

Dear Harriet. You can scarcely conceive how much pleasure one of your letters give me. If I am dull it restores my good spirits; if I am growing cool & forward my friends it awakens all my kindness, till I seem to love them better than ever. The picture you gave me of Daniel & Francis domestic arrangements, makes me impatient to visit them. How can they be otherwise than happy? They are so young and love each other so well, it seems as if they must prosper. I know not how it is, but I cannot help looking upon Daniel as the representative of the family. He is so much larger than Josiah or myself, and engaged in concerns that furnish him with the means of acquiring property so easily, that he must soon become rich & enjoy all the power & respectability which is inseparable from money. I am such a miserable calculator that I can never keep a cent in my pocket, so it is no wonder that I should take a particular interest in the man, to whom I may yet have to look for a support. I have a great mind to study divinity, and settle at Saccarappa, so as to have the chamber over the entry for a study. This speaking of divinity puts me in mind of the revival that is going on here. There was never anything like it in the whole world. There is nothing ^{but} praying day & night, all sorts of people of every age & condition, have given up everything here going to anxious meetings and conferences. In all the outpouring of the spirit they Unitarians have just ordained a minister, and the wicked Boston folks keep sending up Dr. Channing, Pierpont and Ware, to entice away the people. And strange as it may seem, there are many who will be drawn to the sound of their worldly eloquence. It is even said that

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Date: Aug. 20, 1826
Description: George Pierce letter about revivals

one of the young ladies lately converted, so far forgot herself the other day, as to say she thought Mr Pierpoint a very handsome man. It is strange how indiscreet some christians are, & how much disgrace they bring upon the church by thier vain & worldly talk. But I know you wont like this railery Harriet, so I will stop.

I wish I could have been at home to see Mr James Baldwin, Next to my father there is no man living that I love & respect so much as him. He is a pattern of all that is kind and generous in human nature. When I was in Boston he made ^{me} sit up at two hours, and insisted upon sitting up with me till the stage called, which was not till one o'clock. How few men there are who would have paid such attention to a boy. But it is the same good nature which for usua to exhibit in playing jack straws with me when I was only five or six years old. I never see such a man as Mr Baldwin without being rebuked by his simplicity, and feeling heartily vexed and shamed at myself for ever having assumed any dignified airs. I hope he will be appointed to super intend the construction of the canal.

I shall probably have the pleasure of seeing you by the 10 or 15 of next month, when I hope you will all think I have improved in every respect. As for myself I cannot say I feel very much advanced beyond what I left you, But I hope your superior sagacity will be able to detect many important acquisitions that have escaped my dullness and great insensibility to my own merits. I have certainly increased some in nature, and learned legal phrazes enough to talk quite unintelligibly upon many important topics. With a few years more study and experience, I doubt not but I shall be able to ~~talk~~ speak for hours together without having been guilty of ~~being~~ the slightest sense imaginable, which you know is the perfection of human reason. I have already several

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long & logical arguments preparing, which, when completed, are admirably fitted to prove conclusively the affirmative or negative of any question in morals or politics that can possibly be started. Like Parson Adam's Sermon they are adapted to every occasion, and apply with equal force to either side of an argument.

If you have not gone to North Yarmouth before this reaches you, I wish you would stay till I come home, or if you are about to go, I wish you would prolong your visit till I can come after you. I have a great desire to see Sarah in the character of mistress of a household, and witness the management of herself and her gentle Doctor. I believe he is an amiable and kindhearted soul as ever lived. And without any particular malice toward the good people of North Yarmouth, I hope he will have multitudes of patients —

I wrote father sometime since as to the sum necessary to settle my bills. I then gave him a minute of the expenses I have incurred, which I believe amounted to \$126.00. I mention it here lest the former letter might possibly have miscarried, tho' I have never yet had a letter detained at all on the way.

Give my best love to Father & Mother & Hannah and believe me
your affectionate brother George W. Pierce

I am in excellent health & spirits — and shall probably leave here
by the 1st of Sept.

Northampton Aug. 20. 1826

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