



Miss Mary Duncan
Care W. T. Duncan Jr
Cambridge
Mass

took them away & brought them
as far as Ben, he went on
to Keokuk, his sisters came
home, Mary is now boarding
in Lexington under the care
of Dr Dudley, the disease is a
spinal one, & she is placed in a
horizontal position. I've
entertained a little fear that you
might strain yourself in some
way or get a thump or bump
in your skating excursions.
Be careful & do not over exercise
& then take cold, Your father is
waiting for my letter so I must
say good bye, All join in
much love to you & B.

Your ever affec
Mother

P.S. Regards to friends
"A happy New Year"

Duncannon

9th January 1857

My dear daughter

The weather is so
intensely cold & the days so short
that they are gone before the duties
of each are accomplished, I'm
really glad that you are not com-
pelled to return home at this incle-
ment season, B. ought to return
by the southern route, for it will
be unpleasant any way, I hope
that you feel satisfied in the
improvement or progress that you
are making in your studies.
There is also something to be learned
from the society you associate
with, all of which will be very
apparent in due time. The arri-
val of a Governess for E & L will

be something in the monotony of
our usual routine, I hope that
she may be in every respect
such a one as we desire,
Hal said he should be detained
several days longer because he
must go to N. Y. for Miss Higgins
to avoid detention he can let
her know precisely the time he
will be in N. Y. so that no time
can be lost, as every thing can be
in readiness on his arrival in the
City. I regret your visit to Salem
gave you cold, it is really
astonishing that people will
make themselves so uncomfortable
with the silly notion that it
is healthy to suffer with cold
No wonder so many N. Englanders
die of consumption, I wish you
had returned with your brother
& Florence Parks. It is advisa-

-ble not to visit during winter
to persons entertaining such
ideas - such supremely absurd
ones, You should be particular
in the change of your dress, &
avoid taking cold, What in the
world are you complaining of the
blues for!! A young person like
you should be as happy as the
day is long as far as this world's
concern, blessed with health, &
friends, & plenty, Do not suffer
yourself to indulge in such
reveries, consider how vastly
you are elevated above many
thousands in the world, think of
the good you could do in this
world, & endeavor to do good.
After Mr Jones & Mattie were
married they made a visit to
Mary & Alice Lafon & found
Mr's health so bad, their brother

Miss Mary Duncan
Cambridge
Mass





Dunbarston April 14th 1859

My dear sister

I have just come up from my practicing and sat down to write to you the snow is falling very fast the ground is all white it is very cold here Miss Higgins says she dont believe we will have any summer it is so cold. she got a letter from Mrs. Tutor saying that it was perfect spring in Boston and the corn was green. Aunt Mary hall came up from Paris yesterday on the two o'clock train. Miss Higgins and I went in with sister Ellen to Dr. Talbot to have her teeth plugged he was from ten o'clock till nearly two plugging two teeth she has to go in again Wednesday evening she has already eleven plugged and I dont know how many

more Dr. Talbot said he did
not like to tell her how many loose
he had to plug he said she was the
best little soldier he ever saw she
did not even flinch while he was
filling it not even when he
was sawing the little sharp iron thing
nor when cutting the tooth Miss
Higgins went to Mrs. Cook and got
her dress fitted they fit her very well
she is afraid you will find her hair
she took her Calico dress to her.
Miss Higgins is sleeping now she
has not felt well since Wednesday
morning when you and Father left and
has had the headache sister Ellen
made her up some pills and she
took them last night she said she
felt better today Mother thinks
she has a being cold in her head.
Miss Higgins has got both of your
pictures hanging over the mantelpiece
she thinks the one Mrs. Cook took

of you looks like Father and brother
Henry and that is to resemble Father
and brother Henry by. as it is going
late and near supper I will have to end
my short scribbles. All send love to
you and Father brother Henry
I send a love and a kiss to you and
Father if he is not gone I will write
better a few lines words yours
your affectionate sister
Lily

My dear brother
him here I will as there are few
write to you I would
have written last Saturday but I
thought sister Ellen was going to
write to you and I did not think
it well for both to write at the
same time I will write to you
next Saturday your sister
Lily



Miss Mary Duncan
Care of J. Duncom
Cambridge
Mass

so much pleased to see you
it being three or four years
since she saw you, I hope
the meeting of your friends once
more was altogether agreeable
& satisfactory, & that the time
you have to pass there before
the final leave taking may
be passed in a profitable
& happy manner, so that no
regrets will be felt on any
account either in regard to
health, improvement, or pleasure
I shall expect your father
home the latter part of the
week, how did he seem to
enjoy himself? My kind
regards to your friends -
Much love to you & Wm from
all, God bless you both
Mother

Duncannon
Apr 27th 1857

My very dear daughter

One week has
elapsed since you left us
& the weather has been so bad
that I feel quite anxious
about you, be very careful
& take good nourishing food
regularly & avoid fasting so
much, for if you continue
to do as you did previous to
your return home you will
ruin your health, & if you
still desire to have Beer or
Porter to drink, get a bottle
& try, if you are benefited
by it use it for a while

Write & let me know particularly concerning your health, also the slightest change in any particular, be assured you can not use too much precaution, Miss Higgins has been quite sick, has taken medicine, was in bed all day & still looks feeble. Her appetite is not good either but hope that she will be well again soon, Ellen has been to the Dentist two days & is going again tomorrow, it is really sad to see her teeth all going so, it is fortunate she went when she did, it might have been

postponed too long, You will be surprised to hear that Sue Buckner is dead, she died the Tuesday before you left home, she was taken with a spasm & died very suddenly, How! distressing to her Mother! & a solemn reflection to all of the uncertainty of life & to heed the admonition, "Be ye also ready" The importance of which is so little realized when it should be the one of the greatest importance! Mrs Hall came to see me the day after you left & has been with me ever since. She sends her love to you & says she would have been

ing too dear for the whistle" all send much
love & affection to you
Every thing concerning yourself
will be of interest to me, it
seems a year since you left
Miss Higgins is wishing for you
every day, she has been very
much indisposed since your
absence, indeed I was afraid
that she should have a
fever of some kind, happily
however she is quite cheerful
& improving, & sends much
love to you, Tell me how
your dear brother is, if his
spirits are good & all about
him. Did he enjoy his
father's visit? I presume your
teachers & class mates were
glad to see you return, still
it impresses me you are pay-

Dunbar
Apr 28th 37

My very dear daughter
Your letter
is just received & I hasten
to reply. in regard to your
food it is very important
that it be wholesome &
taken regularly, if you
speak to Mrs Wells in a
prudent manner about it
she ought at once try to
have the proper articles
for you, it is evident that
without the proper diet
your health will be a
sacrifice, it is really
too bad to be giving three

& a half dollars a week
& receive naught, If you
speak to Mrs Wells on this
subject & she still contin-
ues to the same dishes
look out for some other
place, should your father
or brother fast for one
day they would soon
cry out for something
to satisfy the empty
stomach, for you to fast
will be ruinous to health
so you must try to make
a change with Mrs W's
pork & beans, There is
some discrepancy in the
letter & yours, you say

that you reached Cambridge
on Friday afternoon & Hal
on Saturday night, & where
your father is I can't find
out, yesterday the car stoped
& away ran El & Lily but
were disappointed, I shall
be expecting his arrival
daily, I'm glad he has not
hurried himself back but
remained to see & hear all
that is doing in the Atlantic
cities, The weather is now very
bright & pleasant, after you
left home we had real winter
a parallel of your experience
in Cam ^{take} good care of
yourself, how did you get
along in your journey?

My dear Mr I came across an
advertisement in a paper & cut
it out to send you so that
whenever an opportunity occurs
you can make enquiry con-
cerning it, There is no need
of hurry in the case, if
there is any virtue in it
bring some home with
you, but be satisfied about
it, Only ten days more &
this month is out, from this
time on I shall be busy,
at present getting ready for
summer clothes, the 20th
of May the General ass is
to meet, then the 4th of July
the monument fess, such
is life wave after wave
some of happiness or trouble
mostly mingled, but if our

minds are rightly furnished
& balanced with a confiding
faith in a Almighty Saviour
to help & comfort in all
emergency, there will be
no fear, May you be so
happy as to seek & find
the pearl of greatest price
is my fervent prayer.

Let not the follies & vanities
of this world occupy all
the mind & soul, let
the immortal be prepared
for all that awaits it
in that eternal world
of joy or wo,

God bless you & cause
his spirit to be shed abroad
in your heart

Farewell my
precious child



Miss Mary Duncan
Lexington -
Kentucky -



Should faint under such circumstances,
he is quite fine looking - but I'm not
& I laugh a good deal about him.
8th Nov. - I received Mr. Steer's
bill - don't today! dated Sept. 11th -
it had been opened & advertised &c.
but when it was seen at this time
I can't understand. I received a letter
from Sam Beville a few days ago -
he & several other graduates are
studying law in Boston. Oh, you don't
know Mary how lovely Clara,
we used to be so much - she said
in her last letter that she felt as
though she had not a friend in the
world - we are preparing
& Christmas presents & cake
&c. Mrs. Johnson had a musical
party the other night, and Adie Whiting
wrote that "she looked beautifully" -
Wasn't I most grateful? I attended
Sunday school & church in the morning,
church in the afternoon, & church in
the evening, besides writing to Clara
& visiting a friend & I have a diary table
table in school - I enjoy it very much -
One of the most lovely of all the Wintarian
children has lately died, and the children
felt it very much as well as the teachers -

St. Louis. Dec. 14th / 57.

Monday Morning.

My dear Mary -

I dated this this morn-
ing, but then was called away, in
the afternoon I took a ride with
father & mother, that afternoon, my
mother & I have made a call
on her after a dull walk - found
several letters - have been reading them
and was am going to answer your
most welcome letter before I return
I was very much engaged on Saturday,
and then I did not receive your letter
so I did not write - but I will try to
be regular hereafter. I suppose that
my Cambridge friends are dancing
very tonight and I wish I could
that I should like to be sitting
them or somebody else in using my
feet - They are decidedly too quiet a

To avoid for a disobedient that winter.
Well, Miss May, I am afraid you are
becoming a regular fish - I shall have
to give you lectures on want of feeling,
if you continue to run away with
the poor silly youths' hearts, and
then laughing at them for being
caught! I hope you have not forgotten
"Nick" - what you told me about his
taking a chase that you had had in
your mouth & putting it in his -
I found to pop into my head the other
day, and I laughed at a great rate -
I remember it was the day after
class day, and I was talking you at
the same time about Mr. Louden's
alternately feeding me & himself out
of his cup of coffee - Oh I have some
good laughs sometimes over Cambridge
fellows. Shall you visit them in the
summer? I am afraid that I shall
enjoy only class day, as well as lectures
talk - I went to church yesterday
morning - I wish to say what was
obliged to sit with "off friend" -

Our pen is not yet vacated, and
we are sitting with a friend, so I
marched on when the "gentleman
that I don't like" stepped out of
his seat, and the friend that I
should have sat with ^{from the seat in front} nodded for
me to go in - so there was nothing
left for me ^{but} to obey - I would scarcely
speak to the "torment" ^{mother} -
then Mrs. Smith whispered to another
"there are Siggie & he sitting side by
side" - wasn't it provoking? She
seems determined to shake & match
between us & confound us! It is possible
that she will not succeed - ^{if} in
the evening I took a seat back & Mrs.
Smith scolded me as she came
out saying that he "wanted me
to sit there" - I was so provoked that
I slipped off & went into a neighbor's
with another before "he" had a chance
to speak - He is becoming so sweet -
but I shall look out that he does
not get so far as to make such
a tender proclamation as the "Smiths"
did to you - I am afraid that I

Chilington, Sept 24/57
Friday afternoon

My dear Mary -

I am writing you again
shortly, but only a few lines to ask
for what I want you to send indeed,
and yet I wrote so much in my
last letter that I forgot to ask for
them. The things of - first you have
that you promised - I think you are
probably that I might have it
attempted to be made in London -
Please send it in your next letter - and
a few of prof. Light's paper of your
of the time - two or three would be
acceptable - I'm sure of your little
selected notes - I wish to make
some like them. Now if you don't
stand in my way to send the little, you
will, your friend will have to furnish
you with another volume.

These are both "Lady Glad" & my
love to "Mother Mary" - and remember
me to your father.

Yours affectionately in haste
L. L. L.

11/11

10. We are going to town with
you & Mr. Bond is going to meet
us there as well as George & Maggie.

Thank me upon yourself?
We wish that you were going to
be there too and suggest Graham
coming off on Thursday instead of
Sunday. Don't be too late.

Mr. Hudson says that it is reported
that George had
offered himself to me & was been
refused - Is George true? And what
regrettable? Well this is quite a long
letter - Is George - write very
soon & don't forget

Yours
George

My motherly
sincerely yours

John

Write to
George

George

11

Miss Simson

Dear Miss Simson

Delaware Sept 24th

My Dear May,
We are all
exceedingly disappointed
that you can not
come over this after-
noon. I went out this
morning, and invited
several persons to
meet you.

I have an engage-
ment for tomorrow, and
can you not come over
and pass Wednesday
evening with us? I
can't bear the idea

of not having you
with me, at least
the way.

Say to Miss Embury
that my sister will
return to St. Louis by
water, or would be
happy to have her
company as far as
Vincennes.

With much love
to all,

Believe me in
great haste yours
"General"



Miss Mary Duncan
Care of W. T. Duncan
Cambridge
Mass

I have no time to wait for you. and I
cannot ask you to excuse me for going
away without seeing you - L L

use in destroying your health for the sake of appearances, for without regular nourishing food your health will suffer, As to taking lessons in vocal music you must be the judge whether your throat will permit it, The best teacher will of course be the best Miss T- has forgotten the person's name, but will write & find out, Miss Higgins has been very ill with Erysipelas, she is at present relieved of disease but very weak, is able to sit up several hours at a time, she says that she will

Duncannon

May 16th 1857

My very dear daughter

Your letter of the 10th was received on yesterday afternoon, I was so busy getting Ellen ready for a party at Mrs Hills, the hour for meeting being 7 o'clock that I could not answer your letter as I intended to, After tea I was sitting with Miss Higgins all below locked up when what should we hear but your fathers voice calling for admittance, it was a great surprise as he was not expected untill next week, he left

The Dr very well & getting on
finely in his Agricultural
vocation, the Dr intends
making a visit the 2nd of June
on the occasion of Miss C's
marriage, and who do you
think traveled part of the
way with your father? Mrs
Webb with her two sisters
Fannie & Belle, & Ginnie
Landy, just those without any
escort, she will remain in
Ky several weeks, there is
not the slightest cause for
complaint on the score of
your writing for your letters
seem to be very frequent -
I was surprised that they

were so frequent, knowing
that your eyes were weak &
many other things to take up
time, if your father were to
receive one daily he would
not think it often, It is very
pleasing intelligence that your
malady or dies, are so much
better I trust that they will
leave you entirely, by prudent
attention to all the adjuncts
to health, this fashion of
fasting will never do, &
if Mrs Wells will not pro-
-cure such things as are
eatable, do look for some
other quarters if it was for
a month only. there is no

P.S. All join in much love to each of you

most unaccountable,

Oh! that he could give that love & devotion to his Creator & Redeemer instead of a poor mortal that is crushed like the moth!

How happy then would he be for time & eternity!

The great desire of ^{my} heart is to promote & advance the happiness of my dear precious children to their utmost capacity, May God in his infinite wisdom direct all to his glory, & make us all the recipients of that glory.

God bless you. adieu.

My beloved daughter
ever your aff^o Mother

go to church to morrow to hear Dr Breckenridge who is to dedicate the first Presbyterian church, it is completed & ready to receive the General Assembly, next week will be a busy one to all, I almost dread it. But my burden & grief is about my precious Hal. He is in a deplorable state of mind, & seems to throw the responsibility upon me, it is a most wonderful infatuation! How or what to say to him I am at a loss, I do not desire to cause the unhappiness of any one

particularly that of a very dear
son, whether to communicate
all to your father or not
I cannot decide, it will not
do at this time at all events,
really it is most remarka-
ble that letters have fallen
into my hands, without
your father's knowledge,
even your last letter I
should not like to shew
him, it seemed so fortunate
that there were other letters
received from you since
his absence that he could
see, What is to be done
I can't divine, to let it
alone for the present seems

advisable, your father seems
perfectly at ease & happy in
reference to the matter, I
really fear that there is a dan-
gerous correspondence,
should this be the case, Miss
M is certainly exceedingly
culpable & forfeits all faith
in the sincerity of her announce-
ment that she has withdrawn
all intentions to an alliance
The correspondence is only
calculated to feed the flame
which seems to be at a mad-
dening height, perfect idolatry
For a reasonable person to
allow one human being
to gain such an ascenden-
cy over another is to me

1851

Miss Mary Ann
Care W. T. Du
Camr

11

The ladies of Lexington have a
strawberry supper this evening for the
purpose of furnishing the dormitory
for the Normal students, as they
are from the poor families of the
commonwealth, should it be necessa-
ry to pack up your goods & chattels in
a box & not have wherewithal to
fill it whatever your brother has
that he does not want have them put
in, shoes, hose, &c, &c, they will
do for the servants, as you will
of course be very busy, & scarcely
time to even read a letter, I will
stop, with much love to you &
Ab. God bless you & give you a safe
journey home is my prayer

Your ever affectionate
Mother

Durham

June 16th 1857

My Precious Daughter

Your letter of the 9th
was rec^d at tea time last evening &
I hasten to write to you this morning
The thought is delightful that you will
be with us so soon, & dear Ab. will not
belong after, indeed it will be too happy
to last long, I am afraid, About the
Piano you ought to ^{have} one immediately & I
think you ought to select one whilst you
are there I shall try to persuade your
father to consent, he says that you are
spending money at the rate of 3,000 per
annum, but we had better spend it
than to pay thousands for others, It is
quite shocking, You must learn
all about the management of the
sewing machine, how to keep it in order
there are some of them that when

a stitch is cut it will all unravel
out just like a stocking, such a one
would be very objectionable, I should
be very glad to get a situation for
Miss Upham, but the different schools
employ teachers for their classes, & it is
or will be vacation in all of them
soon, there will ^{then} be more probability
of securing a situation for the next
term, My dear you certainly have a
sufficient number of collars to do you
for a few weeks & to get home in, if
Ellen's was clean I could send it in this
letter but it is soiled, not fit to be seen,
& to wait to be washed you may not
get it before leaving, it seems to take
letters an age to reach you, Tomorrow
your old friends sail for Europe, God
bless them & give them a prosperous sail
It seems that this Continent is bound for
the Eastern one, An intelligent party
with a good historian or one with the

information necessary for a profitable
travel would be most delightful,
The voyage of the ocean is the only objec-
tion, The General Assembly have met
& parted, the citizens & visitors were
mutually pleased, they have all departed
with the praise of Lexington on every
one's lips, Ky - has added to her laurels
as the home of the hospitable, we did
not make many acquaintances being in the
country but those we did were very
charming, it was an oasis to us, It
will be a green spot in our memory
Ann is just come in with a peck of
delicious Sturwheppies, which we have
been enjoying for several weeks, &
I am always wishing that my dear ones
away could do the same, The cherries
are ripening very fast, there are more
than I expected we should have had
but I will not tantalize you with
saying any thing more as you can not enjoy
them



Miss Mary Duncan
Lexington
Ky -



Miss M. D. Higgins
Miss M. D. Higgins

Miss M. D. Higgins
Miss M. D. Higgins

we walked to the Pond &
took the White two-oared boat
L. G. & myself rowing - we
had a very good time -
returning we robbed Mr
Grays Orchard of Apples
& Peas - Last evening at
Miss Foy's - there were Mr & Mrs
Colburn - Vincent Dyer -
Reverend Nicholas & ~~my~~ Miss
Thomas & myself -

Love to All

Yours Affly Bro^r

J. Foy

Cambridge Oct 11-1837

My dear Sister

I find that your
letter of the 5th is still unan-
swered, but hoping that you
will not be offended at my
neglect, I shall now try to
answer all of your questions
in the order in which they
occur - yes I am having a
very good time - not having a
sister to bother me - Story
Grimm is quite a hand-
some young man & much
liked by the frail sex - he
seems to be a young man of
good habits - and will live
for the future in Boston in
a Commission house.

I do not think him much
like Chauncy. He is better
looking - "Stack" does not
prosper as well as I should
like - the rumor is so general
that he is engaged to L. G. as
that many persons believe in
and have congratulated the
parties - thus disturbing Mrs G.
very much - He is still as
attractive as ever but I do
not think he will succeed -
Miss L. does not attend Prof
this year -
I will write to Garland Webb -
I have been quite a
bad boy this week - I
have been twice to the Theater
- On Monday evening I went
to the Theater - on Tuesday evening
I went to Mrs Austins - the

young ladies desire to be
remembered to you - On
Thursday I called at Mr
Bowditch's saw the lovely
May - also Miss B and Miss
Shelton - I find it a charming
place to visit - or or - I
will take tea there on next
Thursday - Friday
evening went to Theater
with Mrs & Miss G. & Miss
Howe - & Stack - to hear
Mr Chs Matthews - had quite a
good time -
Saturday at 10 o'cl I went
to Fresh Pond with Miss
Greenough & Thomas - Miss
Thomas daughter of Judge T. of
Worcester - has your old room
at Mrs Wells - she is quite
a charming lady -

SAINT LOUIS
NOV 18



Miss Mary Duncan
Lexington
Kentucky

Mrs. Hart Gibson.

Paula & finally informed me that the
Robole house was rent. They had, most
fortunately, been able to buy the beds,
furniture & all, & had nothing to do
but to step right into it & take possession.
The house is small, but in this city
best neighborhood, furnished in perfect
taste, although not elegantly, and I
never was so perfectly delighted & surprised
in all my life. Some friends, Judge Leach & his
wife, were there to see how I should behave.
I was crazy with joy & could not sleep until
the clock in consequence of having a home
again. Now shall have ~~my~~ my bed
to offer you, and you must be sure to come
to it. Louis has written to make me a visit.
You will come, won't you? I will be glad
to see you when Mrs. Webb returns, so you must
be sure to come then. The little room that I
have shall be occupied all the time until
some friend, visit, we can have time to
build a house large enough to hold a
large family. Now you must enjoy your
hardback. We can try that in the city,
though. I have ^{but few} friends to speak of,
but have ^{been} a great many dear
old friends, and am in the north my
own. I did at the head of the letter
as it was to I must close.

My dear Mother -
I received your kind letter of the 27th & was
glad to hear from you. I am well & hope
these few lines will find you the same.
I have not much news to write at present.
The weather is very warm here now.
I have not seen any of the old folks
for some time. I shall be glad to see
you when you next come to the city.
I am your affectionate daughter,
Mary Weston.



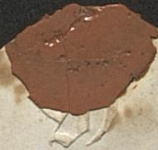
Miss Mary J. American
Care of Henry J. American City
London
Eng.

Received
of the
Post Office
at
London
the
5th
of
May
1851



Dear Mother
I have just received your kind letter
and was glad to hear from you
and to hear that you were all
well. I am well at present
and hope these few lines will
find you all the same. I have
not much news to write at
present. I am still at school
and will be there for some
time yet. I have not much
time to write at present.
I must close for this time.
I will write again soon.
I am, dear Mother, your
affectionate son,
John Smith

with me in the "Month of
June." Many I presume, has told
you of our plan for the summer
we were to have gone to Pittsfield
the last of June, but I shall be
more than contented to stay at
home if the will only come
to me - we last felt almost
forbid me to hope, but I will
not give up I shall promise you nothing
dear, but the warmest of welcomes -
Pittsfield is not a gay place - we
had a large society of Ladies, and
not more than a dozen gentlemen
and most of them are engaged.
However, it is not where you
depend on the last mentioned
article for your happiness. I think
you would enjoy a visit to us



Miss Mary Doolan
Lyngton
Ky.

I saw your Requettype last
night at Dr Johnson's. It is
excellent, and extremely pretty.
I wish you would bring me
one. I had the one of Lucy. I guess
I mean had the.

Lockjole is immensely attentive
to Lillie Greenough and is
pleased half to death by the
students. The other day I happened
to mention her name and he
flushed up to the roots of
his hair. Lily May and Lillie
Greenough are going to be
conferred Sunday after next.

How you certainly must come
back soon. Dear Mary for you
know school had run about
three months. I am dreadfully
tired of school just now, and with
it was finished. Excuse this
writing Mary, but it is with a
quill pen and you know that

but now you
see.
Your affectionate
friend
John Jay

Cambridge March 26th 1857

My dear Mary
Do you think I am
never going to answer your kind
letter? I have thought of you
very often, and have even
commenced a letter to you,
but which, for some reason or
other, had remained unfulfilled
in my desk. When I received
your letter I was staying in
Boston with my cousin
Mary Boston and have been
there until about a week ago
when I returned to this stupid
old place. I don't think I
have seen anybody, excepting at

at school since I came home.

Do you know Mr Lee of the
Junior Class? A few days ago
when coming from Boston in
the car, he made a bet that
he would jump off from the
front, and land on both feet
without tumbling. He attempted
it but of course was thrown
over, not having hold of the car,
and the wheel ran over his
hip, crushing his hip, and
injuring him very badly. The
reason I thought of this was
that I have just seen him
limping round for the first time
since he was sick.

Shelley is here I am happy
to see and giving a couple of
lectures to which I have the
pleasure of going. He is the
only performer and there is no
singing so we hear night or ten

pieces from him alone.
This is about the only music I
have heard lately. Everything
in Cambridge is just the same
and dead dull. The Appys have gone
to Boston to live. At present
Mrs Appy and Tilly are in New
York, Richard is hunting
in Canada so that Mr Clay
Lilly and Fiske are the only
ones at home. I passed the
night with Lilly a little
while ago. The house is very
handsome indeed. You will see
it when you return, if you
see it. When are you coming
Mary. Your father told me
the other day that he had
very great doubts whether you
would come back at all. I am sure
I hope you will Mary, for I
want to see you very much.

~~Dear Mother~~
~~I am so glad to hear of your~~
~~going to the States~~
~~and hope you will find~~
~~it all going well~~
~~I have heard~~
~~nothing from Alice~~
~~since she left~~
~~Cambridge~~
~~I don't know~~
~~what she will do~~
~~about skating~~
~~but I am~~
~~glad that you~~
~~are going~~
~~I hope that~~
~~your father~~
~~will look out~~
~~for you~~
~~and~~
~~keep you~~
~~safe~~
~~I hope~~
~~you will~~
~~write soon~~
~~and~~
~~let me~~
~~hear~~

~~Dear Mother~~
~~I have~~
~~heard~~
~~nothing~~
~~from~~
~~Alice~~
~~since~~
~~she~~
~~left~~
~~Cambridge~~
~~I~~
~~don't~~
~~know~~
~~what~~
~~she~~
~~will~~
~~do~~
~~about~~
~~skating~~
~~but~~
~~I~~
~~am~~
~~glad~~
~~that~~
~~you~~
~~are~~
~~going~~
~~I~~
~~hope~~
~~that~~
~~your~~
~~father~~
~~will~~
~~look~~
~~out~~
~~for~~
~~you~~
~~and~~
~~keep~~
~~you~~
~~safe~~
~~I~~
~~hope~~
~~you~~
~~will~~
~~write~~
~~soon~~
~~and~~
~~let~~
~~me~~
~~hear~~

I have been in the City of St. Louis
just three weeks & have not ^{really} seen as
yet - I am not at all as you are,
you see. Really I am quite sorry for the
"Smiths" - I shall have to plead for
him & use my influence in his favor - you
know that my sympathies are almost
wholly for the weak - do give me a
description of him as well as his name
& home in your next. For as I am to be
indisposed it will be necessary for the
business to ask my consent - By the
way ^{if you} get married there will be
no business left for me for all my
friends will be married & before me
what shall I do? I guess that you have
never heard that A. Smith has never
offered to me. I hear that there are some
very fine and young men but I have
not had the good fortune as yet of
meeting them. I have already attended
a few Sociables, enjoying myself very much.
I hear of no large class parties to
come off - as the Sociables they were
simple & unexciting.

I have attended two this week, besides
having company two evenings, and
I should not be surprised to see
company at any moment now. I have
not tried of playing for people's amuse-
ment - I am not obliged to comply with
a good grace when I am requested to
play - it will be so nice to have you to
help me entertain company - but
above all to walk, read, sew & sleep with
me - you don't know how I dread going
to bed all alone - with no one to talk to,
and no one to hug me. Tell me when
you can come - you must not put it
off a minute after New Year.

I wish that you would write to Clara.
She is homelike very nice & then,
although on the whole she is enjoying
herself very much - we had a letter
from her today saying that Lizzy
Abdritch was spending Sunday with
her, & that she was going to pass
Thanksgiving with Lizzy in town.
Suppose that you had a good
dinner last Thursday - we

20



Miss Mary Dunsen -
Lexington -
Kentucky -



Cambridge March 26th 1857

Thursday Morning.

My darling Mary -

I have just got home from school; I am away because I was tired of studying, and did not know my geometry lesson, which is exciting at this very moment. So I will ^{and} seize the opportunity by writing you, to give a thousand thanks for the dear little ^{autotype} negative that I received on Tuesday.

I am perfectly delighted with it, the figure is perfect, and the face is almost, but has not quite the right expression. You see to my heart my beautiful likeness, for know when you come for it. Shall you really return in two or three weeks? I do hope that you will, and I am writing you now particularly to ask you to write me before starting, and let me know when you intend

taking up your state; that I may
know when & where to look for you.
I wish that you would go back to the
Wells, for your com. I think it not
taken, and I wish to have you visit.

Do you know that I believe that
you have stolen G. G.'s heart from me?
He was perfectly crazy to carry your
negatives to college with him, but
I wouldn't let him - did I do right?

He is also anxious for your return.

Your unfortunate friend, Mr. Lee,
was run over the other day by the
wheel of a horse-car; it crushed his
leg, I believe, but did not break it.
I saw him walking out, or rather
limping today. Perhaps this is state
news. We have heard very little of
the Count lately, but Henry Lawrence
is dreadfully devoted; he was out here
every night but one for a whole
week, and that one night he went
to a concert with her. I really think
that they are engaged. Now I have
told all the gossip that I can

think of. Can't you tell me some
thing of yourself? Something exciting
& interesting. I have noticed a ring
on the first finger of the left hand
in your likeness, and immediately
prophesied that you were engaged.
Of course if that were so I should
have known it, for I have to prepare
myself for being bridesmaid, you know.

What is Mr. Frost? you have never
said anything about him in your
letters. Is he going to return to Cambridge?
Why doesn't Lucy answer my letters?
She is a naughty girl about
writing. I have her a great deal of love
when you see her; and I have, both
of you, to think of me at least once
a day. Where did those flowers come
from that you sent? They are very sweet.
When you write, as you will immediately,
give me a full account of all that you
have been doing, & whom you have seen.
I could write much longer, but can't find
the time. Dr. & Mrs. Johnson & mother
read a great deal of love & I wish I had
always fingers after you. The things of you
to Chicago soon today. Clara seems to
like it, but not so large a quantity as Joe



Miss Mary Duncan
Lexington
Kentucky



being, and being. When you visit
 me you shall sit in the parlor &
 receive my company, while I make
 cake for them. Would you like that
 arrangement? But I must remember
 that that time has not yet arrived
 and that I can get a school girl.
 By the way we have had three crew
 races, a lady Edward & two Doves,
 and tomorrow you to have three more,
 all of whom have been out into society,
 but has gone, to retire, attracted by Prof.
 D. I think that our school has
 become decidedly the rage. Did I tell
 you that I had given up algebra, and
 am studying geometry? I like the
 latter much better, and had gone as
 far as ~~the~~ girl usually do in
 it. I received Lucy's daguerrestype
 yesterday, and am delighted with it;
 it is perfect, excepting that it is too light,
 the hair is not exactly light black enough.
 Who didn't just come with it, you
 thought so. I shall continue to work
 on the flag monument to be
 erected - you won't wait for that, will you?

Cambridge March 8th 57

My dear Mary -

I don't know that I should
 write you so soon, if I did not think
 that you would be better this time and
 answer my letter immediately. I am
 in something of a hurry, I could this
 morning, and could give you a good
 lecture - you know that I am celebrated
 for lecturing - if I did not think it
 best to restrain myself, and show
 the more lovable side of my disposition.
 It is Sunday morning early - I don't
 believe that you are up - only half past
 eight o'clock, and I did not see until
 eight, so, of course, my eyes are not
 more than half open! I shall think
 of you all the time that I am writing
 as well as up all about in that form
 of yours, which is too sacred for any but
 your best friends to sleep in, and wishing
 that you had Lucy or somebody to help.

But you are such an independent little
witch that you would never own up to
feeling lonely; I shall never be too
proud to say that I hate above all
things to sleep alone, and when I am
obliged to do so that I hang a fellow. What
a confessions! I wish that when you and me
that you would tell me some order of
business for the day. I know nothing
of your proceedings, and you know all of
mine. Do you stand a party every
night and dance until morning, or are
you a domestic little body, making
up for the lost time when you have
been away from home? Yes, that is
Dr. & Mrs. J. particularly, and Clara &
I generally are disgusted with the
stupidity of Cambridge. No parties, no
fun, no anything; I believe that the
town will die of stupidity and spleen.
How soon are you coming back to do your
part towards improving it? Will you
tout de suite Marion? Do you know
that it has been remarked, this is not

personal at all, that it is very peculiar
that so many young ladies should have
been taken sick just as the college
vacation began. Don't that abominable?
If we are pretty toady now, as you can
understand, for both father & mother
are away; father has returned to Ch.
Louis, and mother has gone to Litcha
N. Y. to make a visit of two or three weeks,
but one voyage to do very well alone,
being at home so little, and was glad
to have her go, on account of her health.
Father has gone home probably for the
last time without it. I wish that I could.
It will be so charming to keep house
again, & have a home to invite our
friends to; we shall make good use of
the privilege then. Adieu now, and
you don't know what a grand wonder
I shall awake; I shall constitute myself
head steward, making it my business to
forget all my learning, supposing that
I have any, and my motto, and plunge
myself into the business of making.



Miss Mary Duncan
Care of E. T. Duncan

W
JAN
2
1831

Cambridge
Mass



Eveing. January 12, 1859

The sun to the west has descended
Encircle in crimson and gold
The beautiful day light has ended
The night wind blows freshly and cold.

My dear Sister

Your two of the 20th have just come to hand & it is with the greatest pleasure I reply to her. Mother received one brother you must tell him I have a good joke on him & if he asks what it is tell him father had said that he wondered where his stamp of a letter was. The weather is cold but better they have been getting ice for two or three days. The ice is six inches thick & is as clear as crystal. The house is nearly full I guess they will fill it to morrow. I am glad you liked your New Years dinner you were right I would not have cared if it had cost five & I think you pay me well enough to every thing that you wanted & that is nice, such as Aunt Anne's &c. It is a pity Miss Lucy's cake got sick. I don't think I would fancy it much.

I had a very pleasant Christmas. The tree was beautifully adorned with cornucopid & the best of bonbons in the land. It was beautifully lit with little dolls holding candles & which very much reminded you of the description of the genre of the Arabian Nights ^{the fairy tale} by the author of the novels, it was fine & reached to the ceiling. I believe the pine is finer than the

under I wish you & dear brother had been there & then our happiness would
have been complete I ^{am} sorry you did not enjoy your Christmas more,
My dear you must not feel so badly about brother leaving you he will
not be gone long & I will try & visit you & you must not think of making
me a Christmas gift instead of taking your spare moments for that you
go out walking Father gave me a beautiful little bird pin, & Mother a handsome
handkerchief & four pair of kid gloves, Alice a first part monai & corni
cupid & two bon bons, I gave her a handsome book the title of which
was the heroes of Shakspeare with handsome engravings of each.

Little Pimmie says you & Louisa will be here with Mr Perrin
mother received a letter from them she said that Pimmie was
getting a lung very well she had cried but since &
when she asked her what was the matter she said that
she could not help it for Spiggie & Bettie took her
little teakettle & were asked for pardon & then called
her black pigar because she was a little sacker than
they were. It is nearly 9 o'clock which is my bed time
we are all generally in bed at that hour of the night I forgot to
ask you if you got my little knife & did you like it I thought
it would look pretty amongst your charms, did brother find
the old & new Testaments bound in three volumes I
would wish large print & in calf skin binding for
Father. Good night all join in love to you & dear
brother also miss Lucy Paeb.

Your devoted sister

Ellen Duncan

brought me to go round as they
would be so lonely without you. I
could not get an account of the severe
storm. Like, like G. and Dick talked
up old ladies and gentlemen of the
olden time. Puffed their hair and
put on old fashioned clothes. I have
dropped some sealing wax on my
paper which makes it look very
badly, but you will excuse it
won't you? They expect Mr and
Mrs May home on Tuesday. I want
to see them very much. I have
been told that he is about as bad
as first as his son. It must be
pleasant for the wife. Everything
at school is going on about the same.
Mr. Tetter much to my sorrow is
expected home this week. I have to
suffer to be while he is gone that
I enjoy it very much though I
like him exceedingly. Tell your

Cambridge Feb 1st 1857

My dear Mary

As I am very particular
about keeping my promises, I shall
now proceed to fulfill mine made
to you before you left this morning
place. I am afraid my letter will
neither be very interesting nor very
long as you have been absent too
short a time for anything very
amusing to have happened. I have
just returned from church with
your friend The Count. On account
of a terrible storm, (as he said) I did
not have the pleasure of his company
last evening, but probably he will
be round tonight. I am again alone
and wish you were here to share

my solitude as you did once before
He will give very much my dear
Mary both at school and at home.
The other day I was on the point
of going to see you when it occurred
to me that you were gone away.
I envy you the warm weather and
beautiful flowers that you must be
having, while we are suffering from
the cold and storms. We shall soon
have very fine skating if it does
not snow. It has been raining hard
and has washed all the snow away
from the ice and of course will
make very good skating. The Mary
I have been introduced to the most
charming young man. I am afraid
he will cut Dick all out. He is a
great friend of Willie Gordon's and
yesterday he brought him to see
me. His name is Samuel Wilson and
he had just returned from California

and is studying to enter the Lybourn
Class. He is fine, handsome, with a
beautiful figure and extremely agreeable.
I wish I had known him before
you went, so I could have introduced
him to you. He is coming out to
see me soon. I must have him out
here some Saturday night so that I
can take him round to the Jays.
What is charming that I have found
one so well calculated to oppose Dick?
You see, while you are away I have
to manage all alone, and necessarily
know what to do. I shall depend upon
receiving a letter from you soon
giving me instructions as regards my
behavior. I think it is a very
wicked arrangement but you
know it must be done. To take
down a little of our friends Brent.
I imagine they missed you very
much at the Jays last night. Oh,



Miss Mary Duncan
Care W. T. Duncan Jr
Cambridge
Mass



in great perplexity I want to see W - Lorry for some
 & clarity. Be careful & not take cold as you have
 done before.

get him to open his mind to
 you & converse freely, of his troubles
 such a step is altogether impracticable
 your father's happiness & peace would be
 marred for life & all intercourse
 would be stopped, W - thinks he was
 treated too much like a child by
 his father. Now W - should ^{not} think any
 thing of that, old persons always use
 juvenile terms to those younger
 I regret exceedingly that their
 intercourse had not been such as
 to make W - feel easy & free as an
 equal & a man - it were better that
 your father had ^{not} gone on, your
 brother's mind is in a desperate state &
 if you can manage so as to learn
 from himself, do your utmost to
 turn him in the right way I shall
 not be able to sleep or anything else
 until I hear from you, that W - is in
 a better state of feeling - I can't reconcile
 myself to such an arrangement, I'm

Duncanson
 Friday May 9, 1854

My dear sister
 Father has just come
 home and I have just sat down to
 tell you whether he got home safe or
 not he has got home very safe we
 were so glad to ^{see} him, it has been
 so long since I have seen him
 we were so busy engaged in ~~the~~ ^{our} ~~business~~
 that we did not ~~hear~~ ^{know} the cars but
 brother sent Julia in to tell us.
 Father bought Mother a handsome
 little enameled watch it is so
 pretty it has the holy family on
 it he paid a hundred and fifty dollars
 for it Miss Higgins said that when
 you came home that you would
 swap the one you have got for it
 it is so pretty father said there
 was a terrific storm in Boston Monday
 and Tuesday so that ~~we~~ ^{she} could not go

out of doors the weather is getting warm at last the trees are beginning to bloom the cherries are not all killed we will have a few cherries apples and peaches & pears. as I told you the weather was getting warm yesterday was as warm as a summer day to day it has been raining all the time I we will soon put on our summer clothes it is getting so warm Mother cut off my hair yesterday Miss Higgins did not like it she wanted me to let it stay on till you and brother got home so brother Henry could say O what a fright she wanted to curl sister Ellen's to and you know she has hers curled and she thought it would frighten brother. Father said that brother did not know him with his ~~white~~ whiskers and he said that had better cut them off as he would frighten his son so and so Miss Higgins

she would frighten brother with so many curls. Miss Higgins got a very pretty muslin dress it is very pretty she is going to get Tabby Mason to make it. We have finished going to the Dentist now how many teeth do you think sister Ellen had to plug twenty one teeth Dr. Gilbert said sister Ellen was the best soldier he ever saw. I will have to bring my letter to a close all send love & a kiss to you and brother your afft sister
Lilly

My very dear daughter

Your father has returned safe from his journey for which I am truly thankful, James brought a letter out from dear Thos he is in a very sad state of mind & it is a great grief to me, he is desirous to renew his engagement with Miss — & wishes me to say yes or no, do try



Miss Dimean
Care of H. T. Dimean Esq
Lexing Town
Va.

be very select next term in the
no & etc of my lady friends)
It presumes that by this time you
are in the middle of the
wise &c in Lex (11. am)

- This will be my last letter -
before to leave Cambridge -
I called at the Middlewoman's
on yesterday and directed your
plunder to be sent out immediately

Love to all
Your Aff Brother
Perry

Cambridge July 4 - 1857 -

My dear Sister -

Having little to do
today, and not knowing how
I can better pass the day, and
supposing that it will be agreeable
to you to receive a letter, I will
give you a few lines relative to
the events of the past week -
will you must know that
the Opera which was to come
off at Chickering, did come off
and in fine style the rooms
were crowded by a very elegant
assemblage of Gentles & Ladies -
I wish that you could have
seen it - I have seldom been
so much amused - The H. was
a very good King - Stack. was
a beautiful woman (P. H. C.)

Dyer & Leroyd sustained their
parts admirably - Lay maids
Hence munea was inevitable
- Tom Hunt by Weld was also
very good - I met your friend
the R's and came out with them
- Miss Maggie E. has returned and
seems to have had a good time
but glad to get back to receive
V's attentions - Miss Colburn
is back - I have seen them &
they all ask, as do all your
friends very warmly for you
- I have taken Miss R. - hair
to Jones & Co to have the ring
made - by the by your seal
ring was \$14.00 instead of \$3.
your sewing machine will be
on in a few days -
Mrs & Miss E. will leave on
Monday for N. Y. - I think

as devoted as ever. I went down
to see the young ladies at Dr. J's -
this morning - to "have some fun"
burning a little powder in the
form of "fire crackers" very much
to the annoyance of Dr & Mrs J.
I am going to Mahant today &
will remain over Sunday in
order to escape the noise &
confusion of Boston & Camb.
I could not sleep last night
owing to the noise - which will
be worse this evening -
I took tea on Wednesday evening
with the Bowditchs - and had
a charming time - Mrs W. Sargent
was staying with them - she is I
believe a relative of Mrs Henry
Dunbar - I was much pleased
with ~~them~~ her - and shall cultivate
her acquaintance - (I intend to

R

ELLIOTT
JUL
21
1870



Miss M. ...

...

with several others. Dr. F. was in
had gone out to a party, and some
young folks had planned to
and all went down to the soda-
fountain - from cracked of us - then
returned home, smoked, & regarded
Bangs & cards, and
trained in every conceivable way until
after eleven, when they finally took
their departure singing as they went. You
know just the kind of a time that one
had never seen before in the
house before. Mr. Woodson was there
at the time, and played although
he looked very sad at times - his
father had been trained only two days
& a half - wasn't it strange? Mr. Woodson
said that he was very glad to have
had him come out, for he was almost
afraid of his going crazy.



3
Oxfordton - July 21st / 57
Monday afternoon

My dear little boy -

Three or four weeks
have passed since that memorable
Saturday when you left Cambridge
town, and I have heard nothing
from you - neither have you from
me, except that letter.

Do you remember that day? I don't
believe a good time, although
you poor child, had some work
as well as play to do. What
remarkable poetry was that which
we composed! Poetry of Prof. Ogden's
abolished! And the letter - notes too
was very good - Mr. Dr. thought that

if we were going to be in
Cambridge together, could be longer
and the old days, the Constable
would be after it. Did you have
a pleasant journey home? I long
to hear a detached account of your
journey & everything that had hap-
pened since your return home.
I will proceed to give you all the
news that I know, and as I am
writing without being interrupted
I will, I am sure, be shocked at
the appearance that this epistle will
probably present. In the first place,
you know that we heard of Mrs.
Borden's being taken in an apoplectic
fit the day that you left C. Well,
she continued in a state between life
& death until the 4th of July when
she died - wasn't it dreadful?

During his mother's illness, Mr.
Borden was with the Pophams a great
deal. I met him there one evening
and talked with him about a short
I guess he is a sensible - serious, and he
seemed as cheerful & natural, as usual
is strange! I suppose that he forced
himself to conceal his feelings.
His mother was buried on Wednesday
morning, & we all attended the
funeral; we accepted me, going to
the grave - he looked as pale as
his mother - but he did not show
any thing - he said that same day
at two o'clock with his father.
Mr. Otter returned the day before
and ^{the week} before he came to see us,
so I had the pleasure of saying goodbye
to him a second time. The week
before - Friday - he came again, and
we Clark, & Mr. Borden & say goodbye

You must turn it directly up, for
I am ashamed of it. Write me
soon, & tell me everything that is
interesting - you promised to send
me some of Mrs. Beall's hair, and
didn't do it, naughty girl. I shall
send a little bit soon as you
receive this for I have not got
time to make anything very well
at present. I shall write to
Do you remember that each day of
school when we had were determined
to walk home alone. I should like
to walk home alone, and wish mean
to walk home alone sometime
when I am no school woman perhaps,
when I will take that walk again &
remember both how happy & how
sorry I was on that day.
I have got to the end of the second
sheet. So is likely to be as well as
I will like.

The next morning we departed; I was
so glad to have the last goodbye
fare. Although of course we felt very
badly at leaving Cambridge.
We went only to Lowell on that day,
for visiting some cousins there, then
Boston. Father & Mother went on to
Worcester that afternoon, Clara & I
staid over Sunday - and we had
such a good time. The place is
beautiful, & the family is the happiest
that you have met. The girls are charming
& have a great deal of company, and then
there was a young Dr. ^{Criffin} Taber
tells you his name, whom I had a
real phitotia visit - a real love affair,
and a nice talk as we had together.

I wish a penny as we took to each other! For Peter was certainly the most in the shade, for his manners &c. was as handsome as he could be. Such fell! If we only were going to be in Boston another year, we should have had so much fun together - we were acquainted almost forty eight hours, and we passed calling each other better letters, and always found us things we had known each other for years. On Monday we went to Newburyport, and had quite a pleasant week there, on Saturday we came to Ellington Cove, a village about twenty miles from Springfield where we are visiting another delightful family of Quakers, and are enjoying ourselves exceedingly. I ought to tell you that Fannie Calbot called on me in Lowell, bringing others, and asked after you

and willing to be an intimate friend of yours. I made the same professions with your intimate friend, Dulcie Dear. We would not forget each other as much as both girl friends do. we live so near each other, that there is no reason why we should. Do you know that Clara is going to be in Cambridge next winter & I shall visit her there - She is going to have her Clark's room, just opposite yours, you know, and is so long that you are not going to have your old room - you might have good times together. Just think of our going to St. Louis, & leaving Clara behind, would it be horrid? How haven't I written a long consoling letter? You shall have shown that to a single person - congratulated - word?



Miss Mary Duncan
Care H. J. Duncan Esq
Lexington
Ky

Miss Mary

I feel assured from
your remarks at the time, that
I was very excusable for carelessly
breaking your "Opera Glasses," though
at the same time I thought a pair
would not be unacceptable for
their use at your Fair, where it
seemed they would be somewhat
of a desideratum, - especially as it
was doubtless impossible to procure
them in Lexington.

At all events I

determined to send a pair
anonymously through my friend
for H. C. Hill Jr. in such a
manner as appeared impossible for
you to divine the source. In
this however I find myself mistaken
by his betrayal of confidence, for
which I will hold him personally
responsible.

As they were sent
as a slight memento of the fact
and not to rectify the result of
an accident, I trust you will
not be very angry: if you
should please share it between
H. C. Hill & myself.

As regards your short-
but as you say pleasant stay
in our city, I can assume
little credit having contributed
only a mite thereof, which, while I
was in Lexington last July, was
more than repaid by your many
kind attentions.

With kindest regards
to your Father & family

I am

Very Truly Yours,

W. S. Fife

To
Miss Mary Duncan
Lexington

ky
Louisville Oct 12th 1854.



Miss Mary Duncan

(Care of Henry T. Davis Esq)

Lexington Ky:

Lansville April 10th 1857

Dear Mary,

Alice showed me the
postscript of your letter to her,
which, indeed, was pretty characteristic
of what they say of the epistolary convention.
— this your sep. — I reply to it as follows.

If as you are about to return to school
I conclude that eyes & throat are both
improved, and as you are going into
a very circle of society, I think you
had better not undertake to continue any
form of prescriptions; but depend, for further
improvement, rather upon taking care, than
taking medicine.

Forbear your eyes, in your studies,
as much as possible, for a while; and
save them at all, at present, by reticence

light, and bathe them, every day, with
your habitual cold water obstructions,
with a moderate stimulant - such, for
example, as a weak solution of brandy
in water, just strong enough to be
felt in a sense of warmth, when ap-
plied to the closed eyes.

For the throat, you should practice
the daily use of some tonic gargle -
a botanically strong solution of Alum
being as good as any. If you find
that your singing - lessons, make you
hoarse, on occasion such an under
secretion of mucus, or renders it necessary
to keep clearing the throat, by coughing
or other efforts, you must give them
up. That I do not think that a moderate
use of the vocal organs, in the way of sing-
ing, is likely to be injurious.

Remember me to both Henry, and accept,
for yourself & for him, my best wishes
that both of you may find the signal
advantage for education now at your com-
-mand, as reasonable at present, as Henry
may be made conducive to your useful-
-ness, respectability & happiness in future.

Affectionately yours

John H. Felton

1st Mix equal parts of Saltpetre
and Gum - of tartar in Sugar
or maple to the consistency of mass,
and give her a teaspoonfull of
the mixture every night for two
weeks. If they should prove too
purgative, let her take less.

2^d Take a dry skin - a teaspoonfull
of the Sacchar of Lodine into a
cup of boiling water, and holding
her mouth over the cup let her
bring the vapor into contact with
the affected surface in the throat.

3 Copy the entire to the
eye-balls once or twice a week,
and once or twice every day
bathe them with some of the
liquid prescribed below, diluted
with an equal quantity of soft-
water.

R Ammoniac Muricats gr. ℞V
Acid. Acet. dilut. ℥j
Acet. Spii — ℥i
Aqua Colae — ℥ij

H

R

Syrup: Soda Chlorid:

Mullis

Aqua ditata

aa 3ij

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Miss Duncan
Miss Duncan
Lexington
Ky





Lily Fay will go to Prof.
Ayres another year and
will be much benefited
by it —

You must remember me
to all enquiring friends but
particularly to Miss Warfield
and to Miss Clay my love
and say to her that she
will hear from me before
a very great while.

By the by — I had a letter from
Webb — he says you told
him I would write to him
— he is a —

Love to all

Your Affo Bro

Henry

Cambridge Sep. 28th 1857

My dear Sister —

I am much obliged
to you for your last letter &
hope that you will favor me
with as many as you find
leisure to write. I hope
you have time enough for
such duties —

I think that I was exceedingly
fortunate in escaping from
the fair which seem to have
been rather stupid affairs.

I shall look anxiously for a
letter from Miss H. as I will
thereby learn all the particulars
of your Louisville visit which
neither you nor Father have
given me.

My first
intelligence of the fact that
Mr. Mill had located in Lex.

was through the Observer's Reporter.
I trust they may succeed. Do
you attend? — I have given
your love to all who have
asked for you — I passed
Thursday evening at Mrs Austin's
and had a very pleasant time
I hope to become intimate in
that family — I passed last
evening at Miss Day's all the family
were well & send you much love
L. looks quite well — Stay Greenough
is now here on a visit — he is
quite a handsome young man
and I suppose quite a gentleman —
Colburn & his sister Lollie were
also there — I learn from her
that Lady Clara has returned
to Cam. and is staying with
Miss Willby — I hope to see
Clara before a very great
while —

Mr Thayer is very low and
his life is despaired of — He
will be a great loss —
Mumour says that Miss Tudor
is engaged to an Episcopal
preacher or parson — The
Night you have seen him
— The following engagements have
been announced during this
week — Fred Brodler to Miss
Crowningshield — Mr — to
Miss Warren (aged 16) — and
Mumour says that Mr Carey
will renew his engagement
with Miss E. Shelton —
— At last accounts Mrs Sparks
was walking the streets of London
wearing a Sharon hat — you
may remember it — made of
pieces of wood arranged very
much like your fan — in
like the bottom of a basket —



Miss Mary Duneau
Lexington
Ky -

Cambridge Dec. 8th 1857 -

Dear Sister

Thanks for your last letter which came to me yesterday. - I dare say, from what I remember about your party going in Cam. - that you would enjoy the Sociables - which meet next time at Dr Wymans on week from tomorrow - I think I have already given you a list of the members, so it would be useless to give you another -

You are often asked for by your friends whom I meet there - by the by Mrs Croninchild asked very particularly about you - and where Ellen would come on or on - also desired to be remembered to you. - You may consider yourself a member of the "sociables" -

I attended the last meeting of the
class at Roxbury - being instructed
by Miss Mary Bowditch - they are
rather pleasant only too stiff -
I go mostly to see Boston Society
I find it quite an interesting study
- among the ladies of my acquaintance
I found 2 Misses Bowditch - Misses
Mottly - Shelton - Crowschild - Bernard
Hayden - Hooper - Burroughs - Sargent
Blake - Miss Sargent is related
to Mrs H. P. Demer - she is very pleasant
and much admired - among the
Gents. I know her four - D. Haverhill
Crowschild - Hunnewell - Cutting -
- Dancing is the principal amusement
and nearly all take part in it -
- All are well here and
having a good time this
fine weather - looking for
fine skating - will you

let me know the size of Ells
& Silver feet - so that I can get
skates for them -

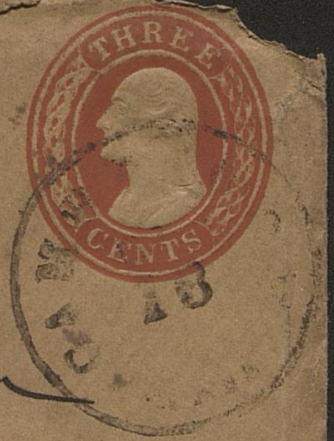
Fires are as numerous
as ever in Cambridge - there was
one very large one on Saturday
night -

You must present my
kind regards to all of my
friends -

Love to all

Your aff. brother
Henry
L

Miss Mary Duncan
Lexington
Ky-



On Monday evening I will go
to a party at Mrs. Cronin's field
and on Tuesday morning to
Mrs. Austen - I am getting
very impatient for the time
for me to start home to
arrive - now four weeks
and little more -

All our friends are well &
have asked to be remembered to
you

Love to all

Your affectionate Mother -

Hester

Cambridge Dec 18th 1857 -

My Dear Sister

I thank you for
yours of the 8th and am glad to
hear that all are well and that
Dr. Jenkins proposes to indulge
me with a letter - I wish it had
been possible for me to have
seen him - do you think that
Ellis's life has improved since?

I should be glad to believe
that he should induce Miss
Higgins to accompany him
to that wild region of country -
I think it would suit her
well for she could become
a missionary among them - which
is if I mistake not her wish
- why call him "Cakhan"?

Do not let Miss Higgins abandon
her purpose of writing to me
her letters have ever been most
welcome

The skating is now over and
we are having a succession of
N.E. rain storms - you can
imagine the conditions to our
skates - Since Mrs Wilson left
the Young Ladies are becoming
more bold and matronise
their selves - You need not
be alarmed on account of my
taking long walks - for I cannot
be robbed for I make it a
rule never to take more money
than is absolutely necessary - at
present I cannot walk on account
of the mud - Christmas being
near at hand there is a good
deal of gaiety as usual at this

at this season - Evening before
last I was at Dr Wyman's - the
Sociables meeting there - I have
become fashionable and do
not go until 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock - because it
gives me time to prepare my
next days lesson before going
- we had quite a good time - and
some refreshments - I danced 3
times with Miss Minot, Chatterbox
& Thomas - Miss Thomas is a
very agreeable person and as
she is your successor I have
quite an objection for her
- I came her home and reached
my room by 11 o'clock - quite a
reasonable hour -

Last evening I went to the
class at Papeanters - passed an
hour and a half quite pleasantly
and returned home



Mrs. Elisa Dement

Lexington

Ky -

Cambridge Nov 24th/57

My dear Mother -

I have now two letters from you which are still unanswered - I thank you for them many times & will not again permit so long a time to pass without replying - The week begins today and I have very prospect of having a dull time of it - & for only one day is provided for and that is Thanksgiving day which I have promised to pass in Salem at the house of our friends the Silsbees - I dare say it will be dull but then there is no help for it. This I was urgent that I could

not decline in favor of an invitation to pass the day at Mrs. Auctus in Boston - when I am sure I should have a jolly time - I have been thinking of walking to Salem and on yesterday having a few spare hours I took a walk of fifteen miles by way of testing my ability to perform the feat - I walked to Watertown - thence to Newtown - then to Jamaica Road - Boston and Cambridge in all about 18 miles - The result is that I will take the cars for Salem and abandon my walking project - Although the sun is shining very brightly still it is pouring out of

doors, you ask me if I miss the Sparks - I miss them more than I had expected - and am quite sure that their place can hardly be filled -

Dr. Huntington is trying to convert the students to his belief in Theology and he has regular meetings which are quite interesting but I am such a sinner that I do not go to them -

My best love to all

Your affec^ted son
Henry

I joined last Saturday at
Lynn - The Day all wished
to be remembered to - Miss
Mary Mrs & Miss L. send love
in abundance.

Mr Frank Thayer enquires for
you whenever I see him -
Poor Fool - I do not know
what will become of him -
His father in his will limits
Frank's personal expenses during
his minority to \$50,000 a year
- My best Love to All

Your Aff Brother

Henry

To

Miss Mary. Duncan

Lexington

Ky

Cambridge Oct 30th /57.

My dear Sister

I hope you
will pardon me for
leaving your exceedingly
agreeable letter of the 17th
unanswered until the
present moment, the best
excuse that I can plead
is the ~~reason~~ that I supposed
you had rather have a
letter at a time when all
are looking for a letter.
- I dare say it was very
naughty of me to say that
I had no sister to bother
me! but really I do miss
you a good deal more
than you would suppose.



Mr Kuddles death was truly distressing and have been a great shock to his family - yet I dare say they will be all the better now that he is out of the way - for if my memory serves me right he was not good for much -

I trust that Miss Clays intended in a clever fellow and will make her a good husband - She is a good girl - and will make a good housekeeper and take good care of home matters - by the by - between you and I I cannot understand why she is so much admired - except a good pedigree she has nothing recommend her - when do the Jacobs return?

I have been quite dissipated this week. I joined a party to go to the Theater on Wednesday and had the agreeable duty of escorting Miss Jennie Blake - last evening I took tea at Mrs Austins and this evening I was to take tea there and bring Miss Lallie A. to the Theater - I have in a measure given up visiting in Cambridge - Miss Fays is the only place that I now go to - I cannot give you any news - only that there is a very beautiful young lady here from Buffalo and I was told that she is very accomplished and quite fast - drives a span of horses & such like. accomplish-
ments



Miss Mary Duncan
Care Henry S. Duncan Esq.
Lexington
Ky.

Let it not be ac-
 cepted in our case
 May, I can't express
 my thanks to you for
 the elegant fish-
 knife sent by Mr
 Hart. I think it is
 the handsomest I
 have ever seen. You
 sent the very thing that
 I had not. If you
 had sent me almost
 anything else in the re-
 main line of silver, it
 would have been a dis-
 please to something
 already given me.
 All of my bridal pres-

Directed to Mrs Mary C. Wells
 Care of Mr. Wells
 St. Louis
 De Wells has
 just - come
 this and de-
 sires me to ju-
 deuce his time
 at the expense of
 your father
 Mrs. C. R.
 Wells and
 your own self
 Write to me
 soon May -
 26th 54
 concluded May
 that I no longer
 occupied a place
 even in your mem-
 ory, to say nothing of
 your affections, and
 had determined to
 write and remind
 you that the same
 "Old Pen" was still
 in the Land of the
 living, when I was
 assured that by you

Kind letter and
the accompanying
beautiful present,
that I was mista-
ken. Oh! Chary, there
are so many cold,
selfish and insin-
cere hearts in this
world, that it is
refreshing to my
soul, to know
that there are
some that are
warm and true,
and I believe I am
not mistaken ac-
cording, when I place
you among that few.

It is really near
Chary, to reassure you
of the depth of
that attachment
formed for you at
Pittsfield, which
has borne the test
of time and depa-
ration. I only hope
my love for you, will
always be as ardent
and sincere as it
now is, and that it
may be fully recip-
rocated by your own.
It is said that school-
girl friendships are
never lasting; but

to house-keeping! I expect
it is rather hard for
you to realize, that I
have become a staid
and settled housekeeper.

We are living in a
wee bit of a house, very
pleasantly located, and
quite near both of
my sisters, which is
of course very agreea-
ble to me. It is only
two weeks since we
moved in, and I have
scarcely had time to
find out whether I shall
like it or not. Fanny
is with me, and will
be for two or three months

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and were useful, and
some of them very
costly and elegant.
May, you don't know
how disappointed I
was, that you were
not at my wedding.
Would you believe
that I thought of
you during the cer-
emony? Mr. Webb was
almost as much dis-
tressed as I was. He
really felt as tho' he
knew you, having heard
me speak of you so
frequently, and knowing
how earnestly I desired

you to be my brides-
maid.

I was extremely sorry
to hear that you had
been compelled to
return home on
account of your throat
and eyes. I remember
you used to complain
of both at school, but
I had no idea that
it would ever become
so serious. What are
you going to do with
yourself? Write and
tell me all about
your plans and expecta-
tions. You know, that

nobody in this world
feels a deeper interest
in every thing connected
with you, than I do.

Perhaps I shall go
home for a week or
two in May, and then
you can tell me all.
Mr. West is going up the
river to attend to some
business, and I am ve-
ry anxious to be at Col-
leton during his absence.
I get very homesick
sometimes.

Perhaps you will be
a little surprised to
hear that I have gone

a few days since. She was very well, and much pleased with her new home.

They want you to come to see her sometime for my sake. She loves you very much.

How are your dear Mother and Father, Eliza and Will? Give them all a kiss and a great deal of love for me.

Are Uncle Dany and Aunt Abby well? Give them my love too.

Pray please write to me very soon, and tell me all the news in town. I have no correspondent in Tex. and she has so many other things to interest her that she rarely speaks of any thing not immediately connected with the family. God bless you my darling & for your home & dear

I received a long letter from Lettie a few days since. She writes to me quite often. Miss Prather's Godd is to be married soon to a young minister by the name of Hill, from somewhere in New-hampshire. Dr & Mrs Agnew are both in miserable health.

Did you know that Maggie Abel and Lou Franklin were married? I saw Mag's marriage announced in an Alabama paper, and a

Letter from Knoxville
told me of Loui.

May I know is she spend-
ing the Winter here.

I met her very un-
expectedly at church
one Sabbath evening.

I have not seen a
great deal of her.

The friends with whom
she is staying, being a
long way from here.

I expect she is a very
fine girl.

Do you ever hear from
Fannie? She promised
Yours truly to write to me,

but hasn't done so. I should
not have waited so
long for her, but didn't
know her address. Please
don't forget to send it
to me. There's no promise
for the winter with
regards to Gus and brother.

Have you ever seen
the "N. M. O." I suppose
you have seen Lizzie
Carr. How is she?

How did you leave
Henry? He must miss
you very much. Give
him my love when
you write.

I hear from Lepta