

8 o'clock, we have had a
feast of letters, 3 from yourself
3 from "H". He has given us a
most glowing description of Christmas
at the Institute, also that you were
3^d in the number of gifts, how is
St. Mary before rece^d so in any way
any other? I thought she would have
certainly made you a Christmas
gift if no one else had, how is
it tell us all about it, did you
give her one? Your Brother did
not say any thing about his cold.
There is a good deal of small pox
prevailing around Cambridge, I
hope he will not take it, we are
all so happy to hear from both of
our dear children, & that you are
well & happy, I intended to put Miss
Bartlett's funeral ticket in my last
letter but I forgot it, her remains
were brought to Leep & put in the
vault in City of the dead, her

Duncannon Jan 6th 55

My very dear Daughter

Several weeks
have elapsed since we rec^d a line
from you, the last was from your
Brother saying that he was writ
ing for you. I do not like to find
fault with you, but must confess
that I thought you might have
denied yourself a little to write
home, we are very anxious if
we do not hear from you at least
once a week, say more about your
self, the improvement in the
different studies you are engaged
in, I hope it will be according to
your opportunity, let not a present
pleasure interrupt the discharge of
duty in any instance, be punctual

"put not off for tomorrow what you should do today", is a rule that should be strictly adhered to, let no slight excuse prevent you, I hope your room mate is a neat, methodical, industrious, studious, & intelligent one, disposition & manners, also you should look to, We are looking daily for a letter from you & Hal, He has quite a number of correspondents, Miss Mary Morrison said she had rec^d a letter from him, I suppose the next will be to Katy - How does your Brother look with his beard grown out? Is the Dagguereatype a good one? I would like very much to have a good one. What sort of a time had you during the holidays? From Hal's letter the weather was very severe, that cold region must be

very trying to those not accustomed to it, does your clothing suit it? do you take exercise daily in the open air? We have very mild weather no ice, we are fearful that we will not get ice to fill the ice house. if we do not spend the summer at home it will not matter much, if your Father can sell this place he will, & spend the summer at Bedford, when Maria leaves it will be very lonely, she is going very soon, Amelia Timbalake spent New Years day with us, she has returned to Paris to live at Mr Davis's she is not pleased with Louisville. Your Father has just come from Lex & is calling me so I leave you awhile, It was 4 o'clock when I left you, now it is



Miss Mary Duncan
Care of Prof Agnew
Pittsfield
Mass

[Handwritten initials or signature]

Sour - it reminds me
of Dr. Marshall who says
when he was young he saw
a girl & loved her - all the time
he was away he dreamed of
her always. But when he
returned he found her
very ugly & it disgusted
him

Father Mother & Sisters
& Bud - send your
much love - also
remember Bud to Miss
F. A. W. - Oh. Me!!!!!!

Write soon to your
Afft brother
Henry

Home Jan 30th 1855

Dear Sister

Accept my thanks
for your last very long letter
enclosed in one to Mother
- We are all well - and
usually sit either in my
room or in the library
our conversation & thoughts
often turn to you & we
make many conjectures as
to what will be your de-
termination in relation to
your school for next
term - Quite a change
was wrought in the colored
family today - Tom
was removed from his
place as house-boy &
sent to Bedford.

Olmstead comes in in his place - but he is much grieved at it because as he says he will be so much confined to the house - he also has a love affair just now that distracts him very much

Since my last letter I have been very busy seeing some of my young friends Mrs Curd - is the same last evening I went to the city to see Mattie & Mrs Miller. Mattie was just going to a party & I was in consequence unable to see very much of her but I enjoyed myself very much

I saw your friend Miss Anderson on sundays she asked for & desired to be remembered to you & me

Father went to Bedford this afternoon & took Lou with him

About 4 o'cl I called on Miss Kate M. she soon made her appearance & much to my surprise she did not look so beautiful as I expected as the we were soon in conversation & were getting on very well when Bob. Brookmidge (damn him) came in & spoiled my fun for I very soon left to give him fair sweep or as she will, I am told to be married quite

we may have read, or by inventing tales from the
resources of fancy. Now is the time to accomplish
your self, you ought by all means to join the
writing class, any thing written beautifully adds
half the charm, i.e. an easy clear hand writ-
ings now that I think of who directs your letters?
I hope you ^{will} not be under the necessity long,
but do it for yourself. To morrow is St Valentine's
Ellen & Lily have each sent you & your Brother one
I sent you a collar in silk's, I could not go to the
city, so sent one that was here, there has nothing
new been brought out, the merchants are just
going on, what took Mr Bell one so easily was
the failure of Mr Wolf, Mrs Ballard is in
Louisville, B. is in Phil, it is not known how
they will be located, if he can get any thing
to do, or employment he will remain in Phil
Cousin Caroline Scott is very ill with disease
of the heart, there no knowing when she will
die, Maria sends her love to you she is just going
to get on the cars for Paris, when she returns she
intends leaving for Vincennes, Poor soul!
she is a most unhappy mortal, I wish she had
a comfortable home.

Duncan, Mon Feb 13th /55

My very dear Daughter

Since your last letters I
have been thinking & feeling so anxiously about you
concerning the rigor of that region, the severity &
long continuation of season & the bad food, one
seems to be enough to contend with, but when
united, is a serious thing to contend with, it is
well for you that your health & constitution are
so good, I am afraid your meats were so frozen
that they were of very little satisfaction to you
the cheese could not be got it would have been
better than any thing else for you, cheese & crackers
can not freeze & would aid the digestion
of the unpalatable diet you are obliged to take
still your case is not so desperate as many for
you have means to procure something when
ever an opportunity occurs, be of good cheer
there is no good without its opposite, you will
have a little respite before long, I could not
persuade your father to put up your articles

in a trunk he said it was not strong enough
for such a weight, it was impossible to get
those things in the box, that you wished me to
send you, or you should have them, I wanted
& intended to send a box by Mr. Butler but
he said he could not take one & offered to
take any thing in his trunk so I concluded
to send the books you desired, or a part of
the list, what he was willing to or had room
for, there was preserves, brandy, peaches, a
bottle of brandy, & pickles &c. I wished to send
but could not, if they can be sent hereafter
I will, As to where you will spend your
vacation, your father is inclined to your going to
Salem, to Mr. Silsby's, now you can go there
during the summer when we are all together,
& Benny spoke of New Haven, this will prob-
ably be the only opportunity for you to see Emma
McGraw, & then you will be enabled to see
what improvement she has made, & learn
something about her school & how yours &
hers compare, you & your brother can

confer upon the matter & act as you may
prefer, I most sincerely hope you may have
pleasant weather & a safe pleasant visit
wherever you may conclude to go.
It was pleasing intelligence that you had liquidated
your debts to your correspondents, & hope
you will not be in arrears again, punctuality
is the life & soul of success, do not procrastinate,
go before time instead of being behind, in all
your duties, let order & punctuality reign, let the
improvement of your mind be the constant aim of
your life, for there is no time, no pleasure em-
ployment, which prevents, from adding to our
stock of knowledge, "The art of narration is one
of easy cultivation & not only affords ample scope
for the exercise of talent but may also furnish
much amusement & instruction. This seems to be
a natural gift with some, & the society of those
who possess it is generally much sought after.
One may easily cultivate this talent, by reciting
or writing to friends at evening the events & adventures
of the day, by detailing the substance of the books

Cambridge Feb 23^d 1855

My dear Sister

I have just taken your letter of the 21st from the office - I mailed the letter for Mother - I am very glad that you replied so promptly to my letter - there are several things in it which I wish to write a few words about.

1st - you say it is not safe to write letters now - I am much surprised at this although I had suspected it for this reason - you have not acknowledged the receipt of several letters which I sent you - they contained other letters which if Agnew were to see would excite him somewhat - this is the reason why I sent my resignation of secretary for had I held it I would have been compelled to write to them - and rather than raise any disturbance by my writing - I resigned.

I will be unable to send you any money for the present as I am out. I have written for some & will furnish you as soon as I receive it -

I am glad you are coming here to spend some of your vacation with Mrs Jared Sparks -

Tell ~~William~~ Mary Reed she is right in thinking me a "love sick swain" but tell her she cannot guess who is the "tall & greenly" maiden as who has deprived me of - I do not exactly know - if she wishes to know, tell her I will write the name of the lady on a card - put it into an envelope and send it to her by you - on condition that she will not mention the name of the person

The valentine you mention from - I do not think I received for you sent all that I received - if so let me know

--- received a letter from Dr Jenkins he wrote from home all were well - & there was in Louisville to see Mrs Scott who is very ill this is all the news I received I suppose you received the Orange & - to your afft brother Henry

Love to you
good wishes to E. M. L. M. R. & any one else who wish them

J. M. Duncan Jr

he shall be the most obedient
fellow in the world (poor
fellow & pity him) - if she
will only write him one
line he will be (fool that he is)
her servant for life - I would
write any man for him, if
he will be a fool, I should
- I recommend him as a very fit
person to carry on any assault
such as writing letters &c &c
- and Mary Lusher is also
against me; tell her she
is the last person I would
have supposed would de-
-sert her "cousin" - and
Mary Agnew is of the party
- I henceforth declare war
against the whole set
cousins & all - and will
carry them by storms - I
will brood "Duckies" - apples
oranges - Almonds, peaches
- pickles &c &c - Thus
furnished I shall be ready
to wage war to the very
death of them - I guess
you are tired of this fodder

Cambridge Feb 27, 1855

My dear Sister

Your letter of the 24th is
just received - and I must say
that I am overwhelmed with dis-
-tonishment at the disclosure you
have made to me relative to Miss
Nahon - I had not the faintest
idea that she had any other in-
-tention than to have a little
sport; you surely must be mis-
-taken in ascribing to her the feelings
which you do - I am sorry that
I was ever guilty of the folly of
writing to her - for I am now in
a scrape - I hope you did not
give her the verses which I sent to
her if you read them you will ea-
-sily see why she ought not to
have them - I wish you to
say nothing more about the matter
to any of the girls - should they
repeat the charge laugh at them
- but I am afraid it will raise
old Satan up - I will retreat
as fast as possible - you won't
see much of me at Pittsfield

for I should have the Agnews
about my ears worse than a
swarm of yellow jackets. should
they come to the same conclusion
that Mary Reed & Co have - but
we shall talk the matter over when
we meet - in the meantime let
us drop it - me in love
with Eva ha! ha!! ha!!! ha! ha!
ridiculous is it not - whereas
what will become of us - Oh me
(em). From all plots, bad people
school girls yes good Lord de-
live us - I think I shall go
mad about it - mirabile dic-
-tu - what shall I say about
it? what says you? what if
Agnew should get me by the
ear - Oh - Mon Dieu - Mon
Dieu - and pretty
Mollie Reed thinks me a
love "sick swain" - sweet
girl. If she persists in this I
shall - fall in love with her-
self - on the bank of life's bright
river grows the tall and greenly
reed - and all along its banks
I wander looking for pretty

Mollie Reed ahem - ahem - I
cant go any further as I stop
As to the sheeps - do you
remember what Tom Marshall
used to say about his Brothers
"They ain't worth a d-d - -
expense one - I forgot you were
a member - they are a glorious
society - and all I am mad
about is that they accepted my
resignation - Mary Reed wants
a new secretary - tell her No 5
is willing to accept the office
as to their c-o-n-s-t-i-t-u-
-t-i-o-n - tell em Eva sent
me that & they shall not have
it unless she orders me to
let em have it - poor Eva
is turned out - and I am driv-
-en out of your club well a
pretty set they are - what is
Mary Reed & pres or secy
- No 5 has just been up to
see me - and I told him what
I had written for him he
says he will be happy if Miss
Mary Reed - will only make
him secretary - he says she

I am very glad, your oranges arrived safely - and that you liked them.

You wish to know when College term commences - I is on tomorrow - you must let me know when you wish me to come for you - I want to see Mrs. Sparks on Saturday Sunday evening she is glad you are coming to stay with her, and so am I - when I come for you I wish to stay as short a time as possible - for reasons which you know

We have very fine weather the sun is bright & beautiful - I received a letter from Mother this morning all are well and happy - there is no news -

In my last paper from home a see an article relative to Father being Governor of Kentucky what do you think of the

idea they had better make
him President at once

Love to all good
bye Our sister
Yours truly
Aunt

at home & wear gloves, eating in your room is
one cause of its being, so much work to clean
make each one, spread a towel in their laps &
catch every particle, suits are very bad about
greasing the floor & requires one to be very partic-
ular, not to drop the smallest bit, do try & conform
to all the rules & regulations of the Institute
When you feel so weary & fatigued, lie down
& rest yourself, How are you getting on with
your music? Dr Matthews thinks Ellen Matt
is equal to Jenny Lind, the girls have not
been out to see us since they came to Lex
I will send for them some Friday afternoon
& remain until Sunday, they have grown
very much, Miss Maria has returned from Paris
& sends a great deal of love to darling, precious
Mary, & wishes she could see you now you get
along, Father, Mother, Ellen, & I, all join in
overflowing love to my dear daughter your
love to Mary L - affectionate Mother

P.S. The servants desire to be respectfully
remembered to you, & all your friends send
much love to you, write often during recess

Duncannon Feb 27th 1855

My dearest Daughter

Your letter in course came duly
to hand, always anxiously looked for & doubly welcome
but the contents of it in relation to your manage-
ment of Boy, has cast a cloud over my mind, it is
painful to me the thought, that I have always
endeavored to impress upon you the greatest rever-
ence for truth, & integrity, & in a few months
to find it laid aside, such duplicity, is grossly
immoral, & as to "old hovey" command him to get be-
hind you, have no communication with evil, if
you had procured "contra band" articles yourself
there might have been motive for dissimulation,
as the articles were sent you from home the resp-
onsibility was not on you, & an open expose was
the correct course, then you might have had quite
a frolic, & enjoyed it with those you liked, the
constant apprehension & dread, that something will
be discovered, will come over at times, when we
have done that which our conscience condemns

It was a thoughtless ill advised course, & I feel sure you will not repeat, it is really painful for me my dear child, to find fault with you, & I almost regret that you are in the Institute, if you can't get knowledge without risk of morals, it might be dispensed with, but a word to the wise is sufficient.

Mary A. Castelman has had a bad spell with her throat & is afraid of that cold region on that account, so has declined to go, she sends a great deal of love to you, & regrets that she is unable to enter the Institute.

Your visit to New Haven will not occupy but a few days, give my love to Emma, after your visit to Mrs Sparks, & a short time to arrange your clothes, get all straight for the commencement of the next term, which I hope will proceed with a fair record, in & out of school, How are you getting on with arithmetic? I have not perceived any change in your hand writing, by all means take lessons

do not defer it any longer, I think Cal ought also, he does not write a good hand.

New things would be more pleasing, than to receive a letter or a piece of composition from you, written in regard to matter & execution. My letter with the Bay leaves, had the Christ map letter in it, you said it was mailed at Albany, which is very surprising, it must have been taken out at that place, it has been a most unlucky coincidence, about the Reporter that contained that letter, that not a paper could be procured & the Editor was requested to publish some 20 numbers more than usual, I regret very much that you did not get it, it was extremely well written, In regard to summer clothing, (unless you have out grown them, which I hope you have,) with a little addition to what you have have will take you through the season, I will see & get them in order, when you go to Boston get your earring mended, do your hands chafe as they used too, use the same remedy as you did



Miss Mary Duncan
Care Dr Aynew
Pittsfield
Mass



Cambridge March 17th 1853

My dear Sister

The little letter which you wrote to me on last Saturday was received on the Tuesday following - short as it was it was very glad to hear from you and thank you most heartily for it - Your seem to have had a run of good fortune - eleven letters in two weeks is about as many as you have time to read - this is many more than I receive in two months - I am glad to hear that all fair well at home it is nearly one week since they indulged me in a letter - I suppose they think that if they write often I will not prize their letters as highly as I would if they were to come less frequently - Father generally writes me one half of the letters which I receive from home -

As Mr. vacation does not

commence until Apr. I think
we had better not go to N. H.
for Miss Edwards will not like
our being there during term time
but we will settle this question
when we meet.

I have very little time
now to write - or to do any
thing except study - so you
will pardon me if I do not
write a longer letter - I will
make amends on Saturday
when I will write you a
very long letter

Love to you & all

Your affl brother

W. S. D. - jr

I send you 6 P. O. stamps

Lex. Aug. 7th 1852 -

My Dear Mary

Upon my return home from Bedford where I spent most of last week I found your letter to your Mother - In which you speak of having a bad cold (no unusual thing with you) and that you had been called out of school, to see a Homeopathic physician - Who Sangrado like insisted upon giving you one of his nostrums - in the shape of a powder - that next morning - your door was knocked at and the same Dr introduced - and that it was proposed to give you another portion, but that you refused - This was what you ought to have done the evening before - Hereafter when you may need a physician you & Mary Ann - will be judges when it is necessary - Call in the physician of your choice - But this thing of calling a physician for every slight indisposition - is the worst of folly - take no drugs whatever - unless it is absolutely necessary - These fellows generally play their part to make a bill & thus trifle with the health & constitution of the patient

Now I will give you my remedy for a bad cold - which was the invariable practice of Dr Chapman of Phil^a - at the head of his
- Professor

Take a heaping teaspoon full of Cal
singed Magnesia made up in cold water
and take it as you go to bed - bathe the feet
in warm water - and drink a glass of
hot lemonade & lay in bed in the morning
this I have found the simplest & most effi-
cacious remedy for rheum - and bear it in
mind and use it yourself if necessary

You yet make no mention of your taking
writing lessons which I have endeavoured to
impress upon you so often - your letters show no
improvement in your hand writing whatever

The horse for the Car is at hand I
must be off to Bedford where I spend the
week
In haste

Your devoted Father

H. T. Dunbar

I do not see how Dr & Mrs Agnew can leave
during term time as they do, of course it is
taken for granted that the young ladies will
^{not} forget their duty as such, it is not the less
important that the principal should be present
I have not seen Mrs McKee or Mattie for some weeks
our church is in the process of painting, we have
been scattered about, going to Dr Matthews part, of
the time Mr Brank is now preaching in the base
as the weather is so warm I do not go to town
save on Sunday, & last Sunday it rained so
steadily until 1 o'clock none of us went to
church, there is a party this evening at Mrs
Moralists as Mr D. is from home I must
content myself at home, the locusts have been
very abundant but quite harmless, indeed
they have been the principle food of the birds, &
they are now numbered, & they are falling to the ground
dead, not to make their appearance again for 17 years.
Your sisters send much love to you, also to
Miss M. C. - my love to her, and a Mother's love to
her dear absent one. God bless you my dear child with
his richest blessings Love affly Mother & D.

June 28th 1855

My very dear Daughter

Your aff't letter was rec'd
yesterday, & was delighted to hear from you, you
appear to be in good spirits & happy, altho' you
are treated kindly & politely by Mrs Loafon do
not suffer yourself to be drawn into any intima-
-cy with her daughters, no farther than politeness &
the natural association of young ladies in the
same Institute, I hope you are making good
progress in your studies & able to pass your
examination with credit to yourself, as well
as preceptors, time is flying rapidly, you
must improve the present & try to reclaim
some from the past, We have heard that
Dr Marshall has been several days in Lex-
& did not come to see us, it is unaccountable
when your father was to see him at his son's,
he told him, he would come to see us the
first place he went, we shall be compelled
to ^{put} him in the same category with Mr Lane

I was amused at your remarks about
"Mrs Cassius M. Clay." I think she is imagining
her own identity, rather too far had she
not prefixed the Mrs you could not have
told from whom the letter came, she
or Cassius, I hope your reply was written
in a lady like & satisfactory manner &
reflect credit upon yourself & the Institute,
she is a long time making up her mind on
this matter, some two months she requested
through Dr E. Warfield, for your father to
write to her & send a catalogue or circular
of the Institute, he did so at once, & now
she is writing to you, I should not be at all
surprised if it turned out naught, after all
the information she has gathered from father
& daughter, your father went to Louisville
yesterday he will see Dr & Mrs Flint &
learn the time they go north & if they take
charge of you until we make our trip
I think we must be in Cambridge when he

returns from N. H. if we can not before
have you made up your mind to remain at
Pittsfield longer? it is better than any we have
at home, you have no time to idle away
onward & never stop until you are thoroughly
educated, you can think of these things & talk all
about it when we meet, in Sep -
Mrs Hall goes to Louisville to-morrow, she is
speaking of going to Paducah to commence
a school, her husband has just returned from
there & thinks it a good opening for one as no
one is there at this time, I wish them success
Mrs Garrett Davis & Miss M. E. Timberlake are
expected tomorrow, Mrs Davis will remain
until Monday, she is desirous to hear Mrs
Berkeley, your father & Dr Jenkins went to the
wedding when he writes he will tell you all
about it, he says Mrs Merrick is a very hard
some man, I suppose your father gave M
C the news about Sep so you will not expect
me to say any thing, he was telling me the
number of weddings that were to be, but I have
forgotten them,

Ellen & Lizzie Matthews are still here
& Maria says ^{for} the whole of their
vacation, she does dislike them so
much, they are not the best behaved
too meddling peeping into every thing,
poor girls I feel really sorry for them
no one wants them to stay with
them, When I rec^d your letter Sil
came up stairs with me & says
Mother please read sis Ma's letter
& Miss Mary Castlemans, as Mary
has writted to us several times she
thinks whera one from you arrives
there is one of course from Miss C-
El & Sil sen their love to Miss C-
& also to dear sister they are so ex-
ceedingly anxious to see you &
Hal, If I have an opportunity to
send the articles you wish I will
do so as you so much desire it
still at the same time I think you
could dispense with some, it will
be more care than pleasure, my love
to Mary C- & others & a large portion
for yourself from your aff^d Mother

Thursday July 26th 1855

My very dear daughter

Your welcome letter
was rec^d this afternoon, I am glad you
are well & write in such good spirits,
it is always best to be contented & try to
make the best of our situation, I had
a visit from Lallie Warfield, Mary
Clay, & Emily Brand yesterday after
noon, with Mr St-Anderson he is
second cousin to Lallie Warfield
she has some company for him this
evening, he dined with us today
he returns home tomorrow, I was so
glad to see him as he & Toals
are such friends,

Mary Clay
will not go to P. at present,
Lallie W. is such a sensible lady
like girl, Emily B. is just the
same laughing thing, she says
Emma McLean reached home

on Monday, & has not grown a bit
I really feel sorry to hear it, Sallie
Mr. & Mrs. Allen were married on
Tuesday at 1 o'clock & left at 3 o'clock
in ^{the} Covington train for Niagara
etc,

I did not think so much of Miss
Need & Co. treating ^{you} so badly as to
make any enquiry concerning it
save of yourself. I confess it sur-
-prised me & regretted that they
could be guilty of such unlady-
like conduct, but, as they have
placed themselves there let them
remain there, forgive & be polite
& stop at that, there is no confidence
to be placed in such.

I hope you are making rapid
progress in your studies, how
does arithmetic work? it is a
very important & necessary knowledge
do you pay any attention to your
Latin? I have been thinking it

would have been advisable
for you to have pursued the
Latin instead of the English
grammar, it is said to be by those
that ought know much the best
& gives as good if not better
knowledge of the English language
Your writing is improving a little
do I beg of you learn to write
well & learn to direct your own
letters, begin at once to depend on
yourself, it is the only way to acquire
confidence,

I see from the papers that
Dr. Todd's health is such he is com-
-pelled to give up preaching, have
you any one in his place? how do
you like him?

Mr. Sayre started off
East last Tuesday, he said to me
on Sunday he was thinking of it
but had not decided, he may be
in Pittsfield, to take a look at you

Maple Woods Aug 26 / 54

My dear Mary

When you read
this dear Mary you will be
far away ^{from} the "Petticoat" and its pleasant
associations. If we do have some
unpleasant memories, we also have
many pleasant ones. You will be
tomorrow on your way home
while I will be on my way
but not to my home.

Mary, when at home, try to think
sometimes of your old friends and
school-mate - "your fellow sufferers
in the trials of Institute life"
But you must think of all the
pleasant things, so as not to
forget to come back to your Pittsfield
friends, when the time next round
for term is begin. Now when you
are at home you will enjoy yourself
so much that you will not wish
to return, but you must dear
Mary, and you must Mary, come
with us. I have thought of it for
so long that I can not give you
up, you must come back, be sure
to come back - Come Come
back to Maple woods - will be
my joy from the time you
will leave - Pittsfield

Now seriously I think it is your
duty to return to school here the
1st "on any account"
Mary I hope you will excuse this
writing for James & Annie have
been making such a noise & talking
to me all the while, that I could
not write. I have no more time
to write, Now Mary I bid you
most loving farewells -
but one thing more. Do not
let any one put this "production"
Garwell, Garwells, Dear Mary
Your loving & intended
room-mate
Mary
Write me very soon

am disposed to believe
that it would be better for
you to go somewhere else.
Agassiz's school opens on
Monday with sixty young
ladies this would have been
an excellent school for
you but it is now too late
to enter it there being no
vacancy - however I may
not be competent to judge
what would be best for
you so I shall hold my
tongue - when I see
Mr & Mrs Sparks I shall
comply with your wish
that I should give them
your love - Shall you
be able to visit Cam-
bridge before you set
in at school - for I would
like very much to see you
here again -

Cambridge Sep. 17th 55

My dear Sister

The several infor-
mations that I have of late re-
ceived concerning my defi-
ciencyⁱⁿ orthography, one of
which is contained in your
letter of Sep. 11th, make it ne-
cessary that I pay much more
attention to that branch, in
doing so it will require more
time than I usually devote
to writing letters home, and
in consequence my letters
will not be so frequent, but
I hope the spelling will be
satisfactory. The many errors
I usually make, result from
the shortness of time I have
scarcely ever more than one
half hour - and of all the

Letters I have written home during the past year I have not read ten of them over after writing them - but let this pass. I will proceed to answer your letter of the 11th which I recd. this morning. I am rejoiced at your writing so often to me - & hope you will keep it up - I am surprised that the Fair this year is a failure at any rate I hope you enjoyed it - of course you did not go to any of the balls you mention as about to come off in Sep -

You mention that Mrs Taylor is about to dispose of one of her daughters. I am inclined to believe this to be precipitate. how old is the damsel?

- you say that Rob. Breckinridge is to be married. are you sure of this? if you are please to inform me - for it may be to the interest of his intended that I know of it - I regret to hear of the failure of my old friend Morrison - I believe him to be an honest man, and that he expected himself to succeed, and if his family had been such as they ought he would have succeeded in business

When you see Miss Moore again you must give her for me the old salutation "How d' do" with which she was used to accost me

I hope you will not again go to Pittsfield I

I occasionally see Matties
old beau - Harding - he is
a clever good hearted
good for nothing fellow
and will graduate next
summer after which I
will persuade him to visit
Tex and see Matties - He
always asks me of her
and how she is & & &
I have a room-mate
or as we call them here
a "Chum" - & hope to get
along well with him - I
intend to keep him straight
- on last Saturday I went
to see some of my N. H.
friends - Mr & Mrs Burns
he is a brother of my fair
friend Miss Sarah Burns
whom I believe I have

never mentioned - but she
is a charming little lady
of some 17 years - about
such a woman as Miss
M. E. G. of Lex - I used
to go to see her after tea
hear her sing & play - she
was the most interesting
young lady in Wop - and
when we meet if you
will remind me of it
& shall tell you some
good jokes about her
and some of the Wop
people - perhaps I may
at some time make
you acquainted with
her - is if you should ever
meet -

I want you to write
to me and tell me how
every thing at home looks
or or or or or

How is Dr J - amusing
himself - is he much of
a ladies man - or is he
a lady's man - his letters
are one continued strain
of Love love love &c
so that I really believe the
man in Love -

— but good night
Love to all

Your affl brother
Henry

Cambridge Oct 24th 1855-

Dear Sister

Your letter of Saturday which ought to have been in Cambridge on day & yesterday (Tuesday) has not yet reached me and I fear lest it never come but let us leave this & try to write a letter. I have heard no news either from home or else where - I have seen nothing & am cooped up here in Cambridge too lazy to go any where - I am very busy with my Collegiate duties this keeps me here and prevents me from writing as much as I used to - so I have become rusty in letter writing & cannot write with ease I once did

I had a letter from Dr
Yenkins the other day
in which he announces to
me the agreeable fact that
he shall be in Cambridge
on Friday evening next
for the purpose of taking
notes as my personal
appearance looks & is
preparatory to making a
report on same in Ky.

I hope he will be pleased
& report favorably
I shall be very much
rejoiced to see him and
will have a long chat
on matters & things in
general - I guess he will
give me all the gossip
that has been brewed in
Lexington during the
past year, also all about
(xxx)

I went to Boston last night
to see & hear M^{lle} Rachel
the most celebrated actress
in the world, she performed
the tragedy Phidre - all
in French - you may
guess how much of it
I understood - (none)

we have "Holiday" on
tomorrow & I am
going to Boston to see
the Agricultural Fair

Mr & Mrs Anderson
are in Boston

Write soon

To your
affly

Brother
Henry

Go
Sister Mary

Love &c to all

to fall in Love with her - I
do not see much of the
Girls now they are how-
-ever not as "coy" & shy as
they used to be - the other
night about 6 o'cl I came
out from Boston in the
omnibus with one of Agassiz's
young ladies - had a seat by
her & she gave me her
music to carry for her &
or or or

How comes on my friend
Waters - does she like rock
candy - or would she prefer
a jar of pickles

Love to you & respects &c
to all

Your afft brother
Henry

Cambridge Nov 12th 1855

My dear Sister

Nearly two weeks
have glided rapidly by since I
last had the pleasure of writing
to you - or the much greater
pleasure of receiving one of your
letters - Your last was recd
while Doc Jenkins was here
& I wrote to you by him.

I had a letter from Doc
the other day in which he re-
counted his adventures from
the time he left me until

until he reached Kentucky
- he expatiated on his visits
to Pittsfield at considerable
length - I will bring his letter
with me & read portions of
it to you & & & &

I have had quite
an unusual number of
letters of late from T & M
and also from my friends
in various parts of the land
supposing that you have also
been favored by them perhaps
I cannot give you any
news from them - Among
others I had one from Cousin
Ford. (M J F) - which is quite
lengthy & & & & &
wishes me & &

Also a letter from my
friend Lucy Webb - the only
part of it which would in-
terest you was about this
after giving the various pieces
of gossip she goes on to say
that Rob. Bucknidge is to be
married to "Patsy Darling" &
expects me if I have any
pretensions to Kate's hand & &
to make hay while the sun
shines - He also that "Fair
heart never won fair ladies"
how like you see advice
- "My young friend Miss
Lille Greenough has
returned to Cambridge
& looks as sweet & lovely
as ever & I half a mind

Received at Pittsfield Dec 29th 1854-

Cambridge Dec 29th

My Dear Sister

After leaving you on Tuesday I came within 2 seconds of being left. and if it had not been for the hackman from the Berkshire house I would have been left. he induced the Conductor of the train to wait until I could go for my baggage.

I was afterwards sorry I did not wait until the evening train for I would have reached Cambridge just as soon by coming in the 5 o'cl train as it was I had to remain in Boston Tuesday night - I

You must not expect of
me a very long letter
for I have a great deal
to do.

Minor Milligan
was here & spent an
hour and a half he is
a most generous nice fellow
Mr Anderson has also
been round to see me
he is going home in 3
weeks and wishes me
to send something home
by him you must.

When I left you I did
not take the Christmas
present that Cousin Eva
sent me - if you meet
with it you must
preserve it as I wish
to add it to the rest
of my collection

Received at Pittsfield Dec 29th 1855
Cambridge Dec 29th

My Dear Sister

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on Tuesday I came within
2 seconds of being left. and if
it had not been for the
hacksman from the Berkshire
house I would have been
left. he induced the Conduc-
tor of the train to wait until
I could go for my baggage
I was afterwards sorry
I did not wait until
the evening train for I
would have reached
Cambridge just as soon
by coming in the 5 o'clock train
as it was I had to remain
in Boston Tuesday
night - I

out to Cambridge until
yesterday morning.

I have taken quite
a bad cold since I left
~~Spring~~ Pittsfield and have
concluded to keep my
room for a day or two
until I get rid of it.

I found several letters
when I returned from
Pittsfield. one of which
was intended partly for
you but as it is of
such ^{such} character that it would
do you no good unless
I were to see you. but
all are well &c. one
letter from Ellen of four
pages was quite amusing
& interesting - one from
Dr Jenkins which I guess
is a one after a

sent you - one from
Horace Brand he is now
in Missouri and says
he is getting along pretty
well. He desired me to
remember him to all the
family -

From my Lexington
paper I gather no news
of interest except that
the young ladies had given
another musical concert
- I suppose that before
this you will have heard
of the death of our much
loved friend Mrs Bartlett
to me this is good news
for it to her is only the
step from earth to
Heaven - death must have
been most ^{soon} to her
after a

have been very near
falling several times &c

as I have to write
Mother a letter you will
excuse me if I do not
write you a long letter

As usual you must
remember me most kindly
to Dr Agnew and family
Cousin Mary Lufan and
Cousin Eva Makian &c

My best love to you
and wish to hear soon
from you. I want you

to write me a long letter
I will prize it most
highly - I wish you specially
to ascertain the name of
that young lady from
Miss Eva

Your Afft Brother
D. D. D.

those articles which I bought
I have them suspended over
the my mantlepiece in
quite a nice way - Nic
& I had quite a laugh
over them & the way in
which I obtained them
tell Miss Mary Reed that
they have furnished me
material for several
dreams &c &c &c

I would like to
see Cous. Eva for I
have several things I
should like to ~~know~~ ^{ask her}
about - but you can
do it as well for me
if you will. The first
is the name of the young

lady to whom she intro-
-duced me on account
of my acquaintance with
Miss Millegan - for I
am anxious to know her
name - &c &c as I
did not have an oppor-
tunity of returning a
present to Miss Eva.
Tell her that on the Rail
Cars. I purchase a book
written by Fanny Fern. I
am greatly interested in
it & think she would
like to read it, when
I have finished reading
it I will send it to
you to present to Eva
for me

I will send
you in a few days

an account of your
Christmas frolic for I
understand one will
be published some one
or other of the Boston
papers -

I will urge you to
write to me as often
as you have time for you
know nothing gives me so
much pleasure as a letter
from you

I called to see Mr.
Greas last evening and
delivered to him the words
you gave me from his
sister, tell her he is
well &c. Studying very
hard

The streets here are
covered with ice and
are terrible. I