

Letter from Simeon Locke Doggett to his grandfather]
Mendon Mass. Jan 1st. 1852

Dear Grandfather,

I Greet you with a happy new year, and may it bring peace, and health and happiness to all your house. -- The object of this communication is to inform you, that I have received Prof. Park's letter to you, a letter from Uncle Deane on the subject, and a catalogue of the Theological Seminary at Andover. I find after careful investigation that Oct. is the only proper time for admission. Because on the first of Oct the academical year commences. In the Catalogue is found the following regulation; "No student &c. (see above [a reference to the previous letter to his uncle Deane] Moreover, "it is of great importance, that all who propose to enter the Junior Class should be present at the opening of the term in Oct., in order that the class may begin Hebrew together." Hence it may be perceived that if I should go now I could not avail myself of the Charity fund, and without such aid I could not maintain myself there. As another dissuasion from going now, I think Prof. Park in his letter discourages coming the present year, inasmuch as the present Junior Class have advanced two or three months in the study of Hebrew. So I think that next Oct. is the only available time. This being the predicament of affairs, I regret much that these preliminary steps had not been taken previous to the 1st of last October. I had given my assent to the proposal last Aug. However I will endeavor to bide my time, and in the evens during the interval teach myself the Hebrew Language, which at present I know nothing about, and I will try to earn something in preparation. But I see much to dishearten me in the pursuit of a desideratum so remote. Unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances may happen, that will discourage ~~me~~ and perhaps utterly preclude my entrance in the path proposed. Among other disparagements that now stand like lions in the way are the following; there appears to be a strong prejudice against the admission of Charitable Students and those who have not been through college; moreover the Institution in helping a Char. Student only deducts \$75 from the expense a year, which are \$97; leaving \$65 besides his clothing unpaid and unprovided for. But if he can get the aid of the A. Education Society that Society will relieve him from the payment of the \$65, and then he will only have his clothing to obtain by his own exertions.

But However although "hope deferred maketh the heart si ck, and although all these difficulties arise before me, yet still I will endeavor to accomplish the purposed aim

The family here are in regard to health the same as usual, -- nothing very important in this vicinity, excepting that the Methodist here are quite zealous; they have given a donation party to their Minister; and they requested me to write them a hymn for the occasion, -- a copy here with I send you

Sending you the Good wishes of the family here, and desiring to be revived in the recollection of Grandma and Aunt Prudence I subscribe myself

Your hum and affec.

Grandson Simeon L. Doggett