

Brook Farm, Nov 24, 1843

Dear Sir,

I was about writing you in reference to your daughter whom I received your favor of the 20th inst.

We have thought for a long time that she was not adequate to the work of the place, which for the present, is quite severe, & should have proposed her return, if we had not understood that she was making arrangements to that effect, & was unwilling to seem to hurry her departure. Neither is she sufficiently advanced in the common branches of education, to enable her to pursue our course, to advantage, without despoiling the whole or nearly the whole of her time to her studies.

No doubt, although a very deserving girl, she is not the kind of person contemplated in our plan of admitting a few pupils to defray their expenses by their services. We are obliged to restrict this arrangement to a very few; to those who are capable of going forward in all sorts of labor; & who are old enough to make a good use of the portion of the time which is left at their disposal.

When Mr Wellington requested admission for your daughter, we had several applications on hand of the same kind; we told him what we wanted; that the duties were very laborious, the work of the heaviest kind; & that none but a very efficient & experienced person could answer the purpose; but from his descriptions, we decided upon her in preference to four others. We supposed her to be a strong, hearty, Granite State girl, skilled in all sorts of domestic labor, & capable of bearing the load in the most fatiguing duties. We soon found that

This was not the case; & that her labors were more burdensome to her than
advantageous to us. She has not performed any labors however, which are not
shared by the most delicate Ladies of the Association with cheerfulness & alacrity.

We do not find any fault with your daughter when we say that
she is better adapted for some other situation than any which we can offer at
present; & when she leans us, it will be with our cordial good wishes.

I shall be happy to do any thing in my power to aid her in procuring
a situation. I know nothing of the school in Charleston, to which you allude,
& should probably have little influence in that quarter. It seems to me her
wisest course would be to return to her friends at home, who could arrange
a plan for her better than she can for herself; & I shall advise her to that effect.

Yours, with esteem

Geo: Ropley.

Phineas Eastman
Franklin

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