

Saturday - 4 Sept[ember] 1819.

Attended a meeting in the forenoon of the Committee of Mass[achusetts] Peace Society on the subject of Privateering - We met at Hon[orable] Judge Dawes's house & were all present excepting M^r Saltonstall of Salem. - Some interesting communications from D^r Noah Worcester were read, & particularly a letter from R. S. Duponceau Esq[ui]re of Philadelphia of a most interesting character, in which he contends that nothing can be effected by merely abolishing privateering - that the same evil would be renewed in a worse form - and that the axe must be laid deeper - that all captures of unarmed ships should be abandoned by mutual consent - Upon discussing the subject we all accorded in these views, & after being two hours together adjourned to tuesday (Sept[ember] 14) notice of the meeting to be given to the members of the committee of the Mass[achusetts] Convention. -

In the afternoon I went to Salem, & arriving there about ½ past eight, I immediately set out on foot with a large bundle under my arm for Marblehead. I reached my father's door about ten, & found no one up but M^{rs} Bubier - After supping on milk, I went to bed.

There was in the carriage to Salem an Exeter man, of the name of Smith, who told me he was at Exeter Academy, when M^r Webster (now Hon[orable] D. W[ebster]) first came there, an awkward country boy - That he was one of the most uncouth looking lads he ever saw - He said M^r Webster must, as he knew from his own age, be near 45 years

old.

Sunday . 5. Sept[ember]. 1819.

I found my friends all well - Attended meeting all day, accompanied by my mother, at M^r Bartlett's, & was much pleased by all M^r B[artlett]'s preaching. - The Church was opened this day, & M^r Morton, an Irish Gentleman, lately a missionary in Hayti, preached - But as I understood there had been some dissension about the manner of his being invited to preach, & that some unpleasant feeling existed, I resolved my self & advised my mother to go to M^r Bartlett's, where my Father has lately taken half a pew. - Hearing, however, that M^r M[orton] would have evening prayers & a lecture, & that he was a man of genius & eloquence, I attended my Mother & M^{rs} Bubier to Church, & was much gratified in hearing this gentleman read the prayers, & deliver an address apparently ex tempore, but in tolerably good order and expression,

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upon the duty of conformity in our mode of worship to the established Church - I was delighted with the singing of the psalm, - the Church was filled, & voices ascending from all parts in a familiar, & solemn tune, made a rich harmony, that awakened more of feeling, than I have for a long time, experienced from music. -

Monday. 6 Sept[ember]. 1819.

On Monday I went to Salem in a chaise with Cousin Charles Sewall, whom I found at M[arble]h[ea]d at my father's on Saturday, & who was now returning to Boston - I had a delightful day in Salem - I found J. G. King well

& in good spirits - called at his house & saw M^{rs} K[ing] - went to Judge Story's, & had with him an hour's conversation upon various topics - such as the changes to be made, & to be guarded against in our State Constitution - professional topics - new publications &c - My wish was to lead the Judge to talk of the subject now before the Committee, of wh[ich] I am a member - viz[it] [*namely*] the abolishing of private captures in war - I waited long for an opportunity - but, at last, I introduced it by inquiring "if he had ever thought of the inconsistency in the laws of war in allowing the capture of private property at Sea, & disallowing it on the land?" - - He said "it had often occurred to him, as very absurd, that a bale of goods deposited in a store should

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be safe, when another on board of a vessel, was confiscated" - I then went on to ask his opinion of the utility, & probable effects of abolishing captures of private property (except contraband) altogether - & the practicability of effecting such a change? -

I suggested the objection, that wars would then become more personal - - He thought that such a measure was desirable, as it might make wars less frequent, by removing one of the chief temptations to them - but he feared, that Great Britain, being the chief maritime power, would not consent to it, as in that case, if at war with France, for instance, her enemies goods might be carried in American ships - if the principle should extend so far, as that free ships should make free goods - and on the other hand, if search was allowed conflicts would arise, & our merchants be exposed to great vexations.

He did not know, but this evil might be remedied, by subjecting the captor to payment of damages. -

He said, however, the subject was one, on which he had not thought much, as to its effects or its practicability, & he promised to think more of it, & let me know the result.

I had met M^r Cole in the morning, & understanding that he was at leisure, I had accepted his invitation to dine, having had a great desire to pass a few hours with him.

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At dinner I met M^{rs} Cole, her daughter & Miss Appleton, a boarder with them. I was not well, & M^r C[ole] had, to my regret, provided melons & other delicacies, of which I could not partake. - I had a pleasant conversation with M^r C[ole]. - -

I had a great desire to see Miss Higginson, the cousin & friend of Aunt Sewall, and M^r Cole was good eno' to accompany me to her house - She was exceedingly affable, and of her entertaining powers I found all true, wh[ich] I had heard. She, & M^r Cole conversed about the phenomena of education, & many of Miss H[igginson]'s remarks discovered a philosophy the result of sound sense, & observation instructed by long experience. - I remained half an hour beyond the time I had appointed for being at King's to take tea.

At King's house I took tea, & had a quiet, pleasant, solemn talk with him upon religion & literature - and remaining there till late in the evening, I set out to walk to M[arble]h[ea]d. - King was kind eno' to accompany me a part of the way, & to call with me at M^r Tread-

well's - There I saw my cousin Mary, but M^{rs} T[readwell] being sick, I did not see her. - King walked on with me; & left me at about half the distance. The rest of my walk was dreary & unpleasant, & I did not arrive at my Father's till ten o'clock. - -

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At this visit I had confirmed the engagement of Cousin ~~xx~~ Mary to M^r Alanson, a young gentleman, who is, I believe, every way worthy of her, and I could hardly say more than this in praise of any man. -

Tuesday - 7 Sept[ember]. 1819.

I returned in the Stage to Boston - & found my business had not suffered by my absence - - I became imm[ediatel]y very busy. - The first annual bar-meeting under the new rules took place this day. An excellent address was del[ivered] by Warren Dutter Esq[ui]re - wh[ic]h was voted to be printed. - The bar then dined together, & the Judges & other guests were present -. The dinner was a very pleasant one - and I felt gratified at the success, wh[ic]h seemed to attend the experiment - & quite rewarded for the labour bestowed in preparing the rules. -

Tuesday - 14 Sept[ember]. 1819.

A meeting of the P[ea]ce Society Committee, in conjunction with the Convention Committee, was held at Judge Dawes's house - D^r Worcester of Salem, Rev[erend] C. Lowell, & Rev[erend] F. Parkman, attended of the clergy - & Judge Dawes, Hon[orable] L. Saltonstall & myself of the P[ea]ce Society. M^r Ritchie, being absent sailing for England, was to

our great regret, obliged to withdraw from the Committee.

We had much discussion - M^r Lowell particularly aided us much by his clear & practical views - The two committees agreed to amalgamate for purposes of inquiry - & Rev[erend] M^r Parkman & myself were made a sub-committee for corresponding - -

All present agreed in preferring M^r Duponceau's proposition to abolish captures by public ships, as well as by ss. - The other gentlemen (excepting M^r Saltsonstall) dined at Judge Dawes's - To me it was not convenient.

Thursday 16 Sept[ember] 1819

Dined at M^r Ward's in company with M^r Goodhue of N[ew] York, & several merchants. - I was unwell, & could not talk - but the gentlemen were intelligent, & I was amused & instructed by their conversation -

Wednesday - 22 Sept[ember]

Attended a meeting of the Religious Association at M^r Blanchard's, and took with me M^r Brewer. The subject was Christ's propitiatory sacrifice - M^r Blanchard had made an elaborate selection & arrangement of text, and entered into the subject with great ingenuity & force - I received great benefit from his researches.

Saturday - 25 Sept[ember]. 1819.

In the afternoon I went to M[arble]h[ea]d - My Father was surprized

& delighted to see me - On arriving the first persons, that greeted me, were Cousin Mary, & her lover, M^r Alanson, whom I unluckily interrupted, not knowing that M^r A[lanson] was to depart next morning for Portsmouth - & that ev[en]g indeed for Salem. - However, Cousin M[ary] seemed pleased to see me. -

Sunday - 26 Sept[ember]. 1819. - M[arble]h[ea]d.

A N[orth] East storm, wh[ich] however did not prevent Cousin M[ary] & myself attending M^r Bartlett's preaching all day - And we were rewarded, for M^r B[artlett] gave us two admirable sermons, in the morning on "knowing God" - In the afternoon on "governing the thoughts" -

The storm was so bad in the ev[en]g, that I could not go abroad - I staid at home & read the "Report of the Am[erican] Colonization Society" wh[ich] I had rec[eiv]ed the preceding day thro' the P[ost] Office - It was delightful to me, to feel "at home" -

Monday - 27 Sept[ember]. 1819.

I was agreeably disappointed by a very fine day
I resolved not to return till Tuesday - visited most of

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my friends in the forenoon - Capt[ain] Wilson very kindly invited ~~me~~ & my Father & myself to dine. - There were also present M^r Geo[rge] Wilson & wife - Miss Lydia W[ilson] was at home - but Betsy absent at the rural retreat (Gardiner's farm) where she & M^{rs} Jane W[ilson] have spent some weeks. - - In the afternoon I invited Cousin Mary to ride with me to Salem, & she accepted.

We stopped at M^r Turell's, to see M^{rs} Bubier, & found her well - I then left Cousin M[ary] at M^{rs} Shillaber with her friend, M^{rs} Treadwell, & went to J. G. King's Office - I was grieved to learn from King, that there exists in Salem a strong sentiment ag[ain]st M^r Channing's appointment to the professorship of Oratory - & that even Judge Story was an opponent - I endeavoured to remove an ill impression, which I found had taken possession of King's mind - I called on M^r Saltonstall for the purpose of leaving with him some papers relating to our duty, as members of the Peace Society Committee - With him I had some conv[ersation] - I represented to him, that Channing had much higher qualifications, than those of a mere belles lettres scholar, as he had seemed to suppose that he was a good latin scholar, & had read most

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of Cicero's rhetorical & Philosophical works - - I returned to M^{rs} Shillaber's & took tea there with M^{rs} Treadwell & Cousin Mary. - We then started for home - It was a pleasant evening - I led Cousin M[ary] to talk of the character of a young lady, of whom I wished to know some thing more, than a slight acquaintaince with her could give me - The conversation was a satisfactory one to me, and what I had partly proposed in seeking this ride.

We found our way with some pains over a rugged bye-road to the farm-house, where M^{rs} Jane Wilson, & Miss E. W. Wilson were enjoying a rural retreat. Capt[ain] Wilson - M^{rs} W[ilson] & Lydia, had just left on their way home - We were gladly rec[eived] by the ladies, and staid half an hour with them.

	<p>Returning I had some free & confidential conversation with Cousin M[ary] about her late engagement, of wh[ich] she asked my opinion, & I expressed my approbation.</p> <p>This was to me a very gratifying ride - and I had great cause to thank my God for all the pleasures, he was giving me, in the health of my friends, & my own, & in the unexpected enjoyments of this day. - At my Father's door I met M^r Jenny from Boston, who wished me to prepare a letter of Att[orne]y for M^{rs} M. J. Proctor to sign - It was done & executed before 9 o'clock.</p>
<p>E. T. Channing made Professor</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">98</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday - 28 Sept[ember] 1819</p> <p>Returned by the Stage to Boston - There has been lately a most unpleasant discussion in the Newspapers respecting the choice of my friend, E. T. Channing, as professor of Oratory at Cambridge - I have felt very sensibly the impropriety & indelicacy of their canvassing the character & qualifications of an individual selected by the Corporation to fill the chair of a professorship. I believe the course taken in this instance is unprecedented, and unwarranted - and when we consider how deeply it must wound the feelings of the gentleman in question, & of his friends, its impropriety is manifest. - A piece in the Patriot signed Alumnus last week induced me to reply in the D[aily] Advertiser of Saturday in "an ironical piece signed Popularis Aura - -</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thursday - 30 Sept[ember]. 1819</p> <p>I learned to-day that M^r F. Dexter & Miss Prescott were married on Tuesday ev[enin]g - & were to receive</p>

	<p>company this ev[enin]g - But as my inform[ation] was casual, altho' I had seen both M^r Dexter & Judge Prescott, I tho[ught] it best not to present myself at the nuptial levee. -</p> <p>M^r Hale called in the evening, & gave me the gratify-</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">99</p> <p>ing intelligence that Channing's nomination was confirmed by the Overseers - 10 to 7 -</p>