

Rango July 21<sup>st</sup> 1848.

Dear Friends,

You must excuse the apparent neglect with which I have treated you in not answering your letter before. Since I saw you in vacation, I have suffered very severely from neuralgia, which affected my brain so as to produce confusion of thoughts & has incapacitated me for all intellectual effort. I left the city the first of this month, and spent nearly a fortnight down river, but without much sensible benefit. I am however now on the mending hand, improve slowly, and think that by the end of another week I shall be able to study as usual. You may recollect that I complained of my head when you saw me. I cannot bear the least excitement, even going into company throws me into a degree of excitement which prevents me from sleeping the whole night afterwards.

I was quite amused to hear of your conflicts in the *Democratician*. 'O tempora, O bella!' I imagine however that as after every great battle 'no supervenit', and that by this time you can afford to laugh at the display of great passions on a small scale which such scenes always exhibit. I hope that in relation to



the contemplated action of the college govt  
that you will be able to pursue that course  
which will satisfy your own conscience, and  
enable you at the same time to maintain a  
manly independence ~~with~~ the respect which is  
due to 'the power that be.' I think the course  
you propose is a wise one. By delay you will be  
able to see the bearing of things and if it comes  
at last to this that you are obliged to disconnect  
yourself with the society of ~~your~~ college, You had  
better do the former, for ~~the~~ these societies unquestion-  
ably injure the ~~college~~ societies and are injurious  
to the college as far as the ~~studies~~ trifles engendered,  
absorb time and energies and awaken bad feelings,  
then it is always the duty of a student to respect  
the government of the school or institution with  
which he is connected, and where no principle  
is compromised he is bound to yield his judgment  
to that of his superiors where they come into collision.  
Then again, it is the duty of the pious student to  
seek for peace & to follow the things that make  
for peace. I am glad that you find your time  
all usefully occupied even though I do not get  
so many letters in consequence. I hope you are  
laying the foundations for scholarship broad  
and deep. I hope that the superstructure as  
it appears in after life will prove that such  
has been the case. The great danger with students



at your degree of progress in study is that they  
are over anxious to arrive at the results of schol-  
arship before they have acquired the principles. They  
read a vast amount of one thing & another before they  
have trained their minds to those habits of inves-  
tigation which enable them to make good use of  
the facts they gather. I am seriously meditating  
the design of remaining out of the ministry another  
year and teaching. I am somewhat in debt. I have  
not the strength to enter upon the care of a large  
parish, and I have a situation in prospect wh<sup>ch</sup>  
will enable me to make a pretty handsome sum  
of money. You need not say anything touching this  
matter to any one as yet. I am not decided. How  
do you stand this hot weather. I imagine you th<sup>rough</sup>  
afternoon with you coat off sweating over *Imp's*  
algebra, that delightful book. Mr Field has a  
fine school of boys, about 22 in number. It is not  
probable that ~~any~~ of the boys will enter college  
this fall. One or two may enter in the spring, and  
3 or 4 will study the first year's course of studies  
here with Mr Field and enter sophomore. It is  
the best plan for them, they are young and need a little  
more maturity before they go to college. But I  
must close please hand the enclosed to Sewall  
& oblige, write soon again to your friend

J. L. Hyde.





Mr. A. G. Chamberlain,  
Brook College  
Brunswick

Mr. Hyde  
July 20, '48

