

New York Tuesday April 6th 1841

My dear Father

As I promised you before you went away, on Tuesday 30th March, that I would write to you, I now take up my pen so to do. We are all well, and we also hope, that you are. Mother is very well, and went to church on the sabbath, all day. Mrs Palmer is not very well, but she went to her bible class, and when she had done there came home, as she did not feel able, to stay through the sermon. William, Ellen, & Sarah, went to sabbath school, and Libby went to church with Mother. As Ellen staid at home the sabbath before you went away, I took my share, that Mother might go. I went up to Tarry Town on Wednesday at 8^o clock P.M. in the ^{the} Hoscisco, as the Telegraph had gone away, to get repaired. The fare they charged me was \$2.00, but if the other boat had been there, they only would have charged me 1^o. Mr Walter Lyon agreed to call for me, and go up with me. When he came he said his business was such, that he could not go that day, but would go Thursday. I was desirous of being there on Thursday at the exhibition, and for that reason he agreed to meet me at the boat, at 2^o & 2^o clock. I went down there at that time, and saw nothing of him until just before the boat started, when he came on board. He staid so long, that he had just escaped on shore when the boat started. After a sail of a little over 3 hours we arrived at Tarry Town about 5^o & 0 clock. Then I got to the Institute, I found them rehearsing for the exhibition on the next day. About 6^o clock we went into the dining room, and took tea. I called myself one of them because I am so soon to go there, that it comes handy for me to speak so. After tea we went back into the school room, where those who had not learned their pieces perfectly, took that occasion to do it, or those who had, took their time to read other books. Some of the boys go to bed at 8, and others at 9, or 9^o & 1^o clock I went to bed at the latter time. At about 5^o & 2 clock in the morning we were awakened by the great bell going past our door, which was ringing by a man whose business it was to do. We then dressed ourselves, and after that we went into the washroom, &c. &c.

At about 6¹/₂ clock, the bell again rung, when we went into the schoolroom. We then had prayers, and at about 6¹/₂ clock, we went into the dining room, and took breakfast. — After breakfast we went out to walk, &c. &c. Before 5¹/₂ clock in the morning, some of the larger boys, raised the great flag on the top of the house, on the flag staff which had been previously put up. The flag was about half as large as our nursery, and was made by Mrs. Lyon. Between 10¹/₂ & 11¹/₂ clock, the steam boat hove in sight, and the boys all forming a procession, went down to the church, which pass in going from the Steamboat dock, to the church. While Mr. William P. Lyon went down to the boat, to invite the people to the church, Mr. Charles L. conducted us thither, where we went over the form of the exercises, which were mostly speaking. They had just done with going over the form, when the people arrived from the boat. Several Latin, Greek, & French pieces were spoken. The first spoken, was a Latin salutatory address, the next was an English do. do. During the course of the exercises, there was a French piece spoken, the subject of which was, as follows; Five, or six Spaniards had come to see a Frenchman, who had once turned into a looking glass, and was again a man. There was after this, an English eulogy spoken, by about a dozen boys, who called themselves the philosophical club. They had several philosophical phenomena, among which was a machine by which was thrown water, though in a different form from an engine. Another was an electric machine, by the means of which, they took a shock. Before the close of the exercises, the medals, and certificates were awarded. There were 7, or 8 silver medals given, which cost about 2 dollars each, and there were between 15, & 20 certificates. After the exercises were over, Mr. Lyon invited the parents, and friends of the boys, to go to the institute to dinner. — There were 20, or 30 people there, who came from New York, and there were six tables filled, three of which were taken up by the friends of the boys. It was about 2¹/₂ clock, when the exercises were through at the church, and it was after three, when we had done dinner. After dinner the boys all took their trunks, and carried them down to the gates ready

to be taken away. Waggon then came to take the boys, and their trunks, and
 and carriages to take their friends, down to the steam boat dock. The boys
 all went to New York, except myself and two others I wanted to go with the
 other boys, but it was near 4 1/2 o'clock, when the boat started, and so
 I thought it best to wait until Saturday. Mr Walter Lyon did not get
 to Tarry Town, until Friday night, and on Saturday morning was sick.
 Mr Charles L. was coming down on Saturday morning, and so I came
 with him. Mr Loring called here on Sabbath noon, and in the evening
 he preached. Mrs Palmer & the Doctor both send their love to you
 Mother & I expect to go to Newark, some time this week, as there are things
 there which we want. Yesterday morning mother felt a little unwell,
 but after a while she felt better, and went out to walk. Before we
 returned we called at Mrs Ely's, who has been expecting her father
 for about two weeks, but he has not yet come. We received a letter
 from you yesterday noon, and hope we shall receive another very soon.
 Please give my love to Daniel, & Sarah Gulliver, and tell them
 they must write to me. I should like very much to see you and
 time seems a great deal longer than it is, while you are absent.
 I was very much pleased with my visit to Tarry Town, and
 pleased with the principals, especially with the older. Mr
 the garden fitted up with a very handsome assortment
 and the play ground is to be a spot of grass, with
 through various parts of it. I should be very
 before I go, but I am afraid I shall go before

your obedient

(son, Charles L.)

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