

57 Univ. Ave.,¹ Syracuse, N.Y.
Sunday Morning [February 20, 1881 ed.]

Dear Father and Mother;-

I will try to do my duty by you this week, and therefore the first thing after returning from church is to write this letter. Mac,² Prexie³ and I, went to the Ave. M.E. church today, where to our surprise and pleasure we had a sermon from Prof. Coddington,⁴ the best I ever heard in this city. Our Chancellor delivered a lecture in the same place last Thursday evening. The subject was "Giants in America" Although good, it did not meet our expectations.⁵ But he reports that Gates, the man who has buying up all the match factories in this state and New England, and who is reputed to be worth sixteen or seventeen million dollars, is going to do the square thing by us.

I have called on Helen,⁶ twice last week, Irvie⁷ is liking his business very much. He has been promoted. The next number of the Syracusan⁸ is now in press. I will try send mother a copy. With it terminates my career as local editor. The relief will be most agreeable.

I have not been down town to call on Aunt Lucy⁹ lately. It is very probable that when I called the last time, she was in Norwich.

Gene¹⁰ has been up to see Ida¹¹ and reports them very pleasantly located. Ida complains because I have not been up to see them. I shall write to her today, if I can get time. The city Y.Ys¹² and the Freshmen have got in quite a habit of calling at our place Sunday afternoons, which sadly in ter feres with writing. Mother, I have just been reading "Bricks without Straw" by the author of "A Fool's Errand."¹³ It is a longer work, but no better. Yesterday was lovely. Gott¹⁴ and myself took a ride out to Onondaga valley -

Last week we were greatly alarmed by a rumor which came through Harry Pease¹⁵ at Cornell, that Steve¹⁶ was so seriously ill that visitors were not allowed to see him. I immediately wrote to Mrs. Ayres, and in reply received a letter from her and a note from Steve, himself. They were almost at a loss to account for the rumor. Although they were greatly alarmed and Steve was beginning almost to lose hope at the beginning of January, he is now gaining every day and hopes with warmer weather to fully recover his strength. Dewey¹⁷ was up yesterday taking some examinations. He expects to enter the class of '83 in the fall. Mont¹⁸ is away today at Schenectady representing our college at the state Y.M.C.A. convention which is being held there. Week before last week we had another one of those pleasant social gatherings, which are a preeminent characteristic of Y.?s at Dave Hotchkisses.¹⁹ We had expected to have a sleigh-ride; but when the time came the snow was gone.

I come now to the final thing, of which I hope you will not consider all the rest of my letter a prologue. It has been saved to the last because disagreeable. I need some money. I should have written last week; but Mrs. Clark²⁰ knows I am good for it. I hope you have all been well. Is Kittie Dickinson²¹ at school in Cortland? Remember me to every one.

With love,
Henry

Tell Prof.²² that he can sympathize or what ever you call it, with Gid Draper and Myra. It is a girl.
Making Prexie's third niece.²³

Footnotes

1. The house at 57 University Ave., Syracuse is still standing; now numbered 413 University Ave.
2. [Boyd McDowell](#) (1857-1939), Class of 1881, later a lawyer at Elmira, NY.
3. Prexie was [Theodore Woodruff Haven](#), son of the Chancellor.
4. [Wellesley Perry Coddington](#) (1840-1913), Professor of Greek and Ethics.
5. [Chancellor Charles N. Sims](#), spoke at the University methodist-Episcopal Church, February 17, 1881.
6. Helen Rosette (Clark) Rockwell (1839-1930), widow of Edward Rockwell who was a first cousin to HAD's father.
7. Edward Irving Rockwell (1863-1955), son of Helen Rockwell above.
8. The Syracusean, a student paper, was first issued in 1878 by three fraternities, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Zeta Psi and Psi Upsilon.
9. Lucy Barnum Withey (1820-1892), great aunt of HAD.
10. [David Eugene Smith](#) (1860-1944) friend from Cortland, classmate and roommate of HAD, and son of Judge A. P. Smith who was HAD's future law partner. 'Gene' Smith became a mathematician and professor in the Teacher's College at Columbia University.
11. Ida Ann Dickinson, first cousin of HAD, wife of Dr. William A. Hall, and sister of Kittie Dickinson (see 21 below.)
12. Psi Upsilon, HAD's fraternity.
13. The author of these two novels was Albion Winegar Tourgee (1838-1905).
14. Francis Daniel Gott (1860-1901), Class of 1882.
15. Henry Hale Pease, Class of 1883, spent the 1880-81 academic year at Cornell.
16. Stephen Beckwith Ayres (1861-1929) of Penn Yan, NY, attended SU 1878-1880; US Congressman 1911-1913; The University Herald reported in October 1880 that S. B. Ayres was ill at home, by June 1881 reports were that he was going to return to college in the fall.
17. [Charles Oliver Dewey](#) of Marathon, NY; attended SU in 1879, returned to graduate in 1885.
18. [Montgomery Moore Goodwin](#), Class of 1881.
19. [David Howard Hotchkiss](#) (1856-1885), Class of 1880.
20. Mrs. Augusta Clark, wife of William.
21. Catherine V. [Kittie] Dickinson, first cousin of HAD, daughter of his father's brother Charles Dickinson, and sister of Ida Dickinson Hall (see 11above).

22. Professor Samuel John Sornberger, Class of 1878, teacher of English, Physics, Latin and History at State Normal School, Cortland, 1878-1881. Prof. Sornberger roomed with HAD's parents in Cortland.
23. HAD refers to Prexie, [Theodore Woodruff Haven](#), son of former [Chancellor E.O. Haven](#). Prexie's sister, Mira Haven, was married to [Gideon Draper](#), Class of 1880, and their first child, Charlotte E. Draper, was born January 12, 1881.

Syracuse, Feb. 25, 1881

Dear Father and Mother;-

I spent last Sunday at Frank Gott's,¹ consequently did not write. The preparation of the last number of the Syracusan² under my editorship, has occupied my spare time during the week. I expect to get to press by Wednesday, and if so, Providence permitting, shall be with you either on Friday or Saturday, and shall make a stay of three or four days. In the meantime I shall need some more money.

The news about Ida³ was quite a surprise. Hope you are all well.

Your loving son,
Henry -

Footnotes

1. Francis Daniel Gott (1860-1901), Class of 1882, lived at 501 James St., Syracuse.
2. The Syracusan, a student paper, was first issued in 1878 by three fraternities, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Zeta Psi and Psi Upsilon.
3. Ida Ann Dickinson, first cousin of HAD, the news was probably her marriage to Dr. William Asbury Hall.

Syracuse, N.Y., March 1, 1881.

Dear Father and Mother;-

The first day of Spring; But very little like spring does it look. I received mother's dear letter and the papers yesterday. I am very sorry to hear that mama has not been feeling well and hope she will be better soon. There is no need of sending me the News¹ because I read Smith's² which he gets on its publication day. I dropped in at Aunt Lucy's³ one day last week. She had been to Norwich and has been intending to write to you. I told her she must.

The other evening Helen⁴ had a few young people at her house. We had a very pleasant time.

I have not been up to see Ida,⁵ yet. I wrote to her, and have received no answer. I have been too busy to afford to leave the city. I don't know when I shall come home. I received the \$30.00 that was sent me. About \$25.00 at the middle of March and \$20.00 of the first of April will probably carry me through the term. I smashed the main spring of my watch and it cost me \$1.50 to get that fixed last week. I hope you will now excuse me, as it is perfect misery, writing with this pen.

I am, with love,
Your son,
Henry -

Footnotes

1. The Cortland News, newspaper.
2. [David Eugene Smith](#) (1860-1944) friend from Cortland, classmate and roommate of HAD, and son of Judge A. P. Smith who was HAD's future law partner. 'Gene' Smith became a mathematician and professor in the Teacher's College at Columbia University.
3. Lucy Barnum Withey (1820-1892), great aunt of HAD.
4. Helen Rosette (Clark) Rockwell (1839-1930), widow of Edward Rockwell who was a first cousin to HAD's father.
5. Ida Ann Dickinson, first cousin of HAD, wife of Dr. William A. Hall.

Syracuse, March 29, '81.

Dear Father and Mother;

I received father's letter yesterday, including a money order for twenty dollars, for which I am much obliged. I was in no way connected with the hazing affair. Four of the students have been arrested as you probably know. The students are indignant that the faculty should not have expelled the offenders instead of taking the matter into the police court, and allowing them to continue attending the college. Many of the newspaper accounts have greatly exaggerated the matter.¹ Examinations begin next Monday, and I shall probably be home on the following Thursday. Can you wait until then, mother? As I have heard nothing about Ida² I infer she is getting better. I hope so. Thanks, mama, for the Standard.³ Shall I have a letter from you this week? I will heed all your good advice.

Yours affectionately,
Henry

Footnotes

1. Four Syracuse University students were expelled for a hazing incident, an account of which appeared in the 1880-81 issue of *The Syracusean*, pg. 122-124.
2. Ida Ann Dickinson, first cousin of HAD, wife of Dr. William A. Hall.
3. *The Cortland Standard*, newspaper.

Syracuse, May 15 [1881 ed.].

Dear Father and Mother;

Long before you read this I shall be whizzing westward.¹ I have just returned from Church and take the 7.15 train in the morning, so I must hasten this letter to get a good nights sleep.

The past week has been a very busy one, adding to college work, the task of getting clothes, and preparing myself to represent the chapter as well as possible. Both suits please me well, and I thank you for giving me the means with which to get them.

We arrive at Chicago, Tuesday morning. We shall go to the Palmer House, and where will be located the $\Psi.Y.$ ² headquarters, and after establishing ourselves I will go and hunt up Jep's³ people. As Wednesday and Thursday will be given to business, I may not return until the first of next week. Chancellor Sims very readily granted me an excuse. I presume he thinks with Copeland (one of the boys)⁴ that if I dont learn more on my trip than I would during the same time in college, then my eyes and ears will be badly at fault.

I believe I gave you a promise once, father, about jumping off and on trains, and I will remember it.

Please both of you keep well, and dont worry about me, for I go with one of the best of fellows, who has been there before, even if I could not take care of myself. I hope, mother, to see you in a couple of weeks. Can't you write to me while I am in Chicago. As you wish to know how Mont looks I will send you his picture by this mail.

I think I will close this letter be sending my love and the hope that no trouble may ever come to you through your boy,

Henry

Footnotes

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1. HAD and [Montgomery Goodwin](#) were delegates to the 48th annual convention of Psi Upsilon held May 18-19, 1881 at the Palmer House, Chicago.
 2. Psi Upsilon, HAD's fraternity.
 3. Jefferson Kingman, HAD's father's first cousin; from Cincinnatus, Cortland Co., the family was in Chicago in 1880-81, but by 1882 had settled in Binghamton, NY.
 4. Arthur Copeland, Class of 1884; later Methodist-Episcopal minister; the Archives has one box of his papers containing correspondence, sermon notes, speeches (V14876)

57 University Ave.,¹ Syracuse, N.Y.
September 18, 1881

Dear Father and Mother;

You see by the heading of this letter that I am at last back in my old college quarters. On my way to Rome I had about two hours in the city, called on Harry Pease² and found he had gone hunting., was wandering around the streets, not knowing hardly what to do when I heard the Ψ.Y.^{2 3} whistle and looking up saw Jim Wilson⁴ regarding me from the window of his law office; so I went up and spent the time with him. He is doing splendidly for a young lawyer; wants me to read in his office this year. As I got on to the Central train, I saw Colie Vick, son of the Rochester florist.⁵ I had just begun talking with him when in came Judge Turner's family of Lowville.⁶ Miss. Edith, you remember, is Kittie Dickinson's⁷ most intimate friend. I visited with them until I reached Rome.

At Rome Porter⁸ was waiting for me. We drove immediately to his home, which is in the country twelve miles. The drive was a delightful one, along the valley of the Mohawk and the Black River Canal. Port's father owns a farm of 300 acres and a cheese factory. Port's older sister and her husband, a Congregationalist minister from Chicago were at home, and I found them very pleasant people. Friday we drove ten miles to see the Trenton Falls. This country is also very interesting historically. Near here being the ruins of Old Fort Stanwix, the grave of one of the signers of the Declaration⁹ & the tomb of Baron Steuben, which stands in the midst of a dense wood, which he gave orders should always be left in a state of nature. Saturday Porter, his two sisters, brother-in-law and myself drove fifteen miles to Oriskany, the site of the Battle of Oriskany, where Port and I took the 9:30 A.M. train for Ilion. We went to the house of the Methodist Minister Reese¹⁰ who is a Ψ.Y. where we took dinner. I then had interviews with the two freshmen who are to enter Syracuse (which was the purpose of my trip)¹¹ and then found time to go through the Remington's armory. I reached Syracuse, last night quite tired, but found Mrs. Stone¹² had my room ready for me. She has improved my room in several ways; but principally by putting up some very pretty raw-silk lambrequins to my windows and also over the archway into my bed-room. It improves the looks of the room a hundred percent. I did nothing to speak of Saturday night except to call on Helen,¹³ whom I found as well as usual. She has declined every invitation to leave the city this summer. Among others a visit to friends in Brooklyn this fall.

This morning Loomis¹⁴ and I breakfased alone in great estate. But the other boys will return soon.

Tallman¹⁵ is in town, I expect to see him this afternoon.

I shall be unable to prevent my last year being the most expensive of the course. Mrs Clark¹⁶ has raised half a dollar on the price of board alledging with some show of reason, that provisions are so much higher that she could not afford to board us at the old rates. The other boys have made no objection and therefore I suppose I must acquiesce.

Prexie¹⁷ comes through the city Tuesday on his way to Boston. He has a limited ticket and will therefore be unable to stop over.

Your son,
Henry.

Footnotes

1. The house at 57 University Ave., Syracuse is still standing; now numbered 413 University Ave.
2. Henry Hale Pease, Class of 1883.
3. Psi Upsilon, HAD's fraternity.
4. James William Wilson (1857-1898), Class of 1879, faculty member, Syracuse University College of Law 1895-1898.
5. Oliver Vick, son of James Vick who operated a major seed and seed catalog business in Rochester, NY.
6. HAD refers to the family of Judge Henry E. Turner whose daughter Edith married Daniel J. Dorance, of Camden, NY.
7. Catherine V. [Kittie] Dickinson, first cousin of HAD, daughter of his father's brother Charles Dickinson.
8. Chester Winfield Porter (1861-1911), Class of 1884, later an agriculturist and cheese manufacturer.
9. Major General William Floyd, signer of the Declaration of Independence.
10. Rev. W. H. Reese.
11. The University Herald of October 1, 1881 listed two new students from Ilion; [Charles Comstock Brill](#), Class of 1885; and Eugene Howard Joy who attended 1881-1884.
12. Mrs. Hiram G. Stone (Ellen).
13. Helen Rosette (Clark) Rockwell (1839-1930), widow of Edward Rockwell who was a first cousin to HAD's father.
14. George Peck Loomis, Class of 1882.
15. [John Francis Tallman](#) (1854-1918), Class of 1879.
16. Mrs. Augusta Clark, wife of William.
17. [Theodore Woodruff Haven](#), son of the Chancellor.

57 University Ave.,¹ Oct. 12, 1881.

Dear Father and Mother;-

I suppose you have been expecting to have a letter from me for a long time. Well, besides a great deal of society work, I have written an oration, prepared the first number of the *Syracusan*² for press, and carried on an exceptionally hard terms college work. I have Geology, Jurisprudence, Political Economy, Moral Philosophy, Latin and Esthetics, all of which except the last require close study.

I was very glad to hear from home, as I had received no news from Cortland since Gene's³ visit. I wish you could send me one of the papers, after you have read it. I hope Aunt Juliet⁴ will soon recover from her illness.

I went in to see Aunt Lucy⁵ today. Had quite a good deal to tell her, learned that Wat Holmes was in the East. Ella⁶ is at Oneida. Louise⁷ was in Syracuse during the fair.

I shall be obliged to request more money for running expenses. My text books for this term cost me over ten dollars.

I have heard from Prexie⁸ and Mont⁹ twice since they reached Boston. They seemed to be settling down quite pleasantly there. Prex says he is working into a Theologue quite naturally. Has asked the blessing several times and lead prayer meetings.

I have not written about my night shirts, but will immediately. My old neffled [?] ones are falling all to pieces. Perhaps you had better put something of that nature in the list of my christmas presents.

Your loving son,
Henry.

Footnotes

1. The house at 57 University Ave., Syracuse is still standing; now numbered 413 University Ave.
2. The *Syracusan*, a student paper.
3. [David Eugene Smith](#) (1860-1944) friend from Cortland, classmate and roommate of HAD, and son of Judge A. P. Smith who was HAD's future law partner. 'Gene' Smith became a mathematician and professor in the Teacher's College at Columbia University.
4. Juliaette Barnum (1835-1905), wife of Charles Delos Greenman; HAD's mother's sister
5. Lucy Barnum Withey (1820-1892), great aunt of HAD.
6. Ella Withey (1853-1948), daughter of Lorenzo Merrill and Lucy (Barnum) Withey, was HAD's mother's first cousin; married Frank J. G. Nitschke about 1885.

7. Louise Withey (1847-1914), daughter of Lorenzo Merrill and Lucy (Barnum) Withey, was HAD's mother's first cousin; married Charles Hyden about 1872
8. [Theodore Woodruff Haven](#), son of the Chancellor.
9. [Montgomery Moore Goodwin](#), Class of 1881.

Syracuse, Dec. 6, 1881.

Dear Father and Mother;

I will try to do my duty in letter writing this week, though I have almost nothing to say. My studies and the Syracusan¹ have occupied all my time since I was at home last. One of the faculty told a student - and at length it reached me - that I had conducted the Syracusan¹ more ably than any chief in the last five years. Of course that pleased and encouraged me very much, as the chief editors are usually selected from the best men in the classes; and any thing like that does much to repay me for the trouble I have taken.

The end of the term is not far away, already review work has begun in most of my studies; consequently I shall soon be home again. I should like to hear from you or receive a paper this week.

Your loving son,
Henry.

Our class-day elections along with those of Harvard were published in the N.Y. World of last Monday; quoted from the Syracusan.

Footnotes

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1. The Syracusan, a student paper.