

Friend Fountain

Quincy Jan 8th 1830

Your favour of the 7th ult I have the pleasure here with to acknowledge, and to thank you for the attention. In answering you it would afford me great satisfaction, to tell you much good news, and to say many pleasing things, either to amuse or interest you; but really my dear fellow, I felt greatly at a loss, what to write, that will be either. Good news is not in our market; pleasing or interesting, equally scarce, and unwilling to communicate, that which would be dull and unedifying, would be throwing away both your time and my own. I must therefore of necessity be short: that I may not tire you, in reading what I may foolishly write. — You ask me, for all the particulars relative to myself since you left: these I will cheerfully give you in a very few words: From the shop to my boarding house, with a few exceptions has been the extent of *proambulation!* to sit all day & peep at old watch, my constant employment, save only when some one accidentally came in, who wished to see every thing, to buy nothing, then so far from being relieved, was only tormented and hurried by the interruption, the variety, proved to be any thing than pleasing, in many instances. Those few exceptions were employed (and they are the sum total of my acts of Galantry since you left) in attending two of my female friends to Church, One of whom I have the pleasure to say, were your sister J. the other Mrs F. L. To get to the Country has been, nearly impossible without running the risk (and a very great one too,) of sticking fast in the Mud, and having to go to the nearest house to obtain assistance to get out! During the Christmas, remained at home in consequence of the extreme badness of the roads. Consequently deprived of the pleasure of visiting, any of my Country Friends.

J. A. M. Phelps  
 Jan: 8th 1830

(Bought)

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 JAN 9  
 Mr Fountain's Copy

Care of  
 Col. James Foster  
 Folsom  
 N. H.