

Sunday July 5th 1840.

My dear Father

I am surprisid that you do not answer my letter as it is now a week since I wrote. I hope you are all well. The 4th of July is past & with it a great deal of noise. I suppose Charles went to Portland. I saw Mr Hinkley on Thursday. He told there was to be a log cabin and Whig celebration at Gorham. Great numbers of people went from here both to Kennebunk and Alfred. I got up at one o'clock in the morning to fire my cannon and did not go to bed till 10 o'clock at night. The boys fire fireballs in the evening which look very pretty. They made of rags sowed together, very hard, in a round form, and are then soaked in spirits of turpentine. They ~~had~~ make the street almost as light as day. They are sometimes thrown very high into the air. I swam over to the island with a board and back without any yesterday, which is nearly quarter of a mile. There were no disasters here, and as I hope none at Gorham. I am well, have had no difficulty at school, & continue to like Mr Piper. The school will be half out next Wednesday. There is to be a Sabbath school celebration that day. Give my love to all.

from your affectionate son,
Josiah Pierce.

Sunday July 5th 1840.

My dear Father

I am surprised that you do not answer my letter as it is now a week since I wrote. I hope you are all well. The 4th of July is past & with it a great deal of noise. I suppose Charles went to Portland. I saw Mr Hinkley on Thursday. He told there was to be a log cabin and Whig celebration to Gorham. Great numbers of people went from here both to Kennebunk and Alfred. I got up at one o'clock in the morning to fire my cannon and did not go to bed till 10 o'clock at night. The boys fire fireballs in the evening which look very pretty. They made of rags sowed together very hard, in a round form, and are then soaked in spirits of turpentine. They ~~lig~~ make the street almost as light as day. They are sometimes thrown very high into the air. I swam over to the island with a board and back without any yesterday, which is nearly quarter of a mile. There were no disasters here, and as I hope none at Gorham. I am well, have had no difficulty at school, & continue to like Mr Piper. The school will be half out next Wednesday. There is to be a Sabbath school celebration that day. Give my love to all

from your affectionate son,
Josiah Pierce.

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by an individual through
Maine Historical Society
MMN #31652
Date: July 5, 1840
Description: Josiah Pierce letter from school