sail &c. &c. We all want you to come, and we will do all in our power to make your visit pleasant. I should have been happy to have seen you here with Lucius, but our house being small and Sarah having company at the same time, it would not have been convenient to have had you all at one, and I could not bear the thought of a member of the Class of '59 and particularly my friend Duncan staying at a Hotel.

Lucius has now gone, and will soon be on his way to Kinsdn. Now, Duncan you must come, and stay as long as you find it agreeable, I would drive over to Newport for you, but the weather is now so warm, and the distance is so great, that I am afraid you would find the ride tiresome, and tedious. Please write as soon as you receive this stating the day and the train on which you will come, and I will meet you at the Depot in New Bedford. Now, Duncan, as I said before you must come, I shall not take no for an answer. Hoping that you will receive this soon, and that may find you in fine health and spirits, and expecting to hear from you soon and to see you at our house I remain

Your affectionate
friend & classmate
John H. Rickerson

Louisville Agst 5th 59

My dear Cousin

Your letter from New Port surprised me, I was placing you at Boston still, or in the green shades of Dunscanon; I have a double pleasure in thinking of my Children there enjoying that glorious climate, that you are with them, I hope you will not make your sojourn there too short, — Let me wait to meet — Di, Nannie, & Alice —

Alice's letters were full of the details of her agreeable visit to Cambridge, & no small part of her enjoyment was attributed to your kind & polite attentions to them while there, she seemed delighted with every thing, & very body — I shall always regret Dear Henry, that I could not — have enjoyed a little of your that "Class Day", What a treat for

Alice hears the "Grand" the "Lewis" &c all so new to her young ears — she tells me, she tried to find out if you had lost your heart in that classic region but she could not, I hope it is off towards Spain! I shall not let you off there —

When do you return to Ky? I hope to meet you very soon, come & see us at the earliest convenient time, Will there be a gathering of the Clans at Dunvegan in September? to welcome into the family that interesting & clever young Gentleman? My heart will be there at least —

You wrote me a most agreeable letter with one exception, you did not mention our precious Baby, I can overlook it for once, once only now remember, so pray write again while at New Port & remember Dear Harry that I am a Grand Mamma, & do wish so much to know if my little pets two upper teeth are through! Now there is an investigation for you — which nothing at Cambridge could equal, go to Cousin Marie for said information,

Tell me of the Belles & beauties of New Port, are the southern Damsels there? Regal Mrs Harry &c I wish I could by some Telegraphic process — transport myself to New port this afternoon, take a drive on the beach with you all — hear the War discussed & come in the mean time & I was going to say be back to-morrow, but that would not be true, I will say the last of August!

I am expecting a letter from Marie, which may give the information I so much desire — in that event I can release you — I can tell you nothing of the rural district from friends so dear to us little, as they are so comfortable & happy there I feel they seldom think of us in the heat & dust here, I wrote to Ellen a few days since & hope to hear thro her even something of Anne, with love to Mary, Son & yourself, I am yr affn Cousin

M. F. Ford

Mr Ford is well, & sends kind regards.

Lex August 7th 1859

My Dear Son

Yours of the 4th inst I received to day, another ~~the~~ on Friday which I replied to by Telegraph — saying to you that I had defered the Illinois trip for the present having received intelligence from Dr Lewis which had relieved my anxiety & so his mind about him — And that you could prolong your visit as most agreeable to you — A few days before I wrote you a long & full letter in relation to my purpose of an early visit to Illinois & requesting you to join me — The cause of urgency as disclosed in that letter — not being so pressing from subsequent information I lay that letter — I anticipated your wants and sent you my check upon Bank of America for $150 — which I hope came safely to hand — though I have had no account of its arrival as yet — your request that I forward Mr Blake fifty dollars will be attended to

I rec'd from both Mr Mercer & Mr Bancroft letters this week — informing me of your arrival — Mr B said you promised to dine with them & he hoped you would stay long enough to accept his invitation to a party of some 50 or 60 guests — where you would have the opportunity of meeting some most agreeable people — which I hope you will do

We shall look for you in the course of few days — the affair that is to come off in the course of ~~two days~~ next month makes it desireable that you come home in that time ~~to~~ I regret ~~regret~~ to hear of the sorrows & afflictions of the Duncans you speak well of Mrs H Duncan She is certainly a superior woman & I hope you will improve your opportunity of cultivating her acquaintance — tell me all particulars of your intercourse with N Port Society and all who treat you with kindness and civility

You are beaten in the election Irwin is elected to Congress by a few votes — in Harrison & Nicholas Counties the Loco Focos — voted several Hundred over their voting population, votes "Foreign vagabonds" brought out from Cincinnati by R R for the purpose — In our part of the district, the Whig Majority was increased several Hundred — until we can overcome or in some way guard against these stupendous & daring frauds — we shall be defeated — It is probable the elections will be contested — All well & send you much love — remember me kindly to Robt & Harriet & others friends — Tell Mrs Meeks that I have ordered the portrait of Mr Clay to be forwarded & that I shall write him in a few days on

P.S. and from Sailing you and Mrs Meeks are cordially invited to spend a few days at Oak Hill

Mrs Meeks — the copy is well done & will please — It is a faithful copy of my portrait by Healy

New Bedford Aug 11/59

My dear Duncan,

I wrote you some two weeks since addressing you at the Fillmore House, but as I have received no reply I suppose that it has not reached you. In my letter I earnestly expressed a desire that you would visit me at any time that suited your convenience. I now repeat that wish and hope that you will soon receive this letter and will reply to it stating that we shall see you at our house. We shall

all be very much disappointed if you do not come. I should have asked you to come when Lucius was here, but our house being ~~also~~ small and Sarah having company at the same time it was not convenient. Not knowing at what Hotel you are I address you at Newport asking the Penny Post to hand you up

Your sincere friend
John H. Ricketson

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.

CONSOLIDATED LINES.

To H. N. Duncan Jr.

Lexington Sept 1 1859

By Telegraph from Boston 185

Lizzie has company to Cincinnati
Will arrive there Saturday night
James Ridgeway

Mansfield Oh Sept. 2d 1859.

We have this day purchased of Thos H. Clay his Vandal filly ~~Victoria~~ Vandalia & hereby assume all her engagements

W F White

F. G. Murphy

K
A

My wife desires her kind regards and hopes to see your sister when she visits Boston.

I regret to tell you that my brother Nat (one of the best of brothers, the world ever saw, as I know from personal experience) is very ill, with serious disease, of what we fear will prove a cancerous affection of the thigh. His wife & children are in great affliction in consequence of the prospect of seeing him suffer much during the coming months. My son Nat who has his moments entirely the same kind heart.

Perhaps I will see you

Very Truly & Sincerely Yours
J. Boardman

Boston Sept 7/59

My dear Mr Duncan

I thank you for remembering me on my return from my delightful trip to Europe. It seems now like a beautiful dream - most sweet to bring back to memory. I saw Art Medicine & Nature in England, Ireland, Scotland, France, Belgium, Holland, Hanover, Prussia, Austria, Switzerland, Bavaria, Spain !! But above

all else, I left my precious daughter in perfect English health & happy as a lark in her English home.

I truly regret that your father never received the letter I wrote to him at the time of your troubles at Harvard. As a father myself, I appreciated your wish that he should hear from one, not connected with the College. I believed moreover that it would be pleasant to your father to be assured by me, or any one else, that your action though evincing a trace of harmless folly - (pardon me if I seem a little harsh) did not taint in the least your honor.

However I think that your discipline in that occasion has already been of service to you and that you will always look back upon it as one of your landmarks of ~~real~~ progress in real manliness

more about my situation here. I have only room and time now to add, that I usually go ~~from~~ 4 o'clk to Six P.M. out rowing, in a very nice boat they have here; which is exceedingly pleasant. I was asked this afternoon to go hunting, but could not as I had engaged to go ~~hunt~~ coasting. Hunting is the favorite amusement here. How you would shine if you should come here. Can't you come? A gentleman of leisure, you might, as well as not. Great shooting, they say, here. Wild pigeons, ducks, wood cock etc, etc.

You must not fail to answer my second & third questions, when you write. I have been hoping to hear from you ever since I arrived but suppose you are waiting to hear from me. You need'nt direct to the care of anyone, for I have a box.

I have visited my sister in N. York since I saw you. Was glad to hear you had called upon her. I went from N. York to Niagara. You have been there. You can have some idea how much I was impressed by it. No theme for words.

Have you seen or heard anything about our dear old classmates? Frank Balch, Hooker, Hyland, Barney, Stickney, Fay, Abbot have all been at our house this summer, and we have had a fine time together. I have had letters from several of them. Gray, Hooper & Barney & Keigler & I dont know how many others are going into the law school. Huntington, I hear, will take orders. Balch will probably study law. Hodgdon medicine. When I saw you last I was just going to Cambridge.

Of course, I passed a splendid week there.

I shall be counting the days after a while for an answer, so please write soon

& believe me, Yr. Aff. Cheum, now
May I ask to be As ever G.L. Chaney
remembered to your family. Two of them I have seen, & I should know the others from hearing you speak of them.

Meadville, ~~Oct~~ Sept. 13, 1859
Pennsylvania.

Dear Cheum,

(for I can never think of you in a pleasanter relationship than existed between us as Cheums) how are you? What are you doing? What are your plans?

But "Stop", you say, "one question at a time." Well, I suppose the first question can hardly have ~~than~~ more one answer with you. And that always a pleasant one. You are always well, when a home, I believe. At least, I dont see what should prevent it. You have no cutting recitations, to be accounted for and as far as I can see, no profit whatever to make out of sickness. Not that your fearful attacks of Tic-douloureux

were at all dependent upon your will (they, I know were serious, unpremeditated illnesses) but they did not trouble you so much as that chronic indisposition of yours, which so interfered with severe study.

A truce, however, now, to all joking about this subject. We used to do such things at College; but now, since we have had the bandage so roughly pulled from our eyes, and commencement day has passed; things wear a different look, and neglected studies seem no more, a fit subject for joking.

I have been writing a letter to-day to Salem, in which I expressed much gladness that I had "now commenced to work in earnest"; calling "college-life, pleasant and not unfruitful of much good," but still, calling it "half work and half-play;" "an uncertain, rather weak way of living at best." This opened my eyes to what I was not wholly blind to while there, that I was not making the best use of my time there.

Now, as I said, I have begun to work in a different spirit. I am now in Meadville, have been here scarcely a fortnight yet; but am quite comfortably settled already; know many nice people and should the future be as pleasant as the past experience, it will be a very happy life for me here.

I have a very nice little school room all by myself, in which I am now writing. There are only three young boys to teach, about 14 years old; and they are so well-bred, giving me no occasion to spend my time in disciplining them, that it is a pleasure to teach them. Besides they are very attractive boys. I find even in this short time, they have won their way to my heart and if they like me as well as I do them, I shall be content. Perhaps in some future letter, (for we must keep up a vigorous correspondence) I will tell you

Fifth Avenue Hotel.
Oct. 22nd 1859.

My dear brother

I received yesterday afternoon your letter of the 28th enclosing one from Miss Waters — on Friday Hart and I went to Mr Merriam's former residence but could hear nothing of Guss — I then gave up the idea of seeing her — but yesterday morning who should call — but Guss Waters We were of course delighted to see each other — we went to the Matinee together in the morning — and in the afternoon she dined with me — and spent the evening — she is looking very well & desires to be

you were very much pleased with her — What a gay time you are having in Lexington tell the girls not to have all the "fun" before we get back — give my love to all inquiring friends —

You say you are going to Ill — father to Mo — where is Mother going? I think her time ought to come — she must go south this winter — I must now write to "Pa" so that I may go to church this afternoon — With much love & a kiss to all — I am your loving sister

Mary Duncan Gibson.

Hart sends much love to all and says you must write to him

kindly remembered - I told her I thought at one time I would ask her to be my bridesmaid - but not having received an answer to my last letter concluded not to say anything about it - she said she would certainly have waited on me - and that distance would have been nothing - I received a letter from "Pa" - two days since written from Louisville - it was very kind and affectionate -

No doubt you are all wondering what has become of "us" - not having heard from us but twice ~~but~~ since we left home we have been on "the go" - seeing the Elephant &c - Consequently so that - time has passed almost - without our taking any note of it - you may here-after look frequently for letters -

Mr Bancroft has been very polite - he called several times before we reached the City - having heard from father that we expected to be here - he is very anxious to see his new horse - had many inquiries to make concerning him - I told him of the eight hundred dollar horse - and he said he would not mind giving that amount for a good ~~one~~ one - that here he could at any time dispose of him if he wished - he asked me if I would like to take a ride with him - but not having my riding habbit - I was compelled to decline - he gave us tickets to the Opera Friday night - and those to the Matinee - so you perceive I am getting along pretty well - he says he tried his best to get you to fall in love with a young lady here - and thinks

of the brilliant, but substantial sort, and this will wear well & grow in the esteem of her friends. A coincidence not a little amusing occurred on the route out. I became it may be a little impertinently inquisitive and desired to know of her whom of all her new & acquaintances among the gentlemen she most affected. After a little hesitation she admitted a preference for Mr Randall Gibson. At that moment something induced me to turn my head and whom should I see

Arcola Oct 10th
[1859]

Dear Bunny

A pleasant trip without accident or incident of interest brought us safely to St Louis in 24½ hours. Aunt Mary remained in St L a day & a half before starting up the country. She met with her two sons in-law in the city but neither of them was able or willing to forgo the pleasures incident to the pair to escort her home. She learned very agreeably that Carrie's health and that of her family had been restored. Mr Single-ton left his wife as well

as could be expected
being at the time the moth-
er of an infant 10 days
old. I remained in
St Louis 2 days visiting
the fair each day, and
it is but just to say
that it exceeded in inter-
est any fair that I have
ever attended both from
the great concourse of peo-
ple in attendance and
the exceeding excellence of
the stock and articles on
exhibition. It is I think
to be greatly doubted whet-
-er any preceding exhibition
has surpassed it. But
why further enlarge on
this subject? You have doubt-
-less read the results
How Alexander took the
the premium of 1000$ upon
one of his bulls - how he
lost it upon Lexington
Revenue of Virginia carry-
ing off the prize. In the
roadster ring for $1000
a most beautiful horse of
motion elegant & fleet
Stockbridge Chief of
Ohio won the solid
honor. Miss Ridgway
I parted with at the
depot on arriving she
going under the care
of a cousin. I however
visited her once in the
city at the house of a
friend. It is I presume
but an echo of your own
opinion to say in regard
to her that she is a very
estimable lady - most of

Oct 10 59

by any untoward circumstance in the weather or otherwise
I may mention that my dog Flora will in a few days be ready for the field as I have put an end for the present to her maternal cares by consigning her young & numerous progeny to the oblivion of a watery grave
My trip to Ky has resulted in signal benefit to my health, which I hope may prove enduring. Its purity is the only cause of regret connected with it
With best love to all
I remain yours affectionately
A D Jenkins

in the car nigh behind but the gentleman himself. His presence on board I of course straightway announced to her which caused a little flushing. I said to her I anguished favorably from the coincidence & started off to notify him of her presence — she insisted I should not, but believing this a little pardonable affectation I persisted, and presume they passed off the time very agreeably till the cars reached Sandoval where he left us to go on the Ills Central to Cairo
I left St Louis on Sat

nesday morning and stop-
ped on the way in Chris-
tian to go four or five
days. I found the position
of affairs there of a nature
requiring a second visit
there pretty soon to place
some of the land notes in
a position of greater se-
curity; but I shall post-
pone it till after your &
your father's visit, unless
it is long delayed. I have
been home several days, &
since then there has been
several pretty hard frosts
but doing no injury to the
corn. The health of the
community is comparatively
good; - no change has
taken place in reference
to the price of stock, or
otherwise worthy notice.
The weather is now delight-
-ful cool, clear & bracing.
There is not the least dan-
ger of contracting the chills
now, & I thinkfor hope that
soon I shall have the plea-
sure of greeting you & your
father. As he calls on
his return from Mo I hope
that you will come out
some time in advance
of his stopping by, so that
your visit will be of longer
duration than I think it
likely he will be inclined
to stay. Your sister Mary
& Mr Gibson I presume
have ~~kept~~ you informed
of their progress & I hope
the pleasures of their trip
have suffered no abatement

ans'd. Dec 4th

Rocky Nook Nov. 2d/59

Dear Dunc.

Why is it that you have given up your old friend and classmate, and have ceased to favor him with the knowledge of your whereabouts &c.? Can it be that you are so very sensitive, as to remain forever offended, at what was meant only as an act of kindness or friendship (though it may have been a mistaken one in your case) in my last letter to you? Now please don't say ~~that~~ in answer, that you know not what I refer to, because I really think and feel, that you have not been so cordial or free, in your manner toward

me, since I ventured to tell you (that which no one but a friend could, it being as I am aware a most delicate subject,) what I thought, might be the reason that you did not seem to be as welcome or warmly received by all on here, at the North, as you were by some.

I see however, that, ought to have been left to some one more intimate and dear to you, to tell you. I am very sorry though to have frightened you away from Rocky Nook, and was exceedingly sorry that at about the time you returned to Cambridge in June last, we had such a house full here and so much company going and coming, that I could not pay you the attention I should like to have done. I last saw you at Abbott's funeral in Charlestown. On the morning after the funeral, I started off very suddenly on a walking expedition to the Green Mountains, with Frank Balch and Barney; I did not make up my mind until Sunday night, that I would go, and never heard anything about the expedition until Saturday ~~afternoon~~ morning when I saw Frank and he urged me to join them at that time. We had a very pleasant, as well as curious time, and walked about 150 miles in all, including our walk from Brattleboro to Mansfield Mt. and round about the country &c. We returned home by way of cars from the vicinity of Mansfield Mt.

So you see I was unable to hunt you up or pay you any special attention.

If you would like to write me

occasionally and resume our correspondence; I will try, ever to avoid the subject before mentioned, but wish to feel perfectly free in writing to you about things in general, and as far as my future business may allow, will endeavor to keep you posted with regard to your Northern friends, Classmates &c

I had a letter from Chaney not long since, who informed me that your Eldest Sister was married not long ago. I never heard anything like the rage for getting married at this time; why Dunc! if we don't look out, we shall be left old bachelors, before long. My brother George, took people generally, by surprise, in heading the list of marriages among our immediate friends,

and since then, there has been three more viz. Annie Coffin to A. Davis Weld Jr. Agnes Greene to J. W. Balch and Addie Weld of West Roxbury to Ben. C. Clarke Jr. of Boston. A week from to day, Miss Whitney of Jam. Plain is to be married to Paschal W. Furney Esq of New York, and our neighbor Lizzie Low is to be married to Dr Williams (the oculist) of Boston. So you see the wedding furor is still up.

The Wednesday afternoon Concerts have commenced & I intend to go this afternoon, where I expect to hear beautiful music and ~~hear~~ see beautiful damsels.

Hoping to hear from you soon in pleasant nature

I remain your sincere friend
Henry M. Bond.

Some excitement was occasioned by the overturning of one of the buggies, and the running away of the horse. Away went the poor frightened creature round and round the ring, pursued by a foolish crowd yelling and treating into an occasional Club or some other missile, which, of course, had the very opposite effect intended or desired. Sometimes to vary the excitement, the horse would leave the course and dash right in among the crowd, but fortunately no one was injured, except the horse who at length stopped from sheer exhaustion. So ended our famous fair, which I wish you had been here to visit with me.

I dont think you deserve to hear about what you do not understand, evidently, or you would not hesitate to call them pleasures. I never was happier in my life than I have been here. Even if I depended for happiness upon pleasant human society, I could find enough to my taste here to satisfy me. But I am happy because I try every day to do well my daily work, and to be better than I was yesterday. You know as well as I, that this is the truest and most lasting happiness. I hope to hear soon that you have decided upon some one occupation in life, for though pecuniarily you may be independent, I ~~dont believe~~ know a lazy, aimless or selfish life can never be a happy one. I know you will never choose such, for under the influences which you must have had at home, to be able to resist the temptations of College life as you did, you will devote yourself to some useful purpose. Believe me, no one will hear of your success more gladly than Yr. Aff. Cousin Edw. C.

Please remember me to your family.

Answ. Dec 4

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Meadville, Oct. 20, 1859

Dear Cousin,

I received your letter most gladly and read it with absorbed interest. Am most glad to hear how profitably your time has been employed since leaving Cambridge; with the exception, perhaps, of the little Newport dissipation. The world seems charged with matrimonial electricity and Hymen seems as busy and scientific as "Jobs Lovering at the dark". I can only hope that his experiments may be as successful. Certainly you had a great success at Lexington, three hundred guests, and an unparalleled fête. Simultaneously with your western spark, there was a tremendous discharge at Rocky Nook. You knew Geo. Bond, Henry's brother? He has married Miss Hinckley, sister to one of my pupils, and they had a grand reception for her in Jamaica Plain. Nine hundred invitations were given out, and between three and four hundred attended. The parlors were enclosed to give more room; six pieces of the Germania were in attendance; Smith catered, and "all went merry as a marriage bell". So says Report from the East. I hope to

get a full description of it from Henry before long. I have heard several times from him already, and am glad to hear that he has entered the firm of Walker, Wise & Co. as new publishing house in Boston. They are under the patronage of the Unitarian Association, which has its rooms adjoining the Store. I think this will be a good business for him and sincerely hope he will prosper, for I know few who do well deserve good success. I've had nice letters from Ned Hooper, Frank Abbot, Frank Balch, Barney etc., Frank A. has entered the divinity School at Cambridge, being unable to get a suitable situation as teacher. He rooms with his brother Edwin and hopes to pick up some private students. The other three are studying law at C. Ned commenced on the 1st. of Oct. lives in town and goes out every morning to attend lectures. Balch has a room in the top story of Brattle House and is studying with his old vigor and success, I'm no doubt. In fact, he wrote me some time ago, that he had read five books of Blackstone and I forget how much Kent, and really found it very interesting.

The O. K. I hear is in a most satisfactory condition, finding in the present Seniors, appreciative and enthusiastic supporters. I was surprised to see in the N. York Post when I was in N. Y. an advertisement for a position as teacher, referring to Cambridge proprietors & Hon. Rowland of N.Y. and address "P. O. A." So I suppose he wants to teach a year, that support himself till a chance for business opens. This is all I know about our old classmate but I hope before I write again, to have gleaned some more information about them.

What grand things these annual Fairs are! There is no calculating how much they dignify the agricultural population. The pride in fine cattle, prodigious vegetables, smooth ploughing and in work well done, no matter of what sort; is most praiseworthy, I think, and the spring of almost all agricultural and mechanical improvement. We had a County fair here a few weeks since, in grounds which are appropriated exclusively to this purpose. The town was crammed with people and they formed a new and very interesting field of observation. I always find the people who come to the Show, by far, the most interesting part of it; though, perhaps, I ought to except the Show we attended together in old Salem. The exercises then, I allow, were too exciting and attractive, to permit any observation of the audience. On the afternoon of the last day of the Fair, they had trotting, and I went with Geo. Bond and wife, who were stopping here then to plume their wings ere they set out on their Eastern flight. The animals who appeared, marched into the P. R. looking more like poor Falstaff's ~~troops~~ recruits, than anything else I could think of. On the last heat, however,

here; they are not showy, or dashing, but some of them very refined and intelligent. I like them very much.

Have you answered Henry Bond's letter? I had one from him lately, in which he spoke of writing you and seemed to think he had offended you, by some of his plain talking, but I know, that is not so.

By the way, I believe I appropriated your discarded Skate, without paying you for them. I never thought of it after your return to Cambridge as the Skating days were over and I had laid them aside; so was not reminded of them. I would like to send you their value by letter if you will write me what you would then at. Don't decline my N. England extortions.

I shall have to alter my ideas of Kent & Blackstone have heard from several that they have already finished them. I thought them much more formidable.

As to Dr. Huntington, I hardly know what to think, on some accounts I am glad. People can no more pick at him for being on the fence. But I cant think the doctrinal points as of much consequence.

Hoping soon to hear from you, I am, as ever

Yr. most aff. Cousin Geo. C.

Ansd. Dec 31-1859 } 12 and
or Jan 12th 1860 }

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Meadville, Dec. 16, 1859

Dear Cousin,

So, you have been to your "Castles in Spain" or to speak more accurately have paid a visit to your lands in Illinois. I am very glad that your father desires a Northern in preference to a Southern residence for you, and hope soon to hear that your farming project has ripened into Execution. You and I, I believe, never agitated the question of Slavery. In fact, I never took much interest in the subject and always blamed the abolitionists for their meddling with what did not belong to them, but at the same time, I never had a thought of its being right. I never believed it right and do not, nor, believe it right to hold beings with souls as chattels, and I believe there is many a Southerner who feels the same, I know there is; but how to get rid of them without impoverishing themselves and doing real harm to the slaves, who, it must be acknowledged are not yet able to take care of themselves, there is the rub.

I have always thought and do think that the wrong and real unprofitableness of slavery was beginning to be felt by Southerners, when the Abolitionists began their agitation, which interference was resented, perhaps rightly, by the South. But as we are dealing with things as they are and not as we might wish them to be; however we might deprecate the conduct of the Abolitionists; the fact is, that "Slavery or no slavery" "Union or no Union" are getting to be almost synonymous questions. Believing slavery to be wrong and also believing in the final triumph of truth and right, I think it must cease; perhaps not in our generation, but sooner or later.

This is why I am especially glad, that you are thinking of a farm in a free State, and though I love you no less because you own slaves, I should greatly rejoice to see the day when you had not one.

I suppose you are in the midst of an anti-John Brown community, whereas I am among ardent admirers of him, not of his project, understand, but of the man. I dont believe you were much more incensed at the recent events at Harpers Ferry than I was, when I first heard them. I did not hesitate, at once, to call Brown a mad-man and sincerely hope he might be strung up at once and any other man who should attempt to set slaves against their masters. And I think now, that legally he has only met his just deserts. At the same time, after reading his speeches, and hearing the testimony of those who knew him, I cannot resist the evidence that he was an honest man; misguided one sided, but honest.

We have been brought up under such different circumstances and are now under such different influences, that our opinions especially on this point would naturally differ, but I felt like telling you what I thought.

But to turn to a pleasanter subject. You should see me in my hunting character. Dont sneer. I have shot two ducks and missed a third and on the strength of it, am still willing to shot anything. Yesterday, I tramped over the snow-covered hills in search of pheasants. Saw some tracks but the birds were not visible. Plenty of tracks, rabbits, foxes, minxes etc. being common in this neighborhood. My duck-shooting occurred just after Thanksgiving, when I camped out for two days, at a lake about ten miles from here. When you visit Illinois, suppose you start on a hunt and follow your game to Mendville. I have a whole house to myself, as the lady who runs it, has just left to visit her children in the East; you shall be most royally entertained if you will come. I dont know how you would like the pickle

I had a nice long letter from Chauncey yesterday, giving me a fine account of himself and his doings. He is liked very much indeed in Meadville and he seems to be very happy and not at all homesick. Your humble servant is now in the book trade under the employ of Walker Wise & Co. 245 Washington St. Boston. It is a new firm of young fellows, and if I like the business and they like me, I stand a very good chance of becoming a Co-partner in two or three years. I have only been with them a few weeks. They occupy the store formerly occupied by C. E. King, as a worsted store, where you may perchance, have purchased some fancy worsted, for some fair friend.

I hesitated for a long time, what I should do, when I had this chance offered me, and I now work like a good one, going into Boston in the 7-20 A.M. train and not returning until the 10 P.M. train, when I

I have not seen my Cousin Lizzie since I received your letter, but intend to call and give her the

Friday Evening
Dec. 7. 59.

A Merry Christmas

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Answd - Jan 1. ~~1859~~ 1860

Roxbury Nook Dec 18th/59

Dear Jane.

It gave me great pleasure to receive your friendly letter a few days ago, and it was the more welcome, as I had begun to fear, as I intimated in a letter to your Aff. Cousin, that you were going to remain forever offended with me, from not understanding my bluntness of speech. I rejoice to feel that we are as friendly as ever, and that there is nothing to separate the warm attachment of friend and classmate, that has ever existed between us and has never yet, and I fervently trust, never will be broken. With regard to politics, I suppose, very naturally we shall always differ; you being a pro-slavery and I an anti-slavery man, but as I feel, that ought never to be a bar to our friendly relations. A Southern Cousin of mine told me a week or two ago, the

same thing you once very confidently affirmed, that he would make a pro-slavery man of me yet, if I would only go with him and make a visit on a Southern plantation. I however have little fear that I should ever become pro-slavery, although I think I am by no means an abolitionist, as that word is now commonly understood.

I am and should be the very last man, to advocate the preaching of anti-slavery doctrine in States where slavery now exists, urging slaves to rise up in rebellion &c. and I doubt not, that in many cases, slaves may be as happy and perhaps happier through their blissful ignorance, than many of our free laboring people who perhaps in some cases are not so tenderly cared for. It is folly, worse than folly, it is madness and injurious in the extreme to their own cause, in Abolitionists to preach (where now they will not be tolerated) in the midst of slave territory. But with regard to John Brown, howsoever much we censure his course, and action, (as most every one here, does very much) we cannot but admire his noble character and his undaunted courage, in endeavouring to fulfil to the last that which his (as it seems to me) misguided conscience directed him. At first, I felt almost as severe as anyone toward him, but after thinking of the man coolly, and of the manner and the strict puritanical religion, in which he was brought up, I think we must all see and feel, that had he been working on our side (as we feel, that is) he would in a great cause, been a great aid. With regard to Dr Howe, I believe sincerely, from a very reliable source, that he did not know and was wholly unconscious of and about this Harper's Ferry business; he did I believe furnish him with money and arms to keep off the border Ruffians in Kansas, but that is all, and I would be the last one to allow, (if I could help it), a hair of Dr Howes head to be injured. At the same time, I think Brown deserved to be hung.

But I have already said too much on the slavery question, and want to say a few words on social matters &c

tell you, I am ready to pile into bed as soon as possible. I scarcely see anything of my family now, excepting on Sundays; but I trust I shall see a little more of them, after the holidays are over. I enjoy my business as salesman very much so far, and have received many pleasant calls from kind friends cheering me on in the path of my duty. And in fine, officially, Mr Henry Duncan Jr, I would inform you, if you wish for any Boston work in the book line, a card which I shall deposit in this letter or rather with it, in an envelope, will tell you the best place to apply at, to obtain said production.

I saw Bailey for a few moments about a week ago who is very much out of health and has been obliged to give up his situation as tutor, at the South.

My Brother Chum, has been on at Philadelphia for some weeks on business where my father has a branch house.

If it is not too inquisitive, I should like to know who your sister has married and where she is to live. I ask merely from a desire to know something of your family.

When shall you come on this way? I hope you will certainly let me know and come out to Rocky Nook and pass a few days at least. I have not called at the Bowditch's for some time but when I last heard from Livy Bowditch she was quite unwell and her Mother felt quite anxious about her, as I suppose you have heard from Nat. Ned Hooper and Balch are day chums in Cambridge at the Law school and are both in fine spirits & health. Jim Fay calls to see and cheer me with his jovial face and voice, and I am in fact, most fortunate in meeting frequently, many of Dear '59.

My sister, brother George with kind regards & best wishes, desire to be remembered to you.

I must now close this epistle and I hope that you will write again soon.

To your aff. friend & Classmate

Henry M. Bond.

P. S. Please direct care Messrs Walker Wise & Co Boston.