

now perceive the wisdom of it; for Pearson retired  
in utter disgust. Webber lost his life by it; and I believe  
that the chair, even now, feels, at all times, as if  
with eider-down. Pearson predicted to me, & to others, that the  
ingrafting the Botanical & Natural history professorship on the  
University would operate the destruction of the institution.  
I every day see his prediction verifying. Two of their ablest  
teachers, men who have studied & travelled in Europe have  
recently left them, & are about establishing a seminary  
for the instruction of Slaves, near Northampton. The Amherst  
college has lost, by sudden death, its Calvinistic President  
but the institution is progressing, while 40 young men  
of spirit have left Harvard filled with resentment; while  
The establishment is in no small distress for money,  
owing principally to following the advice of some of  
the very wisest men that ever trod the soil of Essex, who  
persuaded them to sell out their 6, p. cent stock when  
it was down to 25. This was all owing to political blind-  
ness, & clerical ignorance. It is said, & I believe it, that  
the funds of the Natural history professorship is nearly  
all consumed, <sup>wasted</sup> without honor or profit. If so, I think the  
history of Ahab, Naboth & Jezebel is about finished.  
If this be a true state of things, they have the bitter re-  
-flection, that it is all owing to the advice of one  
man, who accepted a seat in the Corporation on  
the express condition of doing as he had a mind to.  
I heartily wish the prosperity of this noble institution; but  
I am convinced, that one generation, with its rancor-  
-ous politics, must pass away, before this college, and  
its adjunct, the Academy of Arts & Sciences will be  
placed on a safe, honorable & prosperous footing. I  
wish never to have any thing to do with them. I have no  
more sons to listen to their instructions; and I think so  
~~little of them~~ <sup>of their</sup> ~~that~~ I wonder how I came to say so much  
of them; for assuredly they very rarely occupy the  
thoughts of your Old Leiden Friend

Benj. Waterhouse

shews this to  
Mrs. W. L. L. L.

Pres. Adams

province of Canada been to us? at <sup>the</sup> day?  
was pleased with the idea of possessing Canada. Even  
day, who can wish to see on the floor of our Congress,  
the half-educated Frenchman, with a mind filled with confused  
ideas of a superstitious religion, and of government, rising  
out of that confusion? or of Scotsmen, or sons of Scotchmen inhe-  
-riting the prejudice, & bitterness of their Fathers towards the peo-  
-ple of these independent states? As it is, Canada ~~with~~ in  
its dependance on Britain is like an enormous wen on the  
human body, which while it draws from it growth and  
nourishment, imparts neither strength nor beauty, but  
the reverse. England would be glad to be rid of this mor-  
-strous wen; but she does not relish the idea that  
Jonathan should be the operator.

It seems to be the arrangement of Providence, that a  
prosperous & favoured nation should be surrounded by  
savages, bears, wolves, tigers & Goths, to keep them  
from wandering beyond their proper limits; and  
our limits appear to be the Lakes, and the absolute  
wilderness. I cannot therefore but consider Canada as a  
region through which we yankees should not straggle.

I had forgotten that it was the small pox which stopped  
our advance. This can never happen again. I have been  
well informed that we lost 10,000 men by it at the time  
you mention; so that we see that neither storms, tempests  
nor pestilence break Heaven's design. As to Nova Scotia,  
and the mouth of the river S<sup>t</sup>. Lawrence, ~~the~~ with its sea-  
-board, they may be worth to us more than all Canada.

Instead of going into Boston, to stare, listen, admire,  
drink, clap hands, & feel tired, I have stayed at home  
and written this to amuse an old Friend; that he might  
laugh to hear a Physician talk politics, & make learned  
comments on things that have passed, & wild conjec-  
-tures on what may come!

I close with a word or two on this University — Dr Pearson told  
me some years ago, that his father-in-law, President Holyoke  
said to him, on his deathbed — "if any man wishes to be humbled  
and mortified, let him become President of Harvard-college",  
w<sup>c</sup>. said the Dr, I then thought a very strange speech; but I  
now

~~123.90.5~~  
313.6

HUG 1875.559

Letters of  
Dr. Benj. Waterhouse

1. - to Pres. John Adams  
March 30. 1806

2. - to Pres. John Quincy Adams

John Adams  
1735-1826  
50A - 1767-1848  
Leysdy  
Pres - 1823  
London  
1775-1782  
1825.

From the Trustees of  
Phillips Academy, Andover.

Found among the papers of  
Dr. Eliphalet Pearson.

