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Journal Li[vre??] [i.e. diary]

Boston - Sunday - 9 Aug[ust] 1818

My journal has been suspended some time, in consequence of my having no book. - Nothing very important has occurred. I have employed my leisure in writing a review of *Bristed's Resources*[i.e.,America and Her Resources: or, a View of the Agricultural, Commercial, Manufacturing, Financial, Political, Literary, Moral and Religious Capacity and Character of the American People, 1818] for the N[orth]

American Review. This has cost me much labor & thought -

On Friday 31 July I rec[eived] a letter from my Father which made me suppose him to be quite unwell & dispirited - I resolved accordingly to make him a visit on Saturday, though somewhat inconvenient.

Business detained me on that day; but I took a horse soon after 4 o'clock on Sunday morning and after a pleasant ride reached M[arble]h[ea]d at half past six o'clock. - I had the satisfaction to find my Father in very tolerable health & spirits - My mother accompanied me to church all day. - I mounted again early on Monday morning, & was in Boston, after a very leisurely ride, by a quarter after seven.

J[osiah] Dow's $2^{[n]d}$ failure

On Monday night - 3^{[r]d} Aug[ust] I was called to attend a melancholy piece of business, viz[it] [namely] to go to the house of M^r Josiah Dow, & file several writs for attaching his stock, he finding it ne-

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cessary to fail again - M^r Dow was in tears, & it was indeed an unhappy affair, as there seems now very little prospect of his rising again. -

I reached home after one o'clock in the morning, sufficiently fatigued with my early ride, a busy day, and late labours. -

I called on Friday ev[enin]g at M^r Dow's, & found his family composed and cheerful -

This morning I attended worship at M^r Channing's - D^r Foster preached - His sermon was from Isaiah. - "I will not meet thee, as a man" -

Evening

Dr Foster preached again this afternoon - After Church I employed myself in writing the Review of *Bristead*, & made considerable progress - made no visit th[is] evening.

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Boston - Sunday - 16 Aug[ust] 1818

In the course of last week I finished my Review of *Bristed*, which has cost me considerable labour - & I am very anxious about its success. - I have had great leisure, having been very little disturbed by business - but have had enough to content me. This is usually a leisure month. -

On Friday ev[enin]g, I walked with George Gray to

Medford, it being a fine moon-light night. We set out late, & did not reach there till near nine o'clock. We found Cousin Mary, & the rest of the family well - Cousin M[ary]'s spirits appeared to have much improved since I last saw her. - We staid an hour, which we passed very pleasantly. Our walk home was fatiguing - but upon the whole pleasant.

Yesterday I spent the day mostly in business, but after tea, it being very pleasant, I took a horse, & rode out to Brookline. - It was delightful to see the verdant appearance of every thing around me, on this beautiful road. - I stopped at M^r Josiah Salisbury's - M^r & M^{rs} S[alisbury] were both in town - I strolled onto

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the hills both in front & in rear of their house. The moon was brilliant, & the view from the hill in front almost paid me for the toil of ascending it. After staying an hour, I returned without seeing M^r & M^{rs} S[alisbury]. - Had a fine ride home - & arrived soon after nine . -

This morning M^r Channing preached.

His sermon was a fine one on "watchfulness"

"Watch & pray, that ye enter not into temptation"

This duty was explained & enforced by M^r C[hanning] with his usual eloquence and ability. He particularly inculcated the duty of guarding against those faults to which we find ourselves most prone. -

After meeting I called at Uncle Sewall's, to ascertain how Miss H[arriet] Stearns did, she having been unwell for several weeks. - I was pained & alarmed to learn, that she remains very sick, is very much enfeebled, and affected with such complaints as to give just cause of alarm to her friends. I should

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most deeply regret the loss of her society. Her whole character has ever been particularly pleasing to me. She is amiable, intelligent, un-affected, unassuming, frank & ingenuous in all her deportment. It is impossible long to be near her without feeling an attachment. I had looked forward to many hours pleasantly passed in her company. May God, in his mercy, grant, that my hopes be not disappointed - But short indeed is the time, that we can any of us mourn or rejoice here. Perhaps, if she dies, I may soon follow her - Prepare me, O thou Heavenly Parent, for all thy will - prepare me, whenever thou shalt so ordain, to leave this world with a well-grounded confidence in thy mercy. -



The illness of Miss Stearns occasions the deferring for the present of an intended journey of Uncle & Aunt Sewall & myself to Portland & Portsmouth. I had looked forward to this with considerable pleasure. But it must, I fear, be relinquished.

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In the afternoon D^r Ware preached - His sermon

was on God's Holiness - "Thou are of purer eyes than to behold evil, & canst not look on iniquity" – Hab[akkuk chapter 1 verse 13]. -

After meeting I read at the Athenaeum the pamphlet written by Jer[emiah] Dummer Esq[uire] in defence of the N[orth] E[astern] Colonies - This has been lately mentioned by Pres[ident] Adams in his letters in the [Boston] D[aily] Advertiser. - I found it a most interesting performance - & particularly

I was entertained & instructed by his account of the Adm[iralty] Jurisdiction here before the Revolution - The qu[estion] occurred, whether now a prohibition would not lie from our Supreme Court to the

U[nited] States Court, should it undertake jurisd[iction] as a

Court of Adm[iralty] in a case not warranted by law?
This is an interesting qu[estion] indeed. -

Called in the ev[enin]g at M^r Hale's, & passed an hour very pleasantly.

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Sunday morn[in]g - 23 Aug[ust] 1818. Boston.

I had resolved to set out on Thursday last for Portsmouth - but finding, that E[dward]. T. Channing would go next ^ this week on Friday, & would pass some days there, I determined to wait & go with him - The past week has not been marked by any very important occurrence. - In the course of it, I have read *Rob Roy*, from which I received great entertainment. - I have read also some law. -

Rob Roy

On Thursday afternoon I took Miss E. W.

Wilson in a chaise to Medford, to visit Cousin Mary. - We were so unlucky, as to have chosen an afternoon, when M^{rs} Gray expected a large party. - As soon as I had learned this, I determined to take an early leave - But time passed unobserved away, till after waiting some time for Miss Wilson to propose our departure,

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and she probably waiting as impatiently for me to move, I proposed returning. M^{rs} Gray interfered, & urged our taking a cup of tea, which she assured us was poured out, & ready to be brought in - and she imm[ediatel]y left the room to hasten it - I thought it best, as she had been at so much trouble, to take one cup. But, to our great discomfiture, before we had swallowed it (it was boiling hot!) came the first detachment of company -There was scampering, & racing & chasing. Cousin Mary, & Miss Wilson escaped - I stood amazed, my cup & piece of cake in my hand, till I was roused by an introduction from M^{rs} Gray to an elderly lady, whom she conducted into the room, & by her request-

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ing the girl to take my cup, which I was quite glad to be rid of (My cake I had made out to swallow, tho' not without greater haste, than was quite consistent with bien-seance) - I then

sat down again, intending, as soon as it was decent, to withdraw - But immediately after Miss Cath[erine] G[ray] came as a messenger from Miss Wilson, to summon to the chaise. We jumped in & rode home - I meditated all the way on the awkwardness of our retreat - & the inconvenience, to which our long stay must have put the family - But away with it - it is a trifle. - -

I received a letter from my Father on Wednesday, informing me, that Aunt Judge Sewall & Cousin Ann were passing some days at his

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house - This I was rejoiced - delighted - to learn. -

On Friday ev[enin]g I called at Uncle Sewall's, & found there M^r & M^{rs} Jonas Phillips, whom I was very happy to meet.

M^r P[hillips] appeared much improved in health & spirits by his late journey to Tiverton.

Miss H[arriet] Sterns

Miss Stearns has been better for several days.

I called last evening at M^r Greele's found that Aunt Sewall & Cousin Ann had
not yet returned, & probably would not
return before Tuesday. - M^{rs} Greele, I was sorry

to learn, was unwell. -It was my intention, when I went to Medford on Thursday, to invite Cousin Mary to go to M[arble]h[ea]d with me on Saturday (yesterday) but in the 11 hurry of our flight, I forgot it. - As a remedy I requested George on Friday to write to his sister, & propose it, & request her answer on Saturday morning. George went to M[arble]h[ea]d on Saturday ^ Friday afternoon - & no answer came -I had concluded, however, to take a chaise & go to Medford yesterday afternoon, trusting that Cousin M[ary] would go with me to M[arble]h[ea]d. But on inquiry at Spurr's stable, I found they had only one horse left, which they called "pretty good" - so I gave it up, not being before very decided - I rejoiced that I had given it up, when I found that Aunt Sewall & Cousin Ann had not returned. M^r Bourne, the younger brother of George Bourne, son of late M^r Sylvanus Bourne, arrived from West Point on Thursday - & is now at Miss Fissen-12 den's. Sunday noon - 23 Aug[ust] 1818. Dr Worcester preached this morning for Mr Channing - His sermon was on the suffering of many through the sin of one - Dr W[orcester] pointed out the many instances in God's providence, & in what is recorded of in scripture, of this fact in the Divine government. All who suffer are sinners, & deserve punishment; altho' that punishment is in m[any] produced by the sin of one. -

Sunday ev[enin]g 23 Aug[ust] 1818.

M^r Channing preached this afternoon - His sermon was from the text "*I am holy*" - and the purpose of the course was to enforce the duty of loving & revering God, as a holy and moral being. -

After meeting I read at the Atheneum about fifty pages of *Cox's Life of Walpole*, & closed the first volume. -

This evening I have passed at Uncle
J. Sewall's, where I found Uncle May, & the time

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was very pleasantly spent.

Wednesday ev[enin]g 26 Aug[ust] 1818.

[Co]mmencement

On Monday I was employed in business & study. In the evening I called at M^r Lee's in Congress Street, to inform that worthy family of my intended visit to Portsmouth. - I intended to stay but a few minutes; but their cordial reception, and the power which they possess, more

than any family I have ever met with, to make one feel at home & happy, made me prolong my visit to a late hour. -Yesterday (Tuesday) morning I went with Uncle J. Sewall & Uncle May to Cambridge, for the purpose of Uncle Sewall's obtaining letters of guardianship for the Misses Higginson. We accomplished our business hap-14 pily & were in town again by eleven o'clock. Last evening, according to previous arrange-Class- meeting ments, our first class-meeting was held at No 14 Exchange Coffee House. - We assembled eleven - viz[it] [namely] Z. G. Whitman - J. C. Merrill -S. Merrill - Warren Fay - Calvin Bailey - A. Jaques - T. Parkman - D. Sears - Josh[ua] Chandler - J. Tufts - & myself. - I had not seen Fay, Jaques or Chandler, & I think not Bailey before since leaving college. - It was very pleasant to review the recollections of our college life - We resolved to form a class-society - to meet annually on the day before commencement to form a charitable fund - & to keep a record of the condition, place of residence, occupation &c of every member - // - My friends did me the honor to place me in the chair. - We had a cup

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of coffee, & frugal supper, which went off very pleasantly. - I had received a letter from N. A. Haven in the morning, which I read at the table. It contained a toast on the subject of our old friend Harris. - We retired about half past nine, quite gratified with the beginning we had made. - -This day is Commencement. I have not been to Cambridge, because I preferred going to-morrow. - An occurrence, which has given me no small pleasure, is the Degree received conferring of degrees of Master of Arts on Lovell, King & myself. - I had not intimation of it, except casually from J. C. Merrill, & felt no certainty, till I saw my name on the 16 catalogue. I am glad to be restored again to a connexion with College - and shall ever feel grateful for this unmerited honour. -I hope soon to see the favour extended to all those, who are similarly circumstanced. I have passed the day reading 14 Mass[achusetts] Rep[or]ts at my office - & the evening principally at Mr Greele's, where I called to ascertain, whether my sister Charlotte

> had arrived there, she being expected to return with Aunt Sewall & Cousin

	Ann They are expected to-morrow.
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	M ^r Bartlett of M[arble]h[ea]d came in - He
	commenced a discussion on the subject of
	the religious state of his parish - & went
	into a minute account of his manner of pro
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	ceeding with many, whose minds have lately
	been exercised with religious impressions
	Saturday - 5 Sept[ember] 1818.
	On Thursday 27 August I attended the ΦBK
	anniversary at Cambridge. The oration by E[dward] T.
	Channing Esq[uire] on Literary Independence - and
	a Poem on the poets of Great Britain by W. H.
	Gardiner, were both excellent performances
	I was much gratified with Channing's man-
	ner of speaking. It was chaste and spirited
	I did not stay to dine with the society, but
	returned to town in a chaise with Channing.
Visit to Portsmouth	Friday - 28 Aug[ust] - Set out in the stage
	at 7 o'clock for Portsmouth. E[dward] T. Channing
	& his sister, Miss Mary Channing, went at
	the same time I was much astonished on
	getting into the carriage, to find there a la-
	dy, I had always taken to be M ^{rs} Susan
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Channing, widow of F. D. Channing - and for some time I supposed, that it was this widow, whom Channing had called his sister, & who was to accompany him to Portland. - I afterwards found out my mistake - and the vivacity, & flow of spirits & conversation, which this lady kept up, contributed much to my gratification. - We had in the carriage also the famous Major General Brown of the Unitted States army, & his aid M^r Harrison, a M^r Patrick, also an officer - and a ma[n], wife & child, belonging to Hallowell. -

At M^{rs} Carter's, where we received Gen[eral]
Brown, we saw S. M. Stearns, who introduced
Gen[eral] B[rown] to Miss Channing. - We found the
General very affable & pleasant. He assumed none
of the pride & port of a soldier; made no deman[d]
of deference; and seemed perfectly willing to

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do what he could, to make the time pass pleasantly.

He made many remarks, which discovered a
strong & observing mind - particularly, in the
subjects of agriculture & domestic improvement.

- His intention was to pursue his journey
eastward on the following morning - -

Our ride had nothing remarkable. It was pleasant, the country looked finely - & made a striking contrast to its appearance

when I last passed it in my journey to
Wiscassett in the cold barren summer of 1816.

We reached Portsmouth about five o'cl[oc]k in the afternoon. We landed at the house of M^r Wentworth - or rather of the Misses Wentworth in Jaffrey Street, a family reduced by the great fire to the necessity of keeping boarders to support an aged father. - We found

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excellent accommodations, in a pleasant part of the town. - Soon after we arrived, M^r & Miss Appleton, friends of Miss Channing, called on her with Miss Charlotte Haven, sister of my class-mate. - M^r& Miss A[ppleton] took Miss Channing with them, to pass her visit a[t] M^r Joseph Haven's. - Miss C[harlotte] Haven seemed to have called to invite Mr & Miss Channing to dine at her Father's on Saturday. She, in a very obliging manner, the frankness of which pleased me, extended the invitation to me, saying she believed I was acquainted with her brother. - In truth, I had seen Miss H[aven] at Mr Everett's, the last winter, but supposing, that she did not recollect me, I had not spoken to her now. - I gladly accepted her invitation. - - I called

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at M^r Jacob Sheafe's in the evening, but not finding

Aunt Scott, I left for her a letter from M^r Salisbury, pencilling on it, that I would call on the next morning. - I did not point out my residence, because I would not have them take the trouble of sending for me. - I was glad to get to bed at a pretty early hour. - -

On Saturday morning, I rose tolerably early, and after breakfast went with Channing, escorted by M^r Watson, a young navy officer, who was very polite to us, to see the Reading room. - I met my old friend Harris, whose appearance accorded with the accounts I had rec[eive]d of his temperance. - He pressed us to come & see his Lancastrian school; & after walking round

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the principal streets, we went there. - We found more than 200 boys, who all appeared to be under perfect regulation - I was much gratified with the school, & particularly with seeing at its head a friend, whom I once thought lost forever. - After stayi[ng] there about half an hour, Channing & myself separated. - I went to call on Aunt Scott, & he to see his sister. -

Aunt S[cott] seemed rejoiced to see me, & I was sorry to find, that the Sheafe family

had been at the pains to send to all the taverns in search of me. - I did not find Aunt S[cott] so much reduced in health, as I had been led to suppose - It was evident, however, that she was considerably dispirited. - - A party was immediately arranged to go to M^r Cushing's, & to M^r

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Sheafe's farm in the afternoon - & that I should take Aunt Scott out in her chaise. - I assented on condition, that I should not be looked for at an earlier hour, than I could decently leave Mr Haven's. -

At M^r Haven's we found Miss Osgood of Medford - M^r Parker, the clergyman, a friend of M^r Greele's - & my class-mate N. A. Haven & wife. - M^r & Miss Channing - & M^r & Miss Appleton were also there. - It was as pleasant a dinner party, as I have ever entered.

There was a freedom & sociability, wh[ich] accompanied with much elegance & taste, which gave the whole an indescribable charm. - Miss Haven appeared to me a fine, intelligent, good-natured girl - dignified in her deportment, yet unusually frank & affable.
The conversation was literary, & turned on a

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variety of topics - It was with regret, &

not without some difficulty, that I tore myself away from these friends at the early hour of four. - M^r Haven gave me a pressing invitation to return to tea -

I found Aunt S[cott] waiting. We jumped into the chaise, & soon landed, after a very pleasant ride, at M^r Cushing's most singularly constructed house about two miles from Portsmouth. - This house was built in the days of Provincial dependence by Wentworth the royal Governor of N[ew] Hampshire. [2] It contains more than 50 rooms. Its exterior presents a countless number of angles, and peaks. There seems to have been a studied avoidance of any thing like order or symmetry.. There are juttings, and pinnacles, and bulk-heads, placed about here & there like the irregular crystallization of a mass of ice – Withi[n]

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you ascend, and descend, and turn & wind in going the smallest distance. No two rooms seem to be on the same horizontal plane. - One large room, or hall, to which you descend from the parlor, served for the meetings of the Legislature - & you still see the places on the walls, where stood the full length portraits of George 2^{[n]d} & his Queen. These have been very lately removed - Then there is the card-room - the billiard room - and others, that I do not remember - The tenants rooms are a long suit opening one into another with many a mazy winding, & from

one of them you go down to the dairy - & thence to the cellar - & thence there is a passage to the beach.

The sea runs up on each side - and Sagamon creek separates M^r Sheafe's farm from this of M^r Cushing. We went in a boat (i.e. Hon[orable] Judge Woodbury, M^r John Sheafe, M^r Cutts & myself) across the creek to M^r Sheafe's. - I rowed some distance, but was much

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incommoded by eel-grass. - At M^r Sheafe's, we found himself, M^{rs} Prescott & M^{rs} Cutts. - From the top of the house I saw the Isles of Shoals - & the Stone meeting-house, in which is no preaching. -

We returned in the boat to M^r Cushing's, & found there a considerable party - M^r & M^{rs} Larkin & daughters, a M^r & M^{rs} Ladd were there. - As it was a moonless night, it was necessary to start early - So after tea we took chaise, & departed. M^r Watson on horseback went before Aunt Scott & myself, who rode in the chaise, to shew us the way, of which I was ignorant. We arrived safely & I returned somewhat fatigued. -

I had considerable conversation with Judge Woodbury, & found him less proud of his early elevation, than I had expected. - -

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Sunday - 30 August - - Went to my class-mate's

N. A. Haven J[unio]r's, & accompanied him to meeting at the Rev[erend] M^r Parker's - I was pleased with this gentleman's preaching, & with the whole appearance of the congregation. - I dined at M^r Sheafe's, where the abundance of food, & pressing solicitations to eat tempted me to eat excessively, & I felt the inconvenience thro' the afternoon. - I attended meeting again at M^r Parker's, & was again gratified. - After meeting called at Haven's with Channing - & admired his fine library -

In the interval, before afternoon service, I had with M^r John Sheafe ascended to the cupola of the Church, and enjoyed a most extensive & beautiful prospect, of the harbour & surrounding country.

I took tea at M^r Jos. Haven's, where Miss Channing was keeping . - A little party assembled

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there in the evening in a friendly way. M^r & M^{rs}

Parker - M^r & M^{rs} Ladd - & M^r N. A. Haven

& his daughter, with my class-mate N. A. Haven

& wife, were present. - It was here I discovered

Miss Channing's disposition & talent for raillery, & her fondness for innocent merriment, from ^ to which her countenance had led me to suppose her an utter stranger - . In the midst of this happy party, I recollected my duty to see Aunt Scott once more before I left town. - I hastened to

M^r Sheafe's - found there the family assembled

	as is usual with them on a Sunday evening - &
	was led by Aunt S[cott] into a separate room, to talk
	of her affairs M ^{rs} Sheafe interrupted us with a
	call to supper I was again tempted to eat.
	One of the articles, which decorated the table, was a
	huge pumpkin, which they said Aunt S[cott] had desired
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	should be placed there It was broken soon, & a part of
	the shell distributed to each. This served for a dish, into
	which milk was poured, & the pulp being stirred up
	with it, was thus eaten This rustic sort of
	feast seemed rather new to the family
	At tea I retired, & took leave of Aunt S[cott], not
	without many remembrances to friends in Boston.
Monday	- Channing & myself slept this night in
31 ^[st] [August]	one room I rose early to prepare for the
	stage We started at six, having for our
	companion the same M ^r Patrick, who had gone
	down with us
	I left Portsmouth with regret. I had
	found there a hospitable, friendly people, ele-
	gant in their mode of life, gay without vanity,
	splendid without ostentation. They had made
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	me forget, that I was a stranger. I loved them for
	their ingenuous & easy deportment, & their free
	& joyous conversation. Their mirth was not levity,

nor was it that heartless dissipation ^ of which the French are accused. There is soul in all they say & do. - My companions shared in my feelings. - Our ride & visit had been pleasant beyond our utmost expectations; & now we were on our way home with a fine day shining around us - all nature bright with every form of beauty - and our own hearts free from care. How much had we to be grateful for ! -

After a very pleasant ride, we reached Boston, a little after four P.M. - - I spent the rest of the day & evening in my office, or in carrying to Aunt Scott's friends intelligence of her health.