

Hallowell August 5th 1850

Dear Sir

The remarks in my message relating to a female seminary were predicated upon the belief that the best interests of the State & his reputation required a seminary exclusively devoted to female education, patronized by the state as a State Institution, and commensurate with the demands of the public for such an institution.

Connected with this idea was the conviction that such a seminary must not only be so organized and managed, as to impart that kind of education which is peculiarly appropriate to the highly educated female but that it must be disconnected from a male school for young gentlemen even by contiguity of location. The reasons for such location remote from all association with young gentlemen at school are too obvious to need ^{enlarging upon a few lines.} ~~elaborating to~~. The female seminaries of the most approved character and fashionable resort, in all our sister States, are, as I believe, thus separated. Parents will not choose to send their daughters at a distance, removed from their care, at the age when most are sent from home for education.

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by an individual through
Maine Historical Society
Date: Aug. 5, 1850
Description: John Hubbard letter to Josiah Pierce on female seminary

to a seminary where such associations, and such influences are present as would arise from the contiguity of an academy for young men.

Such were the views I distinctly stated to Mr. Weston, & Mr. Emory when here — such have I reiterated to Mr. Mann — such is the feeling of the members of our Legislature, universally I believe — and all the action upon this subject has proceeded upon such views. The Legislature is, I believe prepared to endow a female seminary of the above description, if it be placed upon any other footing your Seminary would only come up in common with numerous other academies and Institutes of a mixed character. I had supposed that the board of trustees of Gorham Academy had long since yielded their objections to the surrendering of the male department. I am satisfied, sir, that unless they do yield these objections the state must and will look elsewhere for a location — a step I should extremely regret — for I agree with you in the opinion that Gorham presents one of the best locations in the state for our purpose.

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— And I had Gorham strongly in my heart
and wishes when I directed the attention
of the Legislature to the necessity for
a seminary for females.

It is time now, Sir, that question
were settled. Will you come to a
decision and inform me of the result
at your earliest convenience? for we
have now no time to loose, and all
action upon this subject must cease
until ^{your} decision is made.

Inclosed I send you the opinion
of H. W. Paine upon the legal question
raised in yours. It was written for
my benefit — but is at your service

I am with respect yours

Hon. Josiah Pierce }

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