

Dear friend

I return the inclosed as, directed by Edmund, to your own hands. I am sorry that friends abroad should have noticed any falling off in the Standard. But Edmund Van Amburgh for showman we shall bring all up yet. Edmund's own file from Webb - which he has been kind enough to send me mentions two matters which perhaps some of yours will explain: if so will you be kind enough to let me see them. I mean the insult or discourtesy which Douglas has exhibited toward Webb Staughton - & then, secondly, the story some year ago which after R.R. Moore's marriage made R.D.W. so suddenly change his whole opinion of him. I knew Moore & was always surprised at their excessive estimate of his abilities - had I seen more of him I might have felt my first indifference to him justified - but he was a pet of J.A.C. & I concluded at the time to distrust my own impressions & borrow John's.

I judge from E. Q.'s letter that you agree with all this way in atomizing the article on Briggs. I never regretted anything so much connected with the Standard. A very constant query has been whether something could not be said which would even now free the Standard from the calumnies - I confess I see no way, but if your ingenuity can suggest any, I hope you will go ahead - It is shameful.

I shrugged my shoulders in reading it rejoicing  
that I had argued in initials - for I would not wish  
to bear the brunt of such a untenable responsibility - & I,  
I see, given in & joined the "letten" party. I have sent  
Sydney my opinion of the piece.

~~to be sure~~ I must add that I hope also from all  
H. Giddens that neither Garrison nor Ed. Taylor is directly quite  
& cordially greet for too gentle kept off its floor after

Abruptly called away to town, I  
must stop. hoping that you will soon see  
S.H.G. find reason to believe all my reports,  
of him, & that one B's meeting will settle all the trouble.  
Yours very truly  
W.P.



Aug. 1846

Mr. Melick's.

No 26,



M<sup>r</sup>. Chapman

care of R. Weston, Esq.

Weymouth  
Mass.

*Paid*