

**TRANSCRIPT OF JANE PIERCE LETTER TO HER SISTER, MARY AIKEN,  
CONCORD, OCTOBER (15?), 1852, FRIDAY EVENING**

I have thought I should write at the beginning of every evening for the last two or three dear Mary but something has happened to prevent. I had been much troubled with irritation at the chest and accompanying troubles for several days, but yesterday & today am considerably relieved. The continued damp weather we have had is not good for me or in fact for any one. Mr. Pierce has a cold, altho' he went to Manchester this PM to return tomorrow morning. I hope it will soon leave him for he has quite eno' to bear without it. He was in Boston in the early part of the week on a flying visit – accidentally saw and rode a little way with Uncle L – who was bright as ever. I heard of your visit there dear M in a letter from Abby Means, a very kind and pleasant one – the letter I mean – your visit I shall want to hear more of. Dear Rebecca too has written to me from Orange. I received hers today. She and the children seem better for the change, and she thinks of going to Brooklyn next week to remain until November – is enjoying a great deal with her dear sisters at Orange. The dear child will have occasion for all her energy to get comfortably settled in her new quarters, and notwithstanding the untiring kindness and care of friends there will be a good deal to try her. I hope Mary is better than when you wrote dear M and that you are all bright and well. I begin to want to see you very much. Shall you not come here soon? Tell Alfred that Ben intends to write to him soon. He has been at school under Mr. Lancaster for the last fortnight in a comfortable room with two boys beside himself. Just after he went to bed last evening – there was quite a multitude assembled before our door – on occasion of the news from Pennsylvania, Ohio & Indiana. They played some good marches and a speaker said a few words, to wh. Mr. Pierce replied, after wh. they cheered three times three very heartily, and went away playing “Yankee Doodle.” If what seems so probable is to come I pray that grace may be given where it is and will be so much needed. I came across, in the “Advertiser,” a quoted answer of Mr. Pierces' to an enquirer in Boston. I asked him about it yesterday – he said he gave his uniform answer “he did not understand, and had nothing to say about Massachusetts politics” anything more than this in the paper was entirely gratuitous. So I just tell it too you, because I like his *true* answer best. Mr. Pierce has just come in dear M having come out in the cars this evening. He sends much love and appreciates your expression of kind interest. Mrs. Williams and the family are well. She always seems pleased to hear from you. She has taken the bedstead I spoke of. I will send on the chair and perhaps some other things by and by. I hardly know what I shall do with things or what our course may be in the winter, but always shrink at the idea of change. Write to me *very* soon my dear sister – give much love to all – from Mr. A down. Love to Charles and Harriet when you write. What do you think of Mrs. Stowe & Dr. Parker? I must say good night my dear sister altho' I should like to talk with you much longer. I hope your Mother is better - remember me to her with kindest regard. My C(?) all well too & Ellen.

Good night my dear Sister.

Your ever loving – Jane

The letter is addressed to: Mrs. Mary M. Aiken  
Care of Hon John Aiken  
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