

Dartmouth College Sept 4. 1839.

Br Shedd

You have probably been to the P. Office many times with the hope of finding a letter from me, (and perhaps you have often wondered where your Dartmouth friends all are, and what they are doing. They are all here, and doing well so far as I know, but unless some of them have been better correspondents than I have been so far, you know just about as much in relation to things here, as though there was no D. Cole. "But without any apology or extenuation, I plead guilty, and promise to do better." Matters are going on here about as usual. Nothing unusually interesting has transpired, but all is quiet and peaceful. The Freshmen class has upwards of ninety names I believe, but will not, probably number one hundred. The class appears very well indeed - will bear comparison with any Freshman class probably. The Sophomore class we hope will still afford 100. names for the Catalogue. Several have left, some have been kindly recommended to remain away under the Rev. Lord - whose kind parental feelings are probably without a parallel, and we have come in. We have done nothing as yet about Catalogues. Mr Park's address will be published in pamphlet form for the use of the Faculty & students, and is promised the first of Oct. The Freshmen have been initiated into the U. Fraternity. & will be this evening into the S. Friends. They have not been initiated into the Theo. Soc. nor the Handel Soc. They will be initiated into the two latter next week, probably. Four members have been elected into the Glee Club. Geo. Chase. Saml. Button. & a Mr Furber & a Mr Masan of the Freshman class - whether they will see fit to unite with us - I do not yet know. We have not done much yet, we spent the time this morning mostly in business - admitting members - adopting some few by laws &c. - We are about to send for the Orphean Type - and shall have it here in a little more than a week. The Handel Soc. is doing well - and, altho' small goes on as usual. We shall find quite a number to admit, I think.

Mr Tenney has a school - Mr Burston one, & Mr H. Merrill one, Mr  
Cook continues to instruct his private class - I have a class, viz, Mrs.  
Ellen & Arabella Wood. I have spent three hours with them, but think  
I shall spend only one more. They have not a musical ear, and are  
unable yet, to rise from 1 to 2. Courtesly - and I think that Mrs. & Ellen  
never will do any thing with music. At any rate - I can't dwell with  
them much longer. Tutor J. Bartlett is here and Chas. Tenney, who  
graduated two or three years ago is the tutor in mathematics.  
There are only 2 tutors, Mr Peaslee is attending the Medical Lectures,  
There are about 75 medical students I believe, (and the new professors  
are popular. I hear remarks frequently in relation to Dr. Holmes  
Well what more is there here to tell about? I have sold your  
desk, bedstead, stove & "Joe". The other articles are unsold, I could  
not find your life insurance instrument, although I searched  
thoroughly. I found your herbarium under your papers and have  
laid it up to await your orders.

My health during vacation was not good - and I did little or  
nothing. I spent one week in Cornish in company with my sister, and  
should have had a very pleasant time, had my health been better.  
As a matter of course my most pleasant visit was with Miss  
C. I spent nearly two days there. We thought of going down  
to see that good girl who sometimes writes in Latin. Miss H -  
but the weather was unfavorable. I made a good deal of dependence  
upon seeing Harriet. You have heard from her no doubt. Miss C.  
closed her school - I suppose, last Friday - if she lost no time  
after I saw her, and will spend a part or the whole of the fall at  
home. She is a good girl - but she is Mr Shedd's. Some of the Cornish girls  
regard her with rather a jealous eye of late - and why you know as  
well as I do. Why, because she goes to Commencement. She expects to spend  
the winter at Albany, or perhaps to. I shall hear from her probably,  
a little more than one week, and should like quite well to see her, as much  
as no doubt you would like to see her. But I will not prolong  
my remarks in relation to her - but pray with you that "Heaven  
may ever bless her". I feel a solicitude in relation to her education, but  
think it will be brought round right, as her mother is deeply interested  
in that respect - and she has got a good mother indeed,

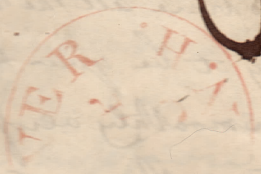
You write me that you had not found any business - and probably should not this fall, and in case you did not should go to Andover. If you go there it is possible that I shall be near you next winter. I think <sup>it</sup> most likely that I shall spend the winter in the vicinity of Reading again. I have written to Mr Orcutt at Reading - but it is not time for a reply. I hope I shall get a place where I can earn \$200. although I do not expect it. I need it - to pay up my debts &c. The student that has little or nothing to pay his expenses cannot but have hours (and days) that are dark and cheerless. But his motto should be onward, and the trials and difficulties that beset his path - will by degrees give way to brighter hopes & fair prospects. And when last in reserve - he builds his airy palaces - and dreams of blissful days and the constant society of that one whose voice, speaking in tones of love, can hush every tumultuous feeling to rest. He too sometimes enjoys a short season of happiness - He can sometimes forget that thorny path which <sup>it is his to tread</sup> <sup>and dream of your lower, and bones are fair and green,</sup> such feelings are no strangers in your bosoms - I presume, <sup>that bond you to College</sup>

Now, Mr Shedd, do you feel - now the cable is secured - and responsibilities thick around you? While in College, we have but few cares comparatively. I have often thought - how shall I feel when I bid adieu to "alma mater" and launch forth my frail bark, to be tossed by every gale that frowns, and every storm that beats. I know not, I cannot know <sup>the</sup> feelings <sup>which</sup> will then crowd upon me - But, Mr Shedd, will he sweet to feel - though friends forsake - through fortune frown - though our path be strewn with thorns. that one heart is ours, that there is one for whom we would live - and brave all the trials (and sorrows we might be called to endure. Such an one may it be your happy lot to find - and with her may you bark glide gently and smoothly across the troubled sea of life, and anchor at last in the port of everlasting rest - I have just rec'd a paper from you - and hope I shall occasionally receive papers, and I will return the favour. I received a specimen of trap rock of Andover - and must say I think it very fine indeed. We let me have another mineral, the name of which I have not yet ascertained. I am collecting a small cabinet for ~~Miss~~ Miss Pamela Chapman, a sister of Miss C. and have got about 45. varieties. She is a young girl - but shows a taste for mineralogy - and it affords me much pleasure to encourage it in her. I wish to present her with a juvenile cabinet of some 75. or 100. varieties, if I can find them for her. We can exert some influence in this humble manner, and inspire a love for the natural sciences - which may give a <sup>colouring</sup> to the intellectual character - that never will be effaced.

Another has joined the <sup>Sept.</sup> class to day - which makes our number  
 100. if I mistake not, I trust the class will ever sustain its present  
 reputation, for scholarship and manly conduct. We are reading Lins and  
 studying Davis' Surveying. Miss Roberts has moved to Mr Comings' - and is  
 rather more comfortable just now. It is not to be expected, however, that  
 she will ever enjoy fine health again.

I am aware, Mr Shovel, that this letter will  
 be very uninteresting - as it appears to you  
 common - written without regard to arrangement -  
 but you will please accept it with the  
 assurance of sincere and affectionate remembrance  
 by your friend. I shall write again - ere long. Yours  
 Wm. M. Mason & at length  
 W. M. Mason

Mr. George Sheard.  
 Judge.  
 N. H.



It trust that you will not be long with me a long letter as soon  
 as you can - telling me of your adventures, what you are about and  
 what your present prospects are. Also should I be to see some  
 of the best products of the last year's crop - the present  
 crop - they seem to differ from the present season's crop - the present  
 crop is doing well - as steady as you please - no irregularities  
 of planting - or care for looks here - and in relation to the relations in  
 Latin Prof. Condon has made the remark that he has not heard of  
 since he has been here - who do up recitations like the class -