

^ 13 All are much pleased with Rockwood's  
portrait of your mother; only the shading is  
somewhat too dark.

Rosbury, August 28, 1876.

My dear Wendell:

I arrived home from the White Moun-  
tains on Thursday night, not refreshed by my  
trip; for the air was too bracing, and the weath-  
er a portion of the time too cold to be com-  
fortable — the mercury one day at the Summit  
House ranging as low as 23 degrees above zero,  
and not much over 60 at the Glen House.  
Moreover, I had a dysenteric attack, and expe-  
rienced all the sensations of sea-sickness —  
such as dizziness, nausea, vomiting, &c; &c.  
The day before I left, Harry, Fanny, Lizzie  
Simmons, and Harold and Oswald rode to the  
top of Mount Washington, and had as superb  
a day for the excursion as the whole year  
affords. They returned in good season be-  
fore tea, having had clear views from the  
top and a very enjoyable time. Not wish-  
ing to make the ascension, I remained be-  
low with Agnes and Helen,

On riding from Gorham to the Glen House, Agnes also had a touch of something like sea-sickness, and had to leave the carriage (with Lizzie Simmons) and walk some distance to recover herself; but she was steadily improving while I remained, had measurably recovered her appetite and spirits, and will no doubt be much benefited by the change. She will remain till the others return, and that may be at the end of this week; but I shall probably know by Fanny's next letter. She, and Harry, and the children have been much pleased with the locality, and were all in good trim when I left. They have had brilliant weather through out, but, until I joined them, it had been uncomfortably hot.

Not inquiring in advance what the hotel prices were, but supposing that \$3 or \$3.50 per diem would be the utmost, I was somewhat "taken aback" when I found I had to pay \$25 for less than six days; or at

the rate of \$4.50 a day, exclusive of fees to the chamber-maid, table waiter, "boots," &c. Altogether — although it was very pleasant to be with Fanny and the little ones — I regretted that I did not join you and Lucy, and the boys at Oosterville, instead of going to the mountains; but they had been previously assured by Frank that I was coming to them, and, consequently, I did not like to disappoint them.

On the other hand, despite all drawbacks, you may rest assured that I had the keenest relish of the mountain scenery, not only in the immediate presence of Mounts Washington, Adams, Jefferson and Madison, but all the way up and down the Androscoggin valley. Though my vision is getting somewhat dim with years, I can nevertheless see enough of the beauty and grandeur of nature to cause unspeakable delight, and to excite the most reverential feelings: —  
"These are Thy works, Parent of Good!"

It seemed hard to have you all return to Orange without our seeing each other, but I know how you were situated as to time and office duties, and we must submit to the inevitable with resignation. I was particularly gratified to learn from William that you and Lucy liked Oosterville even better than Watch Hill; and I presume that Lloyd and Phil found it equally to their minds. I shall hope to hear that you have all experienced real benefit from your sea-side sojourn. How glad the darling little ones, left behind, must have been to see you all! — Dear Mrs. McKim, too, with her motherly and grandmotherly affection and solicitude, must have been made radiant by your return.

I believe William is not return to the city until to-morrow. — I am feeling better than I did at the mountains; but, oh! how I miss the presence of the beloved wife and the devoted mother! Ever

Your loving Father.