

63.499.10.1  
Forest Glen, Maryland,

March 22, 1903.

My dear Mr. Brewster,

Mr. Oldys writes to join me in thanks for your cordial hospitality to me, as well as for your courteous invitation to us both to visit your beautiful place on the Concord, — an invitation which we heartily hope we may be able sometime to accept. It is hardly necessary to tell you how thoroughly I enjoyed my visit with you; I think my enjoyment was manifest.

After seeing Walden I have a new idea of Thoreau's hermit life. To retire for a year or two to such a beautiful spot for undisturbed literary work seems such a natural action, dictated by wisdom — not eccentricity. My only objection <sup>has</sup> could <sub>be</sub> that it <sup>was</sup> ~~is~~ too easy of access for the public. The absolute wilderness, where one would be perfectly secure from interruption would be more

nearly ideal, - a spot where one could go naked if he chose, could unite the advanced mental processes of our civilization with the absolutely free contact with nature of the savage or beast. I often find myself enjoying the readiness with which my dog passes in and out of streams on a summer day. In such a spot one could probe to the very deepest nooks and niches of his soul and develop to the fullest the treasures they contain. Like Monro, however, I should not wish to remain long thus buried to the world. I should want to use such a spot merely as a retreat to which I might occasionally retire to get my bearings and restore my proper balance, as well as to obtain the refreshment derived from relief from daily contact with the follies and evils of our twentieth century social and commercial life. With abundance of wholesome and delicious food freely provided and get faint and suffering from ~~starvation~~ starvation - this is the condition our modern world would impose on the soul. With happiness, peace,

22 Mar 03

tranquillity and content ~~to~~ anxious to be our com-  
panions for life we seek the company of care, anxiety,  
unrest and empty striving and call our highest god  
Progress. (I have expressed my opinion of this in  
verse, published in the Washington 'Evening Star', a copy  
of which I enclose in the hope that it may interest  
you, and the return of which I shall have to ask at  
your first convenience.)

I send you two clippings - one from the N.Y.  
Post, the other from the ~~Bookman~~ Literary Digest  
for March 7, 1903. They happened to come to my  
notice, and as they relate pro and con to the  
subject of the advantages ~~and disadvantages~~ of  
college education, which occupied much of Satur-  
day evening with us, I believe you will enjoy  
reading them as I did.

I have in mind the idea of publishing  
some of my scattered writings in book form. When  
I am able to accomplish this you may be sure  
you will receive a copy. I think they will chiefly  
furnish an example of what we might call the

Oldys - Henry

May 22-1903

Subjective - objective style, - that is, objective in form

but with the subjective personality manifest throughout, like "The Devil of Progress" I have enclosed.

I wish I had been able to become better acquainted with Mrs. Brewster during my stay; but I hope that is a pleasure that is merely deferred for a short time. Please give her my regards and express Mrs. Oldys's appreciation of her readiness to take care of her during our visit to Concord had she been with me.

Very truly yours,

Henry Oldys

Fountain, Maryland,

May 22, 1903.

My dear Mr. Brewster,

Have you noticed the usual number of warblers this spring in Massachusetts? Here they have been very scarce; and I am inclined to think the protracted spell of clear weather during May carried them over without stopping. If they had been normal in abundance to the north this is probably the explanation of their abnormally small number here.

Very truly yours,

Henry Oldys

Olday - Henry

May 22. 1907.

you come again, I hope for better fortunes.  
I miss much music though very scarce  
from the city. It is usually difficult to ar-  
range matters to ~~leave~~ <sup>leave</sup> leaving the children  
satisfactorily. And I might mention a  
number of other deprivations. But the perpetual  
joys of the country compensate for these  
occasional drawbacks and we have no  
desire to return to Washington.

Now if you will reply with a letter  
as Egotistical as this I shall be  
very much pleased. I don't care how  
many I's you use.

With kind regards to Mrs. Brewster, I

am,

Cordially yours,

Henry Oldys

Silver Spring, Maryland,

November 16, 1909.

My dear Mr. Brewster:-

It is so long since I have  
seen you or heard from you that I  
am going to drop my work of preparing  
for a lecturing trip next spring and  
write you - if for nothing else, to find  
out how you and Mrs. Brewster are  
this year, and what you are doing.  
I am still out in the country, though  
in a different place from where you  
visited me. I have a charming home

with six acres of land and a most attractive sweep of rolling country in every direction, while <sup>many</sup> interesting and picturesque spots are within easy reach.

I am raising pheasants and have been greatly interested in the pursuit. My pen with its handsome inhabitants is a great attraction to my neighbors; and when, during the summer, the young chicks were roaming freely over the place - sometimes out in the public road - with their hen foster-mother they excited still more interest.

Living in the country, winter as well as summer, is far preferable, so far as my

tastes and those of my wife are concerned, to living in the city; but even Eden had its serpent and there are drawbacks to their rural existence, especially to me with well-developed social instincts. I felt this keenly when you were staying in Washington. ~~By~~ The state of my wife's health precluded my taking any advantage of your proximity. I could neither bring nor leave her and so was compelled to forego entirely the opportunity for renewed intimacy which I had eagerly anticipated. How could I ~~was ever~~ ask you to waive ceremony and come out to ~~us~~ with Mrs. Brewster. But this, although my country residence was partly responsible, was due to an unfortunate combination of circumstances, and should

noticeably affected. If you wish  
to appreciate this to the full, think  
of the probable attitude of the  
public toward the Englishman  
who has just come over here  
to wage a campaign against  
the use of cocoa, in order to  
destroy the market and so abol-  
ish the slave horrors involved  
in its production. Think, too,  
of the enormous power of  
fashion - a power greater than  
is held by reason, religion, or  
even human passion. What man

Silver Spring, Maryland,

February 4, 1910.

My dear Mr. Brewster:-

I have your letter of the  
2<sup>d</sup> and write at once to tell you  
how pleased I am with your  
praise of my project of dissemi-  
nating bits of news of interest  
to kind protectionists. The appre-  
ciative words I have had from  
you and Mr. Walter Dean and  
Mr. Lord are extremely gratifying.  
It was long before I could convince

the Executive Committee of our  
District of Columbia Audubon Society  
of the value of such a publica-  
tion; but now they and the mem-  
bers of the society are thoroughly  
convinced of the soundness of my  
project and are clamoring for more.

I share your pessimistic atti-  
tude as to the hopelessness of  
suppressing the destruction of plum  
birds by the mild educational  
methods of Audubon societies, though  
I think the efforts are not without  
great value in awakening a

peaceable interest in nature and  
the beautiful and wonderful crea-  
tures about us. Something of value,  
too, they have in softening the na-  
tures of humanity, especially of  
youthful humanity, though it  
is necessary always to guard a-  
gainst a mawkish and one-  
sided sentimentalism. But re-  
pressive measures alone can  
save the birds, and these must  
be aimed at the source - the  
broad stream of fashion is too  
strong, too wide, too powerful to be

States unite in an international  
agreement to close their ports to  
the feather trade and the fashion  
will soon die, and with it the  
trade of purveyor of plumage.

The Osbury bill is the strongest form  
of attack yet made on the plume  
trade; and it stirred the milliners  
as no proposed legislation had  
yet stirred them.

In Richmond I told the mem-  
bers of the Woman's Club, ~~whose~~  
<sup>who</sup>  
~~members~~ represent the fashion and  
~~social~~ wealth of the city, that I

of your acquaintance is there  
would not rather be ~~detected~~  
guilty of a foul lie or an  
act of dishonor than to walk  
laureate on Bowdoin Street in  
the afternoon? And she would  
and accept  
would forgive, the divorce of  
a fifth husband where it would  
reject as impossible a pure and  
true wife who appeared at church  
in her bathing suit, even at the  
seashore. Let our children have  
shoes, though they lack medicine;

Let us starve, but let us not  
live in an alley; let us deny  
ourselves, or our loved ones the  
needed life-saving trip to a  
salubrious climate because of  
our meagre income, but let us not  
~~be~~ clothe ourselves or them coarsely  
even if we have to plunge hopelessly  
in debt. Why? Because the  
world is so helplessly in the  
bondage of fashion that we  
should lose its respect, its com-  
plicity, and become abject  
objects of scorn for disobeying

its artificial rules of conduct. We  
need waste no sentimental pity on  
the Chinese mandarin with his  
gaw-long fingernail, or his wife  
with her crushed and useless  
feet - our twentieth century ap-  
to-date, wide-awake civilization  
is ~~quite as grotesque~~ a slave to  
fashions quite as grotesque.

No, the only way to save  
the bias is to clip the wings of  
the fashion maker, the fashion  
follower is helpless. Let England,  
France, Germany, and the United

we get fuller reports. In my  
own justification I want to say  
that the law of secrecy was  
laid on us after my letter in-  
forming you of the event.

Pardon this long letter and  
attribute it to ~~my~~ the extreme  
interest this subject has for me.

Thanking you again for your  
kind words, I am,

Cordially yours,

Henry Oldys

did not share the general disposition  
to ascribe the destruction of plume  
buds to 'woman's vanity and  
man's cupidity' but held the  
men milliners of Paris responsible.  
I told them that I knew that  
if the trade were suppressed  
and other forms of hat-decoration  
substituted and in general use  
there was not a woman present  
but would welcome and support  
suppressing  
this law.

^  
Meantime I am inclined to



is permeated with personalit<sup>y</sup> - the  
kind that causes the reader with  
similar taste - to share sympathetically,  
the sentiments due to association that  
inspire the author - in other words to  
be clothed with his personality and  
share with him the reality of the ex-  
periences. From what little I have  
seen of it I think you have written  
a remarkable book - one that will  
live as a classic, and I offer you  
my hearty, though tardy, congratula-  
tions on your achievement.

I live in hopes of some  
day gratifying my ambition  
to give to the world something  
that will be worthy - I have

Silace Spring, Maryland,

April 17, 1910.

My dear Mr Brewster -

In sending you No. 5  
of 'Current Items of Interest' I  
take advantage of the opportunity  
- to say a few words, mainly  
to let you know that I  
shall be in your neighborhood  
Edney in May, with a few  
unoccupied days, and that  
I hope it will be possible  
- to see you and take a

but joined with you in some  
of the bird country you have  
made so widely read and  
interesting in your recent work  
on the bird of Cambridge. I  
lecture at Ratick on Saturday,  
April 30, at Groton the Tuesday, May  
3, at Providence Wednesday, May 4,  
at Worcester Saturday, May 7, and  
at Farmington, Me., on Friday, May  
13, with possibly an engagement  
or two in Maine before that at  
Farmington. This leaves open  
May 1, 2, 5, and 6, and probably  
some time between May 7 and 13.  
Now if you can spare me

a part of one of these days  
you would be doing a  
kindness to a fellow mortal  
and fellow bird student that  
would be highly appreciated.

I have only the most casual  
acquaintance with your Cam-  
bridge work (the book referred to)  
owing to so much demand on  
my time, increasing in geometrical  
proportion as my years increase,  
but from the glimpse I have  
had I anticipate delightful  
browsing this summer. It is  
only necessary to glance through  
the book to realize that it

we gifted with omniscience we  
might find that the <sup>chosen</sup> life work  
sinks into a subordinate place  
compared with what we are  
prone to regard as merely inci-  
dentials, and a life may be  
the better for what its owner re-  
gards as its failures. Despite the  
pickings of conscience I am happy  
and not the less so because I know  
that my efforts to add to the interest  
and enjoyment of my neighbors are  
well received.

I leave on Monday, Apr. 25,  
for my lecture trip. Will you  
drop me a line before I go?

Cordially,  
Henry Oldys

in mind a novel in which to  
embody the true Christianity - the  
real teaching of Jesus - a philoso-  
phy which, in my belief, forms  
the only substantial basis for the  
true civilization of the future. I  
have worked out many of the  
details and besides I can push  
my work to rapid completion  
when I get down to it. At  
present, like yourself, I have  
many self-imposed duties that  
leave me little time for systemat-  
ic and continuous work - a  
choir society of which I am  
the leader, a young people

Nature Club I have started, active work in the Audubon Society, arranging my lecture trips, writing occasional magazine articles, helping out programmes of a fortnightly social club, these and many other time-stealers, to say nothing of the heavy demands of Departmental work, leave me little time for accomplishment of larger purposes. In a community like that in which it is my good fortune to live, the people are <sup>so</sup> intimately associated ~~and~~ that one's services are only half his own - a good thing for social advancement but bad for steady work by one

who has at best only ~~say~~ <sup>say</sup> ends of time and ~~effort~~ <sup>effort</sup> for accomplishment of design. Your position in this respect is common to many in this age of ~~many~~ <sup>numerous</sup> demands, and one, at least, shares with you the upraidings of conscience which <sup>are</sup> faintly shadowed in your last letter to me. Even now I feel that I am self-indulgent in giving time to this exchange of personal experiences that might be devoted to neglected work. But what shall I say what is, and what is not of the greatest importance in this life? Here

helping to sail the ship of state  
instead of paddling your smoothly  
gliding canoe under the wooded  
ramparts of Ball's Hill. However,  
I am HOME, and that is Everything.

Have you seen Allen's  
new edition of Walden? He  
very kindly sent me a copy.  
It has a very good introduction  
by him and has three illustra-  
tions of Walden Pond. An appended  
glossary makes it serviceable in  
schools, for which it is intended.

Cordially yours,

Henry Oldys

Silver Spring, Maryland,

May 25, 1910.

My dear Mr. Brewster:-

On this, the tenth anniversary  
of the passage of the Lacey Act, I  
write to acknowledge the receipt of  
my note book, with which I  
inadvertently burdened you and  
for the return of which I am  
greatly obliged to you. I am  
sorry you were put to the  
trouble of sending it to me and  
particularly so since you were  
so careful as to register it, which

added materially to the latter.

I had missed the book and was wondering if I had not left it at Concord. I suppose it must have been found in the pocket of your coat that I borrowed for our canoeing excursion up the river.

My lecturing trip this year was by far the most delightful I have ever had, and no part of it stands out more vividly in my memory as pure and unalloyed enjoyment than my visit to

you, every moment of which was one of content and pleasure. My only regret was that it was so short. ~~But~~ As I grow older I realize more and more how brief the remaining journey is and when my boat is gliding along on smooth water (as, for example, when paddling down the Concord at sunset) I wish for the power to stop the big clock or at least lengthen its pendulum. But the clock ticks with ~~regular~~ unconcerned and impartial regularity and here I am again

Silver Spring, Maryland,

October 15, 1910.

My dear Mr Brewster:-

Returning from Baltimore  
a few days ago I saw a par-  
lor car named 'William Brewster',  
and immediately became filled with  
a desire to drop you a line.

I hope to see you at the A. C.  
U. meeting next month. We are  
looking forward to a pleasant  
gathering this year.

This evening, a few minutes  
ago, I saw the note of a passing  
pilot and was moved to set out  
my glass and turn it toward the

head, last season. I was reminded  
by seeing two birds cross, but was  
surprised to note that the first of  
them was going at lightning speed  
from south to north. Mr. Edgys  
suggested that perhaps he was sent  
back to warm more southerly  
migrants of the West Indian  
harricane that is travelling up  
the coast, but I have, think,  
this can be the correct explanation  
of his direction. It seems to  
me likely that he has forgotten  
something - perhaps had left his  
pocketbook under the pillow of  
last night's sleeping-place.

I have not forgotten that as  
soon as the package is up I  
am to send you some birds-foot  
violets. I hope you have not  
forgotten my coin for some speci-  
mens of ground juniper.

'Current Items of Interest,' No. 7,  
is just out and I am enclosing  
a copy.

Cordially yours,

Henry Edgys

Was the car named for you, or  
your distinguished ancestor? If  
for you then there should be  
one named for Elliott Jones -  
a cattle car would be appropriate.

Silver Spring, Maryland,

22 March, 1913.

My dear Mr Brewster:-

I shall be in Massachusetts lecturing during the first ten days of May. Will you be home at that time? If so, where can I see you & have a good long chat over birds and things in general? If I come to New England without seeing you I feel that I have been cheated by Fate.

I hope the third copy of Current Items reached you in good condition. I am much obliged to you for your calling my attention to something that I have no doubt has occurred in the case of other copies.

The Causp amendment scheme looks more and more favorable. Confidential

information received by Mr. Pearson from a prominent member of the Ways and Means Committee indicates that that Committee looks on it very favorably. Mr. Pearson is conducting an immense campaign for the amendment and Dr. Hornaday is also doing good work for it. I am trying to persuade the President to mention it in his <sup>tariff</sup> message, or at least approve it when it comes before him with the rest of the tariff bill prior to the convening of Congress on April 7.

I am also trying to get the endorsement of Washington milliners. We shall have such endorsements from milliners in other localities.

The Eastern paper of a number of cities published a story on the movement written by W. A. Dupuy, a newspaper friend of mine. This will secure wide publicity for it.

Cordially yours, Henry Oldys

Silver Spring, Maryland,

15 June, 1913.

My dear Mr. Brewster:—

Dr. Palmer yesterday told me that he had talks in conversation with you recently that while I had done considerable work through the local Audubon Society on behalf of the plumage amendment to the tariff, the scheme, he believed, originated with the National Association of Audubon Societies. Dr. Palmer's memory is at fault — he admitted to me yesterday that it was a little hazy in the matter; — and as I wrote you last December proposing the amendment as coming from me — thus, were Dr. Palmer's statement true, usurping credit properly belonging to another — I am impelled to send you a few quotations from letters received by me substantiating the assertion I now

make unequivocally that I originated the plan of amending the tariff so as to exclude the plumage of wild birds.

J. Gilbert Pearson to Henry Oldys, 31 Dec., 1912.

"Your letter in reference to prohibiting by Federal Statute the importation of millinery plumage is in line with an ambition which I have long had and which I may add has been frequently suggested to the Association for consideration. I wish you would give me your further views on the matter when you get time to write me somewhat in detail.

Would be glad to learn just what part of the tariff law you would like to see modified, what wording you would suggest for this modification and what arguments you think would be of a convincing nature in backing up such a recommendation."

J. Gilbert Pearson to Henry Oldys, 14 Jan., 1913.

"Your letter of January 2 was read very carefully. In reply permit me to say that I am today writing to the Committee on Ways and Means, asking for:

2/  
hearing on Schedule N before that Committee on January 29. I am writing in the name of the four national wild life protective organizations with headquarters in New York City.

If the hearing is granted, I will advise you, with the hope that you may be able to be present.

Your letter was what caused me to take this action."

J. Gilbert Pearson to Henry Oldys, 17 March, 1913.

"Should we secure anything from Congress in this connection, credit will certainly be due to Mr. Oldys for his original timely suggestion on the subject."

E. H. Forbush to Henry Oldys, 30 Dec., 1912.

"I am very much interested in your postscript in regard to the matter of the passage of the non-importation law. I should think it would be a very difficult matter, however, to pass such a law as the whole power of the millinery interests of the country will be strongly opposed to it. x x x The more I look at your postscript the more I am interested in it

and if I go to Washington soon I shall be sure to look you up."

W. T. Hornaday to Henry Oldys, 4, Jan'y, 1913.

"Your idea is great. x x x We will be glad to aid in pushing your idea to the very utmost. x x x Your idea, if it can be carried out, will beat all state legislation out of sight. x x x

Let me know precisely your plan of campaign, and what you would like to have us do, and I will set about it instantly. I think the time is ripe for such a movement."

Geo. Bird Grinnell to Henry Oldys, 7 Jan'y, 1913.

"I should greatly like to hear more about the movement to prohibit the importation of bird plumage for millinery purposes that you are launching. x x x

Let me hear so much of the movement as you can and I will see what I can do."

David Starr Jordan to Henry Oldys, 6 Jan'y, 1913

"Permit me to acknowledge your very kind letter and its admirable suggestion which I shall keep in mind,

3  
Sending it to every congressman. I know."

John H. Wallace, Jr. to Henry Oldys, 6 Jan., 1913.

"I most heartily concur in your plan to prohibit the importation of bird skins and plumage into the United States. Your idea is an excellent one, and I shall address a communication to Hon. Oscar W. Underwood to this effect."

I could add a number of additional extracts, but I believe I have furnished enough to show conclusively that the plan was not in the mind of any of these active workers for bird protection whom I have quoted until he had received my suggestion. It remains to be said that it occurred to me without suggestion from any source whatever. I was preparing my Current Items of Interest when suddenly I thought of the excellent opportunity offered by the proposed revision to the tariff to secure an amendment cutting off the importation of all wild bird plumage. I immediately wrote to you,

the men whose replies I have quoted, and several others. The next morning I suggested the scheme to Mr. Hinshaw - Dr. Palmer was away, - who was doubtful if it could be carried out successfully. Then I was called away from the city, and on my return I took the matter up at once with Dr. Palmer, who, in the meantime, had conferred with Mr. Pearson and Mr. Fortnash and arranged a plan of campaign. Dr. Palmer said to me, "Go ahead, and when the matter comes before the Agricultural Department for consideration we'll back you." Not a word was said by him at this time of the plan having originated previously. As usual, he was pessimistic as to ultimate success, and stated that the Department could not appear actively in support of the measure on account of danger of criticism. I replied that all I wanted from him was his assurance that the measure would be supported by the Department, and he repeated that the Department would support it - would 'back me'.

I secured an appropriation of \$20 from the Audubon Society of the District of Columbia and issued and distributed the enclosed circulars, copies of which were sent you, I believe, at the time. Later Mr. Pearson had 2000 of each of these circulars printed and distributed and the Illinois Society 1000 more. I gave interviews to newspapers in Cincinnati, Chicago,

Detroit, and other cities; spoke of the movement (giving the latest news of it) wherever I lectured - ~~through~~ in W. Virginia, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine; ~~and~~ conferred with Mr. Peacocks, Dr. Hornaday, Mr. Jefferson Butler, and others, who advised me from time to time of their own efforts; filed several briefs with Congress; and appeared in person before the Senate Finance Committee. I also made some attempt to enlist the support of the millions of several States in behalf of the amendment.

The campaigns conducted by Mr. Peacocks and Dr. Hornaday, acting for the National Association of Audubon Societies and the New York Zoological Society, respectively, were very much more efficient than my limited individual efforts and carried the day. Mr. Peacocks, at Dr. Palmer's suggestion, restricted his demands to a provision excluding the plumage of American birds and plumage indistinguishable from that of American birds; while Dr. Hornaday and I consistently advocated the exclusion of the plumage of any wild bird, the form of amendment adopted by the House.

I write thus at length because I am unwilling to rest under the imputation of having stolen another man's thunder and attempted to make it my own. I hope, should by any chance the question of authorship of the movement be brought up in your presence you will do me the friendly service of justice.

ing me in the matter - not for the sake of the credit for settling  
the movement on foot, but to defend my good name from the  
damage that it would sustain were it believed that I had disin-  
genuously appropriated to myself credit belonging to another.

With high regard, I am,

Very truly yours,

Henry Oldys

narrower one of national welfare.  
We are trying to save the world  
from exploitation in order that  
we may be true to the trust  
we have assumed for patents.  
I can become very enthusiastic  
over a ~~new~~ principle of this  
kind.

I am sorry I missed you  
when you were in Washington.  
I was away at the time or I  
should probably have seen you  
at the Department.

Cordially yours,  
Henry Oldys

Silver Spring, Maryland,

23<sup>rd</sup> June, 1913.

My dear Mr. Brewster:

Thank you most heartily,  
for your very friendly letter  
of the 21st. I felt sure that  
when acquainted with the  
facts you would understand,  
and understanding would help  
to make the truth known when  
~~it might be~~ necessary to prevent  
a ~~misunderstanding~~ misapprehension that  
might work to my harm.

I usually let such matters  
pass - I would rather lose  
credit due me than fight for it.

But here, as you can see, to one who did not know me well, I might appear to have acted disingenuously. Besides, I must confess, that I find pleasure in being prominently associated with a measure which, I agree with you, will be the greatest stroke for bird protection ever made, if we can carry it through successfully. Alas! at the present moment its prospects are not bright. I am enclosing a circular of which I have just received several copies from Dr Hornaday which will explain the situation more fully.

We have a bare chance in <sup>now on,</sup> the Democratic caucus, a better one in the Senate, and a fairly good one in conference - the three stages of legislation yet before the tariff bill. Dr Hornaday is working with characteristic energy and Mr Pearson is doing much. We may fall through, if not with the original measure, at least with a better one than Senator Hove Smith has saddled on us.

What attracts me particularly to our amendment is that it is based on the broad ground of world policy and not the

me, it is possible that I may be able at least to spend an evening with you in a delightful atmosphere of smoke and philosophy. I shall at any rate write to you with that end in view, in case my work so shapes itself as to allow me ~~the~~ opportunity for the visit.

I am so glad you praise my poems. My wife, who is a severe critic of my work, though a very fair and honest one, thinks them the best thing I have done in a literary way; and while I do not fully share this view, yet I feel that they represent nearly the highest point to which I may aspire.

Very cordially yours,  
Henry Delp

although she understood that my visit to Concord was uncertain, ~~it is hardly~~ ~~possible~~ my wife may possibly take chances in sending a letter or two & in ~~your~~ care. In this case may I think you to redirect them to me  
c/o Miss Margaret, Oldyp,  
Northfield Sunday,  
East Northfield, Mass.  
Margaret Hall, ?

37 Waterbury Street,  
Roxbury.

12<sup>th</sup> November, 1815.

My dear Mr. Brewster:-

Although I am much disappointed to learn that the very time open to me to come to you is the time closed to you to have me, yet the edge of my disappointment is greatly dulled by the very friendly and cordial ~~manners~~ character

of the note which conveys the  
unwelcome news.

It is ~~not~~ my nature, however,  
to look forward, rather than back-  
ward, and instead of dwelling  
on the pleasure now denied me  
I am disposed to look forward  
to another opportunity, if Fate is  
to be so kind to me, to exchange  
ideas with you, either at your  
home or mine. If you come to  
Washington this winter and  
your engagements permit you to  
visit me in my country home -  
far more country-like than your Concord

place - my wife and I will give  
you a most hearty welcome.

I do not know at what  
time you go to your Concord  
house. I remember, however, that  
my first visit to you (a visit  
that gave me an abiding sense  
of New England hospitality) was  
early in March. As perhaps  
you know, I shall spend the  
month of March campaigning  
through Massachusetts for the  
Mass. Audubon Society, and although  
that will be a very busy time for