

Ann Arbor, 4th of January, 1895.

My dear Mr. Dawes:

I should be read glad if there were thirty-six hours in a day instead of the regulation twenty-four, if only the vigor of the body corresponded with the activity of the mind. From my collar-bones up I feel as young as ever and one project after the other goes chasing through my foolish old head; but when it comes to the execution, then old Time shows me quickly that he has "got in his work!"

I purpos^{ed} an immediate reply to your letter enquiring the source of that quotation about the "content of the animals", but one imperative duty followed another, and, lo! your letter of Dec'r 31st is at hand.

The quotation is from Thoreau's Diary for the date March 11th, 1842, and you will find it in the posthumous volume "Early Spring in Massachusetts", p. 111.

I note with great satisfaction your corrections of errata in the Bibliography - regretting, of course, that there are such, but glad to have them detected and pointed out. If you knew all the history of that booklet I don't know whether you would laugh, or swear. I am sorry to confess that I have done both! Such a dis-location of dates; such a misprinting of names, and such a hurrying-up of the unfortunate editor in the matter of proof-reading - much of it done after a hard day's work, riding miles upon miles over country roads, and then defrauding Sleep of her just claims to read proof! Remember, too, that our University library here is a slim af-

fair!

had in the matter of American Literature. Nearly all that bibliography is actually done from my own shelves; and, of necessity, there are entries of which I could not get access to the originals. The correspondence I have with different libraries! Lord, it makes my head swim to recall it! The Third volume of the Boston Miscellany is not to be found in either Harvard College, or the Boston Athenaeum, or the B. Public Library. It WAS finally found in the New York Historical Society's collection!

The Union Magazine is in my list of Desiderata - meanwhile I shall be delighted to look at your imperfect copy I prepared the "copy" of the Bibliography so long before it was put into print that I had actually forgotten the source of many of the items WHEN the proof arrived. I have endeavored to recall how and where I got the dates and pages of the papers in the Union Mag.; I cannot do it, but I know I did not evolve them from my inner consciousness, in the German fashion. If you ever begin to work in this line, you will be more astonished than delighted to find how many erroneous references you will find in even careful authorities.

Only recently Mr. Garrison, of Houghton, Mifflin and Company, pointed *out* two errors to me. All these are treasured; for I hope some day Houghton, Mifflin and Co. will issue an edition of the bib. for the increasing number of Thoreau students. THEN ^{these} ~~these~~ tares will be eliminated.

If it will not put you to too much inconvenience, I shall be greatly indebted if you can purchase for me a copy of that number of the FOREST AND STREAM that refers to Joseph Polis. I want it for this reason: Mr. Salt has requested me to edit an American edition of his Life of Thoreau. I will do better: I will get him to do it, IF you think there is any chance of getting a publisher. IF Mr. Salt can find an American publisher, the MSS. for a revised edition will be furnished by Mr. Salt gratis. I KNOW THIS.

I will inform him how you are impressed by his book and it will please him. I could tell you in what a dirty manner his book was "knocked out" by Mr. F. B. Sanborn from the fear that Salt's Life would hurt the sale of his book on Thoreau! Alas, that these dirtinesses should defile Literature!

If you desire to illustrate Mr. Salt's Thoreau just write to A. W. Hosmer, Concord, Mass., and tell him Dr. Jones requested you to solicit a list of his Concord photos - Thoreau and his haunts and relics, Emerson, Hawthorne, Alcott, and I know not what. He has a cabinet photo of the site of Thoreau's "shanty" at Walden with the woods and the immortal "Pond" in the background!!

I have on my study wall a large copy of the picture - some two feet by sixteen, or eighteen, inches, and by Jove I look at it and hear the rustle in the leaves. I often sit before it and read "Walden" and look up from time to time - and forget the dear, old industrious devil and all his wiles far more effectively than I was ever able to do IN church! "If that be treason, make the most of it!"

I enclose a list of Desiderata; put it in some honorable dealers hands, and ask him to report to me when he finds any of the articles wanted. He shall have the dirty lucre so soon as the mail can carry it, and you will have a wordless gratitude, all the more earnest from not being mouth-service.

Among my pleasant dreams is one of meeting you some day in Concord, and taking a swim with you in WALDEN POND. I washed away all my sins there in 1890, but a new accumulation makes me desire the same "immersion" yet again!

I wish you a "Happy New Year!" and Thoreau finds without stint!

Sincerely yours,

Saml a. Jones.