

Chas. J. ...



Miss Mary Doremus
Lexington
Ky -

Mr. Webb.

Mr. Webb
St. Louis
Mo.



4.
1.
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Mr. Webb

lived in Cambridge - Next
year I shall have a room
in N.Y. which will be magnificent
for you ~~to~~ know the rooms
there are large - and we will
have a large parlor and two
large bed rooms -

Please present me kindly to
all my friends -

Love to all

Your affectionate
Sister
Mary

By the by - There is not a day that
some of your friends do not
ask for you and desire me
to give their love -

Cambridge Nov 25th 1857

My dear Sister

I dare say you
would like to know what is
going on in the gay world of
Cambridge, and what share I
take in their follies - Well
at the present moment I have
just returned from a call on
Lady Clara who could not be
seen - Miss Milby was quite
pleasant however and regretted
very much that her "birdie"
was so engaged that she could
not come down stairs - The
good people are all busy
arranging for Thanksgiving &
I dare say there will be a
jolly time tomorrow -

Cambridge has been quite dull
(as far as parties go) - but there is
now a change - Miss Greenough
and Mr Dyer have originated
and carried out with skill a
project to have "Sociables" which
meet every Monday night. The
first was last evening (Tuesday) at
Dr Howe's there are some 20 Ladies
and 20 gents - I will name a
few of them - Ladies - 2 Greenoughs,
Feltou, Parsons, Agassiz, Thomas,
Russell, Austin, Rulph, Wyman,
Brown, Minot, Wigham, &c &c -
Gents - Dyer, 2 Greenoughs, Ames, Hooper,
Russell, Richardson, Vincent, Cutting,
Hunterville, Blake, &c &c -

The meeting last evening was very
pleasant and among other things
we danced the "Lancers Quadrill"
which is a ~~new~~ new dance now

quite the rage - If it has not
yet reached Lex. I will bring
you the music this winter - and
let you amuse your friends
with it - The next meeting is
to be at Miss Dyer's -

I have joined a class at
Rafanatics - and expect in fact am
quite sure that I shall be mentioned
by my charming friend Miss Mary
Rowditch - So I will have two
gay evenings every week from now
until the end of the term - I find
a good deal of spare time of late
our studies are easy and after
recess we begin to review -

I wish you could be in my
room now for half an hour it
looks so cheerful - the fire burns
brightly - I have not been so
comfortably fixed since I have

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make a visit to Cambridge — I recite every day between 10 & 12-o'cl to a Mr Chase who is quite a pleasant fellow — at present I think I will be in Cambridge some 5 or 6 years as I have very extensive ideas as to making something of myself I take my meals at Mrs Belgers who keeps a very good table there are about fourteen in all who board there several of whom are very clever fellows when I enter College I will have to go to

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Cambridge Nov 26th 1854

My Dear Sister

I have just returned from Dr Albro's church (where I heard a very long but I cannot say a very good sermon from a stranger, who filled the Displace) with the intention of writing you a letter of such length that it will take you some days to ascertain what I have written (or what I intended to write) for you know I often write half a sentence & leave the rest to imagine & so that between my leaving out some words and

² and misspelling others
you will have quite a
task before you when
you undertake to
read one of my letters

As I have not
received a reply to
my last letter (which
was my first to you) I
suppose you did not
receive it or if you
did that you are so
entirely occupied with
your studies as to
have very little leisure
time to devote to
writing - but I will
drop this subject with
the hope that this
letter will receive
greater consideration
at your hands &c,

I believe I promised³
to give you an account
of my household arrange-
ments whenever I secured
a room &c I am
living at a Mr Whites
in Appian way the most
fashionable street in
town - my rooms are
in the second story
my Parlor is quite
a good room furnished
with bookcase study table
1/2 doz chairs &c & a piece
of furniture the name
of which I have forgotten
in which there are 6
large drawers & on
top a large looking glass
with numerous other
articles which you
will see when you

to be very clever people
I will call & see
them again before
long -

There was a terrible
disaster in Boston
harbour night before
last - it occurred in
the evening about 5 o'clock
& some 12 miles from
Boston - The English
steamer Canada from
Liverpool was coming
up the harbour &
the coast steamer
Ocean was going out
when they came in
collision the Canada
striking the Ocean about
the wheel house went
in some distance

^{attended} prays at God in the
morning which seems to
be considered very terrible
by most of the students
Mr Chase has put me
to reading Virgil and
to commit the Greek
grammar I will have
to recite to him until
next July when I ex-
-pect to enter College

I received a letter
a day or two since
from Father I was glad
to hear from him that
you are becoming recon-
ciled to your fate I
think it a bright
idea in you and

I think that all that is required for you to take the first rank among your classmates is for you to make the effort - Father says the snow was quite deep & the weather very cold at Pittsfield I am surprised at this for - the weather is very fine here & quite pleasant some days - it was warm enough yesterday to do without fires but today it is turning cooler & I fear we may have some cold weather.

I wrote to Father this morning a letter of

such length that I fear he will be discouraged from reading it

I suppose you would like to know if I have made any acquaintances I have made some two or three among them are Mic Anderson from Cincinnati he is a very fine youth the rest whose acquaintance I have made are mostly law students among the Old Foggys are Dr Sparks Mr Dune Mr Gardner Mr Bowditch &c I called to see Miss Mary Stoddard with Father - saw her & her Mother they seem

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namely my love &c to you
& any one else you wish
to share it with

My respects to Da &
Mrs Agnew & family
The church Bell is
ringing & I must
be off so good bye
write as often as you
please & I am

Your affectionate
Brother

Henry J. Duncan jr.

let me know whether
I have succeeded
in making my letter
what I promised at
the beginning

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making a tremendous
opening in the Ocean
the Ocean took fire
immediately and
burned so rapidly
that many of the
passengers were burned
to death or drowned
although every exertion
was made to assist
them quite a number
perished I saw
the light of the fire
very distinctly from
my room in Cambridge
which is about 15 miles
from where the accident
occurred

I can give you
no other news for

Cambridge is the dullest
place I ever saw

When you write
I wish you would
let me know how
you like the school
after you have tried
it - do you think
you would like to
have gone to New Haven
with Emma McCaw
let me know how
often you hear from
home & how often you
write - I have received
2 letters and have
written 10 - hereafter
I will have to write
on sundays for it
is the only day of the
seven on which I

am not occupied
have you become much
attached to any of the
girls yet - tell me
especially how you
like Miss Reed &
is Mary Lapon as good
as Father & I supposed
her to be - (is there
as pretty or as good a
girl in the school as
Katy Darling) what
studies are you at
and how do you
like them -

But my letter is
getting too long and
I must call a halt
I will repeat ~~my~~ the
instructions I gave
in my last letter

a club the Desperation
he says they have grand
times & & & &
I took dinner on yesterday
with Mr Gardner in Boston
had pleasant time saw
his daughter - while
I was in town I had a
daguerreotype taken for
you it is said to be
a good one & &
You must as usual
remember me to Dr
Agnew & family especially
little Clara

My best love to
you - My next best
to Cousin Mary Lapon & do
good boy - be sure to
write me when you receive
this for my coming to Pittsfield may
depend on it. H. D. is

Longo Longo
New York
Cambridge Dec 17. 1854

My Dear Sister
I have
been anxiously looking for
the letter you wrote to
me on yesterday week
I suppose it must have
been detained by the snow
or something else.
I dislike nothing more
than to find fault with
you but you treat me
too badly - and I received
a letter yesterday from
Father he complains
very much that you do
not write home. He
says but one letter from
you has been received
since he reached home

My Dear Sister we should
endeavour to do every
thing we can to gratify
the best ones at home
and now that we are all
separated from each other
we should use every at-
tention not to injure each
others feelings - now I know
Father feels hurt by your
seeming neglect of him &
let me exhort you by all
means to give him ^{no} reason
to complain in future
I hope you will not be
offended by what I have
said but receive it in
the spirit ~~in~~ which it
is intended for I am
prompted to say what
I have wholly on your

account - I will say
no more on this subject
for fear you may charge
me with writing a sermon

I have received several
letters from home since
my last letter to you
all are well - Father has
made another purchase
of land this will make
Bedford quite a large farm
it will be about 17 miles
around the place a good
days walk

One letter from Garland
Webb jr - he says smth
about the girls & boys
in Lex - he says the
Young ladies have formed
an "ante matrimonial" club
the Young ladies on the
hill have also formed



Cambridge Dec 30. 74

My Dear Sister

I suppose you are now engaged in penning me a letter, so I will answer it before I receive it at any rate I will write you a letter now and also one when I receive yours. I would wish you a happy New Year if I supposed my letter would reach you on that day but as there is no probability that this will reach you for some days to come, so my greeting would be stale.

I received two letters today from Father - one was written at Bedford - the

from home and gives the
news up to that date all
are well. — The Pony died
the day before that was on
Thursday day — who would have
thought that while we were
enjoying ourselves so much
at Pittsfield Institute, our
old friend was passing
from the busy and weary
scenes of this world — he
died at a good old age
after a rather pleasant life
of some 15 years — he was a
good horse and was much
loved & esteemed by his
friends and acquaintances
who were very numerous &
many is the time he has
relieved his friends of a
long walk and many
an hour has he pleased

his weary way through
rain & snow - and
at all hours day or night
he was ready to go on
errands & such things
and now I suppose he
has gone to that happy land
where all good horses go
a land filled with plenty
of hay, & corn & abundance
of green pastures - where
all is pleasant and there
is no snow, or ice, or cold,
where he will have to work,
no more

It was a source of
deep grief to Ell & Lilly
to part with him - they
expected to have many
rides on him next sum-
mer but now they will
be disappointed -

think a monument should
be erected to his memory
and his good life & deed
commemorated in marble.

all the rest of the
family are well and
getting on finely - Father
speaks of selling the home
place and moving to
Luz or some other town
If he goes to Luz. don't
you think E Johnsons
would be a nice place
it so near to Kingdon
it would be splendid so
far as I am concerned
do you think you would
like town life? if you
do not you will by this
time ^{you} have spent 2 years
at Boarding school.

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By this mail I send
you the book I mention-
ed in my last letter
you will see it is by Fanny
Fern - "Ruth Hall" is the
name of the work I have
been greatly pleased with
it it is written in her
best style & the story
is based on her own
life - her brother is the
editor of the Home Journal
I think she has done a
very wrong thing in
giving vent to her envy
in this form tis too bad
If you conclude to give
it for me to Mrs. Eva
write on the first page
To my Cousin Eva
from

Her Cousin Harry
or something to that effect
if you have not asked
for the name of that young
lady I desired you to do
I wish you would do so
now I send her name
to me as soon as possible
for I have taken quite an
interest in her, and if
you could know my
anxiety to know her name
you would send it to me
immediately - It is the lady
who desired to be introduced
to me from my acquaintance
with Menor Milligan who
is a mighty clever fellow
he was round to my room
the other night and staid
til 12 1/2 o'cl

airy, now permeated by the
 small & fairy" — & &
 this will give you some
 Idea of the way your frolic
 will be given to the world
 — I lost the names of all
 your teachers & was quite
 at a loss for some time
 how to fill their places
 but I read a clean sweep
 of them & called them
~~assistants~~

But I must stop
 I have written too much
 now I fear more than
 you will be able to read
 for it is terrible dull
 stuff but you must
 excuse me if I do not

write interesting letters
for there is nothing to
write about here and
every thing is dull & stupid
& think I will have to
leave here & go to your
school.

Good night

Your Affc Br
H. L. Duncan jr

P.S. ask Cousin Eva - who
sent me the "Three rides"
written by Mulligan - as
a special favour