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Letter to Louise Guiney, 1876 September 9

Patrick Guiney

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September 9. 1876.

Thank you dear. The natural aspect of the morning was not very pleasant - hazy, cold, damp and provocative of what are technically called the blues. The trip up the harbor from Nantasket was pleasureless and dingy enough to suit any misanthrope in the world. As usual, though, I made the best of things, and entered the office, if not happy yet in a mood to be made so. Then I wish you had seen me smile as I perused your letter! All was bright and cheery in a moment, like some land of gentle sunbeams, fragrance, and singing birds. Therefore I have special reason to open

this note with the greeting of "Thank
you dear." Mamma, too, will be
delighted to hear from you
that your eyes are better, and
that you are generally happy.
Bless me, how emphatic she
will be in saying, isn't that nice?
when she reads your words, "the
happiest child at Elmhurst."

And so you've got to rhetoric
at last. I need not tell you, dear,
how glad I am. I've often express-
ed to you my estimate of its import-
ance: to you the deep study of it is
the foe of bombast and the friend
of simplicity in composition. By
the way, I wish you would mix a
little practical arithmetic with it,
for ballast as you go along. But,
An revoir whatever you do.
Papa.

P.S.

How nice he a small basket
for you at 47 Broad Office
on Tuesday morning.
Send Mr. Gardner.

I wish these attempts, but I wish
you that in these hard times you
cannot waste one of them with-
out committing a sin.

P.P.S.