

Bowd. Coll. Oct. 16th - 1844 -

My Dear Father,

I received your letter and Evelina's note, on Monday morning: likewise a bundle containing a mess of stuff from some of the village girls. I send you the bill as you requested. For all that M^{rs} Keen and Griffin said, I hardly think it can be counterfeit. It is much worn you see, and I dont ~~think~~ how a bad bill could have been in circulation so long, as this must have been — In regard to my trouses, I wish that you would put them on board the Brunswick stage to be left at the Tontine, the next time you are in Portland — for I dont believe I shall ever get them if you leave it to Dyer to send them — I saw by the papers that Parker was elected Representative at Gorham, and at first wondered at it much. There is considerable political excitement here now, as I suppose must be the case, at this period, everywhere. Today I began to study Spanish — in addition to my other studies. I think I can keep along very well in all four. I suppose I shall get nothing more than what is called a smattering of all "the tongues" I study, but I think that preferable to entire ignorance of them — As I wish to write a few words to Evelina, I will close with much love, as usual, to all.

your aff. son
Josiah —

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by an individual through
Maine Historical Society
MMN #31671
Date: Oct. 16, 1844
Description: Letter about Penobscots

Zion end

Dear Sister,

I hope receiving a letter from me, wont make you vain. I have bought a Corinne for you, but dont exactly know how to get it to Gorham. I think the best plan would be to give it to the driver of the stage, and ask him to leave ~~them~~ it at the Elm Hotel where you know ^{it} they can be got at any time. If father approves of it, will you send me a paper as soon as you receive this letter - and I will send the books immediately, so that you can get them on Saturday at the farthest. You can write on the inside of the paper, for the postmaster here never opens them - I will put into the package, Cicero de Amicitia, if you wish, as I think you said you were going to study it - The Vols of Corinne are bound, and somewhat worn, but not too much so. We had some considerable amusement here last week. There was an encampment of Indians down by the bank of the river, and we used to go down there & see them a good deal. They belonged to the Penobscot tribe, had been to Boston, and were now on their return home (that is, to Old town.) They had some 5 or 6 canoes (of birch-bark) in which they had been the whole way. They were the first canoe I had ever seen, and they seemed to me to be a very frail vessels to go in from Bangor to Boston by water. The reason they happened to be at Brunswick is this - they paddled into Maquate Bay, and then brought their canoes across the land (the distance is some 4 or 5 miles) to the Androscoggin for I believe it shortens the distance somewhat, but if not the trade with the inhabitants of Bath, Brunswick, Topsham, and the other towns on the river would be desirable to them. They numbered about 30 in all, and looked as dirty and greasy as Indians generally do -

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But one of their children died on Friday night
and consequently they left on Saturday - A good many
went down to see them off -
Besides all this, one of the days of last week
was fixed upon by the Millerites for the destruction
of the world. (By the way, there are quite a number
here, nearly 50) - So, as you may suppose, there was
a great excitement among them, and they distrib-
uted throughout Brunswick & Topsham and up to
the Colleges, their miller papers & documents; among them
were little printed half-sheets, entitled warnings, and num-
bered - as, warning no. 1 warning no. 2. &c. It was like the
old play "warn you once, warn you twice, &c" There was
a report abroad, that they had little printed tickets
with blue ribbons round them as admissions to Heaven
the price of which was 50 cents apiece. One of the
students told me, that he himself heard Joe. M^cKe
say he had seen one. Some fellows stretched the story
in a manner that was rather too bad: they said that
these were tickets for whole families, price 2 dollars, and
for children under 10 years of age 25 cents - They sat
up all that night, but the world did not happen to
be burnt up, much to their dis-appointment, I suppose
so they have put off the day till the 23^d of this month -
But I am making this a long letter, and of course
"bovovous" (Look in the dictionary.) If you send me a paper
I should like to have you send the last Argus -
I have a first-rate chum, and I think I may bring him
home with me some vacation - I hope you are
going to be sober this time, and dont pay too much atten-
tion to Dunlap -

Je suis votre très humble serviteur
Josiah. P. Jr.

Answer

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and consequently they left on Saturday - A good many
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Answer-- [drawing]

Josiah. P. Jr.