

Portland August 8th 1822

My Dear George - I have forgotten whether you or I be the debtor, but I presume as I always make it a point to be punctual in my correspondence that you are the rogue. I hope for the future you will be a little more friendly and not absolutely forget - through negligence that I am yet in existence. — My design in writing at present is not to torture you with 3 pages, but to ask you to pass through P. in your way home after commencement and spend a week with us. — We will afford all the assistance in our power to make your time pass pleasantly — don't disappoint us, because we shall depend upon a visit.

You told me when I saw you last that you had much time for reading — if so I would advise you by all means to read the Spectator —. It will amuse and at the same time instruct you — you will there see all the fashions and follies — as in a picture — of our pious fathers and mothers of 17th. It is said to be the in its style — a perfect model of purity — superior to any other work in our language — and on that account only, setting aside the noble and sublime sentiments which it inculcates — it is well worth the time not trouble of perusal. The most delicate allusions — and most deepscholastic discussions are expressed in language so very simple and at the same time chaste and pure — that every body (as he said of a certain Bishop's sermons) thinks he could almost have been the author of them — I have arrived at your bounds — one page — so good bye — —. Let me hear from you before commencement —

Your friend  
Neal Dow

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