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Title: Letter from Henry Dallam to W. Boyd Williams

Date: October 6, 1846

Location: I-WilliamsW-1957-1

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Sicklione College Carlisle Pa Oct 6. 46

Dear Friend, I received your acceptable letter on the 30th wt ~~attached~~ was forwarded to me, by Father, after having almost despaired of ever hearing from you again. I waited for a long time after having received your letter telling me that you would be in Balt^{ore}, expecting that you would soon be on after it; but I waited in vain, so at last I concluded I would write you a letter and send it to Clarksville which as you make no mention of it in your letter I suppose you never received. It has now been 6 or 8 months since I received any thing from you and your letter was indeed an unexpected pleasure. I have been in this place now for three weeks and (except a little home sickness, (it being the first time I have been away from home for any length of time) I like the place very well. It was quite an unexpected thing for me to come on here I was for some time undecided whether I would leave home this winter and then was undecided where I would go to. I understood this was a very fine Institution and although it has not the reputation some others have, still I believe that for solid instruction it is unsurpassed. The course is very full & extensive and according to present arrangements it is absolutely necessary that a fellow should study in order to get along. Father & Mother both came on with me. We got to Carlisle this day three weeks ago to dinner and after having dined Father and myself went up to college and were introduced to Prof. Allen who was acting as president; Father told him he had brought me on to enter the Junior Class & then went to the

rooms of the different Professors and was examined
and I am happy to tell you I passed my examination
and entered without any difficulty. There is quite
a large number of students here at present and
the most of them are first rate fellows and what is
still more important many of them are very fine
scholars. We have a good deal of fun sometimes with
each other. As for instance, last evening after tea about
30 of us got to singing three "Dankie Songs" and I tell
you we made the yard resound when we all sang
in chorus. There is every kind of character & disposition
to be met with at College and it is sometimes amus-
ing first to mark the difference of disposition you
meet with in the course of an hour. One fellow will
come up to you who looks as if he was going to take
orders in the Church next Sunday and ask you
concerning some question involving perhaps incompre-
hensible results and in a minute after another
chap looking as smiling as you can imagine will
ask you "How you off for soap" and thus it goes.
Our own Pres^t got back from Europe where he has
been for some time. This morning at 8 o'clock the
students had a meeting in the Chapel for the
purpose of making arrangements to receive him
^{when he came}
~~the morning~~ a committee was appointed to go
and escort him from the Cars and a speaker
also was appointed to welcome him back to
the College which he did in quite a handsome
manner and to which the President replied in
a correspondingly appropriate address. When I left Ball^{ys}
all your friends I believe are well. It is getting on
very well in the store he is in at present I wrote

to him the other day, and told him I heard from you.
Miss May, ~~of~~ has been in Virginia since last July when
her & my sister went in company to visit their respective
friends. She has not yet returned home but is expected
here the last of this month or the first of next.
I think I shall go home Christmas so if you will
come on to Balt^o on that occasion I think we
might have a nice time with the young ladies of
our acquaintance but whether or not you will give us
your agreeable company I can only say for myself
I am bound to have some fun with them. It seems
to me if one leaves his home for some time
he is made much more of, both by his family and
friends when he gets home; hence one great source
of consolation to the home-sick one as I am
occasionally. I understood from your letter that
you had two sisters going to this place I shall
endeavor to find the place they are boarding at and
make my acquaintance with them as being a
friend and acquaintance of their brother's.
There is here, like in all villages my little news
every body knows his own business as well as his
neighbor's. In fact one sees no variation here at
all, every day is the same, and all is one constant
life of ~~monotony~~ monotony. So you see I can not
write you any thing of news here and as I have told you
any thing that would in any way interest you I will
now conclude remaining as ever your affectionate friend
Wm Boyd Millions }
J. L. Dallan

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OCT 6
1845

not copied

Wm. Boyd Williams Esq^r

Gov of } Robert & Williams
Commission Merchants
New York

ans.

J. Clay Dalton
Oct. 6. 1845



Dickinson College Carlisle Pa Oct 6. '46

Dear Friend,

I received your acceptable letter on the 30th [Sep] which was forwarded to me, by Father, after having almost despaired of ever hearing from you again. I waited for a long time after having received your letter telling me that you would be in [Balt], expecting that you would soon be on after [A's], but I waited in vain, so at last I concluded I would write you a letter and send it to Clarksonville, which as you make no mention of it in your letter, I suppose you never received. It has now been 6 or 8 months since I received any thing from you and your letter was indeed a very unexpected pleasure. I have been in this place now for three weeks and except a little home sickness, (It being the the first time I have been away from home for any length of time) I like the place very well. It was quite an unexpected thing for me to come on here I was for some time undecided whether I would leave home this winter and then was undecided where I should go to. I understand this was a very fine institution and although it has not the reputation some others have, still I believe that for solid instructions it is unsurpassed. The course is very full of extensive and according to present arrangements it is absolutely necessary that a fellow should study in order to get along. Father & Mother both came on with me. We got to Carlisle this day three weeks ago to dinner and after having dined Father and myself went up to college and were entreated to Prof. Allen who was acting as president; Father told him he had brought me on to enter the Freshman Class & then went to the

rooms of the different professors and was examined and I am happy to tell you I passed my examinations and entered without difficulty. There is quite a large number of students here at present and the most of them are first rate fellow and what is still more important many of them are very fine scholars. We have a good deal of fun [functions] with each other. As for instance, last evening after tea about 30 of us get to singing these "[illegible] Songs" and I tell you we made the yard resound when we all sing in chorus. There is every kind of character & disposition to be met with at College and it is sometimes amusing just to mark the difference and disposition you meet with in the course of an hour. One fellow will come up to you who looks as if he was going to take orders in the Church next Sunday and ask you [?] some question involving perhaps [illegible] sensible results and in a minute after another chap looking as smiling as you can imagine will ask you "Have you off for [illegible]" and thus it goes. Today one priest got back from Europe where he has been for some time. This morning at 8 o'clock the students had a meeting in the Chapel for the purpose of making arrangements to receive him when he comes a committee was appointed to go and [illegible] him from the cars and a speaker also was appointed to welcome him back to the College which he did in quite a handsome manner and to which the President upheld in a corresponding appropriate address. When I left Balt all your friends I believe were well. PA is getting on very well in the state he is in at present. I wrote

to him the other day and told him I heard from you. Miss May has been in Virginia since last July, when her and my sister went in company to visit their respective friends. She has not yet returned home but is expected here the last of this month or the first of next month. I think I shall go home Christmas so if you will come on to Balt on that occasion, I think we might have a nice time with the young ladies of our acquaintance but whether or not you will [see] us for agreeable company I can only say for myself. I am bound to have some fun with them. It seems to me if one [leaves] his home for some time he is made much more of, both by his family and friends when he gets home; Lends me a great source of [alleviation] to the home-sick one as I am occasionally. I understood from your letter that you had two sisters going to this place I shall endeavor to find the place they are [boarding] at and make my acquaintance with them as being

a friend and an acquaintance of their brother's. There is here, like in all villages very little [news] they [illegible] knows his own [dealings] as well as his neighbor's. The fact one has no [illegible] here at all, every day is the same, and [all is me constant life of mandatory] so you see I can not write you any thing of [news] here and so I have told you everything that would in any ways interest you & will now conclude remaining as ever your affectionate friend

H. C. Williams