

M. L. Anderson. Class "58". 88

J. H. Agnew D.D. No. 49.

H. T. Duncan Esq. Nos. 1. 4. 7. 9. 17. 20. 23. 28. 30. 32.
37. 39. 45. 48. 50. 57. 52. 53. 54. 55. 59. 60. 62.
64. 72. 77. 78. 79. 81. 85. 87. 94. 95. 97. 98. 106. 108.
109. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 118. 119. 123. 124.
125. 128. Total 50.

Mrs. E. Duncan. 5. 8. 15. 25. 27. 33. 47. 58. 66.
68. 70. 76. 91. 93. 99. 105. 107. 120. 121
Total. 19.

Miss Mary Duncan. 3. 6. 13. 14. 19. 22. 26. 31. 35. 36.
40. 41. 83. 92. 96. 102. Total. 16.

Miss Ellen Duncan. 57. 61. 67. 103. Total 4.

Miss Lily Duncan. 12. 38. 69. 90. 100. 126.
Total 6.

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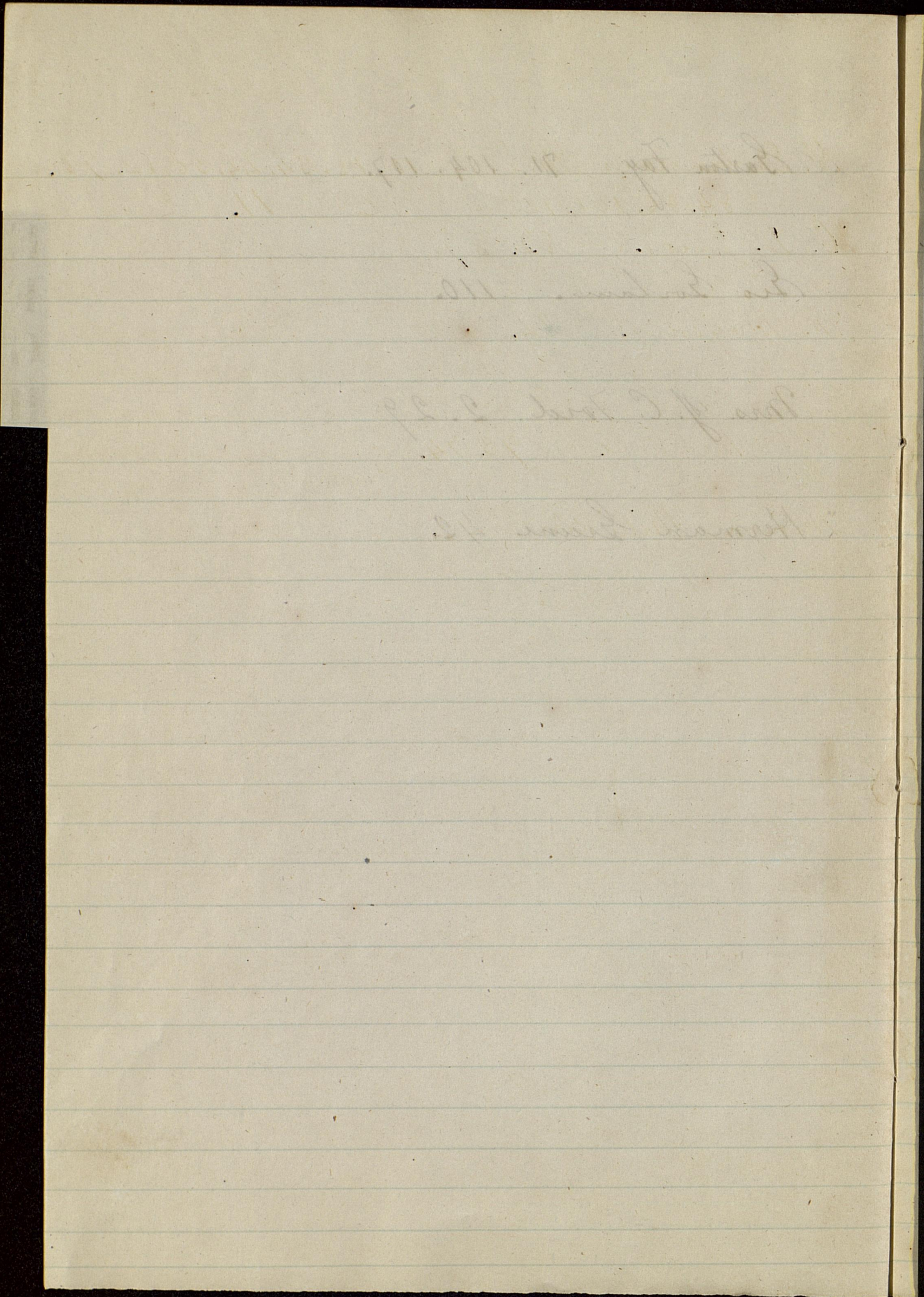
Gaston Fay. 71. 104. 117.

Geo Gorham. 110.

Mrs. J. C. Ford. 2. 29

Herman Greene 42.

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H. D. Jenkins M. D. 10. 18. 34. 44. 56. 68. 75.
84. 86. 101. 127 - Total 11.
C. D. Jacob. 82. 89.

W. Magenis. 24.

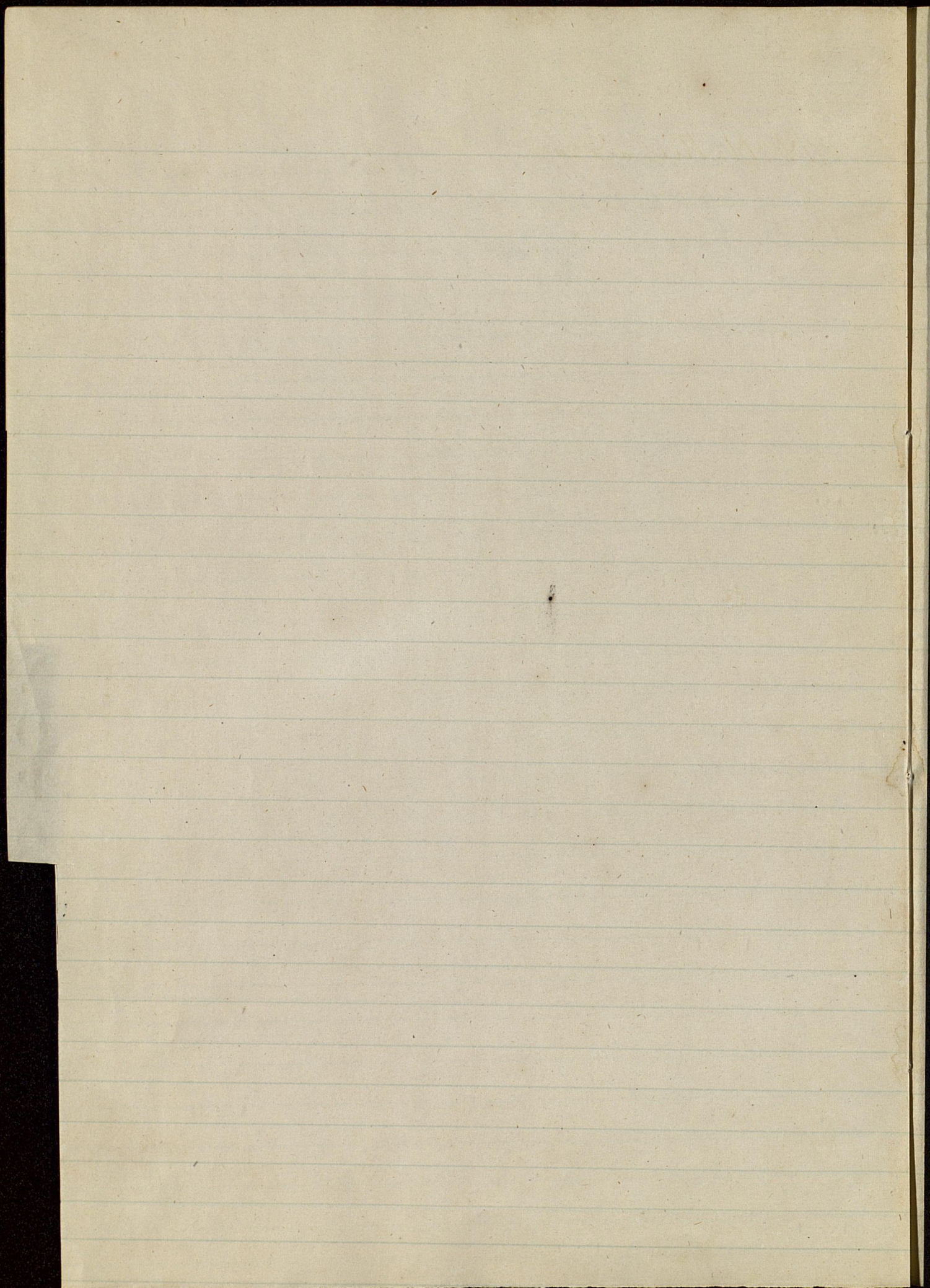
J. D. Matthews. 73. 74.

Minor Millikin 43.

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M. H. B. L. 9. 80

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W. W. Richardson 80

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W. H. Miller 80

Miss Lucy Webb 11.16.65

Garland Webb jr 21.46

V
W
Y
Z

Butterfly 11.11.22

11.11.22

Jan 3rd / 56

My dear son

Yesterday three letters was rec^d from you, it is always a very pleasant & welcome intelligence to hear of my dear absent ones, if it is only to say how you do, I'm glad you have some amusement & relaxation from, the close application of study, there is no objection to innocent amusement, it is really necessary.

There was a serious accident occurred here during Christmas week Joe Rhodes & his brother Cliff were rabbit hunting, one was started up & Joe shot at it not seeing his brother on the other side of the fence stooped down, one shot entered between the eyebrows making a very small opening just the size of the shot he did not complain much & walk

-ed home the distance of two
miles, it occurred on wednesday
& he died on saturday evening, we
did not hear of it until he was dead
they are greatly distressed, & particular-
-ly Joe, children should not be
let to have fire arms-

There is a large party this evening
at Mrs Henry Bell's given to Daniel
& his wife Miss Ellen Warfield
that was, they were married some
weeks ago & went on a tour of
pleasure to N. Y., & returned last
saturday, I suppose you saw the an-
-nouncement of the marriage in the Obs
& Reporter, it keeps you posted up in
the changes that take place in our com-
-munity, There is nothing of importance
to communicate, Your sisters join in
much love to you, God bless you,
All well, Your affct Mother

"Chaplewood" Pittsfield
January 4th 1856.

My dearest Brother

I have not written to you this year, so I think I had better, as it does not sound very well. I wrote to mother yesterday - had a letter from her the day before all were well, mother said she spent a very dull Christmas. I wish she could have been here she would have enjoyed it very much. We spent a pleasant new years day. I shall go through the routine of the day. We rose at half past five in the morning. had breakfast at half past six. then went to the sunrise prayer meeting at Dr Todd's church, where were assembled all the congregations of Pittsfield - except the Catholic and Episcopalians. ~~We rose~~ It lasted one hour

from there we went to the Episcopal meeting. and there remained another hour. When we came we went through a thorough cleaning of our room, from floor to ceiling. As it was the first day in the new year. Dinner was ready at half past twelve. We had Turkey and Ham, but not a "vest failure" after dinner whilst sitting at the table puns were made by Mr Agnew upon the names of a number of the girls. - after dinner we went sleigh-riding. after the ride we danced in the Gymnasium until five. after tea when tea was ready. after tea we went into the parlor. where were shrouded several characters &c. - Altogether we had a nice time. I doubt whether you enjoyed yourself better. You will soon be home! Oh dear me; "sigh" "I wish I was at home" - this is my only song - one of the girls says she will have a piece of music written and.

dedicated to me. and that shall
be the name of it. When do you
expect to leave for home? and how
long will you remain there? what
time will you be back? school is
out on the 13th of February!

Wont you come to see me before
you return home? I received
your letter containing the envelopes
for which I am very much obliged
they were very acceptable; and
I should be much obliged if you
would often send some in that way.

This letter is so shockingly scribbled, that
I have some doubts whether you will
be able to make it out. My hand has
been trembling so. that I could scarcely
write.

After dinner.
My dear brother I have just received and
opened the box you sent me, My
New Years present. For which I thank
you very much. it is very nice, The
girls, ^{Annie & Mary} told me to thank you for their boxes
they are very much pleased with them,

Annie Poffatt says she is ^{intends} always to keep
hers for a Jewely boy. Enss is not
at home at present. We look for her tom-
orrow or Monday. I shall give it to her
as soon as she returns. She has been on
a visit to a young friend of hers since
last Mon. Saturday. No doubt she has
enjoyed herself exceedingly - she has written
once. I received a letter from Dr Penning
some days since. I believe this is his
direction. Hermitage coals county
Tll - is it not? I shall be very
busy tomorrow writing as I am very
much in debt in the letter line.

Siggie Arnold sends her kind regards
to you and thanks. says if it were
summer she would send you a bouquet.

^x
Farewell with a sisters love.

Mary D—

Lexington Jan 2nd 1851

37

My Dear Son

We have not heard from you for the 10 days - since which I have written you two letters one on the 21st of Dec enclosing you a check for \$2.00 and another a few days after - When we fail to hear from you ^{regularly} - we are awfully uneasy - If we do not hear from you in a day or two we shall feel a good deal of anxiety

We have had one of the longest spells of cold weather - I recollect of in this climate - though it has not been so intensely cold as I have felt, but of longer duration - we are putting up ice 6 inches thick - equal in cleanness to the famous fresh pond ice of Boston

In one of my late letters to you - I informed you that you would be unable to make your connection at Cincinnati in time for the Covington train - and that you would have to lay over - there until the following Monday - that if you expected to make the connection at Cincinnati you would have to make a start in an earlier train - though I wish you not to leave - while you have a duty to perform in College - leave when every thing is done not before - Upon your arrival at Cincinnati - If you find you miss the connection and have to lay over - Telegraph me from that place of your safe arrival there - or

Saturday evening - You can in the event of
your failing as I suppose you will - you can
spend the Sabbath in Cincinnati pleasantly
in visiting your friends and going to Church
in the forenoon.

We are all well with nothing new
or of interest to communicate - all join in
much love to you

Your Affectionate Father

H. T. Duncan

Jan 7th /56

My dear Brother

This day two weeks I shall be so glad, for then my dear dear brother will be here, & we shall be so happy. & if sister M could only be with us how joyful! But I have seen dear 'sis May since I saw you, & as I can't see both I had rather see you,

Sister Ellen has been writing to you all of last week. I suppose she will finish to day & send it in,

Father went to Paris at 6 A.M. it was so cold for him to go so early, but the cars are warm & he will not be long getting there. He will have

a disagreeable day as it is
snowing most furiously -
We have had terrible cold
weather the ice is 7 or 8 in
thick, but the frequent snow
storms, renders it unfit to skate
on, so many snows & no thaw
makes fine sleighing - we
have no sleigh so it is all the
same to us, we have not been
in the city only on sabbath,

I have not written to you
for a long time, & did not
tell you what Christmas
gifts I have, five books
a work box, china dolls,
cakes, candies, nuts, &c &c
Cousin ^{Maria} sent sister Ellen &
me some from Vincennes Ia
she sends her love to you
whenever she writes,

Dr Jenkins complains of
the cold on the prairie,

if it is as cold there as
here, he has reason to,
The miss cozy very much
& cousin Maria, there was
enough of us when they were
here to have some merry
conversation, now there is
no one, when father is here
he is reading his news paper
& we must be as still as
mice when the cat is about
I get along very poorly in
learning to write, I can
only use the slate, Mother
says I am too little to use
ink I spoil my cloths &
spill it about,

Those leaves
I sent you were sweet Bay
just bite a little bit in
your mouth, it gives a sweet
odor to the breath, if you
did not throw them away

try it. Mother is anxious
to know if you rec^d those
nice socks she sent for
you, she put them in your
father's trunk, with some
of sister Mary's things &
perhaps she took them out.
Mother has mentioned it
in her letters to you & sis
but neither of you said any
thing about it, if you have
not got them ask sis M
about them as you pass
through Pittsfield, Sister
Mary will feel very sad to
bid you good bye knowing
that you are on your way home
tell her you will soon be back
& bring her something from
home, Mother, Sister E. & I
send much love to brother dear

Your affectionate sister Lily

Lexington Jan 11th 1855

My Dear Son

This letter may reach you before you leave Cambridge - I wrote you a hasty line - To assure you that we are all well and anxiously look for your return home - Before you leave Cambridge call and take leave of your friends Mr & Mrs Sparks - Have they given you any indication for your Sister at her next vacation - Unless there is something of the kind properly & cordially given, Henry will have to spend her next vacation at the Institute.

I heard from Dr Jenkins the other day he seems well satisfied with his situation and prospects.

My Limberlake matter gives me much trouble - I have directed my Lawyer - To let the Law take its course and make out of Limberlake all that can be - And I will pay up the deficit

I fear Tim is dejected in principle
I am sorry for his family - But my first
duty is to my own - And for the remain-
der of my days - I shall have nothing
to do with my kin in money matters
I have just recd from Sam Jenkins an
unfortunate letter to let him have
2000 \$ which I declined - And result as
to me - I am determined - to have in
future no more transactions with them

The Lewis trade which had come
nearly to a head - is defeated by the
refusal of Lewis Mother in Law Mrs
Sudley - to relinquish her dower - She
being entitled to a life estate in this
particular piece of Land - which was
assigned her by Commissioners, perhaps
It's all for the best

I received from Robt Ford a letter
some days ago informing me - that he should
be married in the Spring to a young Lady
in Charleston South Carolina - And invi-
ting us - including yourself & Mary to attend

89.
upon the occasion - I replied to him that
your Mother & I would go on if we could
arrange it all right at the time, But
that Henry & yourself could not leave
school at the time - But that I should
be glad that you could both visit
Charleston at some future and
more propitious time

No Local News all well & send
you all love - Your Devoted Father
H. T. Dineen

L10

"Maplewood" Pittsfield.

January 12th 1856.

My dear brother

I received your letter to night how much I wish I was going home with you, just to think (this time next week you will be at home!) "Think of me" then - give oceans of love to all ~~at~~ at home for me. I had not heard of any accident happening to Mrs. Rhodes family I am sorry to hear of it. What was the accident? School will be out in four weeks, if it was only a few weeks sooner I might go home with you. Fizzie Arnold will send you her card she will have her Daguerreotype taken for me in vacation - in her fairy dress, I will give it to you if you want it. Gus Waters Daguerreotype is at home - No doubt you will recognize it. ~~suppose~~ don't you wish you had Greens picture to take home with you? you might have some fun. What would Father say to you?

You must tell me all you do - and about "xxxx" and what you think of Emma McCaw.

There!! The retiring bell has rung -
and I must close my letter. I only
wish I was going home with you.

Good Night. Farewell. With the love of
your devoted daughter,

Mary D.

Annie sends her love - and says you must
bring her a "Kentucky apple". Mary Offutt
and Lizzie send kind regards. Guss tells
me to thank you for the present - and
says it is very nice. and sends her kind
regards to you.

Monday morning.

[Jan 14? 1856]

My dear brother

I forgot to mention something in my letter on Saturday. Have you had my coral earrings mended - can you send them to me before you leave Cambridge? I want them very much. Mrs Starr will let me send this in this morning's mail

so that I must hurry -

How much I wish
I was going home with
you. Write before you
leave Cambridge.

Farewell, in haste.

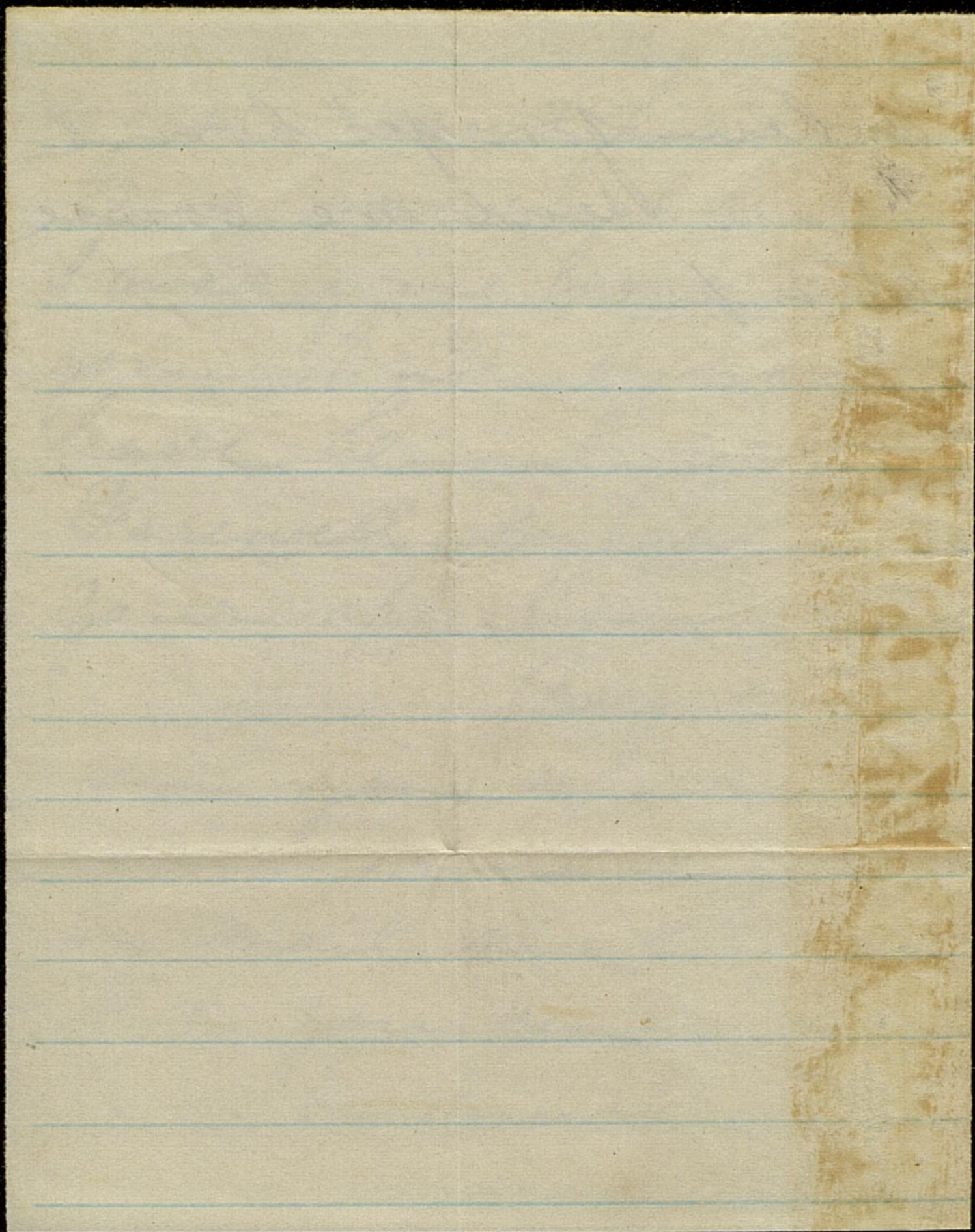
Your affectionate sister.

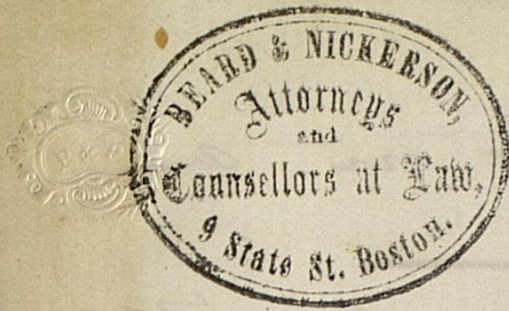
Mary D.

Can you send me
some more envelopes
by mail, nice little ones

like you sent before?
I will be much obliged
to you for some, and

when you get home
please send me some
stamps?





42,
Boston
Jan'y. 25/36.

Friend Vincent

As it
is your vacation. Suppose
if remaining in Cambridge
you have a plenty of
business. If so I would
like to have you take
dinner with me some
day in the former part
of next week. I consent.
I should have been to

See you and no a
man returned you
could have I had time

Yours truly
J. W. Green



471
Boston

Jan'y 28/56

My dear Mr. Brewster

I have just received your letter of the 17th inst. in relation to the supply of

specimens of the various species of the

family of the Phalaropus

and I am very glad to hear that you

are so successful in your collection.

I have no objection to your

using the specimens for your

study and for the purpose of

illustrating your work.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. A. Allen



Brookline, Feb. 5th 1856

My Dear Friend and Classmate—

Your letter came to me yesterday very gratefully and unexpectedly for; when you asked me my direction, I thought that, when you were surrounded by the pleasures of home and by kind relations and friends, you would not once think of your New England acquaintances much less write to them, but as you have fulfilled your part of the agreement I am happy to fulfill mine by answering your letter. I should

to like to have witnessed the
return home of "Massa Henry",
the shaking of hands with forty
negroes, and the hugging and kiss-
ing of the old nurse you told me
about; to see if the characters in
Mrs Stowe's "Uncle Tom" were rep-
resented there, - Aunt- Chloe, Tom, Sam
with his old hat, Jerry &c., but; per-
haps, you being a Southerner, have
never read that delightful book,
if so, make haste and do ~~it~~^{it}, and
I am sure you will be delighted.

You must not think I am an
"Abolitionist" for such is not the case.

I suppose, though it
is rather colder than usual down in
"Kentuck" on account of the severity of
the winter everywhere; yet, that
you go about without an over-coat-
on, making calls on those fair ones
you ~~used~~ used to boast of as exelling

No^rthern ladies, and, perhaps, walk-
ing through gardens and leafy
groves with the same by moonlight;
But, ah! "Ye gentlemen of Kentucky
who live at home at least how little
do ye know about the winters of
New England"! The snow, which
was on the ground when you left
these parts, still remains and looks
likely to remain all this month, and
it is colder than Greenland's icy
mountains." True, it is first-rate sleigh-
ing, but "enough is as good as a feast",
and I have had enough of it. Of
I was in the habit of calling on
young ladies in general and Miss L.
Greenough in particular, I might
be able to tell you the state of
her health, but; as I do neither
I am sorry to say that I can-
not enlighten you on that subject,
except so far as to state that I

have not seen her death in the
papers.

Believe me

Your Friend

J. W. Fay.

Maplewood Farm, near Hamilton
Feb'y. 9th 1856.

Dear Duncan:

Just returning from a long trip South I received your kind letter of the 28th ultimo. It was a most pleasant & flattering surprise. Very often, since leaving Cambridge have I thought of you, as one of the very few who I had left with regret or remembered with interest. From what you know of me & of my life then you will not be slow to believe me, when I tell you that I left Cambridge with no other feelings than those prompted by a release from ungenial companions and a chilling & unwholesome social atmosphere. Between Cambridge & I, and most of my associates at Cambridge, there was nothing in common except the Law School, books & literature:—good enough things in their way, but totally inadequate to supply all my wants. I remember the year spent there as one of mental labor, inward trial & impatient longing. I remember my companions then as scholars, wit, conversationists, clever fellows, nobodies, & "characters"; more or better as they combined these good or bad qualities. But you I remember differently. When I thought of your good nature, your generosity, your kindness & good feelings (I speak only of the most apparent & so called minor qualities now) I felt nothing but sympathy for you, interest in you, good wishes for you & (if I may say it) something of fear for you too.

— You are wondering what I am at. Only this: I cannot accept your kind invitation, & want to say, that though I cannot come & see you I am not unaffected or ungrateful for your kind remembrance of me or have not forgotten the pleasant intercourse which was ours in times now gone. (You may think Duncan, that I have a very sound about way of getting at it & (by the way) I think

you may be right there, but, — that's what I mean.

You wonder what I have ~~which~~^{that} should keep me from so pleasant a visit as I know you would make mine. Well, my jolly student, you must know I am much less my own man now than when away at Cambridge. When my own restless active spirit, affection, compulsion & interest were matters I now found much idle time but now when business adds its weight I am doubly pressed. Just returning yesterday from a two months business tour South with the hope of admission to the bar in the Hall, and my studies, friends & business all urging me I feel compelled to deny myself this with many other like pleasures.

I am sure it will not always be so; and even if it is let me assure you that the pleasure of being so remembered overbalances the pain of refusing. I should like greatly to see you & I have fifty questions to ask you & as many distinct heads of discourse. Though I cannot come to you, cannot you come & see me on your road to Cambridge? A day or so would not be mispent at E. Try it & let me know the day so I may be at home.

In any event let me hear of you occasionally. I will not promise to answer punctually (or be a correspondent of worth if I do) but when you get married, have a child, change your place of residence or any other little incident in life be sure to sport me, and

Believe me Dear Sir

Always Truly Yours,

Miss Millikin

Don't regard this as a sample of my chirography or composition. A proof of writing don't admit of anything but haste & — truth.

Hermitage Hills Co. Ill.

February 15th 1854.

Dear Henry

Your letter of the 7th inst. came with mine some time yesterday evening and furnished ^{me} with great pleasure in reading. Returning home after an absence of 15 months and finding many things new to you and consequently more striking than to one constantly present your letter was fuller and more detailed in its account than any I have yet received. I thank you cordially for it and regret that I have not the material to repay you for it. But I will do my best to prevent your mind wandering to other subjects during its perusal, or if it should be read after night, from falling asleep to be recruited in pleasant dreams by some one or other of the agreeable reminiscences of your visit. Posing over that portion of your letter preceding your account of the McRee interview, I will waste a few words on that subject. I wonder after the result of the fact that your visit did not prove embarrassing to both parties and particularly so to Miss McRee. If it did not tinge her cheek with crimson whether she knew or not that you were acquainted with the contents of her famous and model introductory letter she is grand with more impudence & hardened assurance than is to be often met with in her sex. The consciousness of having seen you and

insulting injury of itself would have betrayed itself
in the confused manner and expression of any girl
not gifted with the impudence of a thorough and
hardened woman of the world. I am glad you called
it for no other reason than that it was a most inter-
esting situation. Than staying away would have been
you did not tell me whether Miss Keston aided by
the accomplished match-making intrigues of the
mother was still afloat on the ocean of matrimony
at uncertainty. What has become of her indeed our
Dear party James? Has his bark been set adrift or
were its moorings not strong enough to hold it anchored
fast in the harbor of Cupid.

Referring to your account of the reception given you
by Miss Keston I remark that her studied prepa-
ration to receive you, the exquisite elegance of her
dress, gotten up "regardless of expense" - the cordiality
of her greeting, her occupancy of a seat close beside
you - the drawing on to ^{the} most history of the past
in your conversation - all make very inappropriate
your classic quotation from the Spanish - "A
scald dog dreads cold water". I think you had
better reason to fear a repetition of the hot sauce
that is conveyed by your quotation from my favorite
author did not, unfortunately, reach me as I am a
total stranger to the vehicle in which it was con-
veyed, since I am left in the darkness of twilight
how you "argue". But left to conjecture I infer

That it is about this you reason That a love not strong
steady and unswerving ^{enough} from a fixed object during ab-
sence or for any other trivial cause to be steadfast
and unshaken is not the sort of love you yearn after
and that you "will none of it." I think you are right
your commendation of my friend Miss M.E.P. is
heartily endorsed. She is a charming woman. There
is no gainsaying that. As to my not permitting
to have her all I have to say is that should I under-
take to present it of which I have no idea, I should
reinforce the stereotyped smasher on such occasions
for I am grateful for this evidence of your re-
gard. You have paid me the highest compliment
^{in your} power; I sincerely admire you in the relation of
friendship, but

I received a long letter from her a few days since
the whole a capital letter - is the most finished and
interesting correspondent of my acquaintance. I owe
to her letters a degree of pleasure that has robbed
my loneliness and absence of friends and the com-
forts of society of many hours of regret & depression.
Would you, could you, advise me to risk breaking
off this delightful relation of friends ⁱⁿ ~~for~~ the hope-
less attempt to render it more endearing, unkind
and injudicious advice. In her letter she speaks
of your first call - regrets that she did not see you
& laments that parental authority interdicted, yet

And desire to visit Ky with you. I am particularly
sorry to hear of Mr. Stewarts failure. The loss of
the energy & enterprise of such a man will be keen-
ly felt by the community. I can not believe that he
has been dishonest in the matter. Is it Fred. Grier
that is bankrupt? Your account of the cold weather
shows that there has been but little difference except
perhaps in degree here & in Ky. With us snow has
lain on the ground since the 22nd of December
also. The ice is thick enough for polar regions;
the ground is frozen indefinitely down; the ther-
mometer has fallen to 20° below zero on numerous
occasions; we have had only about 4 days of pleasant
weather (by comparison) since winter set in & this
is one of them. My only occupation has been reading
writing letters, & a visit ^{or two} every day to observe the pro-
gress of my rail makers and frequent visits to the P.O.
I have not yet made the acquaintance of any fac-
inating Illinois topics that I would be willing to
take in consideration of the weather that main-
tains a southern table servant for cooking, milk-
ing and washing etc. When the weather becomes
more genial and I am permitted to extend my
acquaintance I may be more fortunate. I do not
yet despair. Of one thing I am certain - if
I make my home permanently in Illinois and
am to be blessed in bonds of Hygiene it must be
by union with a sunder lady or one from some

Feb 15, 1856 p. 27

other free state. To bring a lady from the South into this State is to bring her from freedom into bondage. The removal of your sister Mary from Pittsfield to Cambridge in its personal relations will be very agreeable to both of you but whether the change will redound to her educational advantage I think problematical. I am glad to learn that Sam has been banished. His removal is a happy redress. The plan for the education of Eliza & Lilla is a good one.

Adolphus Monroe who was condemned to be hung to day, but who was respited by the Governor till the 15th of May was hung by a mob. I am only regret for the credit of this country that it has seen the scene of such lawless violence.

Yours affectionately W. C. Jenkins

1840
The undersigned
do hereby certify
that the within
is a true and
correct copy
of the original
as the same
appears in
the records
of the
County of
Harris
Texas
this 1st day
of March
1840
J. W. [Signature]
County Clerk

Lexington March 1st 1857

My Dear Son,

Your most welcome and affectionate letter of the 25th ultimo (from Pittsfield) I read on yesterday showing that your arrival there had cheered your Sister's dejection and low spirits. I trust she will continue cheerful & happy during the remainder of the term & we shall in July have the great satisfaction of welcoming you both home.

To day my land note for 6000⁰⁰ is due which leaves but one more in July 57 of 8000⁰⁰ - I anticipated this day - by paying it off on yesterday - to do so it became necessary to tax my credit - by borrowing 2000⁰⁰ of the money - due in four months - which I shall meet easily - so that I have to finance

=cies a little for 18 months to
get along - In which time my
income & profits will pay me
out - with the tax of the Timberlake
matter also. (By the by let this be
to me be a warning to you never
to endorse or become a security
for any of your kin folks - or
have any business transactions
with them - If my children prof-
fit by ^{it} I shall be content
Since we parted I have thought
much of the project of selling
out my landed property and
negroes & if this speck of war
blows over - I shall incline to
do so - The negroes I shall sell
in any event - But in the
event of war - Real Estate is
so much safer than any thing
els - I should be disposed for
the safety to hold to - I do not
propose to sell the homestead
keeping it with about 200 acres

And that would afford me great
amusement & occupation in en-
riching & improving it, which
I should do to its greatest capacity
its susceptibility to high orna-
mentat~~ion~~^{ion} is very great & I should
make it an enchanting spot

If we hear any thing of the
ship Stereuous - we will call upon
of them & be qualified to see Miss
Watens here next summer - who
you say may visit us

Now my dear Son - you
have had your vaca^{ca}tion - the first
for many months - I hope it has
had the effect to put you right
for a term of diligent and
unwearied application - and en-
able you to stand old Sophocles
better than you did last term
and that your progress in Greek
will be far far better than
last term - Indeed I hope your
aim is ^a much higher standing

in your class - There have been
this with diligent application
you can accomplish - Be am-
-bitions of academick honors
and intellectual distinction
Besides your Scholastic duties
attend closely to the duties
of your Society - Begin earnestly
and diligently to cultivate the
habit of public speaking
which in this Republic is
the first of accomplishments
Also the habit of conversation
Colloquial powers are with
good manners an 'inseparable
charon in all societies and is
a passport to all - Accuracy
& varied information - fine
Scholarship is important to
Colloquial success & distinction
Enough for the present - with
our injunction, perseverance
All well & send you much
love
Your devoted Father
H. T. Duncan

Missouri 1856

46

Wellington March 2nd

Dear Henry

Supposing that you have either written to me and are waiting for an answer, or that you have some eyes to your writing to me; the latter I cannot think after receiving some of your beautiful, yet more friendly letters; because, whether right or wrong I should you as a true friend - a friend not vacillating but true and steadfast in sentiment.

But I am I think right or am I must take

But letting "by-gones be by-gones" as I would say, I will leave the past and try the future; but Henry I shall not as it seems have unawares, trouble you with some "poetical effusions."

I have as you will see from the Caption changed my situation, and am a business man, the book keeper of the firm of Loring & Holloway of this place, and receiving the compensation that I thought I ought to have and being in a very excellent family, and with clever men I feel very well satisfied. Mr Holloway married Miss Doct Scott's daughter of Lexington Ky, and having known all of the family I feel very much at home, their house being the place where I take my meals, with their beautiful daughters,

I have very little time for literary amusements,
or hard study; but to night to have been perusing
my usual amount of Bancroft, and of Charles Sumner
until tired I put my book down and commenced
think of most every agreeable occurrence, and having
aroused myself I concluded I would try and find
your whereabouts, by receiving an answer to this which
I am penning at 12.00 A.M., and anxiously awaiting dawn.

We have had a very cold winter Thermometer 10. to
30 below zero, and snow just melting off that fell
before Christmas.

The Mississippi river has until a few
days ago been blocked for two months, with ice
14 & twenty 4 inches thick.

It was a novel scene
to me to see it break up; Cakes of ice almost
as large as an acre of ground were floating
— crashing — splitting, and running upon one,
another with a tremendous — then falling upon
the shores 10 & 15 ft high, when I first heard
it ~~day~~ was just dawning, and I walked out to see
if the storm as I thought it was not up ~~striking~~
trees — but on going towards the directing of
the noise I found it was the ~~ice~~ breaking up

My brother is in Liberty doing business
for Mr Geo Segurich, a large dealer in
Dry Goods.

My sister is in Kentucky but will be here
about the middle of May,

By the by have you
heard from Miss Kate Morrison, and is she married,
I hope not Henry! I last because I have had no
news from Lexington for some time, as my
sister is not there.

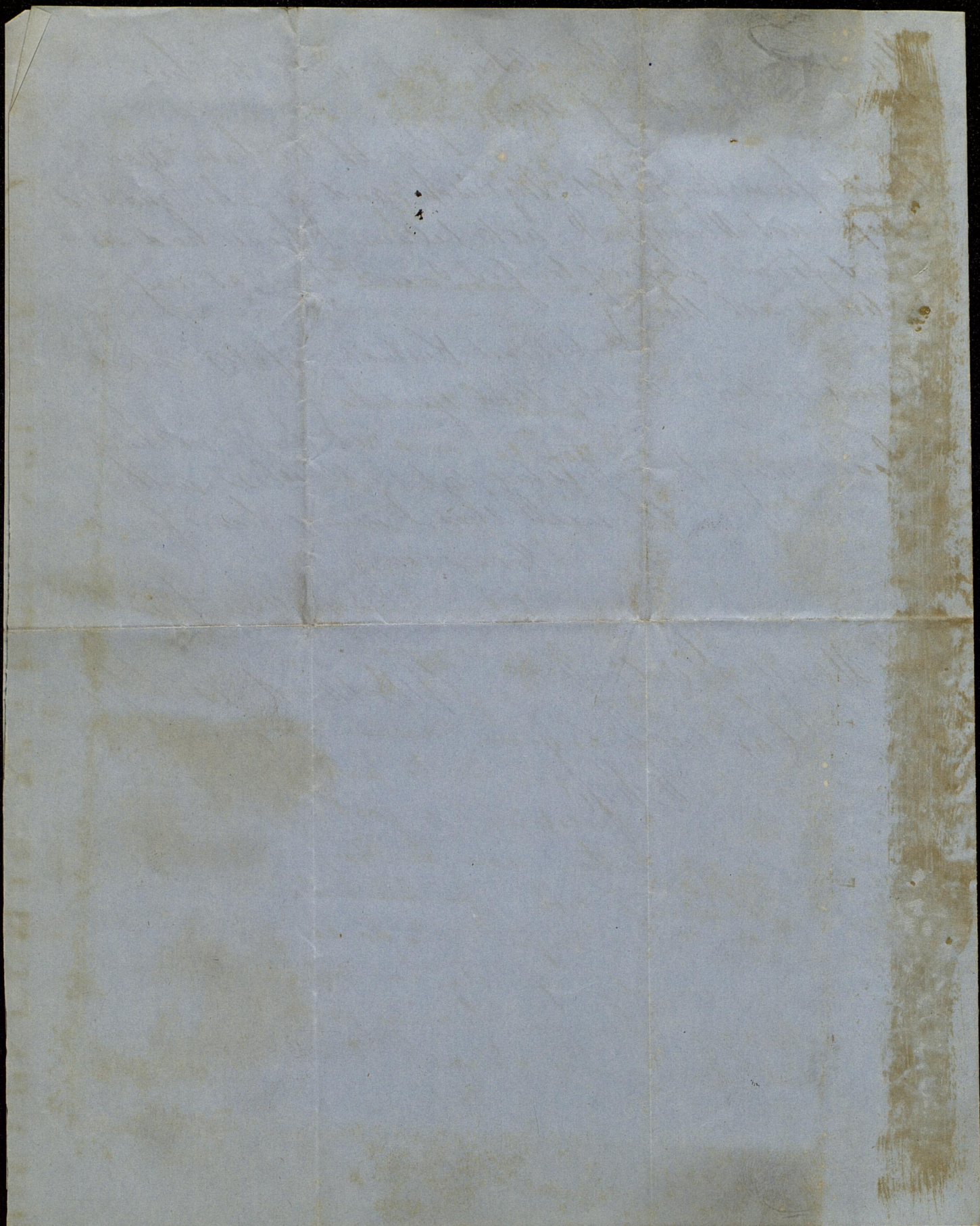
I believe Kentucky folks intend
to quite contrary - do they what you do,

I have nothing
which may be interesting, but will close with
the wish that I may hear from
you soon.

I am your friend

Harland Webb

To Henry Duncombe
Cambridge
Mass.



Cambridge

March 4/56



Dear Sir

21

Professor Agassiz desired me
to inform you that the next
quarter of the School began
the 18th of April.

I am &c.

A. Agassiz

H. T. Duncan Fr.



47

Duncannon Mar 12th

1856

My very dear son

Your letter of Mar
1st written at Pittsfield was rec^d
to day, The letter to your father
written some days after from
Cambridge was rec^d yesterday
Tuesday 11th. So that we have no
particulars of M's removal,
until to day. I regret that
Dr Agnew was from home, I
should like for M to part
with her Preceptor in good
feeling - Either you or Mary
or each of you should write
to the Dr. - Urge M to do so
immediately if she has not
already done so, leaving as she
did during his absence, it will

show that she has a proper sense of duty, respect, & gratitude towards her teacher for all their care, trouble, & kindness to their pupil, It is no less a duty than it ought to be a pleasure to write. thereby manifesting a grateful & kind feeling - I trust her own good sense of principle & propriety has already suggested what is right - should the sudden change among strangers caused her to defer writing, let it not remain so any longer. "a word to the wise is sufficient."

You are applying with all diligence to your studies, & it is also, each of you enjoy same privileges in securing a thorough education, You will

appreciate & improve them
accordingly, let your improve-
ment be accordingly ^{your} opportu-
nities, There is nothing doing
in regard to E & L all is just
as it was, I am almost persua-
ded in my own mind to send
them to Mr Stevens & let them
take their chance, it can't be
worse, than doing nothing, and
being with the servants, which
is impossible to prevent in the
circumstances, They ^{have} no associ-
ates & some are necessary.

There is nothing new that I
know of & I am pretty much
pressed at this time, E & L are
here at their books, & one & an-
other coming in for something
so I must stop & send to the
mail, Present our kind

regards to Dr & Mrs Sparks
Mother & sisters united
love to you & M.

Good bye God bless you

Very affectionately
Your Mother

P. S. When you write give us
all the particulars of your
self & M & Mrs L. how
does M get along?

Caution M. about guarding
& protecting herself against
the cold winds which
prevail in your region.

What sort of a Churn have
you? Do you occupy the
same room as you did
last term? Did you find
all right & straight? Take
good care of soul & body
E. D.

Lexington March 13th 1856

My Dear Son

Your letter of the 1st of March at Pittsfield - was recd only on yesterday - As Agnew and his family were still absent in N Jersey I presume Mary had still retained her check of 200⁰⁰ - which might have given you difficulty - had it have passed into his hands, I hope you paid Mary's board during the vacation with any other bills she might have owed

Now as your Sisters Situation is much changed - at least socially - It behooves her to be exceedingly circumspect - especially in the occasional intercourse she may have in the society of gentlemen - and avoid by all means the formation ^{of} intimacies, never to join in excursions - unattended by her brothers or Mrs Sparks or Mrs Clapp, If she turns out to be all you expect from her - By the by is Mrs Clapp a native of N England - Did she ever reside in

in New Orleans - I knew a Mrs Clapp
The wife of a distinguished clergyman
of that name - who died some years ago
his widow was a native of N England
& I think of the Boston neighbourhood
It has occurred to me as possible she
might be the same Lady

You should stimulate your Sister's am-
-bition to excel in the school - By all
means she should learn to speak French
cultivate her music & particularly her
voice so as to become an accomplished
singer - Indeed she should omit nothing
which can accomplish or add to the
solidity of her attainments - She cannot
be too cautious in the formation of
acquaintances let it only be such as can
be beneficial from their attainments &
integrity of Character - Write us freely
and often of all things concerning your
Sister & yourself - We shall feel much more
anxiety for your Sister in the new situa-
-tion in which she is placed, surrounded

by new circumstances - both of danger & advantage, If she improves them - which should admonish her to exceeding propriety of deportment & diligence in Study I trust however my dear Son that your constant presence & ~~for~~ high sense of propriety & good judgement - will have over your sister a salutary effect - I shall write her in a few days a long letter relating to the new and important position in which she is placed

My news from Illinois is most flattering - I shall sell all my lands there except the Jenkins farm which I shall add too - they will bring an average of some 20¢ per acre - I shall sell over 3000 acres & think ^{it} a great misfortune that I ever parted with any of my lands - I owned at one time some 10000 acres - half of which I foolishly away - I may try my luck again further west in Iowa - Jenkins in his letter urges this sale

we have had some difference in
the Senate of Ky - Between the Governor
and Senate in relation to State Directors
in the Bank - which I do not understand
It seems the Governor nominated for the
Northern Bank - first Mr C Johnson and
Mr Randall who you recollect - was
put in by Powell in my place - He has
since become a Know Nothing & voted for
Morehead - which I suppose occasioned
his nomination - the Senate rejected the
nomination of Randall - then my name
was sent in as State Director & confirmed
by the Senate - So that the Senate have
reinstated Johnson & myself - who were re-
moved by the Democratic Governor Pow-
ell - In the Bank of Ky there has been
a similar difference between the Gov-
& Senate - All well & join in much
love to your Sister & yourself - Present
our kind regards to Mr & Mrs Sparks

Yr Devoted Father

H. L. Duncan

My dear Son -
I have written you in much haste
I do not think it likely you will be disappointed
in my letter -

Lexington March 19th 1857

50

My dear Son

Your welcome letter of the 12th inst
I read to day - And I assure ^{you} that from irregular-
ity of mail or some other ^{cause}, we seldom hear
from you and never from your sister, not
a line from her since her arrival at Cambridge -
How she is pleased - How every body
treats, ^{her} what impression the school makes up-
on her? How it compares with the Pittsfield
School in its appointments and arrangements
How she likes the young ladies - How as a
body they compare with those at Pittsfield
in agreement and manners - Where are
they generally from - whether of the Boston
neighbourhood or abroad? - Indeed all those
minutes and particular details - which are so
interesting to us - I hope we shall soon have
from you both full and satisfactory details
And you must tell us candidly - How Mary sus-
tains herself in her school & in her general
intercourse with the young ladies - and what
she has made among ^{them} any agreeable friends
& acquaintances - I hope she will learn to speak
the French like a Parisian & learn German
You must stimulate her pride & ambition
to exertion - If she will study she will
Succeed

On yesterday - the long talked of wedding
came off between Young Breckenridge
& Miss Kate - I hope to the satisfaction of
all - It is understood that it was postponed
a week for the return of her brother
Buck - who some weeks ago, got into a
fight at Louisville and had his nose bit off
which I was sorry to hear

I have to day taken the decisive step
have "passed the Rubicon", so that now
I may be considered as in earnest - I have
adventured some 2700 acres of Bourbon and
Taylors land for sale - upon the following
proposition - $\frac{1}{4}$ of the purchase money
in hand $\frac{1}{4}$ in 12 months - and the remaining
half in 10 years interest payable annually
& when there is a failure to pay interest
punctually - the principal is due - The
land offered is all in Bourbon - 140
acres the Bakes - adjoining this place
& all the tract on the N W side of
the Turnpike & adjoining Rhodes, leaving
us only the square lot nearly enclosed
with a stone wall with residence - gardens
orchards - woods back of garden - the lots
adjoining Grate & Owens on Mrs Webster's
place - giving us about 200 acres quite
fine enough - when these sales are made

I will sell nearly all the Slaves - They are becoming worse daily and more unmanageable - I have directed Dr Jenkins to sell all my lands in Christian & Chouteau Co over 2500 Acres - which I shall reinvest in Cols - the object is to concentrate in that county my Illinois possessions - My lands, Negroes & Stock will produce over \$300,000 I think not varying much from this sum - My friends think the Land will sell very high upon so tempting a proposition - As the long credit upon half of it - though it bears interest payable annually - this will put my affairs in a condition to greatly increase my income, now becoming more necessary as my family are growing up - This movement has given rise to surmise and speculation as to the cause of this movement so revolutionary in my private affairs - Curiosity is on tip toe as to the motives & various conjectures will be the fronts of the St. Louis - Private Banking & extensive schemes of Western Land Speculation - are conjectured &c &c

You say my Dear Son - that if you can time to work during the remainder of the term as you have commenced - that you will have better marks than you had last term

I hope you will succeed in this and have
a better position - by far - nothing will be more
qualifying to me - than to see you sustain, first
your high moral position - then win ac-
cademick honours and distinctions - Now is
the time to train thoroughly & discipline your
mind - and lay deep the foundations of
future acquirement and distinction - make
yourself a man - to be felt - as possessing
solid acquirement and distinguished position
Let me now again urge upon you ^{to} cultivate
assiduously the habit debate & ready & fluent
habits of public speaking - as the accomplish-
ment in this country - that commands influence
and distinction - make yourself a Scholar &
man of varied attainments & accomplishments
Your College Course will soon be run - and
time now mispent can never be recalled
do not be drawn aside - for momentary &
fleeting pleasures - But persevere - persevere
and you will achieve all you wish
You must not let your Sister tax your
time too much - a portion of your leisure
is due to her next, to proper recreations
for health - write my Son as often as
you have the time - to spare - and more
carefully - than as your habit seems of
late to be - I am speaking of your Sister with
yourself - you say Sister & me - Is this correct

Maplewood,
Neb. 20th Nov 88

Henry T. Dineen, Esq.,
Bellevue,

I have been
utterly unable to attend to
your letter before. I tried hard
to do so yesterday.

I regret much the removal
of Mary & trust you will all
accept the results in the
matter of education.

Ever love & care find I
left for Cal.

Our love to Mary & hope of all
to yourself.

Very Respectfully
Edw. M. Dineen



[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

Lexington March 21th 51

My Dear Son

I take pleasure in introducing to your acquaintance Mr Ch^s Jacobs of Louisville, the son of an old esteemed friend Mr Geo L Jacobs of that City - well known to you by character.

Mr Jacobs goes to Cambridge for the purpose of completing his education - and may find it necessary to employ a Tutor for the purpose of preparing himself to enter at the beginning of the next term.

I have have advised him to engage the services of Mr Chase and given him a letter to him. You will introduce him.

3

My dear Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst. in relation to the above named matter.

I am sorry to hear that you are not satisfied with the result of the investigation.

I have been very busy lately, and have not had time to attend to this matter as soon as I wished.

I am, however, very anxious to settle this matter as soon as possible.

I have been thinking of writing you for some time, but have been so busy that I have not had time.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. H. [Name]

March 21, 1856 51

to Mr. Chase - and render him
any assistance he may need
in procuring boarding, and
renting a room

That he is a Kentuckian
my Son - I know is sufficient
to commend ^{him} to your civilities
and kind attentions

All well

Yr Affectionate Father
H. J. Duncan

back club met at O'Leary
Spent at back tonight
at O'Leary

Mar 21

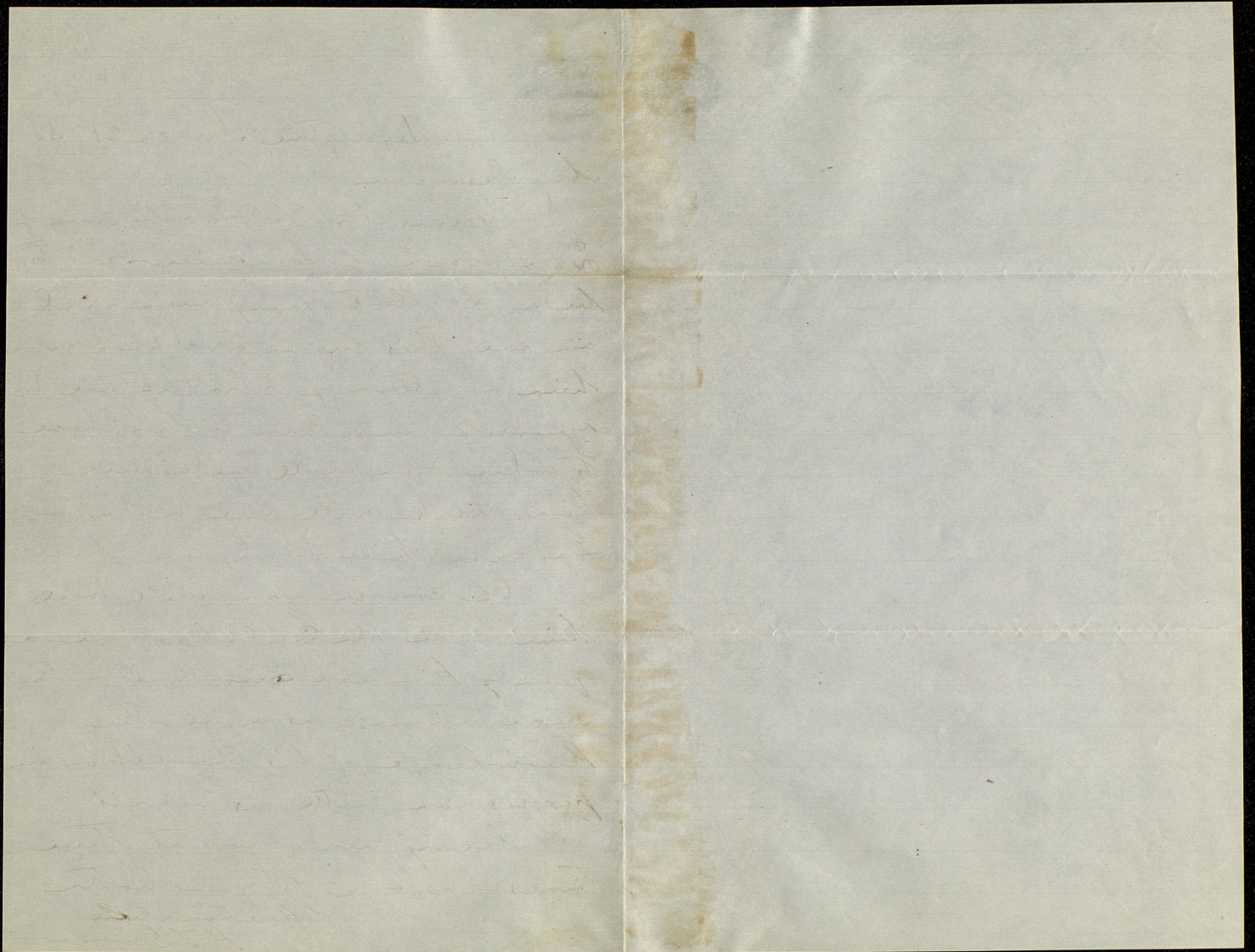
Lexington March 21st 56

My Dear Son

Young Mr Ch^s Jacob, son of
Mr J Jacob of Louisville said to
be a excellent young man - call
on me this morning & I have given
him a letter of Introduction to
yourself and one to Mr Chase
to whom you will introduce
him - As he will need a Tutor
I advised him to engage Chase

Of course you will treat
him with the civilities due a
young American - and with
such intimacy as a further
knowledge of his Character im-
presses you with his merits

Many never writes these
times - Love to your Mother
Affectionately
H T Doremus



Mar 21

Lexington March 25th 56
My dear Lou

Your hasty letter to your
Mother of the 18th last came to
hand on yesterday

It is now over one month
since my letter was received from
her - what does this mean?

If this is the effect of her change
to Cambridge - she had better
have remained at Hillsfield - there
we heard generally once a week
and she said if she had time had
time she would have written
often - Now she is out after
2 o'clock every day & all of
Saturday - Yet she cannot find
time to write, wonderful an
- being neglect - what has brought
on so suddenly such indolence

habits? Whether I shall write
her another letter depends on
circumstances - What informa-
tion or folly has taken
possession of the child - I am
alternately mortified and
then fretted - Has Cambridge
so turned her head, that she
has forgotten she has ^a Father
Mother & 2 little sisters live-
ing in the neighbourhood of
Lexington Ky - Please give her
the information - She will
doubtless thank you for it

You will provision by
the Observer - My advertisement
= ment of Sale of Fayette and
Bourbon land

I hope many will not
neglect her French - But
now learn to speak it flu-
ently, and try bring her mind

to close study - persevering
application - then she will
wonder oftener - I hope the
Beaux occupy no part of
her attention - For when she
sets up for a young Lady
she had better come home
Further effort at improvement
will be in vain

I almost regret she has
left Pittsfield - the close dis-
cipline there was wholesome
and I begin to fear that the
want of discipline at Cambridge
and its great laxity - will cause
her to relapse into her idle
& inconsiderate habits - If she
is not now old enough, from
pride & a proper sense of
Character to improve her
opportunities - I shall indeed
despair

I may do her injustice - in
supposing that she has been
so culpably & negligently un-
mindful of us - as never to
write - as there has been much
irregularity of mail - which
will excuse it to some extent

As each returning day, brings
a mail - we hasten to the office
But again are doomed to
vexatious disappointment &
mortification - That we are
either forgotten or neglected
by a daughter - the thing
is perfectly unbearable
with all my Philosophy
which you know is every day
I am getting impatient
She must do her own writing
and not depend upon you
as she seems to do
Yr Affectionate F
H T Dineen

Duncannon Mar 25th 1856

My very dear son

You are a good son to write so often, to relieve our anxiety, concerning our dear children. The revolution in M's condition has caused a most profound silence. What can be the cause of it? Do urge her to a sense of duty?

To day your letter to me & also one from Mrs Sparks, was rec'd. Mrs S's letter was dated 12 inst, & desiring to know what studies Mary should take up. You & M could have decided the question for before an answer is rec'd, one fourth of the term will have expired. She should perfect herself in Music, French, Grammar, Arithmetic or all that is included in the term Mathematics, Chemistry, as to German, for my own choice I would prefer something more practical in its place Botany & the Physical Sciences, etc, etc. There should be as many studies taken up as can be properly attended to.

Friday March 28 This letter was commenced three days ago as you will perceive from the force of circumstances it was

postponed until today which is a most wintery one the ground is frozen hard Yesterday was a terrible day wind, snow, & cold; It reminded me of a day we experienced in Pittsfield about a year ago, We have had most beautiful weather, could sit with our windows open, something has been done in the garden, I hope it is not cold enough to freeze the potatoes which have been planted, I have thought much of you & M when we feel it so severely take care of your self when exposed to those east winds, We rec'd a letter from Dr Jenkins yesterday, he is well but very busy in making his preparations for the season, I hope the Dr will be able to make us a visit during your vacation it will be like old times to have you all together once more, There is no events worthy of importance to communicate, I hope the marriage of "Katy Darling" did not stop your studies, & that you could give her a most hearty congratulation, They went on a bridal tour to St Louis,

Robert Ford has been sick ever since you were there, he had the mumps & took cold, which is a very serious thing, his marriage is postponed.

Maria wrote me a few days ago & made particular enquiries for you & M desired me to give both of you a great deal of love for her - her social position in Vincennes is very pleasant - I sent Maria the Observer with your fathers advertisement, she will be amazed at it, as Bourbon was always such a favorite of his. If your father can make desirable sales, it will be a great relief from care & vexation,

All send much love to each of you, Kindest regards to the Sparks, Oh! I hope you had a pleasant trip to Salem, write longer & more particularly. You ought to know your father, he has been fretting that you have not given more of the minutiae of M's change, & her silence has annoyed him greatly, She will be compelled to make some atonement for this seeming neglect, I tell you what when she fails to write regularly home once a week at least, say to her that you will not go to see her until the duty is performed, if it is the want of time, the time that is occupied with the visit can be made available,

But I trust there will be no more

course of complaint,
My dear son I hope you are not
living without regard to an eternal world
Remember, "What shall it profit a man
if he gain the whole world & lose his
soul?" What church does M attend?
adieu God bless you, Your affect^d
Father



69

Dunsmuir Mar 25
1856

My dear brother

You must not feel
slighted because I wrote to
sister Mary first I had not seen
her for so long a time, I have
seen you since, I love you both
very dearly, I think sister Mary
might have answered my letter
it has been a long time since
she has written home, Father
says that he will not write
to her again until she writes
to him, Yesterday was Easter
and I busy dying eggs some
yellow and some with the log
wood you bought me,
The cat has eat all of our
mocking birds, are you not
sorry for us?

Chrysomela

My dear Mr. [illegible]

I have not yet
 written to you
 because I have
 been so busy
 with my work
 that I have not
 had time to do so.
 I am sorry to
 hear that you
 are not well.
 I hope you will
 soon be better.
 I am writing to
 you now.
 I am your friend,
 J. M.

I am going to write like
Mrs Sparks, she begins on
this page after turning over
the paper, Mother received
a letter from Mrs Sparks
yesterday, telling how happy
you and sister were in
the next room, laughing
and talking,

The weather is
bright and beautiful, Ellen
and I have been making a
garden, John has put in
peas and potatoes, his hot beds
look so green and fine,
I suppose that we will have
radishes & lettuce soon
I am going to write to sister
many before long, I am getting
very tired, and don't know
any thing more to say so good
bye, all and love to you
sister Mary your loving
sister Fily

I am going to write like
an opus, the paper on
the page after turning on
the paper, the paper received
a letter from Mrs. O'Connell
yesterday, telling me that
you and sister were in
the night and beautiful. But
and I have been making a
general, for the last in
have and for the last
book to green and fine,
I suppose that we will have
available a better room
I am going to write to you
many, before long, I am
very true, and I am
and this morning to the good
hope all the love to you
with many of your family
with love

Lexington March 30th 1856

My Dear Son

Your affectionate letter
of the 25th inst. I recd. today - but was
truly gratified to receive a letter
written with the evidently more care
than is your usual habit - That hasty
"hops & steps & jumps," manner of writing
you should avoid - as it is apt to lead
to the habit of inaccuracy of spelling
diction & the formation of a bad hand
Then when you allow yourself more
time your letters are fuller - and
much better in every respect, with
decidedly an improvement in style
& execution - It is as easy to form a
good as a bad habit - but there is no
more beautiful accomplishment
than an easy graceful style of
epistolary correspondence.

So my dear Sam. let me advise
you to give a little more atten-
-tion & time to your letters. It will
amply repay you in your im-
provement & success in this elegant
art - and is so gratifying to your friend
with whom you correspond. I ob-
serve in some of your hasty letters
the omission of letters & sometimes
whole syllables - this you should avoid
and can do so by giving yourself a
little more time

In my last letter to you
written some day the past week
I was quite fretted with your Sisters
failure to write us since her
residence at Cambridge - and
probably indulged in too much
sharpness - Had I have delayed a
day I should not have written such
a letter - as the next mail
brought from her an interest

—Very & tolerably satisfactory letter
promising and amendment in the
future — If you got my letter I
hope you did not show it to her
As I should ^{be} unwilling to inflict
any pain upon her feelings,
though I might scold her for
her neglect — But none guiltily
than I did after the receipt
of her agreeable letter. I ans-
wered it immediately to show
her how fully we appreciated
it — and how very gratifying it
was to us — Trusting that it ^{will} en-
courage her to repeat it of-
ten.

I hope you will urge upon
your Sister — The absolute im-
portance of System in every
thing and the proper regulation
& division of her time — as essen-
tial to success — as to habits of

writing & the due & proper per-
formance of all her school
duties - Stimulate her pride and
ambition to succeed - nay to dis-
tinguish herself - Not only to suc-
ceed in her school - but in the
cultivation of easy & graceful
manners - The observance at all
times - all the propriety and
courtesy of the well bred lady
make herself agreeable and
acceptable to all with whom
she may have intercourse - I think
she done exactly right in not
going with you to Salem - she
has a daughter and it is proper
that she should call on Mary
before she ~~goes~~ makes a visit
to Salem - I am not for the
observance of unnecessary forms
yet some are useful - all
join in love to yourself & Sister
Your devoted Father H. J. Sumner

Mar. 30 1856 54

P.S. In stating the probable expenses of Mary you have omitted one important item - What will be the cost of her musical instruction during the term? And what are her opportunities for practice, Has Mrs Clapp an instrument or not - How is this matter fixed - I judge you have enough of her funds to nearly pay Tuition & Board - add the music book & inform me how much is defecient - that I may send it in time - Mary cannot be too careful about her personal expenses & spend no more than is necessary that is one good Yankee habit I hope she will fall into

You refer to B marriage - I hope the young lady has done well - You have made a lucky escape

and I think have reason to be
thankful - You have time enough
hereafter to think of such matters
when you have the proper age &
educated & really ready to begin
the world It is time enough, then
you will be capable of make-
ing as old Mrs Warfield says a
"judicious choice", a very mean-
ing and comprehensive expression
At Church to day we met the
Steele's - much disposed to talk
and full of enquiries about Mr
& yourself - You see I have sort of
forgiven Mother - though I treat
her in such a way - as I think
make her feel uneasy & ill at
ease - I don't think her altogether
- or comfortable - though I am
polite -

I frequently hear from Dr
Jenkins - who is pressing forward

his improvements - I remitted him
this week 1000\$ to buy his work
oxen - He expects to get in 2500 a
cow - This with his house build-
ing and improvements - will keep
him busy - I shall go out in
May - In June unless un-
less I sell at home I shall
send my cattle to N.Y. - If so
I shall be there during that
month - And of course shall
come over and make you
a flying visit some Friday
evening & stay until Monday
though I hope to sell ^{at home} - I shall
have about 280 head fit for
that market - which will bring
some money

I do not expect to make
any sales of my land before
fall - when persons will see
more clearly their way

If crops & stock keeps up and
do well this season - I think
it will go off perhaps it will
take 2 years to work it off - I
shall however - I think have a
publick sale of my Negroes
in the fall with all my
surplus stock & if I do not
get satisfactory prices for the
land I will rent it - I think
it will rent for 40 per acre - &
so - it will produce near 90000
per annum - This with the inter-
est on Negroes & stock sold
will pay me better than work-
ing it - and save trouble
though I trust that it will
sell at satisfactory prices

I started to write you a post
script & I believe have made
none of it than my letters

Y^r affectionate Son
H. T. Duran



56

Hermitage Col. Co. Ill.
April 6th 1856

Dear Henry

Your agreeable letter of March 25th has laid by me a week unmeasured - a longer period than has ever before passed between the reception of a letter from you and a reply thereto. My apology for the delay is something of the same nature of yours constant employment. The difference is that yours has taxed the intellectual and mine the physical powers and that mine has been limited. To the hours of sunshine and yours has "trimmed the midnight lamp". Unfortunately my day labor has by consequence of fatigue unfitted me for either reading or writing after night. Perhaps you are curious to learn the precise nature of my engagements. Fence building and log sawing both of them hard work have engaged my energies. During the last three days by the help of one assistant. I have got out material sufficient for my prospective cottage - where before many years if the hope be not vain you will find its home, and feel ^{no} desire to escape through a window. It will be a perfect love of home comfort, peace and plenty diversified by occasional "shells" being its surroundings. Among other pleasant anticipations that are indulged is the one

That you will be its frequent guest.
You need entertain no fears that it
will not be sufficiently commodious. Illinois
cubins has the world's ⁱⁿ capacities of accommodation
a single room already garrisoned by men and
wife and an extensive nursery of olive branches
is "around the table" can, as I have amply tested
by experience, give hospitable lodging to the weary
traveler or laborer. Stereotype and long experience
has entirely dissipated all scruples of delicacy
and the mother and daughters will apparel
themselves in their robes de nuit with as much
modesty as you array yourself for the
embraces of Morphew in your private chamber.
But this is one of the customs that I shall provide
against. Our chamber shall be sanctuary not
to be invaded for sleeping purposes except by
our spies and the pledges that God may
give us in course of time. But to drop the
romanticism - you say that you stand
in the third quarter of your class and at the
result you have to become a hard student.
The result is favorable and fortunate though
the cause may not be so pleasant. If I un-
derstand you correctly the class is graduated
according to the standing during the preceding
year and classified into four divisions ac-
cordingly. Upon your entering the advanced class
next year I hope that hard study will place
you at least in the 2nd quarter, and the
your succeeding in the 1st, your ambition

I hope and presume contemplates
no less. Of Mary's transfer to Cambridge
I simply learned the fact from your father.
The causes of that transfer as detailed by yourself
are amply sufficient, bearing out of course the
fact that you and she are thereby permitted
to enjoy each others society. The latter alone all
other things being equal would be enough to
warrant the change. But the important question
to consider besides the fact that all the means
and appliances to boot to advance a young ladies
education in manners, mind and tastes are there
is or there not outside influences to prevent
a full employment of such advantages. That there
are such influences around Cambridge to operate
upon young ladies' minds I fear; that I am
mistaken I hope; and if not that they may
not reach Mary. Tell Mary that her letter
to me, the 9th and last since I parted with
her, dated late in Nov: reached me only a few
days since, more than three months after its
being written - that I would reply to it did I
not have presumptive evidence that my replies
are not acceptable. I avail myself of the let-
ter to you to send to her the replies she de-
sires; tell her I hope that no disastrous conse-
quences have ensued from the delay.
Miss Mather gave you very flattering reception
& exercised excellent taste in her choice of guests
to meet you. Flannery, the illegitimate, particularly
displays her refinement taste



I see that her radiant smiles, her
flattering speeches, and cordial
punch have proved admirable to your
sensitive feelings and again ingratiated
her ^{into your} ~~into her~~ favor. Her "inward" compli-
ment should teach her to deal lightly in
this branch of the fine arts. Tell me more accom-
plished than this. I am humiliated to confess
that your Latin quotation was entirely lost
upon me. Had I been competent to under-
stand it may have dissipated my fears, but not
being so they still remain. To call it to your
mind - It begins "Perniculus plenum opus adest"
your father informs me that he has advertised
for sale all of his Barton land and 200
acres of the home tract. It is a good move
in consideration of the fact that you are dis-
inclined to go upon it. He intimates that you
have a preference for an establishment in this
state. I am very glad to hear it.

Through a letter from sister Mary a day or
two since I learned with regret of the death
of cousin Caroline Scott. She also informs
me that bro. Daniel is father to a 2nd
daughter. Spring seems finally to have set
in. The weather is endurable at last. The
last trace of snow disappeared several days
ago, but there is still plenty of frost in
the ground. Give my best love to Mary; say to
her that a letter from her would be very
acceptable. Yours affectionately
H. D. Perkins

Lex April 7th 1855

My Dear Son

I am just in receipt of ^{your} letter of the 1st of April - we were greatly gratified to receive from your Sister on yesterday 2 letters most satisfactory - showing that she still improves in her letter writing - I have written her a long letter - which I hope will relieve her from her distress and anxiety - growing out of my letter to you Her explanation is extremely satisfactory and I have endeavored to make the amendment honorable - which I trust will relieve her.

You say you are doing better in your Latin & Greek than last term - But not so well in Mathematics, this should not be you must attain your former position in this department - Give only a little more attention - Study a little harder - Do not fall back - Keep up to No 8 in Mathematics - Only an hour or two more of steady will do it - daily - This you must give - Sustain your Character in this department - and improve in all other

All join in Love to your Sister & yourself

Ever lovingly

Your Devoted Father
H J Duncan

[Faint, illegible handwriting on lined paper, possibly a ledger or account book. The text is mirrored across the page, suggesting bleed-through from the reverse side. The right edge of the paper is heavily stained and discolored.]

April 8. 1856

My dear brother

Since the
date of my last letter March the 5
I have not received a syllable from
you I hope this one will meet with
more success. Lily received a letter from
you & dear sister she is now ^{re}answering
it ~~now~~. You were sympathizing
with Lily for the loss of his birds,
but as the spring has returned
with its pleasure a gain we will
have plenty of wild songsters to
carole in the grove where feathered
songsters singing warble "God is love."
We have had most delightful weather
for a week past this evening the sun

P.S. I for got to tell you
that Mother wrote a letter to
Sister and for got to put it to
the care of your c^{de} J. Duncan.

E D

set clear & if the ^{old} adage prove correct
evening red morning gray to morrow
will be a very fine day if the weather
continue a few days longer as warm
as to day the woods will be clothed
with verdure and the meadow
embroidered with blossoms.

April 8th 1850

I got up this morning at half past 11
o'clock & we had breakfast at 7 for the
first time for a great while Lily was
not ^{up} until after the table was cleared.

I must make haste and finish my letter as
it will not go. I'll tell you what I
have to ~~do~~ after we finish your letter
I have to write to sister dear & then
say my geography & spelling arithmetic
& reading.

I will try and write
a longer letter next time as this a
poor apology. All join in love to
you & sister. Your devoted sister

Ellen Duncan

My dear Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst. in relation to the matter of the
estate of the late John A. Smith, deceased. I am sorry to hear that you are
troubled with this matter, and I am sure that I shall be able to assist you in
the best manner possible. I have already conferred with the proper authorities
and I am confident that I shall be able to bring this matter to a speedy
and satisfactory conclusion. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
John A. Smith

5-8.

Duncannon Apr 12th

[1856]

My dear Son

Some days have elapsed since I received your letter, announcing your victory in the "Anonyma". It is always a great pleasure to a parent to hear of the success of a child, & more especially in literary pursuits. My joy would have been greater had you advocated a more righteous cause, for it made me sigh to think of the havoc & destruction wrought by those "Crusades". The suffering of the poor Waldenses arose to my mind, caused by those armies of the devil, if any good resulted to the world by them it was from an overruling Providence that brought good out of evil, for they would have extinguished Christianity from the earth. It is melancholy that now in the 18th century, such a cause should have the majority; I hope your triumph was that you sustained your position in the argument with more ability than that the principle was correct, for it caused the whole of

christendom to groan, Happy for us!!
The days of Chivalry are past when hot
headed aspirants for glory were ready &
anxious to break a lance to gain, not
considering whether it was right or wrong.

God grant that no land may ever be infested
with the like again! Ever advocate the cause
of ~~truth~~ & justice, either past, present, or future
Efforts in such a cause crowned with
success, will produce joy & exultation.

It is rather singular that Mrs. S. should
desire to know what M. should study,
after she had entered her school & com-
menced, & you were made Plenipotentiary
in all the arrangements, it is attribu-
table to her patronizing M. & wished to let
me know what interest she felt in M.,
it was an eccentricity of hers, no harm meant by it,
I am delighted that M. is so pleased with
her change, & hope she will continue to be
as she has resumed her correspondence all
is restored to tranquillity, You & M. can de-
cide about how the recess will be passed
does her acquaintance justify accepting an

April 12 - 1856

invitation, confer with yourselves, you are capable of
judging of the propriety in the case, as you
are present & know all the surroundings,
There is a convention of Whigs in Lerp, they have a
public meeting to day, your father was engaged
with them on yesterday & last night until
11 o'clock, The clock struck 12 just after he
returned, Politics is divided into so many
factions, it is difficult to see what will be the
result, If we did not recognize the truth that
there is a Lord of Lords, & a King of Kings we
might give up in despair & look for nothing
but anarchy, How thankful should we be that
this nation acknowledges a supreme Ruler of
the universe, & the Book as our rule of faith
& practice! Oh! may its regenerating & purifi-
ing influence ever govern our favored land!
Oh! that it were a Book more studied & its di-
vine precepts reduced to practice! It is
the palladium of our country, I beseech you
to study it more, You are qualifying yourself to
read it in Latin & Greek as well as your own
tongue, let not your ability be unimproved,
Mr. Everett is creating quite a sensation in his
address on the character of Washington, He was
(i.e. Washington) verily a great & good man, It is
said that the address will be published, I congrat-
ulate myself on the anticipated pleasure I shall

have in its perusal. There is quite a pun upon
the names of Everett & Story, perhaps you have
seen it. When Everett was entertained at a public
dinner before leaving Boston, Judge Story gave a
sentiment - "Genius is sure to be rewarded where
Ever - it goes?" Everett responded - "Law, Equity & Juris-
prudence; no efforts can raise them above one
Story;" well done! I suppose Mr Jacob has reach-
ed your city, ere this, he was out to see us the
week before he expected to leave, he seems
to be a modest clever youth, Mrs James Clay
his sister came with him, he is the young-
est of 12 children, his father was a wealthy
man, & he may like boys who have expecta-
tions, be disposed to be fast; it will be the
safest plan for you to observe him before
admitting him to a close intimacy, he may
be unexceptionable, As a Kentuckian you will
do all in your power for his advantage; You
will conclude that paper is scarce, I felt like wri-
ting, & was too lazy to go down stairs for a sheet
& commenced on this thinking I would copy it
but find that I have not time, & also wish to
write to M - All send much love to You & M
farewell God bless you both with his richest
blessings, Ever your affectionate Mother

Lexington Apr 20th 1857

My Dear Son,

I received a few days since your last most welcome letter - The same day one from your Sister - hers I replied to - and yours - I have deferred answering a day or two that you might get your letters on 'clip' - frequent days & thus hear more frequently from home - I shall endeavour to write you each once a week - But at different times during the week - making only some 3 or 4 days between your letters from home.

Your last letter referred to the subject of Mrs Clapp's room for rent - The refusal of which was given to your sister - at 10[¢] If she occupied it alone or 12[¢] If with a room mate - or boarder - This latter arrangement I like best, If a suitable room mate can be had - I wrote to Henry to write her friend Miss Mearns at Pittsfield - but I would seek an early opportunity of talking to Mrs Mearns about her niece going - The price for a single room is most exorbitant - I was surprised to hear that Mrs C had made boarders - This I do not like - If she is to keep a boarding house for young Ladies she must

She must confine herself to young Ladies
and not take of both sexes - I am glad
you said as much to her on the subject.
This is a matter about which she cannot be too
particular. In my letter to your sister I
gave her some hints, of her bearing towards
them Clapps - to keep them at a respectful
distance, allowing of no acquaintance or
familiarity - beyond mere politeness at
table - This you will impress upon her, who
are the young men boarding at Mrs Clapps.
I do not see from the Catalogue? - I presume
some of course they are decent well behaved
young men - Inmate of a boarding house
is no place for forming acquaintance.

In your sister's letters to your Mother
she speaks of her visit to the dentist, that
he says her teeth have all been spoiled by
bad plugging - how can he tell this - such
as give her no pain or trouble I would not
have touched or touched - This dentist is a
 Yankee I fear - more disposed for a job
than to tell the truth - for him to say that
a tooth is not filled is all stuff - She had
better be very cautious - and suffer none
to be meddled with, that did not abso-
lutely need it.

You have seen from the papers that

There has been a sort of convention of whigs held here on the 12th inst - I attended 2 of their preliminary meetings here on the 11 - and was not satisfied with what seemed to me to be the aims of some of those seeking to give it direction - In this preliminary meeting I was such a modification of their address - as was not concurred in - and I withdrew from concern - The aims of a portion of the meeting was evidently to democratize the old whig party - This I could not countenance - The article in the address I objected to was the harsh attack upon the R R party - composed here of 9 or 10th whigs - The very men from whom we expected to recruit our ranks if ever - To denounce them was not the way to bring about fraternal and united action again - Mr Archie Dixon in a conversation with - threw out this idea - that if the whigs would indicate an opposition to Filmore in N.Y. - It would go far to influence him to decline his nomination - thereby narrowing the contest to a choice out of 2 parties the Democrats and Black Republican - He (Dixon) is one of those politicians disposed unite the entire South, upon the Democratic party - I for one am not yet prepared for this step - altho I should not

be surprised to see to come to this yet
The opinion is certainly gaining in the South
that the Democratic party is more na-
= tional and conservative & less abiding
upon the Slavery question than either
of the other parties - If this opinion
fixes itself upon the public mind
it will unite the South

I must go out early in May and
see Jenkins & Trigg and get him started
with the right foot foremost

You have nothing new here - I
have had some feelers about buying
land - I learn that an impression has
been circulated in Bourbon that this
movement on my part - arrives from a
conjecture that I fore see a storm ahead
that we will have hard times and that I
expect to get the property back for half
price - But this will wear off - I have
not thought we would sell before fall

I shall probably remit you in
this letter a check for \$250 - say 50¢ to
the act of your Sister & 200¢ to yourself - try
and work through this term with this sum
Love to many.
Your devoted Father H. J. Duncan

1851th 25th Sept
 you had better go home
 your letter, they are busy here
 I am
 your friend
 J. C. C.

60

My Dear Love

Your Mother & Sister each
know yourself & Sister - each
a letter to day - but always a most
grateful & acceptable

I wrote you on last Monday
The 20th inst ~~an~~ long letter - In
which I enclosed you a check
on bank of America N York
for \$250 - which I hope has
safely come to hand - As you
mentioned in a recent letter
that you would need some funds
more about the 1st of May - I
hope this will be sufficient
The check is made payable
directly to your order -

Love to Dean Henry — I shall
write you both in a day or
two. In haste your devoted F

Hearts you devoted to
H. T. Spencer

H T Means

[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is written in cursive and spans the entire page.]

April 24 1856

My dear brother

All nature now is silent,
 Except the passing breeze,
 And birds their night-song warbling,
 Among the dewy trees.

I received your letter dated the 15th last night
 I was very glad to hear from you I received ^{a letter} ~~you~~
 from sister the same day she spoke of his
 having to ^{go to} Boston, to have his teeth fixed.
 Mother went in town to day to see Mrs
 Gratz & made arrangements about my going
 to school I am going to Mrs Brown, wife of
 Prof B of Transylvania University I expect
 I will like her very much, Mother said that she
 was a very ^{nice} lady. Miriam Gratz & her sister
 are going too, Lily does not want to go but I
 expect she will like it very much after she goes a while.

I ~~don't~~ not know when we will start I
am going to study Latin, Geography, Arithmetic,
Music, Spelling, Reading, Writing, ^{or or or or} it will keep me
busy, I know you will be glad to hear that I ~~will~~
am going to school - sister to -

I wish you were here to ^{en}joy the fishing it is
delightful Mr Scott cousin Flint &
cousin Eliza Arnold were here the other
day we ~~went~~ went to the pond in the evening
& caught fifty four fish they were very
nice we have not caught any ~~last~~
this ^{ason} ~~season~~ father says that he does not
know the ^{ason} ~~reason~~ why they do not bite
There is nobody with me as I am writing
in the library, Mother is gone up stairs &
Lilly to; Lilly has been reading the book
you gave her I believe this is the second
time she has read it she is very fond
of reading; Good night, for it is late
and I must go to bed I must leave
a kiss on my paper for you before I
go to bed.

Good morning to you for the
sun is up the sky is clear & morning
birds sweet songs I hear. Father is
at the pond fishing I hope he
will have success, the cars are coming
I hear the iron ~~hame~~ horse plow, as it
whizzes past, & the white smoke curls
up to the very clouds

As you perceive I did not write much this
morning & left you floating up in the clouds.
After I ate my breakfast Lily & I went out to see
father graft some pear trees then I took a
walk round the barn then I came in the
house & got my books was in until three
o'clock then I made my dinner
on bread & milk I did not do any-
thing after that, until late Mother
& father & my self went to the pond
the fish bit very fast I caught nine
or ten & lost four or five I caught one
very large new light I expect it

weighed about a pound & a half
it was the largest one that was
caught. Father is sitting on the
sofa smoking his pipe & Lily
is playing on the piano.

We received a letter from ^{you} brother &
sister, hers contained the bad dream she
had the other night you can assure
her, she need not be afraid to con-
fide for such shall not be the
case for I shall not feel her hair
except she wants me to put her to
sleep, as I have nothing more to write
I will bring my letter to a close so
good night's rest & a nice downy nest
I'll join in much love to ^{you} &
sister, Dear, Mrs. Sayre sends her love
to you and wish & Mr. I to.

Your devoted sister
Mr. H. I. Duncan Ella Duncan
Cambridge
Mass.

62.

Lexington Apr 29th 1856

My Dear Son

Upon coming in to town this morning I find that Ellen's letter was not mailed - owing to the omission to pre pay the postage, this I have done & re-mailed it - To that letter I wrote a line informing you - that I had written your letter on the 20th but & enclosed in it a Check payable to your Order on the Bank of America for \$250 - you having informed me that you would need funds about the 1st of May - but having no tidings of that letter & its enclosure I fear it has miscarried write me immediately on the subject - If it has not come to hand - you had better call upon Mr Blake and borrow the sum - If you cannot wait the arrival of the Duplicate which I will forward so soon as it has been ascertained that the original has been miscarried - But do not borrow - If you can wait the arrival of a duplicate - which will be forwarded only in the event of a probable loss - All joins in love to Mary & yourself - Ell & Abby commenced on yesterday coming to town to school - to Mrs Brown wife of the professor - who takes a small class

Yr affectionate Father
H T Dineen

[Faint, illegible handwriting on lined paper, likely bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is written in cursive and spans the width of the page.]

Herbert Coles Esq
May 3rd 1856

Dear Henry

I hope before this time ^{you} have learned that your not having received my last at the date of your favor of the 20th ult. was not due to neglect or forgetfulness on my part. I wrote you very shortly after the receipt of your preceding letter. It not having reached you is due to the interruption of the transmission of the mails between Indianapolis and Terre Haute I presume. The rail road company refused some time since to transport the mails at the old rates and the P.O. department will not accede to the increased demands, hence they have to be conveyed by the almost obsolete method (now a days) of waggoning or staging. My mail instead of reaching me in a week from Lexington - Cambridge, New York &c as they formerly did are now sent two and three weeks. This explanation I hope will satisfy you that no one has usurped your place in my good will nor has ^{the} neglect or forgetfulness or indifference produced any serious alarm. Your last letter is peculiarly prized by me as it exhibits the fact that your feeling towards me has not suffered abatement by your suspected ~~perceptions~~ ^{perceptions}. That a letter from you had been

given things go by. For the last month I have been
very busy. Every day and every hour of the day, almost
have found me engaged. I have put up about
a mile of fence, and the rail being new and conse-
quently ~~heavy~~. This work was by no means light,
but this was pleasure and relaxation compared
with my excursions in pursuit of cattle for my break-
ing ~~travels~~. My mare being unfit for service &
being unable to procure a horse for love or money
I took the car and went 120 miles South. The 1st
night the hotels being so much crowded I had
to sleep on the bar room floor with my saddle
bags for a pillow and without mattress or covering.
We managed by dint of hard coaxing to hire
horses to ride around and buy up the cattle. After
we had collected them together we had to drive
them home on foot. For two days we walked with
intermission, and finding that we could not stand
it - that we would break down, unless we procured
horses or made some other arrangement. A little
experimenting which came near costing me a
full frame, an ox, made this happy discovery
that one of the oxen was rideable. Riving my
saddle along, we rigged him up in riding
style and rode him alternately, the other in the
mean time driving. Thus mounted my pride
in passing through Boston or even Lexington
would perhaps have suffered some humiliation
but in Illinois no one is ashamed of anything
of the sort. I certainly was not. The relief offer-
ed my weary legs put me quite entirely in the

back ground. On our way up night overtook us
in a Dutch settlement and we had to stay
all night with a Dutch family. I was acquainted
with the proverbial filthy of the low Dutch
but my historical knowledge had ~~not~~ fully
prepared me for the reality. A hog pen was a
few yards from the door, and the wind favoring
the drifting of the stench from it directly into
the human pen - almost as noxious in its
smells, we had a combination of the most basely
by smells that may offend nostril. The cuisine
was in keeping with the other surroundings. Though
hungry and weary, we neither ate heartily, nor
slept refreshingly. Henceforth that I may be spared
from having to stay with the Dutch is my pray-
er. I have commenced breaking prairie - shall
put in about 200 acres in sod corn, and pre-
pare about 200 for wheat. During this month
I shall be over run with business. In a day
or two I shall have to go over to Mauntrue &
Christian Counties and have your father's land
therein surveyed off into 40 acre lots - prepari-
ng to bring said lots at auction. The sale of the
Mauntrue land comes off on the 21st of this
month and that in Christian, early in June
I shall begin to expect the visit of your father
in the course of a week or two as he will be
present at the sales. I shall be very glad to see
him. Your letter betrays your old penchant
for these girls. It is a very pleasant and certain

ed within proper bounds an entirely innocent
and useful feeling. Had I had more of the
same disposition, or rather had I indulged in
inclinations in this respect that nature gave me
I would be to day perhaps a happier if not a
wiser and a better man. I fear that my day
of grace for matrimony has passed - irrevocably
gone and that the brightest prospect and fullest
of pleasure before me is to lead through all
of my allotted days a life of single blessedness.
But in this world of misery and suffering if
a man is singly blessed he ought not to complain
that his cup of blessing is not full to overflowing.
I shall not murmur at the decree, provided
I can procure the services of a good hired
cook. I am very glad to hear of your triumph
in your literary society, and hope that it is
but the beginning of a series. I wish you could
find it convenient when and where to come
over and see me for a few days. I should be
so glad to see you. Ask Mary if she con-
tinues to write to me again. Give her my
love. I am much pleased that her new
school gives perfect satisfaction.

What has become of your old room-mate - you
have made no allusion to him in your late
letters. Excuse carelessness and haste. I am
very much hurried - Yours affectionately

W. B. Jenkins

Lexington May 5th 1856

My Dear Son

Yours of the 27th & 28th I duly
received acknowledging the receipt
of the check for \$250 - You mention
that you had forgotten to say to
me that your sister would need
more means to add to her summer
wardrobe - I send you a check
for \$50 for her use & hope it will
be sufficient - She should re-
collect that she is a school girl
and should not dress extravagant-
ly - Let me know whether this
will be sufficient for her
wants - As I have no acquaintance
with the subject

You have not mentioned in
any of your recent letters, how
you were getting on in your
class

your last letter in which
there was a reference to this
subject - you said that you were
getting on very well in your
Latin and Greek - But not so
well in your Mathematics
This seemed strange to me - I
urged to - by all means not
to fall back in this department
to study harder and get up to
at least your standard of last
term - Study an hour or two
more a day - I hope to hear that
you have recovered your standing
in this department - or rather
that you get to & every day in
it - Let me know

I shall be off to Illinois
in a few days - shall be
absent 3 or 4 weeks, continue
to write regularly - write
me

at the Hermitage Post Office
care of Dr Leukins - soon after
my return - I shall commence
starting my cattle for N Y in
June - I shall send them in
three lots - and probably go on
with the second lot or so as
to meet them in N Y - unless
I shall get a very satisfactory
reply

I fear that I shall have to
act as guardian for H Lin -
herlokes children - to try and
save my self as much as poss-
ible - I am unwilling that
the Father shall act - I
shall not get through
with a loss, I fear them
for 6 thousand Dollars

All well & send you much
love -
Yr devoted Father
H T Durbin

P.S. - No letters from Mary
since week before last
Give her much love &
tell her not to interrupt
her writing - Ell & Lily
are going to School to Mrs
Brown (wife of ^{the} Professor)
and doing very well - are
quite stimulated & get their
lessons well - They will do
well I hope

A. J. D.



Louisville May 6th 1856

I was surprised at receiving a letter from you, for I thought it rather unusual to correspond with a person whom you would not pay your respects to in person when the opportunity was placed before you, almost as a stumbling block, besides I thought it quite ungallant, but the reading of your letter dissipated all such thoughts, and beg your pardon for having ever indulged them: I regret extremely I can not see, as may be it will be the last opportunity, this month I go west, go "home", all is so uncertain, I may never see Kentucky again, but the happy happy memories, & love for my friends will be all abiding. I feel very anxious to get off, it is hard to leave Ky, but "home" over balances all regret at leaving Ky, it is a year that I have been without a home, & none but the home I know the reality

of the future, my friends have been more
than kind to me, but I could not give over
my home long, where I will be of some
account, but here I am tolerated only.  I am agreeable, while my useful qualities are
underused, & I live upon the face
of the earth, then I want so badly to be as
"home", that tells the whole story.

I do not know how much pleasure you
give me when you say you are devoting your
energies to study, true learning expands &
lifts the soul above mean selfishness, brings
the mind in close communion with nature
& can we contemplate nature without the
soul being in love & worship. I do the power
of all. Such love refines & purifies the heart,
making it capable of its holiest sweetest
feelings, which are to the heart as the
rose is to the rose, purifying its colors,
giving forth its fragrance to the papers
by, making it lovely from its naturalness,
for is it not the natural, primary element
Such holy encasings of the heart & is it

not the enjoyment it was first intended
to feel, but the pains, as selfishness, pride
to conquer & destroy & limit the pure elements
with true learning refines it, ^{the} cankers on,
Carroting, embittering the pure fountain; Con-
of G.R. is the pure fountain, don't you think
so? Sober true learning makes us feel for
the great heart, to sympathize with the poor
& instead of passing him by to feel he has a
heart whose pulses throbb with peculiar, better
feelings than the outward man would
indicate, he has the pure elements, the
true fountain, though clogged we may open
and let the pure stream refine the heart
till it is noble, what happiness, what
exquisite pleasure to feel we were permitted
to enrich a human heart; to help to
quicken it to life, that is indeed true
learning that would exalt the mind
& heart till it could set aside all selfishness,
all prejudice, to know the right & give it of
the life blood. Devote your energies, my
friend to true learning, to study, but let

the heart blossoms bloom, for by their fragrance
the moral being lives; any thing but a cold
frenzied fervor, all heart light & repose,
'tis like the ^{Solarguine} ~~Solarguine~~ fair to look upon fresh
bitter & poisonous. What an opportunity I may
have, how fortunate even to be permitted to see
him & now & then hearing a voice, but how
much more to be taught by direct a man,
my friend & love to her. It will always
be agreeable to hear from you, and as long
as letter as you choose; always consider me
your friend & write to me as such. I
like to have forgotten to offer you my sym-
-pathy in your disappointment, that is very
true, but as Mr B is so very happy &
I trust you will be unselfish enough to
wish him joy of his possession. Direct to
George Town, Ky, as I will not go west for
till the last of this month & in my next
I will give you my due account. I have
I trust what I have written for Maglar
but talking & talking all the time.

Your friend

Lucy J. Webb



G D

G 6

[May]

Duncannon 12th '56

My very dear son

What a great invention is writing! what a source of satisfaction & pleasure to distant friends, to be able to communicate our thoughts and affectionate regards to dear absent ones, surely it is a great comfort; I must thank you for the numerous missives I have rec^d since I last wrote to you, my apology is that the number of correspondents have increased of late & there seemed no great urgency for me to write, still I can not give it up entirely, to others, I must speak for myself once in a while, altho' not having much to say, I can tell you Ellie & Lily seems to enter into the spirit of study, & are getting along finely, E says she wishes that she had gone sooner, she has commenced at writing composition, her subject was, "What has the ^{war} caused?" it was not very lengthy but quite well done for the first, Dr Marshall was here last week, he liked the book you sent him but the print was too fine for much comfort in reading he thinks he will be here during your vacation & also desired to be remembered to you, he had

been to Danville to examine the Theological students, & was in fine spirits, walks about quite well, Mr & Mrs Brown from Jacksonville are in Ky, they return next week Mrs B. sent her love to you & M, they are both looking very well. I am so glad you gave young Jacob such a cordial Ky greeting, every one gives him a fine character, I hope it will not be spoiled in C. Mr Hill of Lee was in business with this young man's father & knows them well, he gives him an excellent name. You think him green, if you mean by the term not initiated into the wicked & artful ways of the world, it is best he should remain so, my dear son from some expressions you used whilst at ^{young} I fear that the reverence for serious things is passing off, Oh! ^{it} grieves me to think of it & causes me many an anxious thought, O! Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth. If you forget God when you are young He will forget you when you are old. Now is the time of your probation, to lay up treasure in heaven, to seek a habitation for the soul, man is an immortal being, his short existence here is chequered with many disappointments & sorrows, then how wise

To secure a glorious rest, of everlasting joys.

Troubles seems to be gathering over our fair land. The political horizon is very dark & gloomy, The Lord only knows what will be the issue, make your Bible a chief study, study the prophetic portion & also revelation of St John. Terrible times are to come such as we have no conception of, as wise we should be prepared for it, & the surest way is to seek that faith which purifies the heart,

Your sisters are just returned home from school. Ell has a letter from yourself. I regret that we could ^{not} hear Mr Everett, she may never have an opportunity of hearing him again, & on the subject of Washington, it would have been as well ^{for} us to have postponed her walk & then she could have heard the lecture, it was worth sacrificing something to hear so eloquent a man. Dr Matthews was married on the first of May & has gone on to the General Assembly which meets in N. Y. on the 15th I would not be surprised if he & his bride should extend their travel as far as Boston, Dr Perin is also married to Miss Anna Maria ^{my} Russel, All of Mr McCaw's married daughters are gone to Chicago to live,

Young America are a very enterprising and
experiencing class in our republic. I
hope they may succeed. R. T. Ford did not
go to Charleston from N. Y. he returned home
& went in style, took his servant with him
The southern people are very aristocratic,
Dr Humphry went on a few days since to Mass
to make his parents a visit, He was surprised
to learn that M- had left P. & of Dr Agnew's
course to her, The Dr. thinks A- a great ass.
From Miss Moore's account. They have acted
with very little courtesy, less prudence & wisdom
than those at the head of a literary institution
should, for it will injure him in the estimation
of intelligent & liberal minded persons. I regret it
more on M's account than the Agnew's, It is calculated
to make a wrong impression of a young
lady if those under whose care she has been
speak slightly of, Ell has come in with a
bird & let it flutter all over my paper. It is so
provoking! All join in much love to you
& M- Kind regards to the Sparks. Good-
bye God bless you my dear son Your ever
affectionate Mother

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Duncannon May 21st 56

My dear brother

I received your welcome letter on Monday last but ~~and~~ I have not had time to write because after I come home from school I have my lessons to get & I sleep quite late in the morning but I gotten up on purpose to write to you I must learn to get up a little earlier in the morning I have a letter to write to father for he has gone to Glenoise to see Dr Jenkins he left last Saturday morning at four o'clock we received a letter from him Sunday morning which frightened us very much from the way in which it came we were all up stairs when Mr Laynes by rode up to the door with a letter that had come by express so you

may know that we were scared
but when mother opened the
letter father was very well &
the reason he sent it by express was
because the mails are so irregular
& at the time he wrote he was going
to D. J. in the Fort Marshall buggy.

You said that ~~you~~ I was quite
rite in studying Latin & that
I would like it very much
if my teacher would teach
rite and so I do it is a very
nice study I like it very much I can
puzzle a little Mrs. Brown my teacher
says that I learn quite fast & if
I had more confidence I would do
a great deal better she says that she
will have to whip me if I do not have
more confidence.

I suppose you have very pleasant
weather now it is delightful here now
I guess we will have plenty of snow

berries They are beginning to turn Lily
found about a dozen yesterday
I wish you & dear sister could be to enjoy
them for the strawberries are not ripe
as soon as they are here.

I wish you and sister could see home it
is perfectly beautiful the lawn is
beautiful & filled with birds of all sorts
Hovers retreat is perfectly enchanting it
is serenely beautiful the solitude is only
^{broken} by the low murmurs of the trees or the
~~low~~ voice of merry children, the plaintive
moo of the dove now and then his
gentle voice is drowned by harsh notes
of the crow or blue jay.

Good-bye for I have to go to breakfast
and all join in love to you &
sister.

With a sisters love.

good bye
El Duncann

[Faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is illegible due to fading and mirroring.]

70
[Late May, 1856]

My very dear son

You have been very good in writing so often, I do not think any one should complain for every day or two there is a letter from you or M. It is exceedingly gratifying to hear from you, I regret to hear of M's indisposition, she does not seem to be very stout in health she must take more care of her health, it is not a slight matter to lose it, without it there is no enjoyment. I am glad you have had your teeth fixed, the dentist must have been rough with you to cause you to faint are you satisfied that he understands his business? And not governed by the love of gain? It is really lamentable! that so few act from disinterested

motives, self is mostly the object,
The good of others is a secondary con-
=cern, such is the result of Adam's
transgression, until renewed by the ^{Holy} Spirit.¹ This regenerating influence enlarges
our souls, & makes us consider our
neighbor's good as well as our own,
I have good news for you Thomas
McBane has become pious & joined the
Presbyterian Church, He is in Va
going to Bethany College, where his
reformation took place, It is a very
great joy to his mother, particularly,
When shall I have the inexpressible
joy to hear my dear son rejoining in
the liberty of the sons of God?

Time flies rapidly this is the last
week of May, We have heard only
once from your father since he left,
The last of this week I shall look
for him home, The mail from

That region of country is very irreg-
-ular, Last Monday I sent you sev-
-eral newspapers as I had no letter &
there were many articles in the P-
Herald interesting, at least to me &
& I will hope it was to you also,
Do you & M- intend returning the
southern route? Would it not be very
agreeable to visit Washington City?
I suppose Congress will remain in
session & do nothing but disgrace
themselves, This cudgeling affair is
a most shameful thing!!
When will men act like men?

Such scenes are perfectly barbarous,
altogether unbecoming intelligent beings
particularly those in high stations,
Remember me kindly to Mr & Mrs Sparks,
much love from all of us to you
& M- God bless you, Your affectionate
Mother.

Laurence May 27th 188.

71

Dear Amos

I received your letter
of the 25th yesterday, and am
delighted to think that
you have finally decided
to pay me a visit. You
will better leave Salem
at 9.45 A.M. by the
Lowell & Salem R.R.



11/11/11

11/11/11

You then arrive in
time to connect at
Helmington Junction with
a train that crosses at
Lawrence at 10 1/2. I
will be at the depot
to meet you. I should
like the wandering of
this dear little place.
In haste

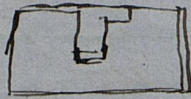
I remain affly yours,
Gordon Tracy.

As You suppose
remaining only a few
days. However we will
see how long You can be
left when You arrive?
Y

would you in great haste with love from
Chicago May 28th 1856 72

My Dear Sam

Your most welcome & affectionate letter
I received on yesterday - while at the station about
to start for this place - Here I am in this
wonderful City - in a delightful ~~and~~ delightful
Chamber on the lower floor of a first class
Hotel (the Tremont) Its growth is great since
I saw it - a vast & splendid improvement in
5 or 6 story houses - that would do credit to
New York - Marble fronts - with rail roads
passing in every direction - with an av-
erage advance in property of 200 percent
in in many cases of 400.00 - since my first
visit - One piece of property - which was of-
fered to me at 12000 \$ - now leased upon ground
rent 1200 \$ the tenants putting up the buildings
& paying all taxes - the property now worth
50000 \$ I am assured - Our little purchase at
300 pr acre now worth from 800 to 1000 \$ pr acre
my agent says hold on to it - I am equally
impressed with the improvements in the
country the increase of population and
the appreciation in the value of lands
Lands in Coles County that I would have
sold

at 5¢ per acre now worth from 20 to 25
and a choice timber tract ^{of 5000 acres}, I directed Dr. Jenkins
to put up to 30¢ per acre I would
not take less - It must bring it before
long - I purchased an addition to Dr.
Jenkins place of 180 acres at 21¢ 120 of it
Perrine & 60 timber the 120 running into him
in this fashion  splitting him half
into - This makes the place about
1200 acres - to which I can buy it fair I will
add another section of R.R.L. 640 acres now
making it a splendid farm over 1800 acres
While in Coles I made an offer for the
best improved farm in Coles County with
rail road on one side of 2400 acres - upon
these terms - One acre of Bourbon land
for 5 acres of this - what do you think of
it - The same party owns besides 640 acres
a broad side of Dr. Jenkins - for this I
offered 10¢ cash, he offered it at 15¢ - He
is hard pressed & must sell - and prob-
ably can find no other - In this 2400 acre
tract - he offered to take 1 acre for 7 acres
(One acre for four) - I think we may yet
trade as he wants to go to Ky to live and
take Bourbon land & negroes - This is

estimating his lands - in my offer at
20% & the Bourbans at 100% These lands
will soon double in value & at my val-
uation now rent at 15 per cent on present
value - Your wishes and opinion I wish
on the subject - Have you any desire to own
such property? - If you have I will prob-
ably trade - This Illinois property will con-
tinue to improve & appreciate - Ours in Ky
is comparatively stationary - 10 years will
approximate their value - Of the future
there can be no doubt - This State with its vast
extent of rich & productive Prairie must
in twenty years approach Ky in popu-
lation - If not become the real Empire
State - It has I am satisfied greater cap-
acity to sustain a dense population than
any State in this Union - But enough if
you will have the opportunity of seeing
it for yourself - Had I have visited 5 years
earlier than I did - I should have owned
a good share of - Both farm lands and
City property - When you are a junior we
will make a trip together

You speak my Dear Son of being about
to enter on a new course of difficulties
and

Temptations - I trust that your principles are so pure and your habits of study so fixed - that you can overcome the one and resist the other - and that you will be able to pass through your whole course with honor & distinction - and be prepared to commence the career of life - with those qualifications head and heart - that will command distinguished position & influence - in whatever walk of life you may select

But now my Dear Son is your time to make preparation for the future - time now mispent is lost forever, I regard the next 4 years of your life as the most important to you - Improve it - my Dear Son - I beseech you - by every every consideration of personal character and position - of family pride - of a laudable ambition to be useful in your day and generation - and make your name one that is honored cherished & remembered

I shall leave for home in a day or two I wrote a reply to your Sisters letter last night from Lebanon - Give ^{her} a father's love & blessing

Your devoted Father J. J. Shuman

New York City
May 28. 1856.

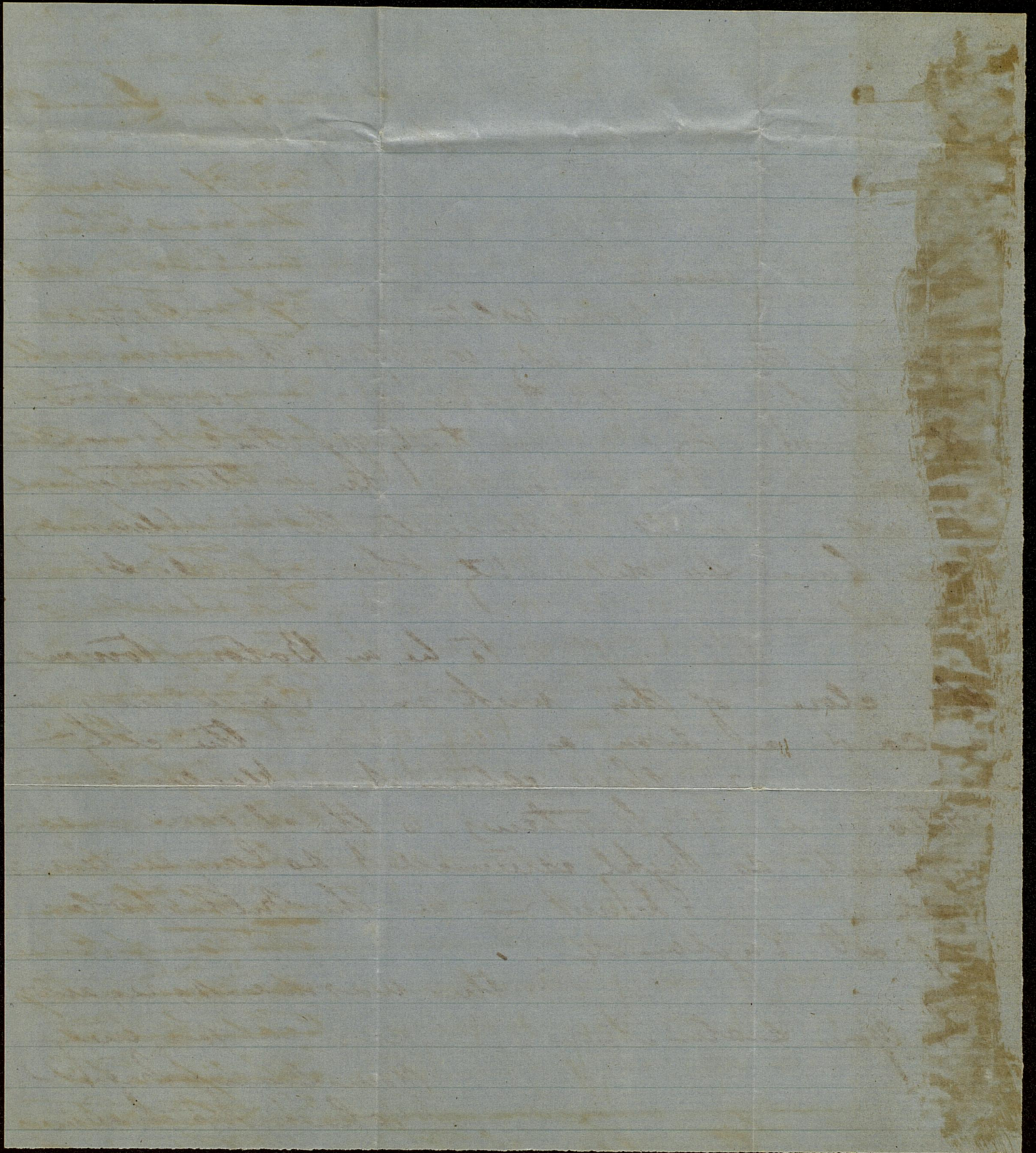
My dear Friend

Your polite and very pleasing note of the 24th inst. was put into my hands by Dr. McFarland our Moderator this morning. I am truly grateful to you & your dear sister for this kind attention to us — and appreciate the compliments you have so delicately & handsomely shown to us —

We expect to be in Boston towards the close of this week and I will drop you a card as soon as we reach the city.

I shall esteem it a pleasure to introduce Mr. Matthews, to the children of parents — so highly esteemed & so long endeared to my heart — in the Metropolis of St. England.

With the warmest regards to your sister Mary — I remain very truly
Your sincere friend
John D. Matthews.



72
New York.

29 May 1856

My Dear friend -

I am very sorry to inform you, that since I wrote you yesterday I find that it is impossible for us to visit Boston.

The time for our return to Lexington is so near at hand, that we cannot spare the time. This we both regret exceedingly - indeed we had set our hearts upon the trip.

But I have been so often sick since I came here, that I have not been able to go out, I am hurried for time.

Our love to your dear sister -

Yours very truly J. D. Matthews

Wm. H. Hunt
1856

Dear Henry

Your welcome letter of May the 14th was received 10 days ago during the visit of your father. I have been so engaged that I have not found time before today to write. I have set apart today to answer all of my correspondents that I have neglected for several weeks. The cause of delay in the transmission of the mails is due to the refusal of the Terre Haute & Indianapolis rail road to transport the mails at former rates and the refusal of P.O. Department to accede to the increased demands of the company. The government at Washington has become wonderfully economical all at once. It is a shame that an extensive region of country must be subjected to most serious inconvenience to save a few dollars, because perhaps some of the prominent men of the country do not endorse the administration of Pierce when thousands are squandered upon useless projects, merely to enrich political knaves demagogues & fools. At any time of life it is not usual for any one to desire the hastening of time. It rushes on fast enough at its appointed pace to satisfy the desires of most, but rarely

I am anxious for the hastening of the
Time when your partnership in the labors
of Susquehanna and Luntalus and others of
that kind may shall cease & you will be free
from college life & at liberty to join me
in agricultural pursuits in Illinois. I
trust that by that time you will find me
enjoying the fruits of a love of home comforts
and surrounded by a numerous stock of "fine
breeds" considerable. Your father was here about
10 days. While here he was going all the time riding
over the farm examining the different sites for
a house location & riding through the neigh-
borhood to look over the land that it is de-
sirable to add to the farm. He made one
purchase of 180 acres at \$21/ visiting Mauntrie
and Christian Counties where there are some
2500 acres of his land. He is perfectly delighted
with the country. Thinks it unequalled in
agricultural respects and facilities for
the transportation to market of the products
of the soil is pleased I think with your
idea of having an agricultural establishment
here rather than in Bourbon. He is now nego-
tiating an exchange of a portion of Redford
for some 2200 acres of land in this Co
1360 acres of it is enclosed, in domestic grass
principally blue & in cultivation. This is
one of the most beautiful farms in Co. &

can be made one of the most beautiful
in the State. With little trouble you can
have 2-3000 acres of blue grass pastures
with a running stream through each.
The farm $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant from Mottom
a rapidly growing town at the junction
of the Erie Route and other R.R.'s. com-
mands a scope of beautiful country is
very fertile & susceptible of cultivation
and is as rich as soil can be. Your father
is prepared to give 1 acre of Bourbon land
for 5 of this and may do a little better.
This land is not dear at \$2.50 I hope that
the negotiation will be successful. I think
you would be delighted with it. I fear you have
been indiscreet in communicating to the French
girls the rough picture I draw of Illinois life.
You and I may want to draw our views from
Yankee sources and such a revolting pic-
ture may set them against Illinois. You
ask me to explain my remark in reference
to Flannoy. The explanation is that his father
and mother were not married. I used the
word in ~~illegitimate sense~~ your remarks
in reference to your sister. I think I proved
the justice of my fears concerning her
change viz. that the gaieties of city life would
draw her mind from her studies &c. &c.

Can't you impress upon her the greater
importance ^{of this} ~~of this~~ ^{of acquiring that}
species of knowledge to be gained alone
from books. That mingling in the most
cultivated society can not impart, and
which is absolutely necessary to give position
in a highly cultivated and refined society.
At large entertainments, dancing parties
and the like agreeable manners and
flippant gaiety is all that is necessary
to carry one through very satisfactorily
but in the quiet intercourse of social
life among intelligent men & women
more substantial requirements are necessary
to hold one agreeable place and maintain
a high position. She may overlook
this at present, but the fact might be
brought unpleasantly to her mind at a
period, when the error ~~was~~ is incapable
of correction. I should greatly like
to see the oration by Everett upon the
character of Washington. I have seen
most glowing accounts of it in the
papers. As soon as he is done speaking
I hope he will give the whole country
the benefit of it through the press.
Give my love to Mary. Your father
received your letter the day he left for
Chicago. Yours affectionately J. J. Jenkins

Lexington June 3rd 1856

My Dear Son

I returned home from Illinois a few days ago - well and entirely pleased with my trip - I have found all well ~~at~~ ~~home~~ I recd while in Illinois your letter, also one from your sister - both of which I replied to at length - I wrote to your sister from Urbana & to you & self from Chicago - In these letters I gave a full account of my visit to that State - and my impressions of its future destiny

Upon my return home I find we are suffering greatly from drought - there not having more rain than would lay

the dirt for 2 or 3 months - I
never saw so unpromising a
prospect for Corn crops - I do
not find my Cattle in such
order as I hoped for - and I may
not forward them before fall
unless their improvement is
greater than I anticipate, this
of course will prevent my next
east - during this month

At what time shall we look
for your sister & yourself home? when
will you start? you mention in
your letter to your Mother that if
you is worse you will ~~will~~ take
the direct route - through Buffalo
this is best I think - and if you
do so - do not stop at Pilsfield, I am
out of patience with the Agnews
and prefer no intercourse with
them - He has behaved like an
Ass and deserves no better treat-

ment

We are invited to spend to
morrow evening at Mr. J. C. Fords
in Louisville. I am trying to pre-
vail upon your Mother to go down
but so far have not been success-
ful, I presume It will be a great
occasion - to Bob & his fair bride
I shall go down myself, & carry
your Mother if I can - The dif-
ficulty is the School - The chil-
dren are doing well, & we do
not wish to have such an in-
terruption as 2 or 3 days - Upon my
return I will give you an account
of the affair

We are all well and shall
look forward with anxiety & hope
to our reunion in July - when we
shall all I trust be once more
united around the family board
Love to Dear Henry & devoted Father
H. T. Duncanson

I have been thinking of you very much lately
 and wondering how you are getting on.
 I hope you are well and happy.
 I have been very busy lately
 but I have managed to find some time
 to write you a few lines.
 I have been thinking of you very much lately
 and wondering how you are getting on.
 I hope you are well and happy.
 I have been very busy lately
 but I have managed to find some time
 to write you a few lines.

Lexington June 15th 1853

My dear Son

Your letter came to hand last night - after I addressed you my letter of day before yesterday - in which you speak of the folly and excitement of the people of Cambridge - Do not permit yourself to become excited by their folly & fanaticism - But concentrate your mind upon your books & studies - Let the "Woolley Heads," run their course - & let Mary degrade herself, If she will she will neither accomplish her reasonable purpose of severing the Union - or emancipating the Slaves - But should she accomplish the

that day will be her
ruin - In the fatal dis-
membrament - all the
tribularies of the great
liver - that great basin from
the mouth of the river - to
its summit mountain sources
will form one great empire
embracing the Southern States
and the great North west - The
Alleghany Summit will be the
boundary - and that day will
be the ruin of the Northern
States with her barren and
sterile soil - The western em-
pire - will manufacture for
themselves - and hold with
Nap & the North the relations
of an independent Republic
In peace friends in war
enemies - who will suffer most
she will soon learn to her cost

that such men as Joseph Quincy
should play the part he has
done is amazing - to contribute
his money for reasonable pur-
poses & the propagation of
the vilest heresy - all this
is to result in the election of
the Democracy - & my regret
is - that they have not such
a man as Jackson to lead
them - with a man of his
or Clays nerve - we should
soon make short work with
with this Kansas affair - and
hang a few traitors - a little
of the latter is most needed
just now

As to the Kansas Nebraska
bill I was as much opposed
to its passage as any man
in Mass - regard it as infamous
but as it is the law of

and I will stand by it, come
what may - The repeal of
the Missouri Compromise these
knaves of the North do not wish
to have it restored - all their
pretended regard for it is
sheer hypocrisy - Its repeal
was a mere pretext for agi-
tation, at which they were
rejoiced, sincerely rejoiced - and
its restoration the last thing
on Earth they desire to see
~~restored~~ - But enough - you
speak of taking the Southern
coun home spending a day
or two at Phil^a & Pitt^t - If so
will you not want more
money? If so how much?
Bardwin from Glenair has
been here for some days trying
to trade quite a difference
as yet - whether we will or not
is doubtful - Love to Henry ^{affectionately}
H T D

Lexington June 24th 1851

My dear Children

I have received from both of your letters within a few days - which was, as it always is a source of great satisfaction.

You are so fully engaged with occupation and business - that I have scarcely time to write you only a short letter - Painters, Carpenters and masons are all employed at home now and paper hangers to be here to day - So that we are completely in the lurch & shall be for another week - The one suffering more from drought than I have ever known, at this season - every thing burning up - vegetables getting scarce and getting high - I sold last week 80 of my Cattle at some \$1 per head in my own pasture, I have 170 more which will do as well - those that I sold were I suppose sold in Boston this week they were intended for that market.

The weather is intensely hot & I think you had better come home directly than by the Southern route when you leave - A hot city is very uncomfortable at this season - Mr. Fill more will carry the vote of Hy - Buckhansons and friends are so distasteful to the Old Whigs they will never support him,

handover & I have not yet made our trade
for Illinois Land in the way of exchange but
I suppose we shall

I send you a check for \$200 the amount
you think you will need - you are certainly
getting rid of your money too easily - your ex-
penses are getting heavy - you must not forget
that I am kept scratching hard - to keep up
and carry on all my business

If you leave on the 11th July and come the
direct route home we shall hope to see you
on the 13th or 14th of the month - This hot weather
this will be the best - If you desire the Southern
route it will be most agreeable upon your
return in Sept - especially if you wish to make
any visits

All are well & join in much love to
you both

Your Devoted Father
H. T. Dineen

Since the 25th - I failed to get my letters
mailed, and have concluded to add
something more - You speak of sending
out your Book to add to the Library,
I wish you would do so - you can get
a box made of the proper size - to pack
them - and send them through some com-
pany - that attends to the shipping of
goods (not by Express) as they send

There are some houses in Boston that
ships to merchants and others here - when
your ship takes a receipt or Bill of
Lading - I mean by shipping - some
transportation Company by Rail Road

We had two Parties finished on
yesterday - with the Italian Marble we
have had on hand so long - The work
is well done and it's a beautiful im-
provement - We shall now have the
walk to lay anew - shall do it at once
The stone we took up was entirely
rotten - Indeed your Mother is having a
general brushing up - All I suppose
for yours & Mary's reception

I rec'd a letter from Dr Irvine a
day or two since informing me that his
Daughter Margaret was on a visit to Frank-
fort & would spend several weeks I have
written to the young Lady & wanted her
to visit us - hope she will do so, as I under-
stand she is very clever

We shall now look anxiously for
your arrival at home - as the time ap-
proaches - this anxiety increases

All join in Love to yourself and
Dear Mary
Your Devoted Father
H J Sumner

[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is mirrored and difficult to decipher.]

New York June 24th 1836

Dear Duncan -

You will confer a
great favor on your humble servant
by looking in my table draw, and
sending one of those sermons (on
the late A. D. Richardson) to Mrs.
Monora Fisk. 69 Remsen St. Brooklyn
N.Y. - Remind me to all -

Yours in haste &c &c -

A. A. Richardson

Dear Sir

Dear Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. [Signature]

Enclosed for you are two copies of the report of the Committee on the subject of the proposed amendment to the Constitution.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. [Signature]

Lexington June 28th 1858

My dear Son

Some 2 or 3 days ago I wrote you a letter enclosing you a check for \$200 payable to your Order - which I hope has come safely to hand

Since my letter of that date we have had 3 or 4 copious showers, which was never more needed & has freshened up every thing very much & I hope will yet bring out our Corn Crops - which were never so unpromising at this season within my recollection

Nothing has occurred of any interest since my last - all are well except your Mother who has been troubled for a day or two with Ear ache - cold I presume - occasioned by her fatigue in looking after the farm & cleaning up - She has had trouble in having things done to her mind

In my last I expressed a wish that you return home the direct route as more pleasant & expeditious this hot weather - in which event if you leave

you will - If you make all your con-
=ventions - reach home this day two weeks
If you miss your connections - you will
lay over at Cincinnati - from Saturday
until Monday - spending the Sabbath there
& reach home on the following Monday
If I were sure you would take this route
and reach Cincinnati at the time in-
=dicated, I should feel like meeting you
there

Mrs Charlotte Buckner & her two little
Boys have been here for several days
She came down to get me to manage
her little business for her & invest
her money - which I have consented
to do

Your Sister does not write as
often as she should - She must rouse
herself from so indolent a habit
She should write much as to me &
prones her - And if she only knew
how much pleasure her letters
gave us all - She would indulge
more frequently

All join in much love to yourself
and Sister - we look impatiently your
return

Your devoted Father

H J Duncan



Cambridge June 30th 1856.

Mr. Wm Langdon desired me to say to you
that he intends addressing the Young Men's
Christian association at the "Summit temple"
this evening, and that he would be delighted to
see you there, if entirely convenient to y^r self.
Mr. Henry J. Duncan.

Yours &c
Charles D. Jacob



[Faint, illegible handwritten text, possibly a signature or date, located on the right side of the document.]