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Maine Historical Society

Date: March 9, 1818

Description: Josiah Pierce IV on college exhibition

Bowd. College. March 9. 1818

Dear Father,

I have received the letter, you sent by Esqr. Stanwood; and was glad to hear you were well. I have only time to write a few words, to assure you of my continued health and prosperity. I understand you had business in court, but did not learn what it was; if you find time do write me a line & let me know your success. who you have for town officers in Baldwin – where you propose sending the boys to school, & whatever you think will be interesting to me.

Our parts were given out for exhibition last Saturday; many of us are dissatisfied. Smith has the first part, Emery the second, Dale and myself the 3^d, which is a "Philosophical Discussion, on the connexion between the progress of science, and improvements in the arts." I confess I do not like my part, it is high enough but I wished for a single one; and I now feel determined not to write a double part for commencement, should I have one assigned me. 'Tis true I should dislike to lose my degree, but I cannot afford to "give too much for the whistle. Hale has the 4th part, Fessenden the 5th Bourne has the 11th part.

Give my love to all the family, & believe me your dutiful son, Josiah Pierce