

Ann Arbor, 1st of November, 1895.

Dear Mr. Dawes:

I am glad to hear from you, for I had been fearful that I had lost sight of you. I am never tired of telling Mr. Salt that his Introduction to the Selections is the best thing he has written on Thoreau. ^{yet} He hardly relishes this; so hard is it for a man to judge his own writings. He is about to put out another Life of Thoreau. It will be published in the Great Writers Series, by Walter Scott, London. By every mail I am expecting a copy of "Poems of Nature" - Thoreau's Poems Collected by Messrs. Salt and Sanborn and to be published in England and America: Houghton, Mifflin & Co., handling the book on this side.

If you will turn to p. xxii of the volume of Selections, you will find that the portrait of Thoreau is from a photo by Mr. Hosmer. You can get from him a cabinet, or, if you like, a larger size which is nicer for framing. I found the original - a dauguerreotype - in Mr. Blake's possession and got his permission to have Mr. Hosmer take a negative from it. It is the best picture of Henry D. Thoreau. I should think you would prefer a photo to any reproduction of it; but de gustibus!

I do not want to bleed you for the Concord Library collection, but if you will part with the Union Magazine I will gladly pay for it.

I well remember my heat in collecting first editions of Thoreau. I got both copies of his "Week", that which Munroe sold and one that Ticknor & Fields had bound with a new (1862) title-page. You will find Channing's book the hardest to get. "Thoreau: the Poet-Naturalist." Most of the edition was burned.

That thesis about Thoreau of which I long since wrote to you has not yet found its way to the printer. The lady fell sick and her examination for the somewhat rigorous doctorate was postponed until she could make her examinations. She is not yet well enough, but I presume the thesis will be printed and ready for distribution before the next Commencement. I shall keep an eye out for it, I assure you, for it is certainly a treat to read Thoreau by the light of Fichte, Cousin and the rest of that breed.

Tomorrow night Mr. Edward Waldo Emerson reads his Thoreau paper before the Rowfant Club, and on the following Monday he will deliver it here before the Unity Club; following it on Tuesday night by a discourse on Art. He is to be my guest and I am anticipating a grand questioning time when I get him alone in my study.

By the way, why can't you Englewooders get him to read in your burgh? I beg you to think of this, for you can't get the son of a philosopher on tap every day, you know!

I sent the Rowfant Club to-day some relics for the new house they have bought. 1. A tile from the parlor fireplace of the house in which Thoreau was born. 2. A piece of the frame of the shanty at Walden Pond. It shows the marks of Mr. Alcott's axe finely. 3. A pencil made by the Thoreaus. It is marked "J. Thoreau and Son, Concord Mass."

The things will have some interest in the next century. I have one relic that is probably unique, namely, a brick from John Field's house. It (the house) is razed and ploughed under some four years now, and I'll bet a hat I am the only galoot who has a bit of it. I wish the thing could talk!

It is late and I'll to bed. Am glad you sent me a line, and I am,

Sincerely yours,

Sam'l S. Jones.