

George B. Wright and Family Papers

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Version 3
August 20, 2018

Copy of Will of the late Elizabeth Merrill of Bradford

[1856]

In the name of God Amen. I Elizabeth Merrill of Bradford, in the County of Orange and State of Vermont being of sound and disposing minds and memory do make this my last Will & Testament in manner following. Viz. First I order and direct that my Executor hereafter named pay all my just debts and funeral charges, as soon as may be after my decease.

Second. To my only sister Mrs Abigail M. Stratton of Winslow, maine. I give and bequeath the sum of One thousand dollars, also such of my wearing apparel as she may select.

Third. To each of the five children of my only brother Calvin W. Clark of Boston I give and bequeath the sum of twenty dollars, in token of my love and affection.

Fourth. To my friend Mrs Ann M. Pitchard wife of Edward Pitchard of Bradford, Vermont. I give and bequeath the sum of Six hundred dollars, also all the Household furniture of which I may die possesed, likewise my pew No 8 in the Congregational Church in Bradford.

Fifth. To my niece Mrs Emily P. Shaw, wife of George K Shaw of Paris, maine. I give and bequeath the sum of Two hundred dollars.

Sixth To my nephew James Dayton Clark of Bradford. I give and bequeath the sum of Two hundred dollars.

Seventh. To my Niece Annie B. Clark of Boston. I give and bequeath my gold & pearl gold breast pin, made in the form of a padlock.

Eighth. To the Trustees of the Academy in Bradford. I give and bequeath all the remainder of my property of whatsoever name or nature, in Trust however, for the following purposes, viz The principle to be invested in a safe Mortgage on Real Estate. and the income only from said investment to be expended in Books or philosophical apparatus for the free use and benefit of the Scholars in said Academy.

Ninth. I hereby appoint Arad Stebbens Esqr of Bradford. Ut my Executor.

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this day of . in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred & fifty six.

Signed, sealed, published and declared to be the last Will and Testament of the said Elizabeth Merrill. in the presence of us who signed the same in her presence and in the presence of each other.

It is my wish that my Brother C. W. Clark should have any articles or articles that he would like among my things

I give to Mrs Abigail M. Stratton or her unmarried daughters my secretary, Books, fire sett plated candlesticks, table and bed linnen large Bible and clock. And any other article or articles they might choose

Elizabeth Merrill

Her gold she wished disposed as follows

One ten dollars gold piece to Rev Silas McKeen

Four five dollars gold pieces one to each of her unmarried Nieces & Daughters of Mrs A. M. Stratton and one to Mrs Paine

Two gold pieces two dollars fifty cents each One to Carrie and one to Eddy Prichard

Haldeman. But I wrote on the paper for one of those three to take charge of its delivery to you. Examine the DKE, books. It is not among mine!

Baltimore Jan'y 4/36

My dear T. [To Thomas W. Clarke]

I began this letter on the day of its date; but, as you will observe, was compelled to leave it until to day the 6th inst.

It is Sunday and the first sunday of the New Year; a day and season for many solemn thoughts, good resolutions, and severe self examination. To how many of these good uses have I dedicated it? Not one as yet. I am still in bed, and have had company all the morning. But you will ask "Have you not made up your mind to devote the unoccupied part of the day to reflection?" No; I have not, for the simple reason that I do not know whether any part of it can be called unoccupied.

from now, until dinner time will be devoted to you; After dinner I feel sure that some kind friends will come in, actuated by a desire to relieve the tedium of my confinement to bed; then will come supper, after supper more visitors, and then sleep. You will doubtless wish to know why I tell you all this? Why; because I want to. Not that I have even the most remote idea that it will interest you, but just because it came into my head. You know that it is a habit with some person to cultivate friendships in order to have some one on whom they can inflict all their ill humor and into whose unwilling ears they can pour all their tiresome thoughts and fancies. Perhaps I am one of that class.

Oh! most oppressed youth!
overburdened with business, and
bowed down by the cares of
State! My heart bleeds for you,
as I picture you seated on
the floor of a dirty room surround
by musty folios and dusty
parchments, over whose huge
embankment your head is
dimly visible, with your eyes
"in fine frenzy rolling" and
your mouth wide agape, &
your throat panting with your
strenuous efforts to catch a
breath; While ever and anon
a little boy (your Mercury) opens
the door and with a shrill
cry of "Another case Sir" flings
upon your devoted head another
huge bundle of paper, wax
and red tape; until finally
you sink down exhausted
and with a placid smile yield up

the ghost, a victim to the excessive kindness of your friends. Poor fellows! "Requiescat in pace"!

Am I not a young man of peculiarly vivid imagination?

While I think of it, let me set at rest the vexed question of your Allison's fate. And first let me free myself from the charge of having neglected your former inquiry on the subject. I did answer it, as you will find on referring to my letters. I placed your book (Allison,) in the D K E. rooms, as did I also a Shakespeare of yours, one of Willards. Round each of the books I wafered a slip of paper with directions written upon it as to the disposal of the ~~same~~ book. After this lapse of time, I am uncertain whether I left yours books to the came of Rand, Greey or

over

Having thus freed my mind from all anxiety as to your temporal concerns, I turn to enquire about your mental development. Is it well with you? Do you enquire as hitherto into the mysteries of nature and project great discoveries in science? Or has the study of the Law drawn away your attention from all other pursuits and chained you down to the mere search after quibbles and flaws?

My thoughts seem slow to day and my mind is dull. Even in writing to you I do not seem so fully to enjoy myself as is usual with me. I feel as if an opaque veil was over my brain and I could get but a darkened glimpse of mental sunshine.

"Quite a peculiar sensation forsooth and quite a good excuse for six days of mental darkness" you will say "as if I were young enough to be caught by such chaff as that"!! You are a merciless wretch! having no sympathy for the misery of your friends! I will not waste upon you any further confession of my shortcomings and will just let you digest this long epistle as best you can. I will readily promise you the conduct of all my law business in Massachusetts; but advise you not to wait for it if you wish to earn your bread. A happy New Year and as many returns of the season to you in the wish of your affectionate friend

J. M. Crosby

Magazine, was, as you say, a way from me. I hear from Chase however that he had nothing to do with it; that it went from Hale's hands & the printers.—

I have written Bliss: but he has gone "West", and my letter (a capital one) to the — Meadville Theo. Sem. Please write me as soon as is con=

Petersboro Jan. 19th 1856

Dear Clarke. [To Thomas W. Clarke?] I was happy & receive your letter some time since, informing me of the locus standi necnon con=sidendi of Willard. I have since written him a letter which he will

=sistent with your well known habits of delay, & be lieve me

Yours always truly Edw. Morton.

be glad to get. If you have any correspondence with him, please put in a By-the-way to this effect: That I am devoting my time to the Northern Languages, particularly the Russ; and that I am also making progress in the Hebrew & the Chaldee. My letter to him contained quotations from those languages, especially from the Russian poets Bobrov, Zhukovsky & Denzhavin, which, without this explanation might seem mere pedantry.—

That article in the 'Tizer on the Harvard

Baltimore Jan 19/56

Dear T.

Your letter of 4th inst reached me about a week ago, and I devote my earliest leisure moment to the pleasant duty of answering it. The effects of your collegiate education can be clearly traced in the admirable metaphor with which you begin your letter! How delighted Childs would be if he could only hear of it! A benignant smile would distort his countenance as he whispered softly to himself "Ah! well my instructions in rhetoric were not all thrown away, although, judging from recitations and examinations, I never expected that any one of the class of '55 ~~would~~ could exhibit any traces of cultivation in that noble science"!

Base Slanderer! How dare you insinuate any thing derogatory to my sobriety! Egg Nogg indeed! Your malice defeated itself; for I was too sick to venture on any large draughts of the delightful exhilarant!

I was quite schocked to see a notice of Thaddeus W^m death in yesterday's paper, Why I thought him good for some ten years or more. I wonder who will succeed him in his arduous office. With all respect to the deceased, I hope that his successor will compile a better catalogue of the library.

I think that I will write to Joe Willard some of these days and ask him how far he has progressed in the Humbug line. It seems to me that our class has turned out a most marvellous number of teachers; for which, if for nothing else, it deserves the thanks of its day and generation. I should imagine, from your somewhat vague (though still intelligible) intimation that "our young friend" will make a fortune, in a quiet way, some time or other; for I am afraid that his favorite complaint is rapidly on the increase. May he go on and prosper! I mean in its treatment, no in its effects. And so Hoster Dodges has consented to mortgage his abilities for $6— per week, as you say "not very lucrative, but we will hope for an improvement of his remuneration. I suspect that if Foster were asked to describe the relation in which he stands to his paternal relative he would exclaim "est mihi durus Pater Severusque" I think that an initiation into D K E. would render him more lenient towards Foster. Suppose you try the effect of it. I much fear that I and the D K E. Convention will not meet this winter, much as I would like to raise up my voice on behalf of our loved G. chapter. Your method of speaking would seem to indicate a coldness of feeling between the Ancient and Recent portions of the Fraternity. I hope that such is not the case!^s.

And so you went to dine. I judge, from the tone of the second chapter of your epistle, that the dinner must have been a good and the memory of it exercised a good effect upon your temper event until the next day! Not that I think you made any exhibition of bad temper in the first part, Not at all; but as you asserted your bad humor as a fact, I felt compelled to believe you.

For your satisfaction, I will inform you that I am not a Colonel, and am not so fortunate as to possess a circus. Will you prove your friendship for me, by bringing an action "for obtaining money on false pretenses" against said supposed Col Jos Cushing, and bearing all the expenses, merely keeping me informed as to the progress of the case.[s] O you law Students, assume the style royal in your conversation & correspondence, do you? using "the plural of magnificence" as L. Martin Lane would say. The old boy Bartlett and "our Frank" have some point in common, it appears. I was somewhat at a loss at first, to whom your expression, of "the most imprudent man in existence" was intended to apply whether to Old Bart't, or our Frank, but finally concluded that it was meant for both. The adage "like Father like Son" coming into my mind. The case must have been quite a tit-bit for you (you means Law Students) to discuss. Fahren sie wohl. Your Aff. friend

J. M. Cushing

Hanna Jan 24/54

Dear Sister,

I rec'd your letter this morn. and was extremely delighted to think any one thought so much of me as to write such a letter, I thought I was a lonely, forlorn, miserable fellow, who would never have any sympathy with any one, and whose breast would never throb with one ~~kindred~~ feeling kindred to that contained in the bosom of any other earthly being. I am glad I say that you thought of me during Mr C's discourse and I am also glad that you desired to see me. But I will tell you my several reasons for refusing to come down. First, I have leave of absence for only 13 weeks and my school lasts 15. Dr Walker has written to me saying there will be no difficulty about the extra two, but

Hanna Jan 25

Miss Annie B Clark
Care of C.W. Clarke Esq
No 1 Kingston St
Boston

that I shall probably not be allowed to make up for the time during which I shall be absent. This explains one reason I have for not coming down as I probably shall not have time to more than catch up with my class as it is

Secondly, If I should go down to a civilized country from this land of barbarism, where noone but Mr G. knows any thing about Silver forks, napkins or in fact of any of the niceties of a meal (I had dough nuts for breakfast at Mrs Fairbanks' the other day) I should not be able to ~~send away~~ suppress way delight sufficiently and ~~on~~ my return here should probably become insane at the contrast.

I'm going (in full black) to Mr L Wetherbee's to a party given by Eloper and Sarah Louise W. to morrow Eve. and the next night am going to have a kind of exhibition at my school and have been requested to get some lady for a writer on education. Won't you send your essay.

My lecture has not yet come off owing to unpropitious weather. The subject is "College and Collegians" and I'm going to enlighten the natives about a week hence on this all important subject

Adieu dear A.

Your aff bro

TWC

P.S. I enclose one of my scholars' compositions. It's a fair specimen

Baltimore Jan 28/56

My dear T. [To Thomas W. Clarke]

Most potent, grave & reverened Signor! I am utterly overwhelmed by the excess of your condescending kindness! And for what reason! Because that you have at last risen to my level, condescending from the illegible heights of vanity and beginning to ascend the steep and rugged mountain on whose summit sits enthroned true merit, Alias J. M. C. I hope this lesson of humility will do you good and that you will follow my bright example. Letters from Baron Campbell are not rare jewels to me for I use all his old letters to myself for kindling fires. Do you still patronise your old friend "Cushing" of Cambridge memory, in the book line? I received a reminder of his existence yesterday in the shape of the 2nd vol of Irving's

Washington, which Mr C— sent to me in care of Jacobsen. I was glad to see the volume, but sorry to think of the two dollars to be given in return for it. However I am getting accustomed to such exhibitions of a mercenary spirit. I must do Bunting the justice to say that he sent no bill or indeed any reminder of the price of the volume.

Your letter reached me just a week ago and I imagine that this will reach you just about a week hence, if the snow storm which is now visiting this quarter is also dispensing its favors in your northern region. It seems to me that for the last month we have had nothing but snow, snow, snow until I am heartily sick and tired of it. While I think of it, let me respond to your kind inquiries concerning my health. I am happy to say that I am much better & am allowed to resume my duties during the day; being still however prohibited from participating in any of the numerous social gatherings which abound at this season of the year. I would venture not only to agree with you in your opinion as to the expense of Law libraries but also to put in an amendment as follows "all libraries are expensive enough to suit and surpass my capabilities of purchasing;" As a proof of which my own modest collection increases but slowly much more tardily indeed than my desires. Hard luck for poor Curtis, when he fell into your merciless clutches! The prevailing fault of our age and country is I think its great a degree of reverence for names; although I think that a certain degree of respect should be paid to every man who has distinguished himself in the world of letters; and a certain degree of weight should be attached to his opinion on matters falling within his own province. I am not much schocked at Homer being called a novelist for Goethe at one period of his life denied him any existence whatever; and it seems a little more merciful to allow ~~that he~~ did exist even as a novelist, than to blot him out from the page of history altogether. Perhaps you will think of the

text. "The tender mercies of the wicked are cruel". You are the most complimentary person I ever met. "An elfish scout" forsooth! You ought to be scouted from good society for using such an expression! We have weather here with a vengeance, but no streets for, as yours so ours, are turned to snow drifts.
You seem to have taken a deep draught from the fount of Helicon and to have seen in vision the charmed forms of the wintry season pass in solemn procession before your steadfast gaze! Did you not feel sad when the hoofs of your winged Pegasus struck upon the firm earth and with a huge ~~[illegible]~~ bump wakened you from your delicious revery?
I await the promised picture with impatience, but it comes not; wherefore does it delay? I must turn my sheet and open my envelope and fasten this epistle in for I am done

Your Affectionate friend
J. M. Cushing

[Jan. 29, 1856?]

Bradford J.y 29/56

Dear Father,

I arrived here night before last safe & well, after having experienced the hospitalities of Hanover and the most abominable sleeping arrangements it is ever my unfortunate lot to indulge in. I was placed in the fourth story in a room not more than 10 x 8 with no less than two beds and five occupants one window!!! I threatened to kick any one out of bed who should get in with me, & so reduced the number of occupants the first night to three. The second I took in C B Marsh & my clasp as my companion de voyage, and passed a

comfortably comfortable night. I got up the sun each morning at about ½ past 3. and lengthened my day as much as possible in the evening. I think I may say I have had that I never passed two such miserable nights, bed bugs mosquitoes and hilly beds all being carefully and prayerfully considered, in those two nights. Here I indulge in a feather bed, and a room with four windows, and mightily dream of the girl I left behind me" or at least I should if I performed such a disgraceful desertion. We have a caravan or menagerie (I don't know if this word is divided right) here to day, and of course there are crowds of people not withstanding the miserable dull weather. I think I shall start Monday or Tuesday and go to Littleton from thence to Franconia notch, thence right across to the Glen house and from there to Portland. I shall probably walk much the way, as stages are so selfish as not to accommodate but run from Littleton to Mt Crawford in stead of to Franconia the nearest spot. I prefer to see Franconia notch of any other spot in the whole mountains and that is about a day's journey afoot from Littleton

so thither I shall go. I
am not afraid of my feet
and think there will
be a little chance of
seeing what is to be
seen in this way
than in any other.
"Argal" as the grave-
digger says (see Hamlet
by Mr Wm Shakspere.
in about act IIII passing
for the verification of
my quotation) "argal"
I shall go to see the scenery
and not to ride in the
old jot wagons they
put the earth withal
in those same mountains
granite Hampshire's pride

Gradually I find that I
am drawing to the end of
the time allotted me to
write this billet doux
so called because I was
exhorted thus, ere I left
your parts. "Billy do"
write (or right). The
last I always do. a hem!!
and the first I'm doing
now. I have obeyed the
exhortation and been
out gunning this morning
O! if Ned Could only
see the game we got
he'd — see more
than we could. The
only thing I claim was
a Mullen I talk that
I came being our only
mark. Adieu adieu I

shall not repeat my
Efforts at correspondence
till I am among the
hills of New Hampshire.
Such a Commence-
ment at Harvard!!!

[1856?]

Boston. Feb. 12, 1856.

My good William,

I am happy to acknowledge a missive from you dated Feb. 7th inst., which, as a chirographical effort, smacks more of Choate than the "involved sentence" which you perpetrated, & must have resulted from the quill of some goose in the last gyrations of the tarantula, for no sane Fowle would father such a crooked pin-feather. However, I mastered it without such deep calls upon my faith as Choate's notes to me elicited, when his son was a member of my school. My only way of getting over (for I never could get through) his lucid & perspicacious penmanship, was to take a birdseye measure of his scrawl & then to guess that such a length might mean so & so, & with a knowing bow give my acceptance of it to young Rufus, who would gaze admiringly at my prompt reading of the "handwriting on the wall". Luckily, you can write well, & the present specimen probably resulted from your writing too soon after some private amusement with the "protestant flail", whereby your arm had lost its steadiness for the time. So far as the "flail" is concerned, I doubt not that catholicism is a negative quantity in your school & all your pupils are protestants. Well, it is astonishing how knowledge will climb to the brain by the dorsal vertebral staircase or ladder—"Ah! who can tell how hard it is to climb the hill" &c.?

I rather think the Baptist minister, whom you quote, mistakes in supposing that Job's catalogue of miseries did not include the "District School". In the 19 chapter, 2d verse, he speaks of being vexed by words, which probably is a reminiscence of his Reading Class: & in the 23 & 24th verses, he certainly refers to writing in a book — the pen of iron upon lead is evidently the ancient form of the "protestant flail" acting upon the leaden cerebral developement. Then, as a natural consequence from corporal punishment, look at the 30th chapter & see how the "Young Americans" of those days despised him & played truant when chance offered: the "mallows" is evidently the flagroot & "juniper roots" the artichokes of those regions. Then in the 16 chap. 4 ver. is "Shake my head at you" — which is the idea that Pope amplifies —

"Shakes his ambrosial curls & gives the nod,
"The stamp of fate" —

& in the 14th verse, he is evidently desperately disposed to come to extremities, for he speaks of breech upon breech — Now, all these must be, at least, figures of speech, & whence could he have drawn them but from his own experience in an ancient District School? which must have included both sexes, then as now, & quite a large school too, for I take it the five hundred yoke of oxen is a figurative equivalent for country haw-bucks, half of whom are generally "off oxen", & the five hundred she asses as evidently refer to the feminine department of that genus, which you describe as truantizing to go squatty bumboes down hill.

But for the further discussion of this subject, I refer you to my Reverend friend Mr. Seth Chandler of Shirley, who, as Chaplain to the Hoaxtown Corps, is duly authorised to settle all points of conscience, & if you will ride over to his parish, you will find that my name, as Commander of the Hoaxtowns, "veteran of a century", will open all hearts & houses to you. Mr. Chandler dearly loves innocent fun & joke, & so does all Shirley. I do not remember as "scholars" the "Gardners" of whom you speak, but I have had many a frolic with some of that name. I know few folks by name in Harvard, but have had many a good time in its huckleberry pastures & on Bare Hill Pond. This was in the days of the "Old Guard", my present race of boys have confined their excursions to the Nashua river or Stillwater, which we have navigated about 18 miles. We have always kept journals of these campaigns & I have them all in manuscript. Once, an "Old Monitorial", now an editor, beguiled me into allowing him to publish some of the scenes, as "Leaves from the Journal of the Hoaxtown Light Infantry", but I soon grew tired of the joke. The locality of two of the scenes thus published, lay in Harvard, & if I can find the papers, I will send them to you to afford you a laugh while you are on the very battle field, the scene of such never-to-be-forgotten deeds. Perhaps you read them in the papers at the time when published: one was a "Huckleberry Party" & the other "A Naval Battle on Barehill Pond."

The Naval Battle was fought between Myself & John Colburn on one side & William Everett, son of the Sheriff, Charles Johnson, who has married the Belle of California, & Charles Fowle son of my brother Joshua, & Charles Austin brother to Whitney - in the presence of a party of thirty from Shirley village. If you go to see Shirley, give my kind remembrance to all you meet, for you will scarcely find he, she, or it, who does not know familiarly "Fowle & his Chicks". Hoping that the geese will soon fly northward & give you another quill with which to indite another pleasant epistle,

I remain ever affectionately yours,

Geo. Fowle.

Thos. W. Clarke.

If I send the "papers" please preserve them for me, because I have no other copy.

2581

[1856?]

Boston, Feb 14 1856

Hon Joel Parker Dr

To 8 hours work on Ch 20½ Records (Feb 12. 13 & 14) a 25 2,00

To 9 hours on Ch 23½ Cemeteries & Burials & on Records. (Feb. 16. 17. 18.) $2.25

Feb. 20.

To 6 Hours Work on Chs. 33½ 37½) (Consignees & Factors Loan fund associations 1.50

Feb. 24.

To 12 Hours work (21, 22 & 24) on Law Libraries, Joint Stock, & Cemeteries. Chs. 41. 38½ & 29½ & State Scholarships Ch. 22 3/11 3.00

Mar 16 2 mar

To 10 Hours (Feb to date) (Health & Med. Reg) Ch 21 & 22 over 10

To 75

Forward 19.75

Mar 28:
(4 Hours) Public Health & Practice of Physic) 1.00

Apr. 9
To 24 Hours work
from M. 28 to date
Mfg, Aqueduct Tel.
& Agricul. Corpos. 6.00

May. 9
2 Hours
Mfg Corpos .50
To May 13
Aqueduct Electric Tel.
Agricul. & Horticul
Corporations 4 Hours 1.00

August to 6th
State Reform Schools
6 Hours 2.50

30 15

State Industrial Schools

August J. G. H. 1 50

Title Aug 13

Ind Sch 4 H 1

Chs. 123, 4, 5)

10 H 2 50

Consolidated acts

20 H 5 00

October & Nov^r

Mailing Guide Boards

25 H $7.50

Nov^m. 1 to 26th

Mechanics Line &

40 H 10.00

Balto Febr 28/66

My dear T. [To Thomas W. Clarke]

Notwithstanding my ill success in eliciting an answer from you to my last letter, I will with a perseverence worthy of a better fate, continue my exertions. I will heap coal of fire upon your head until your icy nature shall be melted and attain to the higher temperature of my warmer disposition. "If at first you dont succeed try try again" was the commencement of a song which the worthy master of a juvenile singing school manfully strove to teach me to musically howl: although his attempts failed to accomplish their object of making me a songster, he fully succeeded

in impressing upon my memory the musical maxim, whose advice has been of use to me more than once eve now. I hear of your being seen occasionally in Cambridge and my imagination outrunning the facts, pictures before me the time when, clothed in the Robe of Judgeship you will sweep majestically through the halls of justice reminding the spectators of Longfellows "I heard the trailing garments of the night sweep through her marble halls" &c. I hope that you will never make the too easy transition from the halls of justice to those of injustice, or even set up an altar to the latter in the temple of the former. May your voice ever be heard in defence of the good the true and the right! May it never be found swelling the chorus of political fanatics or brawling politicians of any character! I think not that it ever will! My dear T! I should like to see you now; for it is said that hope deferred maketh the heart sick and I seem to lose all hope as I look forward into the vista of years which intervenes between our probable reunion. Do not think that I am talking of centuries "vista of years" is only a poetic exaggeration for two and a half years.

How are you getting one? Do you sit day after day in your office smoking furiously and eagerly expecting the client who never comes? Or are you one of the favored ones whose friends kindly step forward and aid them in the first hard steps of their ascent to the temple of wealth and fame? To day I believe

the scholastic population of Cambridge returns from the four quarters of the country whither they dispersed some six weeks ago; and the atmosphere of the ancient town is again impregnated with that subtle flavor of books and book worms which was wont to prevail! I have heard from Bill Longfellow and Ned Rand lately both are well although you are doubtless aware of the sanitary condition of the latter better than myself. I must cease this to me pleasant communion for the hand of my unfailing monitor (the clock) warns me that Post time is near and that the mail waits not for dilatory correspondents.

Your Affectionate friend

J. M. Cushing

Baltimore Mar 3/56

My dear S. [To Thomas W. Clarke]

Your letter came to hand this morning and, although it is but a day or two since I wrote I will ein venture another epistle even at the risk of hearing in some distant corner of my imagination the echo of your utterance of the trite saying "too much of a good thing is worse than none at all" or something to that effect. All hail to Sibley! Now truly do I rejoice that the history of Union has not been written in vain! I agree with you that Sib will be in danger of exploding. Imagine Sib standing in the gallery of the library on Commencement day, resting his well developed stomach

upon the railing and with gentle voice and martial bearing he marshals the long procession. Of a verity he would be seized with an apoplexy of delight. He will certainly fill the place better than Harris did but whether he will fulfil the duties as well is a horse of an entirely different color. If he performs his duties worse than Harris did "the Lord have mercy upon the library! I am afraid that Dibs epitaph will be. "Dib the illustrious weary of breath, rashly importunate rushed to his death" &c.

It never rains but it pours was my exclamation this morning as your letter was handed to me for on Saturday my correspondents seemed to have really vowed themselves and I had quite a agreeable feast of letters.

You must go to the dedication of the hall by all means and I shall expect an account of the proceedings written in your best and most spicy manner. Write me also who is the president of the Rumford and how they are getting on. You enquire in terms of most affectionate sympathy concerning the welfare of Baltimore. Sir! I assure you we are well; never better. To be sure our harbor has been blocked all winter and a great deal of money has been lost by our merchants on that account! But what of that? We are above all considerations of filthy lucre, especially as the harbor is now open and the southern and western trade is coming in apace. Besides we

have Gough the great temperance lecturer, whom I have heard once and have no desire to hear again. "Were you not pleased" you will ask. Oh yes very much, I listened to him for two hours and a half without any sensation of weariness although I had a most uncomfortable seat. But by some strange operations of my intellect no desire of hearing him again was engendered.

Should Sib be elected congratulate him for me. If nihilism is "your Muttons", Sib must be mine for I begin and end with him.

Yours affectionate friend

J M Cushing

Meadville March 3rd 1856

Dear T.W. [To T. W. Clarke?]

I know that I am a wretch for leaving your letter so long unanswered. I have been on the point of writing you for the last week and have deferred it hoping I should hear from some of you and thus have something to answer. Has your mother given me up when I answered her letter so soon as I received almost — or have my

letters miscarried: I did expect better usage from your mother.

Here I am suspended like Mahomets coffin between Heaven and Earth — the East and the West (the latter of course being Heaven) and hearing of the most capitalizing things of your good city — how all sorts of talent lectures there and all the genius in the world acts there — and Santoro writes of being frequently at your house and even of being sick there which has always been my greatest ambition in life.

To come back to things temporal — I have been home since I wrote you — have come back and am half through another term. To-day added another pupil to my school a bright little fellow younger than any I now have making my number seven in all. You should see me preside in my dais properly to appreciate the importance and dignity of my position. You should hear me decide upon weighty questions of the law and my weighty

ones indeed are sometimes referred to me which I wade with infinite skill. — Our much be-questioned instructor at Cambridge was a fool to me in dodging.

We had a Kansas meeting here the other night and passed some strong resolutions.

Willard I have heard from at Bridgeport — I have some idea of holding out in imitation of the dry-goods signs "at cost for six weeks" — "to be heard from for six months" And then insist upon answering the letters of my friends in spite of my infirm will. Remember me to all your family

Yrs truly W. H. Blair

Jackson Mar 26. 1856

My Dear T. W. [To Thomas W. Clarke]

Irving, I imagine, to the extent of your professional business, and consequent intensity of application to its requirements, you have not been able to answer my last letter. Modern Athens must be opening its eyes very wide in order to take in all the excellencies of the legal phenomenon which is to be seen in your person. At early dawn clients to come flocking to your door, and doubtless the house servants sweep with industrious broom two or three that have lingered beyond the hour, into the street. As Mr Saddletree has it, you're a reglar "ictus" & no mistake.

But what, in fact

has brought dumbness to your loquacious pen and silence to your nimble lips. In old times, I never knew you to twist your handk for twirl the watch seal ~~for~~ in want of something to say. "Weel a ~~well~~ weel" what maun be maun be".

I am ~~now~~ studying violently, after a vacation of two months. Legislature has been at work - drinking - speaking and making laws. The code was given to some half dozen learned in the law to revise. Then it came before the Leg to be ratified. And what a sight! Unfledged politicians, well to do planters, and broken down stumpers, putting their heads together to better the work done by Sharkey, Boyd and Ellett! A grim smile stole upon my placid features, and gradually settled down into an expression of intense scorn. Ehene - they passed a law to the effect that the State should not be sued! A reason - the supreme court decided that the Planters and Union bank bonds should be paid; and the Leg not wishing to oppose its decisions passed this curious funny law.

So Banks is elected! What next - Fred Douglas one of the first officers in the State of N.Y. - and some other nigger going to Congress! If niggers are as good as white men why don't some of the leading abolitionists exemplify their earnestness by inducting them into their families, and giving them their daughters to marriage. Its a wonder some chemist does not make a perfume, combining the African peculiarities of odor - I would be sweet incense to abolition noses. How Freesoilers &c will revel in Congress - committees. How do you like Filmore and Donaldson?

I should very freely support Pierce; though, from his present health, another term would be likely to kill him. That was a pretty good hit, your repudiating my debts. How about those Ambrotypes? Will it not take more than ten dollars to have them very handsomely bound and all? If you will attend to it - I will send you the money and be obliged to you in the bargain.

Remember me to all my friends - especially to Abbott and Reed - and Higginson - et alias - and particularly to Old John Green. But I must stop this Rambler. Good bye and all prosperity to you - Yr friend - J B

[From James B. Clark]

YANKEE ADDAMS'
Dramatic Company,
EASTERN CIRCUIT.
J. P. ADDAMS
SOLE MANAGER.

Dwinel House, Bangor,

April 13, 1856.

Mon cher Guillaume:-

[To Thomas W. Clarke?]

J'ai promptement reçu votre lettre du 31e mars; mais je n'ai pas eu auparavant le temps de vous répondre. Je suis toujours occupé. Je figure en huit à dix caractères par semaine; j'écris tous les notices pour la press, excepté seulement ceux qui me concernent; de ce département, j'ai le contrôle exclusif; je suis chargé des affaires locales de la compagnie. Vous pouvez vous imaginer que je ne suis jamais oisif. A propos. Je vous rends mes remerciements des cinq piastres que vous m'avez envoyées. Savez-vous si Manuel José Lucien Pérez est en ville?

J'ai fait vos compliments à Mme Currier, selon mes instructions; elle s'en fut bien reconnaissante. Nous avons déjà une compagnie de vingt personnes;

et nous sommes toujours à l'augmenter. Dick Dyman désire un engagement avec nous; je vais lui écrire aujourd'hui. J'ai un peu d'influence ici. Monsieur Addams a eu la bonté d'applaudir mes représentations. Je vais jouer le rôle de Hamlet pour ma propre représentation et à bénéfice. Nous avons loué une belle maison, qu'on appelle Norombega Hall. Elle contient mille-cinq cents personnes. Nous l'ouvrons mardi prochain, avec des décors neufs, etc. Nous vous proposons d'engager les mêmes étoiles. Avez-vous reconnu votre dette de deux cents piastres? Je suis encore à liquider les miennes. Nous avons tout-à-fait vaincu Mr. English. Nous avons pour régisseur, Monsieur E. D. Williams, autrement Paddy Williams. Nos actrices reçoivent de temps en temps des témoignages de la faveur publique sur la scène. Faites-vous bien des progrès dans l'étude de la loi? Veuillez bien faire mes compliments à tout le monde bostonnien. Je suis toujours charmé d'entendre vos nouvelles. J'espère que nous ayons encore ensemble une course sur la mer. La glace sur le Penobscot commence à se rompre aujourd'hui. C'est un événement joyeux pour Bangor et pour moi. C'est sur la rivière que dépend le commerce et la prospérité de la place. C'est une profession étrange que le drame. J'attends vos lettres avec impatience.

Je reste comme toujours,
Votre ami fidèle,
Alphonse Granville.

Mr. Thomas Guillaume Osborne.

P.S. Mr. G.
Voulez-vous bien m'envoyer l'adresse de Messrs. Parker.

1856

Mechanics Institute Buildings
No 10 Chambers st. N.Y.
April 15. 1856

My dear Friend— [To Thomas W. Clarke?]

It is with feelings almost akin to shame that I, after so long an interval again take up the sometime dropped chain of our correspondence. Yet my excuse is so good an one, that I need not blush for my apparent neglect of an old and esteemed college friend — The fact is, my dear Tom, that since the 16th of last February I have been at St Louis, and it is now but two weeks since I have returned from "the sunny south". My business there was to secure the title of some real estate there for an old client, and as it took me much longer than I expected to transact my business, I postponed writing to you until my return to New York — "say Tomas mio, am I pardoned"? "Yes I know I am by the smile, which pervades your countenance as you read this and I shall confidently expect a letter

from you within at least a week—
Before my departure I met the bold Dalton who is studying medicine (Pah! "throw physic to the dogs—" law for me!) here, at the medical college— He informed me that our honored friend Dr Tileston had gone to the Crimea, and had requested him to give his sincerest ~~regardes~~ regards to all his old college friends—whom he might meet in his walks through life— the Dalton also begged me to transmit them to any old class-mate with whom I might correspond, and I therefore beg to give you Dr's sincerest regards— I also last week met the noble Don Francisco Barlow who is at New York teaching various pupils, and preparing them for that happy life, and those delightful moments which we once so gaily enjoyed— alas! how short and fleeting they now seem to us, to have been!— Since I last wrote to you a grand fairy spectacle of from my humble pen, has been performed with some success at the National Theatre here— My well known modesty prevents my giving you a synopsis of its plot, and as it is not published I am unable to send you a copy of it— "~~Modest~~ ("Merit was ever modest known"

then—) I expect to be admitted as a counsellor of the Supreme Court of the State of New York next June, and am therefore cramming myself with great ardor and—much law— My time is therefore pretty fully occupied— On my admission I intend to practice at White Plains, where in connection with Judge Phillips, I expect to do a pretty lucrative business— I suppose that you also will soon be admitted, (if you are not so already) and I assume you, you have my most sincere wishes for success—

I will now conclude this rambling affair, which can scarcely be called a letter— with the hope that you will very soon write to me and that many another golden link may be added to the chain, wherein my letters, I fear constitute but the links of brass—

With unfailing esteem I am
Your friend
Jos. Gutman Jr

Address as usual, merely
changing No 37— to 10

Baltimore April 28/50

Dear T. [To Thomas W. Clarke]

Have you put on sackcloth and ashes, in mourning for the supposed death of your young friend; or have you hired one of the stalwart sons of toil to promenade the streets and dolefully ring a cow bell, seeking for tidings of the lost. If you have done any one or all of these things you will be glad to hear that I am still in the flesh and my symptoms promise some lengthy continuance therein. I use flesh in the sense of existence and not as an abreviation of "flesh pots of Egypt". So you would like to know what I have been doing these many days! You may rest assured that I have been

engaged in lawful pursuits, not in making the wrong appear the wright, although that is certainly lawful, I; but rather in the innocent pursuit of dollars and cents in the shape of moderate profits in trade. Your Spring has hardly opened as yet while ours is already partly clothed in its summer garment of green, while the flowers are shedding around us their sweet perfumes and the sunny sky is thawing out all wintry tendencies clinging in our hearts and making everyone as gay and bright as the genius of Spring. The weather has a peculiar effect upon me. It makes me feel cheerful, merry as a cricket, but at the same time it engenders an excessive languor and disinclination for work, making a strong impression upon my mind that it would be most blissful to stroll lazily about and eat ice creams all the day. In the summer the whole end of man's existence should be to keep cool, or else he will dissolve away and come to an untimely end which is not his destined end etc. I feel within me the capability of saying a great many good and funny things, things which will live Sir! but alas I am too lazy and the world will be deprived of my witty things.

Pity me my friend! In about two weeks we have to move our store and then again after an interval of three months move back. It almost makes me sick at the stomach when I reflect upon the the dirty job.

Who called on me ~~day~~ be on

friday. Balen, the illustrious who covered himself with glory by his affair with George Washington Frost Mellen. He is fresh from Florida and is quite as loud in his dress and tone as formerly. He asked after you quite affectionately and reminded me of your presence at his spread on Commencement evening and also inquired as to the condition of my health on that night. You doubtless remember my sudden attack of sickness. Write soon my dear fellow.

Your affectionate friend

J. M. Cushing

1854

28, 1854

Daniel House, Bangor, Me.

Mon cher ami:— [To Thomas W. Clarke]

Je n'ai reçu aucune réponse à ma dernière lettre; vous a-t-elle atteint? Nous n'avons pas de nouvelles ici. Nous ne faisons pas encore très-bien; il est un peu trop tôt. Votre humble serviteur s'avance lentement mais surement; je joue ce soir le rôle de ~~Horatio~~ Horace; après-demain je vais jouer Hamlet. Peut-être quitterons-nous Bangor après deux semaines pour Rockland; il n'est pas encore décidé. Avez-vous vu Manuel José Lucien Perez, Duc de Campo Bello etc. etc.? Comment se trouve tout le monde à Boston? Voulez-vous bien me répondre promptement; car il se peut que nous quittions Bangor, après quelques jours. Je me propose de vendre mon bateau; connaissez-vous des chalands? Cette profession

n'est pas à mon goût. Elle développe les pires passions du cœur humain; la jalousie, l'orgueille, l'avarice. Mais je n'ai pas maintenant le temps de continuer; nous en causerons à l'avenir. Nos répétitions durent de dix heures le matin, jusqu'à une ou deux heures après midi. Il est à peu près temps d'aller au théatre.

Pour le présent adieu.

Votre ami sincère

J. Thomse.

Jackson May 24, 1854

Amiable Friend; Your letter came to me with healing on its wings. Like a stream of sunshine flashing through a darkened room did thy words penetrate my soul- But I have said enough in that strain to convince you that I might shower down, in dazzling profusion, brilliant metaphor and beaming trope until the gloom of your office would darken into midnight.

I fancy you sitting there, Sir, surrounded by reports without number- treatises and disquisitions, all by gentlemen "learned in the law." You are meditating about those cars, and the tremendous panic to be created among the stockholders. You regret it- but 'tis duty- imperious- sometimes despotic duty, and you must obey. Again, legal smile illumines, sulphureously, your features. Amid all this turmoil of thought your hands have been unconsciously- convolutioned, so to speak- forming something on a sheet of paper. It meets your wandering glance- forgotten for a moment again it meets- and softens as it meets, the stern glances of your eye. A "gush" of joy inundates your face, and you exclaim- "bird- bird, ancestral bird! I catch a gleam of hope from thee, as thou settest matronly, on thy golden eggs!"

My friend, let not thy ardent dreams too often gild the rocks that bristle on the mount of professional eminence

I regret deeply that you did not succeed in hitting that inquiring young man on the nose, through the grate. Accept my sympathy. Tell me what our venerable president has been doing, that is asinine; I mean tell me the particularly flagrant instance to which you refer.

I hope that I shall very soon (two or three years) see that little redeeming gem of a chapel in Lombard style of architecture. I will be further ~~#~~ to prayers than of old; but to those who attend merely for sake of variety, it will make but little difference.

Do the boys spree it much now: but I don't suppose the absence of the class of '53 is going to effect a very great reformation.

Hon John B Field of S.C. says that one fourth of the graduates of S.C. College have died drunkards, ~~or~~ are drunkards now, a disgrace to themselves and burden to their families; one fourth for the last forty nine years. Awful statistics, ain't 'em?

I am almost a t-to-tal-r; and hope that it is not boasting to say that I shall, in future, bend every energy to win, by all honorable means, an honorable name. I expect to meet you on the way.

Mississippi is thoroughly Democratic. K N's talk a good deal about success: and in truth Filmore is a strong man - a steady sober, old conservative, gained the votes of many opponents of the same character. But Pierce has proved himself too staunch a man, too unswerving in the performance of his duties to

PS. What is thought about 3 Brooks's castication of Sumner? Verily methinks I know a northern man whose name begins with J.W. who would do something else besides talking about Southern bravoes and ruffians – do I not?

be deserted now. His course must be sanctioned and his enemies silenced, by another election. Let it be a triumphant one. Black republicans must down. Sedition finds too much nutriment in even the possible triumph of such men as Giddings, Seaward, Hale. They can only conquer by dividing. It is becoming them, that all true men should unite. Who then will abandon party for principle, and forget prejudices – opinions, to preserve the constitution, over which Hancock and Jefferson, Adams and Washington struck hands. Will not you I?

There are but two parties in this state. Democrats and K Ns – or, as the K Ns say – Anti Americans and Americans.

I do not think that I shall reside in Miss longer than is necessary to procure license to practice law. My father has too many political enemies. He was in favor of Clay's Compromise and is a K N. I am a Democrat as are the other boys. Father has personal enmities arisen from political differences. They slandered him once or twice, but were made to retract. There are five of us ready to peril all for the dear old man's protection; and there are not many willing to take five chances to one of being shot at sometime or other. If one falls there are four more. We are all young men (thirty and under) and Democratic leaders are not anxious to advance the sons of an avowed enemy. Sometimes I get a little excited

and determine to stay in Miss and fight em all down. But there are two who mingle politics with law now, and thats enough of one family in a state. You must excuse me for saying so much of my brothers; but they are a noble set of fellows and I am the least worthy of them all.

I wish you'd come south and see us with the naked eye; instead of hating us through an opera glass in "Uncle Tom".

Remember me to the venerable Green, John (vide catalogue), and to Stephenson and the Lagerbier saloon. I took up an old text book the other day and was quite amused at some of our old torts, and retorts. Saw a new idea, the other day in life of Shelley, taken from a Dr Newton to wit - the interpretation of Prometheus and the vultures is, that he was the first who ~~applied~~ used fire in the preparation of meats; and thus introduced all diseases.

Original refrection on the same, and scientific ~~or~~ query - was he not the first example of painful and protracted liver complaint?

Good bye

Your friend

J B

[James B. Clark]

PS - Who made the pins for the ΣΨs? You write an excellent hand when you try - Your Kakograpy is startling, painful, when you dont.

J B

Bridgeport May 25
1856.

Dear Tom

I have been owing you an answer now some three weeks, but do not feel that the weight of the debt was very oppressive. The pressing business in which you were engaged at the time of writing your letter was not of a character I could feel demanded overmuch an instant reply. Pursue however worthy fellow your investigations of ladies ancles stockings and petticoats I do not feel you are quite or much wrong in so doing; for why, nature when she moulded your nose into a capability of expressing by means of an eyeglass so much impertinence in so small a space fitted you for that especial branch of Natural History, and conscious approval of nature is the true reward of the soul.

I shall not call you donkey or spoon or spoops. for impeaching my accuracy in history. I gave as rumors what I got as such. Besides so call a lawyer names is like abasing Satan by telling him he is black, it only puts him on his pride and proves your acquaintance with him.

But why should we not say Ned Morton was engaged to Miss Smith. Ned is destined to be married all men must be — and there is henpecked in the lines of his nose. Miss Smith — as Smith — the name — means nothing individual — but always on the contrary generic, means only an x or unknown power of feminity wholly indefinite to be hereafter brought out by the the

known quantity Morton, or to use other terms for the same thing by the notorious Morton.

Have you heard from him..?
Have you seen Sanborn?
How are the rest of the class?
And I will pay you for the pictures when I come to Boston.

How is your distinguished and jocose preceptor H M Parker?

And how is the one who is jocose but not distinguished H G Parker.

Give my love to Geo Smalley.
Rest content herewith.

And write soon to your friend
J Oswillard.

Baltimore May 26th 1836

Dear Y. [To Thomas W. Clarke]

Truly your letter was most marvellously welcome and its contents did give me exceeding great pleasure. Mayhap you will inquire why, if such were the case, my answer was not more speedy. In fact you do have me only slightly on that point; for of a truth hath my time been so entirely engaged that I have found no leisure not even for enjoying the famous pleasure of communing with thee my friend. Yet do I now most marvellously congratulate me that in all likelyhood I will have some spare moments for the next month, the which I do hope to enjoy with most exceeding ~~marvellous~~ famous gratification. Do my fine fellow you still continue that horrid practice of smoking! Can your surplus energies find no more worthy ~~or~~ occupation than that of consuming a vile weed! Inhaling and puffing out smoke; making a stove pipe of your lungs and a bellows of your

mouth's. Alas! for the degeneracy of the human Race! could not Chemistry, Physic, Anatomy, Theology or law engage your attention, but that you must instantly fall to fumigating so soon as your employer shall have turned his back's. Yet confound Mr Parker! What right has he to stay late in the office and interfere with your innocent amusements! If I were you I would write him an anonymous letter to that effect and sign it with ominous seal of the Rumford. He must be a brave man if he can withstand such an intimation as that. If however that should fail write a still more ~~of~~ impressive missive and affix to it the cabalistic letters S.K.E. I warrant you that he will then jump straight out of his boots and will walk punctually out of his office at your smoking hour forever after. Take courage mon ami and try the experiment. Young man beware! If you do not cease corrupting Judge Parker's morals by talking smut (excuse me I meant science) I will expose you to the reprobation of the whole community! I pity the poor man if you and our young friend John Green assail him at the same time upon the same scientific subject. Has John discovered any new remedy for his favorite diseases as yet's. D'ing heart reproaches me for unkindness, I must confess to a weakness in favor of a good havanna and I can readily excuse it in you. I wish we could have a good smoke and a pleasant chat with you just this moment. Your talk on architecture is most marvellously learned and famously instructive. You speak most scandalously concerning Gore Hall whose chimbleys are or ought to be the admiration of every cultivated man. Had I been making comparisons to chimbleys on a Gothard structure I should have likened them to warts upon the hand of a lovely woman, but your thoughts of the fair sex seem to centre on the part which carries the bustle and the "domains which there adjacent lie" very proper in one so attacheed to science as yourself! Truly it doth joyously please me to hear of the prosperity of S.K.E. and I would like to see the new hall and its goodly library. Write me as to its success in the Sophomore class for on that point am I exceeding anxious. Now that the Horse railway is finished all Cambridge must be riding, I mean in the cars, I am sometimes obliged to explain myself when conversing with

scientific men for they an unfortunate proclivity to misunderstand or misconstrue ones expressions. Remember me to all old friends and classmates whom you may chance to meet. Write soon T.

Yours Affectionately

J M Cushing

No 10 Chambers st. N.Y. May 29. 1856
1. P.M. A very fine day

Dear Friend, [To Thomas W. Clarke]

It was on a fine morning on the 21st day of May 1856 that Joseph Guttman was seated in the private room of the office of Jonas B. Phillips Esq. No 10 Chambers street in the city and county of New York, apparently deeply absorbed in the perusal of a volume, labelled in gilt letters on a red ground "Revised Statutes of the State of New York." Ever and anon he would cast his eyes "in a fine phrensy rolling" upon a bust of Daniel Webster directly opposite him, as though seeking encouragement or inspiration, and then return again with renewed ardor to the ponderous, sheep-encased tome before him. The young student had just plunged deeply into the highly interesting mysteries of "An Act created to abolish imprisonment for debt," and was endeavoring to unravel its entertaining intricacies, when he was aroused from his rather dreamy musings by a footstep, and plucked from the Legal Elysium back to this every day world by a voice crying "What! Joe!" On looking up he beheld a brisute young man, dressed in the height of the

mode, whom he did not at first recognise on account of the aforesaid appendages. After hesitating for some time, the young man again raising his voice, said "Well Joe, how have you been." On hearing again that voice so long dead to his ears, the young student, with a joy better to be imagined than described, recognized his long-unseen friend Alfred D. Evans. Leaping up from his chair, and tossing the Statutes from him and he seized him by the hand and after pump-handling his arm long enough to put his shoulder out of joint, he ejaculated in a voice broken with emotions of pleasure and joy "Wha-a-a-t- a-a-a-l m-m-my old he-e-e-ro how d-d-d-do you d-do?" —"

But badinage aside, I assure you my dear Tom, it gave me the greatest joy to see again the familiar face of a dear college friend — Are you coming to New York soon? What delight it would afford me to behold the light beaming countenance of my dear friend T. W. C again, and to hear his ringing laugh as he uttered one of his many "good things"! Alfred's advent brought me back again to our old college-days, and many an old and nearly forgotten scrape was talked over and many a pleasant reminiscence recalled of that golden period ne'er again to return. "Billiards and claret Cobblers! the recollection of those happy times brings a moisture to my eyes, which I can scarcely account for, unless 'tis the wind or the dust. I almost long again to hear the clanging sound of that dear old bell, once so cursed as it boomed upon our drowsy ears, giving note of prayer-time. I long to see again the college-green, and the Delta, the scene of many a well-fought field 'twixt Sophs and Frosh — University Hall with its white front looming up like a breast of veal, 'midst the greens of the shady elms — and Liberty tree 'round which we last danced together with merry shouts, and light feet and lighter hearts — and Rebellion tree, around whose aged trunk on Christmas eve we pranced with spirit rebellious, and heads uproarious, (through spiritual communion) to the intense disgust of sleepy tutors and profs' who with great reluctance issued from their cozy rooms to pursue us wild demons and meet the blows of angry captive and raging winds — the still clings to me recollection — of how poor little Charlie Low was laid low by a blow from the fist of the truculent Hayes, whom foolishly the pon little educatn of the young essayed to capture. Poor Charlie Low after he tried to make attack on Joe H, he had to make a tack in another direction — such attacks were rather a tax on Charley's patience — And how Chase made chase after

Hal Ropes, but did'nt know the ropes well enough to catch him - talk of rope walks! that was rather a run - and how Hal Ropes was known and we were afraid that he would be hauled up before the Faculty and be obliged to shuffle off his college coil and how we wondered what would be his end - and how Sam Johnston was nearly caught! Sing O' Muse Sam and his hairbreadth escapes! Sing him, I say. — How my soul pants to see again Hollis and Stoughton with the breaches made in their walls by the rude hand of time - And Holloway, home of the dignified, "mod potent, grave and reverend Seniors" - And last sed facile princeps, time-honored Massachusetts the shrine of E. W. Caird - hallowed by recollections dear to friendship and once disgraced as the habitation of ye asynyne Barnard. - Ah! well I remember all this and far far more besides, which I would take three life-times to write - and great my longing to re-visit these loved scenes - with Southey I would say

"Many a weary pilgrimage,
As through the world he wends;
On every stage, from youth to age,
Still discontent attends;
With heaviness he casts his eye,
Upon the road before,

And still remembers with a sigh.
The days that are no more."
I think very likely my dear Tom, that I shall pay Boston yatte, citie of Notions, a visit soon and then we will be able to talk over former days and the tricks of Auld Lang Syne —
When we shall come to that delightful day,
When each can say to each, "Dost thou remember?"
Let us fill urns with rose-leaves in our May
And hive the thrifty sweetness for December. —

Alf — and I took a short trip through the city last Tuesday "to see what we could see" as did the Charlestown bears, famed in song — He tells me you are flourishing finely, which gives me much pleasure — A nice mess the southerner Brooks has been making in Washington — (The despicable coward ought to be castrated) (private opinion of J. G. jr) These Southrons take altogether too much upon themselves, and we Northerners submit to altogether too much at their hands — Would to God, some proper-spirited Northern man, could be sent to the Senate, who ~~wh~~ would have no objections to shooting half a dozen of the scoundrels down — I offer myself, gentlemen as a candidate — Have I your votes?

1856

Thank you – what will you take? Wilson refuses to accept Brooks' challenge. Well, he may be right as Brooks by his conduct has precluded himself from the treatment of a gentleman, and therefore gentlemanly satisfaction ought not to be vouchsafed him – yet I think were I Wilson, I would shoot the miscreant – Amen – Selah!

I am almost ashamed to send this letter as I have been so negligent in answering your last, and I scarcely know what excuse to make – the fact is I had commenced five or six times before this, and something always intervened to prevent my finishing my letter – So pray, dear Sir, excuse me on general grounds – Accept my kindest regards, write soon, and believe me

Ever your friend

Joseph Gutman Jr

Alf delivered me your welcome note on his arrival —

Cambridge June 4. 1856

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Committee for assigning the Bowdoin Prize to Resident Graduates have awarded the Prize to you. for your Dissertation on the Political Economical Effects of the Laws regulating the Succession to the Estates of Persons deceased. I shall give notice of the award of all the Prizes on Friday morning after Prayers, & also when the several dissertations will be read in the Lecture Room of Harvard Hall. The hour which I shall name for the reading of your dissertation will be from 2 to 3 o'clock on Thursday of next

week. I shall expect you to call on me before that day, that you may take back your manuscript, so abridge it that the reading of it will not exceed an hour; commonly, I believe, the reading does not exceed half an hour.

Very truly your friend

James Walker

Mr. T. W. Clarke

Boston June 16 1856

Mr T W Clarke

Dear Sir; Your attention is called to a meeting of the young men of Boston at the American Head Quarters 100 Washington street on Tuesday evng June 17. Every young man in favor of the principles of Americanism & the Election of Millard Fillmore and Andrew Jackson Donelson to the offices of President & Vice President of the United States should be present

The speakers will address the meeting

Ex Junior

1856

June 23, 1856

Jackson June 23 1856

Dear J.

Three or four days since, I received, and read with great attention, both your letter and the accompanying one by Gen Webb. Before going into matters in extenso, I must thank you for a prompt reply; and, in return for the kind expression of friendship written upon the envelop and — I believe — felt in your heart, must like wise assure you that, I still cultivate sentiments of personal affection for you which no differences, merely political, can weaken or destroy.

The North have converted a gutta percha cane into a magician's wand powerful to arouse a nation to words, if not to warlike action; and lifted an unknown member of Congress to the position of the avenger of Southern wrongs. With vision distorted by the favorite alliteration of blood, bowie-knives and bludgeons, they have painted Mr Sumner as a suffering hero, and bestowed upon him the crown of martyrdom. Brooks is the "envious Casca" whose dagger made such a hole; and Sumner the noble Caesar, whose lofty aspect exalted virtues and giant mind, gave to a N York orator increased respect for that Being in whose likeness Mr Sumner was formed!† It was discreditable enough for multitudes to wring their hands, give vent

† See speeches delivered at Brooklyn N.Y. I forget the date.

to deafening howls and mad execrations that would have done credit to the wildest Irishmen at a wake, over the injured cranium of the non combatant hero: Yet, frantic abolitionism must go a step further; depriving their cause of whatever dignity it may have possessed, by preserving as a relic, and hoisting upon a pole, the soiled linen - the bloody shirt of their apotheosized representative! The nails of the saints, in Catholic show cases, are exalted to the dignity of living mens, in the comparison -

But why this popular outburst? Why do "our soberest and most conservative men" become enraged, and forget their dignity and the principles in their anger. If it is because a southern man was delegated to attack the North in the person of Mr Sumner, just indignation would have no limits. If Mr Brookes was the accredited representative of the South - no feelings of resentment would be too strong. But was such the case? I am confident that the answer to this question establishes the justness or unjustness of the feelings which you, in common with most Northern men, entertain and express - the propriety or impropriety of your hostile demonstrations and violent language. 2. Was Mr Brookes the representative, even of South Carolina, in his attack on Mr Sumner? or did an individual attack an individual?

3. Was there any cause to justify Mr Brookes, or palliate the act.

Did Mr Brooks represent the South?

In your letter you say, "I know that respectable men at the South cannot approve of this"; and I am unwilling to believe that you consider the majority of Southern men not respectable. Then, so far as you are concerned, the South should not be blamed, and the abuse heaped on her at public meetings is undeserved.

But Mr Webb thinks the South responsible for the acts of Mr Brookes. He says "in looking at this grave attack upon the constitutional rights of a Senator ---, both Mr Sumner and Mr Brookes, so far as they are individually concerned, sink into absolute insignificance." A little further on, he remarks, "Every member from the slave holding states, except two, voted to secure their colleague from the conduct due to this punishment." He then concludes that such conduct is worthy men who violated their plighted faith by repealing the compromise of 1820; and whose only idea of the requirements of the constitution is to continue the government in the hands of the "slave-oc racy."

Does Webb, then, evidently hold the South responsible for the acts of Mr Brookes? Is he justified in doing so, by the facts?

In the first place, Mr Brookes declared that no other person whatever, knew that he meditated an attack on Mr Sumner. (I am pretty certain that he said no one, though he may have said only, two or three). Now, if it had been a preconcerted affair would not others have known it?

Second. Why was Sumner's castigation (it was his because he certainly got it) a Southern affair - and not personal - any more

than that of Greeley, the Irishman, and the Editor of the Evening Post (the last of whom, by the way, I shall bring as authority against Webb, before I am through). Certainly not the place of execution, for that could only affect the rank which might be given to the act in the list of misdemeanors.

Thirdly.

The fact that Sumner was answered in the senate; that Brooks waited for him several times at the porter's lodge (where that is I do not know) ineffectually attempting to see him; and that, during all this time, no one (or but very few) knew of the anticipated attack, shows that there was no understanding among the Southern members.

Fourthly.

Mr Webb admits that the language of Sumner is not to be defended save on the ground of being retaliatory; and the long debates supply abundant evidence that others Northern senators have, according to their respective ability, abused the south with as much virulence, if not so classically, as has Mr Sumner. The fact then, that others have been equally abusive and have not been punished shows, either, that Mr Brooks is the only Southern man in congress taking vengeance in his own hands; or, that it is not the custom for Southern M C's to call men to an account out of the Capitol, for what they have done under the protection of parliamentary privilege.

But, you ask, and with reason, apparently, is not your argument disproved by the simple fact, that all the Southern Members of Congress save two, have voted to shield Mr Brookes from punishment?

This objection, when rightly considered, disappears. I am confident that you, who have ever been free from Black Republicanism on the one hand and undue partiality to the South on the other, who have shown liberality without submission and nearly independence without vulgar abusiveness, that you will coincide with me upon giving the matter candid consideration.

In the first place, every Southern and every conservative man in Congress was either outraged by, or indignant at, the "atrabilious diatribe" which Senator Sumner discharged upon the head of all things Southern; resorting, perhaps, to the stratagem which the buzzard employs - spewing its filth of carrion forth, in order to deter others from either approaching or handling it. It seems however that Mr Brookes was able to bear the stench at the distance a gutta percha cane could reach! This abusive effusion has not, it seems, even the excuse of being a passionate explosion consequent upon a bitter and insulting personal attack. Mr Butler's speech on Kansas &c did not at all exceed the bounds of that firmness and courtesy with which, Gen Webb says, every freeman should express himself.

The Senator from Mass: could not even be satisfied with delivering his speech in the ordinary way; but, so exhilarated was he with his deliberate malignity, that he must, with school boy vanity repeat precious morceaux to his friends; and even practise before a glass, negro boy holding a candle! Thus prepared, he arose in his seat in the senate to exercise his fine mind, backed by unusual scholastic acquirements, upon the legitimate subjects of debate! to string his arguments with wit, adorn them with rhetoric, and impel them by logic convincing and sound? Was it even to make reply to assaults upon himself?

No! I grieve to say, no! Upon the South & its institutions - upon all in any way opposed to him - and - most unmanly act! - upon an aged and absent gentleman - did he pour a flood of abuse and detraction such as those walls never echoed to before. Others had been severe - others sarcastic - but to Mr Sumner - the meek christian, the modest scholar, the retiring man - to him is left the task of adjusting the copestone to the edifice of calumnious vituperation.

What then do you suppose must have been the feelings of Southern men on reading such a production, full to overflowing with malignant satire and vilification? And this too by the chief of northern members of congress! studied - corrected, amended, practised & negro boy holding a candle, as it was. Could any other sentiment than that of deep indignation have animated each of them?

They knew too that he was protected from the just consequences of his act, by constitutional enactment. The sheep might rail, being far from the reach of his enemy. If Mr Sumner had not been shielded by the constitution, instead of one, a forest of walking canes would have been lifted for his chastisement. Such then, & you can imagine them, were the feelings aroused by Sumner's assault. Brooks was furious - and rightly so. A gray haired and absent relative had been attacked with a weapon deadlier than the cane - with slander and detraction. He sought him at the porter's lodge - not finding the --- well-man, he went to the senate, waited until it adjourned, and then went up to Sumner. — Now for the Evening Star's account — and told him that he (Sumner) had slandered his state and abused an aged & absent relative (Was that the Italian way!), and that he (Brooks) had come to punish him for it. All the accounts agree in saying that Brooks went up to Sumner and used similar language to him - Except Webb and he gives about half the sentence. The Star says that it has its account from an eye witness whose reputation and integrity are unquestionable. It (the star) says that Mr Crittenden interposed just as Brooks was suspending his blows; and that, not a single blow was struck after Sumner was down. And I believe it too, for it is impossible that so gallant a man as Brooks proved to be in Mexico, could have struck a fallen foe.

Thus, then, Sumner saw Brooks ~~approach~~ - saw his cane

heard what he said - what more would you have, save the ~~st~~ transference of the instrument of punishment to Sumners hands? ——

What does Story say? "No man ought to have a right to defame others under colour of a performance of the duties of his office. And if he does so in the actual discharge of ~~the~~ his duties in Congress, that furnishes no reason, why he should be enabled through the medium of the press to destroy the reputation and invade the repose of other citizens. It is neither within the scope of his duty, nor in furtherance of public rights, or public policy. Every citizen has as good a right to be protected by the laws from malignant scandal, and false charges, and defamatory imputations, as a member of Congress has to utter them in his seat." vide Story's Com on Con book III. Ch XII p 329.

It has been the language of legislators from time immemorial - "We are honorable men - but don't wish to be troubled with suits for libel &c. So, although ~~we~~ we make this law in reference to the freedom of speech and debate, yet we are willing to give personal satisfaction for what we say outside of our duties as legislators. If A. sees fit to abuse B - why A of course is responsible. And here I, answer me this frankly; what is meaner - more contemptibly cowardly, than to attempt to break down a man's character, to ruin that which is dearer than life or riches. his reputation - to hold him up to the scorn of honest men by means of misrepresentations; with the intention of refusing personal satisfaction, and the certainty of legal exemption.

This did Charles Sumner - Your landed Senator!

9

Brooks knew well enough that Sumner would not be personally responsible. Sumner knew well enough (perhaps too well) that he would not be amenable in a court of justice.

There are exceptions to all laws. Equity was established in order to supply that wherein the law, on account of its universality, was deficient. But law was positive. There was no kind equity to purify a tarnished reputation: had ever the Northern method of purifying reputations been resorted to. There was no equity. Consequently original jurisdiction, in the particular case, reverted to the individual.——

— As the case came under the head of those in considering which the law, on account of its universality was deficient and as Brooks was the only existing tribunal, why he was justified in administering chastisement to Mr Sumner, and with his own dreadful gutta percha cane. (I should not be surprised if Bristol were to refuse even to admit more gutta percha within her port again.)

As for Mr Brooks' thinking once about Webster or Hayne — about South Carolina or Massachusetts — it will do very well to spout to a crowd of crazy fanatics; but, in common conversation or sense — to say that there has been no opportunity since Webster's denunciation of Hayne (which, by the way, thousands of people in S Carolina) to retort by with

violence - or that ~~Sumner~~ Brook's cane fell upon the brow of the "Great Expounder" - is simply flighty, and denotes undue airiness in the chambers of the brain.

I will not believe you (for your own sake) when you declare "Had I committed such an assault in a moment of unbridled anger, wrought to the highest pitch of rage by slanders of my father, my mother, my family and myself, I should forever despise myself, and never raise my shamefaced eyes from the ground in front of my shoetoes again."

The man who slanders a male member of my family I should chastise: but he who defames my dead mother, or reflects upon the virtue of my sister, I should destroy as I would the serpent that rises hissing in my path, or coils himself to rest in an infants cradle.

What - my friend - is life without a good name? As the Irish Orator well said, "it is that which give this human dross its currency" - Medicine can cure the body - industry may repair my fortune; but the ~~defa~~ sullied name is beyond ~~ref~~ cure. We ~~may~~ may avenge, but can never wholly eradicate, the stain.

As for Corny Felton - whose reputation as a scholar scarcely exceeds his notoriety as a glutton - as for his apothegm, one might ~~truly~~

well take advantage of his suggestion, and report that Brooks lifted Sumner — then on the end of his cane — from the dirty level of a blackguard, to the elevation where gentlemen sympathize with him, and advocate his cause.

Considering then, S, the deliberate malignity of the attack upon a hoary headed man, feeble with age; — considering that no law could reach the slandering Senator; — that it is not the habit or custom for Southern men to attack those from the North for what has been said in debate; — that Southern Members of congress were one and all (save two) indignant at and ~~repulsed~~ and exasperated by the Speech of Senator Sumner; — Considering that, if justifiable at all, the place of execution neither added to nor subtracted from the impropriety of the act said in the mouth of declaimers; — that there was no concert of action between Mr Brooks and other Southern members; — in contemplation of these facts, is it not to be justified — the castigation received by Mr Sumner; 2nd, that Southern men should show their indignation and sense of outraged honor by ~~cut~~ refusing to expel Mr. Brooks?

Why, S, it seems to me that it is the extreme of folly to suppose the freedom of speech in danger. But I can tell you what is in danger — and that is, the unwarrantable abuse of it both

by Northern and Southern men. Let all men be bold who speak boldly; let 'em show their willingness to back strong words with strong blows - their aid not till ~~that~~ then, will be established that courtesy which should prevail in all legislative. Responsibility is the parent, if not of genuine politeness, of apparent courtesy. Crimination & recrimination must and does end in violence. What else can we expect?

Gen Webb says that nineteen twentieths of the Southern men go armed. He never made a wilder assertion in his life. It is true (and I give you my word for it as far as my acquaintance in the South extends) that not one in twenty does carry arms - unless he expects a difficulty - and then every one carries them. This very fact makes men more circumspect; and one insult is given here, where a dozen are at the North, because fighting does not end with a bloody nose or a black eye. I shall some day examine and find out if whether, in proportion to the population there is more drunkenness and crime in the south than in the North.

I am sorry that twenty thousand voters in Mass will are willing to abandon their principles, in order to get a chance to rub the sore places on Sumner's head. Did you march, I, under the banner of the bloody shirt tail!!

Miss- go will go for Buchanan by eight thousand. Kentucky is doubtful; and perhaps one, or two, other southern states. You are not going with the Black (as to slav.) Republicans! Eh? Fillmore is very popular in the South, because he was on the Compromise of 1850 question. I think it is certain that the Election will go into the house.

I am a strong union democrat, but I go for dissolution sooner. Will fight for the Union - Suffer for it - talk for it: do anything, that is honorable, for it. Where are you on that question.

Is it not strange that all the ultra men South declaim against the aggressions of the North in most violent and often effective terms: Whilst ultra men North adopt a similar speech - with a change of oppressors! That shows a screw loose somewhere.

In your next tell me how you like the Democratic platform. I like it much - it is plain - manly - to the point - national.

And then tell me how all the boys are. Just as I expected of Brooks, (P. I mean) Wants moral force of character to control boys.

Give Joe Willard a hearty grasp of the hand and a cheerful wink, for me. Tell Abbot that my minds eye waters when I think of him — and u, I — and u, and U (with explosive force) the stomach of my soul languishes for the foot of thy presence! ! ! —

The other day a friend of mine had a dog-collar in his hand, came by me and said, "[illegible] — "Jim, you are not beg enough dog to fill this collar with your neck, are you?" — (Thereupon my friend laughs violently) "No, said I, but you are, Harry". — The laugh of my friend, very 'sudden' dried up. Rather got him, didn't I?

By the way I rec'd a letter from Seawell the other day. He is studying law and seems quite happy. A noble Spirit that. Tell me when John Tileston returns.

I congratulate you on your successful attempt at literary privateering. You have come into port with a prize at last.

Perseverantia tandem vincet. (Latin — That)

Who are Class officers? Tell me about the respective parts &c.

Who made our Society pins? Z Ψ

If you cannot get all the ambrotypes, leave places for them — so that I can send to the different boys whose pictures are lacking. If you would take a little trouble in attending to this,

you would very greatly oblige me. J.

But I must (I know you are wearied with its perusal) bring this long-long-letter to a close. I have written it, that you may see that I have, at least, some grounds for my opinions. If I have said any thing that has appeared rude to you; or that has been unfortunate as to wound your feelings, I can only make the amende which is every gentleman's duty when, unintentionally, he has given offence, and say - "I beg your pardon, Sir"

Good bye L. If any one of my friends desires to know what I, as a southern man (though differing from others) think - you can tell them my opinion or show them the letter, as you see proper. I have written in much haste, in order to be ready for the mail which closes in a few minutes - so I cannot turn back to correct mistakes.

Your friend, -

Jas Benj. Clark.

P.S. We have had vegetables for a month and more (since Middle of May); and now have green corn to eat &c&c. Dont you wish you had our climate and your people?

Baltimore July 8th 58

Dear Y. [To Thomas W. Clarke]

I am like the dove sent out from the ark, without a resting place. I am engaged in collecting or rather trying to collect some bills. This will excuse my long silence and also excite your tender sympathy. I see you young man, lolling back in an easy chair and supporting the mantel with your feet, the "americano attitudo lazzytudinis" Admire with open mouth and staring eyes my wonderful erudition and my inventive power displayed in the creation of new and striking words. I must confess it, I am a genius, the ordinary limits of language are too contracted for my vast ranges of thought and I am forced to overleap the barriers of custom and create a new vocabulary.

But to return from this self laudatory excursion (from which I would gladly have absented myself had anyone offered to go in my stead and blow a modest trumpet blast in my praise) how goes it with you in the modern Athens. Do the Athenians still gravel and give employment to greedy gentlemen of the gown, and do some of the well educated graduates of Harvard still rent themselves out to make the worse appear the better reason? Almost a year has passed. I since we parted and how quickly has it flown leaving on some doubtless deep traces of its course, withering and uprooting the brightest hopes and dearest affections of many, but to you and me it has brought nothing to mar the memory of its passage. Do you ever fall into a train of semi melancholy thought in which you ponder upon what has been the fate of others and might have been your own? I do sometimes, not, I am sorry to say, with much benefit to myself; for I indulge in the revery more as a luxury than as a reflection and comparison which ought to excite gratitude to God for the mercies which I have enjoyed. I often wonder at what seems to me my own indifference. But away with melancholy and drive dull care away such a gay but frivolous man, so let us echo his words though neither gay nor frivolous. Who can imagine you embryo judge as a gay young bachelor. Oh no we must picture as a sober faced, care worn anatomy, surrounded by musty parchments, (those skeletons of mens souls) frowning severely on all the vices of his contemporaries. Alas, the vision of a cigar protruding from

his mouth and the elevated legs form a reality that I fear even my imagination cannot satisfactorily dispose of. Never mind old fellow even judges now adays smoke and talk — "Science". So I have heard. To be sure it was all scandal but, then every one beleives scandal in this age. What an innocent, confiding age it is. The rule seems to be "beleive all you hear until it is proved false and then, if it to anyone's discredit, beleive it still". In old time they lived under a different regime; ther rule was. "Beleive every thing false until it is proved false, and then if you can make by it pretend to beleive it still". Two good rules doubtless, and well worthy of being followed by their different supporters. I find I have no room for Politics, so good bye. Your Aff friend

What of D.K.E. And, Orr. who died so suddenly. J M Cushing

Meadville July 10 1850

Dear T. W. [To Thomas W. Clarke]

First and foremost
let me congratulate you
on your resident graduate
Rose Lawton and to me
about it sometime since
and I have heard of it
two from other sources.

We have just been
having Fourth of July cel-
ebrations and College
Commencements here

with all the show and
circumstance which
you might suppose would
attach to the same
in a small country
town which aims at
the distinctions and
dignity of Faculty At Allegheny
College a class of
nineteen graduated.
I sat upon the platform
among the seniors, by
invitation (as a stranger
of distinction) and
heard the Greek salutatory
which I and comedies
(God save the mark) and
the Latin Salutatory a
part of which I had written
and other pieces whereof
I knew something of
the origin. What do
you think of such a
distinctive piece of
rhetoric as this? "The
curse of slavery sits hover-
ing in the South
looking eastward with
its eagle eye and
ready to pounce
upon unhappy Kansas"
Jerry cries no

that Class Day went
of Gloriously — it always
does. I am right glad
that so nice a fellow
as Fisher has succeeded
so well.

At present I am
vegetating here with the
expectation of going
home in two weeks.

I enclose a letter
to Miss Annie on
the supposition that
has come home. I am
going in ~~my~~ token of pleasure at
your success to confer
on you the degree of Rev. Grad. &
Bowd. Prize Dissertation — "You will in due
time have the degree forwarded you engrossed
on parchment and with the seals of societies attached
as is customary in such cases." Truly yours W. F. Bliss

Let me repeat my most hearty congratulations for your success. — I am hoping to see Willard here this month

1850

Bliss

Balto Sept 30 1836

Dear T. W. [To Thomas W. Clarke]

Do you know and do you reflect upon the knowledge that there are chords in the human heart; there is a point &c? I cannot suppose that an alumus of Harvard, a graduate of the class of 35, can be ignorant of so fundamental a law of nature as the above; and yet your conduct gives me fair reason to suspect, that you either cut the recitation during whose continuance said knowledge was communicated to our impressible minds, or else

that, having once put your hand to the plough, you have turned back and forgotten the lessons of your youth. So much for the dream and now for the interpretation thereof. Does your mind fully realize that this is the third letter I have written to you since I last heard from your most excellent highness; and that no letter from yourself has made its appearance during an almost fabulous space of time. Indeed, when from this distant standpoint, I attempt to recall the events of the age in which your last letter made its advent, it is like attempting to give a true narrative of the first three centuries of Rome's existence; id est, a thing impossible. How goes it with you Mon Ami, do you stand well the dust and heat of the day, or has the dry desert of the law proved too much for your endurance? Do you sit in a lawyers office day after day, with aching head and throbbing eye, longing for night to come when the toil of copying might cease and you might be at rest? Oh do not get so indignant and ask me if I take you

for a beggar &c! I only mean it as a commentary of your probable reason for not writing; want of time! So you have Bill Longfellow in Boston, I hope you have had the grace to call on him before this late day! Do you ever get as far as Cambridge in these days or has your regard for that ancient seat of learning taken to itself wings, and has the memory of O. Re. E. lost its charm for your hard heart?. Write soon

Your Aff friend
J M Cushing

Catherine Downey's letter
Octr 1st 56.

Downeville october 1th 1856

Mr Clark

Dear Sir According to what I told Mrs Clark I send you this Check of five hundred Dollars to put on Safe keeping for Me I have Not Much time to write as the Gentleman that will get the Money Checked is going to Sanfracisco but I will write a letter this evening & Send it in the Same Steamer

yours truly Catherine Downey

Copy

$500.— Office of Charles P Stone No 60
Sanfrancisco Octr 4th 1856.

At sight of this original of Exchange dupct unpaid, pay to the order of C. W. Clark Five hundred Dollars, value received, and place to account of Chas P. Stone

To Messrs Riggs & Co
New York

paid in Boston
Nov 6th 1856.

draft recd by Mail Octr 30th 56
handed J Gore Esqr Cashr } 31st "
Traders Bk for Coln }

Downieville october 1th 1856

[Calvin W. Clark]

Dear Mr Clark the few lions I wrote two Day I had to write them in such a hurry that I tought I would write this evening I have Not Much to say as I wrote to Mrs Clark Last Week I Send you My Money as you are the only person I Can depend on Mr Clark I did Not earn all that Money My Self hannah gave it to Me as She is More willing to do for Me than for her Self hannah keeps house & her & I gets Just as Much as we Can do we wash for two hotells & lives in a very Convenient place has the water in the house & two Coulard Men two fetch the Cloths & take them back I Never felt so happy in My life as I do Now we have No body to trouble us but us both hannah has a great Many friends in this town & is very well liked to we intend to Stay hear untill we Make Somthing to keep us from Slaves ing all our hoes at home hannah Could get A thousand dollars for her place in this town & She has alot of land in San Jose worth about Six hundred dollars She thinks She Can get More when She is ready to go home we expect to go home before My years when we have Some thing to go home with I hope to find you all Just as I left you

Cathn A. Downey's letter
Octr 1st 1856.

In good health give My love to Mrs Clark

& to all the family give My love to
Mary & tell her that I am Coming home

very Soon & My pill Mate

Mr Clark you Can do as you like with
the Money but I like the Savings bank
Best if you will please to answer this
when get this letter as I would to hear from
you as Soon as possible I remain with love to
you & your family yours truly

Catherine A Downey

Send her love
Hannah to Mrs Clark & to Mary

Direct your letter as before

Library of the Boston Society of Natural History,

11 Mason St., Oct. 6 1856.

To the Committee of
the Boston Latin School

Gentlemen

I have
been acquainted for
some years with Mr
J. W. Clarke and can
bear testimony to his
good scholarship and
complete fitness for
the office of teacher
in the Latin School
which he proposes
to apply for —

Respectfully
Ch. K. Dillaway
formerly Prin. of
B. L. S. —

[Oct. 7, 1856]

Mr J. W. Clarke graduated here at the Commencement of 1855. Throughout his College course he sustained a respectable rank as a Scholar & an unblemished moral character. He is believed to be well qualified in all respects to become a teacher.

James Walker
Pres. of Harvard College

Cambridge Oct 7. 1856

1856

Cambridge, Friday evening, October 10th
1856.

My dear Sir,

I have received your letter requesting a certificate from me. It would afford me sincere pleasure to give you one, if it were not for a technical difficulty. I make it a rule to be very conscientious in these matters, otherwise as you will see, the certificates from me would have no value. And one of the fundamental principles I have laid down, is not to give certificates to any for a shorter period than the whole college course. I find on looking back that I cannot give you the desired certificate without violating this principle.

I can truly say that I have never declined giving one with so much real regret as I feel in the present instance. The technical difficulty is the only objection I have, and if you had continued the study of Latin through your college course I would have given you one with pleasure. I shall be very

gled to hear of your success, & you have my best wishes.

You are at liberty to make any use of this letter as you please. It may be of use for you to show that our difficulties in respect either to character or scholarship have prevented your receiving the certificate.

I am very truly your friend,

George W. Lane.

Wm. T. W. Clark.

Jackson Oct 11th 1856

Dear T.—

Have just rec'd your tardy letter; but, having a little time to spare this Sat evening, reply with a despatch which, to say the least, is praiseworthy. Shall not notice, now, the argumentative part of your letter; since, to answer it, I must examine statistics.

So you are for a "stern, bearded" (like a pard?) "weather-beaten"—and, I hope, after 4 Nov, a badly beaten—"face set unflinchingly against extension of slavery." En passant, that "face" was set protestantward, he is traitorous to his God; it drew its first breath in the south, it is traitorous to its section; it is set against slave-extension, and may prove traitorous to the section of his adoption.

What, in the name of all that is reasonable, are Fremont's qualifications for the Office of Pres: in times so stormy and perilous as these? Mule meat is scarcer than mutton in Wm; and the White House isn't fitted to entertain anomalous creatures from the R. Mts.

What could have possessed you to nominate him?

what can possess you to think about voting for him?

Do you out upon Southern Disunionists, when you are trying to do the very thing that will bring it about? Do you not know that the election of Seward's, Hale's and Greeley's waxen figure will surely bring about disunion? Has not Texas ordered a call of the Leg in the event of Fremont's election? Do not southern men cry out resistance. Shall we have a prest to appoint officers - in the P.O. and Custom houses &c, & who is elected by men whose meat and bread is to abuse us; who is pledged by his position to use all his influence against us? Is the South not open to you? Do not thousands of you come amongst us, and make their fortunes? Are not your shoe shops - machine shops - manufactories - supported principally by southern patronage? Disunite, and a footfall will echo through the [redacted] warehouses of Boston - New York - Phila. You have only to ask yourself the question "Who buy our goods &c" to ascertain the truth of what I say. Slavery does injure you not one jot or tittle. Each section has its opinion on the subject - that of one is as good as the other's.

What do you intend to try to do, if Fremont is elected? Inquire and tell me the opinion of your friends.

I do not wish to separate merely because of F's election - But the first indication that justice will not be done, by heaven, I would touch the torch to a mine that would literally blow the union to atoms.

One example of the injustice to which I refer is, a refusal to admit Kansas should she apply for admission as a slave state.

If separated from the North the South would improve a thousand fold in ten years. But I deprecate disunion as much as any man. If the north choose to insult us into it, however, I am ready to greet a Southern flag with nine hearty cheers.

Am reading law slowly, though steadily; and shall get license in eighteen or twenty months. Has John Tileston returned to U.S.?

Tell me what you know about any

of the boys. I feel much interest in my classmates - if but little in my alma mater.

Going to heaven by listening is keeping up with times with a vengeance. I found a ΣΦ in town yesterday from Union College. Was glad to see him, of course.

How is Boston? Give it & its fair maidens my love. There is one there (or thereabouts) whom I would like to marry - but should not care about pitching my brother in law. Good by 2 - Write soon & Dont vote for Fremont and Disunion. A friend came in & sat for an hour & it is so dark that I can not see the lines

Yr friend - 213

[From James B. Clark]



Mr J. W. Clarke
Boston
Mass.

1852

Cambridge, Oct 16, 1856.

Mr W. W. Clarke.

Dear Sir;

I did not answer your note in season, because I knew I could not be of much service to you, for the following reason: I find that part of your Freshman year was spent out of College. And I do not find that I had anything to do with you during the rest of the course. Your marks in Greek, while you were with me, were good. But you know that the period was so short that it is impossible for me to form an opinion of your attainments in Greek. As to what is called general conduct, for my part I have nothing against you. Still in this particular the president's certificate would be more in accordance to form. What I know of you was perfectly satisfactory.

Your friend
E. A. Sophocles

Amherst Coll, Nov 16th 56-

Estimable William, [To Thomas W. Clarke]

At length I am so blessed as to have received an epistle from the rising young lawyer and accomplished orator whose voice has been heard with J B T Hobbs in the good old town of Cohasset with such stupendous effect, It is delightful to think that owing to our efforts in no small measure the astonishing majority was secured—

I know not whether you may have received a letter from me or not, Certain it is that I have have written to you and did write almost on my first arrival here, directing my missive to J W Clark (Esq) Cohasset, Mass, I had therefore come to the conclusion that I had made some mistake and I suppose the letter, brief but eloquent, is now gathering dust in Newcomb Bates's

post office — I am happy to hear that you have been devoting your energies to the support of those principles, which though now cast down, will I trust begin to brighten with the glow of triumph, when the sun gets out of his bury bed on the morning of the 4th of Nov 1860 — I have, in company with another soldier in the good fight, stumped the towns in this vicinity with considerable success waking up the sleepy natives, and causing the huge Verdant Buccaneers to tremble in their cowhide boots — Heard you ever, O my friend, of a certain damnable work called Calculus That book has inflicted a blow on my sensitive spirit, which I fear will wear away the already attenuated form of J. Hoppe My flesh crawls whenever I hear some deluded member of our class muttering over its mystic numbers and in the bitterness of my heart I am led to exclaim, in short

I am afraid I do too frequently exclaim in the ever memorable and undying words of the poet, Malachi Malagrowther

Jeems Buchanan, or rather his adherents here endeavored to hold a jubilee over their victory and like border ruffian wolves gathered together on the town green to howl over the ruins of their prostrate country — The Fremont men of this institution collected together also, manned every bell in town and while the cannon (only one) belched forth its thunders for the pirate's triumph the doleful tolling of half a dozen bells showed how little the citizens of it sympathized with the few office holders who insulted their town, by supposing it would consent that the enemies of constitutional liberty and constitutional law should exult with impunity via the defeat of both in a town true to Fremont and true to freedom

I am just called to recitation and am obliged to finish my sheet in with a lead pencil, writing on the back of Tacitus — Please excuse this failing and remember the various shifts to which the sudden change of College life puts us all — I shall start for Boston next Tuesday morning Please write and let me know when I shall see you — as I wish very much to do — Give my respects to the Amiable and interesting Edward Remember me affectionately to your family — And believe me

Your fraternal friend

J B F Hobbs

Jackson Dec 1856.

Dear T. —

I cannot say, as usual, that I am glad to write to you. I am "sitting up" to night: and for what, do you suppose? Is it with the sick? no. with the glad and gay? no. Because I want to study? No! What then. To await the issue of an expected insurrection among the negroes! To see whether, before morning, our house shall be in flames, my grey headed father slain — my sisters and nieces, outraged. Did you ever sit up for such a purpose? Or know you in any way, remotely, assisted in making me, your old college friend, sit up with such an issue to contend?

Who rouses our slaves to insurrection? Southern men? Who puts into their hands — torch and axe to burn and slay us — I ask again, is it Southern men! Perhaps you will evade

the question by say - "yes it is you; for you keep them in slavery." The question is, would they ever "rise", if not incited to it by white men? Never! The entire history of such events says never!

Now how, suppose you, do I feel towards the men who rouse the negroes to revolt. So. Where the man or men my dearest friends; and where they burning at the stake, I tell you, I would not raise a finger to release them. Aye - I would let my own brother suffer his just doom for such a crime!

How great then, must be the provocation when you are continually abusing us - writing against us - doing all you can to bring destruction upon us!

We can conquer the slaves with ease; but some must be killed before that can be accomplished. My own sister with six children, lives almost in the midst of an hundred negroes - there are five hundred for a thousand within three miles of them.

Now, suppose you, do I feel towards men who, directly or indirectly, stir them up to revolt!

These insurrections end only in injury to the negro. Why has Mrs Stowe never painted an insurrection?

And you are wasting, breath, money, and brain, for a principle in moral philosophy, which you daily demonstrate in logic so clear as to convince — yourselves; and in words so strong, that you rivet the chain firmer upon the slave.

I don't know how this will end. But should it be for the worse, by heaven white blood shall flow for it one of these days.

But these thoughts excite bitter feelings. And should I indulge them longer, I might use language unpleasant to the ears of a friend — — —

What has been the result of your precalculations? Each paper or each politician "calculates" the event with as much certainty and as satisfactorily to himself, as Peirce does the orbit of a star.

I was much amused the other day, when told that, in one of our piney woods counties, the clerk wouldn't come to court. He said that he was out of provender, and must go and buy some chickens and eggs. The sheriff was sent after him, but being a room mate and cobachelor with the clerk, he did not arrest him, but went along with him to look for chickens and eggs. Vine justice! But they got the clerk finally. He was enraged at such conduct - locked up his office - was put in jail - and court adjourned ~~a~~ sine die.

Our legislature is in session now, revising the code: but do not intend to make the jury judges of both law and fact, as did the Leg of a certain state I wot of.

Who's to be President next time? The woolly candidate? Why didn't he answer McMaster's letter?

Have you a peice of Sumner's bloody shirt tail in a locket - or do you perform your orisons before the sacred relic?

We expect to give Willard and Richardson an enthusiastic welcome to our town - bold men, who have the courage to do right in the midst of the general political profligacy of their compeers.

The next contest will be between the Dem: party, comprising the entire southern states; and the steady, thinking, conservative, portion of the north, on the one side; - and the B Rs (I use no adjectives, but does R - stand for renegades?) on the other. If you succeed - then with your patriotic banks, I fear it will be time to say - or you will compel us to say, - "let the union slide."

Yours Truly,

Jas B. Clark

P.S. Report that the insurrection will commence on the night of 25th Decr. Let it be - We will teach 'em one lesson they wont forget in ten generations. Weep. T. Weep - and run for comfort to your relic

WARRANTY DEED.

Tallmadge Elwell & Wife

TO

George B. Wright

Lot No. ..... in .....

..... Morrison ..... County }

CLERK'S OFFICE: }

Recorded in Book ~~No.~~ A. of Deeds
page 113 .... the 15th ..... day of
January ..... A. D. 1857.
at 2 .... o'clock. P.M.

..... N. Richardson. Clerk.

Register of Deeds

Fee paid.

Jan 15 1857
at 2 P.M.

Hall & Lawrence
Attorneys &c
St. Anthony, W.T.

Sold. L 9, B 46
to T Elwell

Dec. 19, 1856

WARRANTY DEED.——Blanks of kinds sold by HALL, MILLS & Co. Booksellers, Syracuse.——A. B. F. Ormsby & Co. Printers.

This Indenture, Made the Nineteenth day of December one thousand eight hundred and fifty Six Between

Fallmadge Elwell and Margaret his Wife of Granite City Morrison County in the Territory of Minnesota of the first part and George B. Wright of Minneapolis in the County of Hennepin and Territory of Minnesota aforesaid of the second part, Witnesseth: That the said part ies of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of Four Hundred Dollars ($400) lawful money of the United States of America, to them IN HAND PAID, by the said part y of the second part, at or before the ensealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, ha vegranted, bargained, sold, alienated, remised, released, conveyed and confirmed, and by these Presents do grant, bargain, sell, remise, release, convey and confirm unto the said part y of the second part, and to his heirs and assigns forever, All

Those certain Lots in Granite City in the County of Morrison and Territory of Minnesota, towit: Lots four, seven, and eight (4. 7. 8.) in Block number Sixty three (63). Lot three in Block Sixty six (66) Lots one and two (1&2) in Block Sixty seven (67) and Lots number one, (nine) and ten in Block number forty six (46) as surveyed and plotted by the said George B. Wright

Together with all and singular the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining, and the reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders, rents, issues and profits thereof. To Have and to Hold, all and singular the above mentioned and described premises, together with the appurtenances, unto the said part y of the second part, his heirs and assigns, forever. And the said Fallmadge Elwell his heirs, the said Premises, in the quiet and peaceable possession of the said part y of the second part his heirs and assigns, against the said part ies of the first part them heirs, and against all and every person and persons whatsoever, lawfully claiming or to claim the same, shall and will Warrant, and by these Presents forever Defend.

In Witness Whereof, The said part ies of the first part ha ve hereunto set them hand s and seal s the day and year first above written.

Fallmadge Elwell L. S.

Margaret Elwell L. S.
by Edward L Hall
her attorney in fact

Sealed and Delivered in Presence of
John McLeod
W. R. Lawrence Jr.

State of New-York,)
COUNTY,) ss.

On this .....day of.....185..
appeared.....and.....his wife,
and acknowledged that they had severally executed the within instrument, and the said
.....on a privaie examination, apart from her husband,
acknowled that she executed the within instrument freely, and without any fear or compulsion of her husband; and I farther certify that I know the persons who made the said acknowledgment, to be the individuals described in, and who executed the within instrument.

Territory of Minnesota

Hennepin ~~State of New-York,~~)
COUNTY,)

On this, 19th day of December 185.6
appeared Tallmadge Elwell & E.D. Hall atty. for Mary Ann Elwell who ~~acknowledged~~ severally
acknowledged that they executed the within instrument; and I certify that I know the persons who made the said acknowledgment to be the individuals described in, and who executed the within instrument.

P. W. Lawrence
Notary Public
M.T.

Walter Roberts
Watkins

1857

Mr Mark Cook
Boston
Case Austin Flint MD.
Mass

Boston 27th Jany 1857

Michael Murphy Esq
Dear Sir,

Since you left Circumstances have arisen which make me deem it very much for your interest to return. Your junior partner is asserting openly on the street, that you have been constantly in the habit of selling shells with the pea nuts, and consequently is endeavoring to obtain an indictment against you for "crim con" and ~~[illegible]~~ has I learn applied to the Governor for a requisition

Now I know this accusation to be at least "in a measure" false. In the first place, I know, that no shells were sold in that manner. In the second place, I know, that if they were so sold it was done for the benefit of the firm, and with the firm peanuts,—and in the third place I know, that if it was done, and that not for the firms benefit, it is none of his d— d business. Still as it is in his power, to very materially

injure

injure you in your future business. I am of opinion that you had best return and clear up these shells. The report here, is also, that in your Exchanges with your Aunt Margaret Mallowey, pea nut which you gave her being 10 cents a quart, and oranges which you received from her, being 5 cents apiece, that you gave her a quart of pea nuts for Each single orange so received, and that this difference she has handed over to you, to Enable you to purchase a Shovel and pickaxe to go into the "banking" houses business at Buffalo. Moreover, you informed me that if I intimated to you at any time when you had left, that you had best return, you would do so at once, and I know tell you, you had better Come.

Dire things are springing up to give your Enemies new grounds of Evidence against you, Among other things, Something green has sprung up in a garden back of your wife mothers Uncle's house, in New Orleans and which, all affirm looks very much like an orange tree, thereby going to prove, that at some distant period, you (being a dealer in oranges) must have given this gentleman an orange belonging to the firm, and the firm property, surreptiously obtained, which he must have taken to New Orleans and Eaten, and planted the seed. Now as no one Ever heard that the afore-mentioned gentleman was Ever in Boston, or that you were Ever in New Orleans So do not think it a very Strong Case, but still they Consider the circumstantial Evidence very strong. One thing, rather goes against their Case however, and that is that good judge say that the said Sprout is not an infant orange tree, but an ordinary weed.

However, I think you had better Come home, and trust you will not refuse to obey my summons but will allow me to look upon the light of your countenance in this office at an Early period

Yours
Karl
Attorney

Your wife is very anxious to see you, she says. Your junior partner takes care of her nights however. So dont be anxious

Sunday Jan 25. 1857.

My Dear Brother William

Received on Saturday an epistle from you, it was the first since I came over here, I was much pleased but do not know what to say as it is so much above my comprehension, what I understood I was delighted with. You ought not to have written in so high flown a stile. As you have had a College education, you must not expect a Public school pupil, could appreciate so long, and flowing a letter. As there is nothing in your letter for me to answer to I shall not pretend to attempt it. So. fare you well

from your brother
Geo.

Please when you write again write in a little less big flown a stile. And without so many solauls. dont be discouragld at this one tryal but persevere. I should be happy to hear from you oftener.

Geo.

Mechanics Institute Building
No 16 Chambers st. N.Y. Jany. 26/57

Dear Tom - [To Thomas W. Clarke]

Your welcome letter was received on Friday last and gave me as much joy as astonishment - So long any interval had intervened since I had heard from you, that I almost feared you were no longer in the land of the living, and therefore now feel a tenfold pleasure in finding that F.W.C "still lives," and hope that now, since you are again redivivus, you will be more liberal with your correspondence to this individual -

Very much has transpired in New York and in reference to your humble servant since last I wrote to you. That I have been admitted to practice at the New York bar, I suppose you are aware, for unless my memory deceives me, I wrote so to you in my last letter - I believe that I also wrote informing you that our classmate "ye Badger" had also applied for admission and been examined at the same time, and breathe it not in Gath, had been rejected - Oh! Dagon! how have

the mighty faller- since his ejection he has gone to the Western part of the State and there having been examined and admitted has returned to New York otherwise Gotham where he is now practising. And now Tom open your eyes wide with surprise, yet faint not at the news I am now about to communicate to you- I have, since having written to you, been to Wisconsin, Iowa and Kansas- I went thither with the intention of there locating myself and pursuing my profession- I have not time at present to write you at length and therefore must reserve for my next letter a full communication of my perilous adventures by flood and field, my return the wherefore &c- Alf Evans as you know, I suppose is studying the science of Law at Dubuque Iowa- You must excuse my writing more at present as I am pretty busily employed just now, both in law and literature- Write soon and if you could enclose one or two of my photographs in your letter you would confer a favor on

Your friend ever

J.S. Gutman Jr
Counsellor at Law

Remember me to all enquirers -

So long a period has intervened since I last wrote you that I really have forgotten your address and am in considerable doubt as to whether this note will be correctly directed or not- If the address is not the proper one please correct in your next

Yours

Joe

East Bridgewater March 10. 1857

Messrs Wm & Hs G Parker

The rule adopted in this County in Justices Courts as far as my practice extends, is this, that if the defendant appears on the return day of the writ for trial and the Pltf does not appear, the action is continued and notice given to the Pltf of the adjournment of the Court, if the defendant does not appear at the return day of the writ he is defaulted.
If there is an appearance in your case I will notify you of the adjournment -

Yours &c Wilcome Young

1857

Bosh

J. O. Beauchamp murdered Solo P. Sharp at Frankfort Ky 6 Nov 1825 Executed 6th next July.

Duchat.

Balto. March. 18 1837

Dear T. [To Thomas W. Clarke

Did you imagine that your two friendly letters had fallen unheeded to the ground? Or have you indulged in some hasty expressions concerning the folly of casting pearls before a clan of animals which shall be nameless? If so young may look abashed and in repentant mood confess your errors. Much have I thought about you; many times have I determined to write you and some two or three times I have even commenced epistles beginning with adjectives of endearment to the same familiar letter which heads this page; but it has been reserved for a bed of sickness and a season of convalescence to work me up to the

progressive point. From the preceeding your logical mind will instantly conclude that I have been sick and am better. Such indeed has been my fate and through some most delicious spring days, when the balmy air and sunny sky were tempting all right minded and able bodied persons out to taste their freshness, I have been reclining supinely on my back upon my bed, solacing my lonely hours by periodic draughts of nauseous medicals and when favored by visits from my friends and relatives I have indulged in that most exquisite of luxuries, envy, grumbling to myself as I watched their cheerful countenances, and listened to their eulogies upon the outside conditions of things, until having persuaded myself that I was a most ill used individual I have felt some faint emotions of pleasure in seeing them take their departure, and in hoping it would rain or snow ere they got home or could find any welcome shelter for their spring clothes. Let me advise you, when you pay a visit to any sick friend, to put on your worst clothes and your longest face; to enquire anxiously as to their symptoms and to unfold a most lugubrious budget of instances in which acquaintances of your own have died from just such disease; And finally when you take your departure, squeeze out a tear, hope that they <u>may</u> recover, but at the same time drop a hint of your willingness to serve as a pall bearer. By following my advice you will make your sick friend form a high estimate of your own good sense, and will

convince him that he is a victim to the experiments of the Med Fac. You must excuse such dwelling upon my own condition for you know it is a kind of Egotism in which sick people are very prone to indulge, indeed they count it as one of their prerogatives and take every opportunity to inflict upon every one they can obtain a hearing from. Our town is moderately lively, we have had Dr Kane's funeral procession, most lengthy accounts, in all the public prints, of the various railroad accidents, and mine explosions even from across the high seas. The theatres are in full blast, filled with silly people who having gone once and found their money as good as thrown away, still continue

to go and look at the same ugly
players and hear the same stupid
plays, in the forlorn hope that the
managers may (by mistake) hit upon
something worth seeing or hearing;
and so they will continue until
the managers have filled their own
pockets and shut up the theatres;
when the same silly people will
flock off to disagreeable watering
places, have just as stupid a time,
spend a good deal more money and
return poor and dissatisfied, to begin
the same routine over again. Such
is life. You will look at this half-
sheet of paper and will wonder what
induced me to dirty it by writing
on its fair surface: Now hark, I will
let you into a secret which you

may find of use some day; I wanted a place to sign my name. This letter is really so much like what any one else could have written that I was afraid to send it without my signature. Had I been well and in good spirits I might (I do not say I would) have filled it with such glowing thoughts and original expressions that you would instantly say "No one but Joey M.C. could have written that". As it is it is enough — to weary you — So I exercise the divine charm of mercy — so natural to one of my sweet (?) disposition and subscribe myself

Your Affectionate friend

J M Cushing

write me soon

New York. April 28. 1837.

My dear friend [To Thomas W. Clarke]

No doubt you will almost feel inclined to throw this note aside without ever favoring it with a perusal in your anger at my having left your letter unanswered for so long a period. But e'er you do so, my dear Tom listen to a few words in my defence - Hear me for my cause, and listen that you may hear - It was only last Thursday that your welcome favor was placed in my hands, & having but then just returned from a short sojourn in the south, whither I had gone

with Mrs G- on a visit to her relatives- She is at present staying with them for the benefit of her health which is somewhat poor, and has requested me when I write to you "de faire ses compliments." Il y a rien des chores a ecrire except that I have left Mr Phillips' office and have established myself at No 167 Broadway, Room No 4, where I shall always be very happy to hear from my respected friend T W C. The fact is the locality of Mr P.'s office was not a very good one and besides I preferred being alone, as I think it will prove more profitable as well as more pleasant- The new office which I have taken is in a most eligible situation in the business part of Broadway near Maiden lane, in a building occupied exclusively by members of the learned fraternity and is in every respect most pleasant with the exception of one little item- the rent, which is "rayther fat"- Just think for a little room 10 by 12, on the second floor $300. Well all that I'll have to do will be to make the income exceed the outlay- n'est ce pas? I have not as yet entered into actually possession but shall do so on the 1st of May Well my dear boy having now done my duty and having alas! nothing more to write I will conclude

with the hope that this reaches you in possession of all the prosperity, success &c &c which you can desire- This I know is but a short epistle to write to an old friend but you must excuse, when I have nothing to write- you don't want me to bore you with nonsense, do you? No of course not - and besides what saith the old song

"Little drops of water
Little grains of sand
Make the mighty ocean
And the **** **** land."

Hoping therefore that you will receive this little drop in the bucket of friendship, (or boquet of friendship) in the same friendly spirit with which it is given I subscribe

myself

Your friend as ever

Jos Gutman Jr

Your letters will hereafter reach me addressed

Jos. Gutman Jr
Counsellor &c
No 167 Broadway
Room No 4 N. Y.

Write soon and apropos, if you can obtain for me one or two of my photographs with one of yours you would confer a favor by sending to

Yours Joe

1857

J Gutman

Cambridge May 10th 57

Dear Sir

I am desirous of seeing you on Tuesday next. I will come to Boston between ten and eleven A. M., and can remain until half-past twelve. If I can see you between 10 and 11 A. M. you need not write me. But if you cannot see me at ~~that~~ time, or cannot see me at all on Tuesday, will you write me, and, if the first supposition be correct, write me at what time I can have the honor of an interview? Mr Sellon will not answer in your place. Excuse this filthy sheet of paper.

Yours Truly

C. E. Norton

To S. W. Clarke

Boston

Boston May 15th 1857

T. W. Clarke Esq:

Dear Sir:

We enclose six cents ($.06) being the amount of a wager between us on the event or result of the race between the Huron and Volant: it being understood and agreed that if the said Huron shall win the said race then the amount now deposited with you as stakeholder shall be paid by you to George W. Smalley whose signature is hereunto appended and who deposits as his part of said wager one half of said six cents ($06) to wit: three cents: but if said Volant shall win said race said sum of six cents ($.06) shall be paid to

Horatio G. Parker whose signature
or mark is hereunto subscribed or made
and who has likewise deposited one
half of said sum of six cents ($.06)
to wit: three cents.

But it is expressly directed by both
said Parker and said Smalley that
in no event and for no purpose shall
you appropriate to your own use or
convert or spend or otherwise create
any part of said sum of six cents
($.06) but that said sum shall be
well & truly kept held by you in
your said capacity of Stakeholder
to abide the result of said race.

In witness whereof we have the
hereto to be

With high respect
Your obedient Servants
George W. Smalley
H. G. Parker

Adjutant General's Office,
Washington, May 21. 57.

Sir:

In answer to your letter of the 13th instant, to the Secretary of War, which has been sent to this Office, I have to refer you to page 5 of the system of "Instruction for Field Artillery Horse and Foot", a copy of which will be forwarded to your address by to day's mail, for the order of the War Department to which it is presumed you allude.

I am Sir, very resp
Your obdt. servant,
S. Cooper
Adjutant General.

J. A. Clark, Esq.,
Care of H. M. & H. G. Parker,
Boston
Mass.

Washington, June 8, 1857

My Dear Cousin,

I have received your note of the 2d in relation to supernumerary Lieutenants and Sergeants to a Company. The question is in some measure answered on page 10, Volume I of Scott's Tactics, where a place is assigned to such supernumeraries. In large companies and in cases where a company is manoeuvred as a battalion, they may be very useful. In the regular service it often happens that the Sergeants have to command platoons and

sections at company drill.
The law, however, with us regulates
the number of commissioned and
non-commissioned officers by an
imperative mode, in the matter
of pay.

Hardee's Tactics has been
distributed for use to the Army.
There is now some talk of calling
a Board to modify, or condemn
it altogether, chiefly I believe
originating with General Scott,
who does not like to have his
Light Infantry drill
set aside. I cannot say whether
anything will be done about it.

Very truly Yours
E. D. Townsend

Dubuque, July 9th 1857.

Mr. T. W. Clarke.

My dear T. W.

As I left Boaston without saying "that sweet ole word, Goodbye" to many whom I rank as friends there, and as you ought not to have been of that number, I hasten to make what reparation I may. A mutual acquaintance of ours, Alex. Young, is in Dubuque, and often speaks of you. He told me you had some thoughts of emigrating. I hope that is a fact. Although money here is more than larnin', and good business qualifications help a man more than ripe scholarship, nevertheless I think that that readiness of mind & that buoyancy of temper, which you have ever manifested, sufficient guarantee of success.

Come out and try it.

I left the city of Notions myself less sanguine even than I feel now - after casting my mite of disrespect upon the Drug business. I do not forget our occasional unbendings over a box of Trusedoras. Do you?

What are you up to? Writing a life of Poe? Or getting out a Balloon patent? Or are you still at Law? I do not by any means intend to insinuate that my friend is fickle — only versatile. May he prosper!

I came out West last October. Went immediately to Saint Paul, where I remained six weeks, admiring the scenery, and avoiding pigs, pitfalls & pickpockets. Having become satisfied with the first, I left bold & defiant of the three last. My next stopping-place was Prescott, a mushroom settlement 25 miles below St. Paul, on the river. Nothing but infatuation cld have induced this step, but being once there I made the best of it, and at last got into comfotable quarters in a gentleman's family, as private tutor. Perhaps "private tutor" is rather too genteel a phrase for the character appointed me, well then I taught. I don't know as yr geographical knowledge is sufficiently minute for the locality of ~~this town~~ Prescott. Know, then, 'tis built upon the storied banks of Lake St. Croix, at the junction of that same with the Father of running waters. It is really a lovely spot, though in winter the dwellers in "the realms of the Boreal pole" are about as comfotably off, I apprehend.

I am now in the hands of Fate - at the service of President Buchanan - or at the discretion of his lord & master, the Devil. At Dubuque. I find a number of young Bostonians in town, mostly helping me, do nothing. Young is deep in the Ethics of Loafing. He thinks that to loaf sans 'Yawn-we' requires a very happy, original & inventive turn of mind. It requires great powers of Endurance.

Youngs has read Grote through twice. He has just got his books - a fine collection - verra tidy. I can't keep books.

What has become of the young man of the name of Allen? I wrote him sometime before leaving the East - yes. & by'r lady, once't since - but he hath not as yet favored me with a reply. If you see him, stir um up, or if you are writing - do. I'd like him out here. He would do well. So would you, my friend - also everybody who is under thirty and unmarried. For one I have unbounded confidence in the West - that a glorious, a marvellous destiny awaits it. Besides it is a fine country to live in - even now. Missouri is bound to be the pivot of the Union. I see it rising like a great & puissant whatyecallum, & and shaking its invincible locks.

I was at Wabashaw a few days ago. Saw a most diverting exhibition of ye Red Man as he appeared while in jinks. There was a congreg. of some thirty, besides squaws & suckers. They danced, and yelled, and squatted, and guzzled beer, and grinned, and grunted, and then they hopped up and down. 'Twas hard funny - 'orrid.

Ajew, now. Yours very truly, Jas T. Lobb

N.B.

I am laltering excessively, my dear T. W. & I fear even the slight effort in uniting augments it, so I ask yr pardon for leaking off so abruptly. I shld be right glad to hear from you. My direction is simply Dubuque. Give my regards to your family, if they have not forgotten the young man who

lodged & breakfasted once upon a time in Kingston Street.

Are you admitted yet? Douglas (A. D. Evans, you knew of course, is here) sends best wishes & thinks you would do well out here. He is doing very well himself.

Cutts

Balto July 17 1857

Dear T. [To Thomas W. Clarke]

Your letter came duly to hand and was relished by me as a sherry Cobbler well made, is by a thirsty man on a hot midsummer day, or again as a well in the desert is by a parched and weary traveller as with laggard step and lolling tongue he plods along with but one hope, one wish, one salvation, water. I hope that my flowery and very eloquent opening will have the effect of causing a feeling of thirst and faintness to come over your delicate organization, for it will afford a fair excuse to take a drink and mentally pledge me as a sigh of exquisite pleasure is heaved forth and you catch the first, sad, view of the too early found, bottom — of your glass.

I much desired to have met you at this just passed Commencement, but the fates, against whom none may successfully rebel, sternly prohibited even the luxury of a hope. But now, long in advance, do I bid you expect me, look for me, long after me, at next commencement for, if alive, and the stern hand of a hard up condition still remain afar off I will surely come.

Surgery

My young friend Converse performed his portion of wednesday's exercises in a higly creditable manner I have no doubt. I wish I had been there to see and hear.

How many and who of our classmates were present at the the class meeting this year? I was much supprised to hear that Abbott of ours was an assistant Tutor to the Greek. You would have allowed me to remain in everlasting ignorance of the fact. Should you see him remember me kindly to him and say that I rejoice that the class of 55 has so good a representative among the officials of our "Alma Mater."

And now, lest forgetfulness of my wish shall have wrapped in oblivion my intention to supplicate a favor at your hands; let me boldly make my petition; first premising that true friendship requires that on reading this you shall, without reading the wish expressed below, exclaim, after the manner of the ancient worthies, whose generous deeds are recorded in that veracious history yclept the "Arabian Nights," "it is granted though it be one half of all my possessions." Now for the request. Will you write me a magazine article on any subject you may please and I will let you see it when in print. Does this astonish you? Do you begin to wonder whether I am about to appear in print and wish to palm off an article from your ready pen as an effusion from my own brain? Do not be alarmed I am not yet sunk so low. I have been requested by a party of young men here to become an associate editor of a monthly magazine which they intend to establish here, and I consented more for the sake of the amusement than any thing else for I am a little fearful that my pocket will suffer somewhat. There will be twelve Editors, one for each month and I am naturally anxious to have ~~my~~ the number, whose birth may happen under my supervision, able to compete with any other. If we succeed in bringing the mag into existence your article shall appear and a copy sent to your address. Now oblige me in this matter and let your article be such an one as will reflect credit on the class of 55 and on our illustrious Alma Mater. Please let me have it by the 20th day of August.

How do law and heat work together I hope the violence of the one does not diminish the force of the other? Well Old fellow Good Bye for the present and do not fail me in the matter of that little article. Write soon

Yours very truly

J M Cushing

Mortgage Deed—Printed and for sale at the Pioneer and Democrat Office, Saint Paul.

This Indenture, Made this twenty Eighth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty seven BETWEEN Edward Murphy and Harriett Murphy his Wife of Minneapolis M. T. party of the first part, and Ovid Pinney now of Minneapolis County of Hennepin and Territory of Minnesota party of the second part, Witnesseth, That the said party of the first part, in consideration of the sum of Three Thousand Dollars, to them in hand paid by the said party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do as by these presents Grant, Bargain, Sell and Convey, to the said party of the second part, his heirs and afsigns forever, all the tracts, pieces or parcels of Land, lying and being in the County of Washington and Territory of Minnesota, described as follows, to wit: The East half of section Thirty One (31) in township twenty Seven (27) in Range twenty (20) West and the West half of section thirty two (32) in township twenty Seven (27) in range twenty (20) West of the fourth principle meredian Containing Six Hundred and forty acres Situated in the County of Washington and Territory of Minnesota

To Have and to Hold the Same, Together with all the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto in anywise appertaining. And the said Edward Murphy and Harriett Murphy his Wife parties of the first part, do Covenant with the said party of the second part, his heirs and afsigns as follows: First, that we are the owners and lawfully seized of said premises. Second, that we have good right to convey the same. Third, that the same are free from all incumbrances whatever. And fourth, that the said party of the second part, his heirs, and afsigns shall quietly enjoy and possess the same: and that we will Warrant and Defend the title to the same against all lawful claims.

Provided Nevertheless, That if the said Edward Murphy or Harriett his Wife parties of the first part their heirs, executors and administrators shall well and truly pay, or cause to be paid to the said Ovid Pinney party of the second part, his heirs, executors, administrators or afsigns, the sum of Three Thousand Dollars, according to the condition of one promisary note of three Thousand Dollars drawing interest from date at three per cent per month for one year bearing even date herewith; then this deed to be null and void; otherwise to be in full force and effect. But if default shall be made in the payment of the said sum of money or the interest, or any part thereof, at the time hereinbefore specified for the payment thereof, the said parties of the first part, in such case do hereby authorize and fully empower the said party of the second part, his heirs, executors, administrators and asfigns, to sell the said hereby granted premises at public auction, and convey the same to the purchaser, in fee simple, agreeably to the statute in such case made and provided, and out of the moneys arising from

such sale, to retain the principal and interest which shall then be due on the said note or obligation together with all costs and charges, and pay the overplus (if any) to the said party of the first part, his heirs, executors, administrators or assigns.

In Testimony Whereof, The said party of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in Presence of

Carlos Wiley

Geo. B. Wright

Edward A. Murphy SEAL.

Harriett Murphy SEAL.

SEAL.

SEAL.

Territory of Minnesota,

County of Hennepin } ss

Be it Known, That on this twenty ninth day of July A. D. 1857, personally came before me Edward A. Murphy & Harriett his wife the signers and sealers of the foregoing Deed, and acknowledged the same to be their own free act and deed.

And the said Harriett Murphy wife of the said Edward A. Murphy upon examination by me separate and apart from her husband, acknowledged that she executed the same freely and of her own accord, for the purpose and intent therein expressed, and without fear or compulsion from any one.

Carlos Wiley
Notary Public

Mortgage Deed

Edward & Harriett Murphy

TO

Ovid Pinney

Office of Register of Deeds,

County of Washington M. T.

I hereby certify that the within Deed was filed in this office for record, on the Seventh day of October A. D. 1857, at 12 o'clock, M, and was duly recorded in Book "E" of Mortgages, page 211. Oct 7th

James J. Parker
Register of Deeds.

Oct. 7. 12. M. Rec'd

Book 117

84 P 170 J 77
P302 DLS- All T2687

Book 132 Page 7

Baltimore Novem 23 1857

Dear T. [To Thomas W. Clarke]

I have not heard from you for so long a time that I am almost justified in my own mind that you must have performed some dismal deed and been obliged to fly from your fatherland and take refuge in a foreign clime and there residing in solitude & poverty cannot raise funds to liquidate the postage. If this be true, I grieve and do most heartily sympathies with you. However I will not give you up without a trial to write and will direct to you as usual trusting to your father to forward the epistle to you in your hidden retreat. Should this letter eventually come to hand and your indigent condition be not

improved, I authorize you to borrow the sum of not less than three cents nor more than five and draw on me at sight and your draft shall be honored. Should even this, my generous offer, be insufficient, I have no other advice to give except for you to sell a coat or vest, to some wandering Poke, such as he, who amid the academic groves of Harvard, ministered to our undergraduate wants and condescended to purchase our partly worn habiliments at one tenth or so of their actual value.

As I informed you in my last letter your epistle and its accompanying article came duly to hand and was read by me with much pleasure as bearing strong testimony that even the perusal of dry, musty tomes of lelay records has not dulled your intellectual vigor nor deprived your written thought of any of its wonted originality and power. I had hoped that our contemplated Mugg would long ere this have made its public appearance and compelled the plaudits of the literary world by its unusual merits. But man proposes & and so it has happened the we self constituted Editors remain in statu Quo for from indolence, & business, and disagreement as to what we want and intend, and from some traitorous secessions we have never even made a beginning. And so it ever is we plan great things we issue flaming announcement to the world and too often end in doing Nothing and our lives are frittered away until the curtain of death falls upon our hopes our wishes and our duties, and from our parched lips and failing heart ascends the mournful wail, too late!

How many a man at the close of an ill spent and wasted life has gone to eternity with the sad lament of too late in his heart and on the lips of his ~~parents~~ and friends as the good resolutions & noble deeds which he might have formed and done have recurred to his mind just ere his eye has closed and his pulse ceased to beat upon the shores of death.

I unconciously seem to have fallen into quite a solemn train which I hope however will not depress your spirits too much, at least not enough to interfere with the practice of the law. Do the clients come in crowds, all importunate to be served and each later one envying every earlier comer his somewhat speedier access to the fountain of legal erudition. Or do you sometimes sit solitary & alone

wondering why some on of the numerous quarrels are not submitted to you either for arbitration or defence.[5] Do not despair, patient waiting is said to be no sin, and in the meanwhile you can occupy yourself in the perusal of Noctes Ambrosianae, a book which I am reading with much pleasure and profit; or else with Macolini's history of the Jesuits which you will find very readable and satisfactory. Irving is in our fair city preparing to practice law here, he is studying with Schley's father and likes him very much. I see him occasionally. We have no news every thing is quiet and will probably remain so until our fool of a Governor commits some other insane act and rouses us up to resist. Write Soon and a long letter

Your Aff friend
J M Cushing

Boston 24 October 1857

J W Clark Esqr

Secretary &c

Dear Sir

Yr favour of this date is before me. — I thank You Sir and the Republicans of Ward 7 for the honour in electing me a delegate to represent them at the Councellor Convention, — but tho' my feelings are heartily with them in the approaching Election in w I think every effort should be call'd out, a Younger & more active Man could better aid the cause in my opinion — & I therefore decline accepting the Office.

respectfully & truly Yrs

Sam Hall

Dame May

1857

State of New Hampshire

Rockingham ss.

I, Amos Tuck, a Justice of the Peace for said County of Rockingham do hereby certify that Hannah P. Gill, wife of Charles Gill, who executed the foregoing Deed, who is personally known to me as the identical person who, (as Hannah P. Gill) signed and executed the foregoing Deed appeared before me this day, and having been by me ~~personally~~ examined, separate and apart, and out of the hearing of her husband, and the contents and meaning of the said instrument of writing having been by me made known and explained to her, acknowledged that she had freely and voluntarily executed the same, and relinquished all her right title and interest in and the lands and tenements therein mentioned, without compulsion of her husband, and that she does not wish to retract the same Given under my hand the Sixteenth day of December A. D. 1857 –

Amos Tuck Justice of the Peace –

State of Iowa } Winnebago Co. } ss.
Filed for record August 1st 1862 and recorded in Book B of Deeds on Page 424.
David Secor Recorder

G R Maben

Deed –
Charles Gill & wife
to
Brigham C. Wright –

State of New Hampshire.

Rockingham S.S.

I Charles G. Conner Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court in and for said County hereby certify that Amos Tuck Esq. is now and was on the 16th day of December A. D. 1857 an acting Justice of the Peace within and for said County, duly commissioned and qualified and by law duly authorised to take the acknowledgments of deeds & other instruments to be recorded in this State – that all his official acts as such are entitled to full faith & credit – that the signature above purporting to be his, is genuine. & that the within deed is duly executed according to the laws of the State of New Hampshire

Given under my hand & the seal of said Court, this 16th day of December, A. D. 1857.

C. G. Conner
Clerk.

[Dec 16, 1857]

Dec. 16, 1857

Know all men by these presents, that

I Charles Gill of Exeter in the County of Rockingham and State of New Hampshire, and Hannah P. Gill, wife of the said Charles Gill

For and in consideration of the sum of two hundred and sixty dollars to me in hand, before the delivery hereof, paid by Brigham C. Wright of Milton in the County of Chittenden and State of Vermont

the receipt whereof we do hereby acknowledge, have released, sold, and *quitclaimed*, and by these presents do release, sell and *quitclaim* unto the said Wright his heirs and assigns, all our right, title, interest, estate, and demand of, in, and unto the South West Quarter of Section number twenty one (21) in Township number ninety eight (98) North of Range number twenty four (24) west of the fifth P. M. Situate in the State of Iowa, containing one hundred and sixty acres of land more or less —

To *Have* and to *Hold* said released and quitclaimed premises, with all the privileges and appurtenances to the same belonging, to him the said Wright his heirs and assigns, to his and their proper use, benefit and behoof forever; Hereby engaging to warrant and defend the said granted premises, against all claims or demands of any persons claiming by, from or under us

~~And I, wife of the said in consideration of the sum aforesaid, do hereby *relinquish my right of dower* in the before mentioned premises.~~

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and seals the sixteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven —

Signed, Sealed, and Delivered in presence of

Amos Nick
Charles S. Gill

Chas Gill
Hannah P. Gill

State of New Hampshire, Rockingham ss. December 16th 1857 —

Personally appearing the above named Charles Gill, to me well Known and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his free act and deed, before me; and I certify that the said Charles Gill is the identical person who signed and executed the foregoing Deed — Before me Amos Nick — Justice of the Peace.