

Bowdoin Coll. May 5th 1848.

My Dear Pastor

I am keeping myself so busy that I hardly know how to find time to write even to those most dear to me. I cannot be otherwise than deeply grateful for the kindness which you have shown me at so many times and in so many ways and for the deep interest which you take in my welfare. And I should indeed be heedless and ungrateful if I neglected to let you hear from me.

I wished very much to see you before I left, for I needed your advice and instruction, but in this I was disappointed. The loss of that opportunity, however, was greatly repaired by the reception of a letter from you, which came when most needed.

I received a letter from Saml. Gardner a few days since, and was rejoiced to hear the good tidings which he communicated. It came upon me suddenly and I could not but feel that my faith has not been strong enough, and although such a blessing has been a subject of earnest prayer for years, I have not had sufficient faith to believe it would really take place very soon at least. Still I think I may safely say that since I have been here and especially for a month past I have had peculiar emotions in regard to our own Sabbath School. It seemed to me after I read your letter, that the Lord would pour out his spirit, among us. — Still the intelligence was

sudden, and gave me reason to examine myself. A feeling of my own unworthiness and defect strongly impressed me. - What reason have we to bless God for this taken that he has not utterly forsaken us. I earnestly pray that the work may go on till none be left.

It seems, from what I hear that the work is entirely the Lord's - that there were no particular circumstances that first arrested attention. I did not hear of all who are indulging hope. I should be glad to hear of particular cases. - We have also had a refreshing from the Lord. How have indulged hope this term there is still interest. We have had no Class meeting yet. The chief difficulty is in a room. No pious classmate had a room in which it would be convenient to meet.

At the beginning of the term there were only two pious persons in the class - there are six now. We shall probably hold our class meetings, in the room of one who has lately indulged hope.

I will say a word about my other matters. I have met with nothing but the most gentlemanly treatment - could not wish for better. It was necessary for me to take a decided stand at the very commencement and resist the first temptation, nor do I regret having taken such a course. I really think I never have been so faithful to myself & my duty as since I have been at Coll. It seems to me that engaging in God's service is a delightful employment and that my resolution to serve him is strengthening every day.

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There have been many trials to undergo, but they
brighten the Christian's hope, and temptations resist-
ed strengthen his faith. — My class mates seem
to understand me now. If there is to be a class cut
a training or opser. "O! no! Chamberlain won't go
in to it." They seem to understand my duty pretty
well. I have found myself sometimes alone
but all came out right. —

I am not without strong and true friends here
and I feel well contented though I shall not
regret the hour that sees me leaving for home.
My health has not been very good but I am thankful
that I have able to keep on with my studies. I
am not obliged to study as hard as I did at home
and the labor I there accomplished seems now
almost impossible. I feel happy in having the
sympathy of so many friends and the careful
solicitude of parents who have been to me all that
parents could be. — I do not attempt to read
much — my Bible, Greek Test, & Wether's Interior
Life are almost my only reading.
You will perceive the hasty manner in which
I have written but I am writing to one who will
excuse this for I have written in the midst of
noise and interruption. I shall probably see
you in two or three weeks. Have had but
one letter from home since I have been here
My regard to Mr Thurston & family & all other friends
Yours Aff. J. Lane Chamberlain



Pardon the too frequent use of the Ego but
I have written freely as to an intimate friend
I. L. G.

[The rest of the page contains faint, mostly illegible handwriting.]

Jawmner Membran
Call 5. 4. 2

