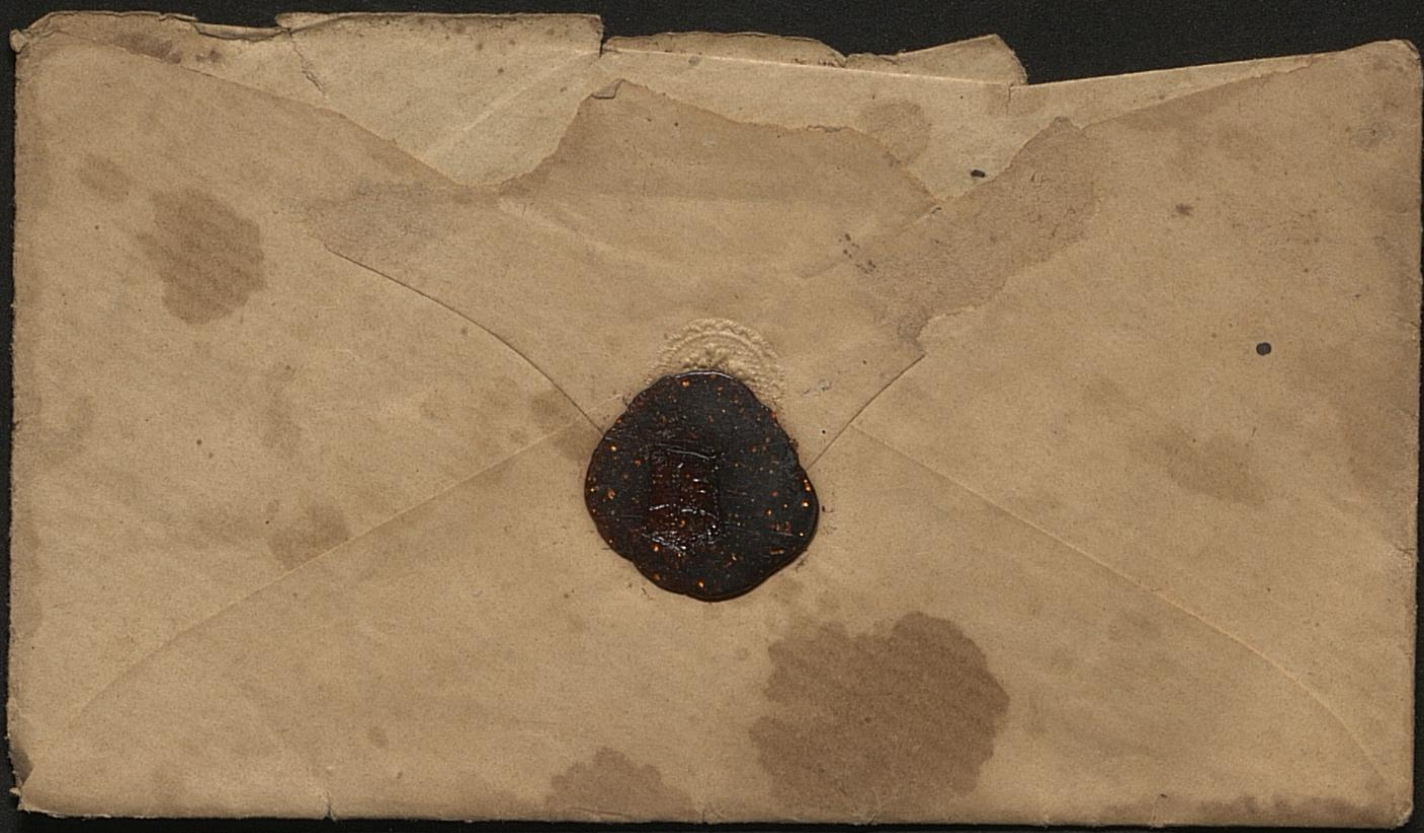




Miss Mary Dimean
Care of Dr. Agnew
Pittsfield
Mass



person who went with
me with Miss Lilli Grun-
ough

you tomorrow evening I
will go to a party at
the Misses Howe

Good bye

Love to you &
Empress

Your Affl Brother

Henry

Cambridge Jan 3^d - 1855 -

My dear Sister

I fear you
are beginning to think
that I have almost forgotten
to write to you - my
excuse is that I have
been very busy - not
even time to write home
more than twice a week
- I received your letter
on Tuesday New Years
day - I was very glad
to hear that you escaped
from the fire & the run-
away of the omnibus - It
would have been terrible
if you had been in it
- you should not exert
yourself so much - it was

imprudent in you to
ring the bell until you
were exhausted - you
might injure yourself
very much in that way

I sent to you on
yesterday the box which
I promised - you will
find in it apples, sardines,
crackers, turkey, Almonds
raisins also 4 small
boxes each for the person
whose name is on them
I hope you have used
it & enjoyed it.

I pass through Pettapit
on next Wednesday week
on my way home I
will not be able to stop
there as it will be night
& if I stop I shall not
reach home until the
Monday following

I shall return & make
you a visit at the
end of my vacation the
last week in February
- I have heard no
news except that which
I gave you in my last
- there was a woman
burned to death last even-
ing in the ^{4th} house from
smoke in the Appian
way

last evening I was
at a party at Dr Huntington
passed it pleasantly & so &c.
Yesterday afternoon I
took a sleigh ride and
can you guess who
went with me? - we
rode through Brighton
Brookline Roxbury &
back to Cambridge - in
all some ten miles - the

Ellary and Eva desire to be remembered to you (I take this from your letter) you may thank them most kindly for me and return four fold as much remembrance or some other commodity of the same kind

That message Cousin Eva gave you for me you must let me have the benefit of - I should like it better if she were to write it for me - but enough of this folly - I did not tell you that all are well at home in Lex - Dr Furber - Earl Webb - Katy Darling - Harriet Brand Lucy Webb & Co are well - Ellis Mary Morrison is the only one of my friends on the sick list

Tell Miss Gues I saw her brother today & propounded to him the questions contained in his ~~to~~ your last letter - he says he will write soon & probably be in your town in two weeks - If I receive a favourable reply to my last letters to Father you may not be surprised if I am in Pittsfield about the last of this month
Love to you - best wishes to the rest
also Dr Agnew & family - let me hear soon
your Aff^l Brother

Henry J. Duncan jr

Cambridge Jan'y 5th 1855

My Dear Sister

Your kind letter of the 2^d was received on yesterday - & I should have replied immediately had I not received one from Father by the same mail which required an immediate answer & it took all my idle time to write the letter to him You ask me how I passed my New Year's day - It is so many days now since it passed that I am unable to call to mind what did pass on that day - all I recollect is that I saw some of the first hours of the New Year and after I retired as sound a sleep fell on me that I was not up in time for breakfast at goal - The rest of the day was spent in studying & reciting - Except about two hours I was in Boston where I purchased one half dozen Oranges they were the best I have seen since my stay in Cambridge

I agree with you precisely in your appreciation of negro society; it may be most agreeable to the people of

New England - who have seen but little of that population - but I should beg to be excused from the pleasure of seeing many of the runaways - I do not remember whether I told you when I was in Pittsfield that the Berkshire House was so full of darkeys that I could scarcely get about without seeing 10 or 12 of them

Your speaking of eating reminds me to ask whether you received the box of provisions I sent you - were the pickles good - I know the Turkey was - I hope you & your friends enjoyed it. it was cooked by my landlady Mrs Belcher assisted by Miss Harriet Noyes - & they told me it was the most delightful Turkey they had ever cooked - I will tell you what we had for dinner today - 2 Turkeys side of pig - potatoes rice & cranberry stewed apples - desert - plum pudding mince apple & cranberry pie - apples this is about our bill of fare every day

Did you receive any new year presents & were they nice ones

I was greatly interested in the letter you received from Father

giving an account of Aunt Betsey (Cook) good fortune in again meeting her lost daughter I guess the old lady will wish to live with her daughter hereafter - I give up all idea of visiting Pittsfield I will send ~~to~~ send you the letter in a few days after I have taken a copy of it to be published in some of the Boston papers -

Miss Anderson came in to see me just as I finished the above sentence & has just now left me

You express some fears about my old I am now perfectly well of it - don't fear about my ~~injuring~~ my eyes - they were not made to be sported by a little use -

You say you read "Eve" what I said for her but still you do not let me know the name of the young lady Cuena Eva introduced me to because I was acquainted with Miss Millikin I am specially anxious to know her name & you will much oblige if you will obtain it & forward the same to me by mail

Miss Reed is sick hey! I hope she is convalescent & alas Cousin Eva how is my "howdy" friend what is her name - how is Mary Lofson & all of or in whom you take an interest

Cambridge Sunday Jun 7th 1858

My Dear Sister

As this is the regular day for me to write to you I shall endeavour to write a long letter at any rate, even if I do not succeed in making it interesting - This is the fourth letter I have written you this year I have little to write about, but I will first mention that I have just returned from Church where I heard one of those stupid sermons which it is so often my misfortune to hear. It is almost killing to sit & listen to such dull preaching and then they keep it up for such a time one whole hour & a half.

On yesterday I took a walk out to Fresh Pond which is now frozen over and therefore presents many attractions to Cambridge students who go there in great numbers almost every day - after leaving the pond I went to Mount Auburn which is now wrapped in the white shroud of winter and presents quite a grave like appearance.

Received at Pittsfield June 11th 1858

I am just now in great distress
College is about to break up and
all of my friends are about leaving
I have but 3 that I very much like
one of them Minor Millikin left some
days ago and is now probably
at home he lives at Hamilton
Ohio and promised me he would
go to Leipzig for some time this
winter to see Father & Mother

Another of the 3 - Geo L Bennett
left on yesterday - he is a very
clever fellow & I like him much
If I go to N.Y. any time this
winter he wishes me to come and
see him

Mr Anderson is the only one
left and he remains only un-
til next week when off he goes
to Ohio - dont you think this
will be terrible

I must off to dinner now

I have just returned we had a
jolly time over our roast turkeys
mince pies &c - we are re-
duced in numbers - only 10 of us
remain and in a few days
only James May & I will remain

I will hear Gisei & Maria on
next Monday evening this will
be a great treat - I have never
seen an Italian Opera and it
will be very interesting to me
I wish you were near enough
to attend I guess you would like
it very much - I expect
I will be disappointed - I had much
rather hear "Fanny Darling" - I am
somewhat afraid I will do as Geo
Smith did in N.Y. when he
heard Gounod - you remember he
went to sleep

I reapon I must close
this little letter - give my best
love to sister Mary - my best
wishes to Cousins Mary & Eva
also to Dr Agnew & family
specially Clara
Your Afft Brother
W.D. Duncanson jr

P.S. - would you like to see
me in Pittsfield in about
4 weeks - W.D.

Cambridge Jan 14th 1855

My Dear Sister

The letter which you wrote me on last Saturday has not yet come to hand and I am afraid some one has taken it from the mail supposing it to be very valuable.

Received at Pittsfield, Jan 16th 1855.

Yesterday and day before yesterday I received quite a number of letters from home - Father says I must not go to Germany as this puts an end to my going to Europe for some time to come probably for several years - I now think I will go home and remain there until next June - of this I am not yet certain and will not know for some days yet. But if I determine to go I will be in Pittsfield about the first of February to spend a few days with you before I leave New England - Father has written to me that he thinks

I will be able to study at home
as well as in Cambridge

The letters contain no news
and so I will be deprived of the
pleasure of giving you any - except
that on last Wednesday - an account
of the Christmas festival at Pittsfield
was published in the Livington
Observer & Reporter. I think I
will receive the paper on tomorrow
morning and shall send it to
you

Young Gages left this
place on yesterday for Pittsfield
to see his sister - he called
to see me just before he left
and remained with me for half
an hour

I told him if he
saw any one that liked me
he must give them my love
did you see or hear anything
of the Youth

On some of your letters
I observe some Hieroglyphics that
I cannot translate - if there
is any special meaning to be
conveyed I will be obliged for
it if you do not remember

them I will insert them here
O. H. G. P. - I can't see what your
object was in putting these letters
on your letter -

I send you along
with this some verses on my
"childhoods home" by Ross - you
will admire them I know

Write to me soon and
give me all the gossip at
Pittsfield &c &c &c &c &c &c &c

Give sister Mary my best love
to my Cousins Beat. Waring
and my compliments to
Dr. Agnew and family
specially Charles

Your Affto Brother
H. D. D. D. D.

P.S. when you write to
me (em) give her my good
wishes &c

Cambridge Feb 18th 1855

My dear sister

as I have nothing to write about I guess I had better write nothing - so I won't I shall make one desperate effort to write - to begin I have a tremendous headache two letters from home all are well - there is nothing of general interest except that Garland Webb has failed to the amount of \$65,000 I don't see what will become of his family - they will all be ruined &c

I was up to see Mr and Mrs Lelber ~~the~~ ~~the~~ & on yesterday they were well &c - had a fine dinner got back to Cambridge

bridge about 11 o'clock last night
she wishes you to make her
a visit to — You will
I suppose accept Mrs Sparks
invitation to come and see
her — this will be better than to
go to New Haven — unless you
would rather see Edm than me
or me than her —

Tell Eva I intended to
write to her by this letter but
am too unwell — she may
expect a letter about Friday
I think I & M — will not
like us to go to Pittsfield
New Haven — I believe my
head will burst soon as
I will hurry before
it does so and
write you a
short letter

My love to all — no
not to all but to Eva, Mary
& Mary Reed — but mostly
to Mary &

Your affl Brother
Henry

but I say you
must spend one
week of your vacation
in Cambridge

I fear I did wrong
in the writing I have
done to your society
- from this, and also
from the fact that you
have ~~repeled~~ my
"Gouan" - (I respectfully
reign my commission
(I hope they will either ac-
-cept it, or unanimously
refuse to receive it)
Love to all - Eva & May

Best love to you
Dear Sister
Your Afft brother
Henry

Cambridge Feb 19th 5-5

Dear Sister

I received
this morning from
the P-O - 10 packages
letters & papers &c &c
- among them I find
much to my surprise
one envelope post
marked Pittsfield
containing some
six scraps of paper
as there is no sig-
nature to any of
them - I suppose
they can hardly
come from you
- although one is in
your hand writing

I wrote you a letter
on last Tuesday
in which I mentioned
to you that Mrs Sparks
wishes you to come
and spend some
days of your vacation
with her - also that
she invited you
through me to come
- I expected to have
received an answer
on this day but
now has come. I
suppose you did
not receive my letter
- Mrs Sparks is anxious
to know your will
whether you will
come or not. now

let me entreat you
to answer this letter
as soon as received
and that you will
accept Mrs Sparks
invitation - she
expected an answer
on today - and I hope
you will write im-
-mediately - and let
me know - My new
cannot object - I know
if you tell him that
it is important you
should write im-
-mediately. it is
of importance -

3 letters from home
all well. Father &
Mother say you can
go to New Haven

much to my
surprise I find I
have written 3 pages
- as I have to write
a long letter to father
you will excuse
me if I write
no more this eve-
ning
Love to you &
to Co -

Your Affl Brother
Henry J Dineen

Cambridge Sun after-
-noon March 4th 1853

My dear Sister

Instead of
being at church here
I am trying with
all my might to
write you a letter
but as I have nothing
to write about I
fear it will be a
very short one

I received two
letters on Friday
from Father. All
were well - &c &c
also a paper in
which is an article
presenting Father's ^{mo} ~~clars~~
to the office of

Governor of Kentucky
if you have not
seen the paper. let
me know and I
will send it to you
How would you
like to see Father
Governor of Ky?

College has commen-
ced - and my friend
Anderson is here
again - then I am
going with him on
next Saturday to
see and dine with
the Hon N. S. Bowditch

during two weeks
I have been out
to Fresh Pond several
- at times skating

I have learned to
skate pretty well.
I find it fine fun
- You must write
to me on next
Saturday and let
me know how soon
you will be ready
to come to Cambridge
- I was round to
see ~~Mr~~ Mess - tell his
sister that he is
as lazy as ever
- I will have to be
very busy for the
next few months
preparing for college
and you will not
hear from me
more than once
a week hereafter



Cambridge March 13th 1855

My dear Sister

I wish you to be ready
to leave Pittsfield in the 10^h o'clock
train of Saturday morning - you
must pack your trunk on
Friday - so that there will be no
delays - I will call for you at
9^h o'clock on Saturday morning &
will expect to find you ready
- you know my reasons for not
being at your examination
Till til we meet

Your Aff Brother
Henry Duncanson

20 Miss Mary Duncanson
Pittsfield
Mass



Miss Mary Duneau
Care Dr Agnew
Pittsfield
Mass

Mail

I am somewhat surpris-
ed at your going
to a negro festival
There is no news of
any sort - the weather
is fine

my love to you also
to Ned - give my
"Love" to Cass and
ask her if she does
not want to see me
that I want to see her

Your Afft brother
Janeau Jr

Cambridge Apr 17th 55

My dear Sister

your "short and
sweet" letter bearing date
of Saturday is received
and was read with much
pleasure - I was just
fifteen seconds in reading
it - if you do not write
me longer letters I will
do - - - - -

why did you not ask
Ned to direct your letter
I was quite disappointed
when I look for my
name on the letter in
her hand writing and
found it not - you
must remember this
for next time

I am sorry you did not
have time to write to
Mrs Sparks - she has
been looking for a letter
from you - Miss Hunter
has written to her twice
- I suppose I am having
a nice time visiting my
two young friends Phoebe
and Fannie - I saw
Fannie on yesterday
- she is a very fine lady
- I have also been to see
Miss Lillie Greenough
she was not at home
I will go again in
a few days probably
on Friday - your
Album is with Fannie
Mrs Sparks has written
in it also Phoebe & I
all very good

Mrs Sparks gave me
a bundle when I last
saw her - she says it
is for you & contains
some articles which you
left at her house - if
you want them let
me know and I will
send it to you
- I am sorry to say
that I have not attended
to the Padlocks - but do
not tell on me and
you shall have them
in ten days - your
Opera Glasses are also
in Fannies hands - I
leave them there because
if I had them fellows
would want to borrow
them - and would be mad
if I did not lend them

how I will escape from
the sight of her - I would
be bewildered dreadfully
you say she is more beautiful
than than Miss L - tell me
is she equal to "Katy Darling"
I guess you will be weary of
this subject by this time
so I will change to another
"O Ben wants me to be
"a good little boy" - tell her
I have laid aside the
rights of a "little boy" and
taken my stand among
a somewhat more advanced
part of humanity called
men - I say again you
must use your own will
about delivering my messages
as I do not care a fig
for them & aimed not
more to fill up than for
any other purpose - except
these - items - you must
remember me always to Cass
Mahon and my new friend
to Lafon Reed Geo - as you please

1
Cambridge Mass
April 31 - or
May 1st 55 -

My dear Sister
Your letter of last
Saturday is just received and
as you solicit an early answer
and a long letter you shall
have one - first you do not
mention how many letters
you receive from me - I
have written to you every
Saturday and every other
day since I returned to
Cambridge - I am really
sorry they do not write to
you from home - I can
sympathize with you for
the last letter I received
was from Mother on last
Saturday week - but I have
received some other letters
one from Katy Darling and
one from Joe - both
of which specially the former
were most acceptable
to me

I suppose your mentioning
Miss Augusta Waters is for
the purpose of introducing
me to each other - if such
is the case make to her
for me a polite bow &
express my great pleasure
at making her acquaintance
and also that it may be
mutually agreeable - she
will I suppose be one of
your friends taking this for
granted. I have come to
like her very much. (do
tell me do you have as
great an admiration for
Reed & Lofan as heretofore
it seems to me that you have
not I believe this from the
fact that my good will
towards them has turned to
indifference - in speaking
on this head I have a
word of advice to give you
I am sure from what I
know of Mary Lofan that
she will endeavor to injure
you by perhaps telling little

fibes to the girls and more
especially ~~with~~ to Mary Reed
owing to their rooming together
If there is any change in
Miss Reed's feelings or actions
towards you this is the cause
and should such be the
case I hope you will take
no notice of it, and treat
all such endeavors on the
part of Lofan with a proud
indifference) excuse me
for leaving the subject of
Miss Waters where is she
from - I expect she must
be a fine girl or Mrs
Agnew would not have
put her in the same room
with you - I am really
alarmed about her great
beauty & handsomeness - she
will really be dangerous &
I think I had better keep
altogether from her charms by
not coming to Pittsfield -
for should I see such
an angel & as you des-
-cribe her I do not see

winery of it - This grapes
are half matured and
looked very fine I felt
like eating a few of them
at Coel tea was ready
this was very good but
owing to my large dinner
I could not enjoy it very
much - tea later I was
desirous to give them a
description of Mammoth
Cave Ky - this I did in great
style interesting them all
very much - and I think
they will all take a trip
there next summer or some
time soon - He has two
very pretty daughters and
I hear well settle on each
of them \$250,000 or 300,000 this
is pretty good picking I
think would pay well to
some water picking young
fellow who wants a wife
and a fortune -

2

I regret exceedingly that you
have not written to Mrs
Sparks she expected to
you must not delay any
longer - only think it is
nearly two months since
you accepted her invita-
tion - I believe Mrs
Gardner has been looking
for a letter from you for
some weeks - I do not
like these Gardner as
much as I did they
have been guilty of some
little improprieties that do
not seem to me to be right
they are in the habit of
going about here with a
fellow from New Orleans
named Elgee (you saw him
at this house the evening
you were there) he is a
man of the worst morals
and addicted to the vilest
habits and men can indulge
in - this is for you do not
mention it to any one do

^{not} misunderstand me and
give too strong an inter-
pretation to my words - it is
merely their associating with
such a man ~~that~~ that I dis-
approve of -

I received a newspaper from
home this morning there is
nothing new or of interest
except that Carter Harrison
has married Miss Weston
of Henderson Kentucky -

I suppose you have read
my letter and the box I
sent you on Saturday

This is exhibition day
in College several students
will deliver addresses and
it will be a grand day
generally - I will commence
with last Sunday and
give you an account of
what I have been at since
that time - Sunday after
church I went with Stanton
Blake to his father's in
Brookline some three miles
distance from Cambridge

his residence is located
in a large forest and
reminds me somewhat of
home - the house is built
of granite is large and
very handsome - he has
a very extensive greenhouse
and vinery a large garden
a large orchard of fruit
trees - apples - pears - peaches
cherries &c &c - I found
his family all in the
parlor awaiting my arri-
val - there was himself &
7 children and 5 other
persons after conversing for
half hour we were called
to dinner - it was a very
elegant one and I must
say I did justice to a
large surloin roast of beef
& think I ate two pounds
besides of the side dishes
in proportion so that by
the time dinner was over
& was well filled about
4 o'cl we took a walk
through his greenhouse

3

returned to Cambridge by
boat and went to see
Mr & Mrs Sparks - Wm
was there we staid until
9/2 o'clock -
- Yesterday I was quite
unwell and felt very
stupid all day - in the
evening Wm came for
me to go with him to
see Mrs Greenough I went
and staid until 9 o'clock we
had a very pleasant time
and were much enter-
tained by Mrs Fay & Mrs
Greenough who send
several songs &c &c &c
I like Greenough better
than I expected and
intend to cultivate her
acquaintance to some
extent - I must now
go to College to the
Commencement and when
that is over I shall return
and finish the letter
some 2 more pages -

I have just returned from the exhibition of the Senior class - there were several very fine speeches among them one by a Kentuckian named Sam Swel - he lives in Louisville and is a close fellow - the music was very fine - the house was crowded by ladies and gentlemen all of whom seemed to take great interest in the proceedings - all the parts were finished by two o'cl when the company adjourned - I waited at the door until Miss Fannie Gardner made his appearance - I immediately raised my hat and joined her in her walk home after discussing the merits of the various speakers - ~~we~~ she said she had not read the letter you promised I told her I had read a few lines from you and delivered the words

that you sent her - she sends you three pecks of love and says if you do not write next Saturday that she will send you no more love - she is a nice lady and I am sorry she does ~~not~~ associate with Elze - I expect that she does not know his character - I will be unable to visit Pittsfield for some weeks in ~~mean~~ ^{mean} time I will write as usual twice a week - you ought to write to me in exchange at least one letter

There is no news so I must say good bye my love to you
Your afft brother
Henry

To Miss Mary Duncan

I have written too much to read it over before sending it

4 other seems to be enjoying
himself very much in
catching the fine new lights
- R will not be in Pitts-
field before next November
as I have to enter College
in September & will have
to study until that time
- I suppose Father & Mother
will be on in a few
months to see us when
you can again come to
Cambridge -

You say you are in
want of something wherewith
to hold your padlock round
your neck - I send you a
string that will do for two
of you

my love to you also
to Ben Cass -

Your Affl Brother
Henry



you
I had half a notion to answer you

Cambridge Mass
May 8th 1855

My dear sister

Yours of last
Saturday is recd also the
part from no 5 - the receipt
of which please acknowledge
- your letter was "short and
sweet" -

You
will find enclosed some
steel pens two kinds one
makes a course stroke the
other a fine one - the latter
I like best and would advise
you to try them for I think
you will like them
As you do not say anything
relative to some little items
that are contained in my
letters from time to time

shall in future confine
my remarks to those sub-
jects as far removed from
Pittsfield as possible.

On Saturday I did not write
to you as usual owing
to my being unwell - I
had a physician last
week he has nearly cured
me now - so much so
that I am able to write
this letter - I was somewhat
alarmed on Thursday - I was
sure I was about to have
consumption but my Dr says
there is no danger.

I neglected to mention in my
last letter when I sent
the Padlocks that I had
taken the liberty to correct
some mistakes you made
in your French mottoes
several words were out of shape
you should be careful in writ-

-ting French to spell well
you in this case did as
bad as I do in writing en-
glish

Your messages to Mr & Mrs
Sparks Fannie & Phoebe Prof
& Mrs Woreford will be sent
in due form and with
becoming solemnity - Mrs Sparks
has been unwell for some
days but I learn that she
is now quite well - I
I was to see F & P on last
Sunday (day before yesterday) and
also on yesterday & the chances
are that I will see them on
today.

I rec'd two letters from
home & one from Lee on
yesterday - one from Ell - one
from Doc - all are well & as
I suppose you know - the
other letter was from ***
***** -

Cambridge Mass

May 13. 1855

Dear Sister

Mother in
a letter which I recd
on yester day - tells
me that you are
quite unwell & have
a cough - also that
there is no physician
at the Institute except
a Homoeopathist - now
you must see a Dr
I have just been to
see Mrs Sparks and
she tells me that a
very excellent Dr is
in Pittsfield who
was in Cambridge
for many years

but has now quit
the practice and is
lecturing at the ~~Law~~
Medical School in
Pittsfield he is a
very distinguished
man - Oliver W Holmes
- Mrs S wishes you
to write him a note
and request him
to come and see
you - also to mention
that Mrs Sparks had
requested you to
consult him - now
if you are still un-
well - you must
send for this Dr
for I am sure
Mother would like
for him to see

you for he is the best
physician in Pittsfield
Mrs Sparks sends her
love &c - all well
except myself - I
am not well yet
but intend to be soon
- if you are not well
soon I'll take you by
surprise some bright
morning soon by
being in Pittsfield
Your Affectionate
Henry

I go to Hopkinton New Hampshire
on Saturday - when you must
send your next letter.

I received a letter from Father
this morning all are well. He
was just starting to Louisville
tomorrow I am going to South-
bury beach - to have a sea bath
I will return in time to see the
fire works in Boston on the Com-
mon -

There is no news here as
I suppose I must close

My love to you & Mr & Mrs
remember me to to Dr & Mrs & family
and the girls as usual
Your Affl Mother

Henry.

Miss Hunter is a New Port

Cambridge July 3^d. 1855

My dear Sister

Your two letters bear-
ing dates 20 & 20 are just received
I accept my thanks for them. as this
is the first time that you have
written me two letters, I will
make a desperate effort, notwith-
standing the insupportably hot
weather, to write you a long
letter.

I was astonished that you
should be so inconsiderate as
to take the sunbaths just at this
time. why did you not postpone
it. I hope you will be well in
time for the fourth of July picnic
I suppose you will enjoy it very
much. I would prefer that you
could see the celebration in Boston
where fire works will be burned
in great quantities it will be
beautiful

The man (Luyot) who has been lecturing to you is not a professor in Harvard University as you seem to think - he merely lives in Cambridge. I suppose his lectures were pretty good - If you like him you had better make in Prof in the Institute

I had heard of the departure of Mrs Hall. I regard it as much better than keeping her at home to spoil E & Lill - I want Mother to bring them on to Cambridge and put them to school here. I am sure they would learn something here at any rate

Are you sure you will remain in Pittsfield another year you had better go to New Haven or else come to Cambridge

You have delayed writing to Mrs Sparks for so long a time that if you were to write now when it is so near the end of

the season that it would seem as if you wanted another invitation to her house. As Mrs Sparks is not here I cannot make the enquiries you wish me to

Tell Mary O she must not die, for then I should cry, or at any rate she must not at present. so I would advise her to get well as soon as possible - but should she persevere in drying ask her whether I can select a lot at Mt Auburn for her - I was out there on yesterday and saw a shot that would suit admirably.

Almon Millikin will pass by P. in 2 weeks. tell C know it & tell her to be sure and take my advice that she must ^{not} rob him of his heart, for he is a very cunning in such matters and would retaliate by robbing her of her heart

Hopkinton July 12. 1855

My dear Sister

Not receiving
a letter from you this
week I am uneasy
unless you may be
unwell. If you are
I hope you will soon
be well - in the mean-
time if you are unwell
get Mary C to write for
you - as I cannot
get along without your
letters.

I was detained in
Cambridge some
days longer than
I expected owing to
an attack of shills

& fever - which has -
ted several days
I am now pretty
well & & & &

This is quite
a pretty town &
I hope I shall like
it it is the very
place for study & &
the people are pretty
rough but kind & &
I have had some
al letters from home
you may have heard
what a rumour
some of the folks
are making about
"Little Henry Dimean"
Mrs Morrison says
father sent me to
C to intercept any

intercourse between K
& G - ha ha ha
Some say that I
sent some "tender
messages" to Matthe
by Mrs Wilson
that are too delicate
for any one else
but Mat to know
I am told that Mrs
Wilson did not even
tell them to Mrs McKee
What do you say
to all this - & &
- The Cholera is
in Lex - there have
been 30 deaths
- Love to you & M
Your affl Brother
Henry



Miss Mary Duncan
Care of Dr. Agnew
Pittsfield
Mass

but I am fixed for 7 weeks &
I suppose I must be contented
I intend to have some fun
while I am here &c &c &c &c

I congratulate you on your
recovery from the mumps also
Ben of her escape from scarlatina
has she paleatina now - she
must not loose the crimson
tinge she wears on her cheeks
By the by you wish to know
if I do not love Mary C. better
than any girl I ever saw? I
suppose you want me to say
yes? - will if you do & think
I ought. I shall say I do
but I won't forget Kate (I have
more to say of her presently) do not
forget to ask M.C. if she
will be in Cambridge during
the fall - if she will tell her
if she will let me know some
days before hand I shall be her
most humble obedient servant



Wobkinton July 15th 1855

My dear Sister

Your letter of the 11th
is this instant received. your letter
not coming at the regular time
inclined me to fear lest you were
well, under this feeling I wrote to
you last week. which letter you
must have received before this.

In relation to where you will
spend your summer vacation. you
would I believe have a more pleas-
-ant time by going home this will
not only be more agreeable to you
but also to Father, Mother & Sisters
should you remain in W. E. you
will not be with me, unless you
come to Cambridge, if you go to
Cohasset with Dr & Mrs Flint you
will not enjoy yourself unless
you can find amusement in a
miserable country village 5 miles
from the next town. I was out

there a few weeks ago to see the place
& - it consists of about 30 houses
has a population of two hundred. is
three miles from the sea shore and
there is not a beach within five
so you will be disappointed if you
expect sea bathing. the day that I
passed there was the most unpleasant
that I have spent in N. E. &
it would have been intolerable if
Killikin had not been along to
keep my spirits up. now as
Mother has not coming on you ought
on her account to go & see her.
you must not guide your move-
ments by mine for I do not know
what is to become of me until next
september when I am examined for
admission to College - if I fail
to enter I will go to Kentucky im-
mediately and remain until
March. but if I enter I will
be very busy until the 17th of June
at which time I will go home

You are very much mistaken
if you for a moment suppose
that I am enjoying myself in
this horrid little place. it is the
meanest most good for nothing
place I have ever been in. I
know but 3 persons in the town.
Chase is in love and of course
makes a fool of himself just
as all lovers do - his lady-love
is a damsel of this town as frisky
a little maiden so I have met
they take romantic little rides &
walks talk sentiment &c &c &c
I chanced to meet them the
other afternoon - they looked very
odd - he like a dying calf gazing
on her in a hideously tender
manner - she like a lammie
chicken was leaning on his arm
looking in his face with a
most bewitchingly silly gaze
they are well suited in life (you
remember the verse)

I have two good jokes to tell
you on myself - would you
believe it? old crazy Mrs Mar-
-rison stopped Father in the
street the other day called him
to account for sending me
to Cambridge and thereby
preventing my making love
to F. (---) Kate she thinks
I am desperately in love
with Kate & ought to be indul-
ged she would like to have
me for a son-in-law &c
she is as you know (dont tell)
right in supposing me in
love with Kate I assure you
I am and if it were proper
for me to do so I would have
told you Kate I loved her - as
it is it can never be and
when the time comes for me to
take a off I must look else-
where - I have told you

more now & have therefore
told you more than to any
one living & or shall tell. I
hope you will not expose
me by telling any thing I have
ever said to you to on these
matters —

It seems that Lexington
is in a commotion because
it is said I sent some
"tender messages" to Mattie. Doc
says she would not wait
to receive them but went
to see Mrs Wilson to get them.
I have written to try to know
what the messages are &
when I hear them I shall
send you word and let
you know them.

Tell Mary Reid for me
that Mattie has a new
beaux or Mr Wm Perkinridge
of Lex - & it is feared it will
be a serious affair - Harding

told me the other day that
Mr Lock of Louisville had
told him that Mattie was to
be married to Mr Jones &co

I intended to feel this about
of paper but I cannot unless I
write more nonsense - as I want

Give me respects to "Gus"
& to any one of my friends
- My love to you and also
to Mary H. I tell her I will
send her a kiss if she will
return me one

Your affectional brother
Henry J.

Mrs Mary Duncan

Cambridge Sep 7th 1855

My dear Sister

Your very acceptable letter of the 2^d came to hand this morning - it is the first since Fathers letter of the 19th of August - I have been for several days been anxiously looking for letters but now for me now that you have much leisure time I hope you will often indulge me in long letters - you ought now to write me two or three for one as I did last term - I am very much rejoiced at the great pleasure you seem to experience from having a great abundance of fruit - now cant you send me some - it will be most acceptable -

Let me know whether Emma
(one) has improved very much
how she looks & how
she feels & acts. Has she as
much beauty as she had
and does she wish to be a
woman & & It is a
very remarkable coincidence
that both she & I should
select the Episcopal Church
I suppose you have heard of
intention of worshipping with
that denomination - - -

I hope you will enjoy
the coming "fair" which
will be held on next Tuesday
perhaps the very one on which
you will receive this letter
- I guess you have become
too fastidious? you must
not look for the same neat-
ness in by which you met
in New England - ~~have~~

I have glanced over the pro-
gramme which you sent me
- I suppose you had a nice
time the music must have
been fine - by the by - we shall
have some good music here
in a few days by Rachel &
- I have just had a visit
from some freshmen one of
them you may remember, Hoppin
he is a very good fellow &
It is now 12 o'clock and I
must be up at 6 o'clock for
prayer so you will pardon
me for ending my letter
shortly - I will write again
soon

Love to all

Your little brother
Henry



Miss Mary Duncan
Care of Dr. Agnew
Pittsfield
Mass

Cambridge Oct 14th 1855

Dear Sister

Father has just left me - I was delighted to see him and regretted very much that you could not come down to Cambridge with you you would have had a nice time of it.

I must thank you for the many letters I have of late received from you I would have answered some of them but I supposed you were to have home a week sooner than you did

I am coming to see you
the last week in November
& shall be in Pittsfield for
five days - & intend to
have a nice time. I will
go home in January and
spend most of my vacation

Father tells you are to
room with Miss Offutt. I
cant see what you find
attraction in her - has
she grown any any
taller - she would be much
more beautiful if she were
a little taller -

You must give my
respects to Miss Waters &
say to her that I hope
to have the pleasure of

seeing her when I come
to Pittsfield - Tell me
who your friends are this
time

I did not see Emily
Brand which was a disap-
pointment to me - I will
see her however before long
- I will send you a
Catalogue in return for
the one you sent me
Love to you & -
respects to Dr & Mrs & Misses
Agnew & Co -

Your Affto Brother

Henry B. Duncan jr

Cambridge. Oct 27/35

Dear Sister

This letter which is intended as an answer to yours of the 24. will be handed you by our cousin Dr Jenkins. He will also give you a bundle of candy (nice rock candy) you will find a small piece in the package which I wish you to give to Dear Miss Waters - I doubt whether you have been giving my messages to her - if you think best not do so

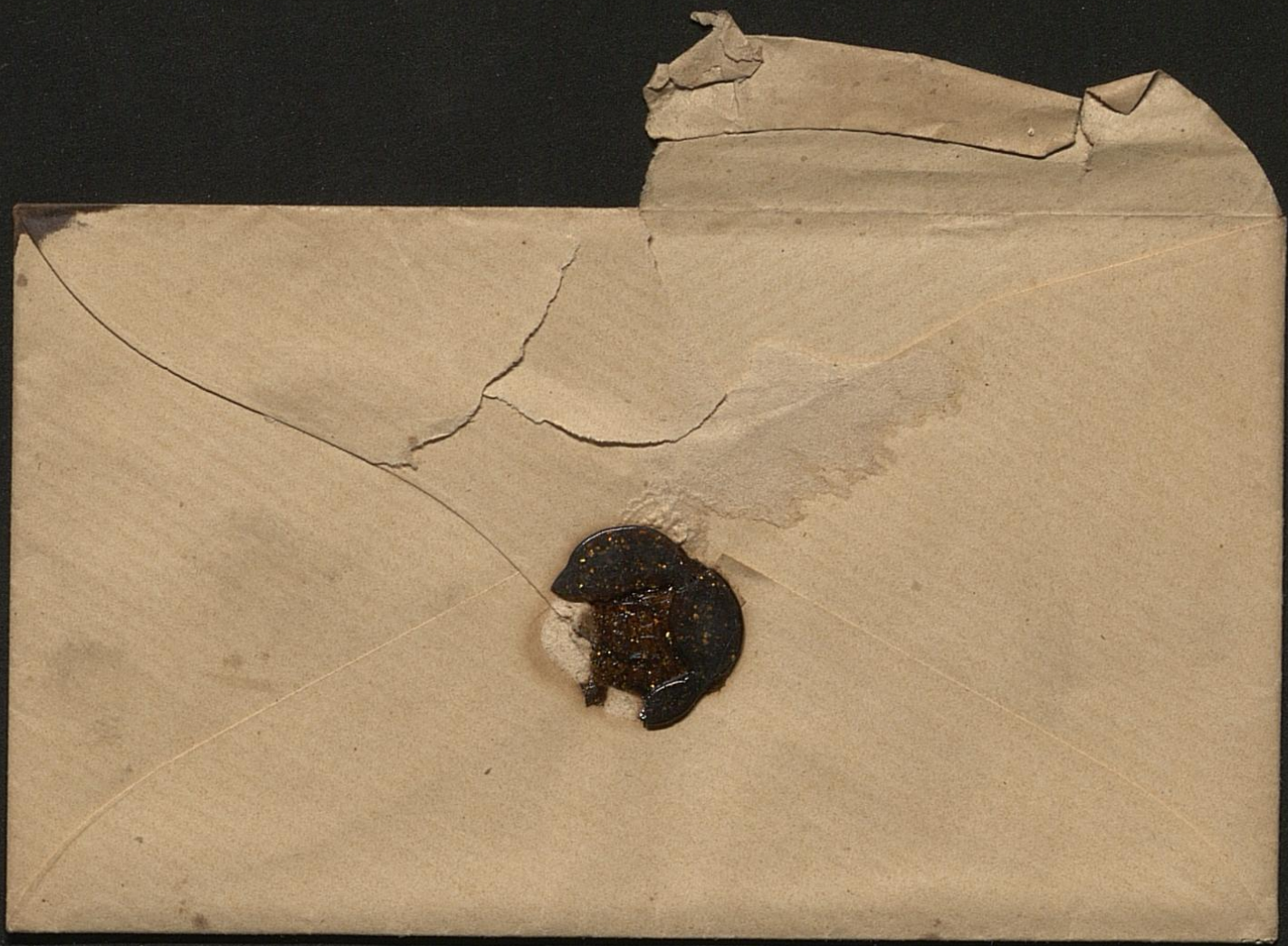
Dr J will give you an account of his visit here
as I have little to say - good night

I recd a letter from
Father today all are well

Do not let Doc see
this note —
Your Affl Brother
Henry



Miss Mary Duneau
Care of Dr Agnew
Pittsfield
Mass



Cambridge Dec 16th 55

My dear Sister

I yesterday had a letter from Father. I was really delighted for as I told you in my last letter I had been without one for nearly 3 weeks —

There is no news in it so I cannot give you any —

I was at the Theatre on last Friday night. I am getting very bad. I have been several times lately & the best of it is I did not have to pay.

Yesterday I went home
with Geo B Blake jr of
my class he is a very
nice fellow & has two
pretty sisters. He wanted me
to remain over Sunday
but I had forgotten to
get a leave of absence
from my class tutor.

In the evening I went
to hear a lecture at the
Lemont Temple by Shackery.
I was very much pleased

I was roused last evening
about 12 o'clock by the alarm
of fire - it was a very
large one and although
some 3 miles off - could
be seen very distinctly
the light was very bright

I am going this evening
to see Mrs Sparks & will
give her much of your
love & & &

I am thinking whether I
can come & see you on
Christmas. I hope I can
but if not you must
write to me & let me know
what you want so that
I can get it for you.

If it is allowable I will
send you a Roast Turkey
crackers & & as a present

Love to you & Lizzie &
Geo & &

Your Afft Brother
Henry