



P

31 Craven Hill Gardens. W.
London. 19th January. 1887.

My dear little Aunt,

Although you are to me one of the greatest of women, let me use that affectionate address. The photographs of the familiar old Longfellow house, and the little "Wide. Awake" Magazine have reached me at last, on my return from a journey to the frontier of Russia, and have given me very great pleasure, for which I thank you

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by an individual through
Maine Historical Society

MMN #36244

Date: Jan. 19, 1887

Description: Josiah Pierce to Anne Longfellow Pierce

heartily - Outside of your own family,
I do not think any one could care more
for them - And that house was my happy
home for several years, thanks to you,
and is so dear and familiar to me in
memory, that I can recall it as it was
then, and now happily seems to be not
much changed, without the photographs
or the Magazine Article, which are very
good helps however for bringing back
again good old times & good people.
It seems to me that I could go in again
at the gate, and the front door without knocking,

heartily - Outside of your own family,
I do not think any one could care more
for them - And that house was my happy
home for several years, thanks to you,
and is so dear and familiar to me in
memory, that I can recall it as it was
then, and now happily seems to be not
much changed, without the photographs
or the magazine article, which are very
good helps however for bringing back
again good old times & good people.
It seems to me that I could go in again
at the gate, and the front door without knocking,

and meet you with your always kind
greeting, and Aunt Lucia, and all those
who have gone - And I can see again
your dignified good father & mother as
in earlier days - and our genial friend
James Greenleaf, and many others -
not least your good brother Henry, when
he came to see you - I have two books
which he gave me with his autograph in
them, the Golden Legend & Evangeline -
I have always thought of your father as
the noblest member of my own profession
I have ever met in all my wide
experience, and cherish all the respect

and meet you with your always kind
greeting, and Aunt Lucia, and all those
who have gone - And I can see again
your dignified good father & mother as
in earlier days - and our genial friend
James Greenleaf, and many others -
not least your good brother Henry, when
he came to see you - I have two books
which he gave me with his autograph in
them, the Golden Legend & Evangeline -
I have always thought of your father as
the noblest member of my own profession
I have ever met in all my wide
experience, and cherish all the respect

and affection my father had for him,
and honour deeply my connection with
such a family through my Uncle & yourself.

Last week, having to pass through Berlin,
I stayed there three days, and saw my
Cousin Hattie Bradley with much pleasure -
She told me of you and Alex's family,
more than has come to me for a long time -
It gratifies me greatly, that you all like
my boy and have been so kind to him.
Pray tell Alex. so - with my kindest
regards to him and his family: and
hoping perhaps to see you all myself -
next year, with much love from us all
I am always your affectionate nephew,
Josiah Pierce.

and affection my father had for him,
and honour deeply my connection with
such a family through my Uncle & yourself.

Last week, having to pass through Berlin,
I stayed there three days, and saw my
cousin Hattie Bradley with much pleasure -
She told me of you and Alex's family,
more than has come to me for a long time -
It gratifies me greatly that you all like
my boy and have been so kind to him.
Pray tell Alex. so - with my kindest
regards to him and his family: and
hoping perhaps to see you all myself
next year, with much love from us all

I am always your affectionate nephew,
Josiah Pierce.