

that I had begun to doubt it
I look about for
I think you will
I spent the afternoon
I was very much amused with
I have been out making calls all
I have heard
I have not seen
I conclude
I have a little

ones and from the sounds of excitement
which I hear, I conclude they are
having a grand time.
I went to Mount Auburn the other
day, and spent some two hours there,
most delightfully, and at the tower
my thoughts wandered to the evening when
we were there together. By the way,
I was very much amused with
Pip Cutlers description of the lecture
you received on reaching home that
same evening. The of there being
anything improper in your walking
from here to Mrs Sparks with Mr Jones
never occurred to me.
I have been out making calls all
the morning, and have been quite
interested in hearing from Pip
Lay the details of a novel affair
which happened here last night.
It seems there has been a young gentleman

them perfectly beautiful
tell M C that I always
think of her when I take
these romantic walks - &
wish a dozen times that
she were along

my love to all - especially
to Sister Mary & M - C -
Your Affl brother
Henry -

I go to Wp Kenton -

N H - on
Saturday - when I will
be until September -

Cambridge July 1st 1854

My dear sister

Having a few
leisure moments just now
I will indulge you in a
short letter. I hope you
will appreciate the favor
for I assure you that I
would write two letters for
me to no one else not
even to + + + - you must
not however expect a
very long letter for I have
nothing to write about.

Prof Huxford told me that
he had forwarded your
letter to sister Sarah
Fannie will be delighted
to receive it. (will she may
be)

I spent yesterday at Co-
-hasset the part of the trip
that was in steam boat
was delightful and it
would all have been so
if it had not been for 4-
miles ride in a stage
Killikin went with me
we went in the Ocean and
took a bath it is charm-
-ing and on the whole
I had a splendid day
the good company added
very much to the pleasure
-Cohasset is a neat little
village and you will
enjoy your visit there
very much. when will
I and Mrs A visit be
on and how long will
they remain at Cohasset
on &c

I have received two or
three letters from home
all are well - but I sup-
-pose you have a late
information from home
as I have

The weather is pretty
warm here the thermometer
was at 98° today this
is about as warm as I
like -

There is no news - Miss
Greenough has left Cam-
-bridge not to return
they found her too fast
entirely - too fond of the
beauty &c &c

I have been out to
Mt Auburn - several
times there is a great
many very romantic
spots there some of

Hopkinton July 27th 1854

My dear Sister

I received your last letter this morning. I will show my gratitude by writing you quite a long letter - You are really fortunate in receiving letters from home - I do not receive as many as I need to - Father is the only one who writes to me regularly - I have not had a letter from Mother for some two weeks not since the week before I left Cambridge - I hope that they will soon make a repair and write often -

It will be delightful if father & mother come on during your vacation. I will not have one until next January when I go to try to spend 6 weeks. as you will not go home this summer you ought to

I shall be in Hoppinton
until the 1st of September
at which time I enter College
& shall be from that time
until next January in
Cambridge - so you will
have to be in C - during the
time you wish to be with
me

I speaking of Mrs M - you
say Mary C says I am in
was in love with Kate - you
say my compliments and
ask her how she knows so

You would have pleased
me under great obligations
if you had sent me the
painting that resembles Kate
so much I would have
pored it very much &
by the way Kate promised
to give me her Daguerre
but she wont send it
to me - when I see you
I will tell you something
good about this lady and
her manoeuvres - in mean
time dont tell -

I have been much amused
of late by the talk of the
village folks they have already
selected a lady-love for
me - I go as far as to
say that I am much pleased
with her - I do not know
the lady yet - I shall call
and see her soon

It is quite late - & I
shall have to close - I
will write on Saturday

My respects to Mahail - Waters
& all the by girls - also to
Dr & Mrs Abner - my love
to you and Mary C -
Your Affl brother
Henry

I had a letter from Mother
this morning all are well
or or El. be with them in
8 weeks & shall in not be
merry or or or

I saw of friends Mr &
Mrs Sparks on Sunday
evening gave your love and
was requested to return theirs
to you - Mrs S also de-
sired me to say to you that
she received nice little notes
from Miss Hunter which give
her much pleasure but that
she would be rejoiced to have
a few of them from you
& that you must write or or
or or or or or or or or

Cambridge Nov 19th 1855-

My dear Sister

Your letter of the
15th brings me in debt to you two
letters - which letter debt I shall
now endeavor to pay in part by
writing you at as great length
as my pen paper and brains
will permit.

I hope that the departure
of Mons & Mad Richard will
not prove as disastrous to your
school as you are inclined
to fear - The token of love
& respect which was given

them by the young ladies will
be ~~there~~ a cause you all long to
be remembered by the wraith pair
You ought however to have had
the present of silver & not plate
I suppose Mr Agnew will
be able if ~~he~~ wishes to fill the
place of Mrs & Mrs R. - with a
more cultivated & refined person
but I should not say this for
I do not know enough of him
to say what his culture and
refinement may be

I am very glad that
Mrs Agnew has returned &
& also hope it will enable me
to spend my time more
agreeably in Pittsfield

speaking of my being in P.
unless I write again you may
expect me on wednesday of
next week I will be at the In-
-stitute at 8 1/2 o'cl (precisely) in the
morning at which time I
hope to find you up dressed
and waiting for me or or or
I will reach Pom tuesday night
at about 9 o'cl which will
be too late for me to see
you - I fear very much
that my visits will interrupt
your studies unless you have
a vacation or recess on thanks-
giving day & for the remainder of
the week - I intend to bring
Doc J's last letter to Pittsfield

On Sunday before last I
took tea with Pres Walker he
is a jolly old fellow and I
had a nice time generally—
Last Sunday evening when
do you imagine that I went
I called on a young lady
that whom you may remem-
ber - she has been absent
for some time on a visit
to her relations & has
now returned to Cambridge
a grown lady - very pretty
entertaining & so on & so on
I had a chat with her for
two short hours - It was
Miss Lillie Greenough & co
pretty girl

I have been very busy all
this term so much so that
I have not been out of Cambridge
except very little - & consequently
had a very stupid time

I went ~~out~~ to Macks the other
day to see Miss Brand to my
great surprise I was told
what do you think that I
could not see her - for she
was in Baltimore where she
had gone two weeks before

My love to you - present my
respects to Mr Agnew

Your afft brother
Henry

P.S you shall have the chesse

getting along in your studies? I should like
to see one of your compositions, to strive to
improve your opportunity, & to excel in all
you undertake, & with all your gettings get
that wisdom which cometh down from above,
that alone will secure you happiness here
& beyond the grave, that will prepare you
for all conditions, & events of life: how to
live & how to die, religion should be our chief
concern, & is so lovely in youth, Kate came
in the cars this evening on her way to Missou-
ri she leaves in the morning for the 6 o'clock
train, Dr Jenkins is in at a party, given by
Mrs Woolley to Mrs Barr. He is quite fond of
parties, Misses Misses one; Your Father is at
Redford, he is there the greater part of his time
& Ellen & Lily send much love to sister Mary
also to "Auntie," alias Mrs Eastman, also my
love to her; her letter was indeed very accep-
table, & shall meet a reply. God bless you my
dear child, good night ever your affectionate Mother
The servant desires to be respectfully
remembered to Miss Mary

Duncannon June 14th 1855

My very dear Daughter

The visit of your dear
Brother has been a great comfort to all
as it has enabled us to hear more partic-
ularly from Pittsfield about matters
& yourself, we rec'd a letter almost
daily during that sojourn with you
he says you are well save head-aches
what can be the cause of it, you may
possibly eat something that disagrees
with you, or take cold in some way
I would recommend you to take very
particular notice, & try to find out
the cause, so that you can employ
the proper remedy, be careful in the change
of clothing, you will have very little use for your
summer wardrobe, that says his was a bad invest-
ment, & now that he is going farther north & to the
mountains, it seems to be an unnecessary expense
This loss of flesh must make a considerable

difference in his appearance, I regret that the weather was so cold & rain during his visit on his return to Boston he met Mr & Mrs Wilson the druggist from Ipswich also Mr & Mrs Farguson, he tells me Mary Lafon has behaved very mean just as I expected from the account you gave me of her, she is without principle & the less you have to do with her the better, & Miss Reed shows very little discernment to be influenced by her, let them pass on & give you self no concern about them, shew them by all you say & do that you scorn to stoop to any such course of conduct, it will be a lesson to you in future not to be too confiding, how does Mrs Lafon deport herself towards you? did she see Miss Lafon? Henry says Mary C. is very superior to any of the young ladies in the Institute I wish very much she could remain i.e. if you continue in it, I expect it is as good a school as any, when did you hear from Emma & how? Dr & Mrs Hunt are going on in July, I hope they will

call & see us as they pass on to the north, Maria has been in Paris for some time assisting Amelia far getting ready for her marriage which comes off the 24th inst at 6 o'clock in the afternoon in St Peter's church Paris & Dolly Morgan was married in church today. Your letter & Mary C. has just come from the office, thank God for her letter it is a very unexpected treat, I regret to hear that her eyes are so weak, & that there is no improvement in her throat, that is a terrible climate to live in, you speak of being almost frozen, have you no fire? I'm not at all surpris'd you have head ache or any other ache, when you are so chilled you must dress warmer, according to the weather & your feelings. Mary speaks of some one having crossed her path & tryed to injure her with her best friend by an unprovoked falsehood, what is it all about? we have not heard any thing about the Offutt's since we left Pittsfield. They are becoming abolitionists, how are you

Duncannon Wednesday
August 15th 1855

My dear daughter

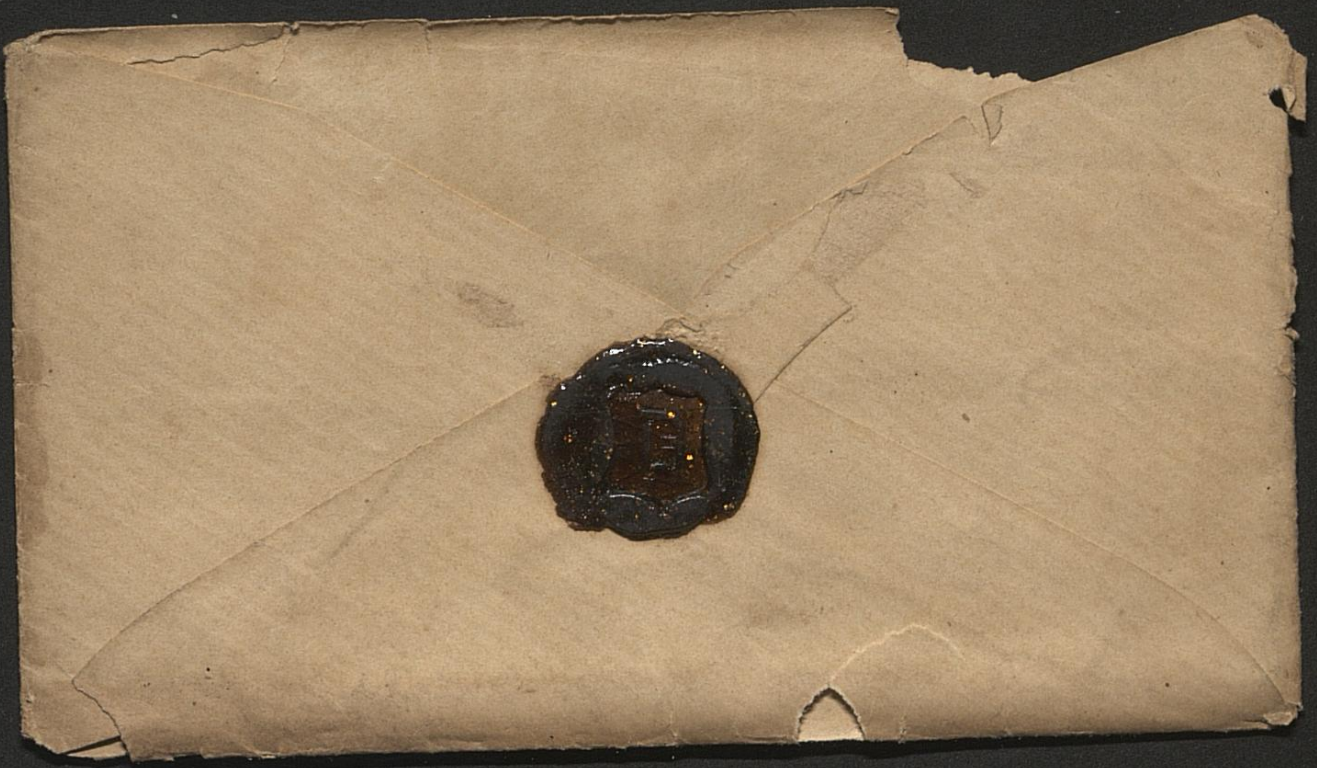
When I wrote to you last I thought it was the last until I should see you, but find that you can hear again before you leave, Dr Flint did not leave home the day he at first proposed, & only reached here on yesterday, & only think he will pass through Pittsfield to morrow afternoon, he will write to you & let you know when to expect him, so you must be ready for to leave whenever he is ready, Dr Kumphrey preached in Louisville last sabbath, we have just rec^d a note from Mrs C saying, we must come to morrow & pass a sociable day with her, also that a gentleman was there who had left Pittsfield on Monday, & Mary was well - It is almost incredible, space seems annihilated, our letters do not travel so speedily as persons, As Mary C's friends are leaving Niagara, I presume she will not make a visit there, perhaps she & you may return together, it would be much more agreeable to you to have a female friend along with you, you can talk to her on the subject, & try to secure her company, as a traveling companion, in your short journey home, I regret to find you have such a dread & horror of examination, what would you do if the valedictory were yours? & I shall be very much disappointed if you do not strive for it, & there is no reason why you

should not set your mark high, even if you
miss it - but that you must not suffer to be thought
of, aim to excel, to be a model scholar -
I rec'd your letter this afternoon, & always feel so relieved
when I hear you are well, how can you be so sad
& expecting so soon to see us all? Be comforted my
dear by the hope of seeing us soon we shall be
so happy once more to be all at home, save dear
Hal - He is studying hard to enter his class, which
I trust will be accomplished in a highly creditable
manner, Dr. Flint is exceedingly desirous to see Hal
but I am fearful he will not return during the Dr's
sojourn - I should like so much for them to meet -
it would be very gratifying to all, Hal is getting
tired of being an exile from home, & is solicitous
that we should go & board in Cambridge & all
be together - there being schools for all ages - I am
very much inclined to try it - but your father does
not fall into the arrangement fully, altho' at times
he seems to approve of it - we will be obliged to
do something in regard to Ellie's & Lily's education
they are doing very little, it is impossible for me
to give them that attention which is necessary -
we shall all soon be on the "qui vive" to see you,
Mama, El, Lil ~~all~~ send much love to you, love to
M-C - Good bye my sweet child Your ever affectionate
Mother E. Duncan



1855
PITTSFIELD MASS

Miss Mary Duneau
care of Dr. Agnew
Pittsfield
Mass



Lexington Feb 24th 1855

My Dear Daughter

Judging by your last letter to your Mother I conclude that you have not commenced taking-writing lessons-as I have urged you to do-in your hand writing judging from this specimen you have rather fallen back instead of improved in your hand writing- This will not do-you must not fail to give attention to this beautiful accomplishment for a lady

I see by your Mother's letter that you have been invited by that accomplished lady Mrs Sarah Sparks to spend your next vacation with her in Cambridge-and I expect you to do so- This will afford you many advantages & opportunity of seeing and making the acquaintance of some of the most attractive and cultivated Society in a Mass- you will find Mrs Sparks a most charming and interesting lady- these opportunities you must fully improve & seek to qualify yourself to take a high position in Society- for all those qualities of mind & manners- which give properly so much influence & charm to your sex

I hope you still diligently

issue open studies. In a letter I received from Dr. Agnew a few days ago he mentions that you are about out of money. This should not have been left with him for you - when I left \$75 and handed you some 7 or 8 in gold besides deducting the 20% I directed to have Mary Susan still upheld leave you some \$97 - how to have expended this in some 3 months is too extravagant - over 20% a month for pocket money. How have you got through with it - some explanation is needed - hereafter I will make your periodical remittances - and not place it in his hands. You must leave my daughter to manage better than this & observe more economy & care. These suggestions are all in effect for my daughter - you must learn to take better care of your means and not form habits of extravagance.

I am confined to the house with influenza - nursing myself - all the rest of the family are well - we have nothing new here - I shall remit to your brother the means to pay your way - for the next time & your traveling expenses to Cambridge & back during your vacation. I hope your brother will upon this occasion of his visit to Pittsfield, do nothing

to violate the rules of the school - and expect that spirit of suspicion and espionage with which I fear he has been looked upon. He speaks of a trip with you by way of St. Haven - spending a day or two & from there to Boston & Cambridge - should you carry out this part of the plan - I wish you to examine particularly Miss Edwards's School and give me your opinion of it in comparison with Pittsfield institute & express to Miss Edwards any great disappointment - that she had no place for you when I applied for a place - I have always thought well of her school and most highly of her - as essentially qualified to direct the education & training of young ladies.

I was sorry to hear that you had to manage your provision box - received from home - as if to me a contracted article that system that imposes a resort to this sort of concealment - is execrable - and calculated to foster & train young ladies in a hidden and dissimulated course - not such as I wish my daughter ever to resort to - they would not have confiscated your articles - coming from home - if you had openly informed them of it. I hope you will never feel a necessity for a resort again to hiding - all send you much love
Your devoted Father
J. L. Haven

fish - which I hope to have ready
by your return home when
you will be able to get up some
delightful fishing excursions

I suppose you get all the
news from this neighbourhood
from your other correspondents
As I am a hard hand to get news
gossip & news I leave it to others

I received your letter con-
taining a line from Eva - send-
ing me her regards & I beg you
to make her my cordial ack-
nowledgements & assure her of
my warmest & ^{equal} friendship - and
that it will always be to me
a source of pleasure to hear
of her well being prosperity & success
in life & that when she writes
to her father to remember me
to him in the kindest terms

Regards to Mother Agnes & my
family - Henry Lafon & your other
friends
Yr Obedt Servant
H. L. Duncan

Lexington Feb 10th 1835

My beloved Daughter

Your last most affectionate &
welcome letters to your Mother &
myself was read and gave us all
great pleasure - They show decided
improvement in letter writing and
with a little care & more practice
you soon ^{will} write much better. I

hope you are in the receipt before
this of your box of eatables &
that you & your friends are have
been feasted to your satisfac-
tion - I wish you to let me know
precisely when your session is out
& when the next term commen-
ces - and whether you are to hunt
up boarding for the short trips
out of the institute - The trips is too
short for a trip home

I hope my Dear Daughter you
are a diligent student and

fully improving your opportunities & acquiring some standing for your proficiency and progress in your studies. Bear always in mind, that as you improve now your opportunities is to have much influence in deciding your future character for usefulness & good. To take such a standing in society as will be gratifying to your family and friends. Be ambitious for high position in the institute - never be contented with an inferior standing - persevere & study, with a fixed and resolute purpose on your part & you can accomplish all ~~that~~ your highest aspirations.

I am satisfied that with the continued good health of your room mate a change would be desirable - your Mother I suppose has written you on

this subject fully

I suppose some of the children have mentioned to you that we discovered among the boys at Bedford - a genius - a musical prodigy. Scott is the boy - I have brought him home and shall have him instructed by a master - He performs on the violin by ear any thing he hears him or whistled a tune and he plays it at once - Quadrilles Polkas Waltzes innumerable he plays - we can have a top at any time.

I have to spend much of my time at Bedford - one third at least - fully occupied with improvements & prospecting new ones - I picked out a location for a little lake - which will cover from 5 to 6 acres of land & give a depth of water of at 15 to 20 feet - this I propose for

P.S. Say to Mr. Agnew - I wish he would send me
out several of his catalogues - I have had
several applications by persons wishing to
send to school - I shall send to Mrs. Capron to day
the only one I have left - She thinks of
sending many on - and desires to have
more information - I shall write her to day
at the request of Mrs. Warfield.

Lexington April 30th 1852

My Dear Daughter

I have been so much occupied for
the last 2 weeks, that I have depended upon ^{mother} you
Mr Jenkins & Eley to write you & keep you fully ad-
vised of all things at home - I again however
resume this agreeable duty, and shall endeavor
to write you at least once a week -

I persist in my dear Daughter, that my oft
repeated and urgent advice to you about im-
proving your hand writing, has not been heeded
when I parted with you, I expected to urge you
to take regular writing lessons - this I fear you
have not done, as I perceive no improvement
in your hand writing, whatever, rather a falling
off - This will not do - you must attend to your
hand writing in future, and if you have not
already commenced taking lessons - you
must do it immediately & not lose another
day in the attempt at improvement in this
particular - So much needed by you

In your letters you make no mention
of Henry LaFon - except that she has fattened
and looks well - How are matters between you
and her - Have you settled your business with
her and collected your debt - I owe you
This

you should attend to & in your intercourse with
her treat her politely - though not with con-
fidence - You make no mention of Grand Mamma
you expressed to her our regret at not seeing
her when in Pittsfield & make to her our
kind regards

Now my Dear Mary I should like to
impress upon you the importance of your
time - How soon you will be a young lady
upon the great theatre of life - and what a
source of regret, deep regret, it will be to
you through life - If you fail to improve the
the rare opportunities you now have of im-
provement - devote yourself, ^{your} diligently
to your books & make yourself a scholar - Now
is the time to lay deep the foundation upon
which you are hereafter to build - Form now
those habits of study & application which will
benefit you through life - Be ambitious of ex-
cellency - Content yourself with the position of
mediocrity - Cultivate those charms of reason
& intellect which gives you influence and
position - In your intercourse with your school
mates - learn to treat all kindly & with politeness
never forget that you are a lady - be indulgent
in no unkind feelings to any - be perfectly
just & charitable in your opinions - give
way to no feelings of ungenerous prejudice - do

not form hasty opinions of others - seek to look
upon the fair side - to excuse & look over the
errors and faults of others - "do justice love mercy
& walk humbly" is the golden rule of life, if
not lived up to, we should approach it as nearly
as possible

For the news of the neighborhood
I refer you to the letters of others, members
of the family - the wedding of Miss Bond to
young Burr - came off a few days since - a
general wedding I understand - though we were
not invited - a screw loose I suppose - not a
matter of much consequence

The fall has set in - the grass is a flowery in
abundance - and singing every thing perfectly
charming - we have the place in fine order
and our little lake has had great sport
since our return - friends & parties have been
out fishing - Doubtless had Miss Craig & some of
her friends are on Saturday - they brought out
their - pork neck have cooked their fish for
them & they feasted in the shade on the bank
I sent them Champagne & Ice - so they had a
nice time of it - and so on perfectly
in his glory - we have caught more than
over 200 new diggs - do I am just about start-
ing to Bedford - I will close - with my best
regards to your young friends - W. H. Fisher
Dover

Cambridge Feb 6th 1833

My Dear Sister

Your letter of Saturday is just at hand and I hasten to reply - But as I have nothing to write about I must be content with reviewing some of the items in your letter. First about my writing to Eva I am inclined to think we shall all get into some scrape or other this would be two bad. Dr Agnew might be offended and wish me in Tartarus - I was much sur-

-pressed on finding a letter
from Eva - you wish me
to send it to you - it is
so short that I can write a
copy for you - here it is

Pittsfield Feb 3^d 1855-

A. Duncan

"Cousin"

The O. H. C. B. P. is again
flourishing in grand style and
ready for any fun you may
propose - if you will promise
profound secrecy, both now
and henceforth forever - You
shall hear farther next Saturday
if an answer is received
before - We constitute you
honorary member and com-
pendent secretary."

Compliments of O. H. C. B. P.

E. Secretary
of Society

What say you to this letter
- I will propose a change
in the name of the Society
instead of ~~Old Harry~~ ~~Person~~

I think I had as well
write a reply to E's letter
hoping in well meet with
no misfeatures

I received a newspaper
from home in it I see that
Alec Morgan was married
a short time since to
Miss Russell - I doubted
much whether this would
ever come to pass & so
I must now go to my
books so good bye
Dear Sister

Your Affl. Brother
Duncan jr

Cambridge Wed. Feb. 14th 53-

Dear Sister

Your letter of Feb 10th was received on last Tuesday (yesterday) also a very handsome valentine from you - accept my thanks for them - and a kiss if any of the girls will give it you for me - you were very good to write me two letters in one week - but I am afraid you slighted some of your other correspondents on my account - you confine your remarks principally to the progress of the C. W. C. P. society. I wish you much pleasure in it - but I must forbear to mention it as you say I must confine my communications to the club through Miss Mahon (Cousin Eva) - as to the badge of membership when I go to Boston I shall enquire what will be the probable cost of them - and let you know before I order them so that you may decide whether you will have them

made or not - I can not say
that I admire your padlocks
of silver - for you will be
unwilling to wear them - you
had better devise some kind
of breast pin - to be made of
gold - or some other trinket
made of the same metal
an article of this kind would
be much prettier and you
would wear it - the cost
of a handsome pin would be about
\$4 or \$5 - when you cannot get
the padlock for less than \$4
let me know what your folks
think of the pin idea do
not say that I told you merely
with their mind as if it were
your own proposition

did you receive the ten
valentines that I sent you they
were pretty good ones - the
ACCEPT of Chak I wish to know
who received them - give
me the name of the lady and
the number of the valentine
she received

I had most royal fun today
when I was in Boston the
other day - I purchased one
gross of Comic Bal. the most
hideous things I could find
and on yesterday I directed
them to different Yellow here
- I sent 125 - this morning
when the P. O. - found I went
round - to see how the fellows
looked - you would have
died with laughter to have
seen them - I have not
had such fun "short" this
long time - I have not
been found out yet
- no letter from home
for a week just all were
well when I heard last
till Eva she shall hear from
me soon - as soon as I am
able to collect my wits that
were completely smashed up
by her last letter
Love to all
Your Afft Brother
W. D. Murray

Cambridge Feb 22 1855-

My Dear Sister

I received a note this morning from Mr Butler which he wrote to me on Sunday - but owing to his not writing my name on the note it did not come to hand until this-morning - Here is his direction, Worcester I went into Boston as soon as I could - found that he had left on Monday - he left two bundles for me in Boston, but I find that they are for you, since I opened them - they consist in several old school Books and a box of old trumpery from Mammoth Cave - As I cannot see what immediate need you have of them I will keep them until I go to Pittsfield unless you send for them. The express mans charge would be 50 cents which it is useless to pay unless you need the Books

while I was in Boston I saw
some very fine Oranges - I
thought you would like to
have some, so I ordered
a box of them to be sent you
I hope you will receive them
in good order & like them
If you have not done so
I wish you would send to
Mrs Agnew one or two dozen
of them - there is 30 dozen in
the box -

I forgot entirely to
order your padlocks to be
made - but I will do it when
I go to Boston again

In relation to your vacation
I think you had better come
to Cambridge and spend some
days with Mrs Sparks this I
know will be pleasant - for I
can see you every day -
after this we will go to N Haven
and see Em for a few days
if you favor my plan let
me know - also on what
day you can leave Pittsfield

You must have your trunk
packed - and ready to leave
in the return train - in this
way I can go down in the
night train and return in
the morning - this will save any
expense I might be at by being
in P- for some days - another
reason why I do not wish to
be in P- any time is that
I do not wish to see that old
son of a gun Agnew -

Please to write soon I
& let me know all the gossip
of -

How does the club come on
how is Eva & Mary I - & c

Your Valentines are all very
nice - tell no 5. ~~That~~ that Mrs B
here is in ecstasies at her
answer - Tell her if she does
not have pity on the poor
fellow he will go mad

I believe this is all P-
good bye - Love to you &
E & M. & c. he I wish

Your Affl Brother
W. D. S.

Cambridge Mar 12th 54

My dear Sister

Your
letter is just here
- I thank you for it
Although I have not
time I suppose I
must write you
a few lines -

You will find
\$20 - in this - this
makes \$25; I have
handed you - if
you can't wait I would
advise you to do so
until you come to
Boston - for the ar
ticles you want
- Your Packets are
not finished

I will be in Pitts-
field on Friday
night —

Your Affl brother
Henry S. Davenport

Cambridge April 6th 55

My dear sister

I reached this place
safely this morning - called to
Mrs Sparks she & the Dr are
well &c - you had better write
to Mrs she expects it - you
know the kind of letter to write
= I send you a letter that I
took from the office this morn-
ing - I presume it is from Miss
Lafou - who I suppose is by
this time in Pittsfield - rain
was falling during my entire
trip from Pittsfield - I
am going to see Fanny tonight
Gones had been for me to go
with him - I will write to
you again on Sunday and
give you an account of the
visit - write soon - How
is Mary G - & Mary Reed
give my love both my love
to my other friends including
Dr & Mrs Agnew & family ^{my respects} with
the devoted love of your
brother
good bye

Cambridge April 6th / 55
My dear Sister

I reached this place safely this morning - called to Mrs Sparks she & the Dr are well &c - You had better write to Mrs she expects it - you know the kind of letter to write - I send you a letter that I took from the office this morning - I presume it is from Miss Lanyon - who I suppose is by this time in Pittsfield - rain was falling during my entire trip from Pittsfield - I am going to see Fanny tonight Jones had been for me to go with him - I will write to you again on Sunday and give you an account of the visit - write soon - how is Mary G - & Mary Reed give my love both my love & my other friends including Dr & Mrs Agnew & family ^{my respects} with the devoted love of your
Brother
good bye

girls there
The Italian Opera is
in Boston I am going on
tomorrow evening when I
expect to enjoy it very much
I wish you could hear it
I know you would be delighted

Write long letters and
often - you ought to write me
as long letters as I write you
Good bye Dear Sister
Your Affl Brother

P.S. Hold on I forgot to
ask you to give my love
to Len Case - I wish you
would mention to Mrs Agnew
that I may be in Pittsfield
on June 1st

Cambridge May 20th/55

My dear Sister

Your last letter was
received on last Tuesday - and
should have been answered
immediately. but as I had
just written to you the day
before - I thought I would
write in a few days

If you needed a physician
I hope you sent for Dr.
Holmes - you ask what ails
me - I had at the time I
told you I was sick - a very
unpleasant pain in my
breast - & I was afraid I
was about to have consump-
tion for I also had a cough
but My Dr says that there
is not much the matter
& I will soon be well
- I am glad you liked
the penic I sent you & also

that you need them - I hope you will continue to do so your letters look much better written with pen & ink than with pencil

I did receive the money you sent all right, & thought I had written to you to that effect -

You wish to know how the Miss Hardens spell their names you have a letter from one and the signature of each in your album - by referring to either you will find how better than I can tell you - every time I see them they want to know why you do not write - Fannie does not like your neglecting her - I went to see them on yesterday found the older one remained an hour

I have been out walking with them several times - and now have an engagement to walk with Fannie some evening this week out on Charles river - I hope you enjoy the fine weather the pleasant walks and rides around Pittsfield - I am not sure but I may be in Pittsfield on Friday June 1st & remain until next evening if I can come I will but do not look for me as I will hardly be able to leave Cambridge -

I have received several letters from home all are well & all the girls & boys here in Livingston are getting married - I wish Doc would get home a wife - but he is going to Illinois - & I am afraid will turn to a heather and marry some of those

almost a heaven on earth at
least we should not be
I often think if we will ever meet
there again - we are now scattered
almost to the four corners of the Earth
but enough - I hope to see you
before many weeks when we
will talk over all our misfortunes
to look to a bright day when we
will all meet again -

- I was at the Italian Opera
last night - Wm Tell was played
Steffani & Badiali are the two
great attractions - the critics said
to be an excellent Parma donna

My love to my sister

Your Affl Brother
Henry

Love to Gen Cass - how do you
get on with her

Received at Abbeville
May 22 1855

Cambridge May 22 1855

My dear Sister

By some mistake your
letter of last Saturday was received on
yesterday one day sooner than usual
I am very sorry you are so unwell
you had better see a physician in
time and not wait until you are
very sick before you send for one
I am sure that Mother would like
for you to see one.

I received a letter from Father on
yesterday all were well and the
kinfolks swarming no less than I
arriving in one day.

I am sorry that Miss Lafon has en-
deavored to make Mary Reed your
enemy - I was sure something of the
kind had happened - I do not know
how or why - but at the time I wrote
to you about them I was sure
that something was wrong - I had
consciousness of it - owing to your

love for both these young ladies
I was inclined to and did like
both very much - but about the
time that I became convinced that
they were injuring you, all my
liking for them left me and
in its stead a positive dislike
for both and now I cannot think
of them without a shudder - they
have lost all those attractions that
produce in me esteem for anyone
- say nothing of this to any one
when I meet them it shall be
with the same outward appearance
just as if all was right - I
have learned to conceal my feel-
ings and appear friendly and
kind to all - during the short
time I have been from home
my character has in some res-
pects undergone an entire change -
when I came here I was one of
the most confiding persons I ever
met with but now I am

suspicious of every body - I find
that they all have some design
in every word and action
Every word or whisper starts me &
I fear some design and immediately
my mind sets off to counteract it
I had in some degree a love
for mankind (as womankind) but
now owing to the amount of vice
and villainy I have seen I look
on them with a sort of contempt
- I used to think I loved my Father
& Mother & Sisters - but I have only
come to know it since I have been
separated from them - it is now
tenfold what it was - I often look
back to the time when we were
all together at home - & think how
I used to look cross at my Parents
chide and argue my Sisters
- I think that if ever those days
will return and we all meet
again that ours will be a happy
home - I believe it could be a

1855

Long Pine House Jan 21.

My dear Miss Deane

Your very

kind note informing me of my poor
child's illness was received just one
week after it was rec'd at Pittsfield

Her letters have all been so cheer-
ful this term that I hoped she
would get thro' the winter with-
out any of those ill turns she
was troubled with last winter
& it gives me a great deal of
concern to hear that she has
been so much indisposed as to
make it necessary to call in a
Physician - It is a sad thing to
be ill away from home under
any circumstances and not less so

for those who sit at home separated far from the dear sufferer unable to minister to their wants & soothe their pain, enduring that worst of all mental tortures separation — But I will hope that with the kind care I know you dear Mary will nurse her with and the affectionate watchfulness of your warmhearted generous souled Mother dear Mrs. Agnew, that my poor child will soon be quite well again. For all you have done for prayer accept my warmest thanks — I owe indeed a heavy debt of gratitude both to the teachers & many of the young ladies whose attentions on former occasions have contributed much to her comfort & recovery. How gladly would I repay them but if that pleasure is denied

me God I am sure will reward those who have comforted the stranger and relieved the laborer.

I should be glad to know particularly what the nature of Mary's indisposition is if she is still too unwell to write you will oblige me very much if you will do so again & inform me how she suffers & what was the probable cause of her attack.

I saw your Father on Thursday & had a long chat about you and Mary & your school — They were all very well at home he said.

I have written hurriedly amid many interruptions but I hope you will at least understand that I am your very much obliged & very sincere

M. H. Johnson

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting on the left side of the folded paper]

*Mrs. Mary
P. [illegible]*

August 21 1845

Dear Mary
At the request of your father
I send you at all unwillingly I write
you a few lines to say that the letter
from him which you will receive by
the same mail that conveys this, and
intended to be conveyed to you by other
hands the brother of Miss La Fayette
you will observe by the superscription
you are called at the boarding house
of that young gentleman cannot find
to deliver it to him but found him
not at home. I must have afterwards to be
deeply regretted that he had not seen
you for as it would have afforded him
the opportunity great pleasure to have
been the bearer of the letter to you. He
expressed the hope that he should have
the pleasure of meeting you and making
your acquaintance in person. If any of the
young ladies should manifest symptoms
of falling in love with his elegant form &
insightful intellect, I should be glad to
them that his heart is ready to be made
ready to a Kentucky beauty and request

them to report any disposition to steal from
him his affections

You have also requested me to advise you
that it would altogether improbable
that he will not give in his mind to
your return, whether with any means
whatever you must therefore not be dis-
appointed if you should not see them
then I must not assure you that all
of us are tripping your return with
great pleasure & presume you do not
look forward with any less pleasure than
we do to the delightful reunion with
parents & friends now rapidly approach-
ing. Besides this pleasure which of course
I presume you return when you will have
the accidental pleasure of seeing the coun-
try for once here to whether it is not at
the period of the year and also the
opportunity of enjoying the varied fields
that are now open with the prospect of a fine
view. Besides the forest trees you have seen
which doubtless are
not to be despised by a boarding school
with whose food for the time being
perhaps some of the beautiful scenery of
provisional pleasures by the water of the
the fisheries or others

Accept my thanks for your present
& frequent epistolary favors in return
for mine excuse the shortness of this
as Kenna is waiting to take it to the office
to mail in time for the evening train
and believe me to be your affectionate cousin
W. J. G. Jones

P.S. Allan will send this love
W. J. G.



OHIO
NOV

Miss Mary Duncan.
Lexington
Ky.

Sonoma, O. Sept. 10th 1862

My Dear Mother,

I arrived home safely,
and have been enjoying myself finely.

Words will not express their
sincerity on seeing me for they expected
it would be impossible for me
to have company to Cincinnati.

I did not reach home until
eleven o'clock this day night, which
was some later than I had expected.

The weather has been very

unpleasant - so that I have been
unable to be out as yet.

I had
at last concluded to return and
should be very much obliged if
I could go on with you provided
it would not be too much trouble.

My Parents are very much
obliged to you all for your attention
towards me during our journey
and wish to be handsomely
to you. Will you write me
soon with regard to all your
arrangements how soon I shall
meet you in Cincinnati &c. &c.

Miss Lane and Company will
not permit me to write you longer
so please make all due allowances

Wm. J. Campbell

Institute January 1st 1855

Miss

I acknowledge with pleasure your contribution to the beautiful Christmas present bestowed upon me, I confess that I did not expect anything, but I have been agreeably surprised to find your name among the donors of my French pupils. I would beg you to accept in return my sincere thanks & my best wishes during the ensuing year for your success in the Dept confided to my care.

Please believe me

yours

F. Richard

Miss Duncan

Present

get? and the teachers and yourself?
Tell Mary Wood that I will write to
her in a day or two, it seems
a long time before I shall
receive possibly an answer to this
letter, but answer immediately,
do you hear? — for if you
don't!!! I — Give my love to
Mrs. Star and intend writing to her
very soon, my next letter is for
Aunie Effatt, perhaps she will
get it as soon as you do this.
Write very soon and do not
forget Yours truly and affly
J. F. Richard.

P.S. Mr. Richard says to be remembered.

Little Rock 3^d Dec. 183

My Dear Mary

At last I address you
from my far far southern home,
and very distant it seems to me
now that I am away from you
all, and having got over the con-
fusion and hurry of travelling
I can sit down calmly and
realize the many miles that
separate me from the friends
I hold so dear, my Pittsfield
friends, you not but among
them. We were blessed with
beautiful weather all the
time we travelled, we were
on our way longer than we
had anticipated, it was over
two weeks before we reached
Little Rock. I am delighted
with the place and people,
the climate is rather colder

than I had anticipated, I have
a large fire in my room and
find it none too warm, but
I suppose it is nothing to
the cold you have in Pittsfield.
Little Rock is smaller than Pittsfield,
there are a great many rich peo-
ple here however who do not
seem to know what to do
with their money. We have
had many come to us wishing
we should establish a school
here, but we will wait a
while and see first if
we like it well enough here
to wish to settle permanently
in this place. ^{every thing wears}
however, a favorable appearance.
I have not forgotten our
project of meeting at the
Mammoth Cave summer after
next. I think it very probable

that I should keep my rendez-
vous, and I trust you will not
forget our intended meeting.
Mr. Richard is very much pleased
here though he is always talking
of Pittsfield and its best flowers.
I could almost be jealous but
that I sympathize so with him
that I join in his regrets at
the distance that separates us
and in the hope of hearing
from you soon. I received
a letter from dear Gophy Jones
the day I arrived here and it
brought it with great joy. I have
also heard from Josiah Gaudford
and Mattie Butterfield. Tell me
all about your great doings for
Thanksgiving and New Year,
did you have a Christmas tree?
what presents did Mr & Mrs. Agnew

1p1y
NEARLY 1,000,000 BOTTLES

OF THE SIMPLE MIXTURE OF

ROSEMARY AND CASTOR OIL

HAVE BEEN SOLD.

Take the sweetest of names and fairest of flowers,
Combine them, and lo! what a treasure is ours!
For blooming in winter, when earth is all dreary,
We hail with delight the green fragrant ROSEMARY.

J. RUSSELL SPALDING'S

ROSEMARY AND CASTOR OIL

*The best article in the world for giving richness and
brillhancy to the hair.*



"After a long series of scientific experiments, Mr. Spalding has succeeded in freeing Castor Oil from its peculiar odor and all greasiness, and in blending it with the Rosemary, by an elaborate and intricate process, in such a manner as to form the most perfect article for the Hair ever made, for which all who desire to preserve a good head of Hair until late in life, will be grateful."

IT IS WARRANTED

- 1st. To beautify the hair.
- 2d. To curl the hair elegantly.
- 3d. To remove the dandruff effectually.
- 4th. To restore the hair to bald heads.
- 5th. To force the beard and whiskers to grow.
- 6th. To dress children's hair neatly and richly.
- 7th. To keep hair healthy until the latest period of life.
- 8th. To give to whiskers a beautiful appearance.
- 9th. To prevent the hair from turning grey.
- 10th. To restore grey hair to its original color.
- 11th. To prevent the hair from falling off.
- 12th. To cure all diseases of the scalp.
- 13th. To dress false hair elegantly.
- 14th. To cure the headache.
- 15th. To kill hair-eaters.

W. T. BRANDE, F. R. S. and L. E. to her Majesty's Mint, Prof. of Chemistry, &c. &c., speaks of Rosemary and Castor Oil in the highest terms for preserving the hair.

A well known Boston lady—Mrs. Sweeny—who can be seen at Dr. Hewitt's, No. 25 Rowe street, restored her grey hair to the original color, and also restored her hair to a bald spot on the top of her head.

Mr. Abram A. Truax, whose honest face and bald head have been known for thirty years in Rotterdam, N. Y., has now a growth of hair two inches long.

Benja. Seavey, now at the Bromfield House, Boston, stopped his hair from falling off, and thickened it very much by using two bottles.

Rev. C. W. Denison, U. S. Consul and Charge d' Affaires at Demerara, South America, formerly a pastor and editor in Boston, found it excellent for the growth, improvement and cleansing of the hair.

The above statements are enough to convince any woman or man that the Rosemary is all it claims to be.

Sold wholesale and retail by J. RUSSELL SPALDING, manufacturing Chemist and Apothecary, and Proprietor of Prof. Clinton's entirely new Hair Dye, and French's Hair Remover, 27 Tremont Row, opposite the Museum, Boston, Mass. Sold by dealers everywhere.

ap10

fpTu,lpTh, isStf

Duncannon Oct 15th 1855

Dear Daughter

You are now in the regular school duties & I hope feel it a pleasure & not a task, let the improvement of your heart & mind be the engrossing object, now is your season for gaining that knowledge which is necessary for usefulness & happiness in future, and in regard to sabbath duties, if you do not attend afternoon services, be careful not to spend it in idleness, or an attention to those things that are incompatible with the duties of the sabbath, have some sabbath reading study your Bible, go over the catechism, in a thoughtful serious manner, make it a point not to visit or receive visits on the sabbath, I hope you are comfortably fixed, you had pleasant weather for your trip, I heard from you at Cincinnati & Erie, through Dr Jenkins, for which I am most sincerely thankful, give my love to him if you should see him, as he calculates on doing, you gave him Mrs Sparks letter to decipher he thinks it will not take him, ^{quite as long} as, the Egyptian hieroglyphicks, be sure to write to Mrs S. I was in Lexington on Saturday saw Miss Castelman at Mr Sayre's Miss Clark has arrived, I would like very much to see her Mary promised to come over & see me & pass

a night during your father's absence,
I wished they lived nearer so that I could send
Ell & Lily, Lily is at the piano half a dozen
times a day, but to spell & write it is quite a
task to her, she will take a book & read for
hours without tiring, the young ladies from
the Sage Institute make quite a show in
our church they occupy 3 pews, Miss Goodrich
sits at the door of one slip & looks very con-
-spicuous, being so tall, Mr Brank preached
for us yesterday, Dr & Mrs Brown returned
last week I saw them yesterday, they are going
back to Jacksonville, in a few weeks, I think
of going to see them this afternoon, but I must
first finish a letter to you & Hal, &c &c
Write me how your goods arrived, & what you
bought for you, crackers, cheese, ginger &c
be sure to have the flannel basque's made
immediately & keep yourself warm, tell me
of the weather in your region on your arrival
& also at the time you are writing, take good
care of your health, I sent your knife to you in
my letter it was on its way when I rec'd. the
Gr's letter, the rule out of your portfolio is
here I will send it in a newspaper to you
I can't write more this morning so good by my
dear Your sisters join me in much love
to you, kindest regards to the Agnew's, Your
cousin Maria's love to you. affectionate Mother

Lexington Nov 16th 1855

My beloved Daughter

Your most welcome and anxiously looked for letter (as it is the first intelligence from you for 2 weeks) has to our great relief & joy come to hand on yesterday I do hope my Dear Child, that you will not again permit 2 weeks to pass without writing - If you knew the anxiety to be casual I am sure you would fail to write not less than once a week.

I am sorry to hear of the decline in numbers in your school - I fear it indicates a loss of popularity & does not from some cause enjoy the accustomed favor I am dissatisfied with the failure of Dr Agnew - (after assuring me that it would certainly be attended to this term) to organize his classes for conversations in French - This was promised the first term I placed you there (but not done) What are I to think of these repeated failures If I had anticipated it - you would have been placed elsewhere - I wish Agnew to express to Dr Agnew my wish that he would give the subject his early attention - If it is not

I wish to make a private arrangement with Mr & Mrs Richard to give you an hour a day at least for conversation

I have seen nothing of your friend the "General" since you left - all I have heard is the information (from Mrs McCaw) that she was to marry somebody - whether the silent gentleman or not I do not know

I have been to Louisville for some days last week - attending to the vexatious business of Mr Timberlake - and shall have several thousand dollars to pay for the scamp - which frets me much - I reproach myself for taking his word for him and not having looked into the business long ago - If I had I should have ^{saved} the present slip - finally by forcing him to close up long ago - I do hope my children will avoid ever endorsing for any one - particularly for his folks - the least we have to do with them the better - in matters of money Mr Jenkins & I will be off to Illinois in a few days - to start him - If he is industrious & correct he will do well - we shall carry Maria with us & drop her at Vincennes - I hope for all times to come your mother will have a less some times of her duddy my absence - the nearest hint

of somebody to stay with her - until my return

Tom has again been stealing your Mother's money - he has this time robbed her drawers of nearly all - having stole at least 100 \$ your Mother did not tell me until the last robbery - He having been in the habit of do for some time - I at once took him in hand & he made full confession - that he had repeatedly stolen her money & gambled it off to Shoups, Scott & c - I had them all up and thrashed them well - I shall have to sell them - there is no other relief to this stealing & gambling & as for Tom he will come to the gallows & be hung just

Your Brother has appointed the 20th Jan to dine with us & spend his vacation at home - we shall enjoy his visit very much I have for his success the greatest anxiety that he shall pass through Cambridge with the highest reputation for character & scholarship & be prepared to take in so exactly the highest personal position and influence - you must stimulate his own talents to high aims - urge him to employ all his energies for the effort - all well & send you much love yr devoted Father
A. J. S. J. S.

an hour to say to Mrs. Cleary
how often I seek from travellers
intelligence of her.

And let your letter know
that Mr. Sparks is bearing
a proper engraving on his
case. I was particularly
pleased with the gift, as I ~~wished~~
wished to see something from ashland.

Also kindest regards to Mrs. Duncanson.

always affectionately
your friend,

Mary C. Sparks.

Cambridge

2 October 55.

You have now two
dates for choice.

Cambridge, 2 Oct. 55

My dear Miss Duncanson.

I have your pleasing
letter. And hasten to write while
you are still at home that all
may have the pleasure of
hearing how well your brother
is doing when we have the
pleasure of being here. He
rejoices much in his success
among the mountaineers, and
his apparent popularity
among the farmers. Nothing
can be said better for him
save perhaps that I believe
he is a great favorite
with Mr. Cheice.

We have here a fine interest,
as I returned from a morning
ramble in Hovey's gardens
to see with flowers & success.

heard that the new school
of Rabbit was that day
to open. And we long
to hold the upper school girls
passed my children on their
way to their own teacher. There
was an occasion from Boston,
and one of the girls looked as if
she did not know anybody.
said observing Florence.
Several dancing girls pass one
window on the way to the
beautiful Trinity avenue
on which our boarding house doors,
there in beautiful location,
they occupy a house under the care
of English ladies where they have
their own bed rooms and study desks
and free passage of the house with
a common study, always warm,
if they prefer that. These ladies
can also teach music, drawing &
apart lectures at the school, and
Prof. Felton also. I think it probable that
others of our Professors may be

enrolled. The school opens with near three girls,
these above for more, and if you hear of any
lady who wishes to send any one, there is also room
at this English lady's who takes the responsibility of their
being here. It is in great haste among us, all honestly
being especially obliged to bring out the matter perfectly.
I received a note from Miss Walker at the house we
went with you now, and have been dining on down
of the fine breakfast the lady from her sister. She has
had the working cough. I saw her just after meeting
you, she had been at the house for a week and a half
was present, having studied made, and studied
well, but not much. Her cough is a severe one for
I can bring in your daughter in that beautiful
country. I enjoyed it when staying at school, so to be

comfortable, Did you give Hal his socks?
neither of you have said any thing
about them, it will be too bad to loose
them after my ranning the heels & toes
to make them comfortable & warm,
The weather here has been most bright &
Beautiful, there was some ice a few days
ago, but it is mild again, John made a
splendid boquet of Lowpurn long roses
entirely - it was a superlative one,
Last week your father spent most of the week
at Bedford, I had the carriage got up &
went to see him & remained all night
it is rather rough there it is not probable
I shall be tempted to try it again soon
the road is very good some parts of it as
much so as in the summer, Your sisters
join me in much love to you My dear
God bless you - Your ever affectionate Mother
E. Duncan

My love to Miss M -

Duncannon Dec 14th 1855

Friday,

My very dear daughter
Your last letters to father
& my self, were recd several days ago, which
ought to have been answered, but the days are so
short & night is not so pleasant to write in,
Kate Curtright has been here for ten days
she started to Bourbon on the 6. N. W. train
to day, It is really delightful to hear from
you & Hal, to find so much affection for
each other, that you both are so much benefited
by the visit, a few hours of acquaintance seems
to excite a great exuberance of spirit, it is
very pleasing to hear that all passed off amicably
You did, ^{not} say whether you recd the package
that was sent to you, the pants you desired
it is always satisfactory to have such things
acknowledged, My dear I am afraid you do
not use as much system as you ought,
unless there is method in whatever you do,
~~then~~ there will be confusion & vagueness,
It is advisable for you to keep a memoran-
dom book, when dates & events should be
recorded of all you do, & your expenses also
even to a copper, when & for what spent it

will be of more consequence to you than you may at first sight think, keep a strict account of every thing, do not be influenced by others to do that which your sober judgement would condemn, act from principle, Christmas will be on you directly, what course have you laid out for yourself, pay up old scores before incurring new, the paper you mentioned has not come to hand, as to Mary Castman I have scarcely seen her, a few sabbaths since she was at church, & had a few words with her, she complained of you that you had not written to her, & made many apologies for not doing so herself, neither one sufficient, she said that she expected to go to St Louis in a short time, I have not heard of her since, she is not to be relied on, you have been rather unfortunate in the two Mary's, I hope you will be more lucky in future, be cautious in your intimacies, there is no telling, have you heard how Miss Clark is pleased? Maria left a great deal of love for you & says she will write to you from Vincennes, I rec'd a letter from her a few days ago, she makes many enquiries about you, & sends her love to you, the letter you requested me to direct to Dr Jenkins did not make its appearance

Mrs Mearns, F. Hall has returned to Chatanooga Ten, to engage in a school, I do hope that she may eminently succeed, she deserves to do so, & is a very competent teacher, How do you get along in your studies? In regard to French do you make as good a progress as you should? I am pleased to hear that Mrs Agnew has recovered her health, that says she was very polite to him during his visit at the Institute & warned him not to loose his heart. Give my kindest regards to her,

My dear daughter you must write more particularly about yourself, what you do & how you do, if you get on harmoniously & comfortably, that says you are so much in love with Pittsfield you are not willing to leave it to go to Spassize, I am much of your opinion in the matter, Emma Mc is pursuing her studies at home, she is at Latin & French, Do not complain of head ache so much as formally, take care of getting colds in your head, throw something over you in passing about, you are well supplied with wraps, Is your foot stove of any use to you? every little particular concerning yourself will be just what I would like to hear, make yourself



Miss Mary Duneau
Care of Dr Agnew
Pittsfield
Mass



Cambridge Dec 2/55.

Dear Sister

I reached
Cambridge safely
last evening after
a ride of 9 hours in
the cars - I have
no news to tell you
& only write to you
to announce my safe
arrival - I send you
2 catalogues in exchange
for the 2 you gave
me - I also send
one by same mail to
Miss Julia L Bacon

& Miss Maly —

Enough of my
class has just
been to see me &
till me the very sad
news that our friend
Mrs Horsford died
this past week —

— My love to you
— & do give it to my
Fairy queen — when
you send me her
daggers — & shall send
the barrel of apples as
I promised — remember
Your aff. brother

Henry

Duncannon Oct 25th 1855

My very dear daughter

Your welcome letter was rec^d to day, & the cord, also one from Thal, it is a great comfort to hear from my dear children, & to know that you are well & improving the opportunity for gaining knowledge, be careful my dear to merit the highest respect & esteem from all you associate with, be obedient to your teachers, as you have been told not to pop corn in the hall I would get it done else where or ask permission

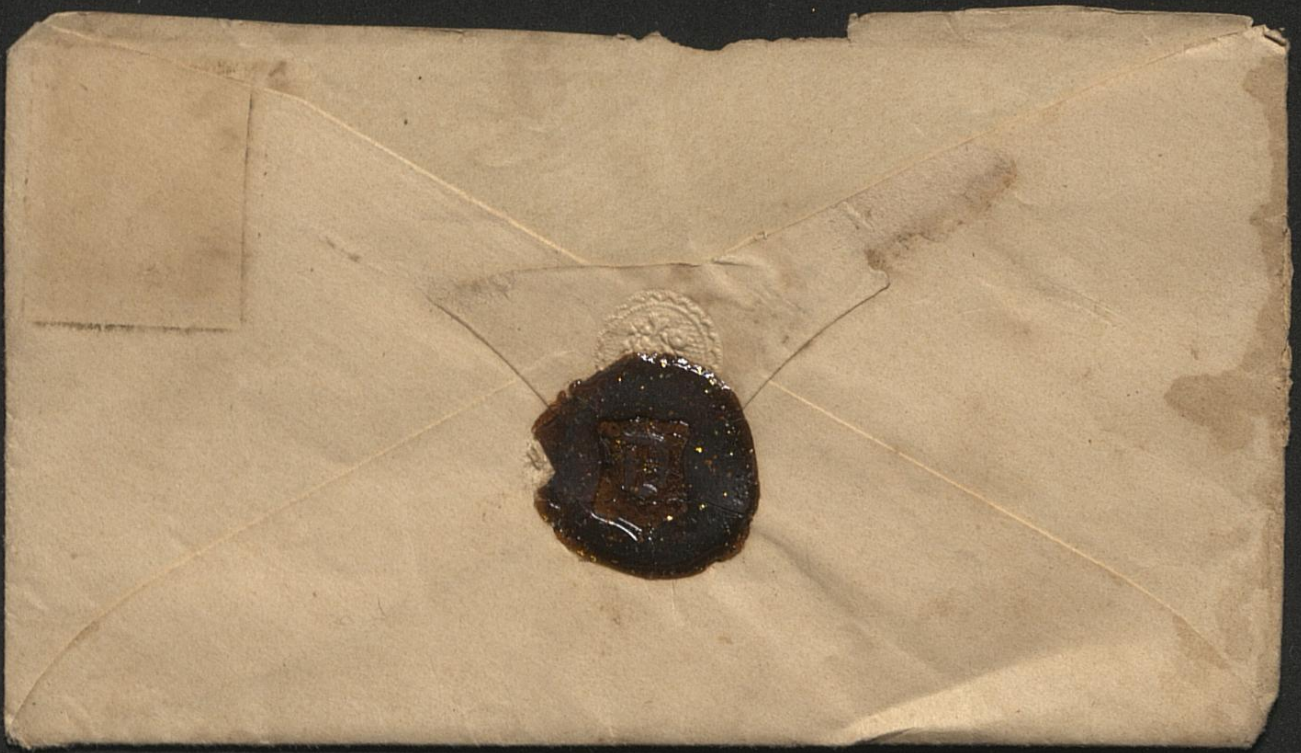
Your dear father returned home on Saturday eve 8 o'clock P.M. he has a very bad cold, I was truly thankful for his safe return, & delighted to hear all the particulars of my absent ones, you did not send Thal's socks to him by his father, he needs them, be sure to let him have them when he comes to see you, Emily Bond has written 4 letters home she is dissatisfied & home sick her mother wishes she had gone to Pittsfield, what do you think? it is said that the general is to be married! & to Mr. J. of N.Y. the bright bear that attended her during the fair, she has not treated you with much confidence, if such is the fact, I was in Lex- to day to get Miss Maria a bonnet & have her dress made, she wanted a \$10 one

I send you one pair of gloves, there was no Masarin or green

a masarin blue, but I thought that was too much, to pay, so there was a green at \$8 that next pleased her & green was all she would have, she is certainly the greatest mule in human form, she wants more moss trimming for the dress, unless there was enough for a cow she does not want any, a good thing, there is no more like it, but if there were I should get no more, it is a pity she is so disagreeable when she might be quite a comfort, be happy herself & make others happy, instead of the miserable being that she is & makes it so here ever she goes. We have had a taste of winter for several days past & I have been thinking of you, that it must be still colder where you are, & the new winter hose you took with you were not topped, what will be done if they are not long enough? when you pass from one place to another throw your blanket shawl over head & ears, by so doing you will avoid those headaches & cold in the head you so subject to, by the time you receive this Dr. J. will have made you a visit & I hope you got him to make the purchase of crackers, &c you wanted, it is time for you to put on your flannel waist & all that is necessary for winter is your flannel basque made? you need it now, make yourself comfortable & happy, increase in wisdom & knowledge, be prepared for time & eternity, My love to the girls, Mother & sisters send much love to you my dear, your father is at Bedford, Cousin M. sends his love. Your affectionate Mother



Miss Mary Dimean
Care of Dr Agnew
Pittsfield
Mass



Cambridge Dec 21st/55

My Dear Sister.

I was very sorry to hear of your being unwell. & I sincerely hope you may be well before this reaches you. - It is too bad that you & I get so few letters from home in return for the very many we write. now I have written 2 times a week since the recess & have recd but 2 in return - the last is from Mother & recd. since I wrote to you last - there is no news in it except such as you have heard in your

letters from home - Yes
I wish you would make
up your mind to go to
Ky with me in January
to be overjoyed - you'd better
do so, what say you?

I will not be able to
accept your invitation to
spend Christmas with you
I would do so if I could
possibly do so - but I must
remain here in this abominable
place - however I may
stop a day or two as I go
west - & if not then I will
do so at the end of the vacation
when I return to New E -

-- I hope you will enjoy
yourself on Wednesday evening
though not in person I will
be with you in Spirit &
enjoy the evening very
much - or or

a Cloud of Sadness has
been over the College for
a few days - on last
Monday evening Gibbons of
the Sophomore class died
very suddenly from the
breaking of a blood vessel
he was a fine fellow &
much loved by his friends
& classmates. he is deeply
mourned - when his death
was announced to his mother
her reason fled - It
makes me sad whenever
I think of it - he was an
only son

- Love to you - & some
to Empress & Fannie Luene
Your Affe Brother
Henry -



WATERBURY
DEC
15

Miss Mary Linnear
Care Dr Agnew
Pittsfield
Mass

Miss Mary Simeons
Pittsfield
Massachusetts
Polite^{ness} of
Mrs Lapon

Mary Taylor has another daughter, I learn from
Ellen who made it an early visit this morning
that, ^{it} was named Alice - Mary is quite fan-
ciful!

Present us affectionately to your young
friends - Love to Mary Ann

Your devoted Father

W. T. Duncan

Lexington May 21st 1852

My Dear Daughter

I avail myself of the occasion
- since of Mrs. Leford's visit to Ptesfield - to write
you a line

I am gratified to hear of your recovery
from your indisposition & presume that this would
have occurred without the visit of the Hon. Genl.
Thick Doctor - It is a pretty affair that a young
Lady has to be called out of school to see a Doctor
Should you at any time need a physician - I
wish you to send for Dr. Oliver W. Holmes - who
I understand resides in Ptesfield & is eminent as
as one of the first Physicians in N. England
though I trust there will be no necessity
to ^{call} upon any however

You mention that you have commenced
taking writing lessons - I am rejoiced to hear
to - though I should not have found it out
if you had not informed us - from the specimen
furnished by your letters

This new arrangement requiring 2 hours
of practice on Saturday & 1 hour of study
I think no improvement - you should have this
day for letter writing - attending to your
wardrobe - mending & arranging - in the same
recognition I shall write to Agnes on the
subject

I hope you have not deferred until now
writing to Mrs Sparks - and that you took particu-
-lar care & pains in writing - and that you
have long since made to her due and proper
acknowledgments for her kind & hospitable
attentions to you - while here - though she
is excentric - she is a very superior and
cultivated Lady - and will prove to you prof-
-itable and valuable correspondent - if you
have not yet performed this duty - I do hope
you will postpone it no longer - and write
her immediately

I cannot say Dear Daughter in proff
upon you too often and too earnestly the great
importance of diligence & close attention
to your studies - now is the time to improve
your opportunities - and qualify yourself
to take that position in society - which will be
so qualifying to your family & friends and con-
-tribute so much to your future happiness and
usefulness - "Make hay while the sun shines"
now is the time my Daughter to cultivate
your mind & principles for a life of in-
-fluence & usefulness & not waste^{it} in idle-
-ness & folly - You cannot be too attentive
to your manners and the proper cultivation
of those courtesies and amenities of life
which makes for us firm & fast friends

Mrs Mrs Sparks - have writing you or not on the
subject of the proposed School in Cambridge under
the direction of Professor Agassiz - How would you
like it? &c &c

In your late letters you have not had much
to say about your young friends - what has become
Eva - you must write us more fully & frequently
than of late - and tell us all about them

The country here never looked more
lovely than at present - we shall soon have
abundance of fruit - the Cherry crop is
greater than I ever knew it to be - there
is all the finer qualities of the hay &
-Niggaree - with every thing else - peaches apples
-peaches peaches plums & ^{grapes} &c &c
-grapes & I wish you were near enough to
send you a basket every morning for your
friends & yourself - The fishing here in our
little Lake has been very fine this spring - the
-great parties out from Lex to join in the sport
on Saturday her mother & her & Mrs Rosa John-
-son were out - she is just back from a visit
to Washington City Phil & N York of some 3 months
was greatly admired & produced quite a sensation
a great toast - she is I think the most beautiful
& magnificent woman in the Union - of course
we had a nice time & caught many fine fish
some weighing a pound



*Miss Mary Duncan
Care of Henry Duncan Esq
Near Lexington
Ken.*

28

Trust Hill Ken,

Aug 28th 1833.

Miss Mary Duncan,

Wishing to ascertain something concerning the institution situated at Pittsfield Mass, I, a perfect stranger, take the liberty of addressing you in this manner. Seeing your name among the list of scholars, of the past year, at Pittsfield, I concluded you could give me some account of the advantages of the school. I am desirous of attending some Eastern institution, and my parents are prejudiced in favour of Pittsfield, and would like very much to hear something of it, from one

who has been a pupil there?

Do you think the school superior
to our Kentucky schools?

And have they excellent teachers, for
music and French?

You will confer a great favour
on me by letting me hear from
you soon. Please say whether you
will return this Fall.

Yours respectfully
Mary Brown Scott.

To Miss Mary Duncan
Lexington.

Direct your letter to the care of,
Robt W. Scott Esq.
Frankford.

my love to you & Gus - Love
your little Mother
Henry

Hopkinton Aug 23rd 1858

Dear Sister

I have recd. all of your numerous letters & & & I am really obliged for them and shall endeavor to write you a long letter although I have not time to do so - Since my last letter to you - I went of Friday last on a "black-berrying" with a party of about dozen persons from this village - boys & girls. we went in a hay waggon & had a very jolly time - the girls are very pretty and interesting & & & & & On Saturday I went to Cambridge where I remained until Monday morning - on Saturday evening I called at Mr Sparks saw Mrs - she inquired particularly for you how you were & & & on Sunday evening I attended a concert of sacred music in Boston at Arimont Temple it was very fine & I enjoyed it immensely - While in Boston and Cambridge I feasted on fruit Peaches Pears Plums Apples figs & watermelons & & & and all the while my visits there was fine - I came near going to Pittsfield to see you

You are going home to spend your vacation - You had better see your own pleasure about going to Home with Dr Flint or Mrs Castleman - but as Mrs C is alone my opinion is that you had better go with Dr Flint for I should not like to see you going without some gentleman along - As it is best for you to spend your vacation in N.Y. - I hope you will make up your mind to enjoy your visit as much as possible - there are a few little items about which I wish to talk with you but shall not be able to do so - I am unwilling to write them - I do not hear very often from Home now. Father is the only one who writes regularly - I hope you will when you next home write often to me for you will then have little to do.

Aug 24. - Just I at this place on yesterday I was called away to go and call on Mrs Greene & to carry her some 4 or 5 pieces of music which I purchased in Boston - she very kindly accepted it as a present of me - she sings beautifully better than xxx

Last evening after tea I could not resist the temptation to call again to see Mrs Greene - she was sitting on her door step as I passed by taking my usual evening walk - and gave me such a sweet little bow & smile that I could not help stopping and passing a few hours listening to her charming conversation - I afterwards called to see Miss Clark a very pretty country girl who was never more than 10 miles from H.P. I next called to see the 3 Misses Flanders - next to Mr Adams - or or or or - There is to be a concert here on this evening - I will call & see if Greene will go -

On last Sunday evening afternoon I spent some hours with Hart Libson - I find him much improved & he intends to emigrate in Cambridge for one year - till Dec 15 - that he is a fine fellow - also that Wm Gibson has taken off unto him self

3



Miss Mary Duncan
care of W. Agnew D.D.
Pittsfield
Mass



Saturday Apr 28th 1855

My very dear daughter

Two letters have been rec^d from you since I have written to you, owing to there being communion season last week, & this week I have had a bilious attack, confined to my bed until to day, I'm very weak but I must write to my dear children to day, Mr & Mrs Brown spent yesterday with us, Mrs B. sit in my room, Mrs B. & Jenkins & your father were at the pond fishing, they caught about 200, the fishing this spring is very fine. Mrs B. sends you much love, & says she would be so glad to see you. Your idea of economy in dress is very good, still it will not be economy for you to lay by your clothes & get others, as to sun bonnets they are any thing than pleasant, they are warm, blinding & very little protection from the sun, & besides need to be washed often, that will make it necessary to have two, so I think a flat is much better every way if you are compelled to keep the blue bonnet, I would

not have the straw done up but make the blue & flat do, I did not think the milliner would sell it for you, she will ask you \$5 at least for doing the straw, so you may as well wear the blue as you have it, it will suit your summer wear, do not think too much about dress, but be neat & clean always, let me remind you to be careful in making the change from winter to summer. Make a change with the weather, the season is not uniform until May is half past, I recommend you to put away all your winter clothing in your large trunk, & keep your summer in the one they were sent so that you can lock & keep them together, I do not need the key lay it away in the bottom of your trunk, You have not told me in what condition the box of fans were, & if you keep them in it, & lock it in your closet it will be much better than to soil the trunk besides the trunk is decidedly better to keep the clothes in, have you found your lost articles? It is perfectly delightful to hear you are getting along harmoniously & sincerely hope it will ever be so, it is much

better to pass by trifles, than to notice them - it will be much more magnanimous. Tell me how Miss Ligon carries herself towards you & if Miss Castleman has made her acquaintance, My love to all the young Ladies you mentioned in your letter also to Mrs & Miss Agnew, You think if English grammar was not one of your studies you could do better, now my dear it is very important, you should & I hope you will perfect yourself in it you will not regret it. The best way to have your shirts & cravats made in the waist will be like your Swiss open in front I send you a pair of black net mitts, & stamps at last, I will write you again soon I hope my dear Mother, Mother, Sisters & Cousins desire much love to you, Your affec Mother C. Duncan



Miss Mary Duncan
care of H. Agnew D.D.
Pittsfield
Massachusetts

a medicine, be careful how
you distribute it, & for what
purpose, as you have a tactful
as a companion, you will be
under a good influence. Maria
sends you a great deal of love &
says she is so glad that she did
not write to you, so you will
learn to lock up all communications
for you do not know who goes into
your room when you are out, do
not forget to present Dr Agnew those
articles from the Mammoth Cave.
My love to Mary C. - also M. R. & J. M.
Kind regards to Dr & Mrs Agnew, my Father,
Ellen. Lily joins in the warmest
affection to you, my dear and
accept a Mother's undy-
ing love, good bye,
God bless you, Love
affection Mother
E. D.

March 9th 1855

My dearest daughter

This is Monday morn-
ing & Easter. Ell & Lily are busy
dyeing eggs, & you are busy in the
routine of regular term duties, & I
trust it will be a more pleasant one
than the last. Be careful to avoid
giving offence to any one, & live in
peace, nothing conduces more to
happiness than a cheerful, peaceful
state of mind. We reached home
Saturday evening to tea. Found all
well, & delighted to see us, & eager
to hear all about you & Neal. We also
found a budget of letters from each
of you, & others, among the rest one from
Robert Ford saying that Cousin C.
Scott was rapidly convalescing, was
sitting up & eating heartily, we are all

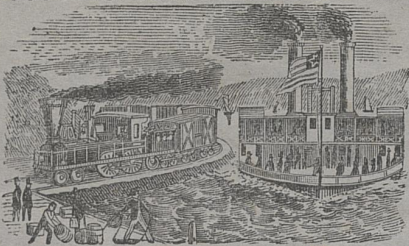
Truly glad to hear of this unexpected change in her hopeless condition of her health when we last heard from her I sincerely hope she will be restored to perfect health, Robert also informed us that he would leave home on this day week ago for Charleston S. C. from thence to N. Y. & probably Boston such are the vicissitudes of life the separations of loved ones are ever occurring I can most truly & feelingly sympathize with cousin Maud in the absence of her dear son, it is a severe trial to her for she almost idolizes Robert. Ell, Lily & Maria shed tears when I told them of the ordeal you have passed in the institute during the short sojourn in it, still I trust it will not pass unimproved but be a salutary lesson in the selection of intimates, never to compromise with a selfish, jealous,

tyrannical mind, there is neither peace or happiness, may ^{your} guardian angel guide & protect you from all evil, let us hear every thing about yourself, pleasant or painful, take courage & hope for the best in every strait act with a conscience void of offence towards God & man! I intend going about getting your summer clothing packed up & sent to you immediately in regard to your bonnet, you bought before you get it spoiled & handled take it to the milliner & see if she will take it in exchange for the doing up of the straw bonnet, I will send you your straw flat it will protect you from the sun better than a sun bonnet, I feel as if I had erred in taking you so much spirit, do not use it save for medicine the black-berry cordial I make for derangement of the bowels, & use it as

W. J.



Miss Mary Sumner
Care of Dr. Agnew
Pittsfield
Massachusetts



THE ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY.

Lexington April 16 1855

Received of H. J. Duncan

Our Trunks

said to contain,

and of the value of

to be forwarded by Express to Pittsfield Mass only, and there delivered to H. J. Duncan as Agent for shipper or owner.

It is agreed, and is a part of the consideration of this contract, that we are not to be responsible for any damage arising from the dangers of Rail Road or River Navigation, Leakage, Fire, or from any cause whatever, unless the same occurred from the fraud or negligence of ourselves, our agents or servants.

MARKS.

H. J. Duncan Care
or agent
Pittsfield Mass

Freight to

\$

3.50

For the Proprietors.

Pittsfield
J. Hayes

Lex Apr 17th 1855-

My beloved Daughter

Enclosed I send you bill of lading for your trunk sent to day by Adams Express - In this letter I send you the key

On the 13th Inst. I gave a party to Committee assembled here to select a plan for the Clay Monument - Some very interesting gentlemen from abroad were present - It went off very well & all seemed to enjoy themselves very much

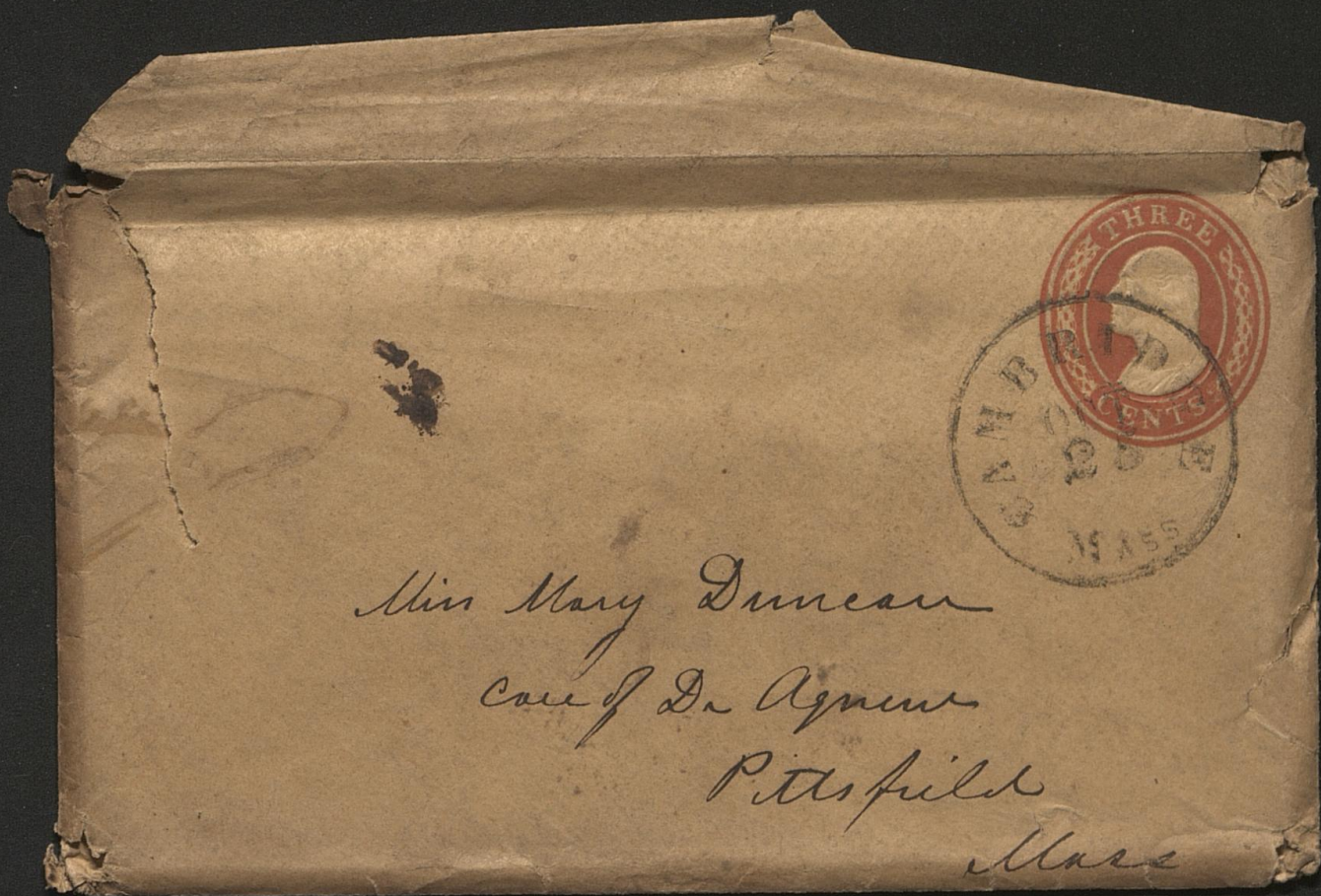
You will not omit to take writing lessons daily - your hand writing is miserable & must be improved

I have a handsome Ashland Case for Mr Taylor which you will mention to him & that I will forward it by first opportunity

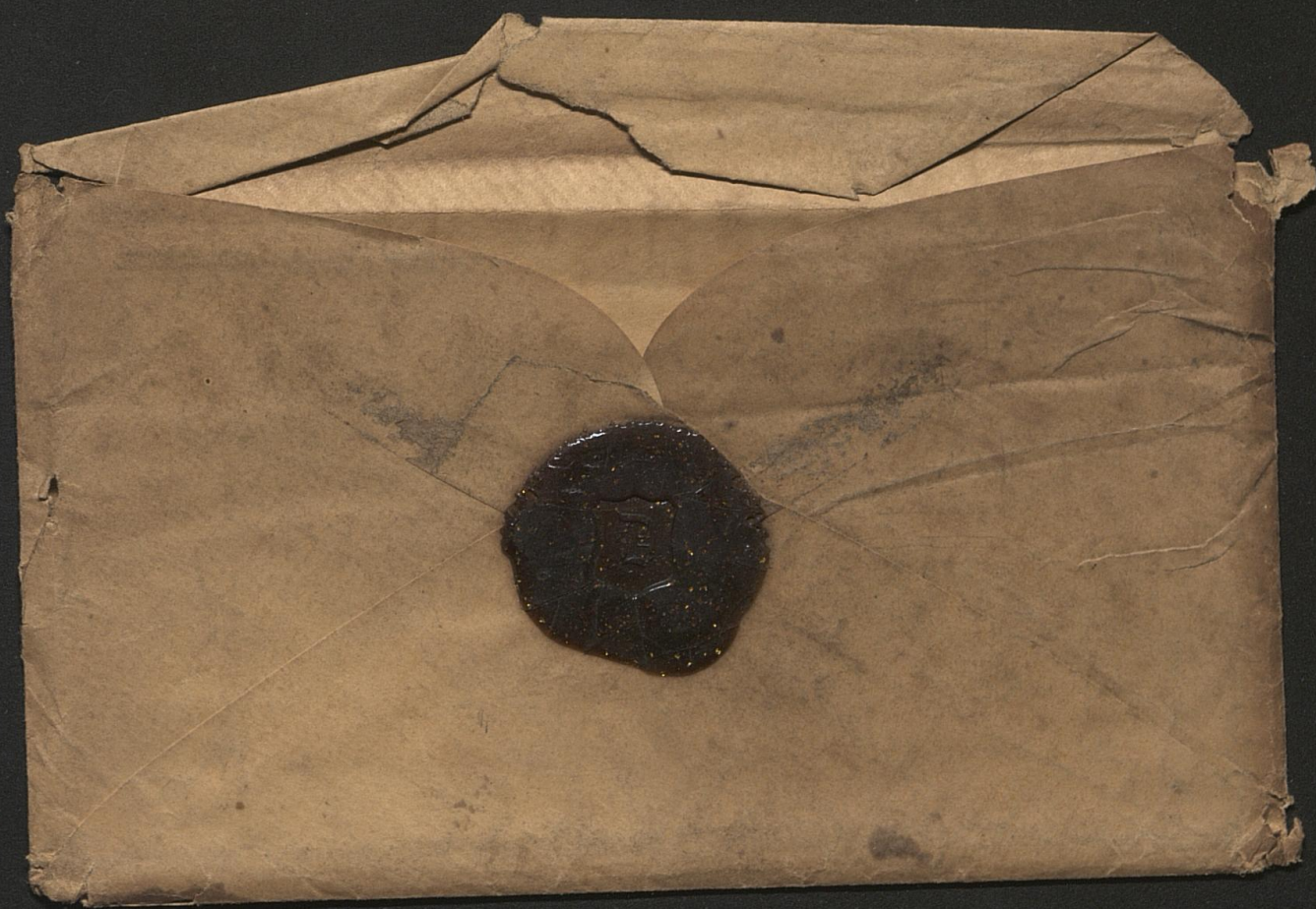
Has the letter to the Institute - about the fair produced any feeling - among any of you Kentuckians? How are matters between you & the Offents - &c Has it produced any estrangement among you

I go to Bedford this evening for the balance of the week - Our love to Mary Ann and present as most cordially to your friends Mary Reed Miss Morgan Eva Miss F...
Yr devoted Father
N J Duncan

The freight on trunk I have paid \$3.50



Miss Mary Duneau
Care of Dr. Agnew
Pittsfield
Mass



Lexington Oct 22nd 1855

My dear Daughter

I arrived at home on Saturday eve a
ning in 38 hours from N.Y. - being left there on
~~Saturday~~ ^{Friday} morning at 1 o'clock & reached home on
on the following evening (Saturday) to supper, making
all my excursions & not stopping in the whole trip
more than 2 hours - This is the most rapid journey
I ever made - I met my old friend Dr. Duncans
& his whole family in N.Y. - The Dr. has purchased
a splendid residence on Washington square to
spend his time while North some 4 miles this being
tired of Hotel life - I saw much of them, also Mrs
Justine & Miss Emily Duncan & the Severes - The
Daughter of Mrs. Longest Severick - who was at
the Prison when you were north - is now board-
ing with her Grand Mother, Mrs. Justine and
to school in N.Y. - a beautiful & sprightly girl
They made particular enquiry about you &c
My sale of Cattle was at pretty fair terms
Upon my arrival at home I found all well &
Miss Maria said she would be off to day to Vin-
-ces, the day has arrived and she has just parted
again - &c. It goes - I found old Mrs. Lumberlake
at my house looking quite old - poor old wo-
man I feel quite sorry for her, she goes to

Louisville to day to her poor son Henry? what
a miserable set - who have had opportunities of
doing well - But they are in a worse condition
than they were years ago - what is to become of
them God only knows - I have tried to sustain them
and assisted them for years - but all to no purpose
iniquity has been my only return - I am now
done & shall do no more - It has & will do no good

My dear daughter, I wish I could impress
you with the absolute importance of your im-
proving your time and diligently studying - This
will alone give you that intellectual superiority
which above all things will give you position
and influence - Your success as the elder sister
is to excite the ambition & success in life
of your younger sisters - This should stimulate
your ambition to high aims for superiority
labor and study with perseverance & diligence
do not be satisfied with merely getting along
but labor for ^{your} eminent position in your class
and win the highest honors of your class - Not
only aspire to scholastic distinction - but cultivate
the heart and manners - You have capacity
enough for triumphant success - which you
must win - I shall feel deep mortification if
you fail to be all that I hope & which you can
easily attain - If you study & labor to improve
yourself - be diligent in the work my dear

daughter & we shall all here cause to rejoice
You must be regular in your comes/pondines
I shall write every week & keep you fully ad-
vised of all we are about

I must bring my letter to a close in time
for the mail & prepare for a trip to the
port - all join in much love to you

Your devoted Mother
M. L. Duncan



Cambridge Jan 12th 1855

Dear Sister

I send you by
today's mail your ear-
rings which you gave
me to have mended for
you - I hope you will
like the mending

I leave for home on
Wednesday afternoon &
hope to reach it by Friday
Love to all

Your Affct Brother
Henry



Miss Mary Duncan
Care J. H. Agnew D.D.
Pittsfield
Massachusetts

& put it in the trunk for you, but did not -
she sends you much love, also Maria -
Ellen & Lily, a sisters love, they also desire
to be affectionately remembered to Miss Mchls,
God Bless you my dear daughter good bye

Lovingly your Mother

P. S

My kind regards to Dr Agnews family -
I have not seen any of Mary's family, but Mrs Lays
tells me they are well, & Mrs Landy has arrived
Our choir has quite a recruit, Belle Combs, Ellen
Matthews, Amelia Hale, Jonette Menippe, & others
I do not know, Maria had a letter from Mrs.
Ballard yesterday, she is going to Philadelphia
as soon as an opportunity presents itself - she
has heard we have been to make you a visit
& wants to know all about you & that,
Oh my dear E. hope you will make rapid progress
in the improvement of the branches you are enjoy-
-ed in, carry yourself erect & straight - do try
& compensate us for the privation of your soci-
-ety, & expense of your education - adieu my
dear, make yourself happy

Apr 16th / 35

My very dear daughter

How rapidly time flies! the
month is half gone & how little have I accomplished
since my return home, I have been busy getting
your summer clothing ready for you, & which
was sent you by express yesterday, hope the trunk
will reach in safety & good time, there is
an abundance of clothing & too nice for a
boarding school, I recommend you to keep your
clothes in the trunk, & use them as sparingly
as possible, that is your nice drawers, chemises,
& hose, do not use them in common & have them
run to pieces in wash, you will have an oppo-
-rtunity to send by your Mother some of your nicest
soiled clothes, so you can keep them until her
returns home, I send you 11^{pr} of hose there were
several more pair but not good enough to send,
& chemise two of them I intended to work the
bands around the bosom, but Matilda took
them out to wash, you can do it after they have

can worn, the two are the last that were made
I intended to work the band like the sleeve
with a scallop & three ilets the other with a
very small scallop like the worked sleeve, so
you can do as you please with them,

6 drawers, 2 petticoats, 2 gowns, 7 dresses, 1 pair slippers
& parasol, 1 spencer & sleeves, 1 lace spencer, ribbons,
cake, candy, knife, nail brush, M. & C's book,
common soap from Jane, the servants all
made a great many enquiries about you, & desire
to be respectfully remembered to you,
I would recommend you to put your catables in
a box & set it in your closet & lock it, put the on
the box fear of mice, you will, ^{side} the trunk too
much & it is nicer & safer for your clothes, I did
not send the curtains &c. &c for I think you
are better without them, they will be trouble to fix
& expense to have washed, So my dear try to
improve yourself & the time during the term
to the greatest advantage, be courteous to all,
familiar with few, my kindest regards to Miss

Castman, Miss Reid, Miss Morgan, &c &c
How is Miss Moore? & how are you getting along?
do write all about yourself & if you are
better contented contented & harmoniously situated
I did not send your flat it was so brown &
my time was so occupied that I could not go
to see about it, so you must get it one there
Keep yourself neat & clean, but do not regard
dress too much, The weather is real summer
we found the apricot, peach, & plum, in
blossom, the may cherry is almost out, the maple
is getting quite green, the flies & gnats are on
the wing, I was at Mrs. McKee's yesterday afternoon
saw all three of the Ladies, they all desired to
be affectionately remembered to you, also Mrs
preacher Brown, she says she wants to see you
very much. My pen is so mean I will be obliged
to stop I hope you will be able to make it out,
Your Father went to Bedford this afternoon &
returns on Saturday, he intends writing to you
from B. Kate promised to write a letter

No 3. W. P. July 6th 1854

My Darling of dustings.

perhaps it would please you to receive
a line from me, I was never more
astonished than I was this morn to
hear that Gussie was coming over here
to room. I am glad for ourselves
but at the same time sympathetic

with you & Mary, How does Gus like
it - I think she will have a very pleasant
roommate, & also a pleasant room
Are you better this afternoon? I hope
by Monday to see you in chapel. -
and that same afternoon will expect
you in my domicile. They are not
going to have society to night, I
suppose they are going to let the girls
rest they certainly need it - I for
my part never was quite so sleepy in
my life, And how dear Mollie's

I must close, May you soon
be well as the wish of your
sincere friend

Public Good

Wm. Lloyd Garrison
Boston
Mass.

Wm. Lloyd Garrison

Private

"Regularity"

What is regularity?
It is a very important feature in
the character of every one, and
especially in the young it is the
only sure foundation of success in
life. In youth we are forming
our character for life, and the
habits we then form, will grow
upon us and cling to us firmer
and firmer the longer we live.
We should endeavor then to form
good habits. "Never put off until
tomorrow, what should be done
to day." It is well to bear this
in mind and act according
-ly. If we have a task to

W

performs, whether easy or difficult
how much better for us to set about
it at once, than to postpone until
the time has come when it should
have been completed. When a
duty is performed at the proper time
we have a feeling of satisfaction
which we should not otherwise
have. School of all others is
place for regularity, we have certain
times allotted for each duty, and
if we perform every task promptly,
all goes smoothly; but if we pro-
crastinate, in a single instance,
everything seems to go wrong.

Mary Duncan.

Composition No. 3.

Oct. 31st / 65.

do not conclude that you are forgotten, there's not a moment morning noon or night but you are present, you must miss the fruit we have such a superabundance. Eliza & Lail often say, "I wish sis Ma had some," but my dear we must not think so much about "what we shall eat & what we shall drink & where with all we shall be clothed but seek first the kingdom of God & all these things shall be added unto you." My kind regards to Mrs. Deane I regret to hear of her painful affliction. may the Lord be his strength & support, & restore her to health.

I exceedingly regret to hear that Thal has chills but I trust they will not return, we rec'd a letter yesterday from him at Cobhinton he says he is well, but still I am quite easy about him, it is truly a cause of great thankfulness

Duncannon Friday
July 19th 1855

My very dear Daughter

We have received two letters from you this week one yesterday I intended writing to you in the afternoon, but the Carter family came out to pass the afternoon with us, Mary & Annie are at home it being vacation they have grown very much, Mary says she hopes she will not be any taller, they desired me to give you a great deal of love from them, I am sorry you ^{have} such feelings towards your school, I was in hopes that it would be a pleasant reminiscence, in after life of friendships made & pleasant associations in the pursuit of knowledge. I am happy that you & your room-mate harmonize together, it is per-

-fectly beautiful, & calculated
to fit you with a calm & happy
state of mind conducive to a great
-er proficiency in your studies.
which should be the all engrossing
thought, if your liberties are a little
curtailed it is intended for your
interest - & good try to see all on the
bright side, You should encour-
-age kind & friendly feelings and
sympathies to all, but to be intimate
with but few, & be assured that they
are worthy, conform to the rules of
the Institute, & never think of find-
-ing fault, I do not think the Lince
Musical was much, What is the object
of them? Do you learn or practice
Sacred music? Are you to be examined
on the Bible? I think the catalogue says
so, the one we had was sent to Mrs
Clay, I send you a few lines written
by Mrs Sparks, I was not aware ~~that~~
until I saw this that she was a bit

- every woman,

Dr Humphrey is to be in P. this
month - too early for you to return
with him, try & make yourself contented
you shall know in good time what
to do. Mr McCaw has gone on for Emma
to be at Sallie's wedding which comes
off on Tuesday next, Emma says she
will not come home unless they prom-
-ise to take her back, she must be
very much pleased, she has not seen
the Mother for 2 years,
The Lexington Fair takes place on the
12th of September, Give my best love
to Mary C. & thank her for her letter
I hope to answer it soon, Ell & Lili
send a kiss & much love also to her
& says she must kiss you for them
they are so anxious to see you, indeed
they are getting impatient, Lili has had
several cures, the weather is very warm
& between my duties & the heat I am
so lary that my energies are completely
paralyzed, excuse this short letter &

That you have recovered from all the attacks you have had your father will ^{not} go to Ill at this season it is considered too hazardous, as Billious fever & ague & fever are to be feared at this season, neither will Dr J. go, the health of this region is not so healthy this season as it was last there has been a good deal of cholera in Sep & in the county,



Maria rec^d the intelligence of the death of her Aunt May, she had a fall that crushed her hip bone, which was very painful fever attacked it and terminated her earthly existence Maria is determined to go to Vincennes as soon as an opportunity offers. Ellen & Mirrie Matthews are here at present it is

until sept I hope they will
remain untill then, Dr Mc
talks of sending them to Walnut
Hill Ellen does not like it at all
Mr Sayre has purchased Edward
Johnstons place for the Institute
it is a beautiful place for it
suppose you & Emma McLaw
return & attend it I expect it
will be as good as any other
There is one thing my dear you
do not improve in your writing
& learn to direct your letters
Ell sent Miss Craig a basket of
fruit & flowers, & she wrote a
most beautiful note both in
composition & penmanship,
now my dear I must say good by
God bless you. Mother sisters
& cousin Maria send an
Ocean of love to you. Your
ever aff't & devoted Mother
E. Duncan

Dis 3



Miss Mary Duncan
care J. H. Myers D. D.
Pittsfield
Mass



Cambridge, Dec 13/55

My dear Sister

I have very little to do this evening and have the Blues very badly so I shall console myself by writing to you and making you acquainted with the cause of my malady

I have not had a letter from home since the one I received from

Father while I was in
Pittsfield - there is no
telling when I will have
a letter - but let that slide
& I'll tell you what I
have been at since my
last letter - on ^{my} Tuesday
evening I spent 2 1/2 hours
with Miss Cunningham - she
looks very pretty & we
played at chess for the
first hours, but we were
so much taken up with
each other that we forgot
the chess - & spent the rest
of the evening in conversa-
tion

- Wednesday evening I
heard a lecture by
Geo Sumner Esq - which
was pretty good - but
the best of it was that I
saw Lille Thur. This
evening I went in to the
Theatre to see "The little
treasure" it was very
good - but I am sick
of the Theatre - it let out
about 1/2 past ten o'clock after
which I returned to Cambridge
& here I am writing to you
Good night. Henry
- Love to you - regards to
Empress & Queen



Miss Mary Dimeen
Care of Dr. Agnew
Pittsfield
Mass.