

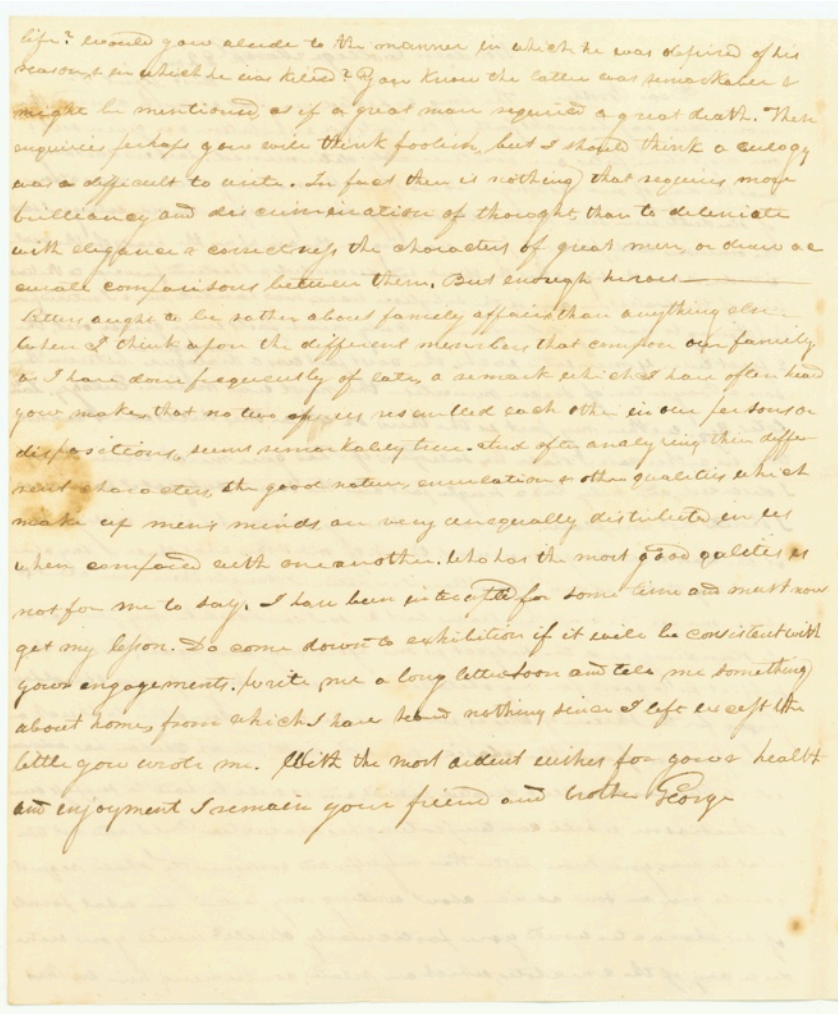
Bowdoin College March 22nd
ansd April 3d

Dear Brother The long expected era has at length arrived, the mountain has brought forth — the facts for exhibition are given out, & our respective fates are irretrievably determined. Last wednesday was the day of our destiny — It was 8 in the morning when a collection of students ever seen the tumultuously gathering before the old college. I saw the ominous little peices of paper waving in the air above the heads of the multitude. it was the signal that the spirit had descended & I hastened forward to the troubling waters — one of the Sibilian leaves was handed me & I retired from the throng to read my destiny. — Only nine parts were given out, the conference

2 first even 4 minutes each, the next part was a ^ dialogue between Ben son & Boynton of seven minutes – the next was mine. Eulogy. I am ex [?]tis 3 1/2, wether my part is the third or 4th in this division I cannot tell in either case I shall be satisfied; if I had gone much lower than I deserved, and only had a single part and the same subject I have now I should not complain. When you see how my scholarship is in college & at the least what the government think of me. Now what shall I say about it — I say that it is one higher than I expected. I thought there even about 10 above me in the class this leaves but 8 so I can't dislike my part as to its standing, and the subject is one after my own heart, Perhaps the subject is to good for my abilities — but in making of my schoolboy posey for the shrine of [?] if evils not be unpardonable to pluck a few feathers from the clasic wreath with which Tudor has adorned it. [?] was noble and devoted patriot, and it will be hard to suppress our enthusiasm while contemplating his character. But I need not tell

I
what he was; you know better than myself, and subsequently shall request you to give me some advice about writing my part — On what points of his character would you particularly dwell? would you introduce any of the anecdotes, which are related concerning him in his

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Date: March 22, 1824
Description: George Pierce on exhibition part



life? would you alude to the manner in which he was deprived of his
reason, & in which he was killed? You know the latter was remarkable &
might be mentioned, as if a great man required a great death. These
enquiries perhaps you will think foolish, but I should think a eulogy
was a difficult to write. In fact there is nothing that requires more
brilliancy and discrimination of thought, than to delineate
with elegance & correctness, the character of great men, or draw a
small comparison between them. But enough heroes ———
Letters ought to be rather about family affairs than anything else
When I think upon the different members that compose our family
as I have done frequently of late, a remark which I have often heard
you make, that no two of us resembled each other in our persons or
dispositions, seems remarkably true. And after analyzing their differ-
ent characters, the good nature, emulation & other qualities which
make up men's minds, are very unequally distributed in us
when compared with one another. Who has the most good qualities is
not for me to say. I have been in the city for some time and must now
get my lesson. Do come down to exhibition if it will be consistent with
your engagements. Write me a long letter soon and tell me something
about home, from which I have heard nothing since I left except the
little you wrote me. With the most ardent wishes for your health
and enjoyment I remain your friend and brother George

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