

Mr. A. W. Touge,
Kingerille
Ohio.

1862

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

Rochester, Sunday, February 9, 1862.

Dear Friend Foyce:— Since my return to this goodly city of "Lager" and Literature in September last I have made numerous good resolutions of writing to you, but as is the case with nearly all of my good resolutions they have not as yet been put into actual operation. But I will endeavor this morning to make amends in some degree for my former negligence. Tuttle told me a few days since that he had a message for me from yourself, requesting me to stop at Kingsville on my return home. I thank you for the invitation, and shall certainly accept it whenever an opportunity offers. I should not have passed in September without seeing you, but it was not until after my return to Rochester that I learned of the misfortune which compelled you to leave your regiment.

I was very sorry to hear of your accident, for it not only prevents you from accomplishing for yourself what we all hoped and expected that you would do in the army, but I fear will hinder you seriously in that success which you were sure to achieve whenever you should return to literary pursuits. I have not, however, learned anything definite concerning the nature and extent of your injury. Please tell me about it. What are you doing? How do you pass the time? Are you able to study any? What are your intentions with regard to finishing your college course? Or is the state of your health so uncertain as to prevent the making of any definite plans for the future? Perhaps you will think I have a special genius for asking questions, but my excuse must be that I am anxious to know all about your situation, and I trust that you will not think that I am prompt-

ted by a more vulgar curiosity. We should all be very glad to have you among us again, and I hope that before the close of the year you will find yourself able to join the class. You would find things very much as you left them, so far as the members of our class are concerned. There have been no new recruits, and no deserters except yourself and the ever-to-be-remembered, and philosophical Burbank. Pettigill is temporarily absent, teaching school. But if there has been no change among ourselves there have been some important changes in our studies. Our brains have not been tortured, nor our sensibilities violated, by any allusion to Greek or Mathematics during the last six weeks; and I am happy to say that long practice has given me such a power of banishing unpleasant reflections from my mind that I have so far succeeded in forgetting what little Greek

and mathematics I had "absorbed" during three years of "evil associations" as to render it exceedingly doubtful whether I could translate that passage of scripture which recounts the pathetic story of the "poor man and one little ewe lamb", or give a correct demonstration of one of those sublime truths so eloquently set forth by Bonald. In place of these things we have learned to distinguish, with a degree of readiness and accuracy which is truly wonderful, the distinction between conscience and consciousness, the Ego and the non-Ego, what we may know and what we may not know. And just here, I will tell you as a matter of information, that there are only two beings in the entire universe who understand the process of creating matter, - God, and Dr. Hickok. Dr. H. stood behind God's shoulder and witnessed the entire operation, I state this fact on the

authority of Dr. Anderson, who has conferred with Dr. H. personally concerning the matter, thus precluding the possibility of any mistake. But, to return to our course of study, Dr. Leutling, (you will perhaps remember him, his name was formerly written d-d Leutling), is rapidly filling our minds with the profound doctrines and intricate subtleties of international law. His giant eye and boiling brains seem peculiarly fitted for the crooked and winding maze of diplomacy. If it were not for betraying confidence I would hint to you that I suspect the elaborate argument of Sec. Seward on the Trent case was the result not so much of his own ability as of the suggestions of a certain person who is "learned in the law". Johannes Secundus Richardson is expounding to us the doctrines of Cicero "de natura deorum". We can now understand that phrase in the catalogue, "Lectures on Latin Literature and Philosophy". You will readily guess that they are

worthy of their author.

But I have doubtless been boring
you with matters of which others have
previously informed you, and I will
 weary your patience no longer. Please
let me hear from you soon and often.

Truly your friend
C. H. Fanech,

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