

May 1st 1870

My dear Miss Louice

I went to call on you yesterday and was very much disappointed not to see you again - it is so long since! - all this winter I have intended it - and once I went & you were not at home. - I then put it off - and when your father died I could not immediately intrude <sup>upon</sup> you - feeling as I did so deep a sympathy in an affliction which had to many depths in a child like yours - where his character added to misdeed to the usual feelings of a child and your reticence of life make the loss of so deeply loved a relative so irremediable to every day - I should have gone out to Roxbury yesterday had I not thought that perhaps thus your grief would be lessened - among the long loved scenes associated with him. - And yet perhaps I am wrong - Death too has it happy side - and sometimes we accept it for a friend with a peculiar sense of rest - You have sympathized with his sufferings so much that perhaps you rejoice even now in his security forever from all touch of pain - Perhaps reviving nature in this outward spring is a perpetual lyric in which your mind can hear the beloved spirit clothed in new form - and planning itself for a new flight - I think Nature is even a promise to whatever human action is worthy of it - and when the cold snows of winter break up and

pass away - And Beauty comes forth so  
fitfully - with such sweet promises - is it  
not an emblem of the soul bursting the  
cements of old age - and responding in  
its own native life to the call of its  
Maker? -

I have now closed my visit to Boston  
and do not know that I shall again  
leave Salem till next winter - I shall  
not be able therefore to go and see  
you & tell you about the Conversations  
as you desired me to do - & indeed I  
could do no justice to them in a letter -  
But they were very successful - The tone  
of the whole class was so modest - and  
docile - & refined - & dignified - & every  
thing was so elegant about Miss Fuler.  
Some foolish reports have been made  
of things said - never said - &c - &c - as is  
usual in our society; but much more  
prejudice has been disarmed than  
strengthened I am confident, - and  
I feel as if there were no member  
of it - who does not feel with more  
sensibility than when they began - all  
the motives for a noble & aesthetic  
life - without any extravagance or  
desire to change anything about the spirit  
with which we live into something con-  
tinually more disinterested, beautiful &  
serious. But these are our words - unless  
you know particulars & these cannot be  
written in a letter -

There is one thing I want to speak about

however, for which I hope I have room -  
I understand from a lady of my acquaintance  
(Miss Burley) that your brother (Dr. J. A. L.) is  
a German scholar who was at one time  
deeply interested in German literature  
& I wish you would tell him of a thing that  
has come into my head (for no one else is respo-  
sible for or privy to the thought) - There is a  
son of Prof. Hodge of Cambridge who was edu-  
cated in Germany. He went there at 12 years  
of age & received his classical education & the  
first developments of his mind there - When  
he returned here he passed a year or two  
in our college - studied divinity & settled  
here as a minister. For the last few years  
he has been in Bangor. Perhaps your brother  
knows all about him. He has the singular  
advantage of being brought up in both  
literatures & has a man of genius & id.  
taste - being on fact in both. One of the best  
proofs of his powerful mind is - that although  
he can write & even think in German with  
as much ease as in English - his English is  
so easy & idiomatic that it bears no  
mark of foreign admixture - & his turn  
of thought is decidedly English - as well  
as his taste. Several years ago I heard him say  
he had a mind to deliver in Boston some  
courses of lectures on German literature - taking up  
all the great authors in succession giving biog-  
-raphical sketches - criticisms - & accounts of their  
works - & then perhaps giving the history of their  
philosophy in the same way - He then thought  
however that there was not quite enough curi-  
-osity awakened by besides there was some risk in  
abandoning his profession for it - I found you  
told me that he was here - & about leaving Bos-  
-ton (although the people there are very unwilling)  
for indispensable reason - & was probably about  
to look for a new parson. It struck me that here  
might be an interregnum as it were in his clerical  
life - & now curiosity is so completely awake concerning  
German literature & philosophy - that it would be  
a good time for these same lectures - and I would  
not but wish that your brother knew all about it.  
Of course I do not expect that my opinion will weigh  
anything on the subject with your brother who is a

perful stranger to me & my expectations for  
 progress. But I wd be woud thank of it himself  
 He might read his review of the life of Schell  
 in a Christian Examiner by some of our  
 to see a little into his way of viewing subjects  
 & Dr Walker of Cambridge. Dr Channing  
 Boston & Mr especially Mr Sturge himself  
 who is here for a week or two as I understand  
 would be good sources of information to apply  
 to. He gave a series of popular lectures on  
 literature at Bangor last winter which were  
 very successful & to be printed a lecture

Miss E. C. Peabody  
 May, 1840

To Miss E. C. Peabody  
 Care of Mr John A. Lowell  
 Boston

I have the pleasure to inform you that  
 your letter of the 10th inst. has been  
 received & that the same has been  
 forwarded to the proper authorities  
 for their consideration. I am  
 very sorry that I cannot give you  
 a more definite answer at present  
 but I trust that you will be  
 satisfied with the result. I am  
 very respectfully,  
 Yours,  
 J. A. Lowell

the genius of the language the year before which  
 was very singular. Indeed he is of that  
 & those who know him - (Dr Francis of Waterbury  
 for instance thinks so) no person of great talents  
 who is passing his life must be disappointed  
 he should - because he is not for the putting  
 of uncommon & rare attainments - but  
 of genius - a poet - or a logician - not rare  
 This last part of my letter dear Miss Lowell which  
 I intended to have very dear and good has  
 been interrupted several times & I must hope