

Hillsborough N.H. Oct. 6th 1829

My Dear George - Your last date was Washington City December 15 1828. To that was returned an immediate answer supposing that you might find sufficient attractions at the Seat of Gov^t (and I suppose I may add at that season the center of everything that relates to fashion) to detain you until its arrival, Moreover I have written you once or twice since I was accidentally advised of your return from the West. For a month or two I used to walk down to the Post Office with as much confidence of receiving a letter, as a man has of receiving money who rushes into a Bank with a check in his hand and perhaps with feelings somewhat similar especially if he happens to be pressed for change - I heard of you to be seen occasionally at Boston and at Portsmouth by the way of some of your friends nothing more. Now says I, What in the name of all the Magi can this mean? So I conjured up such reasons as my ingenuity aided by the principles of the Funny System could suggest, but found nothing satisfactory until

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by an individual through
Maine Historical Society
Date: Oct. 6, 1829
Description: Franklin Pierce letter to George W. Pierce.

I saw our friend John Wilson soon after his trip to
Maine in the early part of last Summer. I asked him if
he saw you. he replied in the affirmative, among other
thing' I observed. "it appears to me very unaccountable
that he should not have written me during the last eight
months" "not strange at all, why! the fellow is actually engaged
or soon to be so. and you must learn that at such a crisis
this common-place business of friendship between man & man
is absorbed or entirely swept away by a more powerful current"
Being a novice in these affairs myself. I was very willing
to receive John's solution - and indeed heartily glad
to find the cause of your apparent coldness in the
circumstances of so much warmth. I believe there is a
good deal of truth in a remark made to me by a
friend a few days since. that "a man is never
more than half a man till after he is married" Still
I am I fear very far from that desirable bourne -
and every month confirms me not in a determination
to lead a single life but in a belief that it is my
destiny to do so. I have hardly been at home a month
during the Summer or Autumn. immediately after the
Session of the Legislature, I went to Saratoga, Niagara
Falls, to Detroit and travelled thro' the north
part of Ohio. Since my return I have been
attending Court at Amherst & paying a short
visit at Boston - Came home five days

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Since and have been confined to the house every day by illness - hope to get out tomorrow - I have seen during the last season, as it reads in our glorious System much of the "funniness of the world," have witnessed many scenes which were new to me. Some of them very pleasant - taking all things together my hopes have been realised to an extent beyond my actual anticipations - Aware that anything from me may now seem tedious, tho' I have taxed your attention for a moment, I certainly will not weary your patience, by referring particularly to the past or lay before you my purposes & expectations for the future - Nor do I write with a view of drawing from you an unwilling answer.

I am very faithfully
and truly the Same, Frank

Geo. W. Pierce Esq
Portland,
Maine -

P. S. There has been a general rejoicing here since the result of your election reached us. I have not heard from Walker since I returned from the West & know not whether he is at Portsmouth or at your place - if at Portland remember me to him -

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