

**Tuesday ev[enin]g 18 Feb[ruary] 1817.**

Sup[reme] Court  
adjourns

The Supreme Court adjourned on Thursday  
6<sup>th</sup> Feb[ruary] after a long session - On that evening  
I was present at a small party at Uncle J. Sew-  
all's, where I found the Misses Wilson - My  
cousin Mary Gray & Miss Shillaber - Miss Gardner  
Miss Clap - Miss Prescott \_\_ - Aunt Scott - &  
several others - I was gratified to see thus bro[ugh]t  
together, those with whom I had associated in  
different circles, but whom I had never be-  
fore met together - I arrived there late &  
staid but about an hour - I had the pleasure  
of attending home my cousin Mary & Miss S[hillaber]  
- On Sunday 9 Feb[ruary] I was prevented from going  
to meeting by a thick snow storm, & the want

party at Uncle  
Sewall's

of a surtout, having sent mine to the taylor's -  
I passed the day very pleasantly in reading  
the scriptures, & some of *Sherlock's sermons* -  
His five sermons on the Logos pleased me very  
much. I think they are equalled by few  
specimens of reasoning in our language. -

Tuesday 11<sup>[th]</sup>  
Tea-party

On Tuesday ev[enin]g 11<sup>[th]</sup> inst[ant] I was at a party  
at M<sup>rs</sup> Prescott's - There was a brilliant  
assemblage of young ladies, with whom however  
I could have little conversation or enjoyment

<p>party at M<sup>r</sup> Hale's</p>	<p>from my almost entire want of acquaintance among them - The evening was to me a dull one in the midst of hilarity -</p> <p>I was gratified on Wednesday by receiving from M<sup>r</sup> Hale an invitation to join a party at his house on Thursday ev[enin]g - I found there most of my particular friends at the bar - and a</p>
<p>Que[stion] of casuistry?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>44</b></p> <p>fine collection of ladies. To all these, however, I was an utter stranger, &amp; could not approach them. My situation was as painful, as it should have been pleasant. - I made shift to pass the evening by talking with such of the gentlemen, as had humanity enough to keep me in countenance.</p> <p>I dined on Saturday at M<sup>r</sup> Salisbury sen[ior]'s. Besides the sons &amp; daughters I met there Uncle &amp; Aunt J. Sewall. It was a very pleasant dinner. In the course of it Aunt Sewall mentioned Madam [de] Genlis' <i>Jane of France</i>, &amp; noticed as a defect in the work, that the heroine is made to sacrifice her own life rather than disclose the crime of her father, whom she knew to be guilty of murder. This she thought an</p>
	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>45</b></p> <p>unjustifiable act - and that the daughter had no more right to suffer herself to be put to death</p>

	<p>for a guilty father, than she would have had to put any other innocent person to death to save that father - M<sup>r</sup> J[onathan] Phillips, myself &amp; others opposed this doctrine - contending that a child enjoyed the same privilege as to a parent's crimes, as every one has as to his own - that so much must be indulged to the feelings of nature - and that having the right, the death which ensued from her refusal was not her own fault, but that of her executioners. -</p> <p>On Sunday last (16<sup>th</sup>) I attended worship all day at M<sup>r</sup> Channing's. In the morning M<sup>r</sup> Parkman preached. His sermon was a decent one on the vanity of the world &amp; its enjoyments.</p>
<p>Sunday 16 Feb[ruary]</p> <p>Excessive cold -</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">46</p> <p>In the afternoon M<sup>r</sup> Channing preached - He delivered one of his best sermons, on "the future life, as a state of retribution" - urging on his hearers the importance of a more practical conviction of this truth - <i>"that all should receive according to the deeds done in the body"</i> -</p> <p>The intervals I passed in reading the <i>Friend of Peace</i>. In the evening, I called at Uncle Gray's - &amp; at Aunt Scott's -</p> <p>Yesterday morning found myself affected with a severe cold, which still continues - The cold last week was excessive beyond</p>

<p>14 ° below 0</p>	<p>the experience of many years past. - On Friday evening the thermometer fell to 14 degrees below zero. I myself saw one at that point between 9 &amp; 10 o'clock. -</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>47</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday ev[enin]g - 20 Feb[ruary] 1817</b></p> <p>Yesterday passed in the usual occupation of business - My cold still continues, &amp; affects my lungs to a greater degree, than any I have ever had - - - This day I have spent in business of various sorts, &amp; in attending to clients - M<sup>r</sup> Prescott started for Pepperell [<i>Massachusetts</i>] in the morning. The greater part of the forenoon I was occupied in conversing with D<sup>r</sup> Osgood on the subject of a claim, respecting which he has consulted M<sup>r</sup> Prescott, to the estate of his wife's mother. -</p> <p>Yesterday, I was verbally invited by the Solicitor Gen[eral] to come to his house this evening. I promised I would. But discovering since, that there would be a very large party, &amp; a ball, &amp; feeling some reluctance ab[out] going without a more particular invitation, especially without</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>49</b></p> <p>one from the ladies, I made my cold an excuse &amp; have remained at home.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sunday - 23 Feb[ruary] 1817.</b></p> <p>On Friday I found my cold much better, &amp; there</p>

<p>A[dam] Smith's <i>Essay on Astronomy</i></p>	<p>now remains very little of it. - Nothing occurred of much importance on Friday &amp; Saturday - I was occupied in the ordinary concerns of the Office. - On Thursday &amp; Friday evenings I read <i>Adam Smith's Essay on the History of Astronomy</i>, which I found quite amusing &amp; instructive -</p> <p>I have attended worship to-day at M<sup>r</sup> Channing's, &amp; have heard from him two excellent sermons upon the duties of the Conjugal Relation. - That in the morning was a general discourse upon the institution of mar-</p>
	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>fs50</b></p> <p>riage, &amp; the means of making it honorary &amp; useful. - M<sup>r</sup> C[hanning] delineated the state of woman in the early &amp; barbarous ages, and remarked that it was now little better in the higher &amp; luxurious classes in Europe - He defined the principles, upon which the connexion should be formed - a connexion, which was not a transient pastime, but was to continue for life - The first requisite to be inquired after was a religious &amp; moral character - Young men, &amp; young women, before they selected, should consider, whether the person were such, as they could chuse as a friend, to be united with for ever.</p> <p>This afternoon, the sermon treated more distinct-</p>

	<p>ly of the duties of husbands and wives - first, of</p>
	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>51</b></p> <p>those which belonged to them in common, of which the chief is <u>fidelity</u> - Infidelity, he remarked, is no less a crime in the husband, than in the wife, altho' it is not pursued by society with so general &amp; marked an abhorrence.-</p> <p>- After defining, &amp; urging in his impressive manner these common duties, M<sup>r</sup> C[hanning] proceeded to those which belonged to the parties peculiarly - First, he enumerated &amp; enforced those of the wife - then, with a manner unusually impressive &amp; interesting, he enforced the peculiar duties of the husband to cherish &amp; protect her, who had left all for him - <u>who lived by his affections</u> - and lastly, to provide by his labor for her comfortable subsistence. -</p>
	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>52</b></p> <p>This was an admirable sermon. Would that I were in a situation to make it more immediately applicable to my own condition.</p> <p>While not at meeting, I have employed myself to-day in reading <i>Taylor's Holy Living</i> - an excellent book, with which I regret, I have not sooner made myself acquainted -</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Sunday ev[enin]g 10 o'clock -</b></p>

I have called at Uncle Gray's - at Aunt Scott's - at M<sup>r</sup> Prescott's & at Uncle Sewall's.  
- I spent half an hour very pleasantly at M<sup>r</sup> Prescott's. He with his daughter & Miss Preble returned yesterday from Pepperell -  
- At Uncle Sewall's I spent from 8 till ½ past nine in the most agreeable manner - I found there Miss S. Dana, the preceptress of M<sup>h</sup> Acad-

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demy. She gave me some account, & a favorable one, of my sister Charlotte, who is her pupil. The conversation turned upon M<sup>r</sup> Worcester's arguments in the *Friend of Peace* - & subjects connected with this - upon M<sup>r</sup> Channing's sermons &c &c

**Tuesday night - 12 o'clock 25 Feb[ruary] 1817**

Yesterday was a severe snow-storm - A ship, the Union, belonging to S. Phillips & others of Salem, was wrecked on Baker's Island with a valuable cargo of pepper -

Yesterday & to-day I have passed in the usual occupations of the office - The last evening I spent in preparing a rough draft of an assignment of property in trust for benefit of M<sup>rs</sup> S. Higginson J<sup>unio</sup>r & children of S. H<sup>igginson</sup> J<sup>unio</sup>r -

This evening I went, as soon as I could escape from the office, which was not until 9

	o'clock, to Uncle J. Sewall's, where I met a
	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>54</b></p> <p>small party of friends. There was present Miss Burley from Beverly, a lady whose wit &amp; accomplishments, as well as amiable disposition, I have often heard commended, but whom I had never before seen. I was pleased with her countenance, &amp; deportment, but had no opportunity of conversing with her - Another lady was Miss Alice Douse, sister of the late M<sup>rs</sup> Williams, whom I had not seen for more than six years - - Miss Dana was there, &amp; gave me some further pleasing traits of Charlotte's character - particularly as to her sincerity &amp; ingenuousness - which gratified me very much - The other company present were Uncle &amp; Aunt May, &amp; their daughters Abby &amp; Eliza - a Miss Dawes - M<sup>r</sup> H. Foster &amp; his sister -</p>
	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>55</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday evening 27 February 1817.</b></p> <p>Yesterday was spent in the office, &amp; in attention to various concerns of business - Last evening I was occupied from 7 to 9 o'clock with Uncle Sewall in discussing the subject of the instruments I had prepared for securing certain property to the benefit of M<sup>rs</sup> S. Higginson J[unior] - This forenoon, I was engaged in transcribing one of the papers, which is very long - -</p>



<p>Dinner at M<sup>r</sup> Prescott's</p>	<p>This afternoon &amp; evening I have spent in preparing for the argument of the cause of Stanton &amp; al[ia] v[ersu]s Blossom &amp; al[ia] in the Supreme Court.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Saturday ev[enin]g 1 March 1817.</b></p> <p>On Friday I dined at M<sup>r</sup> Prescott's, with quite a literary party. There were present, the Rev[erend] Pres[ident] Kirkland - D<sup>r</sup> Vaughan from Halliwell - Hon[orable] Judge Dawes - D<sup>r</sup> Aaron</p>
<p>Physiognomy</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>56</b></p> <p>Dexter &amp;c &amp;c - The ladies present were Miss Hannah &amp; Louisa Putnam, from Salem, daughters of the Hon[orable] Judge Putnam, both admirable girls - and the elder particularly possessing superior intelligence, dignity and sweetness - Louisa is beautiful, playful, and ingenuous - I took my seat at table next to Hannah, &amp; an enviable one I found it. - I did not hear much of the conversation at the upper end of the table, where sat the literati. - One subject was physiognomy - D<sup>r</sup> Vaughan quoted Hogarth, as maintaining that those passions, which are most frequently exercised, leave an impression upon the features <sup>^</sup> muscles which they call into action - D<sup>r</sup> V[au]ghan favored this opinion - &amp; indeed, there can be no doubt of its correctness. - Judge Dawes began</p>
	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>57</b></p>

<p>John Jay -</p>	<p>this conversation by remarking, that it was a very common observation, that those who had lived long together resembled each other in countenance - Another topic was the character of M<sup>r</sup> Jay and the occupations of his retirement - D<sup>r</sup> V[aughan] said he had formerly known him very intimately, &amp; had expressed a wish to call on him, if he should make a meditated journey to Philadelphia. But had been told, it was unpleasant to him to see Company, &amp; that he was entirely engrossed in theological pursuits, &amp; particularly in the interpretation of the prophecies - The Hon[orable] Judge Davis opposed this idea, &amp; said, it was true, that M<sup>r</sup> Jay was fond of theological pursuits - but not that he was particu-</p>
	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>58</b></p> <p>larly engaged in the interpretation of the prophecies - M<sup>r</sup> Prescott said, from what M<sup>r</sup> Jay's son had told him, he was led to suppose that his attention was very much directed to this object - It was remarked that M<sup>r</sup> Jay had always expressed a resolution not to continue in public life beyond the age of fifty - - I could have remarked but did not, that this was also Sir W[illiam] Temple's period - D<sup>r</sup> Kirkland mentioned a singular fact with regard to M<sup>r</sup> Jay, viz[it] [<i>namely</i>], that when he was asked, upon the eve of his departure on a public mission, what salary would</p>

	<p>be sufficient for him, he replied, “you must give me enough to live upon, &amp; to lay up for my family \$1000 per year - and whatever</p>
	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>59</b></p> <p>you give me, I shall live in such a manner as to lay up that sum yearly. My duty to my family requires it.” -</p> <p>On Friday ev[enin]g I went by invitation to M<sup>rs</sup> Amory’s in Newbury Street, the relative of M<sup>rs</sup> Prescott - - I found there a most brilliant party of ladies, young &amp; old, who seemed to have no care, but to enjoy, &amp; make others enjoy themselves - There was no dull formality - all was life and spirit &amp; glee - Several ladies played on an excellent piano. The Miss Putnams played &amp; sung with great taste &amp; execution - A dance was proposed. M<sup>rs</sup> Prescott, the soul of every thing, persevered till she had got it up. I joined, having the younger Miss Putman</p>
	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>60</b></p> <p>for my partner - - M<sup>rs</sup> Prescott was particularly cheerful, &amp; took great pains, to make me join in the merriment - She promised me, that if I would come to her house this evening, I should hear more of the Miss Putnam’s music - So, about eight o’clock, after a day spent rather sluggishly in busi-</p>

ness, I went thither - I found only M<sup>r</sup>  
Amory's family, & a M<sup>r</sup> Dabney present -  
The young ladies soon began their music,  
and I was indeed highly gratified - Miss H.  
Putnam played - Miss Louisa sung - and their  
joint powers were indeed great - Miss Preble  
also played, but I was less interested in her  
music, because perhaps it was more sci-  
entific - After the music I joined reluc-

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Reluctantly (*sic*) in a game of whist, a game for which  
I have no affection, & which now prevented my con-  
versing with Miss Putnam - But I feared, that  
my refusal might appear affected or morose. - -  
Now, that I am returned, I feel all the symp-  
toms of a severe cold - Perhaps, I may shake  
it off.