

Cambridge July 5th 1829

Dear Mary

I know it will give you pleasure to be informed that your Father reached home safely on Saturday. I expected he would take advantage of my leave of absence & have remained with you longer; but notwithstanding what the New York ladies may tell him, I really believe he is growing old, & that home is the most proper place for him, however it may be, I am very glad to find that home is the most agreeable. Accept my thanks for your present, which is really novel & handsome, I believe me to be with much affection yours L L Waterhouse

My Dear Children - and Grand children of every age - size and note from Elizabeth with her little tea things down to tottle tottle - including the head-digger and and his sister, the sententious little Diddle-diddle de-dee-dee - or - in fewer words - father & mother and the ^{whole} litter of little animals - be it known to you all that I arrived in Boston 24 hours after leaving the wharf at New York, and that is travelling as fast as any sober man or woman ought - for swifter - enough to take away the breath of man or beast. We had over 50 persons on board, and all very regular, orderly and agreeable. We sailed as you saw with flying colours, and a band of music, and when we met the Franklin at midnight, we saluted her with a flight of sky-rockets. But with all this preparation I am apprehensive that the cold rain storm (the mercury in the entry, and in our lodging room at 60) will mar the pleasure and lessen the profits of the excursion; for the Ch. Livingston waste cruise about among the Islands in

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in Buzzards-bay, between New Bedford & Montuck.
The weather was so cold & raw, and damp that we
were glad Mr & Mrs Van — were snug at home. Our
coach party from Providence to Boston was select and
agreeable, Captⁿ Holmes wife and sister and daughter
or niece, and a gentleman & wife from Montreal, and a
Mr Lamb from Boston. As I missed the Cambridge Stage
by five minutes — I went directly and took a 4th of
July dinner with good Andrew Primmer, and ar-
rived at home at 6 o'clock where I was welcomed by
a fire in the parlour that felt very comfortable. After
tea or rather coffee, I enjoyed the luxury of a warm
bath; for whatever my pretended stocial wife may
say to you about her extending my leave of absence,
I find I was expected home, and if I had not come
she would have been disappointed. It is easier for
a woman to pretend kindness than indifference.

This is Sunday — cold, raw, and uncomfortable, and not
a soul goes out either to the meeting house, or court house.
Dr Holmes, ecclesiastical council, whereof Greenough of New
town was President have approved every part of the Doctors
conduct, and condemned every part of the first council,
and they advise and encourage him to throw the
case into the law; and the Supreme court will therefore
consider the business in December next. This business
has, and will exhibit the character of Dr H. in its true light,
that of an obstinate, contentious, sordid man. I suppose the
Register & Recorder will notice the affair in their next.
The old gentleman is very well pleased with the Chinese
fly-scarer; but not more pleased than is Mrs W. with her
neat gilded fresh butter dish. It was just the thing —