

Boston - April 5. 1841

Dear Brother & Sister -

You will laugh at me when you find that my journal has been discontinued - & that for the last few weeks I must rely upon my memory for all the news you can get by me on this present occasion -

I can neither beg you will know putting off in my habits - & I have been so oppressed with house work - & much writing - that I have had little time & have had a cold for the last fortnight that Henry W. & I have had to behold the worst kind of catarrh like what I had last spring at your house - I am better now - but still a cough - & very uncomfortable - Mary is getting over her protracted cold - but goes out even now with great ease & delicateness - we have had the worst sort of open winter - & are having the worst trying of spring - abounding in un-  
natural pleasant days - which produce a chilling east wind to nullify their early promise - before we have enjoyed two hours of sunshine - then the rain - & the snow - & the rain - Happy are you & all absent from all these annoyances - too - happy if the sun of the tropics does not burn so fiercely & if you are prudent - continually & guard yourself against all possible dangers - - My dear I intrust you to be careful - we have your letters for "Peleon" & "Shetland" & found them highly delightful - - M. W.

at first disappointing to me to find that  
only traces of Henry's complaint remain  
but soon persuaded myself that my  
disappointment was unreasonable  
- if there was any thing amiss it could not  
be set right in two months - but the im-  
provement was perhaps as much as we  
could have expected seasonably - If Henry  
abides by the pleasant weather - coming  
some day in June - Taking great care  
through our summer - & avoiding our  
next winter if necessary - I fancy he made  
quite strong agency - I pray you to be patient  
& as true as careful & remember that the entire  
sacrifice of two or three years would be  
cheaply made to secure subsequent health  
- Mr & Mrs Chapman are in good health  
& Gertrude is quite the pride of the family  
- is very pretty & improved much - the  
most tranquil & quiet of all good children  
She is the head of the family at Chaucey  
Place - Tho' little Ann bears away the bell  
at Weymouth - Ann - is the most gifted  
I think of any of them - a child of sound  
judgment - tact - & originality - - Deborn  
continues to tutor Henry - whose reluctant  
lectures will result in his being able  
to read well ere long - but at present he  
shows more genius in any direction than  
in the literary career - Lizzy goes on

well - & can distinguish - an infinitive follow-  
ing "had dare & cö" as well as I can - & can an-  
alyze with perfect correctness & facility any  
English she can understand - She is great  
book too - is going to pass this whole week at  
Waymouth - as I shall be then the whole of  
the latter part of the week - keep fast at  
home - Garrison is to lecture there Fast  
evening - Lucia has been fussing a week  
by special invitation with the Southwicks -  
to go to the "Conventions" - Anne was at  
Henrietta's - & Mary invited Deborah to come  
to her - but as Deborah could not leave the  
children - but at the same time with Lucia  
she declines & then Mary sent kindly for  
Emma to come up - & as she was I deprove  
of the Annual Meeting - we treated her  
to the <sup>Morning</sup> ~~church~~ Convention & let her come  
when Harry understood that they were  
almost all to be away for a week - she  
with her usual wisdom made her arrange-  
ments - she addressed her <sup>dear</sup> formally to  
Deborah - with "Bella - with you be my Mother  
while Lulu is gone" - Bella assured her  
of her maternal intentions & Harry  
saw them depart with great composure -  
The Convention is over - we send you an  
account thereof in three Nos of the "Morn-  
ing Post" - which is very correct - there is  
nothing which is untrue - tho'  
any Quot account of the Respon-  
sibility & hypocriticalness of the Phelps

and Govey crew would be utterly impossible  
My vote has to have as the previous entirely  
my attendance on any of the meetings  
If as many could not go - I am here  
to Groton with the Dr. directly it  
was over there is not any here who can give  
you an eye witness's account - I have no  
time to let Linnay know of this opportunity  
or he would not fail to give you an  
admirable account - suffice it to say  
that the audience was as large as could be  
recommended or sit at Charston Street  
during the whole time - (many fashion-  
able people there & multitudes of high  
consideration - that Phelps - Govey - Colver  
St. Clair - Luther Lee - &c. - were up three  
fourths of the time [refusing all the time  
to give the Convention] - in trying by all  
ways - fair & unfair & malicious to fasten  
the imputation of infidelity upon the  
convention - their vulgarity - their in-  
solence - their vice - impertinence - you  
can better imagine than I describe - It  
was worthy the guides & instructors of  
the Pious Babe & Sullivan faction)  
- Think of Colver - with his arms folded  
& a voice of thunder assuring the choir ma-  
ster "he did not give way" - "Should not give  
the floor - his" (he not a member observed  
that he did not oppose free discussion - any body

might speak for all him - a Quaker - I hope  
once - any other less - might speak - he should  
not oppose - it - he can't be responsible for what  
was said - let every man father his own chil-  
den - & sundry other elegancies - & all this  
in reply - to forcible elegant & gentlemanly  
remarks made by Mr. Packer & others -

Tomey was called to his feet by remarks from  
Dr Brown upon the cupidity of the clergy  
& said that no Minister ever got rich  
he never heard of but one that got rich  
& he did it by marrying in succession  
two old maids!! - This would fail me  
to relate half their enormities - they continually  
said - "were I speaking in an assembly of Christians"

"Here attention to the bible would be misplaced"  
- &c. &c. - People blame Edmunds for letting  
them speak - but he defends himself by saying  
that it was not in his power to annul the  
resolution inviting any person to share in discussion  
which was passed when the Sabbath Con-  
vention first assembled - They were awfully  
wounded however by H. C. Wright - & Dr Brown  
to say nothing of Mr. Polcott - William Basset  
almost broke them by proving conclusively  
that the Quakers in England - Recognized  
other authorities than the Bible - & Colver & St. Clair  
winked at hearing their beloved Broad Street  
Committee accused of deforming to the misere-  
light stoutly denied the charge - & were finally  
pushed into a corner where St. Clair was made

2. Say - That if any quackery existed to be expected  
A other than Scripture authority - they were  
infringed - he at first refused to answer ques-  
tions on this subject - but the loud laughs of  
derision that broke from the audience - among  
whom the poor creatures had few friends de-  
termined him at last to the answer that  
he could not decently avoid - This was  
for the convention

Many wrote by the last opportunity that I  
did not know of taking you of your dear Aunt  
death - Was it not God -! & yet just  
Such an occurrence as might have been  
expected - Aunt & Aunt Mary & Lucie  
were at Duxbury & were detained there  
by the bad state of the roads all the while  
she was ill - but as Debra had happened  
to mention in a letter that she sent soon after  
their departure that she was going to visit  
her mother who was not well - Aunt who  
never foresees any thing - was seized with  
a pre-emptory spirit & hurried home  
on bad roads before she got my letter  
informing her that it would be all  
over before she could arrive - So strong  
was the impression <sup>on</sup> her mind that she  
would die, before Aunt Butts could yet be  
that on reaching the "lane" on their  
way from Duxbury - she got Aunt Mary  
to drive round that way to reconnoitre  
The house was shut up - & nothing  
staring not being to disturb what might