

Sources for the Life of Amos Tuck

Compiled by
Mark W. Willis
Exeter Historical Society
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Introduction

I compiled the following collection of source material relating to the life of Amos Tuck to support a biographical essay on Tuck. The project initially focused on Tuck's activities in Exeter, New Hampshire, and thus there is quite a bit of material concerning life in Exeter from 1838 to 1879. However, it soon became clear that Tuck's many diverse activities required a broader information base to include such unrelated matters as the correspondence of the two brothers Benjamin Brown French and Henry Flagg French, the development of Madison, Wisconsin, the extension of the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad into Oklahoma, and the workings of the Boston Custom House during the Civil War.

At first, I briefly summarized many of the documents in this collection, aiming at a sort of timeline of Tuck's life. Soon, the entries became longer and longer transcripts, trying to show more of the personalities in Tuck's world. I have marked with quotation marks the passages which were transcribed verbatim. Editorial comments and missing or unclear words are marked by brackets. The quotations are generally accurate and their contents are 99% accurate. When I made a guess of an unclear word or phrase, I inserted "[sp?]". However, if the exact wording is necessary, the researcher should consult the original document.

At the end of each entry is the location of the original document to guide further research. In most cases the original documents are to be found in one of three repositories. First, Tuck Family Papers (MS 442) held by the Rauner Special Collections Library at Dartmouth College. Second, the Amos Tuck and Family Papers contained as part of the Benjamin B. French Family Papers (MSS21550) at the Documents Division of the Library of Congress. Third, various collections held by the New Hampshire Historical Society, especially the papers of George G. Fogg.

Photographic resources include those in alumni file for Amos Tuck held by Dartmouth's Rauner Library;

April 1851: Ellen sent daguerrotypes of herself and maybe of Abby, from Biddeford.

Two good photos of Amos Tuck from 1859 and 1879 and a carte de visite of Catherine P. Tuck in 1864.

May 1859: Tuck had a photo made of himself.

5 June 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "I shall be glad to receive your Daguerrotype with the cropped hair."

EHS has copies of photos of the Tuck family from the 1876 time capsule. Originals may be with the town clerk.

Abbreviations used:

BBF	Benjamin Brown French
Bell	Charles H. Bell, <u>History of Exeter New Hampshire</u> , Boston, 1888.
Corning	Charles R. Corning, <u>Amos Tuck</u> , Exeter, 1902.
Correspondence Book	Correspondence Book, 1857-58, TFP, Box 9, Folder 10
CPT	Catherine Parker Tuck
Dow	Joseph Dow, <u>Robert Tuck of Hampton. N.H.</u> , Boston, 1877.
EHS	Exeter Historical Society
ENL	<u>Exeter News-Letter</u>
Fogg Papers, NHHS	George G. Fogg Papers, New Hampshire Historical Society
HFF	Henry Flagg French
Hale Papers, NHHS	John P. Hale Papers, New Hampshire Historical Society
HHS	Hampton Historical Society
FFP	French Family Papers (MSS21550), Documents Division, Library of Congress.
RFS	Exeter Historical Society, MSS 23, Papers of the Robinson Female Seminary, Carton 1, Trustees Minutes, 1866-1899
Sewell	Richard H. Sewell, <u>John P. Hale and the Politics of Abolition</u> , Cambridge MA: Harvard University Press, 1965
TFP	Tuck Family Papers (MS 442) Rauner Special Collections Library, Dartmouth College.
Tuck 1848	Tuck's first, unpublished autobiography (Rauner Library)
Tuck 1875	Tuck's second autobiography (Rauner Library). Published in 1902 by his son Edward.
USNA	U.S. National Archives

1638: Robert Tuck settles in Hampton after a few years in Massachusetts [Tuck 1848].

Spring 1780: Tuck's grandfather Jonathan dies, around 40 years old. [Tuck 1848]

23 August 1780: Tuck's father John born in Hampton. [Tuck 1848]

c. 1795: Josiah Tuck (John's brother) exchanges a "very excellent property" in Hampton for several hundred acres of unimproved land in Parsonsfield, Maine. [Tuck 1875]

1800: John Tuck marries Betsey Towle of Hampton. [Tuck 1875]

21 September 1801: Tuck's older brother, Jonathan Tuck, is born in Hampton, NH. Jonathan was a militia captain, farmer, teacher, businessman, state representative from Parsonsfield, and postmaster for 14 years in Biddeford, ME. [History of Parsonsfield], Jeremy W. Dearborn, ed.)

1804: Tuck's Uncle Josiah buys 300 acres of land in Parsonsfield, ME, after squandering much of his patrimony. Josiah built a large house later bought by Amos Tuck's father. Tuck was born in this house. Tuck's father and uncle later bought and split Josiah's 300 acres. (Tuck 1848)

"It is a hilly, broken township of land, a considerable portion of it of little value for cultivation." [Tuck 1875]

14 December 1804: Tuck's older sister, Sarah Tuck, is born in Hampton, NH. Marries John Hodgdon of Effingham, NH. [Joseph Dow, Robert Tuck of Hampton, New Hampshire, Boston, 1877]

March 1807: Tuck's family moved from Hampton to Parsonsfield. John's brothers Josiah and Samuel had already settled in Parsonfield. John bought 100 acres from his brother near Province Lake. Raised sheep. "Down by the sandy shore two generations of the Tuck family tilled the soil, but they too are gone." [J.W. Dearborn, ed., A History of the First Century of Parsonsfield, Maine, p. 232]

25 August 1807: Tuck's older sister Betsey Tuck is born in Parsonsfield, ME. [Dow]

1809: Congregational society formed incorporated in Parsonsfield with 31 members. Freewill Baptist Society also incorporated this year with 91 members. A Baptist society also formed later. Freewill Baptist minister for 50 years (c.1798-1848) was Rev. John Buzzell. The Calvinist Baptist minister (1803-1833) was Wentworth Lord. [J.W. Dearborn, ed., A History of the First Century of Parsonsfield, Maine, pp. 218-9]

2 August 1810: Amos born. Three older siblings and two younger. [Dow]

12 October 1814: Tuck's younger sister Mary born in Parsonsfield. [Dow]

20 January 1815: Tuck's future second wife, Catherine P. Townshend, is born in Salisbury, NH. [Ancestry.com]

Tuck claimed there were no churches in town until 1825, although his parents were religious and the family sometimes heard preachers in the schoolhouse and at "regular conference meetings, conducted by the members of the Baptist, Methodist, or Free-Will (Baptist) Churches" held in private homes. His family's house was one. Recalled his parents made fun of Calvinist views, and suggested that this led to the resistance of him and his siblings to "the spasmodic excitements on religious topics which occasionally swept over that part of the country."

Father was a Jeffersonian Democrat and served as clerk at town public meetings. [Tuck 1875]

In 1848, Tuck recalled that his mother "earnestly besought her children to repentance and faith, and every day used to commend them to the protection of their Heavenly father. In short, everything which a New England mother with a quick discerning and strong mind, situated in the hills, in narrow circumstances, with a pious heart and untiring fidelity could do for her children, that much, my mother did for hers." [Tuck 1848]

Tuck (1848) wrote: "My father and mother had more correct notions of the importance of a good education than any of their neighbors. I cannot remember a time when I did not think it a great honor to be considered a good scholar, and when I would not strive anxiously to keep as near as possible to the head of my class. I took my notions, of course, from my parents, and I consider it fortunate that they implanted such notions early in my mind...We had about three months summer, and three months winter school." Tuck attended both until he was about 11 years old (i.e. 1821). [Tuck 1848]

1810-1827: "Little besides the monotony of farm work entered into my life until sixteen or seventeen years of age. Few books were found in my father's house, and no library was accessible." [Tuck 1875]

[2 February 1862]: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. A heavy snowfall reminds Amos of his days in Maine. When he goes to the King's Chapel, however, things will change. "...I shall not think, by any means, that I am in the district School House, on rickety benches, where women are using their foot stoves to keep from freezing, and round faced red cheeked country cubs are blubbering to chiding parents that their 'toes are a cold.' No country school houses, and I fear, the fishermen of Galilee are little suggested by anything we see in City congregations...."

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

1817: List of residents who paid more than \$10 in taxes that year (499 taxpayers in all) did not include John Tuck. [J.W. Dearborn, ed., A History of the First Century of Parsonsfield, Maine, pp. 204-5]

8 April 1819: Tuck's younger brother John born. [Dow]

1825: Tuck estimates that it was around this time that the first church was established in Parsonsfield. [Tuck 1875]

Fall-Winter, 1826: Last term that Amos attended the district school. "...I besought my father to allow me to attend a tuition school a few miles away in the fall of 1826, and his refusal, on account of straightened circumstances, was the first bitter disappointment of my early life." He could still remember the field where his father made the final decision. [Tuck 1875]

1827: Tuck "labored till I was seventeen years of age, when I ceased to work upon my father's farm. Up to that period, I went to school at the common district school for a short period each winter and worked the rest of the year." His parents encouraged him to obtain the necessary qualifications to teach a common school, "an object of exciting ambition."

Tuck, his father and his older brother Jonathan agreed in the spring of 1827 that, if Tuck would work on the farm (now owned by Jonathan) till the fall, he would be allowed to attend an academy for three months in order to teach a school in the winter. [Tuck 1848]

Fall. 1827: "In the fall, I attended the Effingham Academy, under the instruction of Peter L. Folsom of Gilmanton N.H....I presume I learned tolerably well, for I obtained a certificate at the end of the term (for fifty cents) stating that I was qualified to teach a common school. I have not quite believed in that certificate up to the present day." [Tuck 1848]

Winter 1827-28: Taught at Sanger District school in Effingham. "I had ten dollars a month, with board, and the twenty-five or thirty dollars which I was able to take home at the close of the school gave great satisfaction, not to myself only, but to my father's family...." [Tuck 1875]

January-March 1828: "I was lucky...and got a school in my native town, and taught it with considerable élat, for two months and a half, at the fair price of \$10 per month....In six months of teaching and going to school, I had unconsciously got some new views of life, and attained a little higher ambition than I carried from home...I had bought a Latin Grammar, and had learned to translate some few lessons in the Latin Reader....but I found other things more attracting to one of my age, and I soon relapsed into the joyous intercourse of winter evenings, and neighborhood country parties." [Tuck 1848]

Early Spring, 1828: “I had a very strong desire to go through a course of collegiate study, but was assured by my father that it was beyond his and my ability to provide the means. He was willing I should leave him, and have the benefit of all I could earn, but counselled me to abandon all thought of spending more time or money in attending school. I reluctantly acquiesced, and as nothing else offered I concluded to follow the course of other young men....” [Tuck 1875]

Spring-Summer 1828: “I hired out to labor with Samuel Wyatt, then a keeper of the New Hampshire Hotel at Dover. I became acquainted experimentally with the toil of servants of those who work under taskmasters. I was not 18 years old, and I found the toil severe. My strength was taxed to the utmost...I was sent...to work on his farm two miles out of Dover, under a man by the name of James Hayes,....” Unhappy with his treatment by Hayes, Tuck worked back in Dover until haying time, when he “bolted” after one more day under Hayes. Tuck challenged Hayes to a fight, but Hayes “proved to be as cowardly as he was unjust and mean.” Wyatt refused to pay him for the work done. [Tuck 1848, Tuck 1875]

Summer 1828: Tuck then worked for about a month at the Cocheco Manufacturing Co. in the bleaching house. Returned to Parsonsfield with a little money in his pocket and a “renewed wardrobe.” [Tuck 1875]

August 1828: “I went to Effingham to attend the Academy there, under the instruction of John U. Parsons, then a recent graduate of Bowdoin College.” [Tuck 1848]

Winter 1828-29: Taught school at the Union Village school in Wakefield for 10 weeks, then another 10 weeks at the Sanger district school in Parsonsfield. Tuck had some idea of becoming a doctor and consulted with Dr. Moses B. Sweat of Parsonsfield. Sweat dissuaded him fortunately, Tuck thought because otherwise “I might now have been dealing out hurtful medicines to such ignorant people as are in the habit of trusting their lives in the hands of quacks, in which class a majority of physicians in my belief have a just title to be included.” [Tuck 1848]

15 April 1829: Returned to family home, having given up on further education. Dover experience determined him to avoid subservient jobs and dependence on his many relatives in Hampton. Nevertheless, he and his cousin walked 35 miles the first day, by stage to Portsmouth the second day, and on to Hampton on the third day. [Tuck 1848]

17 April 1829: Tuck went to his cousin Amos Towle, Jr.’s house in Hampton and worked at the central district school for 5 months earning \$14 per month plus board. While in Hampton, Tuck attended the Congregational church led by Rev. Josiah Webster, whom he found “rather

sectarian” particularly toward the Baptists, but an educated man in the pulpit, not like the “ignorant exhorters” he had been accustomed to hear.

He was a student at Hampton Academy in 1830 and 1831, alternating with work as a teacher in the winter terms. [Tuck 1875]

[June?] 1829: Tuck got a job as a teacher at the Central District school of Hampton for 10 months. His cousin Joseph Dow inspired him to try to become qualified to enter a college, so he studied Latin on his own and with his cousin. [Tuck 1848]

1829-1837: “Until I went to Hampton, I had never been accustomed to attend any one religious meeting with regularity. My parents were Calvinist Baptists by Church membership, but by necessity of hearing much free-will Baptist preaching or attending no meeting at all, had become much inclined to the doctrines of the latter. I had derived no instruction from any pulpit. When I went to Hampton, I became associated with Congregationalists and became a regular attendant at their Church. I was favorably impressed with the superior advantages of their regular and ordinary worship, which partiality I have retained to the present time. The Reverend Josiah Webster was at that time Pastor of the Church in Hampton. He immediately became my friend, and continued such to the time of his death in 1837. I became connected with the Sabbath school as a teacher, and derived great advantages to myself by the necessary study of the Bible which the employment imposed upon me. It also affected me favorably in other respects, morally and intellectually. It served to confirm me in my habit of daily prayer, and in the observance of the Sabbath by devoting it to the study of the Bible and the reading of religious books....”
[Tuck 1848] -

1829-1831: Tuck continued to teach at the district school and to attend college preparatory classes at Hampton Academy under the tuition of Rev. Roswell Harris. Tuck’s father tried to discourage Amos from trying to get into college, pointing to the lack of family funds to pay for college. Tuck countered by promising never to ask him for any assistance.” [Tuck 1848]

In considering why he had been so determine to obtain a liberal education, Tuck remembered that “...in addition to a natural desire of some strength for study and a pleasure derived from books, I comprehended the dignity which education alone could bestow, and comprehended the fact that my limited opportunities in early life rendered a thorough course of study indispensable, provided I intended to rise above the station in which I was born.”
[Tuck 1875]

8 October 1829: Tuck’s sister Sarah Tuck Hodgdon dies of consumption in Effingham, NH.
[Dow]

1830

Early Spring, 1830: Tuck stopped teaching and became a student at Hampton Academy. “It is not necessary farther to dwell on my life as a student at Hampton. I studied with my class during the summer and fall of 1830 and in early winter resumed my teaching in the school I had before taught, and my former method of private study and recitation. This I pursued for four months, when I again entered my class in the Academy, and remained with them till July 1831, when we all received certificates of qualification to enter college, had a public exhibition in the large meeting house of the town, and left for our respective homes.” [Tuck 1875]

Winter/spring, 1831: Amos Tuck and Sarah Nudd “...at the age of twenty interchanged the usual assurances, and during the last year of my preparatory studies we were often in each others’ society – quite as often as I should be willing to recommend to a young man in my circumstances, and with the purposes which I then entertained.” [Tuck 1848]

“I may as well mention here a circumstance which probably had influence in causing me to turn aside from the plan I had formed of going to college, though I was unaware at the time that it exerted any power over me. I had, wisely or unwisely, about a year before so far followed the impulses of an ardent temperament and affectionate disposition, as to form a matrimonial engagement with the young lady in Hampton whom I eventually married. Such early engagements are usually detrimental, an though I cannot affirm in my case that it damaged me at all, or indeed that it did not, on the whole, benefit me, I am yet convinced that young men of generous aspirations cannot be too strongly counselled as to the general inexpediency of any alliance looking to marriage, until they have reached the highest platform of preparation when they will be so much more likely to wed according to similarity of tastes, and equality of development and culture....” [Tuck 1875]

1831

July 1831: Tuck received his certificate to enter college and planned to go to Bowdoin. Instead, encouraged by his family, he took up a clerkship in the law office of John T. Paine, in Emery’s Mills, Shapleigh, Maine. His recent engagement to a young lady in Hampton was a major factor in turning from the college path. He worked for Paine for five weeks and then, not liking his work with Paine, he moved to Alfred to clerk with William C. Allen. Very soon, he left Allen’s office and returned home and taught for three months in Parsonsfield in the winter. [Tuck 1848]

1831: Tuck’s sister Betsey marries John Hodgdon, the widower of her sister Sarah. They lived in Effingham, NH. [Dow]

1832

1 March 1832: Tuck began his arduous journey to Hanover (including walking from Center Harbor to Plymouth and on to Hanover in the snow). After personal examination by the faculty,

he was admitted into the Dartmouth freshman class. He assessed President Nathan Lord as a true anti-slavery man and orthodox Congregationalist, but of little substance. Tuck thought his finest act as president was his resignation. Beyond a few comments on some of his college mates, Tuck had little to say about his time at Dartmouth. To make money, he taught every winter in Parsonsfield, Acton, Mass., and Hanover.

“...I was obliged to be absent during a part of every year in order to provide myself with the pecuniary means to meet my current expenses. I taught school every winter, and also during a portion of two of the Fall terms of my course. I went to College with a perfect knowledge that I was to lean upon no one but myself for support, and I had already become habituated to the custom of planning the ways and means of meeting all my expenses.” [Tuck 1848]

“I accordingly taught every winter, encroaching generally upon the fall and spring terms to a limited extent, and for fall term was unable to be at the College at all.” Tuck taught at Parsonsfield one winter and one fall, at Acton, Mass., one winter and at Hanover, in Moore’s Charity School one winter. [Tuck 1875]

1832: Tuck is listed in the freshman class in 1832 (1831, 1833, 1835 rolls no longer exist). He had one excused absence from recitations in the summer term, and one excused and two not excused absences from “the monitor’s bill.” This record was one of the better ones recorded in 1832. His proficiency grade was 1.5, out of (apparently) a possible 4.0, one of the lower grade in the freshman class. [Rauner Library, Dartmouth College Merit Rolls]

1834: Tuck is listed in the junior class in 1834. He received the following proficiency grades: Languages – 1.3; Mathematics – 1.4; Metaphysics - no grade was given to anybody in this subject; Rhetoric – 2.0; Chemistry and [?] – no grades were given to anybody; Average: 1.6. His examination score was 1.3. These were among the lower averages given to the junior class. He had 6 not excused and 5 excused absences from recitations, The roll shows no absences from “Chap.” [?] nor from Church [Chh.]. He was away from college for three weeks. In general, his attendance record was one of the better ones listed. [Rauner Library, Dartmouth College Merit Rolls]

1833:

June 1833: “Amos Tuck, member of Dartmouth College, sophomore class” admitted as member of the Congregational Church in Hampton, NH. [Hampton Congregational Church Records, vol. 3, p. 112]

1835

August 1835: Tuck graduated at the age of 25 years. He was in the top eight of his class and was elected to the Phi Beta Kappa Society in his junior year. [Tuck 1848]

“In the retrospect of the few years of my College course, I cannot fail to be impressed with the advantage I have derived from pursuing my purpose of obtaining as good an elementary education as a New England College could afford me. It was the only means by which I could hope to escape from the social thralldom incident to the humble position of my parents, and to arrive at the independence in circumstances which is necessary to human comfort and mental improvement....” [Tuck 1848]

23 August 1835: Hampton Congregational Church voted unanimously not to accept any members who do not abstain from “ardent spirits”. [Hampton Congregational Church Records, Vol. 3 p. 90]

Fall, 1835: After graduation he taught with friend (and his father’s cousin) from Hampton, Joseph Dow, at Pembroke Academy in the fall term. Tuck thought that Dow’s management style was apt to cause trouble with the townsfolk, so he decided to find another job. [Tuck 1848]

“I was induced to think I could as well pay my college debt of about \$400, by teaching there as joint principal with him, as to go elsewhere. But experience of a few months satisfied me I should prosper better alone and at the commencement of winter in 1835 I accepted the offer of the preceptorship of Hampton Academy....” [Tuck 1875]

5 October 1835: He married Sarah Ann Nudd, daughter of David Nudd, the foremost businessman of Hampton. The marriage was solemnized in Exeter by the Reverend Isaac Hurd, the minister of Exeter’s Second Parish. Tuck was a resident of Pembroke at the time of the wedding. [N.H. Marriage and Divorce Records, 1659-1947, Ancestry.com and Second Parish of Exeter Records]

Amos and Sarah shared great-grandparents: Thomas Nudd (1708-1780) and Deborah Marston Nudd (1711-1788). [Dow]

“At this time, I and my future wife, to whom I had been engaged for 5 years, concluded the preliminaries had been long settled, and that it was best to marry. So we were married in the year 1835, and I went to Hampton to take charge of the Academy there late in the Fall of that year.” [Tuck 1848]

4 November 1835: Daughter Abigail Elizabeth Tuck born in Hampton. (Note the date in comparison to Tuck’s marriage date). [Dow]

21 November 1835: Tuck signs five year contract with Trustees of Hampton Academy to become preceptor of the Academy and to provide all instruction in exchange for all tuition and all fund interest. [Hampton Historical Society, 2009.39]

11 December 1835: “Brother Amos Tuck, having violated the 7th command made the following communication to the Church [Marginal note: Brother A. Tuck’s confession]

“To the Congregational Church in Hampton,
Brethren.

While our Savior was upon earth He instituted His Church, making it a duty of those who hope in Him to associate themselves together, and mutually to pledge each other’s protection and prayers. Through the mercy of God I was permitted more than two years ago, to become connected with you as a brother in Christ. By the solemn contract which united us, I felt myself, and you considered me, as under increased obligation to walk circumspectly before men; knowing that the honor of the Church depends upon the conduct of the individuals who compose it; and that if they deal justly, love mercy and walk humbly before God, the world will be compelled to feel the force of their example and to acknowledge that religion is from God; but that, on the contrary, if professing christians adorn not the doctrine of God their Savior Zion will mourn. Such being the responsibility of a member of the Church, I feel it not only a duty but a special privilege to make to you the present communication.

To everyone who loves the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity and truth, it is a subject of great grief that so many in the world do not acknowledge God – do not even profess to be His servants. It is, however, a subject of much greater grief, that any professing christian should not in very act show forth the honor of his Redeemer. But in relation to one’s self, to hear, when the cause of God has suffered the prophet saying “thou art the man,” this, Brethren, this is grief; and this is the case with the offending brother who now addresses you. I have by a sin, which I most sincerely hate, which I ever did, and ever will condemn, given cause of offence to this Church. I accordingly ask your forgiveness, and earnestly request your prayers, that I may henceforth lead a life of devotion to the cause of God, and be found at last clothed in the righteousness of God, and be found at last clothed in the righteousness of His dear Son.

Affectionately, Amos Tuck”

“Church voted that they were satisfied, and seemed happy to restore their young brother to christian fellowship.” [Hampton Congregational Church Records, vol. 3, pp. 91-92]

1836

1836: Tuck began his law studies on a part-time basis with James Bell. [Tuck 1848]

13 April 1836: Elected member of Board of Trustees of Hampton Academy. Immediately made secretary of the Board, a post he held until April 1839. He was also Board Treasurer until 1864. The Board declined to accept his resignation as trustee in 1870. [Arthur J. Moody, “Hampton Academy and Its Board of Trustees,” Hampton, NH, 1972]

April[?]: John Tuck becomes a student at Hampton Academy. Prevented from going to college because of bleeding of the lungs. [Dow]

27 July 1836: Hampton Academy trustees pay Tuck \$14.00. [Hampton Historical Society, 2005.46]

29 November 1836: Academy trustees pay Tuck \$16.50. [HHS, 2005.46]

26 December 1836: Son Charles is born in Hampton, NH. [Dow]

1837:

1837: Tuck proposed to the Hampton trustees that they use the interest from the trust fund to buy scientific and chemical apparatus for the Academy. He was willing to make up his salary from tuition fees. [Carolyn Shea, Hampton Union & Rockingham County Gazette of 30 Jan 1930]

January 1837: Academy trustees pay Tuck \$12.00. [HHS, 2005.46]

2 January 1837: Academy trustees pay Tuck \$30.00. [HHS, 2005.46]

22 January 1837: Henry to BBF. “Does Pierce board with you this winter? I have quite an affection for the man. I was much rejoiced that he was made Senator, as I suppose you were. I hope he bears his honor meekly. Gen. Pierce presented Judge R.[Richardson] a cane two or three weeks ago. It is very elegant made of the old constitution.” [FFP Reel 6]

25 March 1837: Sarah Nudd Tuck sends a letter from Hampton to her sister Mrs. Dudley Locke in Boston to buy for her a sofa and carpet with the \$50 left behind by their father on his recent trip. [This is the only letter I have found in Sarah’s hand.] [TFP Box 3 Folder 7]

12 September 1837: Ellen Tuck’s future husband Francis O. French is born in Washington, DC. [Benjamin Brown French, (Donald B. Cole and John J. McDonough, eds.), Witness to the Young Republic: A Yankee’s Journal, 1828-1870]

21 October 1837: Tuck paid \$336 to Charles H. Atherton for a little more than 3 acres of land in Hampton. [Rockingham County Register of Deeds, Book 288, Page 211]

1838:

20 February 1838: Exeter News-Letter reports that an anti-slavery society was formed in Exeter. [ENL]

15 March 1838. Henry to BBF. He is watching at Judge Richardson's bedside. Their father is better.

“Town meeting is over. I think Hill is elected. I have returned from about a dozen towns and Hill is 500 ahead – Candia, Raymond, Hampstead, Poplin, Pelham all send V.B. reps. We cast for Hill 121, Wilson 274. In 1832 we cast for Jackson electors 71 only – Fed 255. Last year Hill had 77 and 13 scattering. We have kept up beyond all expectation of either party – Tompkins and Jo. Chase are our reps. Tompkins Clerk. Aiken, Ben. White and Amos Chase select[men].”

“Report is that Concord has given Wilson 150 majority. It is not probable. Nashua has gone for Wilson. Derry also by about the usual majority. The abolitionists tried to be somebody here this year – they had a meeting and wrote to Wilson – Hill – Tompkins, Picket and every body else who expected a vote, requesting their views as to the right to abolish Slavery in the District, the annexation of Texas etc. Ben. Chase was nominated by the Feds. – for rep – but we ran Picket against him and got 136 to 70 and the rest scattering. They then dropped the ‘nigger man’ as they called him and ran for Jo. At their last caucus, Ben Chase introduced a resolution against dueling and slavery and moved that a copy of it be sent to Congress. The Senator said it was not very proper and so he withdrew it.” [FFP Reel 6]

1 April 1838: Tuck became a full-time law student under James Bell of Exeter (who was the son of ex-governor and ex-senator Samuel Bell of Chester. His family remained in Hampton and he visited them on Sundays. Tuck claimed he saw this change of profession to be a risky venture. But, “within 8 months from the time I so hesitatingly gave up a business in which I laboriously earned \$600 per year, I had completed my preparatory professional studies, and was well situated in a business much more to my liking, and yielding me an income of twelve or fifteen hundred dollars per year.” [Tuck 1848]

“I succeeded, with some difficulty, in breaking away, and in March or April, 1838, enrolled myself as a student-at-law at Exeter, in the office of Mr. Bell, leaving my family at Hampton, with whom I spent Sundays.” [Tuck 1875]

4 April 1838: Ellen Tuck born in Hampton. BBFrench inserted a marginal note in his journal: “N.B. Mrs. F. O F – Ellen Tuck was born this day + year.” [FFP Reel 1]

4 July 1838: “Names of the Members of the Church...Mr. Joseph Dow.... Mr. Amos Tuck (recd. to 1st Cong Chh Exeter Feb. 3 ‘39” [Note: David Nudd not listed. No women on the list.] [Hampton Congregational Church Records, Vol. 3 p. 14].

4 July 1838: Female members of the church listed – Sarah Tuck not listed. [Hampton Congregational Church Records, Vol. 3 pp. 16-19]

30 July 1838: In June, the legislature changed the law, allowing Supreme Court justices to administer bar exams. Tuck traveled 200 miles to Lancaster to be examined by Justice Upham, James Bell's brother-in-law. Upham admitted him to the bar. [Tuck 1875]

17 July 1838: Tuck started an office in Hampton, and on 17 July 1838, the Exeter News-Letter reported that Tuck had been appointed a justice of the peace in Hampton.

According to his 1838 ledger Tuck billed \$251.98 for services in Hampton, and collected \$166.18. His clients were David Nudd, Dr. E. Laurence, Uri Lamprey, John Mason, Samuel Dearborn, Alfred J. Batchelder and the Town of Hampton. The business ran from March to mid-December, with one service for Hampton in February 1839. [TFP Box 9 Folder 4),

2 August 1838: Tuck makes the first entry in a new ledger book, indicating he was working in Hampton. [TFP Box 11]

He moved to Haverhill for a short period in the fall of 1838. Prospects were poor, however, so he went to Albany via Vermont and then on to Buffalo on a canal packet boat. He discovered that New York required three years residence in order to be admitted to the bar there.

He considered Newmarket, Exeter and Portsmouth and decided to stay in Hampton. He claimed that his wife wanted to leave Hampton, so he moved his family to Exeter on 18 November 1838 into a rented house on Front Street at \$60 per year (house later bought by Retire H. Parker). This house adjoined the house that Tuck later bought from Joseph Batchelder. [Tuck 1875]

Fall, 1838: Tuck had trouble conducting business in Hampton because, "...if everybody seemed to be my friend, everyone expected me to be his friend, and I soon found that I could engage in no business for one man without making another man, and his family too, feel that I was little else than an enemy to him...I found the situation disagreeable, and though soon engaged in considerable business for people of Hampton and the neighboring towns, I resolved I would not protract my stay for a long time in that place. [Tuck 1875]

"...at last [I] announced to my wife that I felt compelled to re-open my office in Hampton. She had made up her mind to leave the town, and remonstrated." Her opinion led Tuck finally decide to move to Exeter." [Tuck 1875]

20 September 1838: Hampton Academy trustees pay Tuck \$32.96, to meet his claim to the interest on Daniel Lovering's note. [HHS, 2005.46]

20 September 1838: Tuck sells a two-acre tract of land in Hampton to Isaac Emery of Hampton for \$240.00. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 290, Pages 371-372]

20 September 1838: Tuck sold a tract of land in Hampton to Oliver Lamprey of Hampton for \$192.75. The tract abutted the county road and contained part of the homestead of the deceased Christopher Tappan and land Tuck had bought from Charles H. Atherton. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 290, Pages 372-373]

23 September 1838: Benjamin B. French [BBF] and his father go to Concord and see many old friends: Metcalf, Atherton, Pierce, Stevens, Barstow, Judge Parker, and Governor Hill. Watched a case argued by S.D. Bell and J. Bartlett. Later French and Atherton had tea at Governor Hill's and remained talking until 8 o'clock. [FFP Reel 1]

3 October 1838: Tuck leaves on his trip to Buffalo, by stage from Haverhill to Chester VT, where he spent the night. He spent the next night in Troy NY. He travelled by stage to Schenectady, where he caught a train to Utica. From there he went by canal boat, spending the night of 7 October in Syracuse. He apparently spent at least one night in Geneva NY, visited Buffalo and Niagara Falls, and returned home as fast as he could. [TFP Box 2 Folder 11]

3 October 1838: Manuscript, "Journey to Buffalo." Tuck wrote a five-page manuscript on his "Journey to Buffalo Oct. 1838. Tuck's narrative starts with his departure by stage from Haverhill, NH, for the West on 3 October 1838, intending "to view for myself some portion of its beauties and promise" before tying himself down in business. Impressed by the beauty of the Connecticut valley, he can only wonder at what other "beauties of the Creator" he will see.

On the stage, he met the agreeable Mr. Smith of Lower Canada, who gave him an account of the recent rebellion there. They went down the valley to Charleston, then left the valley and went to Chester, VT. The next day, the stage crossed the Green Mountains via Peru to Manchester, Cambridge and finally to Gray NY. He liked the country in Vermont a great deal, and doubted the wisdom of those who left it for the West. They spent the night in Troy, NY.

On Saturday, he left for Schenectady, "passing through a very pleasant region, but noticing a marked change in the neatness, comfort, and taste of the buildings, and an appearance of careless neglect that made me ask if the Dutch lived there." He fell in with a thoughtful and pious stockman, and ponders the nature of his personality at some length.

Tuck took a railroad car in Schenectady at 10:00 a.m. and arrived in Utica at 3:30 p.m. The country they passed through did not impress Tuck: "...the whole appearance less significant of comfort and intelligence than I perceive in the New England states..." At Utica, Tuck took a "line boat" on the Canal, which travelled 60 miles a day. "From the appearance of boatmen and the representations made to me I was soon aware that there was no security for person or property unless one be cautious of all bickerings and exposures of temptation to those with whom we meet. Every day I hear of some new case of murder or manslaughter, and the borders of the canal are in numerous cases associated with robbery and blood." Still, he saw some beautiful country along the canal.

Tuck arrived in Syracuse on the evening of 7 October. Although he saw little of the town, he was favorably impressed by what he did see. The boat the next day was dirty, and Tuck left it at Montezuma for a “packet” to Geneva. He met some farmers who gave him useful information on local farm production. He learned the average price of land was \$50 [per acre?] and still rising. He also met a lawyer Ferris, who tried to induce him to set up his practice in New York. He discovered in Geneva that it was “generally considered that few inducements offer themselves to the lawyer to settle nearer than Michigan. Business has been paralyzed by the pressure of the times, and lawyers are leaving this state for the West.” Tuck liked Geneva and its surrounding country quite a bit, “but the appearance of the inhabitants is not so flattering, as is noticed in eastern towns. There appears to be less niceness in dress and beauty in person. Scarcely any costly carriages are to be seen, particularly do the stages appear inferior to those of New England.”

Tuck called at Dr. Hale’s [NFI] but he was not at home. He took the stage to Newark, and then a canal boat to Buffalo, where he “tarried” one day before going to Niagara Falls, where he spent the night. He took the train to Lockport, then back home by rail, boat and stage via Albany, Troy, Bennington, Brattleborough, Pepperell, and Nashua. [TFP Box 2 Folder 11]

14 November 1838: Hampton Academy trustees pay Tuck \$37.10. [HHS, 2005.46]

19 November 1838: Tuck moves his family to Exeter and into what is now the Retire H. Parker house. “It was a cold winter day, and I remember the crying children, moving furniture, the big fire in the open fire place, the apprehension, the hope, and excitement of the occasion, as though it were but yesterday.” [Tuck 1848]

18 November 1838: “On the 18th of November, 1838, in a snowstorm, with thermometer at zero. I took my little family in a sleigh, through impeding drifts, to a small house on Front Street, hired at \$60 a year – the same house afterward bought by Retire H. Parker, and for a long time owned by him and his heirs, adjoining the house I afterwards bought of Joseph Batchelder, now owned by Samuel Tilton.” [Tuck 1875]

19 November 1838: Tuck noted in a separate section of the ledger: “Moved into Lowell Brown’s house in Exeter Nov. 18, 1838 and moved out Nov. 9, 1839.” [TFP, Ledger, 1838-1849]

4 December 1838: Tuck notes in his ledger that his new business location is Exeter. [TFP Box 11]

As an office, he hired one room in a Water Street building where the Janvrin Block stood in 1875. Business was slow because of the Panic of 1837. “Eastern Land Speculation” hurt many including James Bell. Thirty-year lawyer Joseph Tilton advises him that George Sullivan’s practice was not worth more than \$1,500 per year. But, as Tuck noted, the Boston & Maine Rail Road and the Eastern Railroad were being built and brought in “men, money and business.”

First two weeks he earned an average of \$2 per day. His one servant girl cost \$1.25 per week. Within one month, James Bell proposed that Tuck partner with him and Tuck accepted. He moved to Bell's office on 22 December 1838. It was in the second story of a brick building where the Merrill Block stood in 1875. The building also contained Francis Grant's bookstore and the *Exeter News-Letter* office. Tuck continued to practice law in partnership with Bell even after they moved to a small office built by Bell in 1841-1842 on the corner of Water and Front Streets, a space now (1875) occupied by the rear end of the Court House.

“More than any other encouragement was the fact that the construction of the Boston and Maine Railroad had already advanced into the county, and the Eastern Railroad, as its rival, was being constructed along the seaboard between Newburyport and Portsmouth. These two institutions were finished almost through the county the next year, and brought men, money and business, which inaugurated the new era produced by steam locomotion in New Hampshire.”
[Tuck 1875]

22 December 1838: Tuck and James Bell sign articles of partnership. [Tuck 1848]

“Our business rapidly increased, and soon more than trebled the business previously done by Mr. Bell alone. I soon realized an income more than double what would have been sufficient, six months earlier, to induce me regretfully to abandon the profession and relapse back into the business of teaching. I was sufficiently occupied from that time onward, and am now able to say that in all my professional life I had all the business that I could well attend to,....”

“My professional life did not embrace over twenty years, and for six years of that period was broken in upon seriously by my absences in Washington, attending upon Congress, and interrupted by a withdrawal of about two years, 1855 and 1856, during most of which time I allowed my cases to be principally attended to by others. After the reverses of 1857, when about one-third of my accumulations disappeared, I resumed practice, to give it up again in 1861, when I accepted a government office in Boston, tendered to me by President Lincoln.” [Tuck 1875]

1839

3 February 1839: Hampton Congregational Church voted that Brother Amos Tuck be dismissed from the church at his own request and be recommended to the First Congregational Church of Exeter, NH, under the pastoral care of the Rev. Mr. Williams. [Hampton Congregational Church Records, Vol. 3 p. 14]

26 February 1839: Hampton Academy trustees pay Tuck \$23.77, “in full for note.” [HHS, 2005.46]

April 1839: Tuck ends his service as Secretary of Hampton Academy Board of Trustees. However, remains a trustee. [HHS, 2005.46]

April 1839: First mention of Tuck in Exeter property tax records. Total tax bill – \$3.00
[Exeter Town Clerk]

24 June 1839: Tuck paid \$3,000.00 to Isaac L. Folsom for a three-story brick house on a quarter acre of land near Great Bridge. [Rockingham County Register of Deeds, Book 293, Page 272]

20 July 1839: Tuck paid \$500 to David Nudd (his father-in-law) for seven acres of land in Hampton. The deed was notarized by Uri Lamprey, Justice of the Peace. [Rockingham County Register of Deeds, Book 294, Page 302]

11 September 1839: BBF and Captain [Samuel?] Morse visit Henry French in Exeter where he was attending court. Doesn't seem to have any special tie to Exeter at this time. [FFP Reel 1]

24 September 1839: BBF goes fishing with Parson Clement, James Bell, Esq., and Henry French at Judge Folsom's. [FFP Reel 1]

6 November 1839: Tuck buys seven acres of land in Hampton with a house thereon from John C. Gerrish. The property is mortgaged to Gerrish until a note of hand signed by Tuck and David Nudd is paid off. A later marginal note states that the mortgage was discharged on 6 May 1848. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 294, Page 408]

9 November 1839: Tuck noted in a separate section at the end of the ledger:

“Moved into Capt. Gilman's house Nov. 9, 1839 and moved out August 4th 1840.”
[TFP, Ledger, 1838-1849]

16 November 1839: Tuck and James Bell paid \$100.00 to David Lang of Exeter for 44 acres of land (in four parcels) in Stratham. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 294, Page 396]

1840

19 March 1840: HFF to BBF. “My business the year ending March 1st was three hundred dollars less than any preceding year. Law business has got down in this County entirely. The Court sat about 10 days instead of twenty as heretofore. I am doing as well as others. I entered eight actions – Porter two Pillsbury one Gregg six and so on. This is to show that I am not to blame for loss of business. I have always thought and now think that I shall do no more than \$500 worth of business here generally. I barely paid my expenses last year from all the income I could muster....” Henry states that he must change something, either get a government appointment or go West to practice law in Cincinnati. “I should like to find some gentleman in full practice, who would take me as partner on such terms as might be [word unclear] and go the business as far as I could. I do not wish to go to any slave state, or fever and ague, or a cabin village. I want to select a pleasant location where there is good society and business lively of all

kinds, and I do believe that I can make my way well.” He asks BBF to discuss prospects with some members from Ohio. [FFP Reel 6]

3 April 1840: Tuck pays \$1100 to Joseph Batchelder for a house and land on Front Street. The purchase is made with a note payable on demand for \$50, a note for \$300 plus interest payable in two equal installments in six and twelve months, the assumption of Batchelder’s debt of \$550 to Daniel Runlet, and two shares of Boston and Maine Railroad stock for \$200. He does not finish paying off the note until 13 January 1842. [TFP Box 9 Folder 39], [TFP Box 9 Folder 4, Ledger, 1838-1849], [Rockingham Register of Deeds Book 297, Page 238]

1 May 1840: Tuck gave \$5 to the Exeter Female Seminary, apparently as a donation. [TFP Box 9 Folder 4, ledger 1838-1849]

17 May 1840: HFF to BBF. “Am happy to hear that Van Buren is to be elected next November, tho I trust I shall sell ten barrels more of cider before Harrison goes out of fashion.” [FFP Reel 6]

15 July 1840: Tuck, David H. Gorham and Abner Merrill paid \$5,000 to Elizabeth and Ephraim Fellows for about two acres of land abutting Mill Street in Exeter and the buildings thereon. The deed stipulates that the property was being held in trust for Irena Robinson, wife of Jeremiah Robinson. It appears that the money came from Irena. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 33, Pages 166-7]

4 August 1840: The Tuck family moved from N. Gilman’s house to their newly refurbished house they had bought from Joseph Batchelder. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

9 August 1840: BBF reports a visit to Concord with Mr. Brown on 31 July. “...saw Gov. Hill and his lady—took tea at Col. Steven’s on Friday—saw Hon. F. Pierce. Gen Sweetser and Ms. S. and many other old acquaintances, talked politics some and spent my time rather pleasantly. On Thursday Mrs. F.O. J. Smith and Dr. Bartlett came to see us....” [FFP Reel 1]

10 August 1840: Tuck sold a tract of land to Isaac Folsom for \$3,000.00 located near the Great Bridge and abutting the brick building where Mary Folsom lived and the road running from the store of Nathaniel Weeks to the Cotton Factory. This was the same tract that Isaac Folsom had conveyed to Tuck on 24 June 1839. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 44]

20 September 1840: HFF to BBF. “The Convention [at Concord] was not great. I heard Pierce and Hubbard speechify. The former is a fine speaker and as far surpasses his brother Senator as can be imagined. He speaks like a gentleman, with an appearance of candour and frankness, which gives great weight to his remarks. Hubbard rants and lacks sincerity.”

“...How do you like Maine elections – rather a stumper is it not? The story here runs that Kent is elected by 800 majority – unless Smith [sp?] goes stronger we are a gone hoss for a time.” [FFP Reel 6]

19 October 1840: Tuck sells one acre of land in Exeter to Gardner Elliot of Haverhill, NH, for \$90.00, “being the southerly part of a tract of land purchased by me of Joseph Batchelder...” and abutting land owned and occupied by Retire Parker. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 299, Page 360]

6 November 1840: HFF to BBF. “Remembering Betsey’s frequent injunction I have this hour written letters to Messrs Pierce, Shaw and Hubbard to help me get appointed vote carrier [sp?] from this State. I have no acquaintance with any one of the electors, and if you can do anything do it. Perhaps you can give Atherton a jog to Gov. Hill or any body else – Burke, Eastman. But there Major you know best.” [FFP Reel 6]

17 December 1840: Henry to BBF. “Governor Hill left in the Boston stage this morning, having been at my house since the stage came up yesterday. He came to deliver a Lyceum address upon Agriculture. We had quite a full meeting altho’ the evening was very stormy, and the address was excellent. It is truly surprising how a man can write so well as he does and yet be at a loss every moment in conversation for words to express the most common ideas, or rather ideas on the most common subjects. He was very agreeable and seemed well pleased by his reception. You must see his paper for we expect all [word missing] be published in the next number. Did you see his mention of father in his last number? I should send it to you but I presume [word missing] and you take his paper if I recollect right. If you do not, you can get it. The Governor without being asked told me that I was very well situated and had better not try to better my situation by leaving Chester. How he knew that I had any idea of it, I do not know.” [FFP Reel 6]

1841

1841-1842: Tuck was one of the trustees of the Exeter Female Academy. [Exeter Historical Society, SC 224]

6 January 1841: Tuck pays for a one-year subscription to Hill’s New Hampshire Patriot. Jere Dearborn splits the cost (\$2) with him. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 March 1841: Tuck pays \$1 for subscription to the Granite State Democrat. [Ledger 1838-1849]

April 1841: Exeter Tax records show Tuck owns a house worth \$700. [Exeter Town Clerk]

11 April 1841: Henry to BBF. "...I was a good deal shocked at the President's death and have thought him an honest man, unfit for the station, and surrounded by men who would probably influence him to act against his honest opinions. It seems sad to think that a man in such a high station must be sick and die like other men and that the all absorbing question that has divided a great nation should be ended thus. Can you tell me what are Mr. Tyler's views upon a Bank and tariff – will Wise's party come in fashion?...." [FFP Reel 6]

18 May 1841: Tuck pays for subscriptions to the Democrat [NFI] and the Daily Mail [NFI]. (Ledger, 1838-1849)

6 June 1841: Son Edward is born in Exeter. [Dow]

1 July 1841: Tuck, David H. Gorham and Abner Merrill paid \$2500 to Deborah Dutch of Exeter for a half-acre tract of land abutting Main Street and Academy Lane, and the buildings thereon. The property was to be held for the benefit of Irena Robinson, the wife of Jeremiah Robinson. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 312, Page 42]

4 July 1841: BBF reports a party a few days earlier of a group of New Hampshiremen at his house: Senator Pierce, Messrs Atherton, Burke, Eastman and Shaw and Col Sylvester and Mr. Brown. [FFP Reel 1]

1 August 1841: HFF to BBF. Henry gives his political views at some length, mostly in Democratic terms. "I am quite calm in the matter of politicks now. I see plainly that with or without a Bank the Whigs cannot make [words unclear] or redeem their promises and I care little what they do. I think a bankrupt law would be of some benefit to one or two of my friends, but do not like the principle of the thing, but if the majority are bankrupt, perhaps [words unclear] 'the greatest good of the greatest number' requires such an act. I trust Banks will be included in its provisions, however, [word unclear] I want to see them walked up to redeem their promises, if it breaks every one of them and we don't care how large a [word unclear] of the necessary and inevitable confusion in money matters occurs [phrase unclear]. My opinion has been this long time, that prices of labor, produce and land must fall about a third within a few years and the sooner the better and that all that is gained postponing is that the responsibility is shifted from one administration to another and we whose property is in lands and chattels gain a little time to change it into cash – the which process I have kept steadily in view all the past season. Too much money – I mean credit money bank bills – is in circulation and too much credit business done and I think a bankruptcy Act that will include banks will knock the false bottoms out of things quicker than anything else."

"I read Pierce's speech on removals from office and was much pleased with it, as I am with all his speeches. Our Senators do us honor at this present time, and I think they will continue to be a couple of thorns in the two sides of the administration that will prick deeply. I

notice Mr. Pierce is very cautious to speak cautiously of Tyler, and I think him wise in so doing for it appears by no means certain to me that we shall not support Tyler before the year is out.” [FFP Reel 6]

2 August 1841: Tuck paid \$2 for a subscription to the Exeter News-Letter. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

11 August 1841: Tuck and Henry L. Williams paid \$1750 to Elizabeth Clifford of Exeter for a tract of land between Water Street and the Exeter River and the buildings thereon. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 303, Page 329]

30 August 1841: HFF to BBF. “The fact is, there is no inducement for me to stay [in Chester], either as regards society, or professional business, or political preferment....But there is no business here worth staying for. I am out of the way of participating in the hundred new sources of [word unclear] and profit that are created. If our party is in power, I am in a place where no sort of public officer is wanted. If a Clerk of a District Court or a District Attorney or a Judge of Probate or any other decent little officer is wanted, I cannot even put in a claim because I am out of the business part of the County or District. And further, as to political preferment, the Democrats in Chester like my aid well enough, but the idea of trying to advance my interests in any one instance never entered their heads. If I want any assistance, I apply to Mr. Hill and Mr. [name unclear] or indeed anybody out of my own neighborhood and find friends enough.”

“Having premised this, I will proceed. Portsmouth seems to me the most eligible place for my location, for many reasons. I am a little known, I flatter myself not unfavorably in this County and I do not wish to lose that little. I am solicitor and shall keep the office which must bring me in contact with many [word unclear] and this help along. There is no young man except Mr. Emery in Portsmouth who is likely to succeed in the branch at which I aspire, that of an advocate, and Emery has no special gift that way, but is a hardworking and good lawyer. Bartlett’s health is breaking up, and his race is nearly run. Mr. Woodbury proposes to open an office there, which brings me to the point. He has been making enquiry for a person to go into business with – a young man who can take charge in his absence and help him when at home. I propose to be that young man, and I wish you would see him, as I do not know him yet, and talk with him on the subject. I think his name would bring business and I can do the work, I know.”

“I have thought of this for some time, and last evening I saw James Bell and he mentioned that Woodbury wanted a partner and said that Portsmouth is altogether my best place in the State, and although he rather doubted whether I had better play second fiddle to any body, yet agreed with me in all the above views of my situation. Bell says I should get into business at once in that way and seemed to think it would be well for a time. Now this is my view. If I could once get into business, I must [word unclear] my fortune or [word unclear] rather for retaining it. Woodbury must be absent a good deal, which would throw the responsibility upon me. Besides, I would not make a very long engagement, so I could cut loose some few years hence if I thought it best. At Portsmouth I should be in the [word unclear] place to hold any

office that can be named. The Bankrupt Act, if not repealed, will create a very great mass of business of which Portsmouth is the latitude. There, especially if connected with Mr. Woodbury, I should have political friends who could help me if I wished their aid. On the whole, I rather like the idea. As to the difficulties in my way, they are not insurmountable, though by no means slight..." [FFP Reel 6]

15 October 1841: Tuck sold his share of a tract of land with the buildings thereon to Henry L. Williams for \$875.00. The tract was located between Water Street and the Exeter River and had been conveyed to Tuck and Williams by Elizabeth Clifford on 11 August 1841. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 304, Page 90]

4 November 1841: Tuck receives two shares of the Boston & Maine Railroad in payment for legal services. James Bell gets the same. [Ledger, 1839-1848]

11 November 1841: Henry (Portsmouth) to BBF. "I left old Chester with a sorrowful heart, I assure you, on Monday morning last...I had the choice of two offices, one in a retired part of town and this occupied by Dep. Sheriff Towle, close by Hadley's Hotel and nearly opposite the market, in a good location." [FFP Reel 6]

8 December 1841: HFF to BBF. "It's now the midst of Court and we have at our house Judges Parker, Gilchrist and Wood, besides Messrs Christie, Jo. Bell, Stickney, Pillsbury, Porter and other worthies. F.O.J. Smith was here last night, and he and I passed a very sociable hour together, talking of you and yours, with an occasional digression upon politicks. He is rather sick of Whiggery, and is going to start an agricultural paper next." [FFP Reel 6]

1842

30 January 1842: HFF to BBF. "I think your Congress is a pretty [word unclear] arrival. I am sure I do not know what is to come out of all this commotion. I wish old Adams would set them a better example. He ought to commit suicide and let the rest of the world be at peace. We agree all ready to go under the Bankrupt Act which we have about concluded will live to be born, at least."

"Betsey and you and Louise probably know many of the families [I meet]. I visit at Gen. Upham's, Mrs. Decatur's Mr Hayes's Mr Emerys, Mr Cowes's [sp?] Major Larkins, and have been invited at forty other places. I call at Emerys often, every two or three days. His wife and sisters, Misses Bell, are very pleasant and I feel quite at home there. I think I will take a house next his, on Islington St." [FFP Reel 6]

27 February 1842: HFF (Chester) to BBF. Discusses his court cases. "On Sunday I went to meeting and took walks all day. On Monday, I brought in my state trials and commenced with

an indictment against Burnham and Brown, officers of the Rockingham Mutual Fire Ins. Co., for conspiracy to procure persons to vote without right for the Directors of the Co. at their annual meeting in 1841, by issuing false policies. Burnham is the brother of the Rev. Mr Burnham of Pembroke – was secretary of the Co. a member of the orthodox church, and Judge Fanon [sp?] was Prest. of the Co. and signed all the false policies, and Messrs Cutts, Lawrence, Patton [sp?] and Sullivan Directors, and thus all implicated and it was a case of great public interest. Several days before the sitting of the court, I had been applied to by some of the Exeter people to have Jack Hale assist at the trial, and argue the case, to which I replied that if Mr Hale would act as junior counsel, I should be glad of his aid, but I should argue my own cases. Well, Hale opened the case Monday morning, Bell Christie and Bartlett for the Defts, and we put in evidence till Tuesday noon, and after dinner Bartlett made a speech of an hour and I closed for the State at about the same length and at about twelve the jury agreed on a verdict of guilty. Everybody concerned said I made a first rate argument, and Burnham said, to several present afterwards that if his defense had been as well argued as the side of the State, he should not have convicted!!”

“...I tried my man for adultery with James Bell for Deft., and had him convicted. On Thursday, with Stickney for my junior, I tried an indictment for larceny, with Bell and Christie for opponents....” [FFP Reel 6]

27 February 1842: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “Mr. F.O.J. Smith is here now, staying with us. I think he will be appointed First Comptroller of the Treasury.” Pierce left Washington the day before. Still not clear who will take his place as senator. Pierce says Gove will wait to run for the full term, but BBF thinks Atherton will win that election. “How like the devil Hill is behaving. I hope and trust, none of the N.H. Democrats, out of Concord, will suffer his movements to influence them. Hubbard must and will be Governor, and I want the Democracy of N.H. to show to the Union, that when anyone be he high or low, deserts their principles he cannot receive their support – to bear witness that there is no truth in the miserable taunt that we have so many times heard, that N.H. is Isaac Hill’s state. Thank God N.H. is no man’s state; it is, and will be always, true to the principles of Democracy.” [FFP Reel 4]

1 March 1842: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “Our friend Isaac has pursued a curious course, I never expected to see him so nearly in the federal ranks as he now is. I hope and trust his schemes will be defeated, and that the Democracy of N.H. will ‘put him right over’, as he used to others. I despise a man whose motto is ‘rule or ruin.’ I am ready to pardon much to the spirit of Liberty, but nothing to the spirit of faction; and though I have for many years esteemed Mr. Hill as an orthodox Democrat, and one whom it has been my delight to follow as long as he pursued the straight forward path, I am now bound to desert him, as is every true democrat in N.H. and I hope and trust you are among them.” (FFP Reel 4)

8 March 1842: Exeter elects Tuck as one of its two state representatives. [Bell]

10 March 1842: BBF letter to Edmund French. Glad to hear of Henry’s business success in Portsmouth. [FFP Reel 4]

11 March 1842: HFF to BBF. “You know we have had an election. Well the result is the election of the whole Democratic nomination except Barton, I think. Returns are not all in. Treadwell is elected Senator in this district, although the papers announced a different result. All the mistakes the whigs made was that they split their own party instead of ours. I do not care a ninepence about politicks, in these days.”

Henry has totaled his earnings for the first four months in Portsmouth to be \$525, “a pretty good business for the first dash! About \$80 I receive of the States and County and a large proportion of the total from Chester and Derry...Possibly I may do as much more the other 8 months and if so I am content.” [FFP Reel 6]

19 March 1842: Tuck’s son Edward dies of scarlet fever. [Dow]

“The year 1842 brought upon me the first affliction of my life. The scarlet fever prevailed in Exeter, and I lost a beautiful and promising little boy of five years and four months of age and another of fourteen months...I feel that the year 1842 witnessed a change in my spirit which an intimate acquaintance must have witnessed. [Tuck 1848]

Tuck paid \$1 to Mrs. Isaac L. Folsom “for watching with Edward.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

26 March 1842: Tuck paid \$1 for the fare of Mrs. Nudd (Sarah’s mother) from Hampton to Exeter and back. Also, he paid Mary J. Cooper \$2 “for horse and chaise after girls.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

28 March 1842: Tuck paid \$.25 “for toys for Charles, who is recovering from scarlet fever.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

29 March 1842: HFF to BBF. “I have been looking into the tariff question of late. Massachusetts people are demented on the subject. The politicians there cast devils into the people there faster than forty apostles could cast them out. The way in which that herd of swine run violently down that steep hill into the sea is a fitting comparison for their sudden inspiration. There are certain geniuses in the Bay State who tickle the soles of the feet of their constituents as it were with feathers, as those rascals did poor old Goldman [sp?] in Valentine Vox, till they would pass muster anywhere for raving maniacs.”

“It is not one year since, no not six months since I have heard manufacturers, even the agents and stockholders in companies, declare that they needed no protection and that they defied the world to undersell them in the heavy articles of cotton manufacture, and I verily thought the days of free trade were about to dawn, but of a sudden – presto – the feather is applied and the conversation of rational men is changed to curses and maledictions upon everybody who does not see that a tariff alone can keep the earth from flying off in a tangent from her orbit, and continue the cohesive attraction of the particles of matter. I believe it to be systematic war cry raised at once to carry by storm the objects of party intrigues. It is to take the place of the log cabin and hard cider.”

“After all, it is the most intricate question connected with the administration of our government and I cannot profess to see clearly through it, but this I do know, nothing has occurred within six months to change the honest opinions of half the country. Moreover, free trade is natural -- if universally practiced, everyone admits it to be the true doctrine, and for want of a better rule, I am disposed to have our country set an example and do right in principle, and see if it be not expedient even for a nation to do right. I hope to see the expenses of government defrayed by direct taxes yet, and to have the insult no longer offered to fine republicans that they would not bear the burdens of government if they truly estimated the worth of them. I may change my mind, however....” [FFP Reel 6]

4 April 1842: Tuck received \$50 for examining unnamed banks in Portsmouth. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

7 April 1842: Tuck paid \$.23 for medicine. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

8 April 1842: Tuck, David W. Gorham, and Abner Merrill sold a tract of land in Exeter to Nathan W. Chase of Exeter for \$125.00. The tract was a lot on the new street running between Court Street and South Street. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 304, Page 321]

8 April 1842: Tuck, David W. Gorham, and Abner Merrill, by the authority of Irene Robinson, sold a tract of land in Exeter to Zebulon Thurston of Exeter for \$125.00. The tract was a lot on the new street running between Court Street and South Street. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 304, Page 331]

13 April 1842: Tuck paid \$.50 for “medicines etc.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

19 [29?] April 1842: Tuck’s son Charles dies in Exeter of scarlet fever. [Dow]

10 May 1842: Tuck notes the receipt of \$20 from Dover banks and \$10 from Rochester banks, apparently for bank examinations. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

13 May 1842: Tuck notes receipt of \$12 from banks in Derry and \$15 from banks in Nashua. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

June 1842: Tuck was elected to the state legislature as a Democrat in 1842 as one of Exeter’s two representatives (the other was Josiah Robinson). He claimed, “My father was a Jeffersonian Democrat and in that faith I was reared.” He had always taken a deep interest in politics, and always as a Democrat, “who were in a decided minority in the town of Exeter” even if they were the long-time majority at the state and county levels. Tuck was listed as a Democrat and Robinson as a Whig. While in the legislature he served on the Judiciary Committee (Chair –

Moses Norris, Jr.) when it enacted a broad range of revised statutes. He was active in the debate on the section-by-section revision of the statutes.

At the time Isaac Hill had lost his hold on power but still lived in Concord. Henry Hibbard, ex-Federalist turned Democrat (and a Dartmouth classmate of Tuck's), was governor. Franklin Pierce was chairman of the Democratic state committee and the recognized party leader. Tuck noted, "Mr. Pierce was a genial, obliging, pleasant gentleman, possessing many captivating traits of character...the future President understood the arts of pleasing excellently well, and did not afterward disdain the use of liquors of all kinds to help him to the good-will of his party and the multitude."

In the June 1842 session of the NH House of Representatives, Tuck was made chairman of the select committee of ten to consider a resolution in favor of the annexation of Texas. Tuck's assessment in 1875 was that this was the beginning of an effort to "manufacture" public opinion in favor of annexation, "chiefly for the protection of slavery.... the plot succeeded and Texas was eventually 'annexed' and the Mexican War was the consequence." According to Lucy Lowden, Tuck did not convene the committee until the fall 1842 session of the legislature. At the time, Tuck studied the issue (and thus delayed) and then told leading Democrats "that annexation was a trespass upon Mexico and a pro-Slavery measure, and that I should recommend reporting against the resolutions." Tuck "was advised" to take no action to avoid discrediting New Hampshire with Southerners. It was against my conviction to lose the opportunity of condemning the institution of slavery, but I reluctantly acquiesced in the judgment of more experienced men."

Tuck also disagreed with the Democratic Party on the issue of unlimited liability of corporations for corporate debts. Again he went along to his later regret [although since there was a tremendous split among Democrats over the issue, Tuck's formulation is ambiguous]. "I had supposed the Democratic party to be what my father regarded it, the party of freedom, truth, generosity and wise statesmanship. I discovered it to be a party of political demagogues, led by men who were a stumbling block to any conscientious man." Tuck created considerable excitement by offering a resolution calling on the Superior Court justices for their opinion concerning railroad corporations. The proposal was tabled after long discussion. [Corning, pp. 9-15, Tuck 1875]

1 June 1842: NH House starts its 1842 session. Exeter reps who entered the House were Amos Tuck and Josiah Robinson. [Journals of the Senate and House, p. 3]. Joseph Dow calls Tuck a "democrat in politics, but in 1844 he separated from the party with others, on the pro-slavery measure of the annexation of Texas." [Dow]

4 June 1842: NH House Speaker announces committee memberships. Tuck named to the Judiciary Committee. [Journals of the Senate and House, p. 52]

6 June 1842: "On motion of Mr. Tuck ---

Resolved that the committee on the judiciary be instructed, to enquire what alteration, if any, is expedient to be made in the Judiciary of this State, and report by bill or otherwise.” [Journals of the Senate and House, p. 58]

10 June 1842: “Mr. Tuck submitted the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That the committee on Roads, Bridges and Canals be discharged from further consideration of all petitions for Railroads, which shall have been referred to them by the action of this House.

2. *Resolved*, That the Justices of the Superior Court of Judicature be required to deliver to this House, as soon as may be practicable, their opinions in writing, upon the following questions of law, to wit:

First – Can the Legislature of this State constitutionally grant to Railroad corporations the power to take, by any process whatever, for the use of such Railroads, the land of private individuals without their consent?

Second – Can the Legislature of this State constitutionally grant to the Railroad or other private corporations, constituted with the powers and liabilities of those heretofore erected in this State, the right to take, for the use of such Railroads, the land of private individuals without their consent?

On motion of Mr. Norris [of Pittsfield, another member of the Judiciary Committee] –

Ordered, that the resolutions lie on the table.” [Journals of the Senate and House, p. 83]

14 June 1842: “Agreeably to a resolution of the House, the Speaker announced the appointment of Messrs. Tuck, Jenness, Tilton, Lord, Stewart, May, Smith of Alstead, Davis of Cornish, Savage and Pike, as the select committee to take into consideration the message of His Excellency the Governor, transmitting certain resolutions, adopted by the Legislatures of the States of Mississippi, Tennessee, and Alabama, in relation to the admission of Texas into the Union.” [Journals of the Senate and House, pp. 107-8]

14 June 1842: “Mr. Tuck gave notice, that he will to-morrow ask leave to introduce a bill, relating to the disturbance of religious meetings and assemblies.” [Journals of the Senate and House, p. 109]

15 June 1842: Tuck voted with the minority (188-45) on “An act to repeal an act therein named” [no further information given]. It was proposed by Young of Meredith. [Journals of the Senate and House, pp. 120-3]

16 June 1842: Tuck voted with the minority (130-98) on whether to amend Norris’s resolution declaring it inexpedient to hold an adjourned session of the legislature this current year [NFI]. The amendment, presented by Peirce of Dover, made it “expedient” to hold such a session. In

the subsequent vote on the resolution itself, Tuck was again in the minority, 132-94. [Journals of the Senate and House, pp. 129-35]

17 June 1842: After Peirce of Dover reported that the House and Senate joint committee could not agree on the adjourned session, Tuck again voted in the minority (128-93) when the House voted to persevere in holding it expedient to hold the adjourned session. [Journals of the Senate and House, pp. 148-151]

17 June 1842: A third reading was given to Young's "Act to repeal an act named therein" and the House resolved without a roll-call to pass the bill. [?] [Journals of the Senate and House, p. 151]

18 June 1842: "Mr. Tuck presented the petition of Jeremiah Robinson, Jr., and 56 others, praying for the passage of a law, prohibiting military officers from furnishing intoxicating liquors to soldiers under their command;..." Petition was referred to the Judiciary Committee. "Mr. Tuck, from the same committee [Judiciary], to whom was referred the bill, entitled 'An act, relating to the disturbance of religious meetings and assemblies,' reported the same bill in a new draft, Which was read a first time. *Ordered*, That the bill be read a second time this forenoon at eleven o'clock." [Journals of the Senate and House, pp. 154-5]

20 June 1842: The bill relating to the disturbance of religious meetings passed a third reading without a roll call. [Journals of the Senate and the House, p. 162]

20-23 June 1842: Tuck missed four roll call votes. [Journals of Senate and House, pp. 162-7, 176-80, 197-200, 209-213]

23 June 1842: Tuck voted in the majority (162-50) to continue consideration of a bill providing \$4000 to complete the building of the state insane asylum. The house then approved the bill without a roll call. [Journals of Senate and House, pp. 217-20]

23 June 1842: Tuck voted in the majority (132-74) to pass a resolution submitted by Sanborn of East Kingston relating to the rights, powers and liabilities of corporations. [Journals of Senate and House, pp. 220-23]

23 June 1842: pp. 226-29 June 23: "On the motion of Mr. Bordman of Gilford – The House resumed the consideration of the resolutions, introduced by Mr. Tuck, relative to Railroad corporations. Mr. Bordman offered two several amendments to said resolutions. The question being upon the adoption of said amendments,...And the ayes and noes having been called for,..." Tuck voted in the minority (153-43) and the resolutions were indefinitely postponed. [Journals of Senate and House, pp. 226-29]

23 June 1842: Tuck did not vote in a roll call passing resolutions to be sent to the NH congressional delegation calling for a “judicious tariff”. [Journals of the Senate and House, pp. 232-35]

24 June 1842: House adjourned until November. [Journals of the Senate and House, p. 237]

24 June 1842: Tuck received \$55 from the state treasurer for his pay as state representative. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

28 June 1842: Tuck paid \$11 to “Miss Rand for sundry articles of mourning.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

29 June 1842: Tuck paid J. Bell \$43.49 “for lumber for addition to house.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 July 1842: HFF to BBF. “As to my own affairs, as usual, they are all in good order. Business is duller here than ever it was. Emery has made less than one third the usual number of writs to next court. I do very little just now, but I do my share, and shall hold it, I think.” [FFP Reel 6]

11 August 1842: HFF to BBF. “The Veto has come, and now we [word unclear] over the old [word unclear] here who are Whigs and own ships. I think Capt. Tyler is a pretty fair President, and I am not sure that he will not be our candidate yet.” [FFP Reel 6]

18 August 1842: Tuck paid \$8 to Mr. Derby for “painting portrait.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

24 August 1842: Son (second of this name) Edward Tuck born in Exeter. [Dow]

24 August 1842: Tuck paid \$75 for one share of Boston & Maine stock. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

31 August 1842: Tuck paid \$2.62 to Miss Colcord for Abby’s tuition. Miss Colcord was the headmistress of the Exeter Female Academy. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

11 September 1842: BBF (Washington) to HFF. BBF tells Henry that Frank Smith and Isaac Hill arrived in Washington earlier in the week and called “sundry” times on him. They seem to have only talked farming issues when visiting BBF. “I believe they came on to regulate the political clock a little, and I hope it will beat a little more regularly hereafter. It has been sadly out of repair for many a day, and I think the people must tinker upon it considerable before it will work with the perfection it did in the glorious days of the “Greatest and Best”. The Whig party came devilish near letting it run down a few weeks ago, but there were some among them who

possessed a few grains more of common sense than political hatred for Prest. Tyler, -and that is an admission that they were exceedingly sensible men! – and they wound the crazy old thing up again so that it may possibly worry along until Van Buren or Calhoun, or Buchanan, or some other good patriot gives it a good overhauling.” [FFP Reel 4]

29 September 1842: HFF to BBF. Henry apologizes for not writing: he’s been at court in Exeter “three mortal weeks ending last Saturday”. He and Mr. Hatch had gone hunting the previous day. Informs BBF he is not sure he will stay in Portsmouth and may go to Exeter. He arrived last 9 November and his total legal earnings amount to \$1,252 with another \$183 as pay for acting as solicitor for the government. He adds another \$305 for his “Portsmouth business” [NFI]. “The town of Portsmouth must decline I think, and it is generally thought so here. One reason for this belief is that the Banks are winding up and three are about done, and the charters of one or two others are nearly out, and our Legislature will not renew them. Secondly the upper railroad through Exeter and Dover diverts the county trade from here. After the railroad through here is complete to Portland, we shall receive about the same benefit from it as we should from a cannon ball, shot from the Navy Yard to Greenland.” There is not an over-supply of lawyers in town, but they don’t make much money.

“Mr. Marston of Exeter, a young man who has been there about a year wants me to go into partnership with him. His business has been worth the first year he says about \$900. Exeter is wide awake. As many as 15 or 20 houses are erecting there now. Their railroad, being next to the county, brigs business in there, especially as it is the head of navigation and lumber is put in there to come down. Bell & Tuck entered 62 actions last Term. They are doing an immense business. Then there is John Sullivan who is Judge of Probate, and does do, or care much about practice. There are Lawrence and Tilton and David A. Gregg who are all small affairs and the latter register of Probate. Marston is intelligent and active and very industrious and attentive to business, and a well bred man. He bids fair to succeed I think, better than most young men. He has formed a high opinion of me, and I should naturally take the arguing part of the business, and he the digging part (inter nos). He is very passionate, I am told, but very forgiving and desirous of peace.”

“My motives for going there would be to get into litigation cases, to keep my old clients in Raymond Chester and Derry, to be nearer my farm and the family. I had rather have no partner, but I think Marston would be a rival if we were separate and a hard one to deal with....I have no doubt I am favorably known at Exeter, because both sides of the conspiracy case said it was my argument that convicted the Defts....Exeter was alive about it and is still. Now, this will probably strike you as much such a statement as I gave you last year, in which I drew a parallel between Portsmouth and Chester, and worked it all out in favor of Portsmouth. I was right then, but I thought that Exeter was a better place for business, but I hate Niggers and they are numerous there. I hate quarrelling and Exeter is always together by the ears about something or other. The society is better here than there, tho’ it is probably good there. I hate the name of moving again, but the expense is of no consequence. It cost me about \$15 to move down!”

“...As to being Atty General, I have about given up the chance. It is said Pierce wants it. If so he can get it...” [FFP Reel 6]

1 October 1842: The pastor of the First Congregational Society of Exeter, the Rev. Williams Williams was dismissed, “by reason of the failure of his health and some difficulties that arose. Replaced by the Rev. Joy H. Fairchild on 20 September 1843. [Bell, History of Exeter, p. 191-2].

Tuck had been attending services at the First Church since he moved in 1838 and continued until 1842, “When in consequence of a quarrel in the Church and Society growing out of a certain course of action pursue by the minister, the Rev. William Williams, in which controversy I had been unwise enough to take sides, I left the Society and have since been connected with the 2nd Church and Society.” [Tuck 1848]

12 October 1842: HFF to BBF. “Since I wrote you I have seen Mr Shaw[n?] and he advised me not to go into business with Marston, but to make the proposition to John Sullivan, which I did. He was rather pleased with it, but being a cautious thinking man, wished to consider of it. He is a first rate man, highminded and honorable, and is doing a good business. He is judge of Probate and of course cannot be always at home. He said there was no other man in the world he would think of taking as a partner, but he thought me a fair and honorable man and prudent in any business, and knew me to be out of debt and he thought he would accept my offer.”

“I have very little doubt we shall have a sign out together by the middle of Novr. He has a good library and together we shall have a sixteen foot room full of books, all round the walls.”

“All this is very profound secret. Do you know that Dr Barker is appointed weigher and gauger in the Boston Custom House, salary \$1500. per year? It is a fact and so you will not have him and his at W[ashington].” [FFP Reel 6]

15 October 1842: Tuck paid \$8 for a portrait of “Mrs. T.” Painter not named. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

17 October 1842: Tuck sent \$3.50 to his brother Jonathan to give \$.50 to their father, \$1 to their sister Mary Wiggin, and \$2 to their brother John. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

24 October 1842: Tuck paid \$500 to Stacy L. Nudd and Mary Ann Nudd of Hampton Falls for an undivided one-third share in several pieces of property, mostly pasture and marsh, in Hampton Falls and Seabrook. These pieces of land were to be owned in common with George F. Dow. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 309, Page 193]

25 October 1842: Tuck sold two tracts of land to Stacy L. Nudd of Hampton Falls for \$500.00. One tract, in Hampton Falls and known as the Perkins Pasture, contained about 21 acres. The second, in Seabrook, was known as the Abram Pasture, contained about 24 acres. Two other small tracts of land in Hampton Falls were also included in this sale. [This appears to be the

same parcels of a land that Tuck bought the day before from Stacy L. Nudd. Also, note the different deed books recording the two transactions.] [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 304, Page 266]

26 October 1842: Tuck “gave Rev. Wm. Williams on his leaving Exeter (as a present)” \$10. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

2 November 1842: House reconvened. Tuck not present at opening roll call of the House. Josiah Robinson only representative from Exeter, but in the afternoon session (after the governor’s message?), Tuck announces to the House the death of former member from Exeter (or Kensington?) Lewis Gove, and moves successfully an expression of condolence from the House to the Gove family. [Journals of the Senate and House, pp. 3, 24]

3 November 1842: Tuck votes in the majority (143-70) to reject an amendment to the RSA that would have exempted existing corporations from possible changes in their act of incorporation by the legislature if the latter thought it for the public good. [Journals of Senate and the House, pp. 26-9]

15 November 1842: Tuck proposed an amendment to the resolution concerning the creation of a new organization of the court of common pleas which would have allowed the alteration of the court, not just its abolition. His amendment was rejected without a roll call vote. [Journals of the Senate and House, p. 65]

16-23 November 1842: Tuck plays a key role in the parliamentary maneuvering concerning judicial reforms. [Corning]

21 November 1842: HFF to BBF. “Mr Sullivan changed his mind and we shall try a partnership. He retained his pay as Judge of Probate, and I mine as Solicitor, and I also have all the Probate business, and all I can get as Administrator, Exec. and other business in which he cannot engage, by reason of his office. This will make us about even. We can dissolve on three months notice by either, so I shall not stay with him a great while, unless I like it. We shall probably board three months but it is not decided.”

“I have been to Chester twice within a fortnight, and we have had a tremendous fight about a road there from West-Chester to Manchester. After we had beat the town once, and got an agent at work building the road, Judge Upham stopped him with an injunction.”

“I then set to work to get it off. The town has retained Bell & Tuck, Frank Pierce & Pillsbury and I solus for the Petitioners. We had a long hearing before Upham at Concord, which resulted in his sending out a Committee to decide whether the injunction should be dissolved, and last Friday, we met at Sanborn’s tavern in West Chester and had a great hearing. Bell and Pillsbury attended. At twelve o’clock at night the Committee decided that the

injunction should be dissolved and on Saturday at [word unclear] our agent was on the ground ready to continue work....And so we have beat them, and it is a tall feather in [word unclear] and will teach the town no to put any good counsel [word unclear] and trust to David Pillsbury for advice.”

“The nominations for Congress went contrary to my expectations. I was not disappointed however, for I cared nothing about it any way. I meant to figure a little, and undoubtedly strengthened my stakes and lengthened my cards a little by being up there. Hale would have lost it I think, had we nominated by Districts.”

“Kittredge ran the highest. However Hale will make a good member, I think. He is a man of talents, and will not be put down by any body. Gove ought to have been nominated, but had nobody to work for him. I case nothing for the office of Attorney-General, as y business at present is worth more than the salary.”

“Judge Upham is appointed agent of the Concord Railroad and will of course leave the bench, and I hope Sam. D. Bell will get his place.”

“Nobody knows what Parker intends to do. At present he is too sick to do anything.”

“...I saw Gov. Hill at Concord. He said he was to go to Washington, and spoke of you and Mr Brown as his old friends, and remarked with great praise on your mechanical genius.”
[FFP Reel 6]

24 November 1842: The discussion of the resolutions offered by Foss of Greenland began again in the afternoon session. Immediately, a motion to indefinitely postpone the resolutions failed by a vote of 147 (Tuck)-56. Then, a motion to pass the resolutions succeeded by a vote of 132 (Tuck)-76. [Journals of the Senate and the House, p. 102]

26 November 1842: On a roll call vote on whether to adjourn, Tuck voted with the minority and the motion failed by a vote of 66-58. Tuck made a motion to bring up for consideration Title VI of the RSA, but the motion failed without a roll call. More complicated motions revolving around the question of adjournment, which ended in adjournment to that afternoon. When the House reconvened, a quorum call (in which Tuck participated) failed to find a quorum, and it adjourned. [Journals of the Senate and House, pp 126-34]

27 November-8 December 1842: Tuck continues to actively participate in various parliamentary actions. On an 8 December roll call vote concerning a resolution relating to capital punishment, Tuck voted in the minority, 111-106. As a result, Title XXVI of the RSA was recommitted to the committee on the Judiciary. Tuck voted with the majority to create a form by which Quakers and Shakers could receive conscientious objector status and not serve in the militia. Vote was 124-88. [Journals of the Senate and House]

7 December 1842: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “I live in Exeter and am a citizen thereof, and am not in partnership with Judge Sullivan or any body else, and do not intend to be at present. The

reason why the Judge and I did not conclude to join forces is that he was so very indifferent as to the matter, and kept saying so, so often, that I thought he would not work, and so with a perfectly good understanding we gave it up.

“Well here I am in my office 9 P.M. as comfortable as an old shoe. Said office is the front lower room of a new building about four rods Easterly of the County building where the Registers office is. My room is new and clean and painted white, the walls stained straw color and the floor painted most white and I really feel quite happy to have things so tidy. The room is small – about 15 ft square. I have engaged our board at Squire Sherborne Blakes about three rods Easterly of my office. We have his parlor and chamber over it, nice rooms, with airtight stoves, genteel and comfortable, partly furnished with our own furniture and partly with Mr Blakes. We pay \$6 per week for the [word unclear], finding our own wood, lights and washing. The family is very pleasant, but more of that anon.”

“Anne is in Boston, spending a few days, and the child at Chester for a week or two. My house in Portsmouth I shall get rid of by losing twenty dollars and it cost me six to books and what furniture we want.”

“F.O.J. Smith and Gov. Cass have both been here to day – the former attending to a case I believe, and the latter to show himself.”

“A few of us citizens of Exeter met him at Franklin Hall this evening to pay our devoirs....” [FFP Reel 6]

12 December 1842: On the question of whether or not to accept from the Federal government money from the sale of public lands, Tuck successfully moved that the report and the related resolutions be laid on the table. This apparently would have the effect of accepting the money without judging the constitutionality of the federal government’s action. [Journals of the Senate and House, 222-9]

12 December 1842: Tuck, David H. Gorham and Abner Merrill paid \$1500 to Isaac R. Worthen and Jesse Marston of Exeter for a tract of land abutting South Street. The land was to be held for the benefit of Irena Robinson, the wife of Jeremiah Robinson. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 310, Page 67]

16 December 1842 In discussion of Title XXVI, a vote was called on whether to adopt a life sentence for first degree murder rather than execution. Tuck voted with the majority against the change, i.e. to keep the death penalty. The vote was 109-104. [Journals of the Senate and House, pp. 284-7]

17 December 1842: pp. 303-310: December 17: In reference to Title VIII, Peirce of Dover offered an amendment that would establish a 6% tax on railroad company income, to be divided among the towns as decided by three commissioners. Foss of Greenland offered an amendment that would have extended the tax to “Manufacturing Corporations.” Tuck voted in the minority

on this amendment, which was rejected 190-20. Many of those who voted with Tuck were from the Seacoast. Then, the House voted 115-84 to reject Peirce's amendment, thus adopting the amendment to Title VIII as reported by the committee. Tuck voted with the minority. [Journals of the Senate and House, pp. 303-310]

17 December 1842: Discussion of Title XVII and the 23rd amendment proposed by the select committee that would have banned or greatly limited the ability of banks to loan money to their officers, share-holders, and account holders. The House accepted the amendment by a vote of 102-64. Tuck did not vote (perhaps because it was a Saturday afternoon). [Journals of the Senate and House, pp. 313-7]

19 December 1842: Tuck did not vote in another roll-call vote on Title XVII, dealing with corporations. [Journals of the Senate and House, 325-28]

19 December 1842: Tuck paid \$1.25 for a year's subscription to the Coos County Democrat. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 December 1842: "Mr. Lipscomb submitted the following preamble and resolution: Whereas, a certain resolution, purporting to require this branch of the legislature to authorize the enlistment of blacks as a volunteers company, by a member of this House designated therein, presented by the member from Greenland at the evening session of Monday, the nineteenth instant— Therefore, *Resolved*, that such resolution was derogatory to the dignity of this House and an insult to the member therein designated, and that the mover thereof be requested to apologize for breach of decorum, both to the House and the individual particularly insulted thereby. Mr. Rollins of Barnstead moved that said resolution be indefinitely postponed; and the question being put, the ayes and noes were called for."

The House voted 97-66 to reject the motion to postpone. Tuck voted with the minority to postpone. Then, Sanborn of Campton moved that the resolution lie on the table. The House rejected this motion 98-67, with Tuck in the minority. Then, by a voice vote, the House moved that the resolution be indefinitely postponed [!].

Then, the Senate informed the House that it receded from its amendments on Title XX [the question on which Tuck had been in the conference committee]. Tuck offered an amendment to one of the said amendments, which was accepted by voice vote, and returned to the Senate for its concurrence. [Journals of the Senate and House, pp. 347-53]

20 December 1842: Davis of Cornish proposed a resolution that would prohibit the issuance or circulation of bank notes smaller than five dollars. Emerton moved to postpone the resolution to the next session. The House rejected postponement by a vote of 107-73. Tuck was in the majority. Then, the House accepted the resolution by voice vote. [Journals of the Senate and House, pp. 359-62]

20 December 1842: pp. 363-66: Concerning Title XVII, the House concurred in a number of Senate amendments. On one amendment prohibiting banks from loaning more than 3% of its paid in capital to any one person, the House voted against it 165-33, with Tuck in the majority. [Journals of the Senate and House, pp. 363-66]

20 December 1842: Tuck moved to indefinitely postpone consideration of a bill passed by the Senate to incorporate the "Sullivan County Bank," then withdrew his motion. In a subsequent vote on a motion to postpone the discussion to the next session of the legislature, the House voted not to postpone, 113-59. Tuck voted in the minority. The House decided to refer the bill to the committee on banks. A short time later, Waldron moved to reconsider the action on the bank, and the bill was quickly passed by a voice vote. The Senate agreed later the same day. [Journals of the Senate and House, pp. 387-92]

23 December 1842: Tuck received \$112.60 for attendance at the legislature and expenses. He noted he had paid out \$30 for board and about \$20 for expenses. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

25 December 1842: HFF (Exeter) to BBF.

"I have liked Exeter very much so far, but as I attended the Sup. Ct. here the first week of my residence every day, and at Dover the second, and the District Court and Thanksgiving the third, I have as yet had but two days of uninterrupted peace in my office. I think however, I shall do a good business here, and have seen some symptoms already."

"Bell & Tuck's business must be worth \$5000. at least, and there is nobody else here except Judge Sullivan who ever argued a case, unless Tilton & Lawrence did in their youth. Marston never attempted anything of the kind. He is doing pretty good business, and was a great flurry about my coming and objected to my having an office in the same building but I have got him very calm and pleasant now and hope he will remain so." [FFP Reel 6]

29 December 1842: BBF (Washington) to HFF. BBF asks how he can help Henry get the district attorneyship he is seeking, although he is no friend John Tyler. When Frank Smith comes to town, maybe they can do something together. BBF glad to hear Henry likes Exeter and its greater business activity. [FFP Reel 4]

1843

10 January 1843: Tuck paid \$1.25 for expenses in attending the Democratic convention in Epping, New Hampshire. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

11 January 1843: Tuck (Exeter) writes to his brother John (in West Parsonsfield, Maine) to complain about how much time politics takes away from his business. He say he "made up my mind to go the radical doctrine, and take the consequences.....The people of Exeter are

apparently well-satisfied with my course, both Democrats and Whigs. I shall receive if I want the nomination and support of the Democratic party of Exeter next March, and my friends think I shall be elected. But I do not feel so anxious about the matter as I did a year ago.”

“I shall attend to Bank examinations about April or May and shall take the occasion to visit you ...”

“My business is as good as usual. I have constant employment and occasion to be in my office at all times. There was a new lawyer come into this town by name H.F. French. They have had the notion current in this region that Mr. Bell and T. were doing a lucrative business and they are anxious to come in and divide the spoils with us. But it makes but little, and not yet, any, difference with us. They bring about as much business as they carry away, and all questions have two sides, one of which we are likely to obtain.”

“...Millerism is the order of the day. They have meetings here about every evening and are making a great excitement. [Box 1 Folder 1, TFP]

20 January 1843: Tuck borrowed \$100 from F. Williams, giving him a note due on demand plus interest. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 January 1843: Tuck asked Daniel Seamans to take \$165 to Boston to buy two shares of Boston & Maine Railroad stock. Seamans returned the money because the shares could not be bought. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

24 January 1843: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “I did not write to Gov. Hill about that District Attorneyship, for two reasons. I know the Mass. Convention was to take place before my letter could reach W[ashington] and I supposed Hill would of course return to take care of it, but in this I mistook and nextly, I did not think it prudent to write the Governor just at this juncture, not having made up my mind to follow him should his newly discovered course lead to the Devil. Furthermore, it seemed to me that there could be no change in that office while Webster held the power over it, for Eastman is his relative. How is this? I look upon this split among us as very foolish and Hill as near right as any body, but I cannot yet see the principles of division, and of course cannot define my position. Some of our radicals act like fools, and seem determined to go so far that no sane man can follow, but Hill’s continual slang about lawyers is enough to disgust any man who ever saw a law book. The recent nominations by the Governor (Hubbard) are not popular. Indeed Walkers appointment astonished everybody and I am told he is as stupid as an ass in his official conduct at Dover. I was not informed that Gove was to go out, and of course made no effort or movement for his place. Indeed I care nothing about it, though I should have liked the refusal of it. Perhaps I might have accepted, but I doubt. What was the result of Shaws talk with Hill? I could see Hill when he returns, if there is any hope.”

“I have conversed with Mr. Tuck, who judges as I do that this is a good place for a good store.” [Henry is trying to find a place for brother Ned.]

“We expect daily the news of the repeal of the Bankrupt Act. I feel rather indifferent on the subject, but it is a rascally act, even if it has put money into my pocket.” [FFP Reel 6]

28 January 1843: Tuck contributed \$5 to subscription to buy “apparatus” for the Female Seminary [Academy]. (Ledger, [1838-1849])

31 January 1843: HFF to BBF. “As to politicks I feel not one particle of interest in the subject. Hubbard’s party have acted like a set of fools, and disgraced themselves by their legislation as to Banks, and by the appointment of the lawyer of the worst character in the State, instead of Judge Sullivan or me, to the office of Attorney General, and Hill’s watchwords of ‘lawyer clique’ and ‘young federal lawyers’ are disgusting to a man of any lawyerlike feelings. Every man for whom I have lifted my voice has lost his nomination, and now they may go to thunder with their old ark – there wont be much of a shower and if there is, it wont wet me. The Portsmouth Gazette is out for Hills ticket to day, and what makes me so infernally cross now is, that in the same paper, they have printed a notice of mine all wrong ‘concealed’ instead of ‘cancelled’ but it will be right next week.”

“I have kept out of our State quarrels so far and mean to. I go for the regular nomination for President, and if I can get hold of any of the papers here, or their editors rather, I will try and make them comprehend the propriety of fair play.” [FFP Reel 6]

1 February 1843: Tuck “sent to John Flint Esq. treasurer of B & M Railroad \$166 with request to send back per his agreement two shares in B & M R. Road, which with a new share subscribed for last summer will make 5 shares now owned by me.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

14 February 1843: Tuck paid \$1 for a temperance subscription. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

14 February 1843: Tuck sent \$84 to John Flint for another share of B & M Railroad stock. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

14 February 1843: Tuck goes to Concord on the train via Andover. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

18 February 1843: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Tristram Shaw. “I write you at this time upon a subject which is of no very great importance, but which is the following –“

“Sometime in the year 1842 a petition was got up by Isaac L. Folsom, directed to the Governor of the State, requesting that he (Isaac) should be appointed Rail Road Commissioner. This petition was signed by Mr. Hatch, J.B. Hoitt, T. Shaw and Amos Tuck. The Rail Road Directors have lately requested the Governor to make the appointment, and I have reason to believe that unless the force of our petition for Folsom is in some way corrected, according to our present estimate of the man, he will soon be appointed, and by reason of, and in assent to the request contained in the petition. To have this done would to me be annoying and mortifying in

the extreme. It is an appointment of 4 years duration, though of no great profit, and such that to be made on the strength of the recommendation of men, hence of whom he has basely betrayed, is too mortifying to be thought of under the circumstances. I shall permit no delay in requesting the Governor to strike my name from the petition. I think I shall give no reasons for the request, but simply that I wish my name struck from the petition and recommendation of I.L. Folsom for any office.”

Tuck asks Shaw to do likewise, given ‘late developments of this curse upon the Democratic Party and upon the town of Exeter. I shall see Mr. Hatch today....”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

18 February 1843: Tuck renewed his subscription to the Daily Mail. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

7 March 1843: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Tuck (West Parsonsfield, Maine) Amos rejoices that everyone is well at Parsonsfield and gives some advice about how to handle Uncle James’s request for some monetary help.

“...it is now 20 minutes past 8 o’clock A.M. Tuesday Mar 7 1843. I am alone here in our new offices, before a comfortable fire, writing to those who bring up afresh all my early interest and affection. Mr. Bell having had a little son within a few days is later at his work than usual, and our students who come before breakfast and build the fires, do not usually get in to the office till late after breakfast. My family are all well. The little son has always enjoyed good health with the exception of a cold for a few days. Mr. Nudd was here yesterday, and bro’t Abby Nudd and left her. My business is sufficiently good to give me perfect contentment with it....I think some about our election, of course. I have no doubt I shall be run by the Democrats of Exeter for Representative. The whigs know that I sustained the pauper bill, by which the town has got \$125 from the County within the past year, and that I prevented the Superior Court from being removed to Portsmouth; but parties run pretty high, and my election is a matter of doubt, seeing that I must get 20 or 30 whig votes to elect me. I shall get some whig votes, some people say I shall be certainly elected. But I consider it doubtful. A failure will not [two words unclear] this year so much as it would have done last year, because if they do not elect me, I have no doubt they will lose the pauper bill next June and then they will curse themselves. I have also other reasons to satisfy me with a defeat. But the whigs of Exeter have got to move on very carefully or we shall upset their porridge and elect A. Tuck in spite of them

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 71]

7 March 1843: Tuck enclosed \$10 in his letter to brother John “as a present.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

14 March 1843: John P. Hale elected as one of four U.S. congressmen from NH. Also elected to the House of Representatives were Moses Norris, Jr., Edmund Burke and John R. Reding. Levi Woodbury and Charles G. Atherton were the U.S. Senators.

“Mr. Hale had been a member of the New Hampshire Legislature, was a lawyer in good practice in the town of Dover, and though he had not attained distinction at the bar, as a learned man, was noted for efficiency before juries, and for more than usual ability in addressing popular assemblies. He was quick of perception, magnetic and handsome in person, vivacious and witty, in which respects he excelled in both Houses of Congress. [Tuck, Exeter News-Letter, 10 March 1876]

15 March 1843: Tuck bought another share of B & M Railroad stock from Josiah Batchelder. He gave Batchelder a note for \$95 due on demand. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

March 1843: “In 1843 I was again the candidate of my party, but as the party was in a minority of 100, the whigs elected their candidate over me, much to my mortification. [Tuck 1848]

17 March 1843: Tuck paid \$2 for “townmeeting expenses.” [It’s not clear what this was for.] [Ledger, 1838-1849]

31 March 1843: Tuck paid David Nudd \$167.40 to pay off in full “old notes.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

9 April 1843: “April 9 1843 On Lord’s Day, previously to administering the Sacrament, a letter was read from the First Church in Exeter, stating that Amos Tuck and eighteen others, (whose names may be found on the list of church members) had at their request received a dismissal and recommendation to the christian fellowship of this church – when it was voted, that the above persons be admitted into this church. Isaac Hurd, Pastor”. [Second Parish of Exeter Records]

14 April 1843: Tuck discounted a note with the Granite Bank for \$100. He then used the cash to pay off his 20 January note with Franklin Williams, with interest, \$101.40. [This implies an interest rate of 5.6%.] [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 April 1843: Tuck lent James Bell \$20 to be sent to Mr. Hale of Dover. “Rec’d the same as entered on B. & T.’s books rec’d some days later.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

“In the year 1843, I devoted myself exclusively to my profession.” [Tuck 1875]

No longer a state representative, Tuck stuck to his law practice. He did watch the debate within the Democratic Party between the anti-Texas annexation position. In the end, the annexationists prevailed and nominated Polk over Van Buren. Gradually most party men fell into line behind. However, Tuck argued with his friends in the party and found considerable support. He began a correspondence with John P. Hale and “assured him that a great many Democrats would stand by him if he stood by his declared convictions.” But Hale was

discouraged in 1844 and did not act. Tuck continued to focus on his practice and family. [Tuck 1875]

9 May 1843: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to James M. Rix. Tuck and Rix were the two bank commissioners for NH. Tuck is proposing a division of the banks to be inspected.

“...I should desire to say many words of encouragement for the spirit and talent of your little herald of news, which has become a very welcome weekly visitor to me. Go on and prosper. I am more and more confirmed in the stability of thorough, radically Democratic views, and I congratulate the cause in possessing the able efficiency of your ‘Coos County Democrat.’”

“As you see, I have been defeated in Exeter. But, thank God, it is for nothing but being a radical Democrat. I quail not under the rejection, however. I am really more confirmed in the views which occasioned my defeat than I should have been in the event of success. We had a division on the grounds of abolition, entirely unexpected. It was got up, (as we are now persuaded) by the treason of one I.L. Folsom, late clerk of the Senate, who has within the last six months, by his betrayal of Hon. T. Shaw, Hon. Saml. Hatch and myself and of the interests of our party in this town, vindicated the claim to have his name inscribed on the same monument that shall perpetuate the dishonesty of Isaac Hill ed id omne genus.

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

13 May 1843: Tuck noted receipt of \$18 from the Manufacturer’s Bank of New Ipswich and \$15 from the Nashua Bank of Nashua for performing bank examinations. His expenses for the trip were \$5.90. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

23 May 1843: Tuck noted the receipt of \$82 for conducting examinations of eight banks: Derry Bank, Strafford Bank, Dover Bank, Rochester Bank, Commercial Bank, Piscataqua Bank, Portsmouth Bank, and Rockingham Bank. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

25 May 1843: Tuck paid off his 17 March 1842 note held by the Granite Bank: \$100 in principle and \$7.39 in interest. [Implied interest around 6%.] [Ledger, 1838-1849]

31 May 1843: Tuck noted his receipt of one share in Maine, New Hampshire & Massachusetts Railroad. He had paid \$75 to John Flint treasurer of B & M Railroad for the share. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

1 June 1843: Tuck bought five more shares of B & M Railroad stock from various sellers. He gave a note for at least some of the purchase price. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

3 June 1843: Tuck bought another share of B & M stock, paying \$105. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

15 June 1843: Tuck notes that after his latest transaction in B & M stock, he now owns 14 shares. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

22 June 1843: Tuck notes that he has sold 13 shares of B & M stock at a price of \$99.44 per share, yielding \$1292.72. [Tuck does not mention what kind of profit he made on all this activity.] [Ledger, 1838-1849]

22 June 1843: Tuck paid off in full three notes, \$204.23, \$421.47, and \$96.53. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

23 June 1843: Tuck paid \$400 to the Pearson family for 24 acres of land on the Kingston Road. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 304, Page 314]

26 June 1843: HFF to BBF. "We have had a real scrape here. Isaac L. Folsom the Editor of the Democrat has been [word unclear] upon myself and others in an Extra, and we have three caucuses, and have resolved [sp?] him into a liar etc. I have taken the lead and we have put him down flat. I will send you the resolutions when printed. We shall probably be ready to receive you next Monday in our new house...." [FFP Reel 6]

28 July 1843: Tuck paid \$1.25 for the expenses of a trip to Concord, in addition to what Henry F. French paid. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

1 July 1843: Tuck paid the balance (\$81.49) on a note dated 17 May 1842 held by the Granite Bank. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

2 July 1843: BBF reports that previous Wednesday, Governor Hill called and had tea. French had also seen him in the office the previous day. Hill had expressed support [for the] legislature's granting the power of taking land by railroads, with compensation. French disagreed. Hill later expressed concern that ultra democrats in NH will drive the "old democrats" into the arms of the Whigs, and French agreed. [FFP Reel 1]

5 July 1843: Tuck paid the balance (\$87.63) he owed to N. Gilman on account since 1839. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

7 July 1843: Tuck paid \$68 to settle a note held by Elisha Johnson since 1837. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

12 July 1843: HFF to BBF. "About that Isaac L. Folsom matter, it is hardly worth writing. He got out a "Democrat Extra" abusing Mr Tuck, and the rest of us incidentally and circulated it at Concord, keeping it private here. My name was displayed in it in rather a conservative attitude. I called on him for a copy and he refused to furnish it. We then called a meeting and passed resolutions which appear in the last week's Patriot, I think. I was the only speaker and fought the

whole battle at the caucus. Folsom then called another caucus. I was at Chester, but our people all attended, and Folsom after nominating three persons for chairman, neither of whom have it put to a vote whether he should act, gave up in despair, and one of his friends proposed to dissolve the meeting, without doing anything. Our people were about 15 to one of Folsoms. Our policy was to keep quiet and let Folsom organize his meeting and quietly vote down his resolutions. Finally, my folks took the lead, chose their officers, called on Folsom and his friends to lay their business before the meeting, but they dared not try it, and finally sneaked off, leaving us the field. We had the lights extinguished, saw the doors fastened and went home. That is the end of it. Folsom cannot stir hand or foot again here at present, and keeps perfectly still.”

“As to my Solicitorship, my commission expires Augt 6th, and Gov Hubbard has promised me, thro’ Mr Gove, that it will be renewed. Pillsbury has been everywhere and seen everybody, getting recommendations, but Mr Gove says (inter nos) that P’s a d_____d fool, and should not have the appointment, if every man in the County petitioned.”

“If, however, I can get the Dist. Attyship, with a fair chance to hold on a few years, I think I should do well to take it. The office was worth to Hale \$800. A year, but honestly, it is worth much less now. Democrats what offices they can get, I believe, and if Mr Hill can work me into the place, I should be glad.” [FFP Reel 6]

19 July 1843: Tuck paid \$54 to Doctor Gorham for all the care he gave to the Tuck family in the year 1842. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

31 July 1843: Tuck bought unspecified land on Kingston Road from William Pearson and others for \$400.

In a separate accounting of the Pearson land at the end of the ledger, Tuck noted that on that date he received the deed, and paid \$100 via one share of B & M Railroad stock. On 18 August 1843 he paid another \$100 on a \$300 note he gave the seller. On 15 April 1844, Tuck paid the remaining \$200 on the note to Samuel Dodge, plus \$18.00 for about 9 months interest. In December 1843 he had lumber and brush cut from the land, and received some money for the resulting cordwood.

Tuck also noted that on 15 April 1844 he had deeded the Pearson land to A.W. Seamans for his share of the Swamscot property. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

8 August 1843: Tuck noted: “This day I took assignment of 3 mortgages by Martha Gilman to the Exeter Savings Bank of the Swamscot House in Exeter. Said mortgages had been assigned by the bank to Jos. Cilley of Nottingham, and were assigned by said Cilley to myself and A.W. Seamans who pd. sd. C. \$24 and gave our note for \$4400 payable in 1 year [three words unclear].” He also noted: “Aug. 5, 1843, bought claim of Geo. Harris on M. Gilman and his int. as mortgagee of the Swamscott.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

8 August 1843: Tuck and Augustus W. Seamans sold the Swamscot House to Joseph Cilley of Nottingham for \$4,400.00, with the money due in one year, plus interest. A later marginal note states that Joseph Cilley discharged this mortgage after full payment on 8 August 1844.

[Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 306, Page 317]

8 August 1843: Tuck and Augustus W. Seamans paid \$4000 to Joseph Cilley for three mortgages previously held by the Exeter Savings Bank from Martha Gilman. The mortgaged property was not described in the deeds. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 310, Page 430, Book 312, Pages 110-111]

10 August 1843: BBF reports his arrived in Exeter previous Monday. Attended the annual examination of PEA students the previous Tuesday and dined at the Squamscot House with the PEA faculty. He must have been staying with his brother Henry. [FFP Reel 1]

19 August 1843: Tuck paid Dr. Perry \$4.75 for his attendance on the Tuck family in 1842. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

19 August 1843: HFF to BBF. “Well on that hot Sunday in Court, Judge Gilchrist and Mr Pierce were at the beach, and the Atty General and I thought they ought to be looked after, and so we rode down. On the way, old Lyman talked about you, all the time, telling all sorts of interesting stories about your youthful life and so forth, but you have no curiosity to know what they were, and when we got there, Mr Pierce and the Judge and I walked out and sat on the beach on Boar’s Head, and they talked you all over and told what a ‘clever fellow’ you were, and Pierce said you had credit for a great deal more simplicity than was your due, for no man knew any better than you how to carry his points, and then we talked about you being clerk, which brings me to my subject – and Pierce said you were better situated than any body he knew, that your pay was better than that of our members of Congress, and you could be chief clerk forever, and his decided opinion was that you had better not be clerk (that’s the point) if you can, because two years probably would rotate you, and no clerk ever went back to a sub-clerk’s place. Judge Gilchrist assented and I wavered some. Now you must reflect upon all these things, if you can spare so much time, and not worsen your situation instead of bettering it. I have serious doubts about it, but you know better than I or any body else. We were all sorry you were not at the Beach that day, for we had a capital time. The Attorney is a very amusing man, and was full of the matter all day.” [FFP Reel 6]

13 September 1843: BBF reports from Washington that on 24 August he spent the morning chatting with old friends in the Exeter courthouse. Col. Pierce was there. After dinner French, Frank, and Pierce went to Hampton Beach for a swim. French and Frank returned to Exeter but Pierce stayed in Hampton. Was in the Exeter courthouse again on the 25th and had a long talk about politics with Governor Woodbury. [FFP Reel 1]

7 October 1843: Tuck donated \$5 for repairs at Hampton Academy. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

12 October 1843: HFF to BBF. "...We Exeter folks are going to have a cemetery. I am one of a committee of five to buy the land, lay it out and ornament it. As there are but twenty or thirty deaths a year within our limits, of course we must have a small place. Four acres will about do, which will cost \$400. And we calculate \$600 more to fence and ornament it. We expect Parson Clement to preach for us next Sunday, and that he will stay at our house." [FFP Reel 6]

8 November 1843: Tuck sold a pew in the Second Congregational Church to Nathan Thorendon [?], a tailor, who would pay the bill in tailoring work for the Tuck family. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

10 November 1843: Tuck gave his father \$5. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

3 December 1843: HFF to BBF. "...we have learned that there is a scheme on foot to change our Postmaster Jerry Dearborn, and get in a Mr Scammans, who married a daughter of Mr Dodge the tavern keeper. Now if you have an opportunity to talk with Mr Hill and ascertain what the object of such a change is, I wish you would. Dearborn was restored within a year past. Since I have been here, he has taken no part in politics whatever. He has always been a democrat and is still, and will support the regular nomination."

"Mr Dodge and Scammans are also democrats, and have acted with me and my friends, and I am personally friendly to them, but I cannot conceive what could be gained by a change. It surely would denote great fickleness in the administration, to remove a man without cause and appoint another of the same sentiment."

"Mr Hill was here a few weeks since but I did not see him, not hearing he was in town. I am sorry that that I did not have that pleasure. I can't but think, that there is some underlying game playing about this Post Office matter, and hope you will be able to inform me how it is. You may tell Mr Hill if you think best that I have written you on the subject. I thought at first I would write him, as I have always considered him friendly to me, as well as to you and our family generally, but again thought it might be a false alarm and concluded to defer writing him at present."

"If there is any special objection to Mr Dearborn, it ought to be known, and if there must be a change, let the public or the friends of the administration at least have a choice in the matter."

"You will be busy of course, but as Mr Hill is at W. he is the man through whose influence this effort is made. I hope you will find time to mention the subject to him, and write me how it stands." [FFP Reel 6]

4 December 1843: Congress convenes and John P. Hale takes his seat. [Sewell, pp. 36-39]

4 December 1843: Tuck went to Deerfield on business. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

5 December 1843: Tuck noted in a separate section at the end of the ledger titled "Horse and Carriages" that he bought a waggon for \$43.00 and a horse for \$60.00. He kept a detailed record of costs associated with horse and waggon/carriage until September 1844. On the opposite page Tuck noted all of his travel costs from 4 December 1843 to 18 October 1844.

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

8 December 1843: Tuck went to Northwood on business [Ledger, 1838-1849]

9 December 1843: Gilman Marston (Exeter) to John P. Hale. Marston informs Hale that the issue of the annexation of Texas is "raising a good deal of feelings, and in New England, as you are aware. There is a deep and wide spread prejudice against the measure." Marston thinks there are arguments on both sides, and asks for relevant documents from Hale. He adds, "Your vote against the adoption of the rule excluding petitions relative to slavery, is warmly approved by all parties, so far as I can learn." [NHHS, Hale Papers]

12 December 1843: Tuck went to Deerfield on business. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

13 December 1843: Tuck went to Nottingham on business. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

27 December 1843: Tuck went to Dover and Parsonsfield. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

27 December 1843: Tuck noted that Abigail Ann Leavitt began work that day as a housekeeper, apparently replacing Mary J. Cooper. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

27 December 1843: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale. "Dear sir, Since the receipt of your letter of a week ago, I have been at the Dover Court, and on a journey in the country, and now embrace the very first opportunity of acknowledging your favor, and of saying at the outset, that whenever you may have a leisure moment, during your Congressional tour, to be spent in that manner, an account from you, of matters and things in general, will ever find me a grateful recipient. If you should ever inadvertently write to me, what you would only write to a confidential friend, I trust I may have the discretion to treat it in the manner which one would do who was prepared to take a sincere pleasure in your advancement and prosperity, and who would not willingly do anything to mar either. I suggest this, because our party have faults, follies and foibles, which we have a right to acknowledge and try to cure, and in the mean time, to be amused at; and because I hold to 'free discussion,' especially in epistolary correspondence."

"I have but little which I can promise you in return for the favor of your own letters, but shall be prepared to give you the state of public opinion so far as I understand it, and frankly at all time to state my own sentiments."

"We have had a busy time at the Dover Court. Mr. Wiggins seemed to attend successfully to your cases. Much law was promulgated but many cases continued *nisi*. Judge Parker was sick after the first day, but has since partially recovered. Mr. Bell is now at Gilford."

“We have perused the proceedings of Congress with interest, and especially the course of yourself in regard to the 21st rule. I have conversed with sundry persons, and find but one expression that of approbation. Your course was in exact concordance with my own convictions, and gave me sincere pleasure. It is democratic to differ, sometimes, from the other members of our own party, and while principle remains, phenomena of that sort will occasionally appear.”

“I send you the names of some prominent democrats in this town. They are given somewhat in the order in which you will be likely to favor them with documents, and the last half of them, will be well satisfied with a single notice.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck.” [NHHS, Hale Papers]

1844:

3 January 1844: Tuck went to Epping on business. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

5 January 1844: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale. “Dear sir: Your esteemed favors of Jan. 1st and 2nd came to hand by same mail yesterday, for which you will accept my sincere thanks. I take much interest in the matter contained in your letters, because I have for some time deplored, and have been sickened at the evidence of servile compliance with party tactics, not to say dishonorable abandonment of principle, manifested by our public men. I do not mean to reflect upon the vote of your brethren in respect to the 21st Rule, because they voted, for aught that I know, in scrupulous compliance with their honest belief, and if so I approve of their course in obeying their convictions. But with the convictions on your part, which you have disclosed to me, had you voted as your colleagues did, because of the restraint of party traces, and they muzzled your mouth, stifled the voice of conscience and truth, and destroyed your own self-respect, I should have felt sad at the spectacle, and my already waning ambition to muddle with public affairs, would have received a sensible check. Are the manufacturers of public opinion, falsely so called, preparing a scourge to chastise you for daring to be a man, a whole man? Let them beware of the fate of Haman, and see that their own backs do not smart. We wish not to dwell upon the subject matter of the 21st Rule. But if we are compelled to discuss, we shall do it freely, and no 21st Rule will prevent our speaking plainly.”

“I was glad to see the sentence in your letter ‘I have no fears of Strafford County,’ for I know but little of public opinion there. But as for this county, I know more, and I think I may safely say, I have no fears for Rockingham County. You shall be taken care of in respect to that vote. There are those about this part of the state, who would be glad to sacrifice you, and will watch and reproach you whenever they can get hold of any thing for capital. They will growl about this vote, but cannot do anything – or not much. I have a motive to sustain your vote, first because of its coinciding with my own convictions, and secondly because the same men who may find fault with it if any persons do, are the identical individuals who have been prowling around my humble path, and seeking to destroy me. I do not indulge very much I hope, the spirit of hate against them, but I suppose they would owe me no ill will, if they thought I was not likely to use my vote and my very limited influence decidedly against their riding the current hobbies,

into places which their want of common honesty should forever debar them from. Since my refusal to tolerate the conspiracy by which G.W. Kittredge was to be smuggled into office, against public opinion, I have been marked to be hunted down, at the earliest opportunity. I do not believe that they think I am anxious, or likely, to fill the offices they are aiming at, but rather believe they look upon me as standing in the way of their promotion, on account of my known disposition to kick over every dish they may be preparing for themselves. I have said, they will growl about your vote. But there are those who will adopt your position, and who will be amply able to control the vote of the party. None but one who is already hostile to you, will disapprove your vote, while hundreds who were lukewarm in your support, will hereafter be ardent. You may be assured that my humble influence shall be active in your behalf and that my eyes shall be open. Rockingham will be right side up, in June, and unanimous, I trust, for your nomination. Let them agitate, they will rue it.”

“Now as to the resolution in the County Convention. The County Convention was holden last Tuesday. The convention anticipated the vote of approbation of your course. A Resolution was passed and will be published, nearly in these words – ‘resolved that we approve of the votes of the Hon. John P. Hale upon the 21st Rule of the Ho. of Rep. in Congress.’ This resolution was reported by the Committee on resolutions and passed nem con. I was with the Committee (though not on it) when this resolution was introduced. Several of us expressed, at once, our approbation of your course, and no one condemned you. I suggested that the resolution might be impolitic, inasmuch as it might carry an indirect reproof of the vote of your colleagues. I left the Committee and knew not their conclusion till they reported it in the laconic form above given you. The resolutions were passed, one by one, and with no haste. I felt afraid that Mr. Norris, for instance, would construe the vote into one of reproach upon him, and so I wrote to him a few days since, stating to him my views upon the rule, and my belief of the opinion of others, of my acquaintance, but also assuring him that I knew of no unfriendliness growing up among the people, on account of his vote. I did not suspect that there would be any attempt to turn the current against you; but being acquainted with Mr. Norris, and esteeming him, I was unwilling that he should have any uneasiness from apprehended reproof. The letter was not necessarily private, and he may show it to you. I told him that I doubted both the policy and the principle of the 21st Rule.”

“We have a very good delegation from this town to Nottingham Counsellor Convention. Since the recpt. of your letters I have seen some of the delegation, and initiated them into the possibility of an attempt to pass a set-off to our Epping resolution. I think however that no such resolution will be offered. I have kept the fact of my receiving letters from you private, for obvious reasons, as I wish to talk somewhat frequently on the subject of your vote.”

“We expect that Hon. F. Peirce will be chosen to go to Baltimore. G.W. Kittredge says that he does not personally care anything about being the Delegate, but that Portsmouth people, and several distinguished men are extremely earnest that he should go, and therefore he wants the vote of the Exeter Delegates. But he can’t go.”

“Yours very truly Amos Tuck”

“(Confidential)” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

6 January 1844: Tuck went to Nottingham on business for D. Bartlett [Ledger, 1838-1849]

18 January 1844: Tuck noted he went to Portsmouth twice on business relating to the Commercial Bank; to E. Kingston on business for J.T. Gale; to Portsmouth on business for Lowell Brown; and to Raymond on business for J.S. Cass. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 January 1844: Tuck received \$12 for examination of the Commercial Bank. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

26 January 1844: Tuck noted that he went to Hampton on business for David Nudd; to Salisbury on business for David Nudd; and to Epping on business for C.L. Godfrey. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

30 January 1844: Tuck noted he went to Newtown twice on business for William M. Merrill. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

31 January 1844: Tuck went to Portsmouth on business for Lowell Brown. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

1 February 1844: HHF to BBF. Discussing plans for his trip to Washington, Henry writes, “As to the whiskey punch, I have a strong affinity for that liquid, and I possibly may sympathize with you and the Captain in a glass of that same, or at least with Bess in the temperate semblance thereof.”

“...As to politicks, I have no particular feelings on the subject now. I don’t care much what becomes of the General Government. We shall have a democratic oasis here, tho’ deserts of Federalism surround us. My impression is that Van will be nominated, but whether elected is the question.” [FFP Reel 6]

26 February 1844: Tuck paid \$2.62 for “Abba’s schooling” and \$.45 for Ellen’s school books. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

27 February 1844: Tuck noted: “Today adjusted accounts with A.W. Seamans about the Swamscot House and took up my note to him. We have paid equally and rec’d of rents equally to Jan 9, 1844. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

March 1844: Tuck writes: “I was again a party candidate in 1844 and was defeated, but not half so much mortified as the year previous. These defeats were bitter, but they operated to cure me to a good degree of the folly of devoting myself to politics. I took off my mind from such things, and when in 1845, I became involved in a political controversy, it was with no expectation of advancing my political elevation, but rather the contrary.” [Tuck 1848]

2 March 1844: Tuck paid \$5.69 in taxes. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

2 March 1844: Tuck received \$12 for “services as superintending school committee.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

4 March 1844: Tuck received \$400 as his “share of money derived by sale of Bickford land in Stratham.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

6 March 1844: Tuck paid off three notes held by the Granite Bank since the spring of 1843 for a total of \$287.96. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

9 March 1844: Tuck received a deed for lot no. 99 in the Exeter Cemetery which had cost him \$10. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

13 March 1844: Tuck gave \$10 to the American Tract Society for “colportage.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

19 March 1844: Tuck noted: “Paid to Exeter Bank \$12 and took of pledge of 5 shares of Exeter Bank. I now hold 5 shares of the surplus of the capital, worth about \$45 – I paid \$10 – Jan 1840 and the above \$12 and shall make about (besides int. on money pd.) - \$20.00.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 March 1844: Tuck went to Epping on business. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 March 1844: Tuck received \$12 for “superintend Com.” [Possibly the School Committee.] [Ledger, 1838-1849]

26 March 1844: Tuck gave his sister Mary Tuck \$2.00 “for labor.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

27 March 1844: Tuck went to Kingston on business for J. Page. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

April 1844: Exeter property tax records show Tuck bought the Pearson Pasture worth \$300. [Exeter Town Clerk]

5 April 1844: Tuck paid Mary Tuck \$6.00. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

10 April 1844: Tyler appoints Calhoun to be Secretary of State.

14 April 1844: BBF (Washington) to HFF. BBF asks Henry his view on Texas. "I am decidedly in favor of annexation...." [FFP Reel 4]

16 April 1844: Tuck paid \$1.20 for two gallons of molasses, two quarts of rum and garden seeds. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

18 April 1844: Tuck paid \$201.22 in full for Pearson land to Samuel Dodge. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

22 April 1844: Secretary of State Calhoun signs treaty to annex Texas.

22 April 1844: Tuck notes: "Sent to my brother John Tuck and my father \$100 – of which \$3 – is to be paid M.J. Cooper and the remainder \$97 – is a loan to them the same being sufficient to pay all their debts. I have received their note for \$97 – under date Ap. 20, 1844." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

23 April 1844: Tuck noted in a separate section of the ledger: "Amos Tuck and S.W. Dearborn are the owners of the bond from Aaron Adams, Henry G. Wiggin and John Scammon to Bailey & Harvey Date Feb. 9, 1842 for \$463.00."

"This joint property is debtor to Amos Tuck for the following:

1 st To amount of Bell & Tuck's account against Bailey & Harvey	\$10.00
" Paid John M. Veasey	7.00
Apr. 20 " Paid John M. Veasey balance	9.46
Sep. 18 " amt. of Bell & Tuck's bill	<u>11.25</u>
	37.71
Profit	<u>117.29</u>
	155.00
I have rec'd for this Oct. 1844	\$155.00
[Ledger, 1838-1849]	

25 April 1844: Daughter Isabella Tuck is born. [Dow]

1 May 1844: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to Augustus W. Seamans of Exeter for \$350.00. The tract was located on the Kingston Road and contained 23 acres. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 313, Page 394]

4 May 1844: Tuck noted: "Swamscot Property Dt. Balance of cost paid out to this date including pd. A.W. Seamans \$658.90." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

4 May 1844: Tuck noted in a section of the ledger entitled "Swamscot Property [Debits]":
To cost of Pearson land conveyed to A.W. Seamans 347.25

“ balance paid G. Harris and others not including	
Jos. Cilley note Oct. 12, 1843	343.69
“ paid interest to Jos. Cilley Feb. 8/44	132.00
“ “ taxes to Jno. Foss Mar. 7/44	21.00
“ “ Josiah Smith repairing blinds	
(taken from small book)	17.00
“ interest on Cilley note from Feb. 8/44 (to be pd.)	<u>64.50</u>
[Total debits]	925.44
 To balance bro't from old a/c being cost of above Cilley note	 658.90
 Contra [to above debits]	
By deduct mischarged from small book	3.00
“ rec'd Feb. 27/44 of A.W. S.	23.00
“ Rec'd Feb. 27/44 of A.W.S. for his part of int.	
To Feb. 8, 1844	66.00
“ Rec'd Feb. 28/44 rent to Feb. 9, 1844	28.33
“ “ rent to May 9/44	<u>28.33</u>
[Sub-total]	148.68
“ Amt. of A.W. Seamans' note to me above land sold him	25.00
“ “ of rent to Ap. 4, 1844 back	52.88
“ “ due from A.P. Blake by stipulation prior to my	
purchase of A.W. Seamans	40.00
“ Balance May 4, 1844	<u>658.90</u>
[Total]	925.44

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

7 May 1844: Tuck paid \$1.62 for a “Leghorn hat” for Charles Edward, apparently referring to his son Edward (b. 1842). [Note: Tuck had two other sons named Charles who died early deaths.] [Ledger, 1838-1848]

7 May 1844: Tuck “gave” his sister Mary \$5 for “wages.” [Leger, 1838-1849]

24 May 1844: Tuck paid \$8.57 to “Miss Burnham for nursing 4 weeks 2 days.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

24 May 1844: Tuck noted receipt of fees for bank examinations as follows: Lebanon Bank \$21; Plymouth Bank \$15; Meredith Bank \$15. Total \$54. His expenses for the trip to Lancaster, etc. were \$20. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

24 May 1844: Tuck paid Jonathan Tuck \$7 and John Tuck \$5 “in advance for....” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

25 May 1844: Tuck noted that, as bank examiner, he had gone to Lancaster, Lebanon, Plymouth and Meredith. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

27-29 May 1844: Democratic national convention in Baltimore nominates Polk and passes a resolution calling for the annexation of Texas. “I do not believe that previous to May 1844, a single man in the State was in favor of the measure....This demanded of the northern wing of the party to face about and trim their sails to a breeze from another direction...The mere politicians found no difficulty, and such trimming weather-cocks, as Harry Hubbard and Franklin Pierce, and such mercenary philosophers, as Levi Woodbury and Charles G. Atherton, were immediately before the people advocating the new nomination. They did not advocate the annexation of Texas, as it was too glaringly adverse to the views they had prepared themselves to support under the nomination of Van Buren....I was not prepared to change my views of annexation and condemned the whole scheme. This was, however, no injury to my position as a party man, and I found a majority openly with me and none opposed to me.” [Tuck 1848]

“But Mr. Calhoun had devised a plan to enable the minority to rule the majority. It consisted in inducing the Convention to resolve in advance, that a vote of two-thirds of the delegates should be required to make a nomination, and then by a process of obstinacy, threats of disunion and violence, to bully the Convention into nominating a man of Calhoun’s stripe..” [Tuck, Exeter News-Letter, 3 March 1876]

Tuck noted in 1876 that John P. Hale did not show any unusual discontent with these developments at the national convention (requirement for a 2/3 majority or consequent nomination of Polk over Van Buren). [Tuck, Exeter News-Letter, 10 March 1876]

1 June 1844: Tuck paid \$.20 for rum. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

3 June 1844: Tuck went to Chester on business for James Bell. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

4 June 1844: Tuck went to Epping on his own business. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

7 June 1844: Tuck went to Epping on business for James Bell. Ledger, 1838-1849]

7 June 1844: Tuck noted receipt of fees for bank examinations as follows: Merrimac County Bank \$10; Mechanic Bank \$10; Lancaster Bank \$45. He also noted \$5 in expenses in conducting these examinations. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

8 June 1844: HFF to BBF. Ned “is turned out of the Custom House....”

“I forgot politics entirely. You see, or will see, that all NH goes for Polk -- Hill’s Patriot, N.H. Gazette and all. We shall go all together, win or lose. I feel so much more interest in my trees and garden and field, than in national affairs, that I hardly keep up with the rest of the world.” [FFP Reel 6]

8 June 1844: U.S. Senate rejects Texas annexation treaty, 35-16.

11-12 June 1844: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “I forgot, in my letter, to congratulate you on the success of your friend Hale. He has got the Whig party into his breeches pocket, and he means to use them to suit his pleasure and convenience. You see if they don’t rue the day when they placed so much power in the hands of such an unprincipled demagogue. And Governor Colby’s message – Heavens and Earth! If honest Dogberry were alive now he would retract his asseveration that ‘reading and writing comes by nature.’ Colby as far out-Steeles Steele, as Mt. Washington outmountains Kearsarge. My good and worthy and true friend Anthony, was well enough as a mule raiser or a Major General, but when they made him governor they fooled him a little beyond ‘the top of his bent.’ Such a party, with such a Speaker and such a Senator in Congress can live but a short time – they will ‘revel one little summer in a sea of glory,’ and then...soon burn out. I shall live two summers in one, merely in the expectation and glorious anticipation of the manner in which we shall lick the combined army next year!” [FFP Reel 4]

12 June 1844: Tuck noted: “Paid expenses on journey to Concord with H.F. French. \$1.28. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

12 June 1844: Tuck noted: “State of New Hampshire Dt. To going to Concord at request of Gov. on business of Lancaster Bank 3 days \$10.00” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

12 June 1844: Tuck noted: “To paid expenses and fare \$7.25.” [Ledger 1838-1849]

12 June 1844: Tuck paid \$12.30 to New Hampshire Mutual for insurance on the Swamscot House. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

14 June 1844: HFF to BBF. “I returned to Concord, no from Concord yesterday – spent least night at Chester and came home this morning. My business there was to see Gov Hill about the District Attorneyship. When he and I came home from Washington, he told me he thought that immediately after Congress should adjourn, there would be a clear sweep of the N.H. officers of the Webster dynasty. He says now he has been sick and has not corresponded with Capt Tylers people of late and don’t know how the Captain feels toward his Democratic brethren since the nomination of Polk. He says further that he wants me appointed, and will do all he can to effect it, and thought I had better write to you and see what you thought, and if he found the President was going right he would use his influence for me. I suppose Hill doubts a little his own influence since he has come out for Polk. If you think you can do anything, do it, for it is a matter of some consequence.”

“We feel sure of electing Polk, and I could hold on well, if I could now get in....”

[P.S.] “The Convention nominated for Congress Hale, Norris, Mack [?], Moulton of Manchester, and Johnson of Bath.” [FFP Reel 6]

20 June 1844: Tuck went to Epping on business for James Bell. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 June 1844: HFF to BBF. “Our town is in quite an excitement about Mr Fairchild the minister over the old Congregational society. I wrote you about certain anonymous communications sent here some months ago, accusing him of improper conduct with divers women in South Boston. That matter blew over but within two or three days past another story got started which resulted in Mr F’s making a statement to his church and asking a dismission day before yesterday. He stated that a girl who lived in his family about three or four years ago accused him of being the father of a child with which she was pregnant that altho’ the charge was false and malicious utterly, he was foolish enough to pay her \$250. and make her and her sister take an oath not to divulge anything. Afterwards the child was born, and the girl’s father called on Mr. F. and wanted him to pay \$50. a year to support the child which he refused to do, but afterwards wrote the girl one or more letters adjuring her to keep quiet. One of these letters has lately become public here and the whole affair was out. Mr. F. had never told his wife anything of the affair.”

“Yesterday he was out of his senses, part of the time, and had watchers last night and this morning about five he drank a vial of laudanum and cut his throat with a razor. He bled very much, and it was thought his jugular vein was cut, but he is still alive (at 3 P.M.) and there is said to be about an even chance of life or death. He still declares he is innocent but says he know nobody will believe him. His wife and some of his church believe him, and other people hardly know what to think.” [FFP Reel 6]

23 June 1844: Tuck paid \$3 to Mr. Le Geudne [sp?] for “French instruction.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

24 June 1844: Tuck noted that the state of New Hampshire owed him \$33 for 11 days he spent in Lancaster, apparently on state banking business, and \$28.41 for expenses. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

24 June 1844: Tuck received \$31 for rent of the Swamscot House until 1 June from A.P. Peake [Blake?]. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

24 June 1844: Tuck gave to Sarah Tuck \$5 for “tuitions, etc.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

26 June 1844: BBF (Washington) to HFF. BBF praises a pro-Texas annexation statement that Henry must have made in a recent letter: “...we shall have that beautiful country yet.” [FFP Reel 3]

27 June 1844: Tuck lent \$5 to his French instructor Mr. Le Geudne. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

7 July 1844: HFF to BBF. “And so you return a verdict of guilty ag’t Mr Fairchild! There does not seem to be more than one decent side to his case, now he has recovered. Had he died, the sympathy would have helped out the other side. We have got comfortably through that act in the tragicomedy, and the next thing is to have a council here and try him again I understand. What a pack of jackasses the reverend clergy are about these investigations. They seem to think when they find a wolf in the fold that they can pull the wool over him enough to make him pass for a sheep!”

“How much more decorous it would have been of Mr F. if he had said ‘To be sure that is my child, and I have paid up like a christian, now let him who is without this sin (that is the true translation of the Greek) cast the first stone.’”

Henry is busy with work, “...but still I have leisure to do everything and spend two hours a day reciting French. We have a good class, Mr Bell, Tuck, Marston, Soule etc and our teacher is a Canadian Frenchman. I shall answer that letter in French soon that you wrote me!” [FFP Reel 6]

24-30 July 1844: An Ecclesiastical Council heard testimony and weighed documentary evidence in the case of adultery brought against the pastor of the First Congregational Church of Exeter, Rev. Fairchild. By a vote of 19-6, the council “were compelled to express their deep conviction that Mr. Fairchild cannot be innocent in this matter, and that he ought not, and, so far as their decision goes, does not, hold the place of a Minister in the Church of Christ. [Exeter News-Letter, 5 August 1844]

25 July 1844: Tuck noted that he had gone on business to Salem, Stratham, and Hampton on business. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

1 August 1844: Tuck gave a mortgage deed to Samuel B. Swett of Exeter for \$3,500.00 on a tract of land and the buildings thereon abutting Court and Front Streets. This tract contained the Swamscot House and about ¼ acre of land. Samuel B. Swett discharged the mortgage 11 December 1845. [Rockingham Register of Deeds]

2 August 1844: Tuck paid \$2550 to Augustus W. Seamans for his share of the ¼ acre of land on which stood the Swamscot Hotel and other buildings. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 314, Pages 119-20]

2 August 1844: Tuck notes that he paid \$3.00 for the New Hampshire Patriot while in Concord. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

2 August 1844: Tuck paid \$2 to Mr. Le Geudne for French instruction, in addition to \$5 he had paid somewhat earlier. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

2 August 1844: Tuck paid \$1.50 for a six-month subscription to the Exeter News-Letter. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

2 August 1844: Tuck paid \$6 for parish tax. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

2 August 1844: Tuck paid \$1 to Miss Veasey and \$5 to Miss Cate “for taking care of babe [Isabella] in her last sickness.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

16 August 1844: Tuck, David W. Gorham and Abner Merrill, acting as trustees for Irena Robinson, paid \$500 to Stephen W. Dearborn for a tract of land near Court and South Streets, to be held for the benefit of Irena Robinson and her children. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 316, Page 222]

29 August 1844: Amos Tuck and Henry F. French (Exeter) to John P. Hale. “The Democrats of this town propose to have a meeting at the Town Hall at 7 tomorrow evening, to hear addresses on the politicks of the day and to consider the expediency of sending delegates to Providence on the 4th of September and we urgently request your attendance to address the meeting.”

“We have ventured to announce your name in our bills without your consent, and hope you will not fail us. Mr. Woodbury and Mr. Walker will attend.”

“Respectfully yours, Henry F. French Amos Tuck” (Hale Papers, NHHS)

4 September 1844: “Charles Edward and Isabella, children of Amos and Sarah A. Tuck” are baptized in the Second Congregational Church of Exeter. [Second Parish of Exeter Records]

10 September 1844: Tuck’s daughter Isabella Tuck dies. [Dow]

17 September 1844: Tuck reviewed his earnings from “speculation” as follows:

[1]	Balance out of \$50 for settling case S.S. Lamprey and D. Nudd over and above fees deducted from \$50 being \$11.75 (endorsed on my note to D. Nudd)	38.25
[2]	My half of purchase of bond Aaron Adams etc. to Bailey and Harvey (S.W.D.) [Stephen W. Dearborn]	125.87
[3]	My half of profits on purchase of Stratham land (J.B.) [James Bell] about	333.00
[4]	My third of profits of debts of debts in 1842 of H.F. Brown (J.B. and S.W.D.) about	50.00
[5]	My half profits on land Seabrook (U.L.) [Uri Lamprey]	20.00
[6]	My 1/3 profits on land bought of L.B. Thyng (S.W.D. and J.B.) about	15.00
[7]	Profits of debt coll’d of Mr. Huntington of Salisbury in Jan. 1844 (J.R. Worthen)	38.00

[8]	My half of profits on Nottingham suits (at least)	350.00
[9]	My share of profits of Perkins suits in 1840	40.00
[10]	My share of profits of suit Seaward v. N. Dearborn	20.00
[11]	My share in demand bro't by Jno. Clinton v. R.M.F. and Co. (J.D.)	75.00
[12]	Rec'd of J.L. Robinson for services about G. Marsh demand	25.00
[13]	Rec'd of C.E. Derborn (S.J.F.)	20.00
[14]	Amount of advance in [word unclear] on Bell and Chadwick land about	750.00
[15]	Amount of profits realized on sale of Swamscot property to A.P. Blake about	1300.00
	[Total]	3199.00

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

2 October 1844: HFF to BBF. "Our mass meeting here is only to be compared to the universal deluge not in respect to the floods of people or the outpouring of eloquence, as in wet. We had a perfect downright rain storm, and of course did not perform great [two words unclear].

However, we had a town hall full and good speeches. Mr Woodbury, Mr Cushman, Dr Kittredge and Mr Porter of Rhode Island dined with me. McNulty has not much to brag about in the way of personal popularity, according to the state of the vote in his district." [FFP Reel 6]

17 October 1844: Tuck paid \$3 for his expenses at "the Mass convention." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

17 October 1844: Tuck paid \$7 for "daguerrotype likeness of family." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

17 October 1844: Tuck gave \$1 to the New Hampshire Missionary Society. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

18 October 1844: Tuck went to Stratham on business for James Bell. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

13 November 1844: Tuck lent \$7.50 to Charles H. Bell. [Bell may have been studying law in Tuck's office.] [Ledger, 1838-1849]

16 November 1844: Tuck and James Bell paid \$100 to Deputy Sheriff E.F. Stevens for about 100 acres of land in Deerfield. The land had apparently been taken from Sally Marston for nonpayment of taxes. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 321, Page 209]

19 November 1844: Charles Bell paid Tuck back for the \$7.50 loan. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

23 November 1844: HFF to BBF. He begins the letter, "As we have licked the Whigs, the next thing to be done is to divide the spoils, so the Whigs say, at any rate."

“I have a strong affinity for the office of Dist. Atty. I suppose that Hibbard and Barstow, and Burke and forty more may apply for it about next March some time, and Hubbard and Woodbury would be as likely to put in for either of them as me. Now cannot we get Capt. Tyler to make an appointment before March, or have not we interest enough. Hill would I have no doubt do his best, if that would answer, but I don’t know who are the powers triumphant now, or whether Tyler would make any appointment.”

“I wish you would think of the matter and advise me what course to take. Perhaps it might be well for you to write Hubbard, if you think we had better not attempt Capt. Tyler. I think Woodbury might probably give his name for me, but Hubbard has a great friendship for Barstow and Hibbard. I am nearer the District Courts than any of them. They are all here and at Portsmouth. If Hubbard is not committed, he might probably commit himself for me.”

“The office is worth say five or six, perhaps seven hundred dollars a year, and it would [be] a matter now of some thousands value to me to get it. Of course I don’t mean to be rapacious, but my small degree of modest assurance induced the belief that I have s good a claim as any one to the office.” [FFP Reel 6]

December 1844: “John P. Hale was in Congress, and as the project of annexation [of Texas] became imminent, I wrote to him expressing my abhorrence of the measure and urging him to stand firm against it to the last. Several letters passed between us of no equivocal character touching the subject.” [Tuck 1848]

1 December 1844: HFF to BBF. Henry tells of a small joke he played on Miss Odiorne, who is a member of his French class, along with Charles Bell and [Gilman?] Marston.

“...I suppose our likenesses have reached you by Mr Hale before this time. Mine looks a little stiff....” [FFP Reel 6]

3 December 1844: U.S. House of Representatives approves JQ Adams’s resolution to rescind the gag rule.

5 December 1844: Tuck’s younger sister Mary marries Daniel Wiggin of Parsonsfield, ME.

7 December 1844: Tuck taking French lessons from P.N. LeGendre, begins keeping notes in the back of a used ledger book. He appears to have stopped the lessons in March 1845. [TFP Box 11]

22 December 1844: HFF to BBF. Henry has just returned from Dover court and writes, “Tomorrow the French class which waited a week for me commences again, and tomorrow evening our dancing school, which I shall attend. Anne will not go, except perhaps occasionally. It will be a very genteel and pleasant school. If I was not educated thoroughly in my youth, I am

determined to pick up what I can on the way through life. I have just enough going on to make life interesting this winter....” [FFP Reel 6]

Tuck claimed to have played a major role in convincing Hale to oppose in the House of Representatives the action of the Democratic Party concerning Texas. “When he [Hale] saw his disappointment he for a time gave up all hope. On the other hand I and those who co-operated with me contemplated opposition and probable discomfiture from the start, but determined to fight it out to the bitter end.” [Tuck 1875]

On 27 December 1844, the NH legislature passed a series of nine resolutions supporting the annexation of Texas and calling on NH congressmen to work to that end.

25 December 1844: Tuck noted he paid \$1.25 for “political expenses.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

1845

When Hale wrote his celebrated anti-Texas letter on 7 January 1845, Tuck “was the most active and influential member of his party sustaining him, and in counteracting the democracy in expelling Mr. Hale from office”, according to an unidentified newspaper obituary. **When John P. Hale published his anti-Texas letter in 1845, Tuck supported him.** According to Lucy Lowden in Historical New Hampshire (1972), Franklin Pierce toured the southern NH towns after the 12 February 1845 Democratic convention in Concord that removed Hale from its election ticket. In Exeter, Amos Tuck was alone in refusing to desert Hale [but see Henry French’s account]. He told Pierce if Hale was expelled from the party, he was prepared to be expelled also. Pierce responded that the only other Democrat taking that position was John L. Hayes of Portsmouth.

During the February term of the Court of Common Pleas in Exeter, Tuck and John L. Hayes (of Portsmouth) and N.P. Cram (Hampton Falls) called a meeting of “independent Democrats” in Exeter on 22 February 1845 to organize opposition to the annexation of Texas and to form a separate party of independent Democrats. Tuck recalled that N.P. Cram was president and Abraham Emerson of Candia was secretary. According to Tuck and John L. Hayes’s 25 November 1879 letter to the Exeter News-Letter, speakers at the meeting included J.G. Hoyt, John Dow (Epping), Austin Cass (Candia), Tuck and Hayes. Hayes claimed that the meeting adopted an address to the people of New Hampshire and resolutions. Tuck’s version added that the address and resolutions had been prepared in advance by Hoyt and Tuck.

Tuck claimed that the result shocked Pierce and other party leaders. He also claimed that, in an 1846 conversation, Hale (who did not return to New Hampshire to campaign) credited Tuck’s activities for his ultimate election.

7 January 1845: John P. Hale wrote his open letter to the Democratic Party of New Hampshire stating his opposition to the Annexation of Texas, because it would lead to the extension of slavery.

According to Tuck, some questioned whether the letter “was addressed to the people of New Hampshire, or to his party friends; and also, whether it was a spontaneous production on his part, or was in response to resolutions of the New Hampshire Legislature, which the leaders, after the election of Mr. Polk, had caused to be passed in December, 1844, to enable those leaders to stand well with their southern friends at Washington....” [Tuck, Exeter News-Letter, 17 March 1876]

“He took no council with his colleagues in Washington, or his constituents at home. He did not imagine his letter would create a sensation, other than often happens in a canvass, and he had reason to believe it would attract rather than repel voters at the polls.” [Tuck, Exeter News-Letter, 10 March 1876]

8 January 1844: Tuck paid \$139.28 to John C. Gerrish on a note for which Tuck and David Nudd were responsible. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

8 January 1844: Tuck gave \$2 to a “mission school near Quincy, Illinois.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

13 January 1845: U.S. Rep. Milton Brown (Whig-Tenn.) introduces Texas annexation resolution.

15 January 1845: HFF to John P. Hale. He’s just returned from the Sen. District 2 convention where he successfully proposed and carried a couple of resolutions defending democracy.

Just learned that evening of the publication of Hale’s letter on annexation of Texas. French will be able to see it tomorrow.

“I consider it a great point gained that we can draw off our party from identity with the slave interest as such, but our party leaders oppose all discussion of slavery in our political meetings. For me, my course is laid, I will not bow to Calhoun’s etc.” French promises his support to Hale. [Hale Papers, NHHS]

15 January 1845: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale.

“My Friend, your letter of Jan___ was duly received, and an answer has been delayed, only that I might be able to say something to you of encouragement, respecting the subject – matter of your letter. As to the point of its finding a response in my own breast, I was ready at once to acknowledge the fullest sympathy. But I could not speak of your being backed up by the conventions until after they should be held. At the County convention a resolution on the subject was passed modifying the Concord resolutions somewhat. At the Councilor Convention, I suppose the Slavery side predominated, I ought rather to say the dictation spirit, for there is no public opinion in N. Hamp. in favor of Slavery. At the District Convention holden yesterday at

Kingston, a resolution respecting Texas was passed which will perfectly agree with your own views. It was prepared in this town, under the suggestion of your letter to me, was talked over fully and approved by John Woodbury who has been (as you know) prominent as a Radical Democrat in this County. Of course I did not show him your letter. Can you sustain yourself in Strafford? You can be sustained in Rockingham. I speak with that degree of Confidence on which I should be willing to act myself. I rejoice to see you depart from the line of conduct prescribed for N. Hamp. by the Southern Chivalry. I am myself confident that no northern intelligent man can well go for the admission of Texas without a dereliction of duty – unless he is conscientiously an advocate of slavery. Is John C. Calhoun a fool, or does he not see the operation of the admission of Texas? He has had the frankness to avow the infamous tendency of the scheme. The feeling here is, not to have Texas with Slavery.

“Permit me to say that I consider your situation greatly important at the present moment. If you divide from our other members on this point, and they wish to make the breach and separation impassible, so let it be. The state has been cursed with dictation of small men for years, and I am willing for a division; if that becomes inevitable in consequence of your doing your duty. I believe that this question of slavery is to be the dividing point between the parties that will soon divide the country. The present division of parties rests upon imaginary points, in many particulars. Most of the Northern Whigs are the same with the Democrats on the question of the tariff. Old party catch words are worn out. The party can not discover the music of that billingsgate vocabulary established in this State by Isaac Hill and other low bred men.

“The subserviency and doughfacedness of Northern members of Congress has become proverbial. I rejoice that you are disposed to be independent. I pray you to hold no terms with slavery. Let your abhorrence of it be as notorious as that of J.Q. Adams. No pecuniary consideration can be adequate to the moral turpitude of adopting slavery.

“Excuse the tenor of this letter. If I had less confidence in you, I should have put off writing of this until I could have written at my leisure, and more carefully. As it is, I have spoken out the fullness of my heart, and have done it when business calls at my elbow compel me to be in haste.

“Let me hear from you in a few days and [two words unclear].

Yours, very respectfully and very truly,

Amos Tuck.”

[Hale Papers, NHHS]

16 January 1846: John L. Hayes (Portsmouth) to John P. Hale. Hayes is pleased with Hale’s letter on Texas. He had earlier supported Calhoun’s principles, but he has realized it is all aimed at slavery. Hayes provides details on the pressure Pierce put on Democrats in Dover and Portsmouth. “I know that I have no influence directly as a politician, but I assure you of my warm sympathy and zealous cooperation....” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

16 January 1845: HFF to BBF. He opens, “Your short letter enclosing Mr. Hale’s letter to his constituents, was received this morning. You request my opinion of it, and you shall [get] it. I think he has done his duty to his God, his country and his Democratic principles, and further that he will be sustained by his constituents, and to show you that I did not follow his lead, I have only to state that yesterday, before I knew or heard that he had any idea of publishing anything on the subject, at the Senatorial convention at Kingston, I introduced and carried a resolution to the effect that annexation is desirable ‘provided it be done in a manner not tending to the perpetuity of slavery.’ I drew it and another on the right of petition, at home, showed it to my political friends here they approved it, and as chairman of the committee on resolutions, I proposed it to the committee of eight delegates, who unanimously adopted it, we reported it, it was taken up and discussed for two hours on a motion to amend by striking out the proviso, and was carried by about 40 to six.”

“I took the floor, explained it fully, and challenged every body to show objections. It was ably opposed, and I then spoke about an hour in support of it, citing the very correspondence of Calhoun, and also Murphy’s [?] correspondence, referred to Hale, and putting the question plainly home to every man’s understanding, telling them it was a new stand we were taking, and would be opposed by some of our own party.”

“I never saw men more attentive in my life, and you could see they felt as they voted. Supposing Hale to intend to oppose Annexation, slavery or not, I copied the resolution and sent it to him, or rather sent him the first draft of it, last evening and he will show it to you, or you can see it in the papers.”

“And now as to the effect. I think Mr. Hale is right, and will be sustained. I can carry Rockingham County, I believe, with a voice to help me, if I am driven to it – that is to say, if our Democratic friends undertake to mark me, for my course.”

“I think the days of marking irons are about gone, and that we shall speak our minds more freely in future, and without fear of being turned out.”

“I hope and trust, the other representatives from N.H. will not undertake to put Hale down or to prevent his re-election. If they do, and get up a nomination against him, I prophecy that he will be elected and they will not.”

“There is a deep feeling here so far as I know against strengthening the hands of slavery, or bowing to the wishes of the South for its perpetuity, and the Democratic party cannot exist here identified with Calhoun’s principles on that subject, and it ought not.”

“I do not often meddle with political matters [!], but I will go into this if necessary and support Hale.”

“We are all well. You may show Mr. Hale this, if you please.” [FFP Reel 6]

18 [?] January 1845: “Mr. Pierce came to Exeter and called a meeting of those who were supposed to control the party, at which he presented his views and read a letter from Levi Woodbury, calling upon him to stir up the people to the work of expelling Hale from the party. I felt that this was an occasion for me to act up or to fall from the purpose which I had formed of

obeying my conscience and judgment rather than the behests of the party. I had encouraged Mr. Hale to stand firm, and it was a moral as well as a political degradation to abandon him, which I had no temptation to incur. I accordingly heard Mr. Pierce make his statement through without saying anything. I saw the power of his magic wand over the minds of some of the men present whose views had accorded with my own, but who could not stand against party dictation, and I was convinced that if I adhered to my convictions I must be almost solitary in my position. But I was ready for the responsibility and indignant at the moral cowardice and trucking servility of the men about me. When Mr. Pierce had closed and it was my turn to say something, I told him and the company present that if they proposed to cast Mr. Hale from the party for the offence of writing a letter in opposition to Texas annexation, it was my duty to tell them explicitly that they must turn me [out] also, and as I believed others. John Woodbury was present at this meeting and was one who had within a week previous prepared with myself and Henry F. French, a resolution for a democratic convention at Kingston denouncing the scheme of annexation. Mr. French agreed with me at the meeting, though he was not so decisive in assuming a position with Mr. Hale, but Mr. Woodbury succumbed at once to the wishes of Mr. Pierce and joined the mad dog cry against Hale.” [Tuck 1848]

“But it was in Rockingham, that Mr. Pierce first encountered an opposition he could not control, and here that the opposition first assumed such force, in numbers, spirit and organization, as to alarm and call for the denunciation of the party leaders and organs. When Mr. Pierce arrived at Exeter in his excursion through the state in January, and was told by the writer of this memoir, in a meeting of Democrats called to greet him, that Mr. Hale was right, and he should stand by him to the last, come what might, Mr. Pierce replied that he had visited many towns in Strafford county and elsewhere, naming them,, and seen many Democrats, and had found only one man, John L. Hayes of Portsmouth, who had expressed like sentiments....”

Tuck mentions cases of opposition in other parts for New Hampshire, including Colebrook, Moultonborough, Ossipee and Portsmouth. [Tuck, Exeter News-Letter, 24 March 1876]

19 January 1845: HFF to BBF. “Mr. Hale’s letter is the great topic of conversation with us now, through the State, and having given you my first brush, I will give you my sober second thoughts on the subject. The Concord people were in a perfect rage at the reception of the letter, and determined to have a State Convention, make a new nomination and destroy Hale root and branch.”

“Frank Pierce having started the great organ of public opinion the Patriot right, took a tour this way, first to Dover where gathering Hale’s friends together, he says they were all much incensed and for a new nomination. Having expressed public opinion there, he went to Portsmouth and found only one man – Mr. Hayes – to defend Hale, but public opinion in the shape of the mercury, which had wanted instructions before opening its mouth, being set right, he came here and called on me and we sent for Tuck and Dearborn and Woodbury and Gregg.”

“Tuck and I and Gregg defended Hale, and the other two were borne down by the embodiment of public opinion.”

“We talked two hours or so, and Mr. Pierce went away much more calm than he came, to Manchester, not to see the Manchester Democrat I presume, but to drive his horse a dozen miles further in a blistering day. I will tell you what I said to him in part, and what I still think.

“I think Hale in the first place has a right to his own opinion on this subject. Second, that the opinion of the Legislature is not binding on him at all, inasmuch as no Democrat ever contended that the Legislature has a right to instruct representatives. Senators may be instructed, but the representatives never, except by the people, to whom Hale appeals. I think the people have not expressed an opinion by electing Polk further than this – that they favor annexation if it can be done constitutionally, with proper regard for the interests of all parts of the country and the rights of Mexico. That they voted in N.H. to annex it upon every possible absurd plan that might be conjured up by Southern ingenuity, is too absurd to believe. In fact, we said but little about it, but all agreed that [word unclear] if annexed, be so as not to strengthen slavery and we told people it would have no such tendency, in plain terms, and so Pierce says now. As to the constitutionality of annexation, probably Hale is wrong, but that is for the Court rather than the jury, for Congress rather than the people.”

“I showed Pierce my resolution in the convention, that we approved annexation ‘provided it be done in a manner not tending to perpetuate slavery.’ He said he agreed to it. I asked him then what [word unclear] he would put to the people. He said, first whether Hale, with the advantage of his party nomination had a right to make the people judge between him and his co-delegates, and condemn one or the others. Secondly, he would contend that annexation would not strengthen slavery, but hasten its abolition.”

“My answer was that the first is a mere special demurrer for want of force [?], which although it may be a sound position, the people will not regard at all, but overstepping it will enquire what is the opinion of Mr. Hale, not standing for the effect of his cause on party discipline. As to the second question, my answer is, that Calhoun and the ultra slave party and the Abolitionists – the two parties who had the deepest interest, and have most considered this question have arrived – arrive at the same result, namely that annexation in the manner most likely to occur, does tend to strengthen slavery, and that the people here will come to the same conclusion. As to a State Convention, I object to it, first because it is without precedent, and gives opportunity for dissension as to the obligations of the party to submit to it. Secondly, when we have made our new nomination, how do we stand in view of the world. Hale is set aside and for what? He has voted for the rescinding of the 25th rule, and he has concluded that annexation will tend to strengthen slavery, and therefore he votes against it, and has candidly explained his views six weeks before election to his constituents. We must elect a man then to vote for the gag rule, and conform to Southern notions of slavery, and we must have a rabid [?] man, or we cannot see the difference.”

“I oppose a State convention because I think Hale will not be defeated if his nomination is withdrawn, and if he is not, the party is destroyed. Party discipline is strong enough to

withdraw the nomination, but people will avail themselves of the right of secret ballot, and at the polls, will express their opinions in his support. Every Whig and abolitionist will go for Hale, and many persons who do usually vote, and many Democrats who have a feeling of disgust at his management and logrolling which influences so many of our party measure and caucuses and conventions.”

“My advice is this, that the other members of our delegation address a letter to their constituents, defining their views on this topic, and joining Hale’s issue, as they please and then submit it to the people to say who is right. Then letting the nomination [word unclear], all will be elected, and the question will rest as it did before Hale moved, each being left to his own opinion.”

“But an attempt to put Hale down will find opposition, and he is a man who will never rest under such a defeat, and we never shall get rid of him. He will I think deny the right of the convention to withdraw his nomination and make a desperate attempt to break down our caucus system, and it is bad enough, Heaven knows. You know and so do I, of nominations procured by mere bargain and management. On the whole, there is too good an opportunity to divide the party, to [word unclear] any doubtful movement and I do not see the necessity for it.”

“My opinion still is that the people will sustain Hale, tho’ he has acted in a manner not justifiable, as to the manner of putting the question. Public opinion by the papers will be all against Hale because we can see how they are controlled – I mean the democratic papers – but the Whig and religious and neutral papers have a great influence, after all, and the tradition that all men are born equally free and independent, has some yet on people’s faith!”

“Not wishing to see our party prostrated, I do hope our delegation will advise a moderate course.”

“I have intended to write Mr. Norris on the subject, and if I had not, on the first page given such a slant I would ask you to show this to him. I think him a reasonable man altho’ I doubt not, he is much incensed at Hale’s uncalled for attempt to throw the other representatives into a false position.”

“We are all well....” [FFP Reel 6]

23 January 1845: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale. “Confidential. Mr. Hale, I send you herewith a ‘N.H. Patriot Extra’ a copy of which you will doubtless have received before this reaches Washington. This ‘Extra’ can leave no doubt on your mind, what is the intention of the State Central Committee, the N.H. Patriot and several other Democratic Journals, to do with yourself, on account of your views and of your letter. The report reaches us from every direction that the party are against you, and I verily believe that at no period has a more industrious attempt been made, to set the current against a man, than is now made to run you down in the estimation of party men. All expectants of public office are out upon you, manifesting much horror. In the mean time there are here and there a few democrats who say they like your letter, its views, its manliness, its frankness. Much interest is manifested upon the question, What course you will take; whether you will be choaked off silently, and meekly budge into obscurity,

or whether you will conclude that, politically you will not die, without kicking. I hear a report from Dover, that undoubtedly you will quietly withdraw, as soon as a new candidate shall have been nominated. This report is not credited by those who feel somewhat acquainted with you, and not by myself. I suppose that such a course would be pusillanimous in the extreme – and that you will not think of it. On the other hand that you will be personally present in many of our larger towns, and explain and defend your position, before the people throw their votes in March next. Also that you will again, alone, or jointly with some other democrats, address another communication to the party in this State. Will not your presence be soon necessary in N. Hampshire. Of this you are to judge. In this town Mr. French and myself publicly and privately defend your position, of course. I am anxious to know what course you intend to take, as I am now in some doubt whether to evince my faith in the rectitude of your side of the issue, by silence or agitation. But I cannot be silent.” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

23 January 1845: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “I am for Texas, come as it may, and I am sorry you do not agree with me out and out, I think you will find N.H. as a state, will sustain Burke and Norris and consequently will condemn Hale. I received your letter acknowledging the rect. of Hale’s letter and expressing your entire approbation of his course – and I recd. another from you this morning not quite so strong and I think by the next you will have come to the conclusion to go the entire with me.” [FFP Reel 3]

25 January 1845: House passes Texas annexation resolution.

25 January 1845: Henry to BBF. Waits patiently for news of BBF’s appointment as chief clerk of the House. Then, proceeds to congratulate him on the appointment.

“...I have written Hale by this mail. His head is off, if he don’t come home and stick a plaster on it.” [FFP Reel 6]

31 January 1845: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale. “Mr. Hale, Yours of Jan. 27 is just received, and although hurried by business calls which press upon me more constantly, on account of Mr. Bell’s absence at Dover, and the approach of our Court to be holden here on the 2nd Tuesday of February, I cannot refuse myself the satisfaction of inditing you a few lines. I discover in your letter, if I mistake not, evidence of the existence of those feelings which I should myself inevitably experience if placed in your position, having the battery of a powerful party-organization opened upon me. While I should despise it, it would still give me pain. In the midst of this hue and cry, I wish to assure you, that your motives are understood and appreciated by more persons than our newspapers would represent to be the case. I think the violence of the press in this state would be less, if they had less fears that your course would eventually meet the approbation of a majority of our citizens, democrats, whigs and abolitionists. There is scarcely a man whose good opinion I should court, who does not acknowledge that you have conducted honorably, and that your votes are what they approve. For myself, no commendation would have induced me to vote differently from what you have voted. If you are to be sacrificed for your

course, and they succeed in defeating your election, it will in my belief be a most costly victory. There will be a retribution for such a hideous use of party machinery, that will be calamitous to the agents.

“I have not seen Mr. Wiggin. I am very sorry the holding of our courts makes us so busy. While we have not yet taken decided action, there are many ready to throw themselves into the breach in behalf of your position, assured by your votes in Congress, for which alone, (and not, as is pretended, on account of your letter) a cry is set up against you. I think it will not be improper to name a few of those individuals N.P. Cram, A.R. Hatch, Portsmouth J.L. Hayes A.E. Odell, Stratham, Saml. Webster Kingston John Page do Abel G. Quigg Chester. Mr. Cram tells me H. Falls cannot in his belief be brought in at all to the opposition to you. I hear the same from Chester. Your revilers are less fierce since the vote in the House, and the spectacle of a majority of N. Eng. Dems. with you. If Boston has, as is rumored taken the position consenting to the annexation, only with the consent of Mexico, it will have a further favorable effect. I will write again at the earliest opportunity – As I have not yet half ‘found my mind.’ In the mean time, I wanted [to] ask that you will send me any speeches and documents in opposition to annexation, which you may have lying by you, and of no use to yourself. Finally, assuring you of my faith that good will come out of this, that your motives will be eventually appreciated and that you will one day rejoice even more than now, at you independent position, I am your sincere friend, Amos Tuck

“P.S. The tout ensemble of this letter may be peculiar, and need apology; if so, I throw myself upon your favor.” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

3 February 1845: Tuck paid \$26.25 to Doctor Gorham for his bill for 1843 and 1844. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

4 February 1845: Amos (Exeter) to John Tuck, Jr. (West Parsonsfield). Preparing for court which will sit a week. “I received Jonathan’s suggestions a week ago, as well as yours last evening, as proofs of your true regard for me, and I have the most perfect satisfaction, that you did you regard me less, you might not have written anything at all. So do not fear to displease me by your advice; I regard that which Jonathan and you write, as advice coming from sound sensible heads and pure hearts. But as to politics, I am of opinion that it is scarcely possible to be a leading politician in N.H. and retain respect for one’s self. I have often been flatteringly told that I stand well for high office, and that I may reasonably expect it. But I cannot measure out my opinions by caucus resolutions, manufactured by unscrupulous and unsound men. Consequently I notify you, that I shall not rise at present.”

“Hale’s letter was impolitic. But if they vote him down, it must be on account of his votes and not on account of that accidental, imperfect thing, his letter. Shall I desert him for his votes? No, for I approve them. I stand with a majority of New Eng. Democrats in Congress. Will they throw over Hamlin, Herrick and others of Maine? No. And it is bad policy to attempt to put Hale over in N. Hamp.”

“But I wish to inform you that being a private man, I feel comparatively little responsibility, and I shall do only enough to keep myself from being identified with what is impolitic, unjust and a dishonorable submission to the dictation of Southern slave holders, who have always been making a cat’s paw of the N. Hamp. delegation in Congress.”

“I can only tell you that we are well. We have no girls and should be glad to get one from the country, if you can pick one up for us, and send down. I get along with comfort. The experience of the past year has humbled ____ in her own estimation, and I have nothing to complain of, but much to be thankful for. I am as happy as I could be. We have all enjoyed health since our babe died. Your little wife, of whom Jonathan gave me a good account, will I have no doubt, have the good sense to pass over all the little faults and annoyances, which new married life always brings, and you will do the same things. I think often of you, and have the same ardent wishes for your welfare as ever. I have time only to send love to all. I write this at the office. Yours affectionately, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and Family, FFP]

5 February 1845: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale.

“Dear Sir, I enclose you a copy of a communication which I presented to the editor of the Portsmouth Mercury for publication in his paper. He declined to publish it, and in a polite note which he sent me, expressed the hope that I should withhold it from publication, at the present critical juncture when he seems to think all our strength is necessary. I send it to you for the purpose of letting you into my views, and belief, as to the issue and the disposition of the people who nominated you.

“The issue will be upon your votes, and not upon your letter. The writing [of] the letter is a collateral issue, which cannot be discussed, and which the people will not regard. They will be compelled to come to your votes, and decide your fate upon them – and there is where your strong hold is.

“I am of the same opinion as to the true feelings of sensible men, as when I wrote you last. To-day I have seen Levi B. Tucker of Plaistow who gave me an account of their caucus holden on Sat. eve. last to choose delegates to the State Convention. They met and dissolved without choosing any delegation, for the reason as he told me, that 9/10 of the people wanted [to] vote for you at all events. This is in my belief but a fair sample of what the minds of the people are upon your votes in Congress.

“I shall not be able to write you again at present, because the press of Court business now coming upon me. So you will excuse me for going unceremoniously into some matters, where I have but doubtful right to intrude. I feel a great interest in the present crisis, not from any hope of office, because I am of your opinion as to the desirableness of station – but influenced by a little patriotism, a little sympathy, a little friendship, and a great deal of indignation. A notable instance of attempting to gull and deceive and mislead the people is now being perpetrated. The people are not friends of slavery; - they are only made to appear so, by the artful, aspiring and unprincipled.

“I have no doubt you will have a variety of letters from N. Hamp. full of advice etc.etc. Scan them closely, for I think your own reputation depends much more upon the course you now pursue, than upon the number of votes you may receive at the polls. An election is not necessary to your reputation.

“I know you will not deem me presumptuous nor desirous of influencing you except by argument, if I state some things which I deem indispensable to your standing well with numbers who have not yet taken part in this controversy.

“Upon reflecting upon the course you have concluded upon, relative to standing your ground at W ____ and not taking ‘the Stump.’ I am disposed to approve of the step – and I think it dignified.

“But I think you have not yet made your position tangible and plain before the public. Your letter does not do you justice. Taken in connection with your resolutions for annexation, your position needs explanation. Now when the new nomination comes out, it would please me as one of your friends to have you come out in a second letter defining your position. I suppose you believe the admission of Texas by joint resolution unconstitutional. You will then need to explain that the resolution offered by yourself was not committing yourself to the constitutionality of the thing, but only to prevent a worse consummation. I suppose also that you think a free N. Eng. legislator should not vote of the acquisition of slave territory, not an inch of it, for any pecuniary consideration. If so, an explanation is necessary. These positions may be well taken by you notwithstanding anything you have written or voted. Then again you should show by extracts from the newspapers, that your votes in Congress, (not your letter) are the things complained of – that you voted with a majority of N. Eng. democrats and with one of your colleagues, and it is the work of the wirepullers, and not of the people, in attempting to put you down. Take this tangible, explicit position and my belief is that they cannot put you down. Announce that your name will continue before the public as a candidate, not from choice but because you believe you owe it to the people to give them an opportunity of showing whether they are, or not for slavery etc. and whether they are to rule, or their pretended rulers. By taking this course, or something like it, you will show that you rise, and are adequate to the difficulties which beset you. Otherwise, I fear that while there is a heaving sensation among the people, they will be inefficient through want of a concentrating object. I should consider it a praise to be voted down on the issue which might be put to the people. A day of retribution will come.

“Once again begging you to excuse the tenor of this epistle I must close. Do not, I beseech you, be influenced by former friends, to consent to die off political[ly] in an easy pleasant manner to them. What good to them is destruction to you. I should not speak these sentiments to a senior, were not my own convictions responded to by many others, and by all here, who wish you well. Yours truly and confidentially, Amos Tuck”

Text of Tuck’s letter to the editor of the Portsmouth Mercury (not published):

Mr. Editor, As all the democratic papers in the state are speaking one voice in regard to the present position of the Hon John P. Hale, you will probably think the present communication can do no damage, albeit it does not perfectly harmonize with what the organs represent to be the unanimous expression of our party.

I do not believe that the position of one man can, of itself and separate from the principles involved, be of much importance to any party in this country, and particularly with the democratic party, so numerically strong. A party can repudiate one man with little inconvenience, if they have only a plausible excuse for so doing. But in an intelligent and progressive community, no party, however intelligent, can with safety, repudiate a sound principle in morals or politics. A day of retribution will hasten on loaded with the judgment of common indignation upon unfaithful men, who have caused the people to speak a voice they never intended to speak.

It is represented that the question of Texas annexation and the position of the Hon John P. Hale, in reference to that question, have produced the present crisis of political affairs in this state, and have occasioned the call of a State convention to nominate a candidate for congress in his place. I do not regard this representation to be correct. Mr. Hale has not given a vote in Congress in, in reference to Texas, or on the subject of abolition petitions, which has not been approved by that district of this state from which he received his nomination. His last vote on the passage of the annexation resolutions placed him in no position peculiar to himself. He and Mr. Redding and a majority of New England Democratic Representatives in the House, voted in the negative. The event which Mr. Hale contemplated in his letter has taken place, even sooner than he expected. The deed has been done. He has voted against annexation and a majority of the N. England democratic representative has voted with him. Why, then, is he to be proscribed, unless Mr. Redding, and the other democrats, who stood with them, are to be thrown over at the same time? Mr. Hale's unpopularity with some party leaders in this state accounts for much of the hue and cry set up against him.

But Mr. Hale's individual prospects of success or defeat are of great importance, only to himself and family; except that when the people have taken up a man for a high and honorable office, they should avoid leaving him worse than they found him, unless he has been unfaithful. If this should happen, the best men might hereafter consider the hazard of losing their good name, too great to induce them to accept of office, and so the worst men (always the most anxious for office) be the only individuals ambitious of serving the people.

Has Mr. Hale misrepresented his constituents in the votes which he has cast in Congress? I am one who believes he has not. His vote upon the obnoxious 25th rule of the house, was approved by the triumphant re-nomination given him soon after the vote was cast. His last vote is, or if permitted to be fully understood, will be, approved with equal unanimity. The people have never yet expressed what influence the consideration of slavery was to have upon the Texas question. The Concord legislative resolutions speak of slavery as a "temporary institution" from which I infer that it was not contemplated to receive Texas under circumstances tending to make that a perpetual, instead of "temporary institution". The Rockingham county resolutions and

those of Dist No 2, are even more qualified and conditional. The people may have given an expression in favor of annexation, if it take place constitutionally and without defiling ourselves with slavery. But on no other grounds. When did the people say that it was constitutional to admit Texas by joint resolution? Or, that they were ready to receive it with all the inhabitable part of it consigned to slavery? Never, and I trust they never will. It is said that as slavery now exists in Texas, that evil should not influence us upon the question of annexation. But slavery is now their sin; if we receive it into our bosom it will be ours. We will sacredly abide by the constitutional compact to let slavery alone in the states that are now in the Union. But ought we not to stand upon the high ground, the honest, the humane, the only righteous ground of refusing the guaranties of the constitution, to any new acquisitions of territory? Can there be but one answer to this question among the descendants of the puritans? How are all these considerations impressed upon us, when we see that our Secretary of State, and many others, including Governors, charge d'affaires etc. urge annexation mainly on the ground of its tendency, and necessity to the maintenance of Southern Slavery?

One idea more, and I will close. The annexation of Texas may give an ascendancy to slave-holding representation in Congress. Between 12 and 20 Representatives in Congress now hold their seats by virtue of slave representation. This is enough of all purposes except to prop up the "peculiar institution".

Now, Mr. Editor, to what do these considerations tend? I answer to this, that those who meet at Concord, as a state convention on the 12th of February, should adjourn, sine die, and permit Mr. Hale's name to remain where it is, and where it belongs, before the people, as one of the regularly nominated candidates of the democracy. If you decline to publish these suggestions, as a communication, lest they should receive, indirectly, the countenance of your paper, you are at liberty to publish them over my signature, sent you for the purpose, whereby they will be divested of the importance which any medium of communication can give them.

Rockingham

Amos Tuck

[Hale Papers, NHHS]

7 February 1845: John L. Hayes is hissed and shouted down at a Democratic caucus in Portsmouth. The speech he was to have given was printed in the 8 May 1845 edition of the Independent Democrat. [Tuck, Exeter News-Letter, 24 March 1876]

12 February 1845: Democratic Party Convention in Concord officially removes John P. Hale as a candidate for congress. [Philip M. Marston, "Amos Tuck and the Beginning in New Hampshire of the Republican Party," Historical New Hampshire v. XV (Nov 1960): 32-37.]

15 February 1845: John L. Hayes (Portsmouth) to John P. Hale.

"I am much obliged to you for your letter. I knew that you must be fully occupied with your correspondence and therefore did not expect an earlier answer. I had the satisfaction of

declaring my opinions [word unclear] at the democratic meeting in this town. The great majority of the meeting was disposed to give me a patient hearing although I was finally obliged by the clamor of the black guards to leave the rostrum. Nothing however could have worked better. The refusal to hear me speak has given me an excuse to publish my remarks, which will be ready for distribution this week on Tuesday. Before giving my manuscript to the printer I showed it to Tuck and others of your friends who advised me by all means to publish it. What ever may be the merit of my defense of your course at any rate it will be received abroad as a voice from New Hampshire.

“I shall send fifty or a hundred to you to be distributed among your friends in the upper part of the state if you see fit. The refusal to hear me speak has created a strong sympathy for me and will [word unclear] a desire to read. None of our considerable men will do any thing until they are sure that public opinion will sustain them. But there is a strong feeling among the people in your favor. I am not yet certain how many votes you will have here but no pains or expense shall be spared here to give you formidable support.

“I saw Tuck last week in Exeter; we have concluded to have a convention at Exeter next week on Saturday (22d) and have circulated our calls throughout the county. Thus far we have met with remarkable success.

“I should be glad to go to Dover Nashua or any part of the state to speak in your defence if you have friends who will set up meetings for you. [Hale Papers, NHHS]

16 February 1845: Henry to BBF. Writes at length about his grand jury business as prosecutor and adds, “My civil business I arranged as well as I could, and by the way I entered 20 actions – more than any one person. Bell & Tuck entered 24 or 27, Emery & Bartlett 18, and there were only 150 in all, so you see I am not out of business.”

“...You see that John Woodbury is nominated in Hale’s place. His qualifications as a man of learning and polish as a literary man, his noble presence as a gentleman, his expanded and original cast of mind, are as well known to you as to me or any one else, and are such as to well qualify him to represent the people of people of N.H., while John H. Steele presides over the political and religious destinies of the State.”

“I rather think Woodbury will go in, but there will be a great falling off in the Democratic vote. Tuck and others are trying to get up a Convention here, and want me to enlist for Hale, but my old resolution not to be a politician deters me. The supineness of Mr. Hale has extinguished a great portion of the zeal in his support. Had he consulted his friends here and taken his steps prudently and energetically, his principles would have triumphed easily. As it is, it is too late to organize, and Mr. Hale has never intimated as I can learn whether he would or would not run against the new nomination! The party has done a foolish thing in this this matter, and they may fight it out. Like Mr. Clay I prefer ‘the peaceful shadow of Ashland’ to political preferment. Gov. Steele will lose a good many votes for his folly in not holding to praying. It is talked of everywhere I go – at Chester – Derry – Hampstead and so on.”

“He must be a very contemptible man I should judge. Nobody speaks in his favor and many, in our own party, confidentially, and if the nomination were to be made again, he would lose it. However these are matters that do not trouble me. I have as many private responsibilities to care for, as I can attend to, and I shall keep pretty quiet, speaking my sentiments when occasion requires, and trusting that I have the faculty of doing as much for others as they will ever have occasion to do for me.”

“I presume I am considered as marked by the other radicals already, but they cannot afford to denounce me openly. Your position makes me of more consequence than I should otherwise be. There is an attempt making to get old Jonathan Lawrence in Postmaster in place of Dearborn, and I perceive that they regard my influence as worth having. I shall probably write you on this department by and by about it.” [FFP Reel 6]

17 February 1845: Tuck, David W. Gorham and Abner Merrill, acting as trustees for Irena Robinson, buy a tract of land near Court and South Streets from Zebulon and Sarah Thurston for \$400. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 316, Page 379]

18 February 1845: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale. “The foregoing is a copy of a call hastily got up and sent into several towns for signatures. [Text below] It will be signed by from one to 3 as names in different towns, and printed in a handbill with the names, about Thursday next and sent in every direction. On Saturday we expect a goodly number at our meeting, enough to surprise our self-constituted, servile, pusillanimous leaders. I am preparing a circular to be adopted at the meeting and Mr. Hayes will prepare resolutions - and we shall print the call with the signatures, the proceedings of the meeting, the resolutions and circular on a sheet and send it in every direction. The greatest difficulty, as you suggest, is in providing votes. But we shall be in the alert – shall send messengers in different directions with votes if it be necessary. We shall expend some money. But we must not stop in such a crisis. If any friend of yours has the disposition to send us a small sum, it will be religiously expended in the good cause. But put yourself to no trouble on this point. The work must go on. Yours in great haste and most truly
Amos Tuck

[P.S.] Continue to send me the names of Democrats to address, and any suggestion.

[P.P.S.] Your friends increase in this town since they see the stand a few of us take. I am sorry to say Mr. French refused to sign the call or oppose the nomination of Woodbury. But this does not affect my courage the least in the world. I am resolved to have no other fortune than what attends the principles involved in the issue now before us.

[Text of Tuck’s call]

“To the Democratic citizens of Exeter and the neighboring towns and all attending the Court of Common Pleas now in session:

The undersigned member of the Democratic party, believing that the course of our representative in Congress John P. Hale is approved by the people of New Hampshire, and is the only course which can be consistently advocated by the friends of liberty;

Believing that the present scheme of annexations is in violation of the great principles of Democracy, the doctrine of State rights, strict construction of the Constitution and regard for equal rights, and wishing to raise our voices against a scheme which will tend to extend and perpetuate slavery and weaken the influence of [word unclear] representation in Congress;

Believing also that the late Convention at Concord has put the party in a position which they do not wish to occupy;

Respectfully request all who would maintain the fundamental principles of the democratic faith to assemble at the Vestry of the First Church in Exeter in Saturday the 22nd day of February at ten o'clock A.M. to make a full declaration of our opinions, and take into consideration the present position of our party. [Hale Papers, NHHS]

22 February 1845: Meeting of dissident Democrats in the vestry of the Exeter Congregational Church in response to Tuck's "Call."

"When the day of meeting arrived, leading Democrats collected at the Squamscot House, directly opposite the place of meeting, and watched with great interest the signs of success or failure of the advertised gathering. A great thaw in the accumulated snows of the winter had just taken place, the weather was still warm, and the roads in many places were nearly impassable. The writer of this sketch had likewise gone to the Squamscot House, to watch for the earliest, ready to join the first man that should appear on the steps of the vestry. A half hour and more after the time of meeting had passed and no one appeared. The Democratic leaders pronounced the whole thing a failure, and lavished their efforts at wit, to make it ridiculous. Provoked and mortified, yet resolute to go forward under any circumstance, the writer went alone to the steps of the vestry and sat down facing the collection opposite, who were loudly exultant over the supposed abortion of the meeting. Soon John Dow of Epping, N.P. Cram of Hampton Falls, John L. Hayes of Portsmouth, Austin Cass of Candia, and others, gathered around the vestry door, with good cheer and courage in their countenances, when the Democratic spectators speedily separated, each going to his own place.."

The president of the meeting was N.P. Cram and Abraham Emerson of Candia was secretary. "This meeting consolidated the organization of the Independent Democracy. It was the first meeting of the protestants against the party which assembled in the state, after the official decapitation of Mr. Hale. Such sentiments were avowed, and such action taken, as committed the 261 men who had called the meeting, and all who had attended it, to irreconcilable opposition to the action of their former party. [Note: Henry F. French was not one of the signers.] An address and resolutions, carefully prepared in advance, by the writer of

this sketch and Prof. J.G. Hoyt, were adopted, and subsequently circulated as extensively as possible throughout the State.” [Tuck, Exeter News-Letter, 17 August 1876]

27 February 1845: U.S. Senate passes Texas annexation resolution, 27-25.

1 March 1845: President Tyler signs joint resolution annexing Texas.

1 March 1845: BBF (Washington) to HFF. BBF expresses his pleasure that the New Hampshire Patriot reported that Henry Flagg French would support Woodbury [NFI]
[FFP Reel 3]

3 March 1845: Tuck writes a letter to the New Hampshire Patriot giving his view of the controversy. In 1876, he explained, “two purposes were intended to be subserved by the publication of the letter. First, to relieve the mind of the writer, then full of indignation at the action of the party in general, and against the Concord clique in particular, and to establish before the election the position of the writer, no matter whether the party triumphed or not; and second, and more important, permanently to sever as far as one person could do it, the connection of himself and his associates in support of Mr. Hale, from their previous party relations. It was thought that defensive action alone could not amount to much in the end, and that aggressive action could alone save the converts already made, and make more probably the acquisition of many more. A promise was obtained from the managers of the Dover Gazette to publish the following letter, but when the writer took it home and added some few grains of salt to it, they refused to publish it. Slips were then struck off about a week before the election, and distributed as generally as possible, and some few Whig newspapers published it before the election. After the election, it was generally noticed, and may be found at length, in the first number of the Independent Democrat, published on the 1st day of May, 1845, and in the Exeter News-Letter of April 21, 1845.” [Text of the letter follows:]

“To the Editors of the N.H. Patriot, I acknowledge the receipt of the last number of your paper, and have perused the articles by which you have attempted to dispose of a few *more* members of the Democratic party, and to pass them over to the tormentors. I shall make a few plain statements in reply to your summary proceedings, not because I wish to evade any particle of your wrath, but merely to express my contempt of your denunciation, and my unwavering adherence to the cause of freedom and justice. I am well satisfied that the bolts hurled against myself and others, were not, in the main, intended for us, but rather as a warning to those who, just at this time, need to witness some exhibitions of fearful power, to keep them in the traces. When your master, the Chairman of the State Central Committee, for the moment took off his clutches from the devoted head of Mr. Hale, and wrote the last decapitory article in the Patriot, he knew that his abuse had no terrors for those whom he attacked. He knew, that although we had never had the ‘moral courage’ to ‘dare to do more than may become a man’ for the Democracy, when it had been made to consist wholly in following the jack o’ lantern fantasies of

little dictators, we yet had courage sufficient to stand by the truth without fear, favor or hope of reward. We are startled as little by your newspaper thunder as we are by the harmless flashes of heat lightning. We have long since learned to distinguish between the 'live thunder' of Jupiter, and those impotent explosions which are manufactured *to order*."

"If you expect to make freemen repress their free thoughts at your bidding if you expect to put a hook in my nose and lead me about in your crooked, back-track political course, - you have for once mistaken your power. 'I would rather be a dog and bay the moon, than such a Roman.' Is not this a free country, and shall not men speak out their sentiments, in spite of the despotism of self-constituted censors? Who made your paper a ruler and judge over us? And your paper, your Patriot, a Democratic journal!!! Why, there is no tyranny in Europe half so absolute as that which your masters (for you are mere tools) seek to establish over the people. Your Democracy is like that of Napoleon's marshal, when he announced, that opinions were free, *perfectly free*, but that he who did not vote for Napoleon Bonaparte, First Consul of France, should be shot at the head of the regiment. But you are tyrants without the power of the French marshal, and thank God for it. You are of that sort of despots, whose power consists in 'sound and fury, signifying nothing.'"

"The voice of freedom which has reached your terrified ears, from every part of the State, you have been striving to stifle or belie, in its utterance. You have sent forth your unworthy organ to every part of the State, publishing the falsehood, that every other part of the State was unanimous in condemning Mr. Hale's course in Congress, and in approving the impudent presumption of the Chairman of the State Committee; while at the same time you have trembled like aspen lest the tens of thousands in different parts of the State, who were burning with indignation at your mean subservience to South Carolina demagogues, should know each other's sentiments and rise and rend, like Sampson, the green withes with which you are binding them."

"The people have not so acute a scent for the patronage of the President that is, and of the President that is to be, that they have ceased to think and act for themselves."

"You have long been pampered by the patronage of a generous party, until, 'like Jeshurun, you have waxed fat and kicked.' You have forgotten that you are creatures of the people, whom you are leading in rapid succession to the block of political execution. Beware of the fate of the tyrants, and especially of little tyrants, all the world over. Take a lesson from your teacher in political maneuvering, Isaac Hill, who has received the just judgment of heaven and earth, from your ungrateful hands."

"I wish to know by what authority the New Hampshire Patriot has introduced a succession of new tests into the Democratic creed of the Granite State, until Democracy in New Hampshire is quite a different article in any other state? You say, it is to purify the party! Strange so much scum should be yet left; and stranger still, that any process of cleansing should leave any traces of the New Hampshire Patriot."

"Your paper has contributed to make our representatives in Congress partisans instead of patriots. Instead of leading them to the shrine of their country and their God, you have seduced them to the worship of a party; and when one of them has recognized the claims of humanity and

freedom and the Constitution, as paramount to the claims of party, the New Hampshire Patriot has been made the infamous engine of attempting to accomplish his ruin. When private citizens have met quietly together to express the honest convictions of their consciences, and resolve to abide by the truth, 'or perish in the last ditch,' you have denounced them as renegades and traitors. Making a trade of politics, and living on the patronage of the dominant party, you have forgotten that the great mass of the people are governed and guided only by principle. You have forgotten that you have to deal with the sons of revolutionary patriots, who hate domestic tyranny even worse than foreign control."

"I have no time or inclination to allude to a tithe of the objections, which the freemen of this State have to the course pursued by your paper. Your tyranny is proverbial everywhere, especially since you published the decree that no man who has a reverence for the Constitution, or who does not adopt human servitude as a part of his faith, shall stand in the Democratic ranks. Fearing that the days of Concord ascendancy are numbered; that hereafter the people will demand an organ, published in a purer atmosphere than that in which you live, and move, and have your being, you are making a desperate struggle to sustain yourselves and secure the highest favor of the new administration. I am sorry that some other Democratic paper more deserving than yours is not likely to obtain the patronage sought after by you."

"The variety of misrepresentations, set on foot by office-holders and office-seekers at your instigation, are too numerous to mention, and too absurd to refute. It is said that we are Abolitionists; that we are Whigs, that we are Tories, that we have our votes printed at Whig presses, (not stating that we could not safely get them done elsewhere), that we obtain Whig assistance in distributing our votes, that we have invited the co-operation of all men without distinction of party, - these are among the idle and false allegations sent out into every nook and corner of the State. In answer to all these scandals I would say, that we plant ourselves upon the platform of truth and universal justice, of equality and a sacred regard to the rights of man, and that, if this be treason, we ask you to make the most of it."

"Amos Tuck. Exeter, March 3, 1845" [Tuck, Exeter News-Letter, 25 August 1876]

7 March 1845: Tuck signs first entry as new Treasurer of the Hampton Academy Board of Trustees, a position he held for 19 years. (Hampton Historical Society 2005.46)

8 March 1845: Tuck paid \$6.09 for taxes. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

11 March 1845: Democrats sweep the elections for members of Congress and state officers except for the three-way fight for a seat in the US House of Representatives between Democrat John Woodbury, dissident Democrat John P. Hale and Whig Ichabod Goodwin. Woodbury was short of the required absolute majority by 1,000 votes, while Goodwin and Hale together received more votes than the official Democrat.

"The Independents put no candidate regularly in nomination beyond the act of circulating votes as extensively as possible with Mr. Hale's name upon them, instead of Mr. Woodbury's,

and a small number of votes for independent candidate throughout, at the head of which was John H. White of Lancaster for Governor. No State convention had been held, and no general understanding was practicable, beyond that effected by correspondence, individual effort and the circulation of the action at the Exeter meeting....The banner of revolt raised at Exeter was hailed with cheers in sundry places, the Whigs, of course, welcomed it as likely to diminish the power of their victorious adversary for a generation, while the Liberty party welcomed the Independents as fellow-workers in their cause. The Independents could not permit connection with either of the parties opposing the Democracy, without being denounced as federalists, or Abolitionists, and thus losing the adhesion many timid men, who feared epithets which had been potential up to that time in damaging seriously those to whom they could be applied.”

The activists pleaded with Hale to return to N.H. to campaign, but he gave no encouragement to the movement. The New Hampshire Patriot “...came out with the statement, that the party would show Amos Tuck, John L. Hayes and N.P. Cram, that they could do better without them than with them, and followed up the announcement with such epithets and abuse as had before been sufficient to put an end to the political and social influence of the unfortunate men whom it had attacked....” [Tuck, Exeter News-Letter, 18 August 1876]

In 1876, Tuck commented on the March 1845 election: “...It will be born in mind that New Hampshire, at that time, was entitled to four representatives in Congress, and that the election was by general ticket for the whole State, no election taking place unless the candidates received a majority of all the votes cast. The Democrats had had easy control of the State, and at the Presidential election in November, 1844, had cast 27,160 votes for Mr. Polk, being a majority of 5133 votes over the combined votes for Mr. Clay and Mr. Birney....Yet when the votes were counted, Democrats, Whigs and many of the Independents were astonished at the havoc made in the ranks of the old party. The whole number of votes cast for members of Congress was 46,280; necessary for a choice, 23,141.

Democrats.

Moses Norris, Jr., had	24,271
Mace Moulton,	24,904
James H. Johnson,	24,832
John Woodbury,	22,313

Whigs.

Ichabod Goodwin had	15,038
George W. Nesmith,	15,162
Thomas M. Edwards,	15,177
Joseph Sawyer,	14,050

Liberty Party.

Joseph Cilley had	4,827
Reuben Porter,	5,256
Humphrey Moore,	5,058
Jared Perkins,	4,369

Independent.

John P. Hale,	7,788
Scattering,	2,075

“Mr. Woodbury lacked 828 votes of an election. The result was kept back as long as possible, in order to break its force upon the popular mind...but at last his defeat was admitted, and the managers of the Patriot, and of other organs, who had before the election claimed certain and overwhelming victory, were compelled to acknowledge the full extent of their disaster.”

Tuck remembered that all three major parties were eager to have an early special election to decide who would win the fourth seat. “But Gov. Steele and his advisers concluded it would be safer to wait until after the June session of the Legislature, and till ‘after haying,’ and accordingly the 23rd of September, 1845, was appointed for the election of a Representative in Congress....The Counties of Rockingham, Strafford, Belknap, and Carroll gave Mr. Hale his principal support, yet he received votes in every part of the State....”

“Mr. Hale returned to New Hampshire immediately after the election, in gleeful and happy spirits. As has been stated, he had expected no such result, having contemplated support only from Democrats in good standing, who believed him more true to the party than his accusers....He was invited to meet the people, and in a few weeks was advertised to address the people in various places. His second speech was delivered in Exeter on the 21st of April, 1845, in the room where the meeting had been held, a month before, which did so much to save him from being driven from public life....” [Tuck, Exeter News-Letter, 1 September 1876]

13 March 1845: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale.

“My dear sir, The polls closed here last at 5 o’clock

Anthony Colby Gov	223
John H. Stute “	129
Other democratic candidates for Councillor, Treasurer etc.	162
John Woodbury Rep to Cong.	126
John P. Hale	163
Daniel Hoitt Gov.	58
Badger-Dinsmore and Berry Repts to Cong.	33

“We have not heard the exact state of the votes for Woodbury and Hale in any neighboring towns, but the rumor from every direction us flattering for Mr. Hale. I think we shall do all for Mr. Hale in Rockingham that was expected from us.” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

14 March 1845: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale.

“I cannot this morning give you the returns, but I will say that you have got votes in every town, and where we did not expect them – and in many towns double what we expected . Around the democracy -- In Danville it is said you had heavy vote – in Lee 65 Nottingham 39 S. Hampt 13 E. Hampton 35 Epping 63 N. Market 165 N. Hampton 56 Hampton 36 Stratham 60 H. Falls 34, Brentwood 70 – etc. We must have defeated Woodbury. The stage drivers from Conway said yesterday, that there had been a terrible Hale storm in Carroll on the 12th.

[Hale Papers, NHHS]

14 March 1845: Tuck paid \$414.00 to “J.L. Robinson for money hired of him Aug. 7, 1845 [1844?]” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

15 March 1845: HHF to BBF. “...When I saw the N.H. Patriot and Manchester Democrat stating that ‘Henry French Esq goes for Woodbury’ I began to think ‘whether or no’ I was not somebody or other – some gentleman of note and consequence. I never authorized any such publication, and had not opened my mouth about one candidate or another. I had the State business on hand in Court from the day of the Convention till after that notice. However, I did not contradict it, and voted the regular ticket, but it was with a mental reservation that Gov Steele was a jackass, and the Democratic party his supporters, but as there was no escape but to the Whigs whom I have no affinity for, I kept [word unclear] where I was. The election has probably resulted in Steele’s election by a small majority and Woodbury’s also, but we are not sure. Had Texas not been annexed, Woodbury would have been defeated, and any way he would had Hale acted with the energy and prudence of a full grown man. The voluntary dropping off from Steele is a lesson to the party to put up Christians for office, at least not new and unheard of kinds of heathens.”

“...Property is very high here....The Sullivan house right opposite Mr Shaw’s sold recently for \$45,000.00, and the Universalists have given \$1700. for a lot only about 80 feet front near the Granite Bank, to build a Universal Salvation meetinghouse on.” [FFP Reel 6]

20 March 1845: Henry to BBF “You perceive that Woodbury has probably lost his election. If it be so, Hale will go in finally, perhaps not next time. The recent election I hope will teach the radical b__ders [?] here that they are not [word unclear]. The falling off of Steele’s vote is the surest indication of virtue and principle in the party that I have seen for years, and I rejoice at it. He is the greatest jackass ever nominated. I am sorry for Woodbury. He is an honest, upright man, and we will make him governor to indemnify him in some measure for his disappointment.”

“My opinion is that Tuck’s and Hale’s party will get about as many democratic votes at a next canvass as Woodbury.”

“Considering that every democratic paper was muzzled, and not a word suffered to appear in Hale’s favor and that his friends had no organization, it shows a very strong feeling in his favor, or rather against the State Convention, that Woodbury is defeated. They may fight it

out, [word unclear] shall hoe potatoes. I know it to be a fact that two of the Democratic papers refused to publish anything favorable to Hale, even before the Convention, and for me, I will not countenance such conduct.”

“I have no doubt it was the con__ed [?] plan at Concord to control the papers [?] in that way. We are all well, and have a dancing party at our house this evening, of about 40 – a fiddler for now. Write me soon.” [FFP Reel 6]

25 March 1845: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale.

“I have learned that you have returned to Dover, and am expecting every mail a reply to my letter which you found at Dover awaiting you. I am enquired of daily, what are now our objects and wishes, and I am deferring to give an answer to any enquiries until we can agree upon concerted action. I rejoice with exceeding joy in the defeat of Woodbury, and I feel, that however the course which I have taken may affect my own popularity or apparent success in realizing the aspirations which are apt to haunt the brains of young men, I shall ever be content with it, regretting only, that I could not have labored in the cause, with more talent and less annoyance arising from calls of business. Duty called upon me to speak, remonstrate and oppose, and I thank God that I have not been wholly deaf to the calls of duty.

“I consider the position which you now occupy, a proud one, which will do honor to you in future years, where the canting, low-lived [sp?] abuse with which you are now assailed, will have been consumed by the progress of truth. Much, however, depends upon the course to be pursued hereafter. How shall we organize? Shall we have a paper under our control? Shall we first have a state convention? What shall be the declaration of our sentiments, now that the Texas question has assumed a new phase? Shall we go for repeal? These are questions important to be considered, and I think no time should be lost in beginning right and promptly. We must let our friends know that we are alive and in good spirits. No agitation has taken place in any direction or locality, where a harvest of votes beyond our expectations has not been realized. There is no danger of making our appeals in vain. Heart answers to heart, and deep cries unto deep. Our cause is just, and that accounts for the fact that without any of the ordinary appliances or means of exercising power we have accomplished more than the Conservatives could with a powerful press.

“I have written a letter to the Editors of the N.H. Patriot. It will appear, I understand, in the Concord papers this week. It was circulated on a slip, a few days before the election in some few towns, without my knowledge, but not against my will. I shall not permit the Concord worthless Clique, to separate me from the Democratic Party, without my having a word to say about the matter. They cannot cut a few of us in Rockingham, without a hazard which it would well for them to consider. I know the temper and character of the people here as well as the Chairman of the State Committee. Let me hear from you at your earliest convenience. I think we must have a meeting.” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

26 March 1845: BBF (Washington) to HFF. "As for the N.H. election it has resulted very much as I anticipated. Pierce thinks Woodbury will be elected at the next trial. [BBF had just gotten a letter from Pierce] I hope he may be. Hale's course as I view it, has been a very foolish one." [FFP Reel 4]

28 March 1845: Tuck noted his expenses for the "political canvass for Mar. 1845:"

To gave Mr. Parsons \$5.00

To gave Mr. Blake \$7.00

To gave Mr. Little \$2.00

To paid Mrs. Gale copying \$2.00

To paid expenses at Dover \$3.00

To paid for votes at Concord \$25.00

To paid Mr. Stevens going to Dover \$2.00

To paid packages and postage \$5.00

To paid for room at Exeter \$2.00 [Ledger, 1838-1849]

7 April 1845: Amos Tuck, Benjamin Abbot and J. Flagg named a committee to nominate deacons. [Second Parish of Exeter Records]

8 April 1845: Tuck paid \$1500 to Joseph Boardman of Exeter for a tract of land at the corner of Court and Front Streets. The tract contained about ½ acre and the town house called the "Swamscot" and several other buildings. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 128]

14 April 1845: Tuck had printed in the Exeter News-Letter the following notice of a speech in Exeter by John P. Hale on 21 April:

"The Constitution, our Country as it is!"

"Liberty at the North at all Events."

"The opinions and motives of a large class of the freemen of our State being constantly misrepresented and impeached by a powerful designing few, who control the Democratic press, and who are unwearied in their attempts to seduce the people into a support of extended slavery, into a violation of the Constitution, and an unscrupulous trespass upon the rights of a neighboring nation,

THE HON. JOHN P. HALE

Agreeably to the invitation of Democrats, will give an account of his stewardship, and a reason for the faith that is in him, to his friends and the people generally, at the Lecture Room of the First Church in Exeter, on Monday evening, the 21st day of April present, at 7 ½ o'clock. All who wish to hear and judge for themselves, not excepting the ladies, are invited to attend.

Exeter, April 14, 1845." [Tuck, Exeter News-Letter, 1 September 1876]

17 April 1845: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale. "I have recd. a map of Texas from you, and am obliged to you therefor. Mr. S.B. Parsons, Colebrook, has written to me that he wants to obtain one. If you have a spare one, I doubt not it will be a pleasure to you to send it to him. I think we shall have a crowded meeting here on Monday evening, without fail. I have invited brother Hayes to attend, but have told him that you are expected to begin at 7 ½ o'clock, and that we will get together at 7 for hearing him a half hour. He addresses the moral feelings with some avail, and I desired to have them stirred up here.

"We want to have the moral aspects of the question portrayed to our citizens. You will find here, as every where, a response, when you succeed in presenting the question to us in that respect, just as it is.

"Let the slavery character of annexation be prominently brot out. We shall hear and desire a good measure of that. The Constitution as it is. But I would forwarn you, that John Pierpont of Boston was here two months ago, and demonstrated to our people that the Constitution does not bind us to help slaveholders catch up and carry back runaway negroes. As a specimen of the feeling on that point, I would mention that a few days since Mr. Bell remarked to me, that if a negro slave were claimed before him as a magistrate, he would call upon the master to produce his bill of sale from G_d Almighty, without which, he would not order the slave to be given up.

"I think it desirable for you to explain the object of your proposition to receive Texas half and half. Your explanation must be satisfactory, and Mr. Kelley [sp?] (who is your fast friend) expressed to me the hope that you would refer to that proposition in your address here.

"I know you will excuse these suggestions, seeing, as you will, the whole design of them.

"I have caused the prospectuses to be circulated, but have not yet recd. them back. I have recd. several letters expressing regrets that the paper is not to be started at Concord, and one, expressing fears that this argument of whig origin, would be available to our adversaries. I have given the answer back to such, that a subscription better be obtained to this Prospectus, and that if a location at Concord should be desirable, we can regulate that to our liking, hereafter.

"I am very partial to the enterprize of having Mr. Parsons connected with the editorial departments jointly with Mr. Wetmore, if the thing be at all practicable. I think Parsons just the man to put this matter on a high moral ground. He has an extensive Methodist acquaintance, and other means of great influence. He is besides on of the best writers, I know of. But of this hereafter.

"I wish you could come over here on Monday and spend a few hours in seeing some of your friends, who would be pleased with a little chat with you - and many, for instance, Mr. Kelley, Mr. Soule, Mr. Marston, etc. It would do good." [Hale Papers, NHHS]

21 April 1845: The Exeter News-Letter finally printed Tuck's letter, accompanied by an editorial by Editor John Kelly, as follows:

"Among the two or three hundred names subscribed to the Call was that of Mr. Tuck of this town. His standing in the Democratic party could not be dispute or doubted. He had been

an influential, active and leading member of that party in the Legislature. At home and abroad he was known and respected, as a man and a Democrat. But in the matter of Texas, he was intractable, ungovernable, and would not go in the traces. Whether he was right or wrong is not for us to say. He professed to act upon principle, - a principle deeper founded upon even than his attachment. The Patriot, as an organ of the party, felt bound to attack Mr. Tuck, with the others who acted with him with a good deal of severity.”

“We are right glad, said the Patriot, ‘that Amos Tuck has had moral courage enough to do even a foolish thing. He never had spirit enough to dare anything for the Democratic party.’ The Patriot went on to say that the party could well afford to part with Mr. Tuck and declared him an Abolitionist.”

“Now it is customary, when a person is denounced by the organs of the party, to give up quietly and go over to opposition, or to renounce politics and go into retracy. Mr. Tuck was not so peaceably disposed, and did not feel disposed to die, when the attempt was made to kill him off. Instead of being put out quietly and lying still as other politicians, in like circumstances had done, he would not stay at all where he was put, - and instead of allowing the executioner to cut off his head, and thanking him for the honor, he had the ‘moral courage’ to resist the officer, and ‘dared’ even to attack the organ, - defying consequences, - cutting off retreat, carrying the war into Africa.”

“Mr. Tuck’s letter has been extensively published and many of the readers of the News-Letter have expressed a wish to see it, and we yield to their wishes and subjoin a copy.”

“The newspapers have very generally noticed this letter, and spoken of it, favorably or unfavorably, with great force and freedom.”

“The Manchester Democrat characterized it as a bombastic affair, amounting to nothing. The Patriot thinks it can contrive to exist, and withstand weightier ordnance than Mr. Tuck, whose letter it considers sophomoric, weak and ridiculous.”

“The Boston Atlas, on the other hand, says that Mr. Tuck in his scorching castigation of the Patriot has shown himself a man of ability and firmness. The editors of the New York Courier and Enquirer, say that for bitter and scathing denunciation they have nowhere seen the letter exceeded. They also speak of the honesty of purpose and manly spirit of the writer, as affording ground to hope that his labors will not be in vain. His weapons, they add, are used with a force and skill, all the more tremendous, from the fact that he who wields them has studied their use in the very school against which they are turned.”

“Now the editors of the Democrat, the Patriot, the Atlas, and the Courier and Enquirer are all well educated men, of cultivated minds and fine literary taste, but they stand wide apart in their estimate of the merit, - literary, moral and political, - of the celebrated letter. We venture no opinion.”

The editor of the 1876 News-Letter note that, despite Kelly’s official neutrality on the issue, he was always in full sympathy with Tuck and his associates. [Exeter News-Letter, 25 August 1876]

1 May 1845: Publication of the first edition of the new Manchester newspaper Independent Democrat, edited by Samuel Wetmore of Rochester and financed by his brother Nathaniel, who owned a factory in Rochester and was an early supporter of John P. Hale. Tuck commented on the early days in his 1876 history of the Independent Democratic movement:

“...The pecuniary means were difficult to raise, but the guaranty of voluntary service in proving editorial matter, was readily furnished. Prof. J.G. Hoyt, John L. Hayes, Esq., and the writer of this paper, were too anxious to make known their views, to allow any difficulty to exist on this point. After discouraging delay in raising money, Mr. Wetmore generously proposed to furnish the whole sum needed, and take the entire enterprise upon himself....a Prospectus was issued early in April, for the publication at Manchester, on the first day of May, 1845 of The Independent Democrat. This publication soon gave a name to the new party then in process of formation. The party was subsequently also called ‘Freesoil,’ but that name and likewise that of ‘Conscience Whigs,’ and of ‘Barnburners,’ were names afterwards given to those in other states, who followed the example of the New Hampshire Independent Democrats, in asserting independence of party dictation. Mr. Wetmore did not long remain in New Hampshire, removing in a few years to Ohio....”

Tuck lauds the efforts of John L. Hayes, the son of Judge William A. Hayes of South Berwick and the nephew of President Lord of Dartmouth College. Hayes graduated from Dartmouth in 1831 and after practicing law successfully, became the Clerk of the United States Courts in the District of New Hampshire. “He was the first man encountered by Franklin Pierce, in his celebrated circuit to break down Mr. Hale, who told him to his face, that he would not be controlled by the leaders in such a nefarious enterprise....He was one of the prime movers, as had been stated, in issuing the Call for the Exeter meeting of February 22nd, and was one of the speakers at that meeting....The Democracy were able to avenge themselves to some extent upon Mr. Hayes, depriving him of pecuniary opportunities incident to his profession....” Hayes remained active in the movement in Maine and later Massachusetts.

Tuck also notes Moses A. Cortland and his brother Jonathan of Lee as early supports of, first, the Liberty Party and then the Independent Democrats. They were cousins of John Greenleaf Whittier. He also mentions Joseph G. Hoyt, born in Dunbarton, NH on 19 January 1815, who graduated from Yale and became a professor at Phillips Exeter Academy in 1841. Hoyt accepted a position as Chancellor of the Washington University of St. Louis in 1859. While he lived in Exeter, Hoyt used “his clear perceptions, brilliant faculties and deep convictions” to fight slavery. [Tuck, Exeter News-Letter, 8 September 1876]

“Every possible effort was made to impede the success of the Independent Democrat. It was denounced before and after its publication, as a device of Federalism and Abolitionism to break down the Democratic party. Isaac Hill had been shuffled out of power a few years before, by Franklin Pierce and others, who had induced Mr. Hill, in an evil hour, to part with his control of the New Hampshire Patriot, which he had created and made the organ of control in the State.

He made frantic efforts to regain his power, and in 1845 was publishing Hill's New Hampshire Patriot, and maintaining a rather fruitless war against the managers of the old Patriot. When the publication of the Independent Democrat was announced, Mr. Hill imagined he should gain an advantage with the Polk administration in Washington, as well as with his old followers in New Hampshire by joining in the mad dog cry against Mr. Hale and others....”

The old guard Democrats soon found that the new newspaper could deal blows to the party. “...They had to deal with men brought up in the same school with themselves, who understood their ways.....”

“The Independent Democrat was published for nine weeks at Manchester, but its tenth number, issued on the 9th day of July, 1845, was published at Concord. “...Soon there appeared among its contributors one whose excellent productions attracted particular attention, and as these productions gradually became regular, the publisher began to depend upon them in making up his paper. The writer was George G. Fogg, Esq., of Gilmanton, who had joined Isaac Hill in his fight with Pierce and company, but had refused to follow Mr. Hill in his persecution of Mr. Hale and those who sustained him....” Fogg moved to Concord in the fall of 1845, gave up his law practice and became on 5 February 1846 the full-time editor. Fogg held that position for 16 years. The paper “advocated Republicanism for eleven years before the Republican party came into being and it never took a position during the history of its varied work which time and experience have not vindicated as wise, patriotic and statesmanlike....” When Fogg retired the newspaper merged with the New Hampshire Statesman to become the Independent Statesman.

[Tuck, Exeter News-Letter, 15 September 1876]

18 May 1845: Amos Tuck made the delegate of the parish to the examination of an ordination of the new minister in Haverhill. [Second Parish of Exeter Records]

5 June 1845: Tuck gave two notes for the “Chadwick land.” One note to the New Parish for \$344.77 and the other to P. Chadwick for \$215.23. Tuck describes it as land “owned in common with J. Bell near C[our]t House.”

Tuck paid \$550 to Peter Chadwick of Exeter for five acres of land between the river, the Court House lot and South Street. Chadwick was selling his ½ undivided interest in the land shared with James Bell. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 161]

11 June 1845: Tuck and James Bell sold a tract of land to James J. Wiggin of Exeter for \$1.00, for “a certain tract of land lying in said Exeter, described as follows: beginning at the corner of our land where the same strikes the river and the road running by the house of Jacob Brown, thence running up said river about forty feet on the margin of the same to a point opposite a white oak tree standing on the margin of the river, thence through the centre of said tree in a Northwesterly direction about sixty feet to the southeasterly side of a contemplated new street, thence from a stake at the side of said new street on the line of said Wiggin's land, thence in a

southerly direction on the line of our land about sixty-five feet to the point first begun at....”
[Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 327, Page 27]

12 June 1845: Independent Democrat reports famous debate in Concord between Hale and Pierce.

18 June 1845: Texas Congress approves annexation.

20 June 1845: BBF records in his diary: “Tuesday after breakfast Henry and I walked down to his office, and soon after we got there the cars came in and Col. Pierce, Judge Harvey and others came to attend the session of the District Court. I was delighted to see Pierce, he appeared as in times of old. Talked with him sometime at the Swamscot, and then went to the Court House, staid there a short time, and then Henry and I packed up and rode up to Chester where we dined.” On Wednesday he and Henry went to Concord. “We went to the State House and were introduced on to the floor of the House and took our seats by the side of Speaker Hibbard. After leaving the House I was introduced into the Council Chamber, and by the Governor to all the members of the Council, some of whom I have known for years. I then went into the gallery and met my old and much esteemed friend Saml. D. Bell, a man who was to me, during my early manhood, a mentor that I shall never forget. Dined at Gasse’s at the table with Gov. Steel ex Gov. Hubbard, Speaker Hibbard and other distinguished men of my native state.” Returned after lunch to Chester. Returned to Exeter that morning. “This evening we called at old Mr. Gilman’s where we met quite a party, and passed the evening very pleasantly.” [FFP Reel 1]

1 July 1845: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale.

“I regret to be compelled to forego my visit with you to Moultonborough on the 4th of July. My health for about a week, has been such that I can with difficulty leave my house, and find it utterly impracticable to go out of town.

“Have the kindness to present my grateful acknowledgements to those of our friends at Moultonborough, who expressed a wish that I should attend you at this celebration of the glorious Fourth; and assure them of my unwavering faith in the justice, truth, and humanity of the position which the friend[s] of John P. Hale have assumed before the public. It gives me great joy to hear such a loud voice speaking from the heart of the democracy of Carrol County. That voice finds a response in every County in the State and the thousands of patriotic, independent and conscientious votes, which will be thrown for freedom and religion, on the 23 of September next, will complete the confusion of those who have trampled upon the Constitution, and for the rewards of office, are now kneeling before the God of Slavery. Our cause needs only to be understood in order to be approved. It is progressive in old Rockingham, and in every part of the State from which I receive information. Let us all be encouraged to persevere, and to the extent of our limited capacities, fearlessly to do our duties to ourselves, our Country and our God.” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

4 July 1845: Tuck paid \$1.50 for a subscription to the Granite Freeman until No. 35, vol. 2. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

10 July 1845: Son Charles Edward Tuck is born (second of this name). [Dow]

4 August 1845: Tuck paid Miss Chapman \$7 for “nursing.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

11 August 1845: Tuck paid \$10.50 for “children going to Dancing school.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

11 August 1845: Tuck paid \$9 for a three-year subscription to the New York Observer. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

11 August 1845: Tuck paid \$3 for a subscription to the Courier des Etats Unis. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

September: Hale again prevents Woodbury from winning the necessary majority in the runoff election. Governor orders another election.

5 September 1845: Anne and HFF to BBF. “Politics, I don’t fret about, you know, but other people do very much just now. My opinion is that there will be no election at the next balloting, and if there is not, there will be a tremendous effort by Hale’s friends for the next heat.”

“Our party is wrong in their alliance with slavery, and its ruin is inevitable, if we do not change our position – sooner or later. I talk with men daily who go strong for Woodbury, and yet say the party is all wrong in this matter.” [FFP Reel 6]

11 September 1845: Tuck and James Bell sell a tract of land in Exeter to Orin Head of Exeter for \$250.00. The tract was located near the Court House on a new street laid out by Tuck and Bell. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 226]

13 September 1845: Tuck and James Bell sell a tract of land in Exeter to Henry F. French for \$325.00. The tract was “bounded northeasterly on the new road laid out by said grantors, southeasterly by land of John Foss, southwesterly of land of said French....” [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 217]

17 September 1845: Tuck paid Miss Cate \$5 for “nursing advance.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

17 September 1845: Tuck noted: “I have paid my note (with J. Bell) to New parish trustees of date June 5, 1845 for \$334.77 amounting to \$340.46.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 September 1845: Tuck gave \$10 to his brother Jonathan “to pay for labor for father and bro. John.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 September 1845: Tuck recorded credits relating to the Chadwick Land totaling \$231.77 received separately from O. Head, J. Bell, and H.F. French. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 September 1845: Tuck paid \$5 to Miss. Cate and \$2 to Mrs. Cate for “nursing babe.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

25 September 1845: Tuck and James Bell sell a tract of land in Exeter to Orin Head of Exeter for \$175.00. The tract was located on the new street near South Street. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 227]

25 September 1845: Tuck and James Bell sell a tract of land in Exeter to Nathaniel K. Leavitt for \$165.00. The land was located on a new street between the Court House and the River. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 245]

29 September 1845: HFF to BBF. Henry bet someone \$10 that Woodbury would lose his election. “Woodbury will want about 800 of a majority. I did not attend the town meeting, because I did not want to vote against the regular nomination, or my conscience. I should like to see how those gentlemen who know so much about the sentiments of the N.H. voters, about what is [word unclear] will get us out of this scrape. Hale’s friends will nominate a full ticket for next March – governor and all. They hold the balance of power in Rockingham, Strafford and Carroll. They will make an effort to district the State next June, and may succeed, and on the whole, our friends who wanted to kill Hale, will have their hands full, and all for nothing – I told you so.”

“For myself, I feel in rather an awkward fix. I hate to stand neutral, and I hate to go against my friends, or my convictions published and declared at the last County Convention, before we got Hale’s letter. Tuck is tickled all most to death, and Hayes ought to be, for Portsmouth has gained 200 for Hale since March.” [FFP Reel 6]

18 October 1845: Tuck and James Bell sold a tract of land in Exeter to Jesse Marston of Exeter for \$155.00. The tract was located on the southeastern side of South Street. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 258]

28 October 1845: Tuck is a leader at the Dover convention of the Independent Democrats. About 300 people attended, from all over Rockingham and Strafford counties. [3 November 1845, Exeter News-Letter]

November 1845: Runoff election again fails to deliver a majority: Hale’s vote count increases.

1 November 1845: Tuck and Bell sold a tract of land in Exeter to Joseph G. Batchelder of Exeter for \$175.00. The tract was located on a new street running between the Court House and the River. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 257]

11 November 1845: Tuck paid \$2 for “extras” of the Granite Freeman and the Independent Democrat. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

17 November 1845: Tuck gave \$4.00 to “scholars at H[ampton] Acad[emy] to pay their expenses.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

18 November 1845: Tuck gave \$3.50 to his father and to “pay for his cup” and \$.25 to Uncle Sam “for his knife.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

29 November 1845: HFF to BBF. Today is “town meeting day here and everybody at this moment driving like all possessed to ‘bring out their dead’ to vote.”

“I don’t vote to day, either way, and my opinion is there will be no choice, and I do not care a sixpence whether there is or not. There’s great comfort in not caring. There will be a larger vote than before, I think on all sides.” [FFP Reel 6]

1 December 1845: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to Abraham P. Blake of Exeter for \$7,500.00, “the tract being the Swamscot House and premises connected therewith embracing the stables and outbuildings connected with said Swamscot House, and also the premises now occupied by C.M. Hervey, the whole of said premises being bounded northerly by Fore Street, Easterly by Court Street, Southerly by land occupied by John Foss, and Westerly by land of James Burley, occupied by John Dodge, the same containing one fourth of an acre more or less, being the same premises formerly owned by Martha Gilman.” [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 320, Page 264]

1 December 1845: Tuck “paid” Abraham P. Blake \$5500 for about ¼ acre of land and the buildings upon it, including the Swamscot House. The premises had been previously owned by Martha Gilman. Tuck appears to have received six promissory notes in return. If Blake was able to repay these notes at specified times (with interest) over seven years, he would regain ownership of the property. [In effect, Tuck was loaning the money to Blake to enable the latter to buy it from Tuck over seven years.]

A later marginal note states “Discharged on Book 438, Page 277, February 1, 1873, Geo. W. Weston) [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 320, Page 265]

3 December 1845: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “You cannot think how much I regret the position you have assumed in relation to political affairs in N.H. – all our democratic friends here

also regret it. Under what circumstances could you be induced to come strongly into the democratic ranks again, and take the field boldly? Would a new nomination to Woodbury's place induce you to do it? I dislike to have you called any thing but an out and out democrat, but I know you will not go democracy blind for any one, nor would I ask it, but I do wish matters could be so arranged to bring you again into the traces where you could help draw the load that now hangs so heavily upon the democracy of N.H." [FFP Reel 4]

5 December 1845: Tuck recorded a variety of expenses and purchases for him and Sarah in Boston, including \$2.00 for a "nurse engaged." Total spent was \$90.00. [Ledger, 1838-1845]

9 December 1845: HFF to BBF. "I feel happy that my letters meet the approbation of my friends, and think I must have improved of late in my style but then again, I get it from you and Brown jointly and severally for not voting for John Woodbury. I wanted to send as much help to elect you as I could, but somehow I was struck with a conviction that among the things predestinated from the beginning was not the manufacture of an M.C. out of so small a stick as that blue nosed individual. It did not seem 'according to the fitness of things'. I think it must be a source of great consolation to those who procured his nomination that he would not have been good for anything if he had been elected! I look upon this whole affair as a perfect farce. John P. Hale having conceived an idea wanted to make it sound and so published it in a circular. His views as published were those of most of the people of New Hampshire, so far as they had any."

"His enemies thought it a good opportunity to kill him, so they gagged all the papers, some of which, ex. gr. the Dover Gazette and Nashua something, had been demanding annexation till they were hoarse – would not have a word published, even before the convention, in Hale's favor – denounced everybody who did not turn quick enough to bring breeches wrong side before, and nominated to fill the place of Hale, a man of talent and some note, nominated – John Woodbury."

"The mountain labored to bring forth a dormouse [?]. And what was all this for? To discipline a refractory member. Annexation was a foregone conclusion. No question [word unclear], and if there had been one, and Woodbury had been anybody, his opinion I know is just like my own, for I had talked with him before the Kingston Convention, and we agreed on the resolution I there offered, and yet he stands [?] the admitted opposer of Mr Hale's views, which were nearly my own. Well, I could not keep up with the rest, in this rapid system of politics [?], so kept still. I don't like Hale, for he abused Judge Richardson and Judge Parker—don't [?] love John Woodbury, for he declined to recommend me for solicitor when he was the only Exeter Democrat who was not strongly in my favor, besides he twitted me of k___ [?] good society once, in a caucus, and moreover he is a 'little critter' in every sense, and I [word unclear] would do more credit to the state at home than abroad. Having then no personal preference, and there being nothing else but what I had remonstrated against as an uncalled for exercise of party severity merely for the sake of the exercise, why should I vote?"

"You ask what would induce me to come to the marks again. Anne suggests \$3000. a year, but I demur and say I am not out that I know of. Had Woodbury been elected, I should

have been proscribed, no doubt, but his friends cannot afford it now, and I shall remain and vote the Democratic ticket as I have heretofore, and we sane, sensible men who are willing to tolerate free discussion, and free action, and an honest difference of opinion shall some day be appreciated. Hale's friends as yet have no principles. Their whole strength is the bad management of our party, and their mean nomination, their mean Governor, and his mean appointments. The party can be united by a temperate, manly course now, by a declaration of principles which we all should be ashamed not to own, and I am ready to help in the union whenever my aid is of consequence enough to be asked. I have told Tuck from the beginning that would land with the Whigs in the end, but if our party leaders are determined to kill or die, I think the new party will prevent all the elections in March. Isaac Hill and his clique I am told are ready to join them in a new organization, and if so there can be no election. I suppose the appointment of Jenness was intended to conciliate the Portsmouth Gazette interest, but I am not in the secrets."

"What do our delegation think? Do they suppose that all the other parties can be kept down without any union, or any change in the course now pursued?"

"I do not often write upon politicks but when I do, I make a business of it." [FFP Reel 6]

13 December 1845: Tuck paid \$7.12 to Mrs. Lynde, a nurse from Boston. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

13 December 1845: Tuck sent \$3.00 to Miss Cate, "who has babe to nurse." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

13 December 1845: Tuck gave \$17.00 to his wife Sarah "to give to Miss Folsom." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

21 December 1845: HFF to BBF. "...The Governor and council have made some more beautiful appointments recently – Josiah A. Bartlett of Lee is Judge of Probate of Strafford Co. and is a regular old soaker. County Solicitor of Carroll Co. I am told was admitted last May to practice law, under the moral character act, and is not a regular member of the Bar. The Solicitor of Strafford Co, who was appointed several months ago is notoriously incompetent. He never helped try a case in all his life. Woodman told me last week that the County paid him \$115.00 for assisting the new Solicitor at the last term, the Atty General being absent. The State allow \$40. in that county to the Solicitor each term at which the Atty Gen'l is absent. The Shff of Strafford Co. drinks all the time. I boarded at the same house and saw him drink three or four glasses of gin yesterday at times when I happened into the living room. All these matters are known and talked over by all parties, and all tend to sink the party lower and lower."

"Hale's friends are quite sanguine that they can change the House so as to send him to the U.S. Senate, but I have no faith in it. I think they will defeat many of the regular nominations, but that they cannot the Whigs {word unclear} sufficiently to get their candidate in general [word unclear]."

"They will go for districting the State for a [word unclear] –ification of the Banking laws, so as not to hold the stockholders personally liable, for receiving the [word unclear] revenue, for

abolishing slavery in the District of Columbia, and as to [two words unclear] with the Democratic party that is to say against a protective Tariff, and as to [phrase unclear]. They will also try to break down the caucus system, but how I cannot contrive. Perhaps the Convention may not agree to all the above, but such I judge to be the system which Hale and Tuck would advocate. If they strike out a judicial [sp?] set of principles, they will come into the next spring elections strong, but we shall see. I see no chance now for a compromise or adjustment of the matter, and it must work itself out.” [FFP Reel 6]

24 December 1845: Tuck noted in a section of the 1838-1849 ledger entitled “New Hotel, Hampton Beach”: “I have this day bought one undivided half of the New Hotel at Hampton Beach, of Stacy L. Nudd, together with one undivided half of the furniture belonging to the same – for which I have paid him

in cash	\$ 200
in notes given up	196.35
“ my note of this date on int. after Mar. 1, 1846	1488.65
making in all as the full cost thereof	1875.00

By note redelivered [sp.?] and bargain for house rescinded Dec. 31, 1845 \$1875.00
[Ledger, 1838-1849]

29 December 1845: HFF to BBF. “...The news has just reached us that Ch. Jus. Parker is appointed Dane Professor of Law at Cambridge, in place of Judge Story. The news has, with your letter, quite flustrated me, so that I cannot study, and as the fit is on, I will write you the news. Is not it honorable and respectable to the Granite State that Parker should receive this appointment. His place cannot be filled in N.H. but I feel glad to see so good and learned a man appreciated. It will be a popular appointment everywhere. Whether Judge Story’s spirit will hover approvingly over the new incumbent, considering their controversy about the Bankrupt Act, I doubt, but you, who were instrumental in Judge P’s first step from the bar, and I who have always respected him, cannot help rejoicing at his new honor. I hasten to recall one item in my last, derogatory to Gov. Steele, his honor and dignity. I refer to the appointment of Judge of Probate for Strafford.”

“It seems he would not let the Council appoint one of their number, Bartlett [ending unclear] to the place, but wholly refused to act [?] and has effected the appointment the appointment of Charles W. Woodman of Dover the most respectable appointment that could be made. I rejoice at it. Now what is to be done for a Ch. Justice. I know of no democrat suited to the place. Sam D. Bell or James Bell [name unclear] would either of them be competent, so would Perley, and probably the latter better qualified than any other man, so far as knowledge of the law goes. If I were Gilchrist [word unclear] Wood, I would strike for more wages or resign.

They will find a load [?] on their [word unclear] to which they are all unused, if a mere sham is placed as the third man on the bench, be he chief, or associate....” [FFP Reel 6]

Fall, 1845: Tuck wrote to a friend that he would not run for office even though he had been advised he could go far. He was not in sympathy with the Democratic Party leadership: “But, I cannot measure out my opinions by caucus resolutions, manufactured by unscrupulous and unsound men;....” [See his 4 March 1845 letter to brother John.]

1846:

5 January 1846: Tuck paid \$3 to Miss Cate “for nursing.” He also paid \$1 for her fare apparently to accompany the family to Concord. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

5 January 1846: Tuck paid \$7.50 for “going to Concord to attend Convention.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

The Independent Democrats and the Abolitionists held simultaneous conventions and both nominated Nathaniel S. Berry of Hebron for governor. [Donald B. Cole, Jacksonian Democracy in New Hampshire, 1800-1851 (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1970), p. 228]

21 January 1846: HFF to BBF. “You have doubtless seen the resolutions of the Independents at Concord. They have made a monstrous fore paw as we say in France, in denouncing the whole delegation in Congress, when there are two in the House and one in the Senate, who have not so much as yipped on any subject as yet. What has Jenness, or Moulton, or the other one in the house that is not Norris, done to deserve the execration of mankind? They are innocent as ‘babes unborn forty years ago’ as father used to say. Now I am a Polk man as near as ever I was to anything in my life, and New Hampshire Democrats are Polk men, if they are allowed to have their own way, but they are against slavery, just as Jefferson and all the great men of that day were, and that we ought to stand by forever. The effect of the annexation of Texas on the duration of slavery is a subject upon which honest men may differ, and that difference whether in Hale or Norris, I tolerate. How I shall vote when I get into Congress, I have not decided, except on general principles, that is, just as I have a mind to.”

“Williams cannot be elected, I think, tho’ I expect to vote for him, and I think he will be governor by the choice on joint [sp.] ballot.” [FFP Reel 6]

24 January 1846: Tuck paid \$25.50 to Dr. Gorham for his bill. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

26 January 1846: Tuck paid \$2.50 to Miss Cate and \$1 for her fare. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

31 January 1846: Tuck gave \$2.50 to Mr. Rundlet “whose house was burnt.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

2 February 1846: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale. “Having informed me that the Worcester judgment is secure, I am content. Manage the matter as to Mr. F__ [French?] as you please. As to politics, our cause is progressing in Rock__ as I believe. Our nomination of Mr. Kelley for Councillor which at first afforded me anxiety, will prove a good selection.

“I wish very much to have you go to Plaistow some evening and give the people a plain talk. Strange as it may seem, they have no politics there. A majority have spontaneously come out to your support, and I am of the opinion that nearly a full sweep may be made of the whole, if you could go there. I also want you to go to Hampton some evening, perhaps in Court time. Will you write me when at leisure whether you will not go to each of these places during the Court at Exeter. If you can go, I will make the arrangements.

“Greenleaf and Hill have been and are now at Washington, and without the least doubt have been bribed into the support of the Slaveocracy. See Hill’s Patriot of last week. Oh that I had power to show up their selfishness and corruption as they deserve! Can you not send Fogg a scorcher upon them. I learn from a clique man of this town that Greenleaf will do his utmost for Williams, and that he is with Hill in Washington. This new team of the slaveocrats will call upon us to make new exertions. We must publish many articles showing the markitable [sic] character of Hill and Greenleaf.” [Hale Paper, NHHS]

14 February 1846: Formal transfer of sovereignty takes place in Texas.

26 February 1846: Tuck paid \$5.00 to Miss Cate “for nursing.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

26 February 1846: Tuck paid \$1 for “Granite Freeman extra.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

26 February 1846: Tuck paid \$56.64 to John Batchelder for doors and windows for the Chadwick Land. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

In the March elections, the Democrats failed to elect a replacement for Hale, to gain control of the legislature, or to elect a governor. The Independent Democrats, held the balance of power, and made a deal with the Whigs to elect Hale as US Senator and Whig Anthony Colby as Governor. The result was the “overthrow” of the Democratic party. [Tuck 1875, p. 75-76]

17 March 1846: Tuck paid \$5.00 for his parish tax, having already paid \$5.00. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

19 March 1846: HFF to BBF. “My Dear Brother, Have you heard from the New Hampshire election? And do any of our democratic friends begin to suspect that there has been a mistake made in our State politics?”

“I hear that the Concord people are astounded at the result – never dreamt of it, or imagined it possible. You will probably have the pleasure of seeing Mr. Hale in the U.S. Senate, and a Whig from RocHam and Strafford district in the house, and one Anthony Colby Governor. Well, for one, I want to see Hale in Congress again. He has been ill used, and I want justice done him. As to a Whig administration, I lament its probability, and if the Democrats of N.H. will now take a proper course, it cannot hold the power more than the year, but I do not expect they will. The Whigs and Independents will unite to district the state, and it is the just and true principle to repeal our silly railroad law, and to charter Banks, holding stock-holders liable to a limited amount, say double their stock. There is a bank now in operation in Portsmouth, in which all the stock is owned by six persons! However, I do not care anything about that, but thus far the opposition will go in heavily. I should not be surprised if they should split all up in the election of Senators, tho’ I think they will have sense enough to stick together through the session. The Whigs are very strong in talent, in the house, and the Democrats have nobody, the democratic principle of putting their weakest men into office having been carried into full operation this year.”

“I still adhere to my opinion often expressed that slavery is rather too heavy a load for Democracy to sustain, and that the party till never prevail again in N.H. till the position upon the question is defined differently from what it has been.”

“Perhaps if the State is districted, we can organize the party here to our minds and go along, on our own hook. I have no desire, however, to go into politics at all, and so, let it go.”
[FFP Reel 6]

22 March 1846: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “And so you wish to see Jack Hale in Congress – well I do not, I think he behaved like a rascal, and our party like fools, and I trust they have learned wisdom from experience. But do you suppose that those ‘independents,’ are going to vote for Anthony Colby? ‘Not raley’ Williams will be Governor, set that down, and Hale will not be Senator, set that down too, and ‘the allies’ will be in about the prettiest mess that ever a parcel of poor devils were in yet before 3 days of the next session are over – would to heaven I could be at Concord to see the sport. Next year the democracy will be united again and such a Waterloo defeat as the allies will get will be a caution to whigism abolitionism, and all other isms out together. I cannot foresee exactly how matters will operate at Concord in June, but this I can foresee – Jim Wilson will insist upon being Speaker, and so will Jack Hale, they may possibly compromise on some moderate whig or abolitionist, or Hale may bargain to let Wilson have it; but the great matter of the session will be the Senator for 6 years. That place both Wilson and Hale will insist upon having, and neither will give way – then will come the bargaining propositions, and I predict that the Hale fellows will stand ready to give up Speaker, Governor, Senate and Council to the Democrats if they will agree to elect Hale to the Senate for

the 6 years! Whether the democrats will make any bargain I do not know – Democracy being another name for Virtue! I doubt they if they will, but with allied majority or not over 4, and perhaps not over 2, you may depend upon it that the Whigs etc. will find it an up hill business to do any thing. I would have given one hundred of the best Spanish milled, any day during the past week, to have changed 4 members of the N.H. House of Reps. to suit my own fancy – I never felt more interest in an election, and I have never given up that the allies had carried the House till yesterday – and I do not entirely give it up yet! Nuff sed on this.” [FFP Reel 4]

23 March 1846: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg (Concord). I rec’d a line from you on Saturday, dated at Gilmanton. I suppose this letter will reach you at Concord. Perhaps I have been inclined to notice too much the scurrility of one man, my only accuser, as he writes his loathsome billingsgate through the Mercury and Patriot. I am getting over this sensitiveness, and fast becoming, as you say, ‘case hardened.’ Do as you please about alluding at all to the matter. I would not have Folsom’s name called, but yet would wish, if anything is said, to have it appear that all impeachments against me, have originated with one man only, and he infamous – a man who has prowled about my path for years, fretting, foaming and sometimes raving, because I would not notice him, except with the utmost contempt. One year ago he was abusing me through the Gleaner, and lately through the Portsmouth Mercury that stands but little, if any, above the Gleaner.”

“I shall be engaged this week at the Court holden in this town. I want to see you and Mr. Hale together. I think arrangements can be made, by which you can continue with profit to yourself to control and edit the Democrat. Our success requires that you continue. You say truly that we have a difficult part to play. Scylla is on one side, and Charybdis on the other. While we avoid the rocks on which our loco foco adversaries have split, let us avoid being swallowed up, by those who seem to love us so well that they would fain eat us up. That vote for Calley [sp?] annoys me. But let us say nothing. Let us not say that we will not be as harmless as doves yet let us be wise as serpents. It would be unsafe to promulgate the exact arrangements which will satisfy us. In the mean time, we can deliberate. Some men are rejoiced to see us rend asunder party leading strings, but they themselves cannot break a single fibre. The Independents in this part may be relied upon with confidence. you and Mr. Hale may lead them into any reasonable measures. The whigs can’t lead them.”

“Let me say that your last number was an excellent one; one of your very best. Keep prominent in every number the great moral triumph which we have achieved. The anti-slavery ground and anti-dictation ground is ours, and on that we can eventually bring both the other parties to our terms.”

“Some of the whigs and all the slave democrats would rejoice to have us lose sight of our strong points. Let us see you down here. In haste, I am yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Fogg papers, NHHS]

11 April 1846: Tuck noted: “I have this day raised \$2700 to pay for land in East Boston and raised it as follows –

Borrowed of S.W. Dearborn	\$100
Borrowed of Jen. Dearborn	225
Hired of Wm. Dearborn/note in hand of J.L. Robinson	500
Hired of P. Exeter Academy	1000
Hired of Jona. Tuck	50
Hired of Hampton Academy	700" [Ledger, 1838-1849]

13 April 1846: The church met and made Amos Tuck, Gideon Soule and Francis Grant a committee to invite Robert S. Hitchcock to become a "colleague" to Rev. Hurd. The committee was also tasked to inform the "New Parish" and seek their concurrence. [Second Parish of Exeter Records]

20 April 1846: Tuck paid \$110.78 to the Granite Bank, apparently to pay off a note dated 30 December 1843. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

21 April 1846: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to My Dear Brother [John] and parents and relatives generally. It's been several weeks since he last wrote. It's been very dry for weeks. Tuck was in Boston earlier that day on some law business. "I have sowed about half my little field with rye and shall plant the remainder with potatos corn and garden vegetables. McK[enzie] [Jonathan Tuck's eldest son] and I generally work together a half hour every morning. He is quite convenient to me. I shall soon send away the horse which I am now keeping, and then McK. will have little to do. I shall pay him for his work. He is getting along with perfect success in his school. I find he is a quiet, sensible, worthy young man full of promise. He is quite unacquainted with the world and will be much benefitted by the business he is now engaged in, and the acquaintance which he will form at his boarding place. He constantly reminds me of you John and I call him by your name half the time."

"Jonathan did not find so good encouragement at Andover as he expected, and went to Rockport, as he has undoubtedly written to you. I am glad he did not return, as did Capt. Towle. I think he will be contented in a short time."

"I hope you are doing well and well contented. Father must not work too hard, nor must John do any more than he feels able to do....From present appearances, I believe I shall have the disposition to pay your debts from time to time, and that without inconvenience to me. It will be a pleasure for me to do something for you who have not had the same pecuniary success that I have. I rejoice Jonathan having a small family, is likely to be well enough off, and that Betsy and Mary are settled so well to their minds and ours; and that they are so safely, as well as you at me removed from poverty. You and I and all of us have much occasion for gratitude for our worldly blessings. Let us think of the thousands of Irish now perishing with hunger. I wish particularly to remember Mother and to enjoin upon her that she preserve for her sake and her

children a care for her own health and strength. I hope she is enjoying better health than she has heretofore.”

“With unalterable affection for you all and praying that the blessing of Heaven may ever attend you, I am your son and brother, Amos Tuck.

“P.S. Let me have a letter soon. I hope your health continues (John) to be a little, yes, a good deal firmer and better. A.T.” [Amos Tuck and Family, FFP, LC]

24 April 1846: Tuck paid \$5 to Miss Cate and also paid for her fare. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

24 April 1846: Tuck paid \$16.42 for “iron posts to go round cemetery.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

24 April 1846: Tuck and 24 other residents of Exeter paid \$2400 to Orin Head for 24 undivided 25th shares of a tract of land near the river and abutting South Street and the “Machine Shop.” [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 361]

3 May 1846: Tuck (Exeter) to Fogg (Gilmanton Iron Works). “I have received your pleasant and valuable favor of the 30th ult...[and I cannot refuse your request]. At the risk of marring the uniform ability of our paper, I have resolved, (laying the hazard at your door) to send one communication per week, by some conveyance that can be relied upon. I have written a short and hasty article for the next paper, to smooth the way for all our people to do that work of necessity, vis. Vote for Anthony Colby, Governor, and for the whig Senators, in all cases, in preference to the radicals. I do not think there is any reason to doubt that our friends from Rockingham and Strafford, will vote on all elections according to the views which we have expressed to one another. Still we must keep ourselves continually on the qui vive. Our adversaries are undoubtedly at this moment laying some plot to thwart our purposes. I have no fears of the Independents, but am still anxious lest they prevail to bribe whigs enough to defeat our designs. Upon the whole, however, I think the election of Hale to the Senate cannot be prevented. I am decidedly of the opinion that Mr. Hale must not budge from his position, and particularly must not at the present crisis, adopt the whig views upon the tariff. To do this would be to become an anti-slavery whig and cease to be an anti-slavery democrat; for the tariff question seems to me, to be the turning point between the present whig and the democratic parties. The two parties have so far erased the old points of division that there is but little difference between a liberal whig and an intelligent unfettered democrat. The democratic party, which formerly had many excellent theories, and practiced upon them to some extent, has latterly become so corrupt and servile, that it is has lost sight of those truths which first gave it strength; and the whigs, in the mean time learning wisdom, have had the adroitness to rectify and strengthen many of their positions.

In relation to the tariff, my opinion is not fully made up. It is and will be for many years the great question of policy before the American people. I think that the Abbot Lawrence views are more likely to be current in the North than those of the administration; and I am somewhat of

the opinion that the administration leaders would not be averse to changing sides with the whigs on the tariff question, if they could do so. The way they would talk about the dear people's rights, and the importance of protecting them, would be a 'caution'. In this state of things, I have no ambition to undertake any Quixotic achievements in behalf of free trade. Still let us stand perpendicular at present. We nor Mr. Hale need no aid, other than what our already expressed opinions will command for us.

You perceive I am very free of my opinions. But I trust to your discernment to understand that I am not opinionated, but speak thus, on account of our critical circumstances. I proceed then to say that I am clearly of the opinion that we ought not to tinker [with] the judiciary. The impression here is that the Atty. Gen. should have the final letter in his name struck out, and a d inserted in its place. I do not perceive any good reason for opposing such a trifling change. The Sheriff of Strafford is a drunken blackguard and ought to walk the plank. The general opinion also, is that the general corporation law should be repealed, and liability to double the amt. of stock be imposed upon corporators instead of it. Let the militia remain another year – and having incorporated a few Banks, and [have?] done the plain work before us, let the legislature adjourn at as early a period as convenient. Let the Senator to Congress be chosen as early as possible.

It is a problem in my mind whether you, Mr. Hale or a whig better be Speaker. My mind is most in favor of the first. This thing must be thought of.

I received a letter from Mr. R.C.W. a few days since, stating that the finances were almost in extremis, and intimating something about a sale of the establishment. I trust that you will see that nothing is done hastily. He spoke of the fact that the N.H. Courier people had some idea of buying. This would be infamous destruction to our schemes. The independents would not stand that, as we all know. I cannot express myself at length upon this subject, but I look upon the scheme as entirely insane.

I shall certainly be at Concord early in June. In the mean time let me hear from you. Excuse the crudeness of many of my views, most hastily poured down on this sheet – and please to consider the same confidential. Very truly yours Amos Tuck.” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

25 May 1846: Tuck noted: “I have this day paid one half of \$88 for a horse, to C.D. Towle. Some weeks ago I paid ½ of \$18 for a waggon bought of Francis Ham.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

27 May 1846: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “...General Court meets next week. I doubt some as to the success of the Hale folks and Whigs. In fact I felt so little interest in our State politics now that I have said nothing on the subject for a long time to any one. The war I take an interest in. The Whigs here want to find fault with the President, but they cannot do it. Major Cobbs and I go strong for our side. I have to call up often to sympathize with him...” [FFP Reel 11]

5 June 1846: NH legislature elects Whig Anthony Colby governor.

9 June 1846: NH legislature elects Hale US senator. Tuck says that about this time he "...was taken up by the Independents as a candidate for the 30th Congress at the election in March 1847 for the 1st Congressional District, the State having been Districted for the choice of Representatives at the June session of the Legislature in 1846. [Tuck 1848]

14 June 1846: (BBF to HFF) "Charley Bell and Cong Tuck are here. Ned and I took them to a bowling alley yesterday after dinner, and I introduced them to sundry members of Congress, and rolled a couple of hours. They took tea with us, and Bess, Norris, Tuck and Ned played ucre, while Charley and I played duets on our flutes. To day we all attended Mr. Sprole's church to hear his sermon against dueling, and this evening Ned has gone to show 'the boys' as he calls them, the City! They talk of leaving tomorrow for the West." BBF also informs Henry that the telegraph now works through to NYC. [FFP Reel 4]

18 June 1846: HFF to BBF. "...I have bought a dozen acres of land about a ¼ of a mile from my house, towards Kensington [word unclear] with a small oak growth, and have offered to buy about a dozen acres off of Elliot's field adjoining the oaks, and I shall probably have it. The cost of the whole will be about \$1500. I calculate to put a street right through it and have all my friends build house there, and build there myself when I get ready. I'll save one lot for you. You will see it when you come on this summer!"

"I suppose you will see our abolition friend Jo. Cilley in the Senate in a few days. I understand he starts tomorrow. Jack, I believe, does not talk of going till next Congress, unless they elect him representative! Speaking of Hale, I don't care a fourpence about this controversy. The Democratic party has for some time in this State had an inconvenient load of blunders and [word unclear] on their shoulders, and the leaders have been punching up respectable gentlemen like myself, to defend them, till they [word unclear] the climax, by undertaking to break Hale down, for speaking and giving his reasons for a vote, which they all admitted he had a perfect right to cast. I told my friends they were wrong and would get whipped and that I should keep out of the contest, and I am glad I did. Now they will behave themselves, and not be so radical or so overbearing, and the liberty of speech will remain to us."

"The abolition spirit increases here, and no party can stand in opposition to it. I shall stick where I am with the administration of Mr. Polk, which is every way respectable. I hope our party in the State will act more decently than heretofore. The Governor's message was a caution. It is unsurpassed in a literary point of view by anything except General Scott's 'plate of soup,' which, I take it, he has pretty much kicked over. Our State legislature, I expect will act like Satan."

"Petitions for acts of incorporation are pouring in by scores, and I expect they will pass enough to answer for the next century. I have not seen the resolutions passed by our Democratic State Convention. If they have put the party right on the slave question, we can go in again next spring, otherwise we cannot – that's the whole story."

“We shall be very glad to see Bess here. Our girl is a darky, so that Maria will be perfectly at home. This is the niggerest town in the State.”

“There is a nigger tavern opened on Water St. I expect the Whigs will hold their next State Convention there. Your loving Brother, Henry F. French/” [FFP Reels 6 and 11]

20 June 1846: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hales.

“‘The prairie is all on fire’, say our friends, for a meeting at New Market on the 4th of July. But without you they wish for no meeting. They have chosen a committee of arrangements, and one of our best friends is now waiting for me to write you this letter, and wishes me to urge you to renounce other engagements for this meeting among your friends. They will make great preparations – a band, ladies pic-nic etc.etc. – will be among the entertainments. I hope you will be able to write me by return mail that you will come. Whether the legislature adjourn or not, will not absolutely decide the question, since it will be possible for you to come without an adjournment. I have not recd. an answer to my letter of Thursday last.”

[Hale Papers, NHHS]

11 July 1846: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg (Concord). “I send you a hasty com. which I have written since I came to the office this morning. Have the goodness to look over it, and if it appears to you (as it does to me) too crude, withhold it. But if on the other hand it may work in properly into your paper, let it slide. If for any reason you think it better not be signed ‘Rockingham’, change the signature. Whatever I may write hereafter, I must beg of you to exercise a similar proof of friendship. Unless you do, I shall be deterred from writing, inasmuch as [I] must always write in haste.

I congratulate you upon the general success with which the session of the Leg. has passed. Progress has been made, as every body says. I am satisfied that the best has been done in almost every respect. Please to write me your own impressions of matters in general, as soon as you have taken breath. Yours truly Amos Tuck

P.S. Let a charge be made to me for James M. Pike’s subscription of last year Epping [?]. I wish only one paper to be sent to me at present. When the battle waxes warm I will then give a new order. A.T.” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

20 Jul 1846: HFF to BBF. “I wrote Brown that James Bell is to leave Exeter and the practice of law and will go as soon as Aug’t Term is over. He is to have \$2500. a year as an agent of a Boston Manufacturing Company, who own the Winnepiseogee Lake. Some of us will get his business. How many lawyers will come in, or how much my business will be affected by his removal, I cannot tell. I think I must come in for a considerable slice of his up country practice. I know of no person who is not doing business enough in his present location, who can come here and do any great things. At any rate, I am serene. I suppose Brown tells you about our land purchases, as much as you wish to hear. I don’t regard the matter as a speculation, but I think it is altogether the prettiest place to build in Exeter, and I think I shall sell out before a great while,

and start anew, and if I can have Brown and Anne by our side, we will have the most beautiful place any where out doors, in a very short time. I have no time to write politics now.”

“I suppose you see how all N.H. – Whigs, Independents, and Democrats have gone abolition. Should you advise me to try to keep up with my party in anti-slavery, or stay about as I was when they were annexing Texas and Slavery?”

“I suppose Atherton will vote for abolishing slavery in the District?” [FFP Reel 6]

1 August 1846: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg (Concord). “I have been absent for some time at New York and have heard nothing of your prosperity at Concord. I hope everything is going well for our independent cause. I should send you some contributions more frequently, did my engagements permit. I hope to resume soon.

I have received a communication from a friend in the upper part of the state expressing to me the very decided opinion that the Ind. Dem. and the Gr. Free. [Granite Freeman] should be united, yourself to be editor and Mr. Hale to be publisher. He said to me that such is the unanimous wish of our reliable friends. He may be mistaken; but as this accords so nearly with the views entertained by yourself and with my own, I communicate them to you. I think we cannot lose many valuable friends by such a course, and shall immediately stand in a more comfortable attitude. The support of the paper would at once become certain, and you would be relieved from great responsibility. If you still continue to entertain the opinions on this subject expressed to me at Concord, please to inform me whether you think them practicable. I hope no individual interests will stand in the way of desirable action. The privilege of being the publisher of the Independent Democrat may be valuable; but is not so valuable as some other things.

I suggest the above things, because we are about getting up a call for a mass meeting of Indepts. and Liberty men, at New Market about the middle of September, and if a union is to take place in our papers, it would be desirable to have it done before that time.

I saw several N.H. Democrats in New York City, and without exception found them on the side of Hale and Independent democracy. They give us their deep sympathy, and fervently wish us God speed. The burning heat that has been applied in New Hampshire to the noses of the tools of slavery, is rapidly spreading throughout the Country, and the time is come when northern doughfaces are getting baked into an unchangeable state. The Gag-Athertons can no longer alter their phizzes, as they look north or south, but are fated to wear forever the naughty, black and traitorous visages, so emblematical of their true characters.

If you send a paper to Gilbert A. Grant Esq – New York City, you will obtain in return, valuable communications from time to time. So he promised me.

Please to stop the extras now sent to me. When the battle waxes warm I will order them again. Hoping to receive a letter from you soon, I am your truly, Amos Tuck.

Private

P.S. You are at liberty to publish an extract (marked) of this letter, if you choose, stating it to be from a friend etc. [Fogg papers, NHHS]

7 August 1846: Tuck paid \$100 to Nancy Wiggin and David S. Norton, both of Stratham for four undivided sevenths of a parcel of land with the dwelling house and outbuildings thereon in Stratham on the Portsmouth Road. The other three sevenths were held by Ira W. Wiggin, Mary Wiggin and Sarah Wiggin. The tract contained about 25 acres. [Mary Wiggin may be the sister of Amos Tuck. She married a Daniel Wiggin in 1844.] [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 454]

14 August 1846: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale.

“Our friends are agitating for a meeting to be called about the middle of Sept. next at New Market. I have advised them to consult you, and have it called, if at all, on a printed call to be signed by many friends, both in Strafford and Rockingham. Will you advise about this matter before you go East, and authorize the use of your name, if you approve. I am in a great hurry of office business, or I should have taken more pains about. Our friends expect you to cheer them up at the meeting, and also want you to give them your sanction at present.”

“P.S. I hope they will unite the papers at Concord. Mr. T. Hood [sp?] has written to me and is willing to sell out, buy out, go out, stay in, or do any thing for the good of the cause. I have seen Geo. Barstow, and he will be with us before the next March elections. He is for Wilson, but very privately at present. He has taken pains to advise me of his position. This is good, good.” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

24 August 1846: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. “I want you to do me the favor to deliver to Judge Parker now at Court at Concord, the enclosed depositions, which have annexed to them a deed from Mary Jewell and other to Alfred Sewell [Jewell?], necessary to be inspected by the Court; and when the Court have done with them, to send them back to me at Exeter. The Court do not wish to be troubled with having original papers left in their hands, or I would not trouble you.

I should answer your very interesting letter at length, had I time possibly to do it. But the Court business is pressing me terribly. I wish to say privately that Geo Barstow is nearly resolved to go with us. I am assured from him that he will raise an issue in their next state convention, when a quarrel must come, and he will be with or near us. I think he wrote the article signed ‘An old man’ and it may be well to touch only lightly upon the two papers in Hillsborough, as a powerful influence from within the party, is moulding them over. The Cheshire paper (B. says) is right now. Keep B.’s intentions private or his purposes of blowing up their camp will be prevented. Ruin is before the slavocracy.

Mr. B. has invited me on purpose to arrange for the future. I think he will be with us in two months. I might say that he is now with us. Yet I would not have you mention this to any individual. Be aware of what he tells me is coming and arrange your paper and other things accordingly. Your paper is good and does you no dishonor. Mr. Hood privately wrote us not long ago, expressing an urgent wish for a union of the papers on any terms of purchase, sale or

otherwise. We shall have a meeting at New Market Sept. 12th and I hope you will be here. I hope Mr. Hood will come too, as we wish to coalesce here in Rockingham.

In haste and confidence, I am yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

26 August 1846: Son Amos Otis Tuck is born. [Dow]

29 August 1846: Tuck sold the mortgage deed he held from Abraham P. Blake (for the Swamscot House) to Joseph T. Gilman for \$5,747.00. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 323, Page 143]

“In due time a convention was called, and without a suggestion from me, I was nominated [to fill Hale’s seat as US representative].” He learned of this on 24 October 1846 and accepted 20 November 1846 [Why the delay? Who did he consult with?] In his acceptance letter, he laid down two platform planks: (1) against the ‘despotism of party power’ [Pierce?] and (2) against the slave power to the fullest extent possible under the Constitution, i.e., the abolition of slavery and its trade in the District of Columbia, no admission of a new slave state nor the dismemberment of Texas or Florida to create a new slave state, and an end to the domestic slave trade under the commerce clause. Tuck called for immediate action of the unchecked schemes of the South will lead to the dissolution of the Union. He also called for a speedy end to the unjust war of conquest in Mexico, with all matters of dispute to be settled by arbitration or negotiation

Also in 1846, Tuck’s law partner James Bell left Exeter. When the partnership was dissolved, it was one of the largest, most successful in southern NH. Tuck convinced William W. Stickney of Newmarket to move to Exeter and join his practice. They remain law partners until Tuck “retired” in 1856. . [Tuck 1875, pp. 76-80]

11 September 1846: HFF to BBF. “I received thro’ Ann Sunday messages respecting your horse, and his speed and points, but was more especially struck with the idea of Frank Pierce being Attorney General. As the tailor said of Niagara, ‘What a place to sponge a coat.’ So I say in view of Frank’s promotion, what a pleasant little vacancy he will leave. Now, if he goes out of the Dist. Attorneyship, I think with your help, I can stand a fair chance to get in. I presume your first thought will be that it is all fixed for Hibbard or Wells or somebody else, just as before they all said it was to be given to Barstow. That was why I did not push for it before.”

“Again, somebody may suggest that I have not gone the whole figure for the party, in the past election here. Now my position as you may know was just this. When Hale published his letter, and it was proposed to throw him over, I opposed it so far as I acted in the caucuses here, upon the ground that the party could not put him down and would its supremacy in the attempt. What ever my private opinion was as to the merits of Hale’s case, I always have said that I should go with the party, whatever course they took in regard to him, but going as they did against my advice, and to their own destruction as I predicted and the event has proved. I have

in a small way played Achilles and let the fight to on without me, although much against my conscience I did vote of Woodbury, who was never fit for a member of Congress as we both knew.”

“The Democratic party here have already gone much further in abolition doctrines than I ever went, and had they taken their true positions one year ago, we should now have N.H. State safe and entire. There will be a still farther split in our party at the next State Convention and unless the party is saved through the influence and exertions of those of us who have kept the confidence of the people by a moderate and conservative course, the Whigs will carry everything before them. The issue for us now is upon the tariff. I have always gone for free trade, as far as I could get any company, and that is the policy that will prevail in the end, and I think the great question upon which the party will divide in the future.”

“Will you write me immediately what you think of my chance for the appointment. Levi Woodbury, Mr. Hubbard, Mr. Pierce and almost anybody else will certify my qualifications as a lawyer, for the place. The Courts are all held here and at Portsmouth and the business of course nearly all originates near the coast.”

“Wells of Lancaster is about coming here or to Portsmouth. Stickney of Newmarket is coming here, and we shall be able to do up all the business I think. The little office referred to is worth some \$500 a year and the duties trifling, and it would help along a little my manifold necessities.” [FFP Reel 6]

13 September 1846: BBF (Washington) to Henry. Polk may have offered the Attorney General job to Pierce. Henry should get in touch with Pierce in Concord to get his support for the job of district attorney, while BBF will do what he can in DC. Pierce knows that BBF would do more for him than for any man on earth. [FFP Reel 4]

16 September 1846: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John L. Carlton. “...I embrace this opportunity to say that our Independent cause does no lag in this part of the state. It is onward and the people will support the good cause at future elections. We are coalescing with the Liberty Men who stand with us in sentiment. You will see in the Ind. Democrat and Granite Freeman an account of our meeting at Newmarket, and certain resolutions offered by me at that meeting and unanimously passed. I hope they will show you the tendency of our sentiments. Let us hear from you at your leisure.” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

17 September 1846: John Greenleaf Whittier (Amesbury) to Essex Transcript. “I had the satisfaction of attending the meeting of the Liberty men and Independent Democrats of the 1st Congressional District in New Hampshire, which was held at New Market on the 12th inst. I had a strong desire to see the old and tried advocates of Freedom, and their younger allies of the Independent Democracy sitting in council together for the first time.”

“The large meeting house was well filled with a fine looking delegation of the yeomanry of Strafford and Rockingham counties. A few ladies graced the meeting with their presence. In the cause of Liberty and Humanity when was the sympathy of woman appealed to in vain?”

“The choice of officers of the Convention having been made, a thin, worn, carelessly dressed man, apparently between fifty and sixty years of age, lame and leaning on his staff, with a black shade over his left eye, passed up the aisle to take the President’s chair. It was the Hon. Joseph Cilley from his mountain home in Nottingham, the first Liberty Senator in Congress. He has a mild, calm face, full of benevolence and kindness, yet at the same time indicating latent firmness and energy. He is still suffering from the effects of the wounds received in the last war with Great Britain.”

“Perhaps there is no man at this time so universally popular in the Granite State, as Col. Cilley. No man questions his integrity, patriotism and philanthropy; and especially fitting is it that such a man should be the first representative of the Liberty Party in the Senate of the United States.”

“After the appointment of a business committee and some other preliminaries, in obedience to repeated calls, a gentleman, apparently from thirty-five to forty years of age, fresh, clear-eyed, vigorous, in form and feature giving assurance of a man strong alike in body and intellect, rose to speak.”

“It was John P. Hale, U.S. Senator elect – the Liberator of New Hampshire from the control of slaveholders – the bold and indomitable leader of the Independent Democracy of the North. He was greeted with loud cheers; and spoke with great ease, fluency and effect for a few minutes. When he sat down there was a call for another friend of Liberty who was understood to be present. A young man, with a countenance strongly marked by intellectual effort, indicating a nervous and energetic temperament answered to the call. It was Henry B. Stanton – who in 1834 revolted from Lane Seminary because the Faculty of the College attempted to silence students on the subject of Slavery; and who, in the six years following as an eloquent advocate of Freedom made his name a familiar one from Illinois to Maine – literally crowding the work of a life-time into that brief period. He spoke in his earnest and impassioned manner amidst the reiterated applause of the audience. In the afternoon, resolutions of a decided Liberty stamp, were introduced by the Business Committee. They were drawn up by Amos Tuck, Esq., one of the right hand men of Hale in the late political Revolution. He is a man of great moral worth; and his pertinent and well-chosen remarks on introducing the resolutions, were such as became a Christian politician and a sincere advocate of Liberty. He was followed by John P. Hale in a powerful speech of more than an hour. Among those who followed in brief remarks, was Moses A. Cartland, one of the earliest and ablest abolitionists of New Hampshire. Although clad in the sober garb of the Society of Friends, one has only to look at his fine intellectual face, glowing with the fire and enthusiasm of genius, as if to use Carlyle’s description of the face of Camille Desmoulins, ‘a naphtha lamp burnt within it,’ to understand that so long as there is a wrong to be redressed, or the cause of Humanity needs an advocate, he is not likely to become what is called ‘a quiet Quaker.’ Among those who were present, and manifesting evident sympathy with the objects of the meeting, was the Hon. Wm. Plumer, Jr., of Epping, a gentleman of refined taste and cultivated intellect, who represented New Hampshire in Congress during the Missouri struggle and signalized himself by an able speech against the iniquitous ‘compromise.’ Such a

man can scarcely do otherwise than give his sympathies and his influence to the present Liberty movement.”

“The Resolutions, when published will show that the Liberty men and Independents of New Hampshire, are one in feeling and action; and they so fully define the position of John P. Hale, as to preclude all doubt or cavil. May the God of Freedom enable him so wisely and firmly to bear his part in the great struggle before him, as to confound his enemies and those of freedom; and realize the hopes, and justify the confidence of the friends of Liberty and true Democracy!” (John B. Pickard, The Letters of John Greenleaf Whittier, vol. 2, pp. 34-36)

17 September 1846: HFF to BBF. “In reply to yours of the 13th so far as relates to the office of Dist. Atty I have somewhat to say. If the appointment depends on the personal benevolence or Mr. Pierce, I presume he would find among the politicians who have lately led the Democratic party in N.H. to defeat several persons to whom he would feel more kindly than towards me, but everybody here knows that in this District the party must rise again by ceasing to contend for the correctness of the course that had been taken - letting ‘bygones’ [word unclear] entirely, and coming up to the rescue upon the question of free trade and the general measures of the general government. If I have any claim to the office it is, in the first place because I am qualified for it by talent and education, located in the proper part of the state - that I have always without exception sustained the measures of the Democratic party of the country, and never cast a vote for any but the regular Democratic candidates. If the party have any thing to gain by appointing me, it is that I will show the people in the in this District that there are qualifications worthy of consideration, besides subserviency to the prejudged views of a dominant clique.”

“If the issued to be tried here again is to be whether it was expedient to attempt to throw Mr. Hale over, and whether this attempt would be successful, the men who believe it should be kept before the people, and thus keep the old [two words unclear] and the same majority against.”

“This Dist. will never send a democrat to Congress but by conciliating those who have either not voted in this controversy, or who have reluctantly toed the mark, under protest, besides the hundreds who have voted for Hale, and now find themselves in a false position, being with the tariff party against their convictions. I think, inter nos, that the Prest. cannot make a nomination in this State that would gain so many votes to the next congressional election, as would the nomination of this humble individual. John S. Wells is coming here known only as a radical ultra politician, defeated in the Hale controversy. Appoint him and the old lines are newly drawn, and the result will be the same and so with Hibbard. The people must see that the general government does not identify itself entirely with the anti Hale party, leaving all other candidates out of the account.”

“I think you may put the matter to the Prest. himself, so that he will himself see the matter as I do. I think you had better write Mr Pierce immediately. You need not hesitate to say that I have always supported and do still support the measures of the present administration. In

the small questions of expediency in our state politicks I have differed from the caucus who have led the party in the last controversy. Breakfast is ready.”

“‘Having taken a hasty plate of soup,’ I have this subject. You will write Pierce and see the Prest. if you think proper. I shall do nothing till I hear from you. Perhaps I may see Mr Hubbard in Boston....” [FFP Reel 6]

18 September 1846: Tuck notes: “Bought ten shares of B & M Railroad at a cost including brokerage \$1103.50”

“Bought 10 shares in Powow R. Bank for \$850 and a condition for more.”

Sold my East Boston Land Aug. 28, 1846 for \$2844 – cash \$300 and note for \$2544.”

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

28 September 1846: Tuck noted: “I this day have bought of James Bell his right in the land lately owned in common by him and me with a new house on it and gave him my note for \$1100 for the same.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

Tuck bought two parcels of land near the Court House from James Bell for \$1100. One parcel contained a new house with outbuildings. The two parcels totaled about one acre. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 420]

29 September 1846: Tuck noted: “I have sold one half of my new House etc. bought of James Bell (one half of it) for \$775 to John F. Merrill and the other half to James M. Hibberd for \$875 taking their notes for the same secured by mortgage of the property.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

29 September 1846: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to John F. Merrill of Exeter for \$875.00. The tract was located on the new street running easterly from the Court House and abutted the land of Henry F. French. The property line divided in half the new house recently built by Tuck and Bell into two tenements, one of which was being sold by this deed. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 423]

29 September 1846: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to James M. Hebbard for \$875.00, which included half of the house he and James Bell had recently built on the new street running easterly from the Court House. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 426]

29 September 1846: Tuck registered a mortgage showing that he sold ½ interest in a house owned jointly with James Bell to James M. Hebbard for \$875. A marginal note states that the mortgage was finally discharged on 25 March 1856. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 324, Page 188]

10 October 1846: Tuck and James Bell sold a tract of land in Exeter to John F. Merrill of Exeter for \$175.00. The land was located between the river and the new street. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 428]

10 October 1846: Tuck noted: "I have rescinded my purchase of J. Bell Sept. 28, 1846 and hold the avails of the sale made Sept. 29, 1846 and the remainder of the property conveyed to me by J. Bell, on joint account for his and my benefit." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

13 October 1846: Tuck noted that he had lent \$200 to Stacy L. Nudd. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

22 October 1846: Tuck is nominated to run for U.S. representative for District 1 at the Independent Democratic and Liberty Party convention held at Newmarket. [ENL, 26 October 1846]

7 November 1846: Tuck spent \$5.00 for a one-year subscription to the Granite Freeman and \$10.00 for a one-year's subscription for himself and a two-year's subscription for his brother John. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

[November 1846: BBF to HFF. Long letter on slavery. BBF against it, but does not think the free states should interfere with the slave states. If all the slave were freed it would be a catastrophe. "You can see enough of what free negroism is in Exeter to know what it is, and an influx of from ½ a million to a million of slaves into the New England states at once would be a mater greatly to be dreaded. With this view I am against the abolition of slavery, much as I hate it, 'at one fell swoop,' for it would not only ruin the slaves, but ruin the free white people too." But BBF agrees with Henry "that no new territory ought ever to be added to this Union without a provision that slavery therein should not exist – for this I have gone – for this I will hereafter go. I will defend the South against the abolitionists of the North, as far as slavery exists, and is recognized by the Constitution but one inch further I will not go. You have my true sentiments, and if, knowing them, you think, should Tuck be elected, he will help me, get him elected if you can! This must, however, be between us three. The above principles I always openly avow and care not who knows them, but I do not wish it to be known that I apply them to Mr. Tuck's benefit." [FFP Reel 4]

9 November 1846: Tuck paid \$250.00 to George O. Hilton for 5 shares of the Swamscot Machine Co. at Newfields village. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

13 November 1846: HFF to BBF. "Yours of the 7th touching politics awaited my return last evening from a three day road expedition. As I do not by any means agree with you that it would be the best, or anywhere approaching the best thing that could happen to you to be 'turned out,' and especially as my other 'particuler friends and blood relations' stand or fall with you and your

clerical office. I should feel grievously afflicted to believe the next House of Representatives likely to be Whig. I do not quite think it will. But there is manifest danger.”

“What do you want of me? Why either to go to Congress or get Sullivan or some other decent man in from this district. Now, just see what an unreasonable request. In the first place I would not go to stay more than through the election of clerk, could I have every vote in the district. Sullivan I think has a little more sense than to desire to be run down. I will show you how it will work. This District last March threw for Berry 2543, for Williams 5421, for Colby 2891, scattering 4. Williams in this District wants 1867 of a majority. Now Tuck is the Independent candidate, Goodwin the Whig, and Elder Dyer or John Woodbury or some other ‘bright and shining light’ that has been so under a bushel as to have offended nobody’s eyes will probably be the Democratic nominee. Mr. Tuck being in the first place altogether the most decent and worthy man, and the candidate of the new and therefore progressive and zealous party, will gain on the vote for Berry. He will get every Independent and abolition vote and some more and will I think get pretty well up with the others. The Whigs at the Dover ‘Cotton Whig’ convention, undertook to swallow the Independent party at once by going sharper against the war and [word unclear] against slavery than any body else could, but it wont do and they cannot get away a man from Tuck, but will lose some to him. Well, do what we may there will be no choice the first run. After that either the Independents and Democrats or the Independents and Whigs will unite, more likely the former than the latter in this District. You need not ask Concord folks about this District – they don’t know. Tuck when interrogated will hold out for the present tariff, against U.S. Bank and for a subtreasury. He will go Democratic substantially, but will go abolition strong, that is to say, for the immediate abolition of slavery in the Dist. of Columbia, for the suppression of slave trade between the States, and against any and every candidate who holds a slave. My present opinion is that he will be elected, before any other man from this District. Well, Tuck will, with his present feelings, go for you, as you are not a slaveholder, not an advocate of slavery. I think the abolition party will be felt in the next Congress, and as there is no particular need of you making yourself a Southern man, and as you would really be glad to see slavery abolished, especially in the District and as you are a popular man as well.” [thought not completed]

“Saturday morning – Jo. Gilman came in and diverted me from my sentiments, so that I don’t really know where I was, but I think I was going to say that if you should not put yourself out to make enemies of the abolitionists, you would certainly get their votes against any Southern man. You can hold the balance of power, so that nobody else can be elected, just by attending to your duties and keeping still. I have just seen Sullivan and he says he would not stand the nomination at all, and thinks as I do, as to any chance of electing anybody over both candidates.”

“I shall keep shady, pretty much, for the present, and after the nomination is made and everybody sees that it is hopeless to elect either of the three candidates, shall do what the good of the country requires as to a compromise or anything else that may come up. We can whip the Whigs at any time when we can unite with the Independents, and not before. Many of the best men of our party have gone to that party – good, consciencious, substantial men, who see how

they have been gulled by our party leaders, who are ashamed of the part our delegation has taken upon the gag rule, and in relation to slavery, and never will go for anybody who will not go for the abolition of slavery as fast as it may constitutionally be done. The proscription and abuse of such men who are not candidates for office and of course have a right to entertain their honest opinions, will never strengthen us. You will put me down for an abolitionist. Well, you may go so far as this – I would abolish slavery in the District, unless I could see objections which I do not see. I would never admit another inch of slave territory, on any pretense, but [word unclear] I should not allow that question to outweigh all others, but would vote for a Democrat who would keep down the Bank, the tariff and the corporation interest to their proper level, were he a slaveholder or not. I go against the Independents as to the war, which they cry out against, and any man who talks about a dissolution of the Union I will knock down at my earliest convenience.”

“The course of the Democrats as to Hale I regard as suicidal. The treatment Barstow received, after being put on a committee because he had independent notions on some subjects, was disgraceful to the party and will lose us many votes. The course of the ‘Independent Democrat’ - so far as its spirit of bitterness and hostility to the South is concerned, is all wrong and will work mischief, if persisted in.”

“I could heartily go against slavery in a consistent, Christian spirit, which should say to the South and stand to it, ‘My friends and brethren, you have a great evil among you which you know and feel, which is my business in part as well as yours, my business to discuss in Congress and legislate about, and while I hold sacred every word and letter in the Constitution, I shall so act and vote that slavery may be done away at a day as early as possible, having no fear in doing my manifest duty and desirous to impress on all my conscientious determination not to do one unkind or one illegal act, looking on the existence of slavery as your misfortune rather than your fault.”

“Now you will perceive that I am not as the ministers say in ‘a frame of mind’ to go round glorifying John Woodbury and elder Dyer, and abusing Mr. Hale and Mr. Tuck, and so keeping time with the New Hampshire ‘Patriot’, and as it can do no good, I shall pursue the even tenor of my way, but I think you chance pretty good for a vote from this District if there is a choice, ever....”

“[P.S.] Read the Whig resolutions at Dover and then the articles in the Intelligencer on ‘Jefferson and abolition,’ and see how beautifully they agree. The Whigs here are crazy with their success and have ‘become mad, preparatory to being destroyed.’” [FFP Reel 6]

20 November 1846: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. James Boswell and Samuel A. Haley. Tuck responds to their letter of 24 October informing him of his nomination as a candidate by the Liberty and Independent Democratic Convention. “Two causes have contributed more than all others to effect the late change in the political balance of power. The first has been the despotism of party power, by which generous impulses have been repressed and discouraged...by self-constituted party leaders.”

“The second and chief cause of the late change has been the existence and progressive power of the institution of slavery. The encroachments of the slaveholding interests, and the subserviency of public men to its numerous exactions have been so exorbitant and so notorious as to have become just cause of alarm to every friend of humanity and the country....”

“The inquiry now is, what can be done, what can Congress do, to free the master and the slave and the nation, from the sin and the retributions of slavery?...The exigency of the country as well as the spirit of the age require now the performance of those acts whose constitutionality and propriety are beyond reasonable doubt. They require that the shadow of slavery shall no longer darken the District of Columbia, and that the trader in human beings shall no longer be permitted to shelter himself from the scorn of the Christian world, beneath the wings of the National Capitol. They require that no slave State with a constitution recognizing slavery, shall hereafter be admitted into the Union, and that no existing State, whether Texas or Florida, shall be dismembered, to subserve the slave holding interest. They require that the domestic internal state slave trade, a traffic in no respect less infamous than that foreign slave trade which has been branded by the civilized world as piracy, shall, under the clause in the Constitution which gives power to Congress, ‘to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several States, be utterly and forever prohibited. They require that the labor and interest of the free States should be respected, and that slavery be no longer permitted to give character to our Legislation.”

“Let the people of the free States come now to the rescue of freedom and the constitution, and something may be done to perpetuate the Union, - let them be found wanting in this trial of their integrity, and let the South for a few years more, continue, unchecked, her schemes in behalf of slavery and no human power can prevent a dissolution. For the sake of the Union, let the people of the free States be careful to discern and perform on this subject the duties of patriotism and humanity.”

Tuck calls the war with Mexico “a war of conquest, and such is in violation of every principle of popular government, as well as of every precept of Christianity. It is adding immense territory to the Southern portion of the country, thus confirming the power of Slave States, and threatening in the end to destroy the stability of the Union....there can be no doubt that the honor and best interests of the country demand a speedy end of the contest, and that all matters in dispute be settle by arbitration or negotiation....”

Tuck then accepted the nomination. [Exeter News-Letter, 30 November 1846]

21 November 1846: Tuck paid \$15 to Miss Cate for “nursing babes for 5 weeks. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

21 November 1846: Tuck sold 7 shares of Powow River Bank for \$85 each, totaling \$595. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

21 November 1846: Tuck noted in a separate section of the ledger:
 “Property November 21, 1846

Dwelling house	\$2,000
Merrill note and Hebbard note	800
Due for Powow R Bk note	600
10 shares in Boston & M. Rroad	1,125
4 shares in E[astern] Rroad	425
Note E. Boston v. Burleigh etc.	2600
Copper stock	400
½ of land near Court House	500
½ debts due B. & T. [Bell & Tuck]	1500
Paid on Swamscot stock N. Fields	250
Furniture	1000
Library	<u>100</u>
	\$11,203

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

28 November 1846: Tuck sold a tract of land in Stratham to Nathaniel M. Jewell for \$100.00. The tract was located on the Exeter-Portsmouth road and contained 25 acres. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 318, Page 455]

3 December 1846: HFF to BBF. "...I have conversed with Mr. Tuck lately. He thinks you ought to be clerk of the next House, sarting. You will not have an opposition vote from this District, but who will elect Tuck is quite dubious. He has recently published a letter, covering up his opinions on divers points – perhaps I should not say that, for probably he spoke all he thought, but 'it is difficult to convey to others an idea of that of which you yourself have no conception.'

"Tuck is not yet developed and whether he will be a Daniel Webster man or a Democrat is yet hidden. But darn politics, let us be literary...." [FFP Reel 6]

24 December 1846: Henry to BBF. "...As to politics, I am serene, but I am 'sot' as Mr. Christie of Dover always says on one point. I go for the war, out and out, and I prophesy that every man who opposes it till feel before five years as he needed a very tall hat to cover up his ears! I think the Independents here have sawed their own heads square off by the course their paper takes upon that matter."

"Why every volunteer who returns will be a lion and he will be feasted and cheered wherever he goes, and the peace folks will be about the meanest set of [word unclear] to be found."

"I have missionaried Tuck a good deal, but I cannot get him to go for the war." [FFP Reel 6]

1847:

Partnership with William W. Stickney begins.

Over the winter, further elections were held, but the three-way split kept anyone from gaining a majority, although Tuck's vote tally rose as the vote for Goodwin tailed off. Finally, in the spring of 1847, Goodwin dropped out. [According to Lowden, the elections in March 1847 failed to achieve a majority in both the 1st and 3rd district US congressional races. Tuck was the Independent Democratic candidate for the 1st district.]

5 January 1847: HFF to BBF. "...Tomorrow evening Maj. Cobbs is to have his Battle of New Orleans party, and we are all going. It is the best party of the year always. Speaking of Parties, you may depend on it we shall not begin to elect Jenness at the first trial, or ever, without a compromise. Possibly, we may elect the Governor, but I doubt. Probably we may get the house as the Whig majorities, some of them were very small last year. Should we frighten the Whigs man at the first trial, they will go in for Tuck perhaps [but] it is not impossible that the Independents and Democrats may unite on a new man. However, I cannot tell yet, nor do I worry much. I have been very busy all the fall in the law, more so than before, and as I really need all my spare time in my profession in order to earn my daily bread, I have no intention of meddling much with politicks for the present. It must be a great thing to be a great man – who would want to be broiled on a grid-iron...." [FFP Reel 6]

19 January 1847: Tuck noted, "Renewed a note to Wm. Robinson held by J.L. Robinson Date Ap. 11, 1846 for \$500 – giving a new note of date Sept. 11, 1846 for \$530.45 payable in 7 mos. int. after – being Ap. 11, 1847."

"Renewed another note to Wm. Robinson, held by Jere. L. Robinson, Date Oct. 29, 1845 for \$500, giving a new note of date Sept. 29, 1846 for \$546.67 payable in 7 months int. after, being Ap. 29, 1847."

"These are the only notes I owe J.L. Robinson or Wm. Robinson – but I owe Irene Robinson \$120. I have paid the remaining \$250 for shares in Swamscot Machine Co. and taken a certificate of 5 shares – cost \$500. I loaned to Stacy L. Nudd in all \$300." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

25 January 1847: Tuck noted in a separate section of the ledger:

"I have rec'd my dues for Powow River Bank stock and my schedule now stands	
Dwelling House	2000
Due on two notes against John F. Merrill and James	
M. Hebbard ½ of which is mine (about)	800
11 shares in B & M Railroad	1199
4 shares in E[astern] Railroad (deposited in Granite Bank)	426

½ of land near Court House	500
½ of debts due B. & T. [Bell & Tuck]	1500
Due on note of John Tuck, Jr. secured by mortgage of Saco land	250
Paid towards 5 shares of stock in Swamscot Machine Co. (enquire of Danl Ranlet)	250
Notes vs. Stacy L. Nudd	200
Copper stock (say)	100
Due on note of Burleigh and others E. Boston	2600
Furniture etc.	1000
Library	100

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

3 February 1847: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale. "I wish you would send to the Ind. Democrat and Granite Freeman a notice of a meeting at Exeter on the 2nd week of our Court on such day as you can be here, at 2 o'clock P.M. and in the evening -- if you can stay in the evening. I intended to see you, but have been so pressed with preparations for Court, that it was impossible. Monday of the 2nd week had occurred to me, but it is immaterial, providing it be a day when you can be here – which is a sine qua non." [Hale Papers, NHHS]

27 February 1847: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale. "We are waking up in Rockingham, and on the 9th of March, shall give a good account of ourselves. I much regret that you cannot spend any more time in this part of the state. I am particularly commissioned to beg of you to speak on Wednesday evening next at Plaistow, after you have spoken at Danville. Can you not do it and return to Dover on Thursday morning? They say they will pay for an extra team from Dover to Alton, if you can do so. I want you to write by Niles' Express, to Wm. H. Hills, Tucker's Depot, Plaistow, by first train Monday morning, if you will consent to this; you can do great execution at Plaistow if you can possibly go there, and they will give extensive notice etc. etc. You see the notices for Rye, Hampton, Exeter, Kingston and Danville. I suppose the best course for you to reach Rye is by Railroad to Portsmouth, and then go out with Hayes or friend Christie. I have sent a man to Rye to prepare the way, make arrangements for a house etc. I have also made arrangements for a man to take you from Rye to Hampton, where I have also caused arrangements to be made, and where I will meet and bring you here. The people at Rye are very ignorant, and I recommend that you serve them with the medicine which you finds works well, where ignorance is found united with honesty and tender consciences. They have always been democratic too, and it will please them to speak of democracy and Christianity being much alike. It is much the same with the people at Hampton, with the addition that Mr. Lamprey has labored to convince the people that to vote with us, is to go the whole category of whig doctrines.

"We shall have a great meeting here." [Hale Paper, NHHS]

March 1847: Tuck noted in a separate section at the end of the ledger:

“I have paid stock in Swamscot Machine Co. \$500

Also have let [sp.?] S.L. Nudd so as to make my notes against him \$308.

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

4 March 1847: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “...I sold my Hooksett land, which I bought of Gen. Richardson, yesterday – made \$200 on it. I am rather for selling now a days. I expect when we ‘conquer a peace’, business will flat right down. If we lack 2000 votes of a majority next Tuesday, don’t say that everybody was disappointed, for I think the result is very clearly and manifestly doubtful....” [FFP Reel 11]

9 March 1847: No majority in the election for 1st District congressman. Tuck ran against Democrat Benning W. Jenness and Whig Ichabod Goodwin. [Tuck 1848]

20 March 1847: HFF to BBF. “...I am glad to hear you are coming in June. What in nature do you want to meet with the General Court for? It is the last thing I should think of wanting to meet.”

“However, come on, and we will see what can be done. Speaking of politics, I think New Hampshire now is in better working order for victories than ever before, for year. I believe there is nobody who will be fools enough to [word unclear] to make new tests of democracy in [word unclear].”

“Had not the Hale party made such consummate fools of themselves about the [war?] we should have had a defeat in probability. Now if we can go right on the abolition question, we can hold every thing steady for years....” [FFP Reel 6]

30 March 1847: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to Nathan T. Batchelder of Exeter for \$100.00. The tract was located south of the street running past the house of John Foss. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 336, Page 281]

1 April 1847: Tuck noted: “I have hired of Nicholas Rollins \$300, and have bought this day 6 shares in the Western Railroad at \$102.12 ½ per share including 25 cents brokerage for buying.” The total cost of the share was \$612.75. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

5 April 1847: Ichabod Goodwin, the Whig candidate for Congressional District 1, withdraws from the race: “The recent election having resulted in a failure to make a choice in this District, and a new election being soon to be ordered, I take this occasion....to apprise you that I respectfully decline being again a candidate for Congress.” [Exeter News-Letter, 19 April 1847]

In the April 1847 special election for the 1st District, again, no majority was reached. [Tuck 1848]

5 April 1847: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to Joseph G. Batchelder and John F. Merrill, both of Exeter, for \$125.00. The tract was located on the new street running from the Court House. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 327, Page 61]

5 April 1847: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to John F. Merrill and Joseph G. Batchelder, both of Exeter, for \$125.00. The tract was located on the new street running from the Court House. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 327, Page 62]

6 April 1847: Tuck noted in a separate section at the end of the ledger:

“I have bought 6 shares in Western Railroad at 102.12 ½ 612.75”

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

13 April 1847: Tuck noted: “Borrowed of S.W. Dearborn \$150.00 and sent \$100.00 to Jona. Tuck to be endorsed on note and loaned \$50 to Austin Cass of Candia.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

18 April 1847: HFF to BBF. “...Your note enquiring what I think of our chances in this district was received last evening. You are in error in supposing that Mr. Kelly [sp?] has been nominated and Tuck withdrawn. Goodwin has withdrawn, without leave or license from his friends, and with no understanding with either Whigs or Independents as to future operations. Tuck has not withdrawn. I think there is a strong inclination among a portion of the Whigs to run Mr. Christie, and they think he can get the Abolitionists and the Independents because of his abolitionist speech last session. My own opinion is that Kelly would get more votes than either, but that he cannot be elected. My opinion is that if elected Kelly would not be a party man strictly, and that he would vote for you.”

“He certainly would and so would Christie against any Southern candidate. My own opinion is that Tuck is the only man who can be elected by the Whigs and Indt. and that his friends will not consent to withdraw him on any terms. I see no reason why they should. Should the Whigs nominate him, I think he will be elected.”

“It is somewhat doubtful, however, whether he will wish to be run again, as his wife now lies at the point of death, and he has five young children, and nobody to take care of them but him and strangers. Marston told me last evening that [two words unclear] and fair agreement among the allies last year that Goodwin should go to Congress and Tuck decline after the first trial, and he says the Whigs will go for Christie, but his opinion is of no value, as he changes it daily, or oftener. He says Jenness will be elected against Kelly, should the latter be nominated. I think we can elect Jenness against any regular Whig. It is a question of some difficulty whether we had better provide that a plurality shall elect. We have a plurality, but with a plurality law, the Whigs and Indts. would probably club once more and elect somebody. I can judge better of the chances after learning Tuck’s own views, which I could do and can after he is out of his present trouble.” [FFP Reel 6]

20 April 1847: Tuck noted: "Paid S.W. Dearborn for borrowed Ap. 13, 1847 \$150." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 April 1847: Tuck noted: "I have this day hired of N. Rollins \$200 additional to the loan of Ap 1, 1847." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

21 April 1847: Wife Sarah Nudd Tuck dies, age 36. "The gay and giddy world may not miss her, for she was not of it; but the domestic virtues had their home in her heart and were illustrated in her life; and the circle in which she moved has sustained a loss which will long be felt and can never be repaired." [Exeter News-Letter, 26 April 1847]

22 April 1847: Tuck's father, John Tuck, dies in Parsonsfield, ME, age 66 of disease of the heart. "He dropped down while at his work, and died in five minutes. He was a native of Hampton, and father of Amos Tuck, Esq., of this town, who on one day was called to mourn the loss of a wife, and on the next the loss of a parent." [Exeter News-Letter, 26 April 1847]

3 May 1847: Exeter News-Letter reports : "The New Hampshire Courier is discontinued, and its subscription list transferred to the Independent Democrat. The Independent Democrat and the Granite Freeman will soon be united. The New Hampshire Patriot and Hill's New Hampshire Patriot will also become one and indivisible. There is a propriety in these reunions. The Democrat and Freeman advocate the same great principles; and of the two Patriots, each is, so far as principle is concerned, but the echo of the other."

3 May 1847: Tuck noted: "Gave my note to J.B. Hoitt in settlement of account for \$102.82 payable in 4 mos. int. after."

"Sent 4 shares E[astern] Railroad Stock to Boston for sale to E.G. Dudley, and left at Granite Bank as collateral security 10 shares B & M Railroad Stock. Rec'd for E. R.road stock \$431.00." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

13 May 1847: Tuck noted: "Hired 500\$ of P. Ex. Acad. (for L.B. Tucker and S.W. Dearborn for their benefit) and lodged L.B. Tucker's note with other signers as collateral. I am to receive \$5.00 for getting the money for them." Tuck made a marginal note that L.B. Tucker paid off the note on 11 September 1847. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

14 May 1847: Tuck noted: "Mailed (per J.P. Hale) a letter at Dover directed to Daniel Wiggin, West Parsonsfield, Maine with \$100.00 enclosed for Jona. Tuck to be endorsed on my note to him."

"I have loaned (May 6, 1847) to Alva Wood \$60.00" [Ledger, 1838-1849]

17 May 1847: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to Sherburne T. Sanborn for \$175.00. The tract of land was located on the new street running from the Court House. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 327, Page 87]

18 May 1847: Tuck noted: "I have this day given my note to Geo. C. Peavey for \$124.96 and to S.W. Dearborn for \$36.28 to pay for a note of Oliver Morrill for \$150. Date Ap. 30, 1847 payable in 6 months with int. Also the surplus above said Morrill note, being \$10.24, to be in pay for 1/3 part of a demand of over \$400 against James S. Clifford hired by G.C. Peavey – as attorney and assigned to him by Parker Lyman & Co." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 May 1847: Tuck noted: Got the above note discounted at Granite Bank, receiving \$150.32 for it; and have paid the notes above named holden by G.C. P. and S.W.D." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

25 May 1847: Tuck noted: "I have this day bought (per E.G. Dudley, Esq. Boston) one share in Western Railroad at \$106.25, making 7 shares in all in that road owned by me." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

2 June 1847: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Asa Fowler. "Friend Fowler, From certain indications I have no doubt that an attempt will be made by the party in New Hampshire, or rather the leaders of the party, who have disgraced the name of democracy, to crowd themselves so much upon antislavery ground during the present session of the legislature, as to mislead some men of true principles, whose assistance they need. To this end, I have no doubt that they will be ready to resolve in favor of the Wilmot Proviso, and do what else they can to appease the spirit of the north, without offending the South. I have no doubt you will be watchful of any hypocritical pretensions, and will see that they do not obtain the credit of genuineness. Such an object will be accomplished, it seems to me, by compelling our pseudo-philanthropists to give their sentiments on the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, the admission of new slave states, and the abolition of the domestic slave trade, at the same time and at all times, when they speak, or vote on the Wilmot Proviso. I pray you to have in your packet during the whole session, ready at a moment's warning, carefully and pointedly written resolutions on these subjects, with which to test the sincerity of our sleight of hand politicians, who will attempt to trim their sails for the antislavery breeze now felt in this state."

"I intend to be at Concord during the session, and hope to see you and others. Reflection confirms me in the soundness of our antislavery democracy. The day cannot be distant when the timeserving conduct of the democratic leaders will become conspicuous, and their names a by-word in their own state. I have great confidence that one year will develop sentiments and characters, which will bring confusion upon the Pierces, and Athertons and Norrises of New Hampshire, and all other despicable politicians, whose patriotism is made up of unmitigated

selfishness, and whose ambition is pure vanity. God be thanked, that the thread of my connection with a party cursed by such leaders, is fully severed.”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

7 June 1847: Tuck (Exeter) to Fogg (Concord). I ascertain from the subordinate leaders of the democracy, falsely so called, that an attempt will probably be made to postpone the July elections till Fall. This course would have the worst influences upon our interests in this District, and in the State, and the most active exertions should be made to prevent it. The postponement could be opposed with the best of arguments. Precepts for a new election in July have been issued, and it may well be doubted whether the Legislature is sufficiently omnipotent, to take away the right of the people to obey those precepts and choose their representatives. It would be a stringent party measure designed to muzzle the expressions of the people, and would keep pending an exciting subject that ought to be put at rest. It would be cowardly, inasmuch as the proposition originates in a fear to have an expression from the people. It is unjust to the candidates, if they are not loafing idlers having no business or home: for no man on a month's notice could arrange his business and family matters for an absence of six months. It is unjust to the people, who have a right to fill vacancies within a reasonable time.

I find that the impression of their most discerning and artful leaders (who go to Concord to-day to fix up matters) is that their chance of electing Jenness is shabby. I was to-day told by one of them, that they could not get out half their strength in July. The whigs and Independents would count up well in July, notwithstanding the business season.

Could we succeed in one of the vacant districts its moral influence would be great in our own state and elsewhere. It would be seen that Independent Democracy is not dead after all.

I hope to hear from you soon. I suppose that next week will be a good time for us to meet at Concord, but I shall hear. Yours truly, Amos Tuck

P.S. Some whigs from this region will be at Concord this day and to-morrow, whose influence will be favorable to the views heretofore entertained by us on certain matters. The current of the whig professions in this vicinity have been remarkably pacific within a week past. They see that we cannot move a hairs breadth without hazard, and that they must choose between us and the radicals. They do not seem to hesitate. Yrs. A.T.” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

14 June 1847: Tuck noted: “I have this day sent \$200 to Jonathan Tuck to be endorsed on the note against me held by him.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

14 June 1847: Tuck noted: “I have this day got two notes discounted at Granite Bank for R. Dodge endorsed by R.D., E.N. Clark, Wm. P. Valentine and myself – this is all for R.Dodge who is to pay me 42 dollars, to D. Nudd \$200 – and the rest I am to pass over to R. Dodge. Whole amount is between 1400 and \$1500. This had been done.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

14 June 1847: Tuck noted: "I have paid Mary A. Cate in full for nursing children and have taken them home." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

16 June 1847: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck (Effingham). "My dear Ellen, I am anxious to hear from you and to know whether you are well and happy, and getting along in a good way. As soon as you receive this, sit down and tell me all you can about yourself and have the letter sent to me. Tell me where you go, who you play with, how you like your playmates, and if you are well and rugged."

"Abby Eddy and Charles are the only children now at home. Eddy is not strong and does not grow fast or fat. Charles is a plump little fellow, but is not very rugged. Abby is quite well. She has just begun to attend Miss Rogers' school. I am well. I want to see you, but am willing that you should stay a little longer if you are getting along well and happy."

"The potatos, corn, beats, carrots cucumbers and peas are growing finely in the garden and field. The trees will have plums and peaches in the Fall. They are full of green leaves and little plums, except the great peach tree which is dying. Your tree will have peaches and so will Abby's."

"Be a good girl. Your affectionate father Amos Tuck."

[Amos Tuck and Family, FFP, LC]

19 June 1847: Whig party nominates Tuck as its candidate for Congress for the 1st Congressional District. Tuck received 77 of the 101 votes cast. John Kelly (12 votes) and Daniel M. Christie (10 votes) were his closest competition. [TFP Box 3 Folder 7]

19 June 1847: Tuck (Exeter) to Fogg (Concord). "The whigs have adopted the nomination of our party in this Cong. District. The vote stood Tuck 78, Kelley 9, Christie 12, Blank 1, Cutter 1, -- Total 101.

The people have appeared here by their representatives, determined not to be controlled. Some persons would have desired to arrest the progress of affairs; but they have safely concluded to clear the track.

The convention was full, considering the season of eh year, and the utmost determination manifested by the delegates. Never were the anti-radical forces so able to cope with, and overwhelm their adversaries as at the present moment. Certain defeat next March will attend the radicals, if we continue to cooperate in our exertions.

I intended to say to you, that if you would buy the interest of Wetmore, it would be universally gratifying to our friends. I suggested this to Mr. Hood, who said you would not entertain the idea. Of course it would be intended to furnish to you the same facilities as proposed to Mr. Hood. I want this matter of the notes etc. to be fixed up immediately.

Let me suggest whether, when the radical presses utter one simultaneous howl in this District, it would not be well to say in substance this: True, gentlemen, it is our object so to arrange our affairs so as to give you ginger; and it gives us much satisfaction to believe we have

so done. We rejoice that a convention, like at Exeter, has found no obstacle to the adoption of our nomination etc. etc.

I am yours, most truly, Amos Tuck.

P.S. The Convention here was the most respectable of any ever assembled by either of the two great parties. They will do to praise [?] in your paper, for they are most respectable, and highly valued in the Community." [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

22 June 1847: Tuck noted: "Got my note of a \$100 payable in 4 months discounted at Granite Bank."

"Rec'd of D. Nudd \$40.00 per A.J. Batchelder; and Mr. Nudd still owes me on B. & Luck's [sp.?] a/c (which I have balanced without receiving the money) \$64.35. He also owes me for an account prior to, and since my partnership with J. Bell." Tuck added a marginal note that Nudd paid the \$64.35 on 24 June 1847. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

22 June 1847: Tuck noted: "I have this day sent to John Tuck ten dollars on account for board etc. of sister Mary my babe and Ellen. I del'd. to sister Mary \$6.00 when she left with my babe one week ago." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

24 June 1847: BBF to HFF: "I trust you will see that all is right with Tuck if he should be elected....I have heard of a dozen Whigs at least who are determined to vote for me for Clerk of the House, so I consider my election almost certain....Write me as to Tuck's prospect of being elected." [FFP Reel 4]

29 June 1847: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. "...Anne is rather slim, but is well, or better at least, and lest any of you Southerners should think that I had any hand in killing her with hard work, I want you to know that we have had two servants (niggers) all the time for months, and three when anybody has been sick, and always an extra to wash and clean house etc. Now, everybody says if I let Anne keep house she will be sick again, but she will do it, and I cant help it. Doct. Gorham told me not an hour ago, not to open our house. I feel as Sam Wells would say like 'a victim of circumstances.' I shall shut Anne up in a room where no child under seven years old shall come, and your Dinah shall command the black forces, and the nurse shall tend the baby, and you and I will eat ice creams and keep cool...."

"I have not seen Tuck lately, but have no doubt as to him. I shall see him very soon...." [FFP Reel 11]

1 July 1847: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to "Friend Cortland": "...The late Congressional elections have resulted in most gratifying victories, and I cannot doubt that the consequences will be favorable to liberty for several years to come. I rejoice that Mr. Wilson has given pledges of fidelity to truth consistency and humanity which have reached me through different persons. If he adheres to them, as I doubt not he will, the effect will be great and transforming upon the whole whig party of New Hampshire, and we may reasonably hope, however other states may

declare in favor of slavery, our gallant little Scotland of the North will be true to herself and principles.”

“I have never thought it strange that I was not the chosen candidate of the original Liberty men of this Cong. Dist. And I know full well that they had good reasons for giving you their support in preference to myself. Under the circumstances, the undivided support which they gave to the nomination when made, has laid me under deep obligation, which I trust I may never forget. Particularly is this the case in regard to the man whom they generally supported in the nominating convention, and who would have filled in an honorable and highly satisfactory manner, the office to which I have been chosen.”

“In relation to your flattering request in reference to my personal history, I will say, that I have an accounting of my ancestry, and some few things about myself, which I would be very willing to submit to you, in order that in the event of mortality on my part, or any other good cause, you might have the material of a very brief obituary or memorandum. Yet I esteem myself only an humble individual among the many in our country, who have, without the advantages of high birth, powerful friends or smiling patronages of any kind, succeeded in acquiring the friendship of good men, and getting some notoriety for fidelity, firmness and perseverance in a good cause.....” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

8 July 1847: Another deal between the Whigs and the Independent Democrats led to the election of Tuck to represent the east of the state and General James Wilson to sit for the west. Tuck received 5,584 votes to 3,927 votes for the “straight” Democratic candidate, Jenness. [Corning, p. 25]

15 July 1847: Tuck noted: “I have paid Daniel Wiggin on the account of his services for me \$31.00 and ordered him to get \$5 of bro. John. I have also sent him (per John Tuck) \$100.00, \$50 of which is to be endorsed on the note he holds of me of \$160, and \$50.00 to go in pay of his expenses coming to Exeter.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 July 1847: Tuck noted: “I have loaned John Tuck \$50.00. Sent to Jona. Tuck – (note mislaid). I have hired of Gr[anite] Bank \$100.00, Date July 17. Paid Lydia Burbank for work in family \$5. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

21 July 1847: Tuck and James Bell sold a tract of land in Exeter to James Derby of Exeter for \$165.00. The land was located on the river at the end of the new street running from the Court House. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 327, Page 176]

21 July 1847: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Abba E. Tuck (Care of John Tuck, Esq. West Parsonsfield). “Dear Ellen, I have written a letter to Abba while at the Court House, and have called at the Post Office as I came along to see if no letter was received; but none came. I now sit down with Eddy at my elbow trying to talk about everything. But I am obliged to write now

or not at all. So I turn him off, poor fellow. Charles is out with Lydia who is trying to sing him to sleep. Eddy wants me to tell you he wants to see you. I am sure that I do, and have no doubt that you want to see me and Eddy and Charles. I am glad to hear from John that you are well. I hope Abba has got over her homesickness, and if John is well enough to have you both with him I hope he will take Abba to his house with you, and then you can go to school together and be quite happy. I want your uncle John to send some boy down or contrive some means to get the horse, and your uncle Wiggin's wagon up there. I want John to have a horse to carry you all about and to do his own work. I will lend or sell him the horse. He can take him at all events.

"I am anxious about the babe. I want John to ascertain if he has any relax and if he has, he must have a Doctor at once, or he will die. I shall want to hear about this on Saturday if I can with any convenience to John. If Abba is not at Parsonsfield, send the letter on the other page to her without delay, as she is low spirited. Tell John I have sent \$50 to Jonathan for him and \$60 for Jonathan. I wish John to send word to Mary Cooper Philbrick that Stephen W. Dearborn of this town wants to hire her to work in his family, and will give her \$175 (\$1.75?) per week, and if she thinks she ought to have \$2, he will give her that sum per week. It is pretty hard work but they are kind folks and I think Mary would like. Let her send word whether she will come. She can come any time within a month or two, but Mrs. D. would like an answer. Give my love to mother and John and his wife. This you receive from your loving, affectionate father Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and Family, FFP, LC]

24 July 1847: John P. Hale, along with his "lieutenants" Tuck and Fogg, met with Massachusetts Liberty Party leaders, plus others like Lewis Tappan. Hale urged postponement of Liberty Party convention until the following spring, and stated he did not want a presidential nomination, although he apparently left open that as a possibility. He identified with Liberty Party principles. [Sewell, p. 90]

26 July 1847: Tuck noted: "I have sent 7 shares in Western Rail Road to Boston to be sold by E.G. Dudley and \$500 to be loaned to G.G. Fogg, and the rest to be sent to me." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

28 July 1847: Tuck noted: "I have this day rec'd G.G. Fogg's note for \$500 and \$275.25 as the avails of 7 shares W[estern] Railroad. I have made a net profit on these shares since I purchased deducting 6 per cent int. on this investment of \$78.00 or within a fraction of it.

Cost of 6 shares	\$612.75
int.	12.35
Cost of 1 share	106.25
int.	<u>1.06</u>
Total	\$732.31
Rec'd on sale	\$775.25

for rights	7.06	
for dividends	<u>28.00</u>	
Total	\$810.31	
Profit	\$ 78.00	[Ledger, 1838-1849]

30 July 1847: John Greenleaf Whittier to John Parker Hale. Whittier encourages Hale to accept the Liberty Party nomination. "It is important that it should be understood that thou art disconnected entirely from the two old parties....In regard to thy anti-slavery views: Perhaps if thou wast to copy the principal resolutions of the New-market convention, held a year ago, as expressive of thy sentiments, it would be well....If agreeable to thee, I will ride over to Dover with friend Tuck, at such time as may suit thy convenience – only let it be soon as possible – an we can see thy answer, an perhaps make some suggestions previous to its being sent. Or, I will meet thee at the Cartlands' at Lee; or, still better, wilt thou not ride over to Amesbury?" (Pickard, Letters of John G. Whittier, pp. 91-92)

2 August 1847: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale.

"I have taken some pains to consult with those who wish us well, and will give you the result in a few words. It is that your acceptance of a nomination, this fall, will affect you badly; that it will be worse than no nomination at all, at any time. That it will have a bad effect in this State, and will identify you with a very small party, or faction, in the nation. That third parties in respect to the slavery question, have nearly 'accomplished their mission' in having generally established their doctrines with all the parties in the north. Such is the language held to me, to some of which I do not respond. Still I am strongly inclined to the inexpediency of permitting them to use your name. If they must nominate, let them do it, but let it be another man. I wish it were otherwise, and that they could nominate you without prospect of injuring you. However, I may be wrong in my belief, and you may deem it best to pursue a different course, in which vent, I shall wish you 'God Speed'." [Hale Papers, NHHS]

2 August 1847: Tuck noted: "I sent Jona. Tuck in full for money due to him on loan \$100.00 by letter of July 28, 1847 to Saco."

"I have paid J. Bell for borrowing money \$100.00." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

3 August 1847: Tuck noted: "I have this day sent to Jona. Tuck Saco, \$60 on loan to him. Note expected." [Ledger, 1838-1839]

5 August 1847: Tuck noted: "Jona. Tuck has given me his mote for \$115 being amount of bal. he owes me." (Ledger, 1838-1849)

10 August 1847: Tuck paid \$100 to Nathaniel M. Jewell for a tract of land and the buildings thereon in Stratham. The tract abutted the Portsmouth Road and the Wiggin property he had

bought the previous August. This tract also amounted to about 25 acres. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 327, Page 287]

15 August 1847: Tuck noted: "I have sent John Tuck on account of children's expenses at Parsonsfield \$20.00. Also gave McKenzie Tuck \$5.00 for expenses of himself and Ellen from P. to Exeter, and expenses of himself and horse back. Have sent gin to Mother and clothes to John." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

16 August 1847: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to Oren Head of Exeter for \$240.00. The tract was located on the new street running from the Court House, and abutted the land of Henry F. French as well as the lot containing Head's carriage manufactory and blacksmith shop. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 327, Page 158]

16 August 1847: The church made Amos Tuck, Gideon Soule and Francis Grant a committee to invite Samuel D. Dexter to be Rev. Hurd's colleague, to inform the New Parish and to seek their concurrence. [First and Second Parish records, Exeter, NH]

24 August 1847: Tuck noted: "Lydia Burbank dt. paid her \$11.00 in addition to payment of July 20, making in all \$16.00."

"I have this day rec'd from Burleigh & Botham [sp.?] per E.G. Dudley and S.W. Dearborn \$375 and – cents."

"I have this day pd. to Granite Bank note of 17th \$100.00."

"Also pd. note of date June 24 -- \$150.00." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

26 August 1847: Tuck noted: "I have this day pd. to Gr[anite] Bank note of Dec. 31, 1846 to P. [sp.?] Bank for \$300.00 Pd. \$305.00."

"Rec'd of S.L. Nudd (on note vs. him) \$300.00" [Ledger, 1838-1849]

28 August 1847: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter and six acres of salt marsh in Hampton Falls to Nicholas Rollins for \$2,300.00. The sale was on behalf of Jacob and Charles Rogers, for whom Tuck acted as guardian as appointed by the late Martha Rogers. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 326, Pages 310-311]

30 August 1847: Tuck noted: "Rec'd note for \$40 of John Tuck and sent \$40 to Jona. Tuck for John at his request, at Saco." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

30 August 1847: Tuck sold a tract of land in Stratham to George Wiggin of Stratham for \$25.00. The tract was located on the Exeter-Portsmouth road. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 327, Page 288]

6 September 1847: HFF to BBF. "...We have a nice piece of news stirring. Mr. Tuck the member elect is going to be married again. His wife died about four months ago. His intended is the widow of a Mr. Shepherd a stage owner. She is a pretty woman – poor and childless and has been giving lessons on the piano here in Exeter. She had never visited among the upper ten thousand, and Amos will rather lose caste. The women are all wide awake on the subject, and Widow Gordon says she does not care so much if he is such a mean unfeeling man as to get married so soon but he has no right to engage the souls of his dear little children by marrying a Universalist! I should think the late incumbrance would be apt to appear to him some night. Tuesday morning. Marston came in just then and talked till it was time to go home...." [FFP Reel 6]

7 September 1847: Tuck noted: "I have had my note on 4 mos. for \$200.00 discounted at Granite Bank this day." [Ledger, 1838-1847]

7 September 1847: Tuck noted: "I have this day loaned to John Tuck \$50 which I have sent to Jona. Tuck, Saco, at his request, receiving John's note for that sum of date Sept. 6, 1847." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

7 September 1847: Tuck noted: "I have this day delivered to Mrs. Catharine P. Shepard \$205.00 to be expended as she deems proper." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

8 September 1847: Tuck noted: "I have rec'd pay for the notes I hold against S.W. Dearborn \$82.50." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

9 September 1847: BBF letter to HFF: "I suppose Tuck has followed the advice some old poetaster gives as to the manner of wooing a widow. Tell him I have received a letter from Mr. J.Q. Adams saying he shall vote for me with pleasure. I think now there is no doubt of my re-election." [FFP Reel 4]

11 September 1847: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale.

"I see but one course to pursue at our State Convention – that is, to send a full and able delegation to Buffalo, and to bring forward the name of our fellow citizen for the Presidency. You see the developments, -- the death of Silas Wright – the servility of Buchanan – the foolish letters of Taylor etc.etc. with the fixed fact that we stand on the only true, impregnable foundation for northern men, and Christian patriots. Shall we have the courage to take the position that Providence indicates, or the pusillanimity to decline it? It will be a proud eminence to stand upon, and connected with great responsibilities and many perplexities; but the position must be taken or your mission given up. It is of secondary importance what may be the influence in New Hampshire, though I am yet to be convinced that it will not be salutary even on the next March elections. I regret exceedingly the prospect of my inability to attend the Convention, on account of the session of our Court. I understand that one of our friends,

Cartland, wants to go to Buffalo; also that Senator Emerson would like to be delegated. They are two good men, though we want somebody to go with them who can speak elegantly as well as discreetly. How will Gove do? I do not wish to go myself, inasmuch as you and I have been so intimately connected in political action, that my absence might do you more good than my presence. But I would go if it was best that I should, though I also should better men with me [sic].

“In haste, I am your very truly, Amos Tuck” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

18 September 1847: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “...Have you written Tuck, as you promised, about a boarding place?...Mr. Tuck has just called and says ‘tell the Major I expect to hear from him soon about a boarding place, etc. Tuck will vote for you I am confident.’” [FFP Reel 11]

20 September 1847: Exeter News-Letter reports: “*The Friends of Liberty and Independent Democracy* are invited to meet at the Town Hall at Concord, on Thursday the 30th day of September, at 10 o’clock A.M. – to nominate a candidate for Governor, and consider the subject of a national Convention for the selection of candidates for President and Vice President of the United States.”

“The State Committee who call the Convention, consists of Joseph M. Harper, Jonathan Cartland, Joseph W. James, N.D. Wetmore, J.E. Hood, D.P. Cilley, Jos. Cochrane, jr., Wm. H. Gove, Amos Tuck, Cyrus K. Sanborn, George W. Stevens, Chase Noyes, Nath’l A. Davis, Geo. P. Folsom, John L. Carlton, [and] Samuel B. Parsons.”

Also reported that the Whig State Convention would be held in Concord on 20 October and the Democratic Republican State Convention would be held on 28 October.

25 September 1847: Tuck noted: “I have this day loaned of the Granite Bank \$200 payable in six months and sent that sum to Jona. Tuck on loan \$100.00 to him and \$100.00 to John Tuck on note to be sent by John.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

4 October 1847: Exeter News-Letter reported that the Independent Democrats and the Liberty Party, in the state convention chaired by Asa Fowler, nominated Nathaniel S. Berry to be governor. The convention also appointed as delegates to the National Convention in Buffalo on 20 October Amos Tuck, Daniel Hoitt (Sandwich), Joseph Cochrane (Manchester), John I Carleton (Bath), Jared Perkins (Unity), and Abraham Emerson (Candia). “A Resolution was adopted in favor of postponement to the next year the nomination of President and Vice President of the United States, and recommending to the National Convention John P. Hale, as the first choice of the Independent Democrats and Liberty men of New Hampshire.”

8 October 1847: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “...I expect to go before the Railroad Commissioners next Tuesday to oppose their acting on the Petition of the Lawrence & Manchester R.Road Company – to lay out their road. They did not give you and me any stock, but acted partially, so

that we and everybody else in similar conditions are indignant, and indignation meetings have been held in Derry, Manchester and Exeter, and I am of counsel for the Exeter indigs to oppose the Company as we best can. We shall try and prevent the Company from laying the road out, and if they do, try and prevent the Governor accepting the report. You will see the proceedings in the papers. I expect we shall have a tremendous time at Manchester. I understand C.G. Atherton is retained for the Manchester indignant, and the corporators and directors are a whole team of themselves.”

“...Have you written Tuck yet?...” [FFP Reel 11]

15 October 1847: Tuck noted: “I loaned of Granite Bank \$200 on 6 months and loaned to Jona. Tuck \$100.00 and to John Tuck \$100.00.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

18 October 1847: Tuck marries (for the second time) Catherine P. Shepherd of Salisbury, MA. Catherine was the daughter of John Townshend, Esq., of Salisbury, NH and the widow of John G. Shepherd. Catherine was born on 20 January 1815. [Ancestry.com]

18 October 1847: Exeter News-Letter reported this marriage: “In Salisbury, Hon. Amos Tuck, of this town, member-elect from Congressional District No. 1, to Mrs. Catharine P. Shepherd, of this town, formerly of Salisbury.”

22 October 1847: Tuck noted: “Paid S.G. [sp.?] Eastman \$39 -- for gravestones for father’s grave \$21.50 for John’s child \$4.50 and for work on monument at cemetery and inscription and gravestones \$13.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

22 October 1847: Tuck noted: “In Aug. I sold the real estate of C. and J. Rodgers as their guardian for \$2300.00 and rec’d J.L. Cilley’s note for \$450, A. Tuck’s notes for \$500 given before to N. Rollins, and N. Rollins note for \$1350.00 in full pay for the same.” [Note: Charles Rodgers went on to become a sea captain and a high ranking official in the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

25 October 1847: Tuck noted: “I rec’d of N. Rollins on his note \$400.00 so that I now owe my wards for money and my notes to N. Rollins, given up to me \$500 and \$400 = \$900.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

28 October 1847: Tuck noted: “I have rec’d a note of \$150.00 from Jona. Tuck date Oct. 29, 1847 and have sent him this day by mail \$200.00 requesting a further note for \$50.00 to be sent me.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

1 November 1847: A printed circular states:

“Dear Sir: I have recently formed a Law-partnership with Wm. W. Stickney, Esq., late of Newmarket, and he will hereafter do business with me at Exeter. One or both of us may at all times be consulted at our Office, and I shall make my arrangements to attend with him at the Terms of the Court of Common Pleas, and at such other Courts as my engagements will permit. I take this method to inform you that I shall feel a personal interest in whatever business you may intrust to us, and that professional engagements will receive our first and constant attention.”

“I am, with respect, Your obedient servant, Amos Tuck.”

[Rauner Library, Tuck’s alumni file]

8 November 1847: Amos Tuck announces a meeting of the subscribers to the Exeter Atheneum at the office of Stickney & Tuck. Tuck described as the Secretary and Treasurer of the Atheneum. [Exeter News-Letter]

15 November 1847: Tuck notes: “This date I gave two notes to Wm. Robinson (in the hands of J.L. Robinson) both amounting to about \$1125, which are in full of all that I owe him, one due Ap. 11, 1848 and one Ap. 29, 1848.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

15 November 1847: Tuck notes: “I send \$100 to Jona. Tuck for his note sent me, and have rec’d his note for \$50 heretofore sent.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

15 November 1847: Exeter News-Letter editorial on the three recent party state conventions is more or less neutral in its stance.

20 November 1847: Tuck noted: “S.W. Dearborn has \$150 in property with me and G.C. Peavey, who have both pd. about \$150 each. Mr. D. and P. know the facts.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

Tuck became “more than intimate” with the other two anti-slavery representatives, Dr. John G. Palfrey (MA) and Joshua R. Giddings (OH) who were the only other congressmen elected as anti-slavery men, although John Quincy Adams acted as such. Although the Whigs held the majority, the three “uncompromising” anti-slavery representatives held the balance of power in the House. Tuck’s first visit to Washington was in December 1847. The NH delegation was evenly split: two Democrats (Charles H. Peaslee and James H. Johnson) and two “opposition” (General James Wilson and Tuck). Tuck recalled that his seat in the House was near “a tall, awkward, genial ‘good fellow,’Abraham Lincoln. At that time, Tuck did not estimate Lincoln’s abilities as being very impressive. But, he added, The friendship formed between Mr. Lincoln and myself in that Congress continued through his life.”

Tuck was quite critical of Speaker Robert C. Winthrop for his timidity and time-serving, qualities that were to bring dishonor fifteen years later during the war. He also thought little of Seward’s claim to be an anti-slavery leader, as he “was so completely a New York politician ,

that he never satisfied the warm-blooded men who risked everything on their faith, without ulterior designs.”

Southern politicians “were eager to distinguish themselves by violence of language, in which they attacked the institutions, conduct, character and policy of the North, without discrimination....They were products of slavery, and they had the ear-marks of ignorance and over-weening conceit, peculiar to their class.” In hindsight, it was strange no one could foresee the hostilities to come. “Yet no one, at least in the North, anticipated actual conflict within any moderate period of time.”

Tuck and Hale were without party affiliation. Giddings and Palfrey were Whigs. Tuck supported the Wilmot Proviso. Cornish gives a murky account of the “exciting” contest for Speaker of the House. Apparently, Tuck switched his first ballot vote for James Wilson (NH) to Whig Robert C. Winthrop (Mass.) on the third ballot, helping to elect him. Winthrop gave Tuck two good committee assignments: Naval Affairs and Expenditures of the Navy Department. In contrast, in the 31st and 32nd Congresses, he was assigned to Revolutionary Pensions. [Tuck 1848 and Corning]

December: In the first month of the session, Tuck introduced two anti-slavery petitions. According to Franklin Brooks (Dartmouth College Library Bulletin, April 1981), Amos met Abraham Lincoln when the Thirtieth Congress convened. Supposedly, their desks were very close to each other.

December 1847: “The representation of New Hampshire was equally divided, or rather was half Democratic, Messrs. Peaslee and Johnson, and half opposition, Mr. Wilson, Whig, and myself Independent Democrat. It was the second Congress in Mr. Polk’s administration, and the Mexican War was at its height. Robert C. Winthrop was the Speaker....I was late in arriving and consequently had a late choice in seats. I selected one in the back row, on the Whig side of the House, and I had Wm. Nelson on my right, and Daniel P. King of Massachusetts on my left. In the fourth seat at my left sat a new member from Illinois, the only Whig from that State, a tall, awkward, genial “good fellow,” the future President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln....Mr. Lincoln had no opportunity, if he then had the ability, which I do not think he possessed at the time, of distinguishing himself....The friendship formed between Mr. Lincoln and myself in that Congress continued through his life.” [Tuck 1875]

6 December 1847: Tuck (Washington) to George G. Fogg. “I sit down now to write you a few private thoughts, and will try to send you something for your paper, by the time you want it for your next.

Winthrop has been elected and on the third vote, as you will have heard long before you receive this letter. You will also have heard that Giddings, Palfrey and myself voted against him. I am satisfied that we have taken the right course, and that it will eventuate in good in New Hampshire and out.

Let me tell you the rise and progress of our position. I arrived here on Sunday morning, and found that nothing had been done. I called on Giddings, in the afternoon, and I met Dr. Palfrey in the street and had some talk with him. Mr. Giddings was in extacies of joy at the resolution which he found on the part of Palfrey and myself to stand by right and consistency. By appointment we met at Dr. Palfrey's rooms at 8 o'clock in the evening, and found that he had, agreeably to previous request written to Mr. Winthrop, propounding certain interrogatories, and had recd. no answer. We tarried until it was supposed no answer was intended to be given. We then unanimously concluded to vote against him and parted. After we separated, Mr. Winthrop wrote a note to Dr. P., declining to make any statement relative to his intended course. We of course adhered to our resolution and voted against him. The interrogatories were in substance, whether (if elected) he would so constitute the Committee on Foreign relations and of Ways and Means, as to favor Peace; the committee on the Territories, so as to favor the prohibition of Slavery therein, the committee on the Judiciary, so as to favor the repeal of the law of Feb. 12, 1793, denying a trial by jury to persons claimed as fugitives; the Committee on the District of Columbia so as to favor the abolition of slavery and he slave trade therein. Now I conceive that my constituency would never justify my voting for a man unwilling to pledge himself to some, if not all, of the foregoing positions. I shall have, to-morrow, a copy of Dr. P.'s letter, with the liberty to use it as I please. It will be a perfect excuse to New Hampshire voters, providing it is thought best to use it. I would at once, recommend to publish it, except that it may serve to induce an invidious state of relations between Gen. Wilson and myself, whereas I think such should not be the case, especially as I expect and desire to agree with him in most of my votes, hereafter.

It is pretty well understood here that the South intend to have rich compensation for their support of Winthrop, even the presidency. But of this, at another time. There is one notable fact about this election of Speaker, which should be remembered. Mr. Holmes of South Carolina, a rabid Calhoun Democrat, has been electioneering for Winthrop the week past; and finding his chance was small, on the third ballot, declined to vote and thus withdrew his opposition!! South Carolina Democracy, aiding Massachusetts federalism! – is it not a significant fact.

We shall to-morrow vote for Clerk. Shall I vote for Thomas J. Campbell, who, when a member of Congress, voted to expel Giddings from the floor of the House? No; -- the terrors of universal denunciation will never drive me to it, unless Campbell shall first do works, meet for repentance. I intend to vote of George Kent [sp?].

I doubt not you will see the policy of my voting for two good New Hampshire men, Wilson and Kent, for supporting whom, the whigs of the Granite State cannot severely denounce me. George March of the Tribune thought it a very proper and Yankee-like maneuver. B.B. French would be grateful for small favors, like votes, and has made sundry attempts o weave a web around me, but could not do it, by one half.

Please to see Mr. McFarland and tell him so much so what I have written, as to let him know I have the means of vindication.

And believe me as Yours sincerely, Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

7 December 1847: Amos Tuck (Washington) to George G. Fogg. I send you a copy of the letter to Mr. Winthrop, written by Dr. Palfrey, the refusal by Mr. W. to answer which, was the reason of my declining to support him for Speaker. I send it to you, not to publish, unless it should become more necessary than I think it will be; but that you may have at hand the means of vindicating my course, whenever it shall be attacked.”

“I wish you would send copies of it to such persons as you deem advisable in New Hampshire. By attention to certain honest and influential whigs in our State, we may get their minds fixed in favor of honor, consistency and right, instead of the Moloch of party. I shall for a week be too much engaged to prepare a communication for your next paper, as I intended to do.”

“I would not recommend that any reproof be dealt out, through the paper or otherwise, against the votes of Mr. Wilson for Speaker or Clerk; though I was sorry he voted as he did in each case. But he is a whig, and we must not expect too much.”

“I have had sundry marks of approbation from men of influence for the unlooked for (as they say) firmness with which I withstood the appliances brought to bear upon me, at a time when it was thought one vote would decide the speakership and clerkship. Yet the proper course for me to take, was so plain that I scarcely felt a temptation to pursue a different course.”

“I am you friend, Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

7 December 1847: Amos Tuck (Washington) to John L. Carlton. “...I think you will approve of my not voting for Winthrop nor Campbell, as he first refused to pledge himself to anything in behalf of northern principles, such as we have contended for in N. Hamp. And the latter voted for the expulsion of Giddings from the House....” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

7 December 1847: Tuck noted: “At Washington, paid for:

3 days board at Gadsby’s Hotel	6.00	
Fires	1.50	
Paper, etc.	.13	
Porterage	<u>.50</u>	
	8.13	
Paid for candles	1.50	
“ “ matches	.13	
“ “ French phrase book	.38	[Ledger, 1838-1849]

9 December 1847: Tuck noted: “I have rec’d John Tuck’s note for \$25 and sent him on a loan that sum.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

9 December 1847: Tuck noted: “I send this day to E.G. Dudley a draft on Merchants’ Bank for \$460 with a request to invest the same in Boston & Maine Railroad stock and send me

certificates and the balance. [Later note] He purchased Dec. 18, 1847 4 shares at 474\$ including dividends.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

10 December 1847: Tuck noted: “Gave Meggan [sp.?] .06 cts., pd. for Hackman on visit [to give] my cards to heads of Departments 60 cts, for cigars 75 cts – 1.41.”

	“Paid for J. Bell for Natl. Intelligencer	3.00	
	“ for seitlitz powders	.50	
	“ for shaving dish and soap 50 cts for sundries		
	4 cts	.54	
	“ for blacking	.12	
18 [Dec]	“ for brush	.63	
	“ for raffle	.50	
	“ for medicine	.25	
	“ for physician	1.00	
24[Dec]	“ for sundries	.75	
25[Dec]	Gave servants	.50	[Ledger, 1838-1849]

12 December 1847: HFF to BBF. “Altho’ I have not written you, I have been watching with the deepest interest the moving of the [word unclear] in which you are disporting yourself. And so you are ‘turned out’ the Herald says ‘round as an alderman,’ to graze in other pastures. I am waiting in hopes to see you elected Secretary of the Senate, for we don’t want to be beat, and besides it is extremely inconvenient to have brother Ned turned loose. He is no an alderman now, yet very round. See to that youth, if possible. As to Brown, I hope he will be turned out. He has a gift. He is a farmer, a tiller of the soil and Jefferson says ‘They who labor on the earth are the chosen people of God’ and so Simon is one of the elect, if by no other process....”

“What do you think of the vote of my particular friend Amos Tuck? I suppose he will tell me he did not vote against you!”

“He has of course offended everybody by throwing away his vote for the Speaker without any sort of principle to fall back upon. I think he was fairly trapped by the viva voce voting and did not have time to make up his mind what to do.”

“...The Gov. and Counsel have adjourned without appointing an Attorney General. Walker wants to be re-appointed, and I am afraid he will be. If our people at Washington take any interest in the matter, they had better make their influence felt immediately, for it will hurt our party hundreds of votes to have Walker again appointed. He is not competent and everybody knows it. Wells will take it and ought to have it. I do not want to take any part against Walker for we are personal friends, and I have no personal regard for Wells or Moinson [sp.?), who are other candidates. This county fairly groans under Walker’s administration, and I fear he will be removed by address, if appointed. His time is out early in January, and yet the counsel adjourned sine die – for what, nobody knows, nobody can tell....” [FFP Reel 6]

[25 December 1847]: Tuck noted: "I have drawn on my pay as a member of Congress travel \$406.40. Also on per diem \$53.60 and \$50.00. Sending home \$30.00 to pay Mr. Sanborn."
[Ledger, 1838-1849]

31 December 1847: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Edward Tuck. Chatty note about Washington.
[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

1848

[1847-48: Undated, but probably when Tuck was in Congress]

"The wife of Jesse Nite, a free colored man of Georgetown, having attempted to escape with her boy, seven years old from bondage, was recaptured with other slaves, and sold to Michael Gamman [sp.?] of this city. He will sell her and her child to her distressed husband for \$400, and has allowed him four weeks to make up this sum. If he fail, at the end of that time she and her child will be sold from the husband and further forever. He can raise \$50. A gentleman interested in the case, has secured \$100. Dr. Houston [word unclear] reportedly [sp/?] has pledged \$50. There remains to be raised the sum of \$200 --- only \$200 – waiting to save a wife and her child, and restore both, free, to the husband and father!

To make up the sum of \$200 above-mentioned we hereby agree to pay the sum attached to our names respectively –

Name	Amount
Pd. John G. Purpre [Palfrey?]	Five dollars
X James Wilson	Five dollars pd.
J.N. Giddings [sp.?)	do do
Pd. Amos Tuck	Five dollars
Pd. Horace Mann	Five dollars
Pd. Jos. Grinnell	Five dollars
Pd. D.P. King	Five dollars
Pd. J.S. Hubbard	Five dollars"

(Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 48)

2 January 1848: Tuck gave \$.50 at church "for the poor." [Ledger, 1838-1849]

6 January 1848: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Mr. Cartland. "...This day Mr. Hale has made a powerful speech in the Senate; in fact, he has closed it within 15 minutes past, and I am writing you in the Hall of the Representatives, while Mr. Schenck of Ohio is boisterously talking close by me to my great annoyance. I have heard most of Mr. Hale's speech, and think he has taken the true position as to the war, and vindicated his right to a high rank as an orator, and a statesman. Had he the power to prepare himself as well on all parts of a speech, as on some, he

would stand among the first orators of the country. But you know him as well as I do. He was inimitably beautiful in parts of his speech.”

“I have reason to believe that Mr. Corwin will make a great speech, and I have hope that he will stand with Hale on the matter of refusing to grant supplies. There is here a disposition to vote supplies and attempt to throw the responsibility of using those supplies upon the President. This is a contemptible device of political financiering. It is the current which Taylor whigs are trying to create. There is infinite moral cowardice among the Representatives, and I am sorry to say that it is increasing, the longer we stay here. The South are rallying for Taylor and determined to carry him into the Presidency, volens nolens, as to the North. The South think that he can be carried by acclamation. If he is certain of a nomination they will submit his name to a National Convention; otherwise not. Northern men with no principles at all, will strive to pave the way for their falling into the wake of Taylor, by inducing the South to go into Convention, so that they can cry out for the ‘regular nomination.’ I am deeply grieved at the smallness of the number who will stand by the right, at all hazards. I hope we can save Massachusetts members from thus falling before the Dragon of Slavery. Taylor is brought out mainly for the purpose of diverting or withstanding the anti-slavery spirit of the country. Our duty is plain.”

“I will write you again before I go home in February....”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

10 January 1848: Tuck noted: “Drawn [sp.?] of government 100.00” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

10 January 1848: John Hodgdon gives Tuck a receipt for \$15.00 for boarding Abby and Ellen for 15 weeks in 1847. John Tuck served as intermediary. [TFP Box 9 Folder 39]

11 January 1848: Tuck noted: “Paid board to Jan. 1, 1848 30.00” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

16 January 1848: HFF to BBF. “...In the first place, how was it that Tuck voted as he did and you were satisfied? Answer me that, for I cannot comprehend it. He sent me your note to him to show me he had not deceived me I suppose and then Brown wrote me blowing Tuck up in a most emphatic manner....”

19 January 1848: Amos Tuck speech to U.S. House of Representatives, delivered to the House sitting in Committee of the Whole on the question of President Polk’s annual message.

Tuck underlines the importance of the issue and opposes efforts to cut short the debate.

He requests more information on how Santa Anna got through our blockade into Mexico. It is incredible that Santa Anna, whose opposition to the US forces in Mexico have cost millions of dollars and American lives, passed through the blockade with the permission of the President. Tuck notes that the President accused opponents of the war of giving aid and comfort to the enemy: what about the pass given to Santa Anna? He compares it to Benedict Arnold’s pass to André.

The annexation of Texas was the “remote cause” of the war. Its purpose was “the protection and extension of slavery. These motives continue to drive the administration’s conduct of the war. Tuck intends to speak frankly about slavery, partly because “Southern gentlemen have thrust this matter upon us.” However, the antislavery feeling so widespread in the country is defensive only and will not transgress constitutional limits.

Mexico abolished slavery in 1829, but Texas refused to obey, led by American emigrants who had brought slaves with them. The Texans were victorious at San Jacinto in the ensuing war. Texas sought annexation in 1837, but the Van Buren administration declined because of the state of war between Texas and Mexico, the latter being at peace with the United States. That policy was reversed at the Baltimore convention. One day, perhaps, the annexation of Texas pursued so diligently by Tyler and Polk will be seen to have been “in violation of our ‘treaty of amity and commerce,’ and espousal of the quarrel of Texas, and an act of war against Mexico.”

The archives show that the government abandoned its integrity not to extend the area of freedom, but to enlarge the borders of slavery, an institution that will ultimately lead to the demise of the republic. The reasons for the annexation are in the correspondence now made available, showing that the negotiations had the object of continuing and extending slavery in Texas and protecting it in the U.S. Tuck quotes at length a 3 August 1843 letter from Secretary of State Upshur to US chargé in Texas Murphy and Murphy’s responses.

Tuck asks “the self-complacent Democracy” to read three NH Democratic newspapers that condemn “this slavery-propagating Administration.” The Nashua Gazette (16 November 1843) said the annexation of Texas had an “object and design” that was “black as ink – as bitter as hell.” NH Democratic leaders have done a somersault and now call opponents of the war “moral cowards” and “enemies of their country.” But they know in their hearts “that they are the most arrant moral cowards alive, and that there is no principle in *any* creed which they would not sacrifice for a reward.” Tuck recalls John Randolph’s sneer at the time of the Missouri crisis at the northern dough-faces: “We have bought you once, and when we want you we will buy you again dog-cheap.” But the people are beginning to throw off these leaders.

Tuck draws attention to a new interpretation of the Constitution that declares it is “the *function* and solemn *duty* of the General Government to protect and support the institution of slavery.” But, up until now, it has been pronounced by multiple legislative meetings and public meetings in the South that the General Government had nothing to do with slavery. The people want to know now, which is it? “If the General Government have a jurisdiction over the subject of slavery to *support and defend* it, they have also a jurisdiction and a duty to *limit, control, and restrain* it.”

Tuck insists that the Constitution neither requires nor authorizes the defense of slavery. The lives of northern men, as well as the spirit of the Constitution, oppose slavery as morally wrong. They agreed that “all men are born free and equal” and that the “right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” is “inalienable.” The South fought for the same principles, but unfortunately thought that slavery was essential for their prosperity. So, the Constitution left slavery to continue in the states where it existed.

The Supreme Court has settled the point, Tuck claims, that "...slavery is an institution sustained only by the positive law of the district where it exists.; that beyond those limits the law that makes one man the property of another has no prescriptive, inferential, or other existence....The construction of the Constitution promulgated by the authors of the Texas plot, and acted upon by this Administration, is abominable, and must be repudiated....The free states delegated no more power to the Federal Government to involve them in slavery than the slave states did to involve them in its abolition."

The North will have nothing to do with slavery; "...though we regard it as the sum of all evils, we shall yet overstep no law in our desire to see it exterminated." The excitement against slavery will continue and increase. The disruption of the harmony of the republic is not caused by northern and western abolitionists, but by the fanaticism of southern propagandists.

Tuck turns to the immediate cause of the current war. Tuck denies that the Rio Grande was the border of Texas, and even if it was, "...we had no right forcibly to occupy that line, while Mexico was in possession of a portion of the territory, claiming it as her own." No Texan forces were within a hundred miles of Matamoros. "The President ordered our army to take forcible possession of territory which, if not Mexican, was in dispute, and in the occupancy of Mexican subjects. This was an act of war." The President acted without authority from Congress.

"...I lately voted for the amendment offered to a resolution by the gentleman from Massachusetts [Ashmun], stating that the war was 'unnecessarily and unconstitutionally commenced by the President.' This has been taken up in the newspapers and pronounced to be 'reasonable'." Tuck is happy with his vote and on the success of the resolution.

Why did the Administration oppose the Wilmot Proviso unless it wanted to extend slavery into the southwestern lands? "...the design of the war is to get as much of that country as possible, and then to admit it by States into the Union as fast as slavery obtains over it a predominant influence."

The war is sinful and the people are heart-sick of it. "I avow my position in regard to supplies, which is, to grant them only for the purpose of bringing the army home by the shortest route."

"On the subject of the acquisition of territory, it is my belief that, whatever we may acquire, will not make us any the richer, more powerful, or happy. And, I understand, that what we now have south of 36° 30', produces more annual cost than revenue to the Government. But, as those who talk about our 'destiny' are determined to have territory, I go by all means for the reenactment of the ordinance of 1787; otherwise for the Wilmot Proviso."

"...I shall denounce the Mexican war, express the reckless ambition of its authors, and, to the extent of my ability, warn the people against its consequences. If this be treason, my revilers may make the most of it."

During the remainder of the term that ended in March, Tuck introduced further petitions on slavery, improvements for Portsmouth harbor, increased mail routes in NH, and the purchase of Mount Vernon. [Congressional Globe]

25 January 1848: Amos Tuck (Washington) to George G. Fogg. “Private Dear Sir, I wrote simply to say that I am much provoked that Schouler [sp?] should have precipitated that disclosure by letting it out imperfectly and prematurely. I am anxious lest you may blame me. I had no idea of its being disclosed at all, till you, of whom I learned the first facts in the case, should have been put in possession of all, and have ignited the shell, when you thought it discreet.”

“I am getting out my speech, which I will send you in a few days. I may not get home till next week, as I find it to be tedious writing out my remarks. I flatter myself the speech will be better in [two words unclear] than the reporter’s abstract in the Intelligencer would denote, but poor enough at all events. Hoping to see you in New Hamp. I am yours truly, A. Tuck.”

[Fogg Papers, NHHS]

February 1848: Tuck “...went home in Feb. 1848 to attend a Court...” [Tuck 1848]

5 February 1848: HFF to BBF. “...Sunday Eve. Mr. Tuck came last Saturday. I called on him on the evening of his arrival and spent a few minutes, since which time I have not seen him, excepting in the street. He made no talk about the clerkship, but I soon found he knew very little of my folks in W[ashington]. Had he not sent me your note, showing you were satisfied with his vote, I should have put it right to him, because he knew I expected him to go for you. Well, take care of Ned and Russell and I shall be glad you are out of office. My last term as Solicitor commences next Tuesday, and I shall never hold any office again, unless I get to be deacon in our church. I am assessor now, and in the line of promotion....”

[date uncertain, but I think it’s probably same letter] “...Mr. Hale says you would get 50 majority if there were to be a new election of clerk. As to the Wilmot proviso, I don’t care a cent about it, either way.”

“The New Hamp. Democracy have overtaken my position on slavery, and we all go for abolition as fast as it can be constitutionally accomplished. The Democratic nominee for Senator in this district is an abolitionist – I forget his name....” [FFP Reel 6]

9 February 1848: James Bell (Gilford) writes to Tuck (in Exeter) about residual business from their law practice. [TFP Box 9 Folder 6]

16 February 1848: James Bell (Gilford) writes to Tuck (in Exeter) asking for any money Tuck may be holding for him. Tuck annotates that he sent Bell \$85 on 18 February.

[TFP Box 9 Folder 6]

March 1848: Tuck noted in a separate section at the end of the ledger:

“Property Mar. 1848

Dwelling house in Exeter

2250.00

Due from John F. Merrill	725.00
25 shares in B. & M. R.Road including note vs. S.L. Nudd for 3 shares	2950.00
Note vs. Burleigh & Bolkom East Boston	2250.00
2 shares in Northern Rroad	200.00
½ land near Court House	400.00
½ debts due B & T [Bell & Tuck]	1200.00
Due on A. Tuck's accounts	700.00
Due from John Tuck note	500.00
“ “ Jona. Tuck	650.00
5 shares in Machine Co.	500.00
Note vs. G.G. Fogg	530.00
Furniture etc.	1200.00
Library	<u>150.00</u>
	13755.00
Other notes	<u>245.00</u>
[Sub-total]	14000.00
Due J.L.R. [Jeremiah L. Robinson]	1200.00
“ Academy	1000.00
“ Rogers [Tuck's wards]	500.00
“ to all others and deduct for bad estimates	<u>300.00</u>
[Sub-total]	3000.00
Balance	11000.00

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

3 March 1848: Tuck noted: “I began to board, myself and Mrs. Tuck, with Hon. George J. Abbot, March 2, 1848, being Thursday – at \$14 per week.”

“Geo. J. Abbot is this day paid fifteen dollars.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

9 March 1848: Catherine P. Tuck (Washington) to the children. “Dear children, I suppose you are expecting a letter from me as I promised to write you soon after we arrived in W. I should have written before now but sickness prevented me for a day or two, and since then I have been out, and various things have occupied my time and attention. I suppose my sickness was caused by fatigue from my journey, but I am quite well now. I like the looks of W. quite as well as I expected and the public buildings are beautiful. I have been out only twice. Yesterday went down to the capitol for the first time. We are very pleasantly situated in Mr. Abbot's family. Mrs. A. is a cousin of [Mrs?] Chas. Bell of Chester – they have two children. Mrs. A. lives in 16th Street, two squares north of the President's house and 1 ½ mile from the capitol. The patent

office, treasury department and post office are but a short distance from us. The P.O. is a very large building – probably 4 times as large as Exeter Academy.”

“We rec’d a line from your uncle John this morning saying Charlie is getting well as fast as possible. Tell Eddy I have written home to Henry to send his rocking-horse, so he will get it soon. We have not heard from Henry since we left.”

“Tell Eddy too what we are glad to hear that he has been naughty but twice; we hope he will soon be able to say when he writes, that he has not been a naughty boy at al. Tell Ellen I was delighted with the book mark she sent me, for it seemed to say that she had not forgotten me, and then again it was done very neatly which proves that she could by making an effort, make herself useful. I am very glad you are enjoying yourselves in Chester. It makes us happy to know you are contented.”

“Your father is very well and at this moment sits reclining in an east chair – sound asleep! I mean to tickle his nose and ask him what word he wishes to send to the babies.”

“Oh ho yaw eh ugh dear me Kitty what are you about?” What’s the word to the babies? ‘Oh ye yaw erg the babies’ ‘Oh tell them their father loves them and thinks of them all the time only when he’s asleep.’ ‘Eh__yaw oh let me get on to the bed’ So away he tumbles on to the bed and now he is fast asleep again. So I will leave this and let him say a word for himself when he wakes.”

“Good night my dear children – you must be good children and write often to Your affectionate mother, C.P. Tuck.”

“[P.S. (In Tuck’s handwriting)] To my dear Abby, To my dear Ellen, To my dear Eddy, I send the love of their Father, Amos Tuck. Your mother or I shall write to Eddy next. A. Tuck”

Tuck fills a space with a pen sketch of Jack Downing. [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

10 March 1848: Tuck noted: “Paid for

Exchanging between watches	15.00
For medicines	.62
“ Rocking Chair	1.25
“ bringing goods to room	.25
“ lunch	.25
“ reticule	2.75
“ ribbons	.15
Paid out of stationery bill	
For pencil	6.00
“ examining watch	.50
“ crackers etc.	.35
Paid in Boston	
For bonnet, cape, collar cap	11.00
“ gloves and hat	5.00
“ sundries	<u>4.00</u>

20.00

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

13 March 1848: Exeter News-Letter reported that the Senate had ratified the treaty with Mexico.

14 March 1848: New Hampshire election day. Jared W. Williams (Dem.) re-elected Governor. Exeter voted for Anthony Colby (307), with Williams receiving 161 votes and Nathaniel S. Berry (Dem.) getting 83 votes. Exeter elected for state representatives Gilman Marston (Whig), William Wadleigh (Ind. Dem.) and George Gardner (Whig). [Exeter News-Letter, 20 March 1848]

25 March 1848: Tuck writes from Washington to Mr. Low (apparently his clerk in Exeter) about an entry in the Bell & Tuck daybook. [TFP Box 9 Folder 6]

3 April 1848: Exeter News-Letter reported that General Pierce had returned to legal work in Concord. He had sold his house there before leaving for Mexico and was considering moving to Portsmouth.

5 April 1848: Tuck (Washington) writes to son Ned in Exeter to tell him to be nice to the other little boys and to write to him in his own words. [TFP Box 1 Folder 2]

12 April 1848: Tuck (Washington) writes another short letter to Ned. [TFP Box 1 Folder 2]

17 April 1848: Exeter News-Letter prints an editorial supporting Webster for President over Levi Woodbury, although it would gladly vote for Woodbury. "At this crisis we should have at the helm the most skillful pilot, familiar with the chart, of a strong arm and stout heart, in whom the nation can repose in confidence.

23 April 1848: Catherine and Amos Tuck (Washington?) write to Ned. [TFP Box 1 Folder 2]

27 April 1848: Amos Tuck (Washington) to R.G. Winthrop (Speaker of the House). During the late discussion on the resolution offered by the Hon. Mr. Palfrey, upon which I think, about seventeen advocates of slavery spoke and only two or three persons opposed to that institution, I was anxious, as you undoubtedly observed, to obtain the floor, and made efforts for that purpose, repeatedly, on each of the three days of the discussion. I desired to speak, mainly for the purpose of repelling imputations upon myself in common with a few other gentlemen, freely and repeatedly thrown out during the debate, which imputations I deemed it dishonorable, willingly to submit to in silence. On several occasions prior to the last day's debate, I addressed you, as soon, at least as the gentlemen to whom you assigned the floor. But I was unable to obtain your attention. On the last day, at the close of the speech of the Hon. Mr. Giddings, I addressed you,

palpably and manifestly to the whole House, some time before any other member, and I then had a clear right to be heard. You deprived me of that right and gave the floor to a Southern gentleman, who did not rise upon his feet until after I had addressed you, and who immediately applied the gag to further discussion, by a motion to lay the resolution on the table.”

“Having ascertained, that your disregard of my right to be heard, has been the subject of remark, with persons unfriendly as well as friendly, to my particular views, and feeling aggrieved by your course, I respectfully enquire, by what rule and for what reasons, I was excluded the floor, next after Mr. Giddings had occupied it.”

“I am respectfully, your obedt. Sevt., Amos Tuck”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

31 April 1848: Catherine (Washington) writes to Ned. [TFP?]

1 May 1848: Stickney and Tuck ad appears. (Exeter News-Letter p. 4)

10 May 1848: Amos Tuck (Washington) to George G. Fogg. “You will see by the correspondence in the newspapers, that the prospects of Gen. Taylor’s nomination are supposed to have been lately very much increased. It is evident that the General’s friends have made up their minds to stand by him at all events. They would probably be willing to give the North anything – yes everything else, provided they would come into his support. It has even been suggested to nominate Gen. Wilson as Vice President. I see that some of our New England whigs in Congress, are engaged in nothing else, but advocating Taylorism. Truman Smith of Connecticut, and Mr. Winthrop are most decidedly his champions. Others regard the scheme of his nomination with nausea. Mr. Hudson has just returned from Massachusetts, and has told me to-day, that he believes that State could not be carried for the whigs if Taylor be nominated. The people neither want a military chieftain, a Mexican whig, nor a southern man for President. Some members of Congress heretofore unfriendly have been lately dragooned into Taylor’s support and I very much fear that he will be nominated. I should not be surprise if an attempt is now being made to reconcile New Hampshire delegates to that result.”

“What will be the consequence? Henry Wilson of Natick told me that in such an event he should withdraw from the Convention, and cast its authority to the winds. I think Mr. Allen of Worcester and perhaps other delegates from Massachusetts would follow his example; as also, some western delegates. Mr. Giddings would not hesitate a moment to repudiate the authority of such a nomination. Palfrey and C.F. Adams want to take the same course. In the declaration of independence of these men, the people would see the proof of sincerity, honesty and principle, and would break forth in irrepressible thanksgiving and praise. I anticipate an explosion, and I only fear that Taylor impudence may confine rebellion to a small number. I fear that New Hampshire delegates may not cast in their lot with such men as Wilson of Natick, Allen and others. If they do not, and the whig party of New Hampshire rest under the nomination of a Southern man, a slaveholder brought out only to overawe and embarrass the North, made too by

the laurels he has won in this Mexican war – if New Hampshire whigs, I say, rest under such a nomination even in dumb silence, a division between us and them is inevitable, and they will plunge unto a degradation from which they can never again be rescued even temporarily. Can not something be done to fix the N. Hamp delegates in impracticable [sp.?] opposition to Taylor, in this the hour of their temptation? If McLean could be nominated, they would have a candidate worthy of the support of the best men in the country, and the eventual ascendancy of the party would be certain. But the other result apprehended would prove the whig party to have no fixed principles except those of seeking for the spoils.”

“I hope that the whig papers in New Hampshire will repudiate Taylor before the convention and come out with fresh asseverations. Such a course will awe the delegates. If McLean could be nominated, it is said that Hale would be requested by Western Liberty Men to withdraw. He has never told me what course he should take. McLean is an Independent Democrat in sentiment, whatever he may be called, and he is as decidedly opposed to and jealous of the slave power as any man of the Liberty party. If Taylor be nominated, and the whig Convention be abandoned by some of their best men, there would be an opportunity to increase our numbers by an alliance with them. This consummation is hope for by many whigs in Congress.”

“I will write a letter for the next paper within a day or two. Of course this is private. I hope the Statesman will repudiate Taylor, as I heard the remark made in relation to its last number that it looked a little like coming around.” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

13 May 1848: Tuck speaks before the U.S. House of Representatives on a proposal to reimburse a Maryland slave-owner for the loss of a slave during the War of 1812. The Boston Whig reported: “He denied the right of government to make up the losses occasioned by the escape of slaves. It could be supported on no other principle than that man could hold property in man, which was not only contrary to every principle of justice and humanity, but had been explicitly denied by a decision which he quoted, of the Supreme Court, made by Judge McLean....He wished the South to keep her slavery at home, and enjoy herself all the blessings, and take all the curses arising from it....Mr. Tuck is a young member, and we predict for him a brilliant page in his country’s history....” [Exeter News-Letter, 29 May 1848]

13 May 1848: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Friend Cartland. “...You perceive that the land-robbers are for seizing Yucatan. Friend Giddings has a notion to go for taking this last country, because he thinks the slaveholders are over-reaching themselves. His opinion is, that its connection with this country would hasten emancipation very much. He says he should quit his supposed constitutional scruples, under the belief that the constitution has been abrogated by the annexation of Texas and other measures, and that we are no longer bound to observe the original compact between the States.”

“We had a fiery debate, yesterday, on a bill providing for the payment of a slave. I began the discussion in some remarks about an hour’s length, was followed by four or five wrathful

slaveholders, and Mr. Giddings closed up the talk for the day, in one of his most scathing speeches. He was grand, eloquent, sublime....” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

15 May 1848: Stickney and Tuck ad appears. [Exeter News-Letter p.4]

20 May 1848: “Mr. Amos Tuck of N.H., moved to suspend the rules in order that he might offer a resolution for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, which was taken by Yeas and Nays, and decided in the negative. – Yeas 53, Nays 89.” [Exeter News-Letter, 5 June 1848]

22 May 1848: Stickney and Tuck ad appears. [Exeter News-Letter p. 4]

29 May 1848: In addition to a report on the Democratic National Convention, the Exeter News-Letter printed an article titled “Amos Tuck,” taken from the 13 May edition of the Boston Whig. It contained a report on the House debate on a slave-holder’s claim on Great Britain for a slave lost in the War of 1812. Mr. Tuck denied the right of the Government to make up losses by losses by a slave’s running away. The Supreme Court decision written by Judge McLean states a man cannot own another man. Negroes are not property. Let the South keep its slavery and not drag in the North. “Mr. Tuck spoke for an hour in a noble strain, and evinced talent of no inferior order. He is a young member, and we predict for him a brilliant page in his country’s history. The old Granite State may well be proud of him. His heart is right. Every pulsation beats for liberty, and his force of character will be sure to impel him in an upward course. The influence of such men for good, cannot be overstrained.”

1 June 1848: Amos Tuck (Washington) to George G. Fogg. “I may not be able to write for the paper very constantly. But I advise you to pitch into Cass without gloves. He is vulnerable at every point, and not half so well defended as Woodbury who is no better man. He is identified with all the extravaganzas of the administration as well as its crimes.”

“I have been hoping most earnestly that McLean would be nominated by the whigs; but within a few days I have given up that hope and that desire. Let Taylor be nominated, as I think he will be, and let the division come. The Ohio delegation being supported at home, as well as honest themselves, will stand up boldly. They will bring in the Proviso, push it to the very utmost, and then repudiate the Convention if it be not taken unadulterated. Several of their delegates are here, and I know these things from the mouth of the most talented of them. Mix the suaviter in modo with the fortiter in re, for the next month, and we will have with us the least portion of the Whig party, in and out of New Hampshire. You are right in your estimate of the services for Taylor of a N. Hamp. delegate who is here. He is a very pleasant clever fellow but thinks the democrats can be beat, only by bidding heavily in humiliation, and he is willing to pay the price. Poor fellow, he will find that the forfeit will make the whig party bankrupt, and they will get nothing in return. I am assured that Giddings, Palfrey and Mann [sp?] will maintain no

show of countenance to the Taylor nomination, and that the same thing may be said of many other whig members.”

“I was talking, yesterday, with Dr. Baily about Mr. Hale’s present position. He feels as if the nomination, as to him, was most unlucky, and that it should not have been made till after this period. He thinks, as also others, that if Hale should now signify his wish to have a convention called for withdrawing his name, that it would be well; we, at the same time procuring a private understanding with the Barnburners of N. York, and the anti-Taylor whigs, to join in a general call for a Convention, and Hale to be re-nominated then. This may come to something, and may not.”

“Mr. Matthews of the Cincinnati Morning Herald is here. He spoke to me in the highest terms of your management of the Ind. Democrats and St[at]esman[.]”

“Can you not come on here, by and by?”

“Very truly yours, Amos Tuck.” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

7 June 1848: NH legislature formalized Jared W. Williams’ election as governor. Votes – Williams (32,245), Nathan S. Berry (28,829) and scattered (468). [Exeter News-Letter, 12 June 1848]

7 June 1848: Whig National Convention in Philadelphia nominated Zachary Taylor for President on the fourth ballot: Taylor (124), Clay (99), Scott (46), Webster (18), McLean (3). [Exeter News-Letter, 12 June 1848].

10 June 1848: Amos Tuck (Washington) to George G. Fogg. “(Confidential) Dear sir, Root, Crowell and Giddings of Ohio do not entertain the question of succumbing to Gen. Taylor. Palfrey and Mann are also out at once, without hesitation, in denouncing the Convention. A division must come, between the sheep and the goats. Many will be found faithless; let us thank God and take courage. The two great parties are pledged against free territory, and will not be able to resort behind their usual false pretences.”

“I am gratified with the point [sp?] and earnestness displayed in your leader of this week. Take the best course you can, to bring over the rank and file of the whigs to our side. I have hopes of some of the Whig papers in the N. Hamp. It will be a sad mistake in any of them to fall into the support of Taylor. The present moment is an important one to future politicians on the whig and democratic sides of the question in the North.”

“Two men of N.H. (I don’t know who) voted for Taylor. They signed their political death warrant by the act.”

“Your friend, Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

11 June 1848: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Abby and Ellen Tuck. “I sit down this Sunday morning to write to you. We board about one fourth of a mile north of the President’s House, as we have told you. I arose this morning before many people were stirring and took a long walk

about the pleasant grounds near the President's House. I went on the shaded side walks, and in the enclosed grounds south of where we board. These grounds are kept in fine order, the trees beautifully pruned and the walks nicely graveled, and many flowering shrubs set out in different places – all done at the expense of the United States, and therefore well and thoroughly done. I walked among these beautiful objects, and what do you guess I was thinking about all the time? I will tell you; I was not thinking about the flowers, the trees nor the beautiful foliage around me, but was thinking about things infinitely more dear to me, my beloved children. I recollected that Cousin Sarah had lately written that you were quite good, obedient and happy children, and I was glad. I then went on in my thoughts about the happiness I should enjoy in you, if you should all do the very best you can, to grow up as good children, learning every good act and unlearning every bad act. I know that like all children you would grow up with many naughty ways, unless you should try hard to get rid of them. But I felt confident you were trying to get rid of a very bad way, and I felt confident that if you kept trying, you would be good children, and grow up to be good women, and Eddy to be a good man. So I was quite happy in my walk, and came back to my room before your mother was up, sat down and read two chapters in the bible, became sleepy, and lay down and took a nap before breakfast. When we came up to our room I told your mother, 'I am going to write, myself, to the babies to-day' (We sometimes call you babies.) 'Well,' said she, 'then I will write to Sarah.' So you will have quite a budget, about next Wednesday or Thursday. I hope we shall get through here by the first of August. We have sometimes talked about your mother going home before me; but as you are getting along so happily at Chester, I have thought it best for her to stay till Congress adjourns. We are in a kind, agreeable family, but we shall both be much happier at Exeter with our little family collected together, than we can be here."

"We went down to Mount Vernon, last Thursday, which is 18 miles from Washington, on the Virginia side of the Potomac. Look on the map and you can see where it is. Many people go there, though it is a sad road to travel, and but little to be seen after you arrive. Now tell me in your next letter, why people go to Mount Vernon so much. What great man lived there? He was not only great but good. He died in 1799, which is more than 48 years ago. We saw his tomb, also the house he lived in, with the rooms just as he left them. We also saw a huge iron key, which was presented to him a few years before he died by Lafayette....But in 1792 the people rose against the king, cut off his head drove away his courtiers and pulled down his prison, and the key was sent as a present to the most honored citizen and patriot in the world...Tell us what this man did for which we should love and honor his memory."

"Ellen wrote quite a good letter to me. It was quite cheerful and happy. I always want you so to write. If you have nothing sorrowful to write about, I think it is always best to have letters written in a cheerful style and manner. Abby does very well in this particular...." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

14 June 1848: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Charles W. Brewster. "...I think Congress will adjourn about the end of the month of July. The naval appropriation bill is now under

consideration. I think we shall succeed in getting an appropriation for a dry dock at Kittery Navy Yard. The question will probably be taken today.”

“The battle waxes warm between the Taylor and Cass men. Each profess themselves to be certain of victory. We have not yet heard, how Taylor’s nomination will take in New England.” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

17 June 1848: Tuck noted: “Settled with Geo. J. Abbot for board of myself and wife to date and left Washington for N. Hamp.” [No amount given] [Ledger, 1838-1849]

21 June 1848: Amos Tuck (Saratoga) to John P. Hale.

“I arrived in New York City Saturday evening. On Sunday I had an interview with Lewis Tappan, who had just returned from a ten days tour in Massachusetts. He had seen many of our friends in his travels, including Whittier and our Boston acquaintances. He gave me an account of the state of feeling which he had encountered among Whigs, Democrats and Liberty men, and was quite elated at what he believes, and indeed, what is the tendency of public sentiment. He had found in all places men who had followed in the wake of the two leading parties of the country, but who now profess themselves ready to break away from party control. Without waiting to have me introduce the purpose of my visit to New York, he proceeded to tell me that Mr. Stanton and some few others had taken up a notion of coalescing in some way with protestant whigs and Barnburner democrats; and that Whittier and others of Massachusetts, and himself also, thought it extremely injudicious. He said that though individuals might now be correct in sentiment on the slavery question, yet that the mass of those who now rebel against Cass and Taylor are too much troubled with anxieties about their standing as whigs, and democrats, to be prepared for any union with us. He said it would be an actual injury to them, and a hindrance to their progress in the emancipation of themselves from noxious opinions to treat them at present as converted men. He spoke this of the mass of the persons to whom he referred, and not of our friends in Congress, who have had occasion to speak and act, within the last six months. Thus obtaining Mr. Tappan’s sentiments, I had scarcely any occasion to ask a question in order to get his opinion upon the expediency of attempting to prepare the way for the ultimate co-operation of all the opponents of slavery. I conversed with him, however, for a long time. He is positive that the great body of the Liberty party could never understand the expediency of Mr. Hale’s withdrawal. He says we cannot change our position or our candidates without losing our identity as the defenders of principle in these times of general delinquency. He fully appreciates, nevertheless, the men of the whig party who have taken an open stand against Taylor in Congress, and has no doubt we are hereafter to stand with them in party relations, as we now do in sentiment; but the time is not yet. He suggested that even now, he would cordially oppose the withdrawal of our second man and the nomination of Mr. Giddings as Vice President in his stead. After a long consultation with Mr. Tappan, I left him with the impression that some of his views were worthy of a great deal of consideration, and also with the impression that not all our Liberty men have yet cleared their brains of every cobweb of

illiberality. You may have seen in the last number of the Emancipator, an article signed L.T. which indicates the state of mind of Mr. Tappan and many other men.”

“Musing on Mr. T’s cautions, I made my way to Albany on Monday, and staid there till Tuesday, having two interviews while there, with Mr. B.R. Wood. I endeavored to talk with him, with all necessary caution, and at the same [time] with frankness upon all topics, introduced by him or by myself. He is, I believe, an upright and fearless man. I became satisfied through him, that the Barnburners can never be reconciled with present national democratic party. Before seeing him, I had my fears. I have none now. I became also satisfied that the time has not yet come when we can coalesce with the Barnburners; they are afraid of being called abolitionists, and nothing can whip that ugly trait out of them, but the beating they are sure [to] get from their amiable fellow citizens, the Hunkers. Mr. Wood said; ‘we feel that we are fighting the battle of 1852 in this state; we can hold a large majority of the Democratic Party, pledged to freedom, if we furnish no weapons to our adversaries; but is we take any step, which will enable them to cry out abolitionists or whig against us, our men will be frightened. But let us fairly wean the people from their dependence upon the democracy, and then they will be ready for a union with the independent whigs, independent Democrats and Liberty men in all the States.’ We then had a long talk about the principles which should be proclaimed by their party, and I endeavored to enforce the importance of declaring a creed limited in its articles of faith, so that it should constitute no obstacle to a future union ourselves and others. He will labor to confine the Barnburners to unobjectionable declarations. I told him they must not profess opposition to interfering with Slavery in the District of Columbia, for that our friends would never be at rest, while the evil and disgrace continued there, as a standing demonstration of the proslavery sentiment of the whole nation. They will agree with us by and by, on this subject, and would now be with us, were it not that they (the Barnburners) are striving to limit their anti-slavery sentiments to the democratic standard of Martin Van Buren and Silas Wright. Mr. Wood is one of the most promising of his party, yet I found him looking for consolation and assistance where he will not find any. He spoke of Hamlin of Maine and Norris of N. Hampshire, as reliable Proviso men. The former you know and I do not; but I believe him to be a broken reed to lean upon. The latter we both know as one who cannot resist the appliances of the South. There is more hope of a fool than of him.”

“Now this belief that anything good can ever come out of either of the two leading parties, is an error that marks the imperfect development of true principles. These New York anti-Cass men will get the error whipped out of them eventually, as also will the less advanced of the Conscience whigs of Massachusetts, and Ohio.”

“Such being the state of opinion among our more immediate friends, as represented by Mr. Tappan, and such the fearfulness of the Barnburners of giving any occasion to be called abolitionists, I believe I should act in accordance with your judgment and that of our friends whom we consulted in Washington, if I should confine myself to the purpose of manifesting to Mr. Wood, the great interest taken in their movement, and the earnest hope felt by many in different parts of the country, that they would pursue a course of uncompromising integrity, and

be one of the fragments to make up a majority party hereafter, pledged to freedom and the true guardian of the nation. He appeared to be glad of the opportunity of hearing so directly from those who sympathize with them from a distance, and as he is going to Utica, and will be a leading man in all their controlling councils, I have no doubt he will do much towards regulating the action of the Convention, in a manner to agree as far as possible with us. I suggested a general Convention, and a national nomination. But he was opposed to it. He said they must break down the Hunkers by bringing out, at this time, a New Yorker, who would be impregnable; a man who would be willing to withdraw at a future time for any other man. He will communicate to King, Rathburn and others, assurances of our sympathy and hope; and with the timidity in their party and the jealousy and want of unanimity in our party. I felt that all the benefit that I could accomplish, was done without going farther; especially as I could see only one other man by going a hundred miles farther. The Conscience whigs of Massachusetts and Ohio, are nearer to a union outwardly with us, than are these New Yorkers. So far as we can combine, let us do it; and where we cannot without violence, let us fight separately and look for a union previous to the election of 1852. It is thought by every body whom I have seen that Taylor will be elected.”

“The people were indignant that Cass brought around Foote with him. At Troy, a scheme was formed to ride the hangman on a rail, which would have been done in a good natured way, had he not been kept out of the Cass meeting till the conspirators and had gone home.”

“I shall be at Washington as soon as practicable, after going to see my children in New Hampshire. I am truly yours, Amos Tuck.”

“P.S. Show this to any persons you judge proper.” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

21 June 1848: A convention of the Independent Democrats and Liberty Party men convened at Concord. It nominated as presidential electors: Daniel Hoitt (Sandwich), John Page (Haverhill), John Dow (Epping), John Preston (New Ipswich) and Lemuel P. Cooper (Croyden). [Exeter News-Letter, 26 June 1848].

23 June 1848: A Whig legislative meeting in Concord passed resolutions in favor of the national Whig convention and of Taylor’s nomination. It chose Charles H. Bell as the Rockingham County delegate to the Whig State Committee. [Exeter News-Letter, 17 July 1848]

26 June 1848: Exeter News-Letter reported that Register of Probate J.B. Shapley posted notice that Amos Tuck, guardian of Jacob Rogers and Charles Rogers (children of Martha P. Rogers, late of Exeter), will exhibit his account of guardianship on the third Tuesday of September.

26 June 1848: Exeter News-Letter reports on the staged withdrawal of the U.S. Army from Mexico.

26 June 1848: Exeter News-Letter carries an anonymous article on the presidential candidates. It spoke positively of Taylor and Hale, but noted that Hale, the Liberty Party candidate, “stands head and shoulders above General Taylor. He is better qualified to fill the office of President....”

28 June 1848: Tuck noted: “Paid taxes for 1848 to First Parish \$15.00. [This may be a slip of the pen – Tuck appears to have been a member of the Second Parish at this time.] [Ledger, 1838-1849]

29 June 1848: Tuck noted: “Gave for fireworks for July 4th and for picknick \$5.00.”
 “Paid at Chester to John Lane in full for board (\$50 paid before) 47.50”
 “Paid Sarah U. Lane in full for children’s clothes and making and books 28.50
 [Ledger, 1838-1849]

July 1848: Tuck begins writing his first autobiography. One of the first points he makes that “Hampton is not the place where my children can be advantageously situate, and therefore not the place of my desire. Besides, the generations of that town have so scrupulously refrained from marriages with strangers, and have so numerous and generally intermarried with their relations and neighbors, that there has been some loss of activity, mental and physical, in the present population. My children are descended from Hampton races on the Father’s and Mother’s side, and it is better for them to live elsewhere.”

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 12]

1 July 1848: Tuck noted: “Went to Hampton with children and took S.L. Nudd’s note for \$351 with int. from Feb. 28th last – this to be instead of a note for 3 shares in B & M Railroad.”
 [Ledger, 1838-1849]

3 July 1848: Exeter News-Letter published the text of Van Buren’s 20 June 1848 letter on the extension of slavery to the territories.

6 July 1848: Tuck noted: “Note given Granite Bank for \$150 in 4 months (\$100 of this to be loan Jona. Tuck).” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

7 July 1848: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to Oren Head of Exeter for \$200.00. The tract was located on the new street running from the Court House to the river. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 327, Page 368]

8 July 1848: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John G. Palfrey. “I am remaining in Exeter a few days longer than I designed to do, when I first came home. It is my purpose to be in Boston two days, and in New York City one day for the purpose of consulting with those whose opinions must be

a help or hindrance, according to the view which they take of the present crisis. I have met with no one who speaks with confidence upon the course which Mr. Hale's friends should pursue. One determination is professed by all and that is, to treat him in the honorable manner which his station and faithful service entitle him to receive. If he should not be the nominee of the approaching convention, it would be the occasion of common regret among his friends in this region, and his supporters in New England would feel much perplexed what to do. The Liberty men of the West have done much to commit themselves to the new nomination, and will support the same, notwithstanding they took an important part in the nomination of Mr. Hale. Measures are taking place in other regions, and particularly in Massachusetts, which will probably result in carrying many more of our friends to the support of the nomination to be made. What then shall Mr. Hale do? Or rather what shall his friends do? Shall they ask him to be a candidate, if circumstances should occur, which should direct from him the support of Western Liberty men and Independents, including Mr. Giddings, Root and others? Shall they insist upon using his name, when the necessity of the case would seem to turn from him the support of the Independent Whigs of Massachusetts? I can never be convinced of the necessity of parting company with the men with whom I have sympathized and labored in Congress. I feel that it can never be proper for yourself, and Mr. Giddings, and Dr. Bailey and Mr. Matthews and others of Ohio, to support the new nomination, and also be proper for me to oppose it. I think more intensely upon these matters, because, I have a presentiment that Mr. Hale is not to be nominated. I suppose it to be commonly expected that Mr. Van Buren is to be re-nominated, such being necessary to secure a co-operation with the Barnburners. Now I must aver, that I feel a great aversion to Mr. Van Buren on account of his past sins. I bitterly repent having ever voted for him in past years. How can I again support him without his professing penitence for the past? I do not now see how I can do it."

Is it not practicable to nominate Mr. Hale and Mr. Giddings at Buffalo, and let the Barnburners, in and out of New York, support Mr. Van Buren? If the Buffalo Convention should stand with Mr. Hale, he would stand well; but if both that Convention, and the Utica Nomination, should be as against him, the diversion would be so great, that we should not want to count the votes after the election."

I have thus given you the workings of my own mind, in order that you may understand what will probably be the aspect of our deliberations in Boston. I shall see the Liberty men and the Conscience Whigs in Boston."

"The Taylor strength among the masses is weakness. I have not seen an earnest advocate of his election, since I left Washington, and I do not expect to see such a natural and moral curiosity, until I get back to the Capitol. The most discerning men say confidently that Massachusetts will reject him, and that the Legislature will not dare to endorse him, after the members see the returns from their several towns. But of these matters, you know more than I can tell you. I merely state the impression out of Massachusetts."

"Mr. Fogg has been with me for a day or two past. He thinks 2/3 of the Whigs, at least, will abandon Taylor in this state, and go with us. Many of the Democrats will go for Van Buren.

New England is ripe for the harvest. If men let this golden opportunity pass, they will never see a political reformation. May God guide and bless us.”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

11 July 1848: Tuck noted: “Settle with John Tuck for children’s board and all demands to date. Loaned Jona Tuck \$67 more and took his note for \$1150.00” [Ledger 1838-1849]

17 July 1848: Exeter News-Letter editorial: “The nomination of Mr. Van Buren, as President, has excited a good deal of feeling. Some of the professed friends of John P. Hale have expressed the wish that Mr. Van Buren might receive the nomination at Buffalo, and that Mr. Hale might withdraw in his favor. We cannot speak politically. Mr. Van Buren may have an influence on a portion of his friends and win their support. But his supporters and followers will be of his own party....” The editorial indirectly supported Hale’s continued candidacy.

21 July 1848: Tuck noted in a separate section of the ledger:

“Schedule of Property, such as I can recollect July 21, 1848

Cash on Hand	260.00
Note vs. G.G. Fogg Concord N.H. Pr. \$500, int. about 40\$	540.00
Stock in Swamscot Machine Shop, at Newfields N.H.	560.00
Note vs. Stacy L. Nudd Pr. 351\$ int about 9\$	360.00
Note vs. Jona Tuck July 11, 1848 for	1150.00
22 shares in Boston & Maine Railroad at \$110	2420.00
50 per ct. for two new shares Paid in	116.00
2 shares in Northern Rroad and dividends due	205.00
Note vs. John F. Merrill about	750.00
½ notes vs. Batchelder & Merrill	160.00
Note v. J.G. Batchelder	10.00
½ note v. O. Head	75.00
Due from J. Bell balance on Books over drawn by him	200.00
Note vs. Burleigh & Bolkom in E. Boston (about)	2325.00
House and land about it	2200.00
½ land near Court House	100.00
½ land in Atkinson	50.00
½ debts due on B. & Tuck’s books	800.00
Due on A. Tuck’s books	600.00
“ “ Notes	300.00
½ of due on Stickney & Tuck’s books	700.00
Furniture	1100.00
Library etc.	<u>229.00</u>
	15,200.00

Deduct all debts	<u>4,200.00</u>
	11,000.00
[Ledger, 1838-1849]	

24 July 1848: “For the News-Letter

Mr. Editor – I think the following correspondence will interest a portion of your readers – those, at least, who are acquainted with Mr. Legendre. He is well known in this town and vicinity, having spent before going to Mexico a year and a half in Exeter as a teacher of the French language, and a student at law in Messrs. Bell and Tuck’s office....” Legendre wounded at Molino del Rey and also fought at Cerro Gordo, San Antonio, and Cherubusco. [Signed] – H [Hoyt?]

Exchange between Legendre and list of Exeter citizens. Legendre says he is a naturalized citizen. Neither Tuck nor Henry F. French signed.

24 July 1848: Exeter News-Letter carried a letter to the Editor from “N” – calling for all Barnburners, Liberty Men, and Independent Democrats to attend a meeting in Exeter on Saturday 29 July to appoint delegates to a “free soil convention” in Buffalo on 9 August.

26 July 1848: Tuck participated in a series of complicated procedural votes concerning House Bill 201 to establish the territorial government of Oregon. He was in the minority (with Giddings and Lincoln) in the final vote of 96-90 that apparently laid the motion on the table.
[Congressional Globe - House Journal]

28 July 1848: Amos Tuck (Washington) to “My friend”. “...I have no doubt you are absorbed at the present time in witnessing the interesting development of political affairs, as each successive week and day brings them before us. The times require a full grown man, and a fully developed Christian patriot, in order that he be not terrified at the wonderful transformation and agitation now taking place. Some men, who have hitherto labored to introduce into the popular mind the deep convictions whose effects are now apparent, are half terrified at the effects of their own precepts, and are desirous of administering opiates and anodynes to quiet the troubled elements. These men, not only lack faith, but they have also failed to fathom the depth of the iniquity against which they have cried out. It is silly for us to look for any eradication of the evil of slavery, unless the popular mind is aroused to an extent, that will alarm faint hearted men everywhere. I have no fears that anything but good, will result from the present agitations. It takes the force of an earthquake, to throw party men away from their old formations. Let the agitation continue and increase, till the slave power of this country know, that we will tolerate no connection, actual or implied, with the cruel despotism that upholds a traffic in our brethren, crushed to the earth 3,000,000 of our fellow creatures, and blots out hope from the human heart.”

“Now, my friend, I fully approve the views of your letter, lately published in the Democrat and Freeman. We must not only be earnest, but we must be enterprising at the present

moment. The elements of opposition to the two principal nominations for the Presidency must be combined. If we do not now unite, our forces will be scattered, and our organization on the old platform will be inefficient. If we combine, we may confidently anticipate that our co-laborers, though not now with us, will soon be matured and developed so as to cooperate in every good word and work. I think that we must do our work in the following order. 1st stop the extension of slavery; 2nd Abolish it in this District of Columbia; 3rd Abolish the inter-state slave trade. Slavery will then be dead.”

“Mr. Hale will interpose no obstacle, but will, on the contrary, afford every facility for our easy performance of duty. He will write a letter of declination to be read at Buffalo, according to the discretion of his friends. I hope you will be at B. I may be there....”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

29 July 1848: The Rockingham County Free-Soil Convention met at Exeter. Aaron Bartlett of Atkinson was chairman and William Knowles of Northwood was secretary. The committee on resolutions included Nathaniel Gordon (Exeter), B. Van Dane (Epping), J.G. Hoyt (Exeter), J.W. James (Deerfield) and J.S. Pollard (Plaistow). A long list of anti-slavery resolutions were approved. The convention called for the use of all lawful and constitutional means to check, over-throw and finally eliminate slavery until the constitution could be amended.

The convention also supported Senator Hale and resolved, “that the course of the Hon. Amos Tuck of the U.S. Congress, meets with our most cordial approbation, and we repose entire confidence in his honesty of purpose, his moral firmness, and his devotion to the interest of the country.” [Exeter News-Letter, 7 August 1848]

31 July 1848: Exeter News-Letter – “For Sale! The dwelling house in Court St. in Exeter, which I now occupy. July 21 1848 Henry F. French

1 August 1848: According to Cornish, Tuck introduced an amendment to the Oregon government bill aimed at prohibiting slave-owners to hold slaves there. He also repeated a call for abolition in D.C. Tuck’s position in the confused debate over popular sovereignty is not clear. He supposedly attended (with Giddings) the Free Soil Convention that convened in Buffalo on 9 August, but Cornish does not say if Tuck supported Van Buren’s nomination, or if he backed another candidate proposed there, such as John P. Hale, McLean, or Chase. Reinhard Johnson reports that all 15 New Hampshire delegates voted for Hale.

Tuck returned to Exeter to attend to his law practice and to “more urgent party demands through the autumn”. George Fogg’s attacks on Tuck in *The Independent Democrat* energized Whigs to support him.

1 August 1848: Tuck noted: “Loaned to Jonathan Tuck \$50 more making \$1200 in all.”

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

3 August 1848: Tuck voted with the majority (112-97) to “lay on the table” (and thus block) the Clayton compromise bill on Oregon. “After this question was settled the House went into Committee of the Whole, and took up the Oregon Bill, but adjourned without taking the question.” [This appears to be a reference to the House’s own bill to extend the Ordinance of 1787 to Oregon, a bill subsequently approved by the House and accepted by the Senate. [See Sewell, Hale, p. 121); (Exeter News-Letter, 7 August 1848]

5 August 1848: Amos Tuck (Washington) to George G. Fogg. “I have been expecting to go to Buffalo for the past two days, until within a few hours. The reason that I do not go, is that I cannot pair off with any southerner as I expected to do; and with the prospect that the Senate are resolved to force a new compromise through the Senate, Mr. Hale, Palfrey, Bailey and Root, as well as Mr. Giddings are of opinion that I ought not to go. Wilson and Johnson are both away, and it would not do to have liberty sacrificed, and nobody but Mr. Peaslee here to speak for N. Hampshire.”

“As to your nominations at Buffalo, I can say, that I have surveyed a host of difficulties, and that I expect you will be perplexed. Do the best you can, and I can assure you, that I will say, well done good and faithful servants. I am prepared to adopt and to advocate the nominations I will name to you, the order in which I regard the availability of the several nominations suggested.”

“For President

1. John McLean
2. John McLean
3. Henry Clay
4. Martin Van Buren
5. John McLean
6. M. Van Buren

For Vice President

John Van Buren
John A. Dix
Martin Van Buren
John P. Hale
John P. Hale
J.R. Giddings”

“You will smile at the 3rd ticket I have proposed. It is, however, one which would destroy Mr. Taylor, so essentially as to leave no wreck behind.”

“I feel a reluctance to have Mr. Van Buren continued as the nominee of the Barnburners, unwilling to unite upon him, unwilling to split with the Barnburners, but anxious to make every national sacrifice, and to take your results at Buffalo, as the best that mortal men can do. Your ticket will run like wildfire, I trust and fully believe. May God guide your deliberations.”

“With sincere esteem, your friend, Amos Tuck.”

“P.S. Relieve Mr. Hale of his position before you leave Buffalo. His honor and his interest require it to be done. He knows it, and cordially desires you, with Mr. Giddings and others, to do what seemeth good.” [Fogg Papers, NHHS)

5 August 1848: Tuck noted in a separate section of the ledger:

Cash on hand \$300
 I owe to
 Hampton Academy Oct.
 J.L. Robinson
 Estate of Rogers boys
 Granite Bank

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

5 August 1848: Tuck noted: "I have paid to Messrs. Gideon & Son, Washington for printing documents, which I have distributed during present session of Congress 47.00

"I have paid Post Master of Ho. Reps. for stationary above the amt. allowed by law (35\$) the sum of 3.17."

"My travel to Congress being 508 miles, entitles me to the sum of 406.40. My attendance, being 253 days to the adjournment (August 14, 1848) entitles me to 2024.00. [i.e. \$8 per day.] Amt. received \$2430.40"

Tuck calculated that his expenses in attending Congress amounted to \$1702.12, including board for himself and Mrs. Tuck from 2 March to 7 June and for his board for 28 days during the summer. It also included one round trip for Mrs. Tuck and three for him between Exeter and Washington.

"The average expenses of my family at Exeter from Dec. 1 to Mar 1, 1848 – about 200.00
 Ditto of children from Mar.1 to July 1 at Chester Abby, Ellen and Eddy about 140.00
 Ditto of two children at Biddeford Charles and Amos Otis for 8 ½ months and going to see them 100.00.

Ditto of family at Exeter, from July 17 to Aug. 17, 1848 and for clothes, books tuition etc. for the past 8 months, not before estimated – 60.00. Total - \$500.00."

Tuck then calculated his "net profit" from being a member of Congress in the 1st session of the 30th Congress at \$1202.12.

"My property must yield to me, above my interest paid (on what I owe) above taxes, insurance and repairs for 8 ½ months at least \$200.00. My professional business during this time must be \$497.88. Net increase of property in 8 ½ months \$1900.00."

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

7 August 1848: Exeter News-Letter reported that the Rockingham County free soil convention held on 29 July in Exeter chose Joseph G. Hoyt and Nathaniel Gordon as delegates to the Buffalo Convention with a mandate to support John P. Hale. One convention resolution flatly rejected "the iniquitous compromise that the Senate of the United States are attempting to palm off upon the people...." Another resolution stated, "The course of the Hon. Amos Tuck of the U.S. Congress, meets with our most cordial approbation, and we repose entire confidence in his honesty of purpose, his moral firmness, and his devotion to the interest of the country."

In an accompanying editorial the editor stated, “The object of this convention is to nominate a candidate for the Presidency, for the friends of free soil and free rights. The New York politicians have already named Martin Van Buren, and the Buffalo Convention will probably ratify the nomination....Should Van Buren be nominated and Hale decline, it would place the anti-slavery party in this State in an undesirable position. Should McLean be nominated Hale’s declension would be less injurious to the party which has hitherto supported him. McLean has not been distinguished as a party politician. Van Buren has, and the name of the latter cannot be placed before the public as a candidate without reviving those prejudices against him, which were excited when he was in office as the head of a party and the head of Government.”

7 August 1848: The Governor and Council appointed John Sullivan of Exeter as attorney general in place of John S. Wells who had resigned. Also, they appointed Albert R. Hatch of Portsmouth to replace Henry F. French, whose second term had expired. They also appointed French as Bank Commissioner vice Ira St. Clair, resigned. St. Clair took Sullivan’s place as judge of probate. [Exeter News-Letter]

7 August 1848: Exeter News-Letter reported that Joseph G. Hoyt and Nathaniel Gordon had been chosen as county delegates to the Buffalo Free Soil Convention.

9 August 1848: Free Soil Convention held in Buffalo.

14 August 1848: Exeter News-Letter editorial stated, “...Of the nomination of Martin Van Buren for President, we have nothing to say. Those whom it suits may support it; but it will not infuse much life or spirit into the election. Charles Francis Adams, a son of John Q. Adams, is the candidate for Vice President. The newspapers state that Mr. Hale’s friends withdrew his name as a candidate. In the first place, we doubt the fact, and in the second, their authority.”

p. 3 “The Buffalo Convention – The proceedings of the Convention resulted in the nomination of Martin Van Buren for the Presidency....The vote for the Presidential candidates stood: for Van Buren 244, J.P. Hale 181, and scattering 41. After this ballot Mr. Van Buren received the unanimous nomination of the Convention....”

p. 3 “Business Meeting! The members of the Exeter Rifle Guards are requested to meet at their Armory on Saturday Evening next, at half past 7 o’clock.... Per Order of the Captain. John C. Badger, Sergeant.

p. 4 Henry French’s advertisement to sell his house appears again.

p. 4 Stickney & Tuck ad appears again.

18 August 1848: Tuck’s brother John borrows \$900 from Hampton Academy funds at 6% interest. Amos guarantees the loan (and may be paying the interest for John). [“Accounts of the Treasurer of Hampton Academy,” 2005.46, Hampton Historical Society]

21 August 1848: Exeter News-Letter editorial stated, “The Buffalo nominations have excited no little surprise. Mr. Van Buren’s former policy was certainly very repugnant to the principles of the party by whom he is now nominated. He was formerly known as the Northern man with Southern principles, and that designation was not without cause. He was the favorite of the South and received the South with favor....If so many changes have been so suddenly wrought, why may not the mind of the ex-President....? If it has made a new man of Martin Van Buren we should receive him as a new man, and treat him accordingly. But we want some evidence of the change, and it is reasonable that we should have it. We are desirous enough of defeating Cass, but not unless some substantial good is gained by the operation. He was a native of this town and has friends here, who would rejoice to see him in the chair of State, if he could come to it honorably and fill it worthily....If there is a difference in their principles on the subject of slavery, that difference must be manifest, so that the voting public may see and understand it and act accordingly....”

p.2 Lengthy report on the Convention. At the Convention, Hale “entrusted his honor and interests to the keeping of Joshua Leavitt of Mass., H.B. Stanton of N. York, Samuel Lewis of Ohio, G.G. Fogg of N.H., and J.G. Whittier.”

p. 2 Buffalo Convention Platform printed.

22 August 1848: Tuck noted: “I have within a week loaned to bro. Jona. Tuck 50.00
Have paid Gr. Bank amt. of note to them Sept. 25, 1847 for 200\$ 204.75”
[Ledger, 1838-1849]

25 August 1848: J.G. Hoyt opened the session of the Rockingham County Teachers’ Institute. The Executive Committee of the Rockingham Common School Association included Hoyt, Rev. A.P. Peabody, N.P. Cram, Rev. P.B. Day and John Kelly. [Exeter News-Letter, 28 August 1848]

1 September 1848: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale.

“I intend to go to Concord and Deerfield on the 13th and 14th of September.”

“Several whigs in this region, who entertain favorable feelings towards us and our friends, have spoken to me at different times, and requested me to exercise some moderating influence upon friend Fogg’s tartness upon McFarland and the Taylor Whigs. I have not yet written to him on the subject, because my position might make my advice obnoxious to a selfish suspicion. Still I think that a little refraining and forbearance in the Democrat towards the Whigs, and towards McFarland, in particular, would promote the welfare of our cause, and is necessary in order to secure future co-operation in any matters whatsoever. I think the next paper ought to be tempered, and I should be glad if you would suggest something to Mr. Fogg, if you deem it of consequence.” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

1 September 1848: Tuck noted that he had paid \$10.50 for Dr. Perry to travel to Biddeford to treat his brother Jonathan.

“I have paid Granite Bank all I owe them except \$150. I have paid them (Bank) about \$410 since Aug. 20.” (Ledger, 1838-1849)

4 September 1848: Exeter News-Letter printed the text of John P. Hale’s letter reclining his nomination as a presidential candidate at the Free Soil Convention in Buffalo held 20-21 October 1847. It also printed a portion of Martin Van Buren’s acceptance letter. Also, the News-Letter reported a bit critically about Van Buren’s clarity, and focused on what he said about slavery in Washington D.C.

6 September 1848: Tuck bought another share of B & M Railroad stock for \$109.75. He then owned a total of 23 shares plus two “new shares” half paid for. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

11 September 1848: Exeter News-Letter reported:

p. 2 Opinion piece (unsigned) noting that the Liberty Party and the Independent Democrats were to have state conventions that week in Concord – What will they do in naming their lists of electors?

p. 3 Whig Meeting – Held 7 September at Exeter Town Hall. Delegates to State Convention listed, including Gilman Marston, Esq., and W.W. Stickney, Esq.

13 September 1848: The Convention of the Friends of Free Soil held in Concord. John H. White of Lancaster presided. John P. Hale was key-note speaker. The convention chose the following presidential electors: John Page (Haverhill), Daniel Hoyt (Sandwich), John Dow (Epping), Thomas Perkins (New Hampton), Salma Hale (Keene) and John H. White (Lancaster).

[Exeter News-Letter]

15 September 1848: Tuck noted: “Have been to Concord to attend state convention gave Mr. Fogg for expenses of votes Mar 1848 \$5.00. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

18 September 1848: Exeter News-Letter reports:

p. 2 (Previous Wednesday) Convention of the Friends of Free Soil held in Concord. John H. White of Lancaster presided. John P. Hale was the key speaker. The Convention nominated the following as Presidential Electors:

John Page, Haverhill

Daniel Hoyt, Sandwich

John Dow, Epping

Thomas Perkins, New Hampton

Salma Hale, Keene

John H. White, Lancaster

p. 2 The Whig Convention was held the previous Thursday at Concord.

p. 2 Annual stockholders' meeting of Boston & Maine R.R. held the previous day in Dover. Directors chosen included Andrew Pierce, who had been on the previous board.

p. 4 Another Stickney & Tuck advertisement.

20 September 1848: Tuck bought two more shares of B & M Railroad stock at \$110.25 a share.
[Ledger, 1838-1849]

25 September 1848: Exeter News-Letter printed a notice for "The Teachers' Institute" of Rockingham County. Joseph G. Hoyt was the secretary of the institute's association, Rev. A.P. Peabody (Portsmouth) was president, N.P. Cram (Hampton Falls) was treasurer. E.G. Dalton (Exeter) was secretary of the institute itself. William Plumer, Jr. was also a vice-president of the association.

26 September 1848: Court of Common Pleas commenced its Fall term at Portsmouth under Judge Samuel D. Bell. [Exeter News-Letter, 2 October 1848]

2 October 1848: Exeter News-Letter reports:

p. 2 Article on "the Telegraph Suit," i.e. Morse vs. O'Reilly.

p. 3 Court of Common Pleas commenced its Fall Term at Portsmouth on 26 September under Judge Samuel D. Bell.

9 October 1848: Exeter News-Letter reprinted a N.H. Statesman editorial urging all Whigs to vote in order to defeat Cass, even if they don't like Taylor.

p. 2 "B.B. French of Washington is spoken of as the successor of Mr. Burke in the Patent Office. They could not have a better. Mr. French is of good descent – has his eye teeth cut – writes passable poetry, and readable prose – and would make as good a head of a cabinet of curiosities as any other man. He too, is a New Hampshire politician – was born in Chester – married his wife there – took a lesson in politics in Newport, and was thus well qualified for political life in Washington. In that city he has secured a fair standing; and in its government and in the government of the United States, has held high office. Should he be placed at the head of the Patent Office, as we earnestly hope he will, the next Agricultural report of the Commissioner will contain an elegant map of the Devil's Den in Chester, and the most approved method of catching trout in the Massabesic." [This sounds like Henry F. French's writing.]

9 October 1848: U.S. Circuit Court convened in Exeter. Judges Levi Woodbury and Matthew Harvey presided. Albert Hatch was the clerk. [Exeter News-Letter, 16 October 1848]

21 October 1848: Tuck noted in a separate section of the Ledger:

"I owe to Hampton Academy \$1062.30 [Ledger, 1838-1849]

26 October 1848: Tuck paid \$10.00 to Samuel Wiggin for the board of his son Amos Otis Tuck. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

26 October 1848: Tuck paid \$5.00 for a trip to Boston. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

29 October 1848: HFF to BBF. "Exeter is very quiet about politics. We have two great flags hung over the street, one for Cass and Butler and the other for Taylor and Fillmore, but we don't fret about it. New Hampshire will go right; without any trouble. The Whigs in Mass. will not be able to spare many voters this year, out of their own state." [FFP Reel 6]

31 October 1848: The Exeter Free Soilers held a caucus at the Court House, with Nathaniel Gordon presiding. Tuck and Hoyt (among others) gave speeches. [Odlin journal, p. 20, Exeter Historical Society]

3 November 1848: Son Amos Otis Tuck dies at the age of two. Odlin says the child died at Parsonsfield. (Dow)

5 November 1848: Funeral of Amos Otis Tuck. [Odlin Journal, p. 21, Exeter Historical Society]]

27 November 1848: Irene Robinson, wife of Jeremiah L. Robinson of Exeter, transferred the power of trusteeship relating to her property, apparently inherited from Ephraim Fellows and Elizabeth Fellows on 19 July 1839, from Abner Merrill to three trustees, Abner Merrill, Amos Tuck, and David W. Gorham. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 368, Page 75]

29 November 1848: Tuck, David W. Gorham, and Abner Merrill gave up their role as trustee of Irena Robinson for several properties and mortgages, at the request of Irena as documented in her deed of 27 November 1848. The deed of relinquishment by the trustees was not recorded by the registrar until 11 August 1855. [Rockingham Registry of Deeds, Book 368, Pages 74-75]

December 1848: During the second session of the 30th Congress, Tuck introduced further anti-slavery petitions, but made no set speech.

7 December 1848: Tuck (Washington) writes to Ned. Says he had been in Philadelphia recently. [TFP Box 1 Folder 2]

21 December 1848: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Moses A. Cartland (Weare). "...The cause of emancipation is making progress in Congress, beyond my expectation. The northern democracy, have little motive to go wrong, are often nearly right. The House is at this moment engaged in

taking the ayes and nays on a resolution instructing the Committee on the District of Columbia, to report a bill prohibiting the slave trade in the Dist. and the manner the whigs and Democrats toe the mark, is gratifying as well as surprising. Slavery in the District must be obliterated. The charm, or rather the incantations of Southern dictation, is broken, and liberty is unbound. I can scarcely believe what my own eyes see, in the different state of feeling manifested now, and the first few days of the last session. The change is truly astonishing; and it is in the main to be all traced back, through New York barnburnerism, Massachusetts conscience Whiggery, to New Hampshire independent democracy. Had Mr. Hale been frustrated in 1845, a totally different state of feeling would at this moment pervade Congress and the Country. Perhaps I ought to go back of Independent Democracy to the Liberty Party. I leave you to judge of that.”

“...The vote for the Resolution is just announced, 98 to 87, a most important decision. Great excitement, Mr. Holmes proposing to Southern members, to withdraw and a general cry among the Northern members for the Southern men to withdraw, if they choose. You need not have any alarm, however, for the Union. It is perfectly apparent that the disunionists are small in number and looked upon with contempt. [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

1849:

January 1849: Tuck engaged Mississippi congressman Brown on the floor in an exchange that nearly led to a duel. His stance led George Julian to describe Tuck as amiable and somewhat feminine in appearance, but firm in purpose. In February, he offered a forward-looking proposal for international arbitration. [Corning, pp.48-50]

14 January 1849: Amos Tuck (Washington) to John P. Hale. “The day before you left Washington, I had some sparring with Brown of Mississippi, with which he was so much dissatisfied, that he sent Inge of Alabama to me, for an explanation. As Brown commenced by a manifest indignity upon me, I told Inge that before explaining my remark, I should require an explanation of the intention of Mr. Brown, in what he had previously said. Inge said he had no authority to explain Mr. Brown’s meaning; I then told him I could not explain mine, and he left me saying that ‘his friend’ would again call it up in the House. I have heard no more from it, though I have written out a reply, which I shall have always ready. I understand that Brown and Inge are under the impression that I would fight!! This is ridiculous; yet I would not take back a syllable that I said, on any account whatever until my convictions shall be entirely changed. Many persons have told me that I did right, and I shall stick to it. I do not expect to hear anything more from it, yet I thought I should write a word about it to you. I hope it will not be commented upon, by friends or foes, in the newspapers, though I am afraid these omnipresent scribblers will have got hold of the facts, and try to make something out [of] them. Confidentially and truly yours, Amos Tuck.” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

16 January 1849: Tuck (Washington) writes to Ned in Exeter. Says he has written to Abby and Ellen also.

16 January 1849: Tuck reportedly clashed with Congressman Brown of Mississippi over the issue of compensation for official travel. Their verbal exchanges on the floor threatened to end in a duel. According to the source (an anonymous letter writer) Tuck kept cool, and avoided a duel without backing down before Brown. [Exeter News-Letter of 22 January 1849]

21 January 1849: In an extended discussion of Joshua Giddings' speech and on slavery, BBFrench says, "So far as I am concerned I have nearly sacrificed myself in defending the South, I am now ready to let them sacrifice themselves, if they choose to do so, to their own folly. Mr. Giddings is right! After reading his speech, I walked round to his boarding house, and had an hour's conversation with him, not only upon the subject of the speech, but upon slavery in general, and in this District in particular. I am ready to do all I can to aid in its abolition here." [FFP Reel 1]

22 January 1849: Exeter News-Letter reported: "Mr. Tuck - There have been reports in circulation within a few days past, that in consequence of the flare up in Congress, between our Representative and Mr. Brown of Mississippi, the latter challenged the former to a duel, and that they had taken the field, armed with rifles, to settle the controversy. The friends of Mr. Tuck need be under no apprehension that he will sink to the level of the duelist....He will preserve at the same time his dignity and his principles. If in the ordinary walks of life he is attacked by force, why, by force if necessary, he will defend himself and repel his assailant....The state of his case, so far as at present known, may be found in the following:

"Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Washington to a friend in this vicinity.

"On Tuesday last while the House was in Committee on the Civil and Diplomatic Appropriations bill, the following item came up for consideration - 'For compensation and mileage of Senators, members of the House of Representatives and delegates, \$768,200.'"

Tuck argued that the people were focused on the proper expenditure of public funds, and it was incumbent on Congress to be attentive to that concern. Travel had gotten easier and there was no good reason to increase the amount of reimbursement for travel expenses.

"In reply to Sawyer of Ohio, (who had made one of the largest over charges, and accused him of setting himself up to rebuke members for making extra charges), Mr. Tuck said that he did not take it upon himself to rebuke any gentleman in the House, least of all any member, who in his capacity of member or editor had published to the country the amount of money which each member of Congress took from the Treasury. He concluded with expressing his opinion that among the rank and file of the great body of the people, there was but one opinion on this subject, there was but one voice spoken to the Congress in regard to it. He hoped, if necessary, that they would speak with a voice so indignant that members of Congress could neither misunderstand nor disregard it."

“Mr. Brown of Miss., then rose, who, it appears, has overcharged to a large amount, an whose appearance and manner have the unmistakable swagger of the South-west, and particularly of the repudiating state to which Senator Hale was invited last winter for the purpose of affording an Honorable Senator, Foote, and his constituents a subject for their lynching propensities. He had heard no complaint, no intelligent man among the people had spoken of the matter. Now and then some, small, upstart politician tried to make political capital out of it, but he had yet to find the first intelligent, honorable gentleman who complained of it, in any part of the U.S. – *out of Congress* – of course – he supposed he must say to keep within the rule; here there was a laugh.”

“He then proceeded more personally to say, that the gentleman from N.H., Mr. Tuck, to whom he alluded, with no very high degree of pleasure – for it was never a pleasure for him to make any allusion in that direction – That gentleman, tender-hearted as he was on that subject, was found not too tender-hearted to vote for the distribution of books among the members.”

“Here Mr. Tuck rose and requested the gentleman from Miss. To allow him the floor for an explanation.

The Chairman. Does the gentleman from Mississippi yield the floor?

Mr. Brown. (addressing the Chair) He is a member, I believe?

Mr. Tuck. It sometimes happens that a member takes such a course on the floor as to put it out of his power to insult another member.

In regard to this matter of books (said Mr. T) he stated what has been publicly stated by others, that these books had been distributed according to their votes for public purposes, and that gentlemen who had voted to receive them had heretofore taken them to their residences in order to hold them in trust for their constituents, and that their action was justified on that ground. These books contained information which in no other manner could find its way to the public mind. And he would vote at this session for a law providing public depositories for the books for the use of people in each congressional district, so that members of Congress should have no greater interest or privileges than other citizens.

Mr. Richardson asked the gentlemen if the money which members of Congress received for mileage was not held in trust for the people of the United States?

Mr. Tuck replied that the gentlemen could probably answer the question without any assistance from him, (Mr. T.)

Mr. Brown. I did not hear the gentleman.

The Chairman now directed further proceedings to be suspended until order was restored in the committee. After which –

Mr. Brown continued. He was about, he said, to proceed with the few additional remarks which he had proposed to submit to the consideration of the committee, and which would, by this time, have been concluded, but for the interruption of the gentleman from New Hampshire, (Mr. Tuck). He (Mr. B.) had not distinctly heard the remark which that gentleman had made, and he would now request him to repeat it.

The Chairman interposed, and expressed the hope that the gentleman would not indulge in personalities.

Mr. Brown was understood to say, that he was not doing so. He was inquiring whether anything of that character had been intended by the gentleman on the other side.

Mr. Tuck said that he had understood the gentleman to inquire of the Chair whether he (Mr. T.) was a member of the House; and that, considering the remark, when made, to have been intended as a personal indignity, he had made the remark that it was possible for a gentleman on this floor to take such a course as to put it out of the power of any member to insult him, or words to that effect.

Mr. Brown. I do not understand you.

(Several voices: What do you mean? Let us know what you mean.)

The Chairman called to order.

Mr. Brown. I reckon, for the time being, it had better pass. When I was interrupted, I was going to say –

Mr. Tuck rose and addressed the Chair.

The Chairman, (to Mr. Brown). Does the gentleman from Mississippi yield the floor?

Mr. Brown. For explanation, or anything of that sort, I do.

Mr. Tuck. I believe that the remark I made was this, that it was possible for a member to take such a course of action as to put it out of his power to insult another member.

From the communication it seemed a settle purpose on the part of Brown to see how far he could intimidate by his manner and style of address. Finding no reply made to his first allusions, he at last became more personal; Southern members gathered round Brown who was standing within a short distance of Mr. Tuck, evidently urging him on. During the scene, oaths and threats in undertones were uttered and it required no ordinary degree of firmness and true courage in Mr. Tuck to preserve his equanimity. When he rose the last time, in a moment the confusion was hushed and you could have heard a pin drop. With perfect self-control, though evidently speaking with much feeling, he made the remark above; thereby intimating that he had too much self respect, too much regard for the dignity of the House, and the honor of his constituents to bandy insults; yet too much courage to quail before Southern bravado. The reply was unexpected and the effect was electric. Brown and the small fry about him slunk off, as they felt the keenness of this retort and perceived the sentiment of the House to be against them, and that Southern impudence and braggadocio was no match for Northern coolness and principle. Mr. Tuck's course I hear commented on all sides, even by those who are not much inclined to speak in favor of New England, and New England's principles."

22 January 1849: Exeter News-Letter reports that the Democrats had nominated George W. Kittredge of Newmarket to run for U.S. Congressman from the 1st district. The Whigs and the anti-slavery men would probably beat him if they vote together. The Whigs have not held a convention, but will probably vote for Mr. Tuck, "a man who since his election, has faithfully regarded the interests of his constituents, and as a honest and capable man, needs no

commendation. He has been nominate for re-election by his Independent friends, and should that nomination meet the approbation of the whigs, he will be re-elected by a high, and safe, and sound majority....”

12 February 1849: Exeter News-Letter reported that NH state political conventions were to be held soon. “The First Congressional District is now represented by Mr. Tuck, who was elected by the union of the Whigs and Independents of the District. His term of office is nearly expired. He has been nominated by the Independents for re-election. The Whigs will determine on Wednesday, whether they acted wisely or not two years ago in nominating and electing him; and whether they will not aid in his re-election , or turn the District over to the Democracy. They will consider whether he has or has not answered every reasonable expectation that was formed of him....The political opponents of Mr. Tuck do not urge against him his Congressional acts. They seem beyond reproach. But they urge against him the notices of him in the whig papers, as whig, wholly whig, and nothing but whig...Mr. Tuck is too well known in this district for the representations of newspapers materially to affect him. The whigs knew, when they nominated him, that he was an Independent Democrat – too independent to go with the multitude, to do evil – too independent to be the slave of the party – independent enough to do right at home or in Congress....”

14-24 February 1849: Tuck returned to Exeter to argue “the most important trial of the term”, according to the Exeter News-Letter of 26 February. The article appears to be in answer to unspecified accusations that Tuck had abandoned his post as congressman in order to campaign for re-election. The article, signed by “Julius”, also links Tuck informally to the Whig party. “He has been abused, much abused. His calumniators are welcome to what they have made by it. It is not in the power of dwarfish men to sneer him down. He gathers strength as he moves, and their arm is puny and powerless to arrest his progress. He is not to be sure a professed whig, but he labors with them, his interests and the interests of his friends are identical with those of the whigs. He loves Liberty, he hates slavery – and so do the whigs of New Hampshire as much as he. The whigs have made him their candidate. They have elected him once, and they may do it again. They have not repented yet of what they have done for him, and will never repent of it. By the side of Wilson in the House of Representatives he has sustained and raised the honor of the State. It is regaining the glory of former days when Webster and Bartlett and Plumer hailed from New Hampshire, and made that name respected and beloved....”

18 February 1849: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. “My Dear Fogg, Immediately after receiving your letter in W., I was obliged to start for home to attend Court, and I am now in a trial of a case that will continue 4 days more. I have scarce a moment’s time to spare but will still take one moment to let you know I am at home.”

“I am glad you took occasion to say what you did, in the last Democrat in regard to the erroneous and injurious statements about my being a whig. My votes, thank God, are not

partisan, and I defy the attacks of our adversaries in respect to my acts. If the whigs vote as we do, and we are right, are we still to blame? Shall we abandon the ground we have stood upon (for [number unclear] years at least) because the whigs, or even the spurious democracy go with us?"

"I see that the N.H. Gazette dares me to deny that I have given pledges to the leaders of the whig party. You can, if you think fit, deny with my authority, that any pledges have ever been asked of me by, or given by me to any person or persons whomever. I should esteem it dishonorable to give assurances to one portion of those who might be disposed to vote for me, which I should withhold from another portion. Whoever says that I have made any private communication of any of my sentiments or purposes in regard to my political course in future, tells a fib."

"Shall I not see you here within a week? I believe everything is going well. I shall go back next week, Thursday or Friday. Am sorry I can't write on other subjects."

"Yours, Amos Tuck" [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

20 February 1849: Tuck noted: "Hired \$940 of S.W. [Dearborn?] for which I gave him my note for a \$1000 payable in a year, plus int. after." In a later insertion, Tuck noted that he paid off this loan on 27 June 1849 – "I have exchanged the note of the Atlantic Insurance Co. for my own. [Ledger, 1838-1849]

20 February 1849: Tuck noted: "Changes made in my stock:

I now have 27 shares in Boston & Maine Railroad

Ten shares in Vermont Central Railroad

Ten shares in Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad

Three shares in Northern Railroad (2 in hands of Mrs. Taylor) [Ledger, 1838-1849]

March 1849: Tuck's March re-election contest in the first district was again hotly contested. Democrats nominated George E. Kittredge. Tuck won with a majority of 400 votes. He continued to practice law during the rest of 1849.

Cornish says he was an Independent Democrat on the issue of slavery only; on other issues he was a Democrat, although relying on Whig votes. But, slavery was the dominant issue when the 31st Congress met in December 1849. President Taylor was a Whig, but his party was hopelessly split on slavery. Anti-slavery men in the House had increased from three to twelve: David Wilmot, Preston King, James M. Root, Joshua Giddings, Charles Allen, George Julian and Tuck. The extended fight over Speaker between Democrat Howell Cobb and Whig Robert C. Winthrop was only resolved when the House accepted an election by plurality. Tuck voted for Winthrop, but failed to convince the other (Democratic) Free Soilers. Cobb elected and Tuck was shunted to the Revolutionary Pensions Committee, and played no further active role in Congress.

12 March 1849: Caucus of the Liberty Party held at the First Parish Church in Exeter, attended by 44 voters, including Tuck, Nathaniel Gordon, Nicholas Arthur Clarke, and Joseph Hoyt. Nathaniel Swasey presided. [Exeter Historical Society, Odlin Journal, p. 40]

13 March 1849: Tuck noted (in French):

“Dépensé à la politique		
à Mr. Dow (15 + 12)		27
à “ Godfrey		25
à “ Gordon		16
à “ Robinson		20
à “ Parker		10
à “ Brown		5
à “ Cutter		5
à “ Fogg		25
à “ Chase		8
à Mr. Rundlett		10
à Mr. Carter		2
à Mr. Parker		10
à Mr. Eaton		3
à Mr. Clarke (by A.P.B.)		3
à Mr. Cuttler		7”
[Total	176]	[Ledger, 1838-1849]

21 March 1849: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to James Wilson. Tuck congratulates Wilson on his recent election as congressman from the 33rd district.

“I refer to the appointment of a District Attorney. I have reason to believe, that a man is now attempting to bring an influence to bear to secure him that appointment, when his success would be a chagrin to about all the Whig party who know him. He is the same man who in this town for the last year, has done all in his power to get the Whig and Liberty party at loggerheads. We should indicate to the President our wishes in this particular. Whom shall we recommend?”

“I have considered the suggestion which you made to me in respect to Mr. S.’s name, and I am now less inclined to think of any other than when I saw you. I believe that his appointment would be entirely satisfactory to the Whig party, as I believe there is no man in the District who has more universal favor. I believe, too, that besides him there is no man in the 1st or 3rd Districts who will succeed, unless it be the one to whom I have referred. The connection of Mr. S with myself will not be thought of as a serious objection, as I have reason to think. I believe the people will think it a poor reason for punishing him, that he is my partner in other matters, though he could be in the business of that office [Tuck is speaking of William Stickney].”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

23 March 1849: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale.

“We have got through with the election, and I am elected by 400 majority and Wilson by about the same number. Dr. R__ spent his money liberally with the Lampreys and Dows and Gardner Towles of this County, with some effect, ‘but none to hurt’.”

“I became committed some time ago, to Timothy Murray of New Market for Post Master, and was obliged to endorse his recommendation. I have been sorry for giving him my preference, as our modest true friend Samuel A. Haley is desirous of the appointment. He would be grateful for your aid, and may write you. It is sufficient for me to give you the reason of my endorsement of Mr. Murray, though I doubt not he is a worthy man. The present incumbent David A. Bennett ought to be thrust out immediately.” (Hale Papers, NHHS)

23 March 1849: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale.

“Finding that if any person should be appointed District Attorney in this part of the State, without any effort to direct the action of the Executive, it would be likely to be G.M. [Gilman Marston?] or some other obnoxious man. I have concluded to make an effort for Mr. Stickney. He is popular in this County, and I am assured that no objection would likely be made on account of his connection with me, as I should not share in the profits and as it would be a whig appointment, and I am not a whig. Gen. Wilson has signed a petition with me, and I have transmitted it to Mr. Webster with a gentle invitation to him to indorse it, or if not to send it along to the President. Will you not, on the recpt. of this, speak to Mr. W. and aid the request if you can? At any rate, get the petition forward to the President as fast as convenient, for Whigs and Freesoilers would be chagrined at M’s appointment. I am very truly and respectfully Yours,
Amos Tuck”

“Mr. Odell will be thankful for your blessing in the matter of his appointment as Collector at Portsmouth.”

“Also Thomas Leavitt Esq. for an appointment as Inspector (occasional or ‘Secret’) for this District.”

“Also Joseph Graves for a similar appointment.”

“But the first (Stickney’s) I am most anxious for.” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

24 March 1849: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Charles W. Brewster. “I cannot rest easy without thanking you, directly and explicitly, for your generous defence of myself, and your careful consideration of all that pertains to my character and my honor. To have received from the Whigs of Portsmouth what I have experienced, is enough for me, too much for my merits. How carefully have you guarded my remarks in your paper, so as to give no offence to our too scrupulous friends! I should have been willing to have had my hopes, my confidence in Gen. Taylor more clearly indicated than you have done. But probably your course is the considerate one. I thank you sincerely, and I can but always remain,”

“Your obliged friend and humble Servant, Amos Tuck”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

27 March 1849: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to James Wilson. Tuck seeks Wilson's support for "Our Friend" John Kelley as the pension agent for that part of the state. "His appointment will not conflict with any appointment at Concord, and I think you will confer a favor upon a most deserving man...." [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

1 April 1849: Tuck noted in a separate section at the end of the ledger:

"Amos Tuck's stocks April 1, 1849 –	
7 Shares Boston & Maine Railroad value	725.00
20 Shares in Vermont Central Railroad value	1100.00
20 ditto Vermont & Mass. R. Road value	1000.00
13 shares in Northern Railroad including 2 shares in Mrs. Jackson's Hands and money to hire within E.G. Dodge's hands, value	1079.00
5 shares in Swamscot Machine Co. value	600.00
[Ledger, 1838-1849]	

1 April 1849: Tuck noted in a separate section at the end of the ledger:

"Amos Tuck's notes of hand, April 1, 1849	
John F. Merrill due about	671.00
T. Saul due about	7.00
Oliver Towle's due about	52.00
J.L. Tappan	5.00
D. Brown 3 rd	2.00
H. Pevere [sp.?]	7.00
J.R. Groves	45.50
J. Sanborn	5.00
L. Hoag	7.50
A. Bartlett	11.00
Moses C. Dow	102.50
S.L. Nudd	166.50
Jonathan Nudd	354.00
R.F. Williams	15.50
H.B. Stevens	13.00
W.E. Nudd	22.00
A.P. Blake, bal.	75.00
A. Cass	56.00
A. Wood	67.00
G.G. Fogg	550.00
John Taylor, bal.	30.00
Burleigh & Bolckom	<u>1956.00</u>

		4220.50
May 5	John Wallace	6.00
“ 9	Sherburn W. Rand	9.00
Ap. 3	Jos. Edgerly, Jr.	15.00
June 22	Pipe Co. J.L. Robinson and J. Burleigh's note	1500.00
	L.H.D. Shepherd note	130.00
	“ “ “ “ “	10.00
July 9	Harris & Welch	81.00
“ 7	Thomas Wiggin	13.49

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

4 April 1849: Tuck noted: "I own stock

7 shares in Boston & M. Railroad – sold out since for 8 shares in N[orthern] Road and remainder cash

10 shares in Vermont and Mass. Railroad which cost me 50\$ per share brokerage 25 cts – 502.50

10 shares ditto which cost me 49\$ per share including brokerage 490

10 shares in Vermont Central Railroad which cost me 54 ¼ including brokerage (buying the same Mar. 28th 1849 at 57 ¼\$ and a dividend of \$3 due the first of March) 542.50

10 shares in ditto – which cost me (Mar. 31, 1849) 54 7/8\$ including brokerage 548.75

1 share in Northern Railroad which cost me in Dec. last 90\$ including brokerage 90.00

2 shares ditto in Mrs. Taylor's hands as admin of Timothy Taylor original cost her 200.00

10 shares bought Ap. 2 1849 for \$82 ¼ including brokerage 822.50

5 shares in Swamscot Machinery Co. cost 500.00

8 shares in Northern Road “

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

16 April 1849: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to James Wilson. “Confidential. Your letter of Ap. 13th is before me. I am surprised that D.A. Gregg should have presumed to write to you such a letter as you name. I have no recollection of even giving, or being asked to give, any certificate of ‘the honesty and capacity’, or anything else, of Mr. Gregg for any office whatever. I know that I have never given him assurances of my favorable exertions in his behalf in regard to the Post Office. He wrote to me that there were exertions to displace him, and I wrote in return, that I should probably hear something of the matter before it was consummated, but I said nothing which would debar me from taking any course which might otherwise been justifiable.”

“So far as my humble exertions avail, the Augean stable of the Postal establishment in this State, shall be thoroughly, cleansed. My documents have not reached my constituents, to whom I have directed them last winter; and I honestly believe that it is impossible to procure the circulation of other political matter, than what is countenanced by the demagogue democracy, on

account of the corruption of Post Masters. I am for a general sweep, except in cases where the present incumbers are acceptable to our friends.”

“In regard to Mr. Choate’s appointment in Derry, I will say, that so far as my feelings can go, I could find no man whose appointment would please me more. But our good friends are very much by the ears about this office, and they have a petition for the appointment of another whig, signed by a majority of the whigs of the ton, as is represented to me. Hon John Porter has written me in behalf of another man. I am at a loss whether to interfere in a quarrel of our friends, but I am only desirous to take an upright course in the matter....”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

23 April 1849: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Hale.

“Confidential. I cannot possibly go to Dover this week. Let matters rest as they now are, and, for the present withhold from all persons, the parties interested included, the fact that action depends upon our co-operation. Yours in great haste and most truly, Amos Tuck.” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

12 May 1849: Tuck gave Charles Rodgers [his ward] 25 cents “for fair.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

22 May 1849: Tuck noted: “I have sold my Vermont & Mass. Railroad stock for 943\$ besides cost, making a loss on the purchase besides interest on investment for 12 months 18 days 69.50 (I sold for \$45 – May 19, 1849 and 20 [two words unclear] for \$2.50 expenses cost.)”

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

22 May 1849: Tuck noted: “I have this day paid J.L. Robinson one note Date Oct. 30, 1848 for \$614.98 with int. after 6 months amounting to \$617.24. One note now due to him (payable to Wm. Robinson or bearer) Date Oct. 11, 1848 for \$597.04 payable in six months, int. after – being the whole I owe him.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

25 May 1849: “Meeting of Peace” held in Exeter. Tuck and Joseph Hoyt offered resolutions (contents unspecified). Joshua F. Blanchard Esq. of Boston spoke. [Blanchard was a pacifist.] [Exeter Historical Society, Odlin Journal, pp. 56-7]

4 June 1849: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John G. Palfrey. I take my pen at this time, simply to re-assure you of my earnest hope for your triumphant election on Monday next. I wish this, not so much on your own account, though I believe that under the circumstances, it will afford you some reasonable satisfaction, as on account of the cause with which you have identified yourself.”

“I perceive that parties are in a transition state, and affiliations taking place in some quarters, are not only interesting, but amusing. I shall find no fault with the motives and influences, which govern your district, provided a majority of the people give you their

suffrages. I will not find fault with any logic which brings men to a conclusion, so incontestably right. Yet I judge that it is not improbable, that the Democrats may take a course towards yourself, similar to what the whigs here, have taken towards me, and in that case, our feelings be slightly different towards a portion of the two great political parties. Still I apprehend no diversity of opinion is likely to separate us in our action in the next Congress. I am under no trammels whatever, and am only anxious to pursue a course of consistent support of principle, during the next Congress, which at its close, should enable me to abandon political life, with a feeling that I have honestly done as well as I could, and at all times acted fearlessly and faithfully. I am happy to hear from various sources, that your constituents are determined to wipe out the disgrace which now hangs to them, of hesitating, through the instigation of political leaders, to give you an election. I have no doubt they will soon see the obligation you have laid them under, by consenting to their candidate, when nothing that they can do, would increase your honorable reputation, or your happiness. It will be to you an office of sacrifice, and they will be the obliged party. The virtues and accomplishments of my friend, the Dr., have always so captivated me, that I may be obnoxious to the charge of flattery, but still I can assure you, that I am, most truly and respectfully, your friend and obedt. Svt., Amos Tuck”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

6 June 1849: Tuck noted: “I have endorsed a note of David Nudd to me for \$400 payable in 6 mos. to myself or order, to F.W..” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

8 June 1849: Tuck noted: “I have paid to J.L. Robinson all that I owed him being \$603.17.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

29 June 1849: Tuck noted: “I have sold all my Railroad stock and paid all my debts, except \$100, which I owe Susannah Folsom, and except a balance due Jacob Rogers and a balance due Charles Rogers, which balances may amount to \$500 – in my hands besides the notes and stock in their names ready to be delivered up when I cease to be their guardian.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

June 1849 [no day given]: Tuck noted: “I have loaned \$1500 to J. Burley, J.L. Robinson and Pipe Co. for one month.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

3 September 1849: Tuck paid \$2,000.00 to Joseph L. Cilley for a tract of land on the road extending from Exeter Great Bridge to Kingston. The tract contained about six acres. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 335, Page 419]

8 September 1849: Woodbridge Odlin noted, “Amos Tuck Esq. gave 1300.00 for the field where Dennet Gilman’s house once stood Front Street once called plains.” [Exeter Historical Society, Odlin Journal, p. 79]

8 September 1849: Tuck sold a tract of land to James M. Hebbard of Exeter for \$300.00. The tract was located on the new street running from the Court House to “the dwelling house of said Hebbard.” [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 336, Page 183]

8 September 1849: Tuck lent \$300 to James M. Hebbard of Exeter in exchange for a mortgage on a third of an acre of land on “a new street leading from the Court House.” A marginal note indicates that Hebbard paid off the mortgage held by Tuck on 20 May 1858. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 335, Page 433]

15 September 1849: Henry to BBF. “Tuck has bought that lot of land next above Dr Gorhams – 5 acres – for \$2000 to build upon. The owner of the Elliot land has stopped the sale of any more of it, at any price, so you see, real estate holds up well.” [FFP Reel 6]

25 October 1849: Tuck noted: “There is now due me from Pipe Company - \$1150 – plus interest. I have bought a lot of land from Jos. L. Cilley for \$2000. I have paid him up, but owe Exeter Academy \$1500.” [Ledger, 1838-1849]

2 December 1849: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Dear Brother. “...Your letter arrived, giving me much satisfaction about the boys. I think them both good and promising sons, but different from each other. It is not to be expected that Charles should be so mild as Eddy. His body is different and so is his mind. I don’t think it best to try to break him in to regular dimensions at present. He will come to it by and by, being a sensible boy. Don’t excite his sympathies, shame, ambition, or anything else, except as your reflecting judgement dictates. He is a boy of unusual capacity, and I would trust him with no other than an own brother or sister. I love him greatly, but being used to live away from him, do not feel anxiety about him, that I do for Eddy who has always been at home. Eddy is a good boy as any one need to be and is sensible beyond what he at first shows. He says but little but thinks much, and has much self-confidence. Is he well as he was when I left him? Give them both a free chance to the open air and activity.”

“I can’t tell when the House will be organized. About ten will go for Wilmot, and Tuck will be among them. I think I shall stick to the third man throughout. I do not believe that Winthrop or Cobb can be elected, and shall not be surprised if we are without a speaker for 2 weeks.”

“I board at a Mrs. Gordon’s with Mr. Mann of Mass. Putnam and Nelson of N. York and Crowell of Ohio all good whigs inclined with Free Soil....” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

3 December 1849: [Congressional Globe - House Journal] House convenes for the first session of the 31st Congress. Tuck present along with Harry Hibbard, Charles H. Peaslee, and James Wilson.

4 December 1849: [Congressional Globe - House Journal] House voted for the fifth time to name a speaker. Needed to win were 113 votes. Howell Cobb got 103 votes, Robert C. Winthrop 96 and David Wilmot got 10 (Tuck voted for Wilmot). There were numerous scattered votes. In the sixth vote the results were 101-97-9 (Tuck). Seventh ballot results: 100-97-9 (Tuck). Eighth ballot: 99-97-9 (Tuck). Ninth ballot: 100-97-8 (Tuck). Tenth ballot: 99-97-9 (Tuck).

“My own feelings were decidedly favorable to the whigs, but I felt bound to stand with the Free soil Party until it should appear that we had no chance to elect a man of our choice for Speaker, and then to do my utmost to prevent the election of any other than the whig Candidate, Mr. Winthrop....I early signified to my free-soil friends that I should vote for Mr. Winthrop whenever my vote would give him the election; and I saw that his election was the least desirable object to that could possibly happen. Personal hostility influenced Mr. Giddings, and local bitterness Mr. Allen; while the other free-soil men naturally leaned towards the democrat party....” [Tuck 1848]

6 December 1849: [Congressional Globe - House Journal] Tuck voted with the winning side of a vote to elect a temporary Speaker.

7 December 1849: [Congressional Globe - House Journal] On the nineteenth ballot for speaker, the results were Robert C. Winthrop – 102, Howell Cobb – 63, William A. Richardson – 29, Emery D. Potter – 15, and David Wilmot – 8 (Tuck) with eight scattered votes. Twentieth ballot: Winthrop – 102, Cobb – 62, Richardson – 28, Potter – 18, Wilmot – 7 (Tuck). Twenty-first ballot: 102-66-28-18-7 (Tuck). Twenty-second ballot: 102-65-23-18-7 (Tuck).

10 December 1849: Son Charles Edward Tuck dies at the age of four while staying with Tuck’s brother John. [Dow]

14 December 1849: [Congressional Globe - House Journal] In an initial vote on a new speaker, Tuck voted for David Wilmot, along with Charles Allen, Walter Booth, Charles Durkee, Joshua R. Giddings and Preston King. John Crowell voted for Tuck. No one received a majority. Tuck voted for Wilmot in two subsequent votes, all without a victor.

15 December 1849: [Congressional Globe – House Journal] Tuck voted for Thaddeus Stevens in the 45-47th votes for a House speaker. No one received a majority. Joshua Giddings voted for Tuck twice, then switched to Stevens.

20 December 1849: Tuck (in Washington, D.C.) writes to brother John (Biddeford, Maine) inquiring about his son Edward.

25 December 1849: BBF is running for clerk against Forney: still no result. Speaker of the House finally elected after 63 ballots over 18 days. Cobb of Georgia elected only by a plurality. Forney was nominated by the Democratic caucus over French. "...I have learned what the sincerity of the Democratic party is!" [Witness to the Young Republic, p. 211]

1850

13 January 1850: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. Henry both needles and consoles BBF over his loss in the election of a new clerk of the House.

"...Our minister Mr. Dexter, is at Roxbury, just gone with consumption. Mr. Hurd preached today. I have a considerable share of parish responsibility. I think Mr. Russell had better come here and be settled. We have had enough of the new fledged Andoverites, and shall have to have another minister in the course of a few months. Ask Louise if they cant come, and if they cant, if they know of anybody of the old fashioned-substantial-parson-Clement sort, who can be had." [FFP Reel 11]

14 January 1850: Exeter News-Letter editorial titled "Amos Tuck": "We are sorry to perceive that Mr. Tuck's course is the election of a Speaker does not meet the approbation of the New Hampshire Patriot. Indeed in the appointment of the Standing Committees of the House, we perceive an indication of unfavorable feelings towards him, in high places....The Independent Democrat in the defence of Mr. Tuck, indulges in the supposition – for argument sake merely – that he did make a mistake in voting on the last ballot for Winthrop; but still insists that he has not acted inconsistently with his professions or principles. He did it as a choice of evils and was obliged, by the vote of the House, to choose between them [Winthrop or Cobb]."

20 January 1850: BBF letter to HFF: "Tuck has been my very true warm and staunch friend through all the phases of the late election." [French was running for clerk of the House of Reps.] [FFP Reel 4]

29 January 1850: HFF to BBF. "Major, how are you now? I have given you nine days for the perspiration in which you wrote last, to dry away, and I fancy you now calm, serene, self-possessed open to reasonable conversation. You were lied and cheated out of your clerkship, you say. Well, what then?...I think, Major, your political views are progressing. You begin to see the subject of slavery as I used to when I was at your time of life. In helping to elect Tuck I thought 'I was doing God service' and you at the same time, paradoxical as it might seem to one who should read how you did swear in your last, and I am thankful he did the handsome thing."

"I have no idea of taking care of the politics of the country – 'God made this country' the poet says, and I will leave it to his care. Why can't you let me be? Let me be a peaceable, contented country gentleman, addicted to farming, literary pursuits, ornithology and ladies? Do not insist on my jumping into the furnace of political misery. I am willing to take the word of

my friends for it that it is bad enough, and I will sympathize with them, if they will excuse me from being tried (out) in that fire.”

“Ever since your defeat, and the disappointments all round, of this organization of the House, I have sat with more self-respect and satisfaction in my old arm chair and have looked with more complacency at a private, quiet independent life. [word unclear] as some times, seems insipid. It is no time to talk to me of saving the country. I can tell you – politics ‘be damned.’” [FFP Reel 6]

12-14 February 1850: Tuck attended the Court of Common Pleas in Exeter to defend (along with Attorney Wells) the Rockingham Insurance Company in a lawsuit brought by Nevins. Wells argued the case. Jury decided for the plaintiff. On the 14th, Stickney & Tuck successfully argued for the Boston and Maine Railroad in a lawsuit brought by Elkins. [Exeter News-Letter, 18 February 1850]

21 February 1850: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John G. Palfrey. “I have been in New Hampshire for two weeks past, and have been indulging in the hope of seeing you on my return towards Washington. I begin to fear, however, that I cannot have that pleasure, inasmuch as I feel constrained to be in Washington by Monday evening, at which time my ‘pairing off’ terminates, and I cannot leave here till Friday evening. I regret very much to return to W. without having the benefit of your views upon the subjects of greatest importance now before Congress and the country. I have wished for a free interchange of opinion. But I must forego the privilege, hoping and praying, that before many weeks, you may be again with us at the Capitol, as the representative of your District. Should it happen that you are detained in Boston on Friday afternoon, as late as 8 o’clock, I should be glad to see you at the Revere House. But I would not invite you to meet me there, at that hour, by any means, nor consent on any account that you should be detained for a single hour to see me.” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

2 March 1850: Tuck sold a tract of land with the buildings thereon in Hampton to David Nudd of Hampton for \$1.00. The tract contained seven acres of land and was occupied for many years by Jeremiah Lamprey. The land had previously been conveyed to Tuck by Nudd at an unspecified date. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 382, Page 401]

27 March 1850: HFF to BBF. “...There is a great display of silks and satins today in the street, owing to a slight ripple in the surface of our parish. Our annual meeting was on Monday and a motion was made by Doct. Gorham that during the next year, the pulpit be supplied with Unitarians. Altho’ the society was originally Unitarian, it is twenty years since any of that sort has been preached there. It was perfectly manifest that the motion would prevail, but as some of the men thought the matter was pressed too fast, the Doctor moved an adjournment for one month, to give time for reflection. Everybody sees that the parish will now be Unitarian again, the way the ladies walk up and down today is interesting to behold. You know I am just about as

Unitarian as Anne is orthodox, so that we about balance but as the Unitarian party pay two thirds the tax and have two thirds the votes, and the creed is Unitarian, there is a sort of reason in the request to have half the preaching.”

“Should you happen to meet Mr. Tuck, tell him of this movement, and ask him to hand you \$5.00 which I have paid for him to make up Mr. Dexter’s salary....” [FFP Reel 6]

April 1850: Exeter property tax records show Tuck built a “½ house” worth \$600. He still owns his other house, now assessed at \$1100.

6 April 1850: Several of Tuck’s friends and colleagues (J.G. Hoyt, D.W. Gorham, W.W. Stickney, Wm. Perry, H.F. French and John Kelly) publish a letter to Rev. Roswell D. Hitchcock: “Not doubting that you, as Patriot and Christian minister, are ready in this time of peril to the Republic to speak for freedom ‘once, yea twice,’ we venture to ask you to repeat your Fast-day sermon on Slavery extension at such time as may suit your earliest convenience.” Hitchcock reply agrees to give the sermon again. [Exeter News-Letter, 8 April 1850]

11 April 1850: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “...By the way I am one of the parish assessors, and a week from Monday we are to decide whether we shall have part Unitarian preaching in our church, and there is a general stir among the ladies of the parish. Of course we shall have a high time, - I go for a fair division between truth and error, at least, until it is better ascertained which is which. I wrote Tuck a long story about it so that he might feel right....” [FFP Reel 11]

April 13, 1850: Amos Tuck (Washington) to John G. Palfrey. “I should have replied to your first note about Mrs. S.’s pension, long ago, except for ill health, which has disenabled me from doing anything, but the absolutely unavoidable. I have called on Judge Allen twice, in reference to the subject, and he tells me that he has not yet got the matter called up. I have told him the hardship of the delay, and he says that there shall be no pains spared on his part, to procure dispatch in the business. I shall stand ready to do all in my power, whenever and wherever I can be of service in Mrs. S.’s behalf.”

“You see that things are going badly here. I have many fears, that Territorial Bills will be connected with the admission of Oregon, excluding the Proviso. Perhaps, even a separate bill, may pass both Houses, excluding the Proviso. This will be the consummation of the humility of the North, and will make the last act of the Drama, of which the annexation of Texas, was the opening scene, consistent with the whole. I have sometimes believed that slavery could not in any way obtain a footing in New Mexico, but I now entertain a different opinion, and feel that we are determining the servitude of many generations, by the manner of our action in Congress. If that madcap Foote, can shear the head of the Sampson of the North, what cannot five hundred such, achieve over the half-civilized Mexicans? The course of events here, gives one a [word unclear] desire to escape hence, which I would at once do, if I could thereby justly escape the

responsibility of a member of Congress. But it would be deserting my post, and therefore cowardly, and so I will stay.”

“Webster is (almost universally) execrated by Northern men. But it is uncertain how much evil his speech may yet do, by infecting the principles of the men who have heretofore followed him.” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

21 April 1850: HFF to BBF. “...Mr. Dexter, our minister, died yesterday morning at Roxbury. We are to have a Parish meeting tomorrow to see whether we have Unitarian preaching half the time.”

“What about the Clerkship. Were you a candidate? Why not? I did not see your name....” [FFP Reel 6]

17 May 1850: Amos Tuck (Washington) to John G. Palfrey. “Pardon me for writing a few frank enquiries in regard to the 4th district, none of which you need answer, as my only object is to indicate the queries that sometimes enter my own mind, and afford to you a glimpse of the view which I take at this Distance.”

“I have looked with satisfaction upon the evident convergence between the whigs and Free Soil men in Massachusetts, hoping that before the 27th inst. public opinion would become so near to what is right, as to ensure your election to that station, where we now so much need your council, and your vote. I will not disguise, also, that I have latterly hoped that Gen. Taylor would continue to behave so well, and northern whiggery become so regenerated, that we should not be obliged to quarrel with it, but on the contrary, find it easy and expedient to favor general fraternization with it. I am aware, that my faith in the saving grace of the whig party has been greater than yours, and I therefore have fears that you will think my queries (when I get to them) arise from defection or erroneous opinions, as to the true character of the whig party. However, I shall hazard the queries.”

“Inasmuch as an election, at the trial, is highly improbable, and even the election of Thompson (according to the Atlas) a possibility and as a sound man is now sadly wanted from that District, why would it be well for the two candidates to get together without any ceremony, and agree to withdraw and recommend Mr. Hoar? Then, why would it not be wise and patriotic for Mr. P. to astonish his late opponents, by taking the stump in behalf of Mr. H. and urging his friends to forego minor considerations and elect Mr. H., a sound and able man? It would be a seven days wonder with many; but would it not develop an enterprising fearlessness of action, and magnanimous forgetfulness of self, which would in the end, exterminate that unreasonable and despicable hostility that has been exhibited towards you, by the Boston influence within the last two years? Mr. Hoar would be elected, but would not desire to be kept here after the present Congress. Then the injustice that has been done Mr. P. would be felt by the people of Massachusetts, and if he would condescend to accept of Congressional service, the way would be open, by his just appreciation by the people. Did I not foresee, or think I foresee some such a termination, I should not favorably indulge the first of my queries.”

“I am aware that action in accordance with these suggestions, would make it necessary for you to over-rule many of your friends; but boldness and foresight often lead to that. I am also aware that it would be no inducement with you, to foresee the result, which I have supposed possible, and even probable. But I have spoken out my thoughts frankly, and I close by subscribing myself with the greatest respect and esteem, you friend and humble svt., Amos Tuck” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

June 1850: Tuck tried and failed to amend the bounty bill to limit one person to 320 acres in any one township. In the debate over statehood for California, Tuck argued that the people of California had settled the slavery question and the state should be admitted. He criticized the Senate Compromise of 1850, saying it was “fathered by men who manufactured public opinion in order to cause distraction in the country.” The speech placed Tuck in the front ranks of “uncompromising opponents of Clay’s temporizing policy.” [Cornish, p. 56]

29 June 1850: [Congressional Globe - House Journal] Thomas Harris is trying to delay a vote on the committee of elections report calling for William Thompson to seated as a representative from Iowa. Tuck voted with the majority (182-12) not to adjourn. Then, Tuck voted with the majority (103-93) against tabling the whole subject. On the question of seating Thompson, Tuck again voted with the majority (102-94) to not seat Thompson. Tuck then voted in the minority (108-84) on the question of notifying Iowa that its seat was vacant. There were further votes relating to the Galphin question and on the conduct of Secretary of War Crawford, in which Tuck voted on the losing side.

29 June 1850: George G. Fogg (Concord, NH) to John P. Hale. “It gives me great pleasure, as I am sure it must you, to say that we have at last got resolutions of the right stamp into the Legislature, and from the right source – the “Select Committee on National Affairs.” They go for positive prohibition, for the independent admission of California and New Mexico, and in approval of the course of our whole? Delegation in Congress for unitedly opposing all schemes calculated to establish or allow slavery in the New Territories. These resolutions passed the Committee by a vote of eight to two, and will pass the House as strongly. Yours truly, Geo. G. Fogg” [Hale Papers,]

8 July 1850: Exeter News-Letter reported that “...Mr. Tuck, of the Rockingham and Strafford district, is to take up his abode in the West at the end of the present Congress.” No further information.

16 July 1850: Tuck’s younger sister Mary Tuck Wiggin dies. [Dow]

3 August 1850: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to Paul A. Chadborn of Exeter for \$2,040.00. The tract contained Tuck’s homestead and other buildings and was located on Fore Street just to

the west of the dwelling house of Retire Parker. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 341, Page 78]

3 August 1850: Tuck lent \$1500 to Paul A. Chadborne to buy Tuck's house on Front Street next to Retire Parker's house. The house lot contained about $\frac{3}{4}$ acre of land. Tuck discharged the mortgage on 13 November 1850 after Chadbourne apparently paid off the loan. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 341, Page 79]

8 August 1850: Tuck travelled by train from Exeter to Portsmouth to see the launching of a very large floating dock at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. [Exeter Historical Society, Nicholas Gilman's Journal, pp. 18-19]

17 August 1850: [Congressional Globe - House Journal] Tuck absent from two roll calls. Not clear if there was a particular political reason.

19 August 1850: The Exeter News-Letter announces that the editorship of the newspaper is in new hands, but gives no names.

24 August 1850: The new Exeter Cemetery Association met at the office of Stickney & Tuck and chose officers: Henry French, President; Joseph Hoyt, Treasurer; Amos Tuck, Secretary; and George Gardner and Charles Conner, Trustees. [Exeter News Letter, 26 August 1850]

25 August 1850: Tuck (Washington) writes to Ned, gives him some health advice. Tuck has gotten letters from Abby and Ellen. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 2]

26 August 1850: The new editor of the Exeter News-Letter promises not to change the former editorial line significantly. The same edition reluctantly accepted the Senate's approval of Pearce's Texas Bill.

26 August 1850: US Census shows Tuck residing in Exeter. In addition to his wife and three children, Catherine Simmy lived with Tuck. Simmy, age 20, was born in Ireland.

1 September 1850: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. "I have written to your mother and to Abby, and will now write you a few lines, although a little tired, and although I have just one still to write to Eddy. It is Sunday. I have just come up from dinner, and I will describe to you the table. At Mrs. Clement's left hand sits Mr. Nelson, I next, then Mr. Jackson, then Mr. Putnam, and at the end, General Crowell from Ohio. At Mrs. Clement's let hand, sits Mr. Strong, then Mrs. Butler, then Mr. Butler, and then again General Crowell from Ohio. Each side of the table terminates in him, and on this account or some other, he considers himself entitled to double attention and double quantity. Today he sent a poor piece of ham to Mr. Nelson, when

Mr. Nelson, aggravated by previous offences, sent back his plate, saying, and then repeating it loudly before the whole table, ‘General, send me such a piece as you would eat yourself, and not send me that piece, taken from the smoked end, which you would never think of touching yourself.’ The Gen. looked astounded and gave him a good piece. Mr. Butler was delighted and proposed getting Mr. Nelson a medal to wear around his neck. You can read this to your mother, as Mrs. Butler said she would subscribe towards the medal if she was here.”

“...Is your cough well? I think you had better go to the lady’s school, when she begins – you have been long away. I am glad you and Eddy get along without hard words spoken to each other. I want all of us to live together in love and peace, and I can’t bear to have the children speak unkindly to each other.”

“...Help your mother all you can and make her happy....”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 September 1850: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Edward Tuck. “...Play as much as you please, after doing what your mother wants you to do....” Amos relays greetings from Ned’s friends in Washington. [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

5 September 1850: [Congressional Globe - House Journal] On a vote on whether to lay on the table Senate Bill 307 “An act proposing to the state of Texas the establishment etc.”, Tuck voted in the minority: the motion failed, 131-75 (Tuck). In a later vote on whether to amend the Texas bill (apparently with the intent of allowing slavery in the New Mexico territory) Tuck voted with the majority to reject the amendment 128-72 (Hibbard and Peaslee joined Tuck on the vote). After procedural maneuvering, another vote was taken on which set of laws to apply to the territory, with the intent to allow slavery apparently. Tuck voted with the majority to defeat his motion, 132-65. On a final vote on whether to approve Linn Boyd’s amendment as amended (?), Tuck voted with the minority to try to block it, but the motion passed, 107-99. Hibbard and Peaslee voted with the majority this time.

6 September 1850: [Congressional Globe - House Journal] Tuck voted with the minority in a series of roll call votes concerning Senate Bill 307 “An act proposing to the state of Texas the establishment of her northern and western boundaries, the relinquishment by said state of all territory claimed by her exterior to said boundaries, and of all her claims upon the United States”. The bill passed in the end by a vote of 108-97.

7 September 1850: House of Representatives approves California bill, 150 (Tuck) - 57. On the same day, the House approve the Utah bill, 97 – 85 (Tuck). [Exeter News Letter, 16 September 1850].

12 September 1850: House of Representatives approved the Fugitive Slave Bill, 109-75 [no names given. [Exeter News-Letter, 16 September 1850].

16 September 1850: Exeter News-Letter prints an editorial reluctantly welcoming the passage of the compromise bills.

23 September 1850: Exeter News Letter prints an editorial opposing the Fugitive Slave Act.

24 September 1850: Francis O. French [the son of BBF] pays a call on Mr. Tuck and family in Exeter and is “pleased” by Ellen. Pays another call a week later with Wendell Davis. [FFP, Box II:1, LOC]

28 September 1850: Amos Tuck (Washington, House of Reps. 10 ½ o’clock) to Ellen Tuck (Exeter). I have received your affectionate letter, and one or more from Abby and Eddy, which I have not acknowledged. I am here in the midst of confusion and now expect that we shall sit till 12 o’clock, or later, in order to complete the business. I shall get away to bed as early as I can. We shall have no great business to do on Monday, but I shall be compelled to stay here till Tuesday morning, in order to complete certain matters, not necessary to write about, but which I can name when I arrive home. I am always glad to hear from you children, as well as from your mother. I will be very happy, when I can take you all into my arms and give you many loving embraces. Give my love to Abby and Eddy, who are well and happy I trust. I am glad you get along so well at school, and that Eddy succeeded in making his tent. Give my love to Mother and Sarah.”

“P.S. I shall be at home on Thursday, as I expect.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP,LC]

30 September 1850: House of Representatives ended its session. [Exeter News-Letter, 7 October 1850.

14 October 1850: Tuck noted in a separate section at the end of the ledger:

“Property on Oct. 14, 1850		
Cilley lot	\$2300	
House near pipe factory	700	
Houses and land in Biddeford	2800	
Note v. Jona. Tuck	700	
East Boston note	1350	
Note v. F. Williams	50	
Note v. Shepherd	75	
Note v. G.G. Fogg	425	
Stock in Swamscot M[achine] Co.		300
Cash on Hand	550	
Due on Book Account	2800	
Furniture	1000	

Library	<u>500</u>
[Sub-total]	\$13,500
Notes v. Chadborn & Page	1,500
Note v. P.H. Townshend	100
[Total]	\$15,100

[Note: See Tuck's similar tabulation for September 1851.]
[Ledger, 1838-1849]

November 1850: New Hampshire Constitutional Convention worked the whole month to develop proposed amendments to the 1776 Constitution.

1 November 1850: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to Moses C. Dow, late of Boston, for \$100.00. The tract was located in Atkinson and contained the homestead occupied by Moses C. Dow. Tuck had given Dow a mortgage to buy the tract on 7 November 1848, and this deed reflects that Dow was paying off the mortgage. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 354, Page 433]

16 November 1850: Tuck lent \$500.00 to Paul A. Chadbourne of Somersworth in return for another mortgage on the lot on Front Street next to the house of Retire Parker [i.e. the house Tuck had been living in]. Tuck held the mortgage on the $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre lot until 23 August 1852, when Chadbourne finished paying off the loan. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 341, Page 380]

2 December 1850: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. "We have arrived safely in Washington, and got settled at Mrs. Scott's, whom we like very much. Three other members of Congress board with us, and several clerks, including Henry, who occupies an adjoining room to ours, and has Eddy for a bed-fellow. I have risen early, and am writing by candle light, having written already a short letter to Abby. We tarried one night each in Boston and new York and Philadelphia, as we intended, and arrived here Saturday night at 5 o'clock...." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 December 1850: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. "...When Tuck comes I wish you would lend me your air cane, to shoot rats with in the barn. You don't need two in W....."

"I have not stepped out of doors today! Anne and Hubbard, who is our guest, went to church in the sleigh.....Is Marston of this town at W. seeking an office in California? I hear so – and wish him success." [FFP, Reel 6]

1851

16 January 1851: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Charles W. Brewster. “It has seldom been my fortune to receive a letter, which gave better assurance to my mind, of friendly regard, than that which I have received this morning from you. I thank you, heartily, for the plain statement, that you think my nomination undesirable, the reasons of that opinion, and for the suggestion of the manner in which I may relieve my friends...I now see my way clear to follow my inclination, and I look to an entire withdrawal from political office, with the utmost pleasure. I am not sorry to have been in Congress, but I go out, with more pleasure than I entered. I shall ever remember, with gratitude, the friends who have sustained me, and especially those who have attempted, (and I hope successfully) to shield my reputation from any serious injury, in consequence of the malignant aspersions, that have sometimes been cast upon me. Among this number, I have occasion to remember you particularly, and should you ever see the time where my personal services could contribute to your prosperity, in any manner, I trust you will not deny me the pleasure of signifying my gratitude, for past acts of kindness....”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

17 January 1851: Amos Tuck (House of Representatives) to Mason Weare Tappan. “Permit me to express the hope that the minority of the whig party, will not be allowed to spread the shield of adoption, over ‘The Compromise Measures’ of last session of Congress, that is, over the Fugitive Slave law, at the Convention at Dover, next week. That act cannot be made creditable, or even respectable, and after being set up a hundred times, only to tumble into disrepute, as soon as let alone, it will finally settle into disgrace unmitigated. Let the hand of power pass from present hands, and then we shall see what people actually think, and how they feel. Excuse me for these suggestions, inasmuch as I think my sentiments on that subject, are the sentiments of the Whigs, here and elsewhere.” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

19 January 1851: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “...Our preaching, being picked up, and principally by Andover students, on the existence of the Deity, upon which I have had a settled conviction for some time, is not of an interesting description, and I hear no more of it than my position as a parish assessor, and pater familias absolutely requires....”

“...This place has cost me, for the land \$2500 - barn \$850 – house etc. \$4000 = \$7350.00, besides a good deal of expense in improving the land, and interest, besides I own about \$3000 worth of real estate in this town.....” [FFP Reel 11]

1 February 1851: Tuck (Washington) to Fogg. “Confidential. I wrote you a letter on the 28th ult. Which by some means got into a corner of my desk, and was not sent. I have just laid my hand upon it, and perused it. And as it has got cold, since it was written, I will write a fresh one.

You state truly in your paper, that I was disappointed at my nomination. My friends in Exeter, and elsewhere, had been assured that I wished earnestly to step aside, and the friends of

other persons had had a perfectly open field to rally their forces. I also telegraphed to Dover such a limited direction, that I had no expectation that my name would be again put forward. I had sent my letter of absolute refusal, and I hoped it would be read in the Convention. But Mr. Wetmore was sent [to Lee to see?] Mr. Cartland, who in return wrote a letter too Samuel H. Parker, and after consultation, it was thought necessary to put me again before the people.

Being in nomination, I am aware of the inferences to be drawn from my defeat, should it take place, and I profess to you an anxiety to be elected. I believe, if the genuine voice of the people, even of the new District, could be heard, that I should be chosen. I may be mistaken, but my belief is, that they approve of my having acted according to my professions, and of my having stood upon the same platform in Congress, on which I embarked at home. I moreover believe, that I can be chosen, if those persons favorable to my election, make a fair amount of exertion.

I am forewarned as to many of the plans of the enemy, to accomplish my defeat, and being forewarned, I intend to be forearmed, and to the extent of my ability, to forearm my friends. It is a fortunate circumstance, that one or two men will be run by the Whigs with me, who are especially deserving of success, and who are known to the people to be honest, honorable and capable. I will particularly mention David Currier, their Candidate for Counsellor. He is as honestly and unqualifiedly in favor of free-soil as any man in the State, and I think he has acted with us for 5 years past. But of this last fact, I am not absolutely certain. He has been in the habit of writing me occasionally, and about two weeks since, he wrote to me, among other things that he abominated the fugitive slave law, as a flagrant crime, and that although he had during many years, favored the election of Mr. Webster to the highest office, yet he would now vote for John Tyler, as soon as for him. He was at the Dover Congressional Convention and was one of the men, who helped to lay out cold, the 'peace' resolutions, concocted by Col Cutter [sp?], and offered by Charly Bell. They were laid upon the table dead, in a half minute after they were introduced. I see that they are no reported in the published proceedings, as having been offered. Perhaps the omission is expected [to] promote harmony. Geo. Wadleigh of the Dover Enquirer, has also responded to a letter of mine, and has spoken of the fugitive law, as you have spoken of it in your paper. The whigs of District No. 1 are not willing to fight with Webster or his friends there, but you can fully rely upon it, that they will never give him aid or comfort in his course for the last year. I think such is also the case with the whigs of No. 3. I have seen A.P. Hughes of Nashua, and I will say in a word what I cannot take time to write at length, that if we ever break down the Sham democracy, shall have no trouble in harmonizing our plans to suit him. He is as well satisfied with J.P. Hale's course, as you or I, and will never succumb to the noxious course of the present powers at Washington. I think we ought to treat tenderly those whigs who refuse, as they did at Dover, to endorse the iniquities for the last session of Congress, but to give 'grape' to all classes of persons, who accept or approve of them.

Now, my friend, to change the topic, a very little, I shall do what I can by the distribution of Documents, and writing to persons, in the 3rd as well as in the 1st District; and trusting in Mr. Hughes assurance that the whigs will nominate Mr. Perkins by acclamation, I feel great hopes of success there, and in my precinct. You will treat the whigs of the two districts, as you think best.

You will not, I know, compromise our principles for the sake of the Candidates, nor will the Candidates, either before the election or after, do any such thing, in courtesy to any portion of those who vote for them.

I have put off to the latter part of my letter to say, what I want you to notice. Our time and expenses in promoting my election are to be paid by me. You have already made sacrifices enough, and if you do more, to detect the fraud of the enemy, to scatter light, to spread the alarm, and forewarn, it shall not be at your expense, either in time or money. I must rely much upon your circumspection and ability. I shall ask of you aid; if you cannot find time, refuse me. Let me now tell you what I would have you do, if your judgment and inclination, accord with mine.

Put things right with friend Cartland, by stating that he withdraws, (when he does) and saying what else in the Democrat you may think expedient to make all his friends feel kindly disposed. I have written him a long letter which I think, will have good effect.

Can you not see our friends in Deerfield and Candia? I fear that I do not have so familiar an understanding with them as I ought, particularly in Deerfield. Tell me what I can do there. We ought to gain in Candia, under the influence of Mr. Goodale.

Will you see friend Goodale, in respect to me, or his favoring me. Is it not practicable for him to interpose obstacles to the success of K. who has always hated such independent men as Mr. Goodale? I want him to act prudently, but so far as he helps K__ he helps a man who will destroy him when he can.

I want all our friends, to be aware, that hired slanderers will be in all the towns from this time until the election, electioneering and plotting. They will make various excuses of business, as for instance, insurance agents, law business, being after stray cattle etc. but their real business will be deception and iniquity.

Will it not be practicable to have the democrats run Atwood for Gov. with our members of Congress in some of the towns? Your obliged friend Amos Tuck Confidential" [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

1 February 1851: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Charles W. Brewster. "Upon reading your letter, this moment received, I am for the first time made aware, that your friendly course towards myself, might possibly be misunderstood. I have not a shadow of doubt, that your letter to me, suggesting my withdrawal, was written under the promptings of true friendship, and I shall ever consider that letter, as far better proof of good will, that would have been one of contrary suggestions. You are a friend and neighbor of Mr. Emery, as were the gentlemen who attended the Convention at Dover. Their course was perfectly right in voting for him, and I still regret that it was necessary, in the opinion of the Convention, to bring me forward again."

"I changed my purpose, by allowing a discretion to my friends, on information and requests, which I believed at the time, would have occasioned a change in your advice, had you been with me, and perused my letters."

"I am gratified to learn of the favorable feelings in Portsmouth, among those who have heretofore laid me under heavy obligations...." [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

1 February 1851: Tuck sold a tract of land and the buildings thereon in Exeter to David B. Clark of Exeter for \$800.00. The tract was located on the new street running from the Court House to the Steam and Gas Pipe Factory. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 343, Page 180]

1 February 1851: Tuck lent \$800.00 to David B. Clark of Exeter to buy Tuck's lot and the buildings thereon situated on the street running from the Court House to the Steam and Gas Pipe Co. and abutting the land of James M. Hebbard. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 342, Page 165]

6 February 1851: BBF (Washington) to HFF. "Mr. Tuck will leave either this evening or tomorrow morning for Exeter,..." and he will carry "that airgun" to you. [FFP Reel 5]

11 February 1851: Tuck sold a tract of land to Charles Gill of Exeter for \$800.00. The tract contained 1 ¼ acres and was located on Fore (or Philips) Street and was a part of the land Tuck had earlier bought from Joseph Cilley. It abutted the land of David W. Gorham. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 342, Page 281]

11 February 1851: Tuck sold a tract of land containing 1 ¾ acres to W.W. Stickney of Exeter for \$700.00. The tract was located on Fore (or Philips) Street and was part of the tract Tuck had bought from Joseph Cilley. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 342, Page 303]

12 February 1851: BBF (Washington) to HFF. "Hope Mr. Tuck and that airgun arrived safe." [FFP Reel 5]

8 March 1851: Tuck (Exeter) to Fogg. "A designed fraud has just been detected here. It is the circulation of imperfect whig votes, leaving off the name of Reps. To Congress. The vote is a good imitation of the genuine votes and will deceive our friends unless the alarm be spread in the towns around. Yours truly, A. Tuck

P.S. Take the trouble, if you can, to see some of our friends this evening on this subject." (Fogg Papers, NHHS)

11 March 1851: Congressional election caused "unprecedented intensity," as the Democrats, under Pierce leadership, made a supreme effort to overthrow Tuck. The Democratic defeat was greater than indicated by the result: Tuck – 7791 and Kittredge – 7416. [Exeter News-Letter, 17 March 1851]

13 March 1851: HFF to BBF. "We have not returns of our State elections yet, in full, but it looks pretty squally as to the house. I hope some day we shall learn to allow a man to speak his mind on topics not political without chopping his head off or the head of the Democratic party instead. I consider it a very poor investment of patriotism for us to volunteer to help Daniel Webster catch the runaway niggers. I have not so much objection to the Fugitive Law, if

necessary to keep peace, but I think the enforcing of such a law should be conducted in the same spirit as an execution, and not like a festival, with speeches and acclamations, and I think so far as New Hampshire Democrats aided in 'Union Meetings' on this subject they have prostituted the party discipline to a very mean use. I rejoice that Tuck is elected on national considerations."

"There, that is all I have to say on political subjects...." [FFP Reel 6]

17 March 1851: BBF (Washington) to HFF. "Congratulate Tuck for me on his election, and tell him I am satisfied and he knows it. Tell him also I am a candidate for the clerkship of the Ho and mean to go it strong and he must help me this is, of course, inter nos et illum." [FFP Reel 5]

6 April 1851: HFF to BBF. "I felt really sad at the death of Gov. Hill. He was a fast friend of our family, and I felt a peculiar attachment to those who were kind to us out of regard to our father, as Gov. Hill was. His loss to the State as an agriculturalist is very great. We have no man left who has done so much for us in that way. Poor man, he lived a vexed and unquiet life, as every man does, who without education aspires to and attains responsible public positions. He had to supply[?] the place of legitimate strength of [word unclear] by incessant labor, and often by violence and obstinacy. The longer I live, the more highly I appreciate the value of education in all its branches. I never get an idea, whether scientific, literary or merely practical, that I do not find use for it by the end of a week! But the bath is ready and I go and lave...." [FFP Reel 6]

25 April 1851: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. "It was troublesome to me to leave those I love so well, as I do you both, and I often took out your likenesses and looked at them with my heart full of blessings upon the dear originals."

"I arrived home last evening in health finding the family comfortable, with the exception of your mother who had a headache which lasted till this morning. She is now well. To-day Miss Robinson, Mrs. Taylor, and Mrs. Stickney have been helping in the dressmaking line and all has been busy. Eddy is wide awake, and looking smart when I communicate the message of your special love to him. I write to-night simply to say we are well....Your mother liked your daguerrotypes very much. She gazed on them for a long time and thought them very handsome and expertly taken, the best she had ever seen. There is a travelling daguerreotype establishment on trucks in front of the Swamscot...." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

7 May 1851: Amos Tuck (Irving House, New York City) to Ellen and Abby Tuck. "We safely arrived here last night. We are quite well. I have been engaged in business all day, while your mother has been busy in sewing, and attending to some acquaintances. She has had no convenience of writing, but wants me to express her love to you and to say that she shall not be able to write you till Sunday, when we expect to be in Detroit. We go hence to-morrow morning on the Erie Railroad to Buffalo." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

10 May [April?] 1851: HFF (Lancaster, NH) to BBF. "...My share of the Banks this year, comprises Lancaster – Warner – Charlestown – Keene – Claremont – New Ipswich – Jaffrey – and Winchester, and I am out after them....I have just written Anne to meet me at Concord, Mass. Friday evening. I hope to finish up nine more banks by that time. My fees this year will be about \$200 which I shall earn in about ten days, expenses out say \$20."

"...Monday morning. It is of no use to try to write to you on my route. I dined and tead with Judge Gilchrist, and Gov. Hubbard and his sons and Mr. Cushing passed the evening there. They have treated me with great attention, and I have enjoyed myself highly – I am now going back to Claremont, this morning, and to Keene tomorrow....The people up this way want me to nominate John Sullivan for Governor, but I don't think he will stand. He is very popular as Atty. General. Unless we get a decent man, we cannot elect him. We have had enough Atwoods and Steeles and the like....Gov. Hubbard just sent me a note, and says, among other things, if my brother B. comes North this summer, be sure to give him my respects, and invite him to Charlestown." [FFP Reel 11]

11 May 1851: Amos Tuck (Detroit) to Abby Tuck. "We have arrived, at length, in one of the new states of the West, for I suppose that Michigan deserves to be called such, though Detroit is an anciently settled place. We arrived here yesterday afternoon, at 3 ½ o'clock after a passage of 17 hours upon Lake Erie, over an expanse of water, 300 miles in length. We feel fatigued, but not more so than would reasonably be expected, and am in other respects perfectly well. We anticipated a rough time upon the lake and embarked at Buffalo Friday evening at 10 o'clock at night with some misgivings. We were happily disappointed, however, as we had one of the most pleasant trips by water, that we have ever had. The Lake was as perfectly calm as it ever is, and the boat moved quietly along, without any rolling or agitation that was at all inconvenient. We came in sight of land on either side of us about 12 o'clock on Saturday, having had little experience of what it is to be out of sight of solid ground for twelve hours." Tuck describes the land they saw as they approached Detroit.

"Detroit contains about 25,000 inhabitants and is rapidly increasing. I should not be afraid to prophecy that it will in a few years become a great city. It is the city of the whole state and must grow greatly. It will soon be as large as Buffalo."

"When we arrived, I went immediately to the P. Office expecting to find letters from you, but I found none. I do not apprehend evils, but still am disappointed, and hope to receive some by the next mail, this (Sunday) afternoon. We shall remain here till Tuesday, and possibly till Wednesday, when we propose to go to Chicago, either by Lake Huron and Lake Michigan, via Mackinaw, or over the Michigan Central Railroad, which goes quite straight from this place, to new Buffalo on Lake Michigan, and from there too Chicago, by Steam Boat. We shall probably take the latter route, as being the quickest. I have business here, or I should not stay till Wednesday, which it is now probable that we may do."

"Mr. [Alexander W.] Buel, late member of Congress from this place, took me all about

the City yesterday, in a chaise, and gave me a complete view of the locality and circumstances of the place.”

“...Your mother has laid down quite exhausted....I have on the table before me that same box of wafers, the same large Atlas, bundle of envelopes and stick of sealing wax, that we saw every day at home, so that I seem almost like being in the old sitting room. Your mother has bought a blank book, and commenced her journal, but remarked when she lay down a few minutes since that she felt so exhausted that she feared she could do nothing in it to-day....”

“[P.S.] Write me next to Mendota, Dacotah County, Minnesota Territory. Your mother rouses up and says to ‘send my love to Abby and Ellen and tell them I am terrible tired to-day.’”
[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

15 May 1851: C.P. Tuck (Chicago) to Abby Tuck. “We arrived at this city Wednesday morning the 13th at 2 ½ o’clock. We are in excellent health and spirits. Your father finds so many friends and acquaintance, that he hardly has time to write at all. But he is enjoying himself as well as I ever knew him to be. We have not heard from you yet, but hope to, on the arrival of the mails this P.M.”

“...We may not write to you again before we get to the Mississippi, as we think of starting tomorrow morn. Direct your next letters to St. Paul, Minnesota Terr.”

[From Amos Tuck] “Ellen’s letter of the 8th is received. How sorry I am not to have been with her when she was sick abed for a day. Dear girls, how I love you both. I pray you may now be well. Write to us every day or two. Avoid the difficulties of the other girls. How glad I am you do not quarrel any. We go to-morrow morning on the route to Saint Louis, learning that that is the best point from here to Minnesota....” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

17 May 1851: Amos Tuck (LaSalle [sp?], Illinois) to My Dear Children. “...You have no occasion to be anxious about us. We shall take every precaution against danger and for the preservation of our health....Also, Abby, Ellen did not write what disgraceful things it was, that the girls at school had done. Still, she did say that her neighbors were quarrelsome, so that you lay awake nights and listened to their violent talk. How sorry I should be to believe that my two daughters, whom I love so much, quarreled with each other...Let the girls of the school, and Miss Ela know that neither of you will condescend to quarrel with anybody. Be too proud, too dignified, too regardful of the honor of the family, to enter into a quarrel with any body, much less with each other. If you have quarreled the least, do it not again. But I think you have been good indeed.”

“I am glad we have taken our journey, and I think we shall be benefited by it in many ways. You need not be apprehensive about us. God will carry us back to you in safety and in happiness I trust.” Tuck advises them not to study too hard, but to meditate on the lessons. “But my dears, cultivate your gentle exercise, and your habits of conversation with your best companions in a pleasant way, and acquire the ability to be happy, and to make your companions

think they are happy when with you. Do this by pleasant ways of talking, telling stories, etc. etc. Run and play freely – and every day.”

“I think well of the west but cannot speak definitely about it, till I get on my return. Your mother would be willing to live in Chicago, but she hates what of Illinois we saw yesterday.”

“I am glad you write often to Eddy. I think we shall not stay many days at St. Anthony, perhaps 10. Write us there.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LOC]

21 May 1851: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Abby Tuck. “...There is a great deal of work in this business of seeing and visiting so many new places. There is more work in it, than is favorable to health and both myself and your mother, go through with everything much better than we had reason to expect...We have a comfortable room at the Monroe House, and except for the noise of the teamsters and drivers in the streets, we should feel quiet and comfortable. This is a most active and thriving city, and is an excellent place for business men...We are careful of our diet, as we shall avoid every thing that can produce il health.”

“...We are anxious to arrive at Minnesota, where we expect to obtain letters from you. You can write directly to us at St. Paul...Your mother is resting to-day. We go north in the Steam Boat ‘Express’....” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LOC]

23 May 1851 Amos Tuck (On a steamer, 100 miles upstream from St. Louis) to Abby Tuck and Ellen Tuck. “I am very anxious to hear from you, and can hardly wait nearly a week, as we must do, before getting a letter from you, which we hope to receive when arriving at St. Paul. (The Steam Boat jostles so much, I cannot write well). We started from St. Louis last night, and we cannot expect to reach St. Paul till Thursday of next week. If we find by letters from you there, that you are all well, we may stay a week in Minnesota, and shall then return towards home, and shall be impatient to see you, and remain near you if not with you. We see enough to satisfy us with taking the journey, but we shall be glad when it is over and when we have reached N. Hamp.”

“Steamer Du Buque on the Miss.334 miles up the river – May 25th. Dear children: “Your father had written this much three days ago, and I will add a line, as we may reach Galena tomorrow morning early, when we shall be oblige to take another boat, and we may not have time to write then. Our plodding up this river has been rather monotonous, altho the scenery all along is delightful. I wear my eyes almost out with looking and last night I dreamed I was blind. We are both well however, and could we be assured of your good health and happiness should enjoy our journey as well as we could expect.”

“We have not seen many delightful villages on this river. Quincy and Nauvoo are by far the most inviting as yet, and altho they are most delightfully situated still they would have no charms for me, and I think your father would no sooner take up his residence west than would I.”

“Some one has just shot at a crow that was flying around our vessel, and frightened me. It does not seem at all like Sunday to-day, for every where we haul to shore, the people are as busy as on any work day.”

“The jar of our boat, prevents me from writing intelligibly so I think I will put off details until I can write better. The principal thing is to let you know we are well and safe. One need have no fears on the [word illegible]. I have felt as safe as tho we were in the house. We seldom or never meet with accidents here and the boats go very slowly as you will see we have been ever since Thursday night going 334 miles. We are very anxious to reach St. Paul, so to get letters from you.”

“With much love, Your mother C.P. Tuck.”

“(Your father sends love.)

“Having looked over your mother’s letter, I will add, that from St. Louis to Galena which will take four days, there is no chance to send any letters to you that will go sooner, than to wait till we get to Galena before we send them eastward. I therefore did not finish the first part of this sheet. We expect to reach Galena to-morrow and to leave the same day (Monday eve.) for St. Paul. You will not receive another letter after this, for a week or more, and you must not be anxious about us, if you do not hear again for two weeks. If anything happens, you will hear at once. Still we feel safe and are only anxious about you and Eddy. I think it very well for us to have seen this part of the country, but as yet we have not seen any that I ever thought I should fancy. We have not yet seen Wiskonsin [sic] or Minnesota. Iowa which we are now passing is delightful in outward appearance, and except in the population, very attractive. It slopes from the river gently back a half mile and the land is partly clear and partly covered with oak trees, looking like an orchard, with fine grass growing between. I would not be a day laborer in the east, if I could get here; but I would not like to live in Iowa at present myself. Your most affectionate Father Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “May 26, 1851 – Write immediately after receiving this, to us at Galena, Illinois, so that in coming down the river on our return we may hear how you are.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

26 May 1851: Amos Tuck (Galena, Illinois) to Abby Tuck and Ellen Tuck. “We start to-day at 12 o’clock for Minnesota, and are told that we shall arrive on Wednesday noon at St. Paul. We shall stay a week and then turn our faces homeward. If we hear that you are all well, we shall not be home under 4 weeks; if not, we can go home in 2 or 3 weeks. I now expect it will be in our power to go by Concord; and if not, I shall see you, soon after our return. With ten thousand blessings, I remain your loving Father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

30 May 1851: Amos Tuck (St. Paul) to Abby Tuck and Ellen Tuck. “It is expected that a Steam Boat from ‘below’ will be at this place to-day, to start upon its return to Galena, in a few hours after its arrival. I will therefore embrace the opportunity to send a letter by one of the officers of the Boat, to Galena, thence to be mailed for you. No regular mail will depart hence till next Monday.”

“We arrived here, while the weather was so disagreeable, that it would go far towards weaning any one from a region of paradise, and the wind and clouds are, to-day, so uncongenial

that it take some philosophy to judge fairly of what we see. This Territory is fairly entitled to the name of the 'New England of the west.' The air yesterday, which was pleasant, not only reminded me of the most inspiring breezes which are experienced, on pleasant days, among the mountains of New Hampshire, but they made me feel that I was even there. I was at the Falls of St. Anthony, half the day yesterday, and was much delighted with the place. The village is only two years old, and would be of course, new in all its aspects. Still it is ten times more attractive and agreeable than any other new place I ever saw growing up into a city. Every house is neat and clean, and not a single shantie nears the town. The falls are grand, though not so sublime as are those of Niagara. The town is built on the east side of the river, and extends a mile in length – the houses being somewhat scattered in some places, and in others extended upon 3 or 4 different streets, laid out parallel with the river, the second being on the height of the broad sloping bank, and the 3rd, 4th etc. on the sloping prairie further back. The only trees are a few scattered grand [sp.?] oaks, standing apparently in a clean rich pasture, or field. The soil is so well supplied with sand, that the streets are as clean as they are in Exeter, and immediately after a rain become dry and pleasant. The houses are generally of one story in height, though some are two stories. The inhabitants are mostly from the eastern part of Maine. There are a water power, and saw mills at the Falls, of more capacity and niceness, than I ever before saw – such as will, when fully occupied, make the town populous. From the village, we look westward over the River upon a high prairie of surpassing beauty and fertility, where is not yet any civilized inhabitants, excepting three or four small houses, by special permission of the government. It is land reserved by the government from occupation, but which will soon be settled extensively by a farming population. All the land westward is now the property of the Indians, but will be bought in large portions, very soon, by the U. States, and offered for sale at \$1.25 per acre. It will be rapidly filled up by settlers from other states. It is very healthy here, there being no fever and ague, no cholera, and no consumption. If it was best for us to have our house in St. Anthony, your mother and I both think we could be content, having the children happy with us. But we already have a happy house in New England.”

“And now, dear Abby and dear Ellen, I will close by saying, that we are anxious that Heaven should especially bless you and Eddy with health and happiness while we are so far away from you. But we can only pray that God will protect you; we cannot reach you by our personal strength or speed of travel. May He bless and keep us all. It will be three or four weeks before we get home. I cannot tell where it is best for you to direct to us next. We shall go by Chicago, Detroit Buffalo an Albany and shall enquire at each of the post offices, if we have time in passing through those places. I think we shall leave here next Wednesday.”

“Your affectionate father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 June 1851: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “...Tomorrow I intend to go to Concord, N.H. Our convention to nominate a governor is Wednesday, and I am going up to get John Sullivan nominated. I have no doubt he will be the man, and it is the strongest nomination we can make....” [FFP Reel 11]

9 June 1851: Amos Tuck (Galena, Illinois) to Abby Tuck and Ellen Tuck. “We have been to Minnesota, and have returned as far as this place. We have enjoyed our visit, but are very glad to have our faces turned towards home. We are both well, but your mother is tired of being on the wing so long, and says she thinks our home is more pleasant than any other place. We expect to start soon from this place in the Steam Boat ‘Bon Accord’ for St. Louis, by which place we are obliged to go to get to Chicago, so impassable are the roads between this place and that. I shall be obliged to defer any description of the country, because of my lack of time before we leave. I tried to write when on the Boat from St. Paul here, but it shook so badly that I could not. Your mother says she would write, but does not feel strength enough. She sends her love, and says she wants to see you very much.”

“We have rec’d several letters from you and Ellen – probably not all that you have written. Your letters and Ellen’s are both very gratifying. I think you are both determined to do well. If any of the girls have difficulty with Miss Ela, stand aloof entirely from it. You will often see pretty good girls misled, and indulging in criticism and abuse of their teacher; and it will be difficult for you to avoid being drawn into a participation in such faults. But I shall think my daughters much less wise than I wish them to be, if they can not keep themselves from setting such examples. It is gratifying to know that Miss Ela thinks Abby possesses influence, but I shall be sorry that she has it, if she does not exercise it well, and faithfully, by advising all the girls to be obedient, and good, and peaceable, and quiet and loving. Just try, both of you, to do all the good you can. Keep peace in school. Counsel submission in others, and set an example of uncomplaining acquiescence in all the regulations of school, even if you think some them wrong.”

“We send our best respects to Miss Ela. You cannot expect us under a week after you receive this letter, as we cannot go half so fast as the mail. I cannot tell certainly whether I shall go home by Concord. Shall do so if possible. If not, I mean to see you soon after my return.”

“Your ever affectionate Father Amos Tuck.”

“P.S. I may not write again till we get home.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

13 June 1851: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “...You see we did not nominate Sullivan for Governor. The fact is, he voted federal on the General Jackson resolution in 1834, and so he was not democratic enough, although he has held office under Democratic administrations all the time, since. He don’t care and I don’t much, altho’ I worked hard for him.” [FFP Reel 11]

17 July 1851: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Abby Tuck and Ellen Tuck. “I received Miss Ela’s Bill a week ago, or more, for your schooling (Abby), to the end of the next Term, and for yours (Ellen), to the end of this Term. The amount was \$122 and some cents. I do not have it now before me. I wish you to deliver her the enclose draft for \$122 upon which she can get the money at any bank in Concord, and to pay her the odd cents. Miss Ela did not write me, as I infer from Abby’s

letter that you had supposed she had done; or if she did write me, I did not receive the letter. She only sent her account in an envelope.”

“I send you \$5 enclosed for your use in coming home. If by any possibility you should need more ask Miss Ela to lend you what you want till you return next term (Abby).”

“I have ascertained from the papers that you cannot reach home the same night if you start as late as 4 ½ P.M. from Concord. To arrive at Exeter the same day you must start at ¼ past 10 A.M. from Concord, whereby you will arrive at Exeter at 2 ½ o’clock P.M. having staid one hour at the Lawrence Depot. I think therefore you had better start at 10 ¼ o’clock A.M. from Concord, on Tuesday, the day of the close of your term.”

“We are anticipating the close of your term with much pleasure. Then we shall join with you in repeating from Horace, the very appropriate lines for girls or boys at the commencement of a vacation –

‘Omne bene, sine poemâ
Tempus est ludendi
Absque morâ, venit hora
Libros deponendi.’

“The enjoyment of vacation very much depends upon the fact of having labored well during the Term, and as I believe you have been trying to do well, and have done well, I think you may well be happy. All your letters (from both of you) are good and pleasing – and make us love you more and more. I love you both so well, that I can’t make up my mind, which to write to, and so, I in all cases write to both of you.”

“As it is court time, I must be short – saying that we are well, that Eddy was pleased that you sent so much love to him, and that he sends much to you, as does your mother who will write again on Sunday; and I remain, most affectionately your father Amos Tuck.”

“P.S. Give our sincere regards to Miss Ela, and remember us to your many amiable companions.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

September 1851: Tuck noted in a separate section at the end of the ledger:

“Property Sept. 1851	
Cilley lot	1000
Note against Mr. Clark	600
Houses and land in Biddeford	2800
East Boston note	1050
Note v. G.G. Fogg	300
Stock in Swamscot M[achine] Co. 6 shares	600
Note v. A.W. Buel of Detroit	1250
Plank Road Stock in Detroit	1300
30 shares in Chicago & G[alena] Rroad	3100
64 shares in Chicago & Galena 2nd Section	6500
Note v. P.A. Chadbourne	500

Due on Book account and notes		3000
Furniture		1000
Library		<u>500</u>
[Total]		\$23,500
Debts Due J.T. Gilman	5,000	
“ John Tuck	1,000	
“ others	300	
By deduct depreciation and doubtful	<u>1,200</u>	<u>7,500</u>
		\$16,000

[Ledger, 1838-1849]

25 November 1857 [1851 – This letter is clearly in the wrong place in the archive]: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “We are all well and delighted to hear from you. John writes that you are a good girl and try to learn, and he says that he is encouraged to believe that you will do well, and be ambitious of learning. God bless you my dear daughter.”

“Your father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 December 1851: Tuck and William W. Stickney lent \$100 to Eliphalet Kimball in exchange for a mortgage on a tract of land, comprising over 5 acres. The loan was probably to pay a legal fee owed by Kimball to Tuck & Stickney. According to a later marginal note, Kimball paid off the loan on 1 January 1858. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 344, Page 418]

9 December 1851: Amos Tuck (Washington) to John Tuck. “Dear Brother, I am aware that you must have taken much pains, in order to have got Ellen so well along as you have in Arithmetic. You speak quite encouragingly of her, and gratify me very much. I was uneasy about her scholarship, when I left, and fearful that she had taken an unfortunate lurch against Arithmetic, from which she would not recover. I am now encouraged, as you say that when she bends her mind to the study, she can understand. I still have my fears that she will let her mind fly off, and will not do so well as she might; but my hopes predominate over my fears. If she can bring up her studies in the substantial branches, while at Biddesford, and have such an understanding of them, as to know well what she goes over, I shall be very happy, and thank you, and love her very much. Her mother spoke of her letter to us, as the best she had ever written – the penmanship being neat and careful, and the composition good. I think a great deal of Ellen’s being a good scholar in the fundamental branches. She has talents enough, and the only difficulty is in her power of applying herself with a determination to succeed. At the same time that I urge her to apply herself with a determination, I suppose you and she understand that I wish her to have pretty liberal allowance of time for recreation.”

“The House have not done anything yet, as the Speaker has not yet appointed the committees. Foote is ranting in the Senate, settling the settlement, harassing the public and

worrying the people. I will praise the Lord when his days are numbered in the Senate. I fear he will long be in the Senate, as it is understood he is presumptive Senator in place of Davis resigned.”

“We are in a whig mess, and I am liable to be influenced whig-ward. It will be better for me to be where I can see and know what national whigs think, and how they feel, rather than to pen myself up with free-soilers, and brood over the griefs of that organization, as some of my friends do.”

“I am glad to hear that mother is well. Tell Ellen we shall write to her soon. We have not yet received a letter from Abby. Eddy is well.”

“With love to all, I am your brother Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

December 1851: When the 31st Congress convened in December, both houses were Democratic-controlled, but Whig Fillmore was President. Moses Norris, an ultra-Democrat, and John P. Hale were senators, and Tuck’s colleagues were Charles H. Peaslee, Harry Hibbard, and George Morrison. Tuck presented anti-slavery petitions, supported increased mail facilities and internal improvements, e.g. improved navigation on the Illinois River and a sea-wall for Portsmouth harbor. He consistently opposed government land grants as contrary to public policy and dangerous to morals[!]. However, he supported Andrew Johnson’s Homestead Bill, since it was in line with the Free Soil platform of the 1848 Buffalo convention. [Corning, pp. 62-64]

8 December 1851: Anne French (Exeter) to Bess French. “...Give my love to Mrs. Tuck when you see her and Mrs. Hayes...” [FFP Reel 11]

10 December 1851: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. “You must pin your shawl warmly about your shoulders. Your letters are encouraging and give me great pleasure. If you will try to discipline your mind, by obtaining a power to confine your mind, when you please, to a hard sum or a hard lesson, I feel that you will be an excellent scholar, and a good daughter. My heart is very warm with love to you, and I feel that I would not give up the privilege of educating, cherishing, protecting and admonishing my dear Ellen, for any consideration whatever. I feel that my dear daughter bids fair to repay it all, in affection and good conduct.”

“As this is a love-letter, perhaps you will keep it private!! Do as you please.

“I hear that Joseph Wiggin is dead. Poor fellow.”

“I write this in haste, only that you may not be long without a letter.”

“Give my love to all. I am very pleased that you like your teacher.

“Your affectionate father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 December 1851: Tuck (Washington) writes to Ned, gives him some local news and says he has gotten letters from Abby and Ellen. Inquires if Ned likes living with Mrs. [Elizabeth S. Noble] Cobbs. [Box 1, Folder 2, TFP]

15 December 1851: Tuck (Washington) writes short note to Ned. [Box 1, Folder 2, TFP]

18 December 1851: Catherine P. Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. "We received a letter from you yesterday, a very good one too. I think you have improved very much in readiness of composition, and easy style, and with care, your hand writing will be beautiful. It is an excellent plan for you to write your letters off hand, just as ideas come into your mind, and then copy carefully, making what corrections are necessary. In that way, your letters will not seem studied, but graceful and easy, and after a time you will not need to copy at all. You had not had time to rewrite your last letter you said, yet it was very good, and needed copying only, for the sake of the hand writing."

"I am glad you are getting on so well and are so well contented. You will feel much happier, and take a much higher stand at Pittsfield, for being so much more thorough in your studies than you would have been, to have entered when Abby did. With regard to your music teacher I don't know what it is best for me to say. I don't know what objection he can have to giving you one lesson a week instead of two, except that he will be just twice as long in giving one quarter's instruction, and therefore twice as long in getting his quarter's tuition. I guess this is the reason, for you would certainly learn more thoroughly, could you practice more on each lesson. Still, if he is a very good teacher and the other an indifferent one, you had better continue under his instruction unless you have already discharged him. You and your uncle and aunt must decide. I cannot tell, not being there. You can tell whether or not you are making any great improvement. Write me what his course of instruction is. Does he give you pieces at all? How long does he sit by you in giving you a lesson? Does he require you to count? Is he particular to note every fault in time, etc. etc. About his tuning the piano, you know I got Mr. Gordon to tune it the last thing before packing it up. How much do you practice each day?"

"Abby writes us, she gets along well in everything except drawing. She has had a letter from Mr. W.R. Nelson saying he wished to call and see her when he went north in January as he expects to. He directed his letter to Concord, but I wrote a long letter to Lizzie about the same time telling her all about where and how you were, so he knows by this time where to find Abby."

"I have been looking this morning for the 'Nat. Era' to send to you, but it has been mislaid, at any rate, it had not a continuation of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' this week so it is not so much matter. But perhaps your Father has taken it up to the House, and will send it from there."

"Neddy does not often favor us with a line. He has written but once, but he is probably very busy sliding. I hope he is not freezing to death [in] this dreadful cold weather, for it is bitter cold even here, and I don't know what it can be at the north, if it is as much colder in proportion. I never knew the weather so sever here as it has been for the last three days."

"We have never been so pleasantly situated here, as now. We have music and dancing in the parlor almost every evening. I have scarcely been out since we came having been confined by a cold. I am now getting well and shall take great care of myself so as to be able to see Kossuth who will soon be here. Your father is perfectly well."

“Try to keep very well yourself, and write as often as you can find time. I bought Abby a very pretty Badger victorine and cuffs, gave \$7.50.”

“With love to all and especially to yourself, I am your mother – C.P. Tuck.”

[P.S.] “(If I was a young lady, I should rewrite my letter, as I have written so rapidly, but you must not follow my example.)” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

19 December 1851: Catherine P. Tuck (Washington) to Ned. “...We hear from Abby & Ellen quite often, and they are both very happy. I have seen none of your old playmates yet, except Mr. Mann’s little boys. He has brought along all his boys again & they study every day from 9 till 12. We board on the Avenue, nearly opposite the National Hotel, and I have scarcely seen a boy since we have been here. You remember where Bobby used to board: well we are at the same place. I had a letter from Lizzie Nelson to day: she says Bobby is boarding at the academy....

“Give my best love to Mrs. Cobb & to Sarah. I hope they will write to me soon.... Your father is very well and send much love to you. Your affectionate mother, C.P. Tuck.” [Box 1, Folder 2, TFP]

25 December 1851: Catherine P. Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. “My dear Ellen – I wish you a merry Christmas! or as the servts. all say – Christmas gifts! One cannot meet a ‘nigger’ here to day, without receiving the above salutation. But a sad event marks this Christmas; the burning of the Capitol! Not the whole, but the library. It was discovered to be on fire at about 7 o’clock yesterday morning, but by the constant efforts of the firemen the flames were arrested, and had quite subsided at 11 o’clock. It was the universal opinion at first the whole Capitol would go, but as soon as it became known that there was a complete stone wall separating the front (containing the library and some small rooms [sp.?.]) from the other compartments, all took courage. The Baltimore fire companies were telegraphed an arrived in about two hours. This is the first time this Capitol was ever on fire since 1813 or 1814, when it was burnt by the British, except the walls and it is supposed to be the work of an incendiary. It looks dubious now: - the walls within the balcony are blackened and disfigured with smoke. The rotunda was in a perfect float, but nothing injured except the library. A very few books only were saved from the main room, but 20,000 vols. saved in other rooms. The Capitola was guarded by the military last night.”

“We received a very nice long letter from you yesterday. I am delighted that you are getting along so well, and I think you are doing wonders in arithmetic. Only see what perseverance and a will, will accomplish. Your father is highly gratified. Never mind if you do not become acquainted with many girls. You are not dependent on them for happiness, and you have your two cousins who will keep you from becoming very lonely. I wish you could have a good music teacher who would give you one lesson a week. But you must not fail to practice, whether you have a teacher or not. I will send some little quadrilles for you to learn so that we can have our own music to dance by, when we all get home again, for your father has become

quite accomplished in dancing, and he says it is just the exercise the need every evening, I think it is; and he enjoys it so much too. Don't you think, he can dance the Schottish with me admirably! and he has no difficulty with a quadrille or a cotillion [word illegible].”

“Last eve. we dined at the President's. Mr. and Mrs. Chandler and ourselves were the only ones from our house invited. There were present thirty six, that being the usual number invited. I had the honor of being escorted to the table by Mr. Sumner, senator from Mass. and Mrs. C. and myself, had the highest seats at the table, being placed, one on each side of the president, and Mrs. C. was escorted by the president. The way they manage at a dinner party at the president's is for the president to hand to the gentlemen the written name of the ladies they are each desire to take from the reception room to the dining room, then a card is found on each plate with the name of the person who is to occupy each plate or seat; so there is no confusion and no mistake likely to occur. Your father was dealt out Mrs. Molony of Illinois. I took a sly peep down at him occasionally, but he looked rather dubious, having (as he said) rather a heavy 'helpmeet'. We sat at table from 7 till 9 ½ and then had coffee in the drawing room. To day we are of course feeling rather 'shabby'. You father now lies on the bed fast asleep, and I can hardly keep my eyes open, as you can discover by my writing.”

“The tea bell rings, so I will leave the remaining paper for your father's benefit. Write us very often. With love to all, and most of all to yourself Dear Ellen. I am your mother,
C.P.Tuck”

[Marginal note in Amos Tuck's hand] “As I wrote yesterday, I will not write to-day.”

“P.S. I send done up in a newspaper, one of the kisses that the President gave me from the table to carry home to my 'little ones'. I sent Neddy the other: they are not alike.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

26 December 1851: CPT (Washington) to Ned. “...Your father and I dined at the Presidents on 'Christmas Eve' with about thirty five other gentlemen & ladies. I was seated on the President's left hand, (which was quite an honor) so after the courses were all passed, there were little knickknacks placed before us, and the President gave me two, to give to my 'little ones' – so he said, for a Christmas goody. So as you are our littlest one I send them to you, done up in a newspaper. You will see by the papers, that the Capitol has been on fire. The part containing the library, is all burnt out....You must give a great deal of love to Mrs. Cobbs & family, and ask her to write to me. I thought Sarah would certainly have written before this.

I have got over my very bad cold; and your father is very well. He sends his love and says you must not go on the river ice, or any ice which covers deep water.

“Your ever affectionate mother, C.P. Tuck. [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 December 1851: Tuck (Washington, D.C.) writes to brother John (no place given) that he cannot send the requested \$100 right away. He discusses daughter Ellen's behavior (she is living with John, probably in Biddeford). [Box 1, Folder 1, TFP]

1852

1 January 1852: Amos Tuck (Washington) writes letter to Ned. Says he expects to be home in about six weeks in order to attend court. Tells him about New Year's receptions and the fire at the Library of Congress. Also about visit of Kossuth "a man of great talents, and very good."
[Box 1, Folder 2, TFP]

14 January 1852: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. "I have received your letter of Sunday, and read it with much satisfaction, being sorry, however, that you and others at Biddeford were so afflicted with bad colds. I know you will be well cared for, and therefore I feel comparatively easy, but hope to hear soon, that you are rid of the cold. Eddy has also had a bad cold. I was requested by him to provide him a pair of skates, and sent word to Wm. Cobbs to buy him a pair, which he did, just as the new mass of snow came and spoiled his fun. I do not think Abby will go back to Peekskill, as we think it will be better for so young and tender a child, to be with her teachers. Lizzy Nelson and her father talk of visiting Washington this winter. I hope they will do so. We board where they did for a long time, and it will be very pleasant to see them here. Woodbridge Odlin and his wife are here on a visit, and we have been around with them to-day – to the President's, the Smithsonian Institute, etc. They will stay a day or two longer. Your mother would write you this time, only that going about has given her a bad headache, which she will get over by to-morrow, we hope. Julia Boardman of Exeter is here on a visit to her aunt's, a Mrs. Ladd, and will stay till Spring. I shall go to Exeter in 3 or 4 weeks, and shall tarry in N. Hampshire several weeks, -- how long I cannot exactly tell. I send you Abby's letter, giving an account of the silly conduct of the Tolman girl and her lover. She went back to Utica, and in a week after, succeeded in running off gain with her beau, and in being married by a regular minister. So she is gone, past hope. It was an affair that will disgrace her forever, and her husband will have to be very well, to outgrow the bad effects, upon him and her. Probably he was an unsteady, smoking, drinking scape-grace, without much talents, else her parents would not have oppose the match."

"With love to others and much to you, in which your mother joins, I am your affectionate father, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

17 January 1852: Amos Tuck (Washington) to John Tuck. "Your agreeable letter is at hand, showing that you have good spirits, even under affliction. Fortitude is needed at various times in life, I suppose, when we have taken lessons in all the tests, (or sooner) which prosperity and adversity, can subject us to, and have determined by the way we behave under them, whether there is any saving grace in us, we shall die. I think you can take some lessons better than most men – certainly better than I can. I hope ere this, you and Jonathan, and all the rest have got well of your severe colds. Be very careful in using clams [clams]. They are apt to hurt most people, and will be injurious to Ellen, if often eaten."

“I hope mother will get over her cold without trouble. If any land warrants are bought, let the owner write his name across the back of the warrant. Don’t give more than \$28 for 40 acre warrants hereafter. I can sell for \$30 for 40ties, \$55 for 80ties and \$100 for 160ties, but of course should not like to trade in them without making something. Keep these prices private, and buy as much below as possible. Should not like to make less than \$2 - \$3 and \$5.”

“As I have got to go out, I will put off the rest to next time, as you say. Tell Ellen she must be patient about letters. We think well of her taking [word illegible] again. Love to Ellen and all, Affectionately, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

30 January 1852: Tuck (Washington, D.C.) writes to brother John to discuss John’s possible purchase of land, and tells him that his wife Catherine can dispose of the land if John wants to buy it. Says he plans on travelling to New Hampshire in the next week. [Box 1, Folder 1, TFP]

3 February 1852: Catherine P. Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. “Your father started for home this morning. And you may see him in a week from Saturday next. I intend to have bought two or three sheets of music to have sent you, but when I went out yesterday to buy some articles for him, I forgot the music, but I will get them soon, and send by mail. I expect to feel very lonely during your father’s absence though there are faces enough to be seen if that was all. I have just now come from the parlour, where all are assembled as usual after dinner, but it seems empty to me so I have come away to my room, thinking I shall feel more cheerful to be writing to some of you. We do not lack for company in the house, for we have about 30 in the family, and 9 ladies of us, besides Mrs. Harrison who is herself a very pleasant woman, and frequently joins us in the evenings. You father has really become quite a dancer. He can go through a quadrille admirably, and even dances the schotich [sic] quite to perfection; and he enjoys it so much.”

“We dance almost every evening when we are all at home, Henry is almost always here evenings and he often plays for us. Miss Buzell is the player, she plays finely; I must send you some quadrilles so that we can dance at home by your music, and I must learn some too. You father’s health was never better; I think the dancing has been of great service to him; it seems to be just the exercise he needs after the labours of the day.”

“We were at a party at ‘The National’ the other night; invited by Mrs. Hale. They have parties once a week there; each lady boarder is privileged to give out four invitations each time; so in the course of the season, they can invite all their friends once apiece. It was a very brilliant assembly the night we were there, and the entertainment elegant. They had music and dancing too. Mr. Hale thinks of sending his eldest daughter to Pittsfield. They are going home next week, and will decide before they return. I saw Clara Gale a week or two since; she enquired affectionately for you and Abby and sent much love. She is a beautiful looking girl, and appears as elegantly as any young lady of 20 years. Bella Green called to see me some time ago, and I returned the call, in company with your father. Bella is much prettier than she used to be. They (B. and her father) took us into their greenhouse and showed us an orange tree which was planted by Gen. Washington. It had several oranges upon it, but they were very small and had a blighted

look, this tree being so very old. In the greenhouse was a Japonica tree with 27 buds and blossoms upon it. Did you ever see a Japonica? They look like large white wax roses. Very beautiful.”

“The capitol is having an addition of two wings, either of which is larger (I think) than the present whole structure. It will look very grand when completed. Washington is becoming a very beautiful city. They are continually improving the streets and public buildings. Capitol Hill looks rather dubious. The improvements do not extend as far as there. ‘Gordon House’ is turned into a sort of rum tavern. There is a little porch built out on the end towards the Avenue, and over the door in large letters – ‘BAR ROOM’ shines conspicuously. I can scarcely look towards that house without feeling a sensation of sickness. I think of ‘war, pestilence, and famine’. Mrs. Carter cannot fill her house as usual. I suppose it is partly owing to its near proximity to such a groggery. We have had a cold disagreeable winter, but the weather now is beginning to be fine, tho not warm for Washington. I have had a series of colds all winter, which has made is unpleasant and inconvenient for me. There are always two or three sick ones in the house.

“Dr. and Mrs. Brewer are boarding here: you recollect them. You recollect Miss Sales also: she was married a year ago and has recently buried a little daughter three weeks old.”

“Mr. and Mrs. Woodbridge Odlin were in a few weeks ago, staid two or three days. Mr. Charles Tenny [sp.?], his wife and sister Mrs. Hull, have been here a few days, and left this morning with your father, so he will have their most delectable company nearly home.”

“I had a nice long letter from Abby to day. She writes in good spirits, and I should think she stood very high in the school. She writes, Helen Otis is in decline; that her physician says her health was permanently injured by living at Miss Ela’s”

“Miss E. sold her place, and is now boarding with the family who purchased it. Mr. Dalson has left, so it seems he was not internally affected.”

“You must write me while your father is away for I am very lonely without him.”

“Ever your affectionate mother, C.P. Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family,
FFPLOC/FFP/Tuck]

11 February 1852: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “Your letter to Eddy came to hand and pleased him and me. I don’t know but I may go to Biddeford with him on Saturday. If I do I shall intend to go there again before I go to Washington, if mother comes down from Effingham. Eddy is better, and I think would get up completely in a few days, if I should send him, or take him to Biddeford, with you and his blood relations who would caress him a little. He gets none of that here though Mrs. Cobbs has been kind to him. I sorry to inform you that Emma Gorham came home very sick last Saturday, bleeding from the gums. She had lost most of her strength, and the bleeding could not be stopped except for a short time. The poor girl died this morning at 4 o’clock. She injured herself by too little exercise. Your affectionate Father Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

22 February 1852: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. "I will write a few lines to you to-day. I wrote to you some days ago, to write to Abby, because she mentioned in her letter to me, that you had not written to her for many weeks. I thought she was feeling bad about your omission. You must always keep the chain of friendship bright between her and you. I learned through Henry Townsend that your mother was sick abed for two or three days, the first of last week; but I heard yesterday, that she was getting well. I have seen some of your companions about town, whom you may like to hear from. Mary Shaw came into the office a few days ago with Pam [Sam?] James to obtain some money of Mr. Stickney their guardian. Mary's mother is at the White Hills where Mr. Bellows has a hotel, spending a few weeks or months, while the two elder sisters are at Concord, taking music lessons. Mary herself boards with Mrs. Means. I was at Mr. Wells' a few evenings since, for a few minutes, and saw Ellen and Katy. Ellen was very badly off with her asthmatic affection, and I do not think she can live many years if she does [word illegible]. I have also seen, but have not talked to Hatty French. I am invited to take some tea at Mr. French's this evening with Judge Woods. I do not think it right to go to tea often on a Sunday evening, but I feel constrained to accept the invitation, as I declined one he gave 2 weeks ago."

"I am very glad you are so well situated for improvement, and happiness. I think, with an effort on your part which I feel you will make, you will advance gradually into first rate scholarship, and turn out an excellent girl, and consequently a great happiness and a pride to me and your mother, and to your good relations in Biddeford. I have no doubt they would all rejoice in seeing you a pattern of a young lady. I hope you and Lois Ann, and Caroline, will become such fast friends, that the visits that you will receive from them and pay to them, after we get a house here, will be frequent and long, and mutually beneficial."

"I am still at the Swamscott House, and I do not go to see the people very often, as my time is mostly occupied."

"I am your affectionate father Amos Tuck."

"P.S. I have received your letter of yesterday. It was given me since I wrote the above. I was very glad to receive it. Hatty French says she shall write soon." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

22 February 1852: Tuck (Exeter) writes to Ned at Biddeford saying he has just written to Ellen. Mr. Thompson had told him he missed Ned in school and that he was a good student. Tuck told him he had been sorry to take him from school, but thought it better for him to be with his relatives in Biddeford. There is a hint that things had not worked out with the Cobbs. Tuck would be in Biddeford soon. Mother sends love. [Box 1, Folder 2, TFP]

28 February 1852: Catherine P. Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. "I suppose you are enjoying a visit from your father today, as his last letter said he was to go to Biddeford the next day – and I wish I was with you, for I am indeed very lonely while your father is away, notwithstanding we have so many in the house. It seems a great while to wait – two long weeks before he returns.

But if he only continues in perfect health, and reaches here in safety at last I ought not, and will not murmur. I am very glad to learn that Ned is well again, but am concerned to have your lungs affected again and so easily. Are you very careful not to expose yourself? I mean, to get your feet wet, or to go out when in a perspiration etc. You must take warning at poor Emma's fate. It is much easier to keep health, than to regain it. Emma would not acknowledge herself sick at all, but then her whole appearance showed that she was so, and they ought not to have been lulled into carelessness. I don't know how they could have been so insensible to her danger, and her father a physician too. I was sick the day I received your father's letter, saying poor Emma was dead, and the same mail brought a letter from Abby saying she had been sick two or three days since her father was there, but was then quite well again. I suppose I was weak and nervous, but altogether I was very unhappy and could not control myself at all. I had fixed in my mind as almost certain that Abby was in very great danger, and would surely die if she did not leave school immediately; so I had Henry write to her, and to your father, for her to come on with him, and not wait for vacation. I received a letter from her a few days ago saying I was needlessly alarmed about her; and that she was quite well, better than before she was sick. It has relieved me very much, but I don't think Mrs. Tyler understands exactly what course is best for one who is not quite well. I shall be very glad when we can all live together, it seems as if something was sure to go wrong, when we are separated. I don't know what might have been the consequence for Neddy, if your father had not gone home just when he did. Now I shall depend upon your not only taking very good care of yourself dear Ellen, but you must watch over Neddy too, for I think a great deal about you, and am constantly anxious for you, notwithstanding I may not seem to so much. But you children are dearest to me (next to your father) of all the world."

"I am glad you are so interested in your music, and I mean you shall make a superior player, for I know you are capable of it. There is no one accomplishment that will afford one's self so much pleasure, and give so much pleasure to others, as music. While you are learning the long piece you have commenced, you will not wish to have your attention diverted by other pieces, so I will not send you until you have learned that and perhaps Mr. Vickery can always furnish you with more suitable pieces than I can send."

"There is not much news to write. I have scarcely been any where since your father left, having been sick a part of the time, and not feeling any of the time like going to parties. I should have gone to Sen. Gwin's and Mr. Corcoran's tho' if I had been well enough, for they were the most splendid of the season. Mr. Corcoran's party probably cost him between two and three thousand dollars, and Mrs. Gwin's but little less, and I would have gone out of curiosity, if for nothing more, but was sick. Mr. C. is to have two more to which we are invited, and as they do not come off until your father's return, think we shall go."

"I suppose your father will have gone back to Exeter before you receive this, as he said he would be back Tuesday."

"With love to all, particularly to Neddy, I am, Your affectionate mother, C.P. Tuck."

[marginal note] "You and Neddy must write."

[marginal note] “Mr. Charles Allen of Mass. (you recollect him) is very sick and Dr. Linersly says he cannot get well. Probably will never go out again.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

18 March 1852: Catherine P. Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. “I believe I am indebted to you one letter, though I hardly remember for a certainty. I sent you all some flower seeds the other day: did you receive them?”

“Your father arrived here in health and safety on the Thursday after election, which is something considering the infliction he had on the way. He could not come via Pittsfield on Miss Lawrence’s account, therefore did not see Abby on his return, but we hear from her once a week, and she is quite well again. She starts for Washington in two weeks from to day (Thursday). Bella Green called to day, thinking to see her, as she had heard she was already come. She says we may have her one week, and she shall claim her all the rest of the time. We are quite lonely here now; four of our ladies are gone. Some of them will return after awhile, but not all. Mrs. Brewer is still here, and she is one I prize most; her husband is sick, and has been, for almost three weeks. Slow fever. Some one has been sick in this house all winter. Miss Cosby is all the young lady in the house now, she is daughter of Mr. Cosby formerly of Louisville, Ky. but now a clerk in the Treasury department. She is eighteen years of age, and would be very pretty if she was not so well aware of the fact. It does not make her so bold, arrogant, and disagreeable, as it does insipid and vain. Her highest ambition is to have a great many beaux, and she succeeds. I should consider Abby as perfectly spoiled, were she like Miss C. But I am not afraid of having Abby associated with her for the short time she will remain, for I think she will see her in very much the same light that we do, and she will be amused rather than fascinated.”

“Your father gives quite flattering accounts of you, says you are improving in every respect. I am delighted at this. I hope Neddy will improve too, but you know he will not submit to dictation from those who he thinks has no particular authority over him, therefore it will be well for you to have a care not to speak in an authoritative manner at all, but only advise kindly. You will have a much greater influence over him. I hope he will not indulge a petulant disposition, for that will be laying a foundation for his own discomfort thro’ life.”

“I receive letters from mother frequently. She often enquires about all the children, and seems to forget from time to time what she has been told. She is alone now, and has been for several weeks. Mrs. Taylor is with sister Jane helping to fix her husband off to California. Mother is well, and writes in quite good spirits, which is a relief to me. She writes sometimes quite funny – for instance – soon after Mr. A. left, she wrote, ‘Mr. A. has gone to Newport and I am alone again, but I get along very well. Mr. S. comes in mornings, brings my wood and water, and sees that I want nothing, then I go about doing what I please, and nobody asks why. I cleaned up the old clock, and she glistens, and smiles, and looks very cheerful. She ticks and ticks; we have no falling out, and no bickerings; she finds no fault with me, nor I with her. I eat when I am hungry, and drink cold coffee or hot just as suits me, and the old clock says nothing.’”

“Mother writes me that she has finished my bed spread too.”

“I suppose you are having cold weather still, and so are we just now, but we did have two or three days as warm as to be uncomfortable. Ladies filled the side walk, with their silk dresses and simply capes of the same, but it is now cold and damp. I felt quite renewed in those few warm days, but since then am about as usual.”

“Your father and I attended a party at Mr. Corcoran’s the other eve. It was very splendid, and I shall have to describe it when I see you. He lives in princely style: there is nothing so elegant as his house and furniture in Washington. He has a large picture gallery, the walls are completely covered with paintings of the most distinguished artists. There is not room left for the smallest picture. On the farther end of the gallery there is a recess in the center of which stands the Greek Slave. The recess answers for the orchestra and it was filled with musicians. They danced in the gallery.”

“Dinner is ready. Your father has come and I must close, with love to Neddy.”

“Your affectionate mother, C.P. Tuck.”

[P.S.] “Your father sends much love to you and Ned.

[Amos Tuck’s handwriting] “Dear Ellen: I want you to try hard, in all your studies, to understand them perfectly. Yr. affectionate Father”

[P.P.S. – Catherine’s handwriting] “I forgot to mention about your music, I would willingly send you pieces, but it is not best for you to be learning more than one at a time. Little dances are easily learned without a teacher, after you become practiced in execution.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

21 March 1852: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. Yours of the 15th instant is received. I will not write you a long letter, as your mother wrote you at length yesterday.”

“We are pleased with the particular account you give of yourself. We have no great variety in our life here, as we seldom go out, and only occasionally, as at Mr. Corcoran’s, to see the ways of the fashionable world. I do not desire ever to enjoy, or rather endure the formalities, customs and fashions of the gay people of this city or any other. There is not so much happiness among them, as there is among the more humble and more natural class of people. It is very cold here again, and I think there must have been more snow in New England. Abby is extremely busy in preparing for her vacation, and on this account you must excuse her apparent neglect.”

“She will start from Pittsfield a week from next Thursday for Washington, and arrive here on Friday, I hope. I think of going as far as Philadelphia to meet her. When she has been here a few days, she will write to you.”

“I see that your lessons are growing hard. In getting the power to dig patiently into a hard lesson, turning it over and over, and over, until you are able to see into it, you get a great and necessary good. Now you are apt to feel provoked over a hard lesson. When you get your mind disciplined, you will not feel so; or rather when you get so as to study patiently on a hard lesson, you will have obtained a discipline of mind, that you must have, in order to be such a woman as I want you to be.”

“I feel encouraged that you can do sums as far over, as you now are in your arithmetic. Latin will be somewhat hard, but you need not give out over it, as you will overcome the difficulties in time.”

“I am of John’s opinion, and so was your uncle Jonathan, on the advantage to you both, of sitting away from Caroline. You and she are too good friends to be so near each other. Had you not better to ask leave to sit alone, and nearer the front seats? I don’t doubt that Mr. Piper intends to do just right in the marks, yet he may in this instance have been deceived by his eyesight. I am glad that you seem determined to deserve a first rate mark. I would sit away from every other scholar, if that is necessary to get a high mark. Study intently in school, and out of school until you get your lessons, and then play intently.”

“Your mother is interested in your musical advancement, and takes notice of all your write on that subject, as well as I – and more so. So does she of your other studies. She sends love to you and Eddy.”

“Your affectionate Father Amos Tuck.”

[marginal note] “Dear Ellen – The piece you are learning in (Lucretia Borgia) is beautiful, and it is worth more to be able to play such a piece than 20 little simpler pieces. Have patience and perseverance. Ask Mr. Vickery to give you a song some time, so that you may be developing your voice.” – C.P.T. step-mama” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

21 March 1852: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Edward Tuck. “My dear Eddy:” Tuck has reluctantly allowed Ned to have a real box of real tools, even though he may hurt himself. “...I will let your uncle John say when it will be best for you to go to school. Your uncle Jonathan wrote that you was at the Post Office, and that you said you was ‘right side up.’ I hope you will keep so.”

“P.S. Tell your uncle John, that I have just received Henry Nunn’s land warrant, and will send him the dollars, to-morrow. Tell him to write to the Post Master at Exeter to send to him, any package in a letter shape in the Exeter office, which has been sent from Washington to my address at Exeter. Some Land warrants sent to be acknowledged have not come back.

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

27 March 1852: Tuck lent \$70.00 to Timothy P. Drew of Hampton Falls in exchange for a mortgage on a tract of land containing about 2 2/3 acres, situated on Drinkwater Road in Hampton Falls. [The “loan” was probably to pay Tuck’s legal fee.] [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 348, Page 242]

April 1852: Exeter tax records show that Tuck no longer owns the house, but has acquire a house lot assessed at \$550. [Exeter Town Clerk]

12 April 1852: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. “I have been intending to write to you for some time, but have been busy, and so has your mother and Abby. It gives me pleasure to

hear almost every day, that you and Eddy are well. Occasionally John or Jonathan writes to me that you both are good children and good scholars. This makes me love you both dearly, and makes me thankful for having children who are likely to be good and useful to their friends and the world. You wrote me a good letter, and there were but few faults of grammar or spelling in it. I think you compose well, and that you write in a lively, sparkling manner, which always makes letters agreeable. You will gradually improve in penmanship. I was pleased with your progress in getting good marks and in turning your face towards Mr. Piper, and reciting in a satisfactory manner. Do not be satisfied until you can recite exactly as you want to. Never spare any pains in looking out the necessary words in Latin, and in looking out in the dictionary all words you wish to know. In this way, you will learn in the end, a great many things, and become an excellent scholar.”

“It is pretty cold here. Billy Rufus [Nelson] continues partial to Abby, but she being a child only, and not inclined to think of loving any body but her relations, resists his advance, and will go to her studies in a few weeks, without distraction, in regard to love matters. This is a private matter. Mrs. Cushman has called to see Abby, with her little girl, and says she shall ask Abby to Tea. Her school is not large, about 12, and I don’t hear of any body’s being there that was there with you, except Miss Gale. Ella Harrison (our Landlady’s daughter) goes there. It is a fair school but not so good as the High School in Biddeford. Bella Greene says she must have Abby with her one week, but we shall not let her go there so long.”

“As the House [of Representatives] is so noisy, I shall be obliged to leave off. Wit much love to Eddy, I am Your loving father, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

25 April 1852: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Edward Tuck. Ned and Ellen are with John in Biddeford. Amos is glad to hear that Ned is obeying uncle John. “Your mother and Abby have been reading aloud ‘Uncle Tom’s Cabin’ to me to-day, and your uncle Henry. We like it very much, and I am willing that your uncle should buy it for you and Ellen....” Abby will be leaving Washington a week from the next Thursday. [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

25 April 1852: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “...Have you read Uncle Tom’s Cabin? Read it, and then help catch a fugitive slave. Have you read the life of Margaret Fuller? You will like it....” [FFP Reel 11]

16 May 1852: Amos Tuck (Washington) tells Ned (Biddeford) of a walk he had taken beyond Georgetown along the canal with Dr. Brewer and Dr. Forman. Mrs. Tuck is not well, but sends her love to Ned and Ellen. [Box 1, Folder 2, TFP]

20 May 1852: Catherine P. Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. “You may think my promised letter is long on the way, but I have been so busy, and your father writes so often to some of you, that I do not feel so particular to be prompt as I ought perhaps. I am very glad that you liked your dress, and I think by what you wrote that you received all your packages, altho your uncle

Jonathan said you had received but five. I sent six I think; at any rate there were four separate breadths, then a piece for the waist, and another envelope containing only the two sleeves with the insertion edging and ribbon. If you have seen all the above named, all is right.”

“We received a very good letter from Ned yesterday. In your handwriting. I am glad he is so happy and well. I am quite astonished to learn that Mrs. Cobbs can ever be cross. I thought she was one who never got out of patience, but she has a good deal to try her.”

“We had quite an excitement the other morning about four o’clock in the morning. Our room is in the extreme back part of the house, and is close to the alley. Right across the alley were two or three stables where the hackmen kept the horses and carriages. About four o’clock in the morning I was awakened by a cry of distress sounding in the direction of the stables and after listening for a moment to ascertain whether it was a cry of fire or not I started up, and upon pushing aside the curtains discovered the stables to be in flames. I called out to your father who immediately jumped up, and we dressed as fast as possible but before we had got dressed it was so hot we could not stand at the windows when open. We both set about packing up our things (after awakening Dr. Brewer an wife who room near us) and every one of the boarders did the same except Mr. Briggs and Mr. Miller who room in the very front side of the house, but in ten minutes the wind changed and we were in much less danger; in less than an hour, the stables were burned to the ground. If our house had caught, our room was in the most exposed part. It was quite a narrow escape. I suppose the noise we heard, which awakened me was the noise of the frightened horses. They succeeded in getting out all the horses tho for a long time I supposed one was burned. I thought of how frightened you would have been if you were here. On the afternoon of that same day, your father came very near jumping into the Potomac to save a boy from drowning. I believe he wrote to Ned about it.”

“We have had some very hot weather, but for several days past it has been chilly in the house, so much so that we are obliged to have a fire in our room. Your father has been rather dyspeptic lately, but he is now taking limewater and milk which agrees with him, and he is much better now. I am better than in the winter. I hope you are not troubled with your throat at all: be careful to always protect your feet. I went last night (together with the rest of the ladies) to see the Nova Scotia giant. He is only 19 years of age measures 8 feet and some inches in height, is four feet+ round his waist and two feet+ round his leg. His weight is over 400 lbs. He looks pale and sickly, tho he is said to be in good health.”

“One of our young lady boarders (Miss Cosby) is to be married next week, to Mr. Tyler. You may recollect of hearing us speak of him in connection with our western journey of last summer. I had a letter from cousin Harriet this morning saying she should be here in July.”

“I am writing on one corner of the table while your father occupied the rest, which accounts for my indifferent writing.”

“Abby writes us she is well and happy. Write as often as you feel like it, and feel like it as often as you can. Give my love to your grandmother and tell her we shall hope to see her when Congress adjourns. With love to all, and particularly to Neddy (I suppose he is old enough to be begin to be called Edward), I am as ever, your affectionate mother C.P. Tuck.”

[P.S.] “Your father sends a great deal of love to you and Edward, his mother and all the rest.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

30 May 1852: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “Last evening we had a party. The Democratic delegates to the Convention from N.H. were here as were Messrs. Hale and Lady, Chandler Jenkins and Lady, Stewart, of the House, Senator Hamlin and Lady [and others]....The party was not large but respectable and select. The Maine liquor law was not respected, and between 11 and 12 we were left ‘in status quo ante’ party – all seemed happy and pleased.” [FFP Reel 5]

June 1-5 1852: Democratic convention that nominated Pierce occurred in Baltimore.

June 17-20 1852: The Whig convention occurred in the same city June 17-20 and named Scott. Congress was still in session. In a July 1852 debate on the Indian Appropriation bill, a fight developed over Pierce’s position on religious toleration, focused on his role as president of the 1850 constitutional convention in NH. Tuck took the floor to counter the statement that the Whigs had opposed an amendment that would have allowed Catholics to hold state office. [He seems to have supported the amendment personally, based on Cornish’s murky account.] Challenged by a Democrat, Tuck said he only knew of the affair from press accounts, since he had been attending Congress at the time. [Cornish, pp. 66-71]

20 June 1852: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “...It is more than four weeks since I heard of Abby’s sickness and went to Pittsfield to see her. I found her very sick, so that I was obliged to stay two weeks at the Seminary with her. Your mother was with me most of the time. We occupied with Abby two rooms in a retired part of the buildings, and eat at the table with the 100 girls of the school. We did not like being in a boarding school at all, and got Abby to Springfield as soon as we could, where we staid eleven days, before Abby was well enough to start again. Yesterday morning, we started from Springfield at 8 o’clock and arrived in Boston at 12 o’clock...” and arrived in Exeter by the 4:30 train. “We are at the Swamscot House.”

“You can tell McKenzie that I saw Geo. P. Folsom, who had seen him, and that I was sorry not to meet him. How many warrants and how much money did he make on his last trip? Let him write to me.” Ned is in Biddeford. [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

29 June 1852: BBF (Washington) to Henry. “I, who got Pierce nominated, am bound to get him elected, and then I am done. I am President of the Pierce Club, and of the Capitol Hill Demo. Association; am Chairman of the Executive Committee etc. etc.” The next day BBF reports he attended a meeting of the Council of the Pierce Club and another of the Democratic Assoc. Next Monday the Democracy of Wash. is going to Alexandria for a joint celebration – BBF is chief marshal for the latter. [FFP Reel 5]

11 July 1852: BBF (Washington) to HFF. Bess, Frank and Ben to leave on 20 July for NH. Plan is for Frank to stay with Henry and “finish his Academical studies at the Exeter

Academy....I want Frank to be one of the bright and shining lights of the age, and I hope you will do all you can to aid in making him such...." [FFP Reel 5]

12 July 1852: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck and Edward Tuck. "Hoping you are in good health, I sit down to write you. Your uncle Jonathan wrote me that Eddy was wide awake and happy at his house. I hope you, Ellen, are equally so at Mrs. McRenney's [sp.?]. I think you will be, for I have no doubt it is a good place for you, where you will be with good kind people. I am employing men an engaging lumber to build our house as soon as I can. The cellar will be done in 4 weeks, and a good deal else will be going on at the same time, in the way of building the house, preparing the boards etc. We have the plan, which is very fine. It is now in the joiner's hands, who wants it to reckon up the different sticks of lumber he shall want. I intend to send you some representation of it, as I promised, when I get back."

"How goes the practice on the piano? Make it go perfect, without fail, and practice your hours punctually, without interruption. Don't let anything but sickness prevent. Force your self to patient perseverance."

"With respect to Mr. and Mrs. McRenney and love to all our relatives, I am your affectionate father Amos Tuck"

[P.S.] "Abby and your mother send love." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

[undated manuscript page in Ellen Tuck French's handwriting] "A long gap follows. – The next ten and twelve years were wearying in many ways. Ned went abroad after his college days were over – first for his health after a severe sunstroke in '57. Later he became junior partner in Munroe & Co. Pairs and New York, having served as Vice Consul at Paris and acting Consul upon the death of Mr. Dayton, Consul. It was to be with his dear son that my father went abroad for the first time in 1865."

"Abby T. Nelson was possessed of three girls Laura – 7 August 54 – Ellen Tuck – 25 Nov. '56 – Mary Delavan (Dolly) 1858. I became engaged in March '59 and was married to Francis Ormond French March 5, 1861 in Washington." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

12 July 1852: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. Henry tells Benjamin about a "dreadful accident" at the Independence Day celebration on 5 July, "...how the whig gun burst and took off the leg of one, broke the shoulder and ribs of another....We had a new Democratic gun and an elegant flag, and staff 75 feet high, and those blockheads tried to make their old worn out thing peak the loudest....You see the folly of my meddling in politics, I had to pay my share of the cost of the gun and flag; and five dollars towards the lost legs and ribs. We had a splendid performance at the Court House in the evening, tableaux and a dancing party...."

"Tomorrow I shall go to Concord to Court, and probably shall see your President. I suppose he will insist on your relatives taking offices, but I don't think of any I am willing to have, unless he should wish to send an agricultural envoy extraordinary over 'the tour of Europe.'"

“Is Hawthorne writing a life of Pierce? I hear so, and hope it is true, for anything he writes will stand a chance to be good....” [FFP Reel 11]

14 July 1852: HFF (Concord, NH) to BBF. “...I am in the Court House – General Pierce is about town, looking well and happy. I shall be here till Friday. Court is coming in.” [FFP Reel 11]

29 July 1852: Amos Tuck (Washington?) to Ellen Tuck and Edward Tuck. “I hope you are well and all your friends at Effingham. I am well. I intend to write to some of you within a few days. I am very much engaged now. Affectionately Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 August 1852: Amos Tuck (Rye Beach, NH) to John P. Hale. “My dear sir, Lest I should not see you before I go back to Washington, I will write you a few lines from this place. Great interest is everywhere expressed about your position as to the candidacy. I still continue of the opinion that you are of too much value to be used up, by being run at this time. Your name will be of use in years to come should you be now nominated, to frighten naughty politicians with, and to keep them nearer the path of right than they would otherwise go; but for all purposes of your ever being supported for a high office by the majority. I consider your being run now, the last use we can ever make of you. If Scott should be elected, with you the third candidate, his friends would feel capable of dispensing with you hereafter. If he should be defeated, you being the 3rd party candidate, you would be held accountable for it. On the other hand, should you decline to run, you will, in any event, secure the good disposition of all the valuable portion of the whig party.”

“I believe Chase wants to get off from the nomination, because he thinks the nomination would use him up, for the future, as I think it would you. But he is mistaken as to himself. He will be elevated by being run; and he has not, and never will have such a place in the hearts of the people, as to make him a serviceable candidate for high office again. His elevation as an accident; and though he is a man of talents, I think he will never be elected again to a high station. I am told he is regarded unfavorably in Ohio, by most men of discernment, and that they think his influence has been perverse.”

“I believe nothing but an unconditional determined refusal will keep you out of difficulty. But you have thought more than I have on all these matters, and you must excuse my intrusion.”

“Respectfully and truly yrs., Amos Tuck” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

9 August 1852: Exeter News-Letter reports the taxes paid by all taxpayers owing more than \$20 in taxes for 1852. Amos Tuck owes \$39.62, which makes him the 30th individual in taxes owed in Exeter.

19 August 1852: (Congressional Globe - House Journal) Tuck voted with the minority on a procedural vote to oppose House Bill 297 “declaring the Wheeling bridges lawful structures, and for other purposes.” The bill passed (with Tuck not recorded as voting) 115-42.

3 September 1852: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “Your mother intended to write you to-day, but she will not probably do so, till to-morrow, as I have carried her no paper.”

“She received a letter from you last night. She was sorry that you misunderstood her letter. She says, she did not want you to think you had done any thing wrong, or any thing to displease her. She says you are a good girl, and she loves you, and does not complain of you at all. But that she referred to Abby in her letter to you, and that she only wanted you to guard against being partaker of A’s faults, or following her example in anything disagreeable. So my dear blessed daughter, do not be sad, or down hearted. Abby has not done much of any thing since she left Biddeford to displease you mother; though she has been impudent in language once or twice. Your mother was sad when she wrote. As I am here now, I think we shall get along well. We are all well and happy to-day. Abby thinks of going to school to Miss Putnam’s to study something.”

“Our house does not go ahead fast. I shall now press it more rapidly. It will be pretty, and I expect to see happy days in it with my good wife an good children.”

“Your most affectionate Father.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 September 1852: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Albert R. Hatch. “I wish to have the suit State v. D. Nudd disposed of at the next term of our Court, and I write you, because I hope you may see no obstacle to allowing it to pass off, without imposing the expense of another trial upon the Defendent. If you should think my client ought to pay the expen se of a personal examination of the premises by yourself, I will cheerfully pay you for visiting Hampton Beach before court, and seeing the premises and the alleged obstacles in the alleged highway. You will find all the stone for which he was indicted imbedded in a bank, where they were placed in the vain hope of protecting Mr. Nudd’s land against the violence of the sea. There are causes of quarrel at the beach, but I believe this indictment does not properly make a point [sp?] of existing difficulties, or rather ought not to.” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

18 September 1852: Tuck (Exeter) writes to brother Jonathan asking about Ellen and Eddy. Says he is busy with “law and building.” Abby is pursuing her studies. Tuck is waiting to hear from Chicago before making any further investments. [Box 1, Folder 1, TFP]

25 September 1852: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “I think that I or your mother, or both may go to Biddeford next week – your mother will probably be at the Concert. I have business at Portland on some day of the week, when I don’t now know. We are glad to hear so often and good accounts from you. I am glad you are so busy and so happy. We are all well – often talk about you, and think about you still oftener.”

“Your mother and Abby send their love, and I am your loving father Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “Tell your uncle that I have sent the Telegraphic dispatch to John. I expect to see McK. to-day.”

[marginal note] “House is raised.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

10 October 1852: BBF (Washington) to Henry. BBF will have to break his plan to visit NH next week. “I am Treasurer of the National Democratic Committee – money is coming in and being paid out daily, the sums are sometimes large, and I know of no one to whom I should feel exactly safe in delegating my trust. Moreover this is the last pinch of the political battle. I am writing, almost daily, for the Union, and attending either political or Masonic meetings almost nightly....Bess wants Frank to spend his December vacation at home. I do not know when it commences, but should be glad, if it is possible, that he should come on in company with Mr. Tuck.” [FFP Reel 5]

13 December 1852: Tuck paid \$2,000.00 to Joseph G. Batchelder of Exeter for a tract of land and the buildings thereon. The tract consisted of about 25 acres and lay between the New Cemetery and the Little River. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 351, Page 168]

16 December 1852: HFF (Concord, NH) to BBF. [Continuation of letter missing on Reel 7.] “... but that I would be Secretary of the Senate, in preference. Anything else, unless the office of Marshall, will be sure to pay enough to retire on. The fees of the office are liable to be limited by law.”

“The Clerkship is, I fear, too hard upon your physical constitution, and is precarious. In the Senate, you could settle down, be quiet, and livelong in a ‘green old age’ – as green as your youth! and be independent of party to a great extent. However, you don’t need my advice.”

“...I am at the Sup. Court here, and also engaged with the officers of our State Agricultural Society, arranging our year’s work. We have invited Pierce to attend our Fair. It would put three or four thousand dollars in our Treasury at least. He says he will, if possible, and thinks he may attend...I told him we wanted to show our best stock of all kinds.” [FFP Reel 11]

27 December 1852: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. Henry tells BBF he has been approached to write the Next Agricultural report for the Patent Office. “It struck me at once that I might do the job, possibly, if I could get it...[Simon] Brown wrote Hodges [chairman of Patents] suggesting that he had better open communications with me. Last Saturday I named the matter to Tuck and he also wrote him. Tuck and Brown and Holbrook all say I can do it better than other man they know, if I undertake it....”

“[P.S.] Frank is well. Tuck will be at W. in about a week, and will do anything he can for me.” [FFP Reel 11]

1853

1853-1857: Tuck was a trustee of the Exeter Female Academy. [Exeter Historical Society, SC 224]

9 January 1853: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Abby, Ellen and Edward Tuck. "I write to-day, simply to say that we arrived safely at this city, last evening (Saturday) at 9 o'clock, coming in one day and a half from Exeter. We stayed in Boston two hours, in New York from 12 o'clock at night till 9 o'clock Sat. morning, and in Philadelphia one hour, all the rest of the time we were 'going it,' railroad speed. In Boston your mother exchanged her muff for tippet [tippet?] and cuffs to her satisfaction, and bought a black velvet bonnet, very comely. We were unable to get board at Mrs. Harrison's, and now are at the U. States Hotel. It is uncertain whether we shall stay at that place, not having a nice room."

"I pray, my dear children, that you may take good care of yourselves, be good kin and loving, and that God may bless you night and day, and always. Yr. affect. Father Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

10 January 1853: Amos Tuck (U.S. House of Representatives) to Ellen Tuck. "We are safely here, and are getting settled in a Boarding House. We could not get a good room at the Harrison's, and have taken board at the Potomac House. I think much about you, Abby and Eddy, and feel bad to be absent from you. I trust that you will all be blest of Heaven, protected and kept in health and happiness. Such is my prayer for you morning noon and night. I hope you have begun to go to school, and that your cough is getting better, being benefitted by the exercise you will take in going back and forth."

"I have not much time to write to-day, and therefore with much love to Abby and Eddy, I remain your loving Father Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

13 January 1853: Catherine P. Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. "We are again at Mrs. Harrison's. Went first at the U.S. Hotel, afterwards at the Potomac Ho. where we should have remained but Mrs. H. dismissed a gent. and wife to make room for us, so we felt rather under obligation to come. We are both well, tho your father was quite sick Tuesday night, and did not go out yesterday at all. But he is now perfectly well again. We are gratified at receiving a letter from you so soon, and glad you are all getting on so well. I have not been out at all except to Henry's room, and to move from place to place, but have rec'd some calls; among others Mrs. B.B. French and Mrs. Russell (her sister). They had many enquiries to make, of course, and I was happy to be able to give good accounts of all their friends, particularly of Frank."

"We found Henry laid up with a lame knee; he just begins to get out a little. Henry was mightily pleased with your letter, and of course I did not tell him of its origin. He will write to you soon if he has not already. We had a severe rainstorm yesterday, I suppose it was snow at Exeter. Mr. Dearborn leaves for home to day. I have nothing wonderful to write about to day. I have not seen the ladies yet, as we came since breakfast, and it is now before dinner, but will give a description of them next time. I am acquainted with no one of them but Mrs. Chandler, all the rest being 'fresh.' We are invited to Major Scott's tomorrow eve."

“Your father wrote to Abby last Sunday; we have rec’d non from her as yet. With love to her and Neddy; also to Mrs. French and family, your affectionate mother, C.P.Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

18 January 1853: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. “I expect to have a letter from you to-morrow (Wednesday), morning, being the one which I suppose you to have written on Sunday, and to have mailed on Monday. I learn that there has been a severe snow storm in the North, and have no doubt that you have had enough of snow in Exeter. Perhaps you are all clogged up on Mr. French’s street, and unable to go out except in a sleigh. If so, I suppose Mr. French’s man will drive you to school. There has been no snow here, but it has been cold and the wind feels as though it came off a snow drift.”

“We are both well. Last evening, having a free ticket, we went to see a Panorama of the Creation and the Deluge. It was very grand and impressive. We have, to-night, an invitation to dine at Mr. Green’s, Belle Green’s father, at six o’clock.”

“Abby wrote a few days since, and spoke of the Lyceum lecture and said you did not attend, because you had a cold in your head. If it should be that your cold is severe or alarming, let us know. In the mean time, I pray that God would bless you, and that you may have good health, and be happy. Do you like your school, and do you feel you are improving? Read good books, so far as you have opportunity, in connection with your studies. But take exercise freely. When you write, describe how Mr. Conner gets along, how many floors he has got laid etc. etc. With love to Abby and Eddy, I am your loving Father, A Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 January 1853: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. “I have just written a letter to Abby and I will wrote you a short letter also. I am now in the Ho. Reps. and there is a constant clamor about my ears, twenty persons sometimes, crying out at once, ‘Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker.’ As the business is not very important, I choose to abstract myself, and turn my thoughts homeward and I shall be glad when I get out of office, and be at home constantly.”

“I hope you find it pleasant at Mrs. French’s. Be careful, my dear, not to do anything which is wrong, while there. I rely upon your discretion and good sense, and goodness of heart to keep you always on the path of duty. Your letter was interesting, and we often talk about you all. This morning we talked about furnishing the House, and how pleasant it will be to get established there.”

“We do not go out a great deal, and have not been to any reception yet, nor to any levee.”

“Your affect. Father Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

28 January 1853: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Ellen Tuck. “Your letter of the 26th inst. has just been received, and has given us pleasure. You describe the house, your school, Abby, Mr. Nelson, Eddy, etc. etc. in all of which we are deeply interested. We are both pretty well. Your mother has gone out. I have a cold in my head, but am otherwise well. I have letters every day

from my friends in New Hampshire, about politics, office etc. I have written to them all, that I was against office, and nominations to office hereafter, and I trust that will prevent their putting me up again for Congress.”

“You say, my dear child, that you were tired when you wrote. Now, you are growing fast, and get tired easily, and I will not consent to your being perplexed to death with hard study – or too much hard study. I therefore say to you, if you have too many studies or too hard ones, I give you leave, being your own judge too, to discontinue one of them, and whichever you please. You must not hazard your precious life, or health by any act too puzzling to the brain. Your mother agrees with me exactly in this matter. I am sure Abby will aid you, as she has done, in Latin, composition etc. Tell Abby you want to learn Latin right, and not as Miss Putnam teaches it, (if Miss B. is wrong). We think you discriminate justly between the characters you spoke of in your letter, and we agree with you, so far as we have seen the persons, in our intercourse with them, in bestowing our confidence and regards where you have bestowed yours.”

“With great love, Your father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

3 February 1853: [Congressional Globe - House Journal] Sam Houston moved to have the House move to the Committee of the Whole to discuss the state of the union. The motion lost 88-79, with Tuck voting with the negatives. In this case, Joshua Giddings and Thaddeus Stevens vote with the positives. Alexander Stevens and Israel Washburn, Jr. voted with Tuck. Later in the same day, Tuck voted in favor of a motion to lay on the table a motion to reconsider an earlier House vote concerning the import of railroad iron without duty. The motion passed 95-82, apparently more or less on North-South lines.

4 February 1853: [Congressional Globe - House Journal] Tuck voted on a number of procedural issues whose import is hard to determine, dealing with the issues of granting public land for a railroad in Wisconsin and on moving into the Committee of the Whole to discuss the state of the union.

7 February 1853: Tuck sends an open letter to the Exeter News-Letter addressed to the Whigs and Independent Democrats of the first congressional district of New Hampshire stating that he had been approached several times about his willingness to run again for Congress and had always replied that he was not a candidate for re-nomination. “Just before the conventions met, however, I saw, in the urgency of the letters addressed me, evidence that, in opposition to my uniformly expressed wishes, my name might be capable of concentrating that union which was impracticable upon any other, and that it was possible the conventions would nominate me. I felt it therefore, my duty, in answer to a telegraphic dispatch received on the Saturday preceding the convention to answer, that if renominated I would accept....”

“Since receiving the account of your conventions, I have regretted the answer which I gave. I judge from the votes and transactions of both conventions, that my name cannot unite

their strength; and, inasmuch as that was the only inducement to consent to the use of my name, I am strongly impelled to decline the tendered nomination.”

Tuck noted that another reason to decline the nomination was that his supporters at the Whig convention had incorrectly stated that he had voted for the Whig candidate, General Scott. Tuck admitted, “I was sincerely anxious that General Scott, should be elected President, instead of Gen. Pierce, believing that the peace and honor of the country would be more secure in his hands, and that the friends of a sound national policy could hope for more under his administration than under that of General Pierce. I rejected, with every impulse of my heart, portions of the Whig platform at Baltimore, and sincerely believed those portions, as I do now, worthy of universal reprobation. But I thought, as I still think, that the platform did injustice to the true sentiments of Gen. Scott and of the Whig party of the North; that it was constructed mainly by the enemies of General Scott, with the design of defeating him....” Nevertheless, Tuck thought that Scott was the better candidate.

“But more reflection, and a review of the items of the Baltimore platform, convinced me that it was my duty to cast my vote, as I did, for John P. Hale, whose election I should have preferred to that of any other man. In giving him my vote, I sacrificed no principle, and voted according to the inclinations of private friendship and esteem. My friend, who stated in the convention that I voted for General Scott, had reason, therefore for the statement he made, and he honestly intended to state the truth. But he was mistaken.”

Turning to the Free Soil convention, Tuck argues, “While malcontent Whigs apposed me as a Free Soiler, malcontent Free Soilers denounced me as a Whig. I am obnoxious to both charges, having labored, during my services in Congress, to be a faithful representative of the true Whig sentiments and the true Free Soil sentiment of my constituents.”

“...As I have been nominated under a mistake which some may seem important, and as I perceive no prospect of that union upon myself, without which I can not think of being a candidate, I am left free to consult my inclination. I therefore do so, and unconditionally decline the nomination.”

“...I again thank my friends for the honors they have conferred upon me, and willingly put away all expectation, as I long since did all desire, longer to occupy a seat in Congress....”
[Exeter News-Letter 14 February 1853]

7 February 1853: John P. Hale (Washington DC) to George G. Fogg). “The following letter from Mr. Hale will explain itself, and, we hope, correct certain impressions industriously circulated to the prejudice of Mr. Tuck, among the Free Democrats of his district:”

“My dear sir: I have learned with no little surprise, that my name was used as a candidate for nomination before the Convention of the Free Democracy, recently holden at Rochester, to nominate a candidate to represent the First Congressional District of New Hampshire, in the next Congress. Nothing could have been more repugnant to my feelings. I have ever found Mr. Tuck a magnanimous, high-minded and honorable man, a true and devoted friend. He has constantly risen in my estimation as my acquaintance and intercourse with him have continued. In regard to

the nomination referred to, a simple narration of his course towards me, must satisfy the most fastidious friend I have in the world.”

“Early in January last, Mr. Tuck called on me and told me that he did not wish again to be a candidate for Congress, but that he did wish me to be in his stead. I replied to him at once that I did not wish it and would not consent to it, but I did wish that he might be the candidate, and if he was, I had no doubt he would be re-elected, if there was anything like a fair districting of the State. When the bill for dividing the State into districts, Mr. Tuck again called on me, and told me he had concluded to write home to his friends, absolutely declining to be a candidate for the nomination, and repeated his desire that I should be the candidate in his place. To this I positively refused to consent, but urged upon him to stand as a candidate, and told him if he was, I felt perfectly confident he would be elected. To these representations of Mr. Tuck, I made but one answer, and that was, that I would not consent to be a candidate.”

“I will further add that the tried integrity, the honorable and manly character of Mr. Tuck, his frank manners, his fearless and able support of what he deems to be right, joined to his experience in public life, all, in my humble opinion, eminently qualify him for the high position, which he presently fills. From the foregoing statement, you will see that it is not among the things possible, that I should permit my name in any way, to be used against Mr. Tuck in the canvass for that place, and I only regret that the true state of the case was not sufficiently understood by our friends, to prevent any seeming collision between us before the Convention. I did not deem it necessary to write before the nomination, because I had not heard of any other candidate than Mr. Tuck seriously talked of, and I did not suppose that our political friends having such a representative as Mr. Tuck, would seek another candidate till he had declined.”
[Exeter News-Letter, 21 February 1853]

9 February 1853: Tuck (Washington) tells Ned (apparently in Exeter) that he has heard from Exeter’s Dr. Gorham that Ned’s cough is better. Reports that he had dinner the night before at the house of British Minister Crampton with a number of other guests, including British and French citizens. Describes at length the ceremony that day in the Congress in which the electoral votes for president were counted. He doesn’t have anything to say about Pierce’s election itself. “We are well. Give love to Abby and Ellen....Tell Abby that Bill Green wants to visit her next summer.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 2]

14 February 1853: In an editorial appearing next to Tuck’s letter of 7 February in the same edition, the editor of the Exeter News-Letter implies he regrets Tuck’s decision and adds: “Had Mr. Tuck’s wishes have been consulted, we know very well that his name would not have been used in either Convention, as it has long been his sincere desire to retire to private life....”

21 February 1853: The Exeter News-Letter reported: “On Monday last, intelligence was receive by telegraph, that Mr. Tuck, in consequence of the urgent solicitation of his friends from all parts of this Congressional District, had consented to withdraw his letter of the previous week, in

which he decline to accept the nomination of the Whigs and Free Democracy of this District as their candidate for Representative in Congress, and to accept their nomination.”

“Mr. Tuck has since published a letter upon this subject, in which he states that his declination was owing to misinformation in regard to the sentiments of the members of the Whig and Free Democratic conventions. And having become satisfied that he ‘was nominated in accordance with the general conviction that circumstances rendered his nomination of a new candidate inexpedient,’ he says, ‘I accept your nomination, and will cheerfully occupy the post which you have assigned me. In the victory or defeat which awaits you, I will willingly take my part.’”

“Mr. Tuck then refers to the previous and late course of the Legislature in districting the State, which he holds to have been entirely dishonest. In regard to the recent act, he says, ‘the object was, virtually, to disfranchise portions of the people of the State, and compel them to be represented in Congress, in a manner which they have several times rejected.’”

“He then refers to, and condemns, in the strongest terms, the late act of the Legislature, Gerrymandering the State into Senatorial Districts.”

“His views upon the tariff, internal improvements, and the fisheries, are also given. And they are entirely Whig, in their features. He then turns to the subject of slavery, upon which subject in the course of his remarks, he uses the following strong and independent, but undoubtedly correct language:

“My principal votes in Congress, upon this subject, are those I cast in favor of the prohibition of slavery in the territory acquired from Mexico, and against the fugitive slave law. On both these subjects, my votes were opposed to those of my colleagues. I believe to-day, and I say it with a willingness to close up my public life forever, with the close of the present session, or to go again to Congress, just as my constituents please to decide, that my votes on these subjects *were not only right*, and those of my colleagues wrong, *but that my votes accorded with the sentiments of the masses of all parties in the State*, and that their votes misrepresented the sentiments of all parties.”

“Last week, when we published Mr. Tuck’s letter of declination, we considered the election settled in favor of Dr. Kittredge. His withdrawal of that letter put a new face upon the matter, and we should not be at all surprised if Mr. Tuck’s uniform good luck should attend him in the coming election.”

22-23 February 1853: Tuck took the floor during an acrimonious debate over a fisheries bill. He emphasized that protection vis-à-vis Canada should only be a temporary policy and called for a system of free trade with adjacent countries. “But we cannot adopt that policy in reference to the countries of Europe, where labor and money are cheap,....” [Corning, p. 72]

27 February 1853: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Jonathan Tuck. “I received your letter in Boston. I arrived home on Saturday morning. My House is nearly done, a few rooms to paper being the only remaining things to be done. My friends are all glad, and my enemies are all sorry to see

me. We shall have some activity at town meeting in this District. The Doctor [Kittredge] says he shall be elected by 2000 majority. But he is not sure of succeeding at all. My friends will cook some pretty Kettles of fish for him in some of the towns. I think I shall probably be elected, but shall not be astonished at the contrary – not knowing how much, his money will do for him. I shall not use money freely, nor throw away much of my own. I run on my merits, and if defeated, shall be more honored that [than?] my opponent can be by an election. I shall be pretty much absorbed in politics, till after the election, but shall not fail to think of you all very often. I shall write to John Demeritt to-day, cautiously, but enough to please him. I have sent documents enough into the Nutter [sp.?] District to convert the whole lot, and I trust the medicine will operate freely. I have written to John Hodgdon also.”

“I have not yet drawn my money in Chicago – but shall write for it soon. If you can not buy B. Bank stock readily I will send out to Chicago for Mrs. Taylor and Townsend.”

“Tell McK. [John’s son McKenzie] to keep up good courage, and the spring weather will thaw him out bright, I hope and trust.”

“Tell John to preserve his corporation according to science and common sense.”

“Tell Jonathan (you) to boss the job in the Tuck style. You have a good deal to look after, and to worry about and most men would be inclined to say, I must knock off, and call it a half day. But let us take what comes with a courage, greater than that which enables a man to go into battle. Martial courage is no touch to what we have occasion for, when surrounded with anxieties etc. etc., such as you and I have experienced. But let us stand up to the rack, fodder or no fodder.”

“There, I have written rather rambling, but I mean by all I have said to recommend the true Christian heroism.”

“Look out for your sleep. Go to bed when you can sleep, and sleep as long as you can, and as much as you can.”

“With love to all, Yrs. affectionately, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

28 February 1853: The Exeter News-Letter lists Tuck as the candidate of both the Whigs and the Free Democrats for US Representative from the NH first district.

28 February 1853: The Exeter News-Letter reported: “Mr. Tuck and the Fisheries – The Journal gives the following extract from a friend at Washington. Mr. Tuck cannot, with any show of justice, be accused of neglecting the interests of his constituents:

“The committee on commerce have reported a bill providing for reciprocal free trade with the British North American colonies, the settlement of the fishery question, etc. It will be the most important measure of the session. The committee have been at work upon it for a month or more. Your member, Mr. Tuck, has the credit of having made the first speech in Congress on the policy which the committee have recommended. I think that you will find the course adopted by the committee on commerce precisely that suggested by Mr. Tuck in his admirable speech.”

4 March 1853: Tuck's congressional career ended with Pierce's inauguration and the end of his term. He returned to law practice in Exeter, hated by Democrats because of his "apostasy."
[Corning, p. 73]

7 March 1853: The Exeter News-Letter published an editorial concerning the race between Tuck and Dr. George W. Kittredge for the 1st district congressional seat. "...In regard to Dr. Kittredge's political views, we can say but little, as we do not know that he has made any public exposition of them, either by speech or letter. It would be agreeable to voters generally, to know the place which he occupies in regard to the great questions of the day, some of which have recently taken a new form and character. Perchance, he intends, if he reaches Congress, to electrify that body with his views adverse to home interests, or the freedom of the Fisheries; or, perchance, he will advocate, with his usual zeal and ability, the immediate annexation of Mexico, Cuba, and Hayti."

"All these views are held as safe, and wise by some men, but Mr. Tuck opposes them all, and we certainly do *not* know what should follow if Dr. Kittredge should determine to put them through Congress. Mr. Tuck looks upon the men who labor at home – his own constituents who have long maintained an independent government – as better deserving of his assistance, and more worthy of his efforts as a legislator, than those men who tamely submit to tyranny beyond the seas. Dr. Kittredge *may* hold to a different opinion – he certainly does if he maintains the doctrine of free trade; - and he *may* be right: - we do not feel called upon to decide upon this point."

"In regard to the freedom of the Fisheries, Mr. Tuck's views were uttered in Congress at a very early day, and they are no more nor less than those which President Pierce expressed last Friday, when he declared that we *must* have 'prompt reciprocity.' In short, we know what Mr. Tuck's views are; - we wish we knew those of Dr. Kittredge, but we don't."

10 March 1853: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Charles W. Brewster. "I send you what returns I have. The cry is, that we are beaten, which is probable, but not yet absolutely certain. If I am defeated, I take it calmly, and shall not contest. I am deeply sensible of the kindness of my friends, and especially of the friendship manifested by you, and through your paper. All has been done which my friends, and those who preferred me to my opponent, could honorably do. Dr. R. is made a member of Congress by an act of the Legislature, and not by any fair expression of popular sentiment. If I believed him to be a fair representative of the interests and the people of the District, I should be glad to step aside for him. My only regret is, that my place is not to be filled by a better man than Dr. R."

"I have no doubt you did in Portsmouth all that could be done fairly."

"In Exeter, where it was said at Rochester, that I should get a very small vote, I am very happy to have received a very complimentary support. A gain of 52 since 1851, and a clear

majority of 187 over my opponent, is an expression from my neighbors, which I can repose upon, in my retirement with some satisfaction.” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 31]

23 March 1853: PEA trustees vote to replace Daniel Webster (deceased) and James Bell (resigned) with Amos Tuck and Harvard Professor Francis Bowen. Those trustees present were Charles Burroughs, Samuel Hale, Andrew P. Peabody, David W. Gorham and Gideon L. Soule. [Minutes of the PEA Trustees, use only by permission of the PEA librarian]

April 1853: Exeter property tax records show Tuck had completed his new house assessed at \$3500 and that he had bought the Batchelder Farm assessed at \$1200. [Exeter Town Clerk]

5 June 1853: BBF to HFF. “...I intend to leave the point as to his [Frank’s] going to college this year or next to the superior judgment of you and Hoyt...” Also informs Henry he is to be Commissioner of Public Buildings as of 1 July. [FFP Reel 5]

10 June 1853: James Bell (in Gilford) sends a receipt for the \$50.00 Tuck sent to him in payment of an old bill [TFP, Box 9, Folder 6].

3 July 1853: BBF to HFF. First task as commissioner is to fire all the Whigs in his employ: he’ll try to do it kindly. He has at his disposal two \$1100 jobs and perhaps half a dozen \$500 jobs. “The ominous 1st of July has come and gone, and it has made some little fluttering among the Clerks. Some have been reduced, some promoted, and some turned out. Ned has been among the lucky ones and has a \$1500 place. Russell was rather a hard squeeze, on account, as I believe, of misrepresentations, but the President + I made out to keep him in, at \$1200. I think on the whole, our family are among the favored – if we could only get you a good fat office I should be content.” [FFP Reel 5]

12 July 1853: Attends PEA trustees meeting. Trustees appoint Tuck and Gorham to audit the treasurer’s account. Also, Trustees vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the advice of the Trustees, to sell the United States stock or other property of the Institution and reinvest it in such stocks as they think “safe and profitable.” [Page 343, PEA Trustee minutes, use only by permission of the PEA librarian]

31 July 1853: BBF reports that Pierce appointed him Commissioner of Public Buildings at the end of May, to start 1 July. Harassed constantly since then by job seekers. He was elected treasurer of the W & N.O. Telegraph Co. Directors’ meeting in Philadelphia on 13 July. Met Frank there before he went home in DC. Previous evening went riding with Pierce over the Long Bridge to Virginia. [FFP Reel 1]

11 August 1853: John Greenleaf Whittier (Amesbury) to Moses Austin Cartland. Whittier wrote that he was glad Cartland was prepared for the gathering [in Wolfeboro] on the 24th (NFI). He asked Cartland to provide \$5 a piece to Free and Burlingame, apparently so they could

attend the meeting. “Thank you for thy bugle blast from the Ind. Dem. Keep the pot boiling. I am sure the meeting will come off gloriously. Thine ever and truly J.G.W. I wrote to Tuck today to get a notice of the meeting in the Exeter N. Letter. [Pickard, Letters of Whittier, p. 225]

21 August 1853: BBF went riding with Pierce and his private secretary Sidney Webster a few days after the earlier ride. Frank is to leave for Exeter the next day. [French has nothing to say about Frank’s visit home except that “we have enjoyed his visit”: he must be close to 15 years old.] [FFP Reel 1]

25 August 1853: John Greenleaf Whittier to The National Era. Whittier reports at picturesque length on his experiences at the convention of the New Hampshire Free Soil Party in Wolfeboro on 24 August. “Amos Tuck, of Exeter, was President of the day, who, after a few pertinent remarks, introduced Moses A. Cartland, of North Weare, who called out the enthusiastic cheers of the multitude by his eloquent and indignant denunciation of the Fugitive Slave Law. He was followed by Ex-Senator Hale....”

“Hon. Amos Tuck followed in an able and effective speech....”

[Pickard, Letters of Whittier, pp. 226-232]

29 August 1853: The Exeter News-Letter reported: “Free Soil Convention at Wolfborough Bridge. This Convention was held on Wednesday last, and was attended by between two and three thousand persons. Hon. Amos Tuck, of this town presided, and speeches were made by the President of the Day, Hon John P. Hale, and Moses A. Cartland, Esq. Mr. Tuck is represented as having handled the Concord cliques – the Patriot and Burke wings – and President Pierce, without gloves. He is also said to have declared that the Whigs of this State are converted to the Free Soil doctrine, and to have advocated a union of the Free Soil and Whig parties for the purpose of breaking down the Concord cliques.”

“Mr. Hale’s speech was eloquent an impressive, and was listened to with profound attention. If Mr. Hale has heretofore been unable to sway the vote of the State to his liking, he can still command the attention of a larger audience than any man now residing in New Hampshire.”

“After the speeches, a dinner of which about six hundred partook, was served up at the Pavilion.”

14 September 1853: Abigail Tuck marries William Rufus Nelson of Peekskill, NY. Nelson’s father had sat next to Tuck in the House of Representatives in 1847. According to Dow, William R. Nelson graduated from Yale College in 1842, and was a man of superior business ability who commanded universal esteem. [Dow]

15 September 1853: Mr. and Mrs. Tuck were on the awards committee for the Rockingham County Cattle Show and Fair. Henry French was president of the show, and Simon Brown [of

Concord Mass. and Henry's cousin] gave the opening speech. [Exeter News Letter, 19 September 1853]

19 September 1853: The Exeter News-Letter posted a notice of Abby Tuck's marriage: "In this town, 14th inst., Wm. R. Nelson, Esq. of Peekskill, N.Y., to Miss Abby E. Tuck, eldest daughter of Hon. Amos Tuck."

28 September 1853: Tuck reportedly wrote to Dr. Daniel Homer Batchelder of Londonderry [according to Batchelder]:

"We deem it advisable to hold an informal meeting of some of the principal members of the parties of this place (Exeter) on the 12th of October at Major Blake's Hotel. One of the principal objects of this informal meeting is to fix a plan of harmonizing the different party organizations, whereby a more united co-operation can be secured, and the four parties may pull together under one title of organization. Hale, McFarland and Fogg will be present."

According to Batchelder, at the meeting Tuck suggested "Republican" as the name of the new party.

10 October 1853: Tuck (in Chicago) writes to Ned (Exeter) that he is planning in the next day or two to travel to Galena, Illinois. The trip involves taking a train about 120 miles and then stages for 50 miles. "I now have a room at the hotel, and spend my time seeing and hearing all I can about the place and about my interests here. When I ascertain what time I can start, I shall write to your mother...Obey your mother, + make her happy while I am away, + in all things be a good son to her." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 2]

10 October 1853: Amos Tuck (Chicago) to Ellen Tuck. "I am beginning to have daily letters from your mother, and am glad to hear that you are all well. I am busy here, making enquiries, which my interests require me to present to my western acquaintances. It would not take long for me to get an extensive acquaintance here. I have had sundry invitations already to attend Conventions, and address the people. But I give a negative answer to all. I can't go into politics again. It is a beautiful sight to look out over the prairies, and see the immense ocean of land, as level and beautiful as any cultivated field you ever saw. They bring into this city every day more wheat and corn than the whole State of New Hampshire will in a whole year. But I am busy and must close. I hope you are happy. Much of your mother's happiness will depend on you, in my absence. Accord with all her wishes; anticipate her desires as to your conduct, obey her requests, and be a dutiful loving daughter to her, who is good and kind to you, and anxious to promote your good."

"Your loving father, Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

12 October 1853: Tuck reportedly (again, according to Batchelder) chairs a meeting in Squamscot House of anti-slavery men from various parties. He suggests "Republican: as a name

of the proposed new party. [No contemporary source ever found for this meeting. Also, note the Amos' two letters of 10 October from Chicago.]

3 November 1853: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. Cushing's letter to Frothingham produces a good deal of feeling in Mass. "I think the President and Cabinet are making irretrievable blunders, by meddling with these local matters. The new Constitution would probably have passed by the coalition had the Administration let them alone. It would be a great improvement – a gain in Democratic principles, and again especially to Democracy in that State, to have the new Constitution adopted, and this is a death blow, probably, to the movement, and to the hopes of any party but the Whigs or Freesoilers, for a long time to come. Guthrie's foolish letter to Bronson was a miserable blunder, and this attempt to retrieve the error makes confusion worse confounded. When the President's principles were so exalted, that he could tell you to your face, that political services and personal friendship furnished no claim to office, I could appreciate the sentiment, though I doubted whether so transcendental a policy could be rigidly adhered to, and that is the only instance that has come to my knowledge, in which it has been applied in practice. I had confidently expected that Pierce would make no great blunders in tactics, but I was in a mistake. The result will be that the Freesoilers will control Mass. before many years, and I don't know but New Hampshire also. When the powers that be, avow, that any party, especially if it be a reform party in a great moral question, shall be suppressed, and crushed by proscription, all history shows that the attempt must fail. I think the course taken will hasten another antislavery movement, more violent than any we have yet witnessed. I have expressed no opinion to people about me, and it is useless now to lament what cannot be helped. I had hoped for a glorious administration under Pierce, but fear his present advisors."

"In New Hampshire I see no particular signs of division. Burke's course is low and contemptible, especially in his recent disclosures. Wells will make a hold now for the Senate next June, and if he gets in Pierce may rely on one mortal enemy, in his own camp, who will work his ruin by all and any means in his power. I am not sure that Wells can be defeated, though I hope that he will be. John P. Hale would injure the Administration vastly less in that place, and so would a regular Whig. It is only occasionally that I write politics to you, but the fit came over me, from hearing so much yesterday in Boston, about these matters." [FFP Reel 11]

16 November 1853: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. "You spoke of Mr. Atherton's resignation. His death occurred yesterday, and it seems to me, one of the saddest events of this year of sad events. I regard it as a serious loss to this Administration. I thought when he was elected Senator, that New Hampshire had no other man, who could do so much for the President, and for New Hampshire, as he, and I see no living man to fill his place."

"You say, that you think Mr. Pierce might be willing I should have my appointment. I think for several reasons I should decline it, were it tendered me. In the first place, for want of political experience. Secondly, I could not afford to take it because the pay is not sufficient, situated as my family is. Thirdly, my duty to my children would not be very faithfully executed should I for six years, be thus separated from them. And, furthermore, I don't think Mr. Pierce has a very great love for me, altho' I don't know why he should not have, considering my amiable qualities."

"I do not want the appointment, but I want you to see the President, and impress upon him the importance of keeping Mr. Wells out of the Senate. I had rather see Edmund Burke there, inasmuch as an

open enemy is better than a false friend. As sure as the world stands it wells gets into the Senate, he will betray the Administration, at the first opportunity.”

“The appointment of a man here to the Senate, would defeat Wells. This appointment would only stand till June when the legislature meets, but the man now appointed will probably be elected then. John Sullivan is the man. His appointment would be popular in the State, and every way respectable. The President has a great respect for him. In short, he is a natural born Senator. Then next June, Hibbard and Sullivan would be elected, and Mr. Wells left out. If a man from the other end of the state is now appointed, Wells will be elected. Sullivan does not want the place, but perhaps would take it. He will not be run at the June session, I am sure, unless now appointed, and then the field is open to Mr. Wells, with no competition from this quarter.”

“I presume the President will feel the force of these ideas, without any suggestion, but I know more than he does about the disposition of my neighbors. Gov. Martin will desire to sustain the Administration. He has no love for Mr. Wells and likes Sullivan. He is very friendly to me, and I shall do what I can to forward the President’s views, when they are known. Mr. Lamprey, one of the council, is at Washington. He is Wells’ only fiend, here, so you will keep him out of the consultations for the public good. He has not much influence in the council. Write me immediately.” [FFP Reel 11]

1 December 1853: According to the 12 December Exeter News-Letter, the Free Soil party held Senatorial, Rockingham County, and Rockingham Councilor conventions in Exeter to nominate candidates for the upcoming state and local elections. In the afternoon, the Free Soilers held a mass meeting with George Brackett in the chair. Ten resolutions were adopted, including:

- Reiteration of “our uncompromising hostility to slavery.”
- Referring to the 10th amendment, “we recognize an express and explicit limitation tot eh power of the General Government, and that any attempt on the part of Congress to make a slave or to support a system of slavery is as manifestly unconstitutional as would be an attempt to make a king”
- “That legislative enactments and even judicial decisions may and often do fail to possess the attributes of law.”
- “That the Bill commonly called the Fugitive Slave Law is destitute of every element of Law, a libel on our free institutions, an insult to northern freemen, requiring us under heavy penalties to trample under foot our humanity, our sense of right, and our religion, and that we will never cease to *agitate* until it shall be blotted from the statute book which it blackens and disgraces.”
- “That the recent attempt of Cabinet Ministers to interfere with the freedom of state elections is an outrage...”

“Hon. Amos Tuck, of this town, [earlier] had advocated the passage of the resolutions. He said:

“What is the great measure of the Pierce administration? Some great distinctive features had marked the term of each successive administration from the formation of the government to the present time, and it was a natural inquiry what should distinguish the term of Gen. Pierce. The administration has now been in power nearly ten months, or one-fifth of its fore-ordained existence, and the only marked feature thus far exhibited was the avowal of the President’s

determination to ‘crush out’ the sentiment of abolitionism. The Washington organ of the administration had gone farther, and declared that no favored would be shown to any democrat in any way ‘tainted with free soilism.’ Now what is this dreaded element, so dangerous to the perpetuity of our republic that President Pierce and his cabinet will use all their mighty power to crush it? The true meaning of free soilism is opposition to the extension of slavery – that the territory now free shall always remain so, and that slavery shall never be allowed to pollute its soil. But any democrat entertaining these sentiments must hereafter be considered hostile to this democratic administration and treated accordingly. The abolitionists propose to do all in their power, by legal means, to effect the abolition of slavery – by state laws where it exists by state authority, and by federal law where it exists by federal authority. They make no war upon the constitution or state rights, but labor to secure the abolition of the foul curse of slavery by legal means. The dangerous element of abolitionism ‘hath this extent – no more;’ but Franklin Pierce, the spontaneously elected President, and his cabinet, have arrived at the unalterable conclusion that this dangerous element must be ‘crushed out’ of the free people of this country, and all democrats are warned that no one in the least degree tainted by free-soilism need expect any favor from this administration. Mr. T[uck] commented upon the contemptible intrigue and deception practiced by Pierce and his friends, including Mr. Burke, to kill off all other candidates for the Presidency, and secure his own nomination, his hypocrisy in expressing surprise when informed of the success of his scheming, and his astonishing exhibition of moral turpitude when, on the steps of the national capitol, in the same breath with his allusion to the afflictive dispensation of divine providence by which his beloved son had been taken from him, he uttered that outrageous falsehood that he repaired to the post assigned him, ‘not as one sought, but in obedience to the unsolicited expression’ of the will of the people.”

December 1853: Tuck was a trustee of the Exeter Female Academy for an unspecified period in the 1850s. [Bell, p. 300]

12 December 1853: Tuck chaired a meeting to make arrangements for the town of Exeter to welcome a visit by the NH Historical Society to honor the late Governor John Taylor Gilman. The meeting was held at the offices of Stickney & Tuck. The participants appointed a Committee of Arrangements (which did not include Tuck). [Exeter News-Letter 19 December 1853]

27 December 1853: Tuck (Exeter) writes to brother John to condole on the death of the latter’s son Henry. “Next to the death of my wife, and my 5 children, whom I have consigned to the tomb, no event has ever grieved me so much as the death of your Henry.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 1]

1854

In New Hampshire, 1854 was the last year the Democrats were able to control the governorship and the legislature. They failed to elect a US Senator to replace either Moses Norris or the deceased Charles Atherton. Instead voted to indefinitely postpone the elections. [Corning, p. 76]

4 January: BBF reports his brother Henry visiting. Frank came home sometime at the end of October and stayed until 12 December when he returned to Exeter. His visit was “a great pleasure” but no details given. Henry and wife Anne arrived in December and were still there. [FFP, BBF’s journal, Reel 1]

5 January 1854: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Tuck. “I received your letter yesterday, and was glad again to have a letter in your own hand. I have been busy, and shall not now write at much length, because of calls and interruptions.”

“I want to say to you, that in respect to Doctor’s mistakes, you are exaggerating the trouble to your own mind. I have gone through with the feelings of irrepressible grievous indignation, you are experiencing. Medicine has killed most to the children I have lost. I made myself miserable for a long while, because of this conviction on my mind. But I have got by this misery, by further reflection. It is with other people, as with you and me. Their friends and dear ones have died, possibly, of medicine. We can’t tell certainly, but possibly the medicine accelerated the tragic end. A long time ago, a most distinguished Physician said, that Disease and Health are two enemies, fighting together in deadly conflict, and the Doctor is a blind man with a club, who came up and strikes at the combatants: if he hits Disease, the Patient gets well; if he hits Health, the Patient dies.”

“Even if the medicine worked bad, from the outset, which is perhaps doubtful; or if not doubtful, was unavoidable, it is not certain that Bubby [sp.? John’s son Alfred] could have got well. Some thing must be done to one in distress. All that mortals can do, is use all the knowledge they have. You did this – I have done it in the case of my children. The Doctors have in both and all cases for us, done as well as they could. They used the medicine thought to be most appropriate, and it is wisdom and duty and religion – to submit, and try to be content. I am glad that you feel like saying ‘Thy will be done.’”

“Yours affectionately Amos Tuck”

[marginal notation] “In haste and interrupted.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

4 February 1854: Tuck and John Nudd lent \$2,600.00 to Amos Nudd of Exeter in exchange for a mortgage on two parcels of land in Kensington. [Amos Nudd was a cousin of Tuck’s first wife Sarah Nudd.] [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 357, Page 249]

14 February 1854: Gregg and Hippauf print text of a letter from Tuck inviting William Plumer, Jr. to the 15 February anti-Nebraska meeting in Exeter. (Plumer Papers, NHHS)

15 February 1854: “At a large and enthusiastic meeting of the citizens of Exeter, called, without distinction of party, to oppose the contemplated outrage upon the North, commonly known as the Nebraska Bill; and assemble on Wednesday evening, the 15th of Feb’y, 1854. James Bell, Esq., was chosen Chairman, and F. B. Sanborn, Sec’y.”

“Speeches in opposition to the Bill now before Congress, and expressing strong indignation thereat were made by the Chairman, Prof. J.G. Hoyt, Hon. Amos Tuck, and others, and on motion of Mr. Tuck the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:”

“*Resolved*: That the prohibition ‘forever’ of Slavery in so much of the territory purchase of France by the United States, in 1803, not included in Missouri, as lies north of 36°30 minutes North latitude, is in the nature of an *inviolable contract*, next in sanctity to the Constitution itself, and not to be annulled without a violation of good faith alike dishonorable to the country and insulting to the freemen of the North.”

“*Resolved*: That the attempt now being made in Congress to repeal under false pretences the prohibition of Slavery in the Nebraska Territory, is calculated and apparently designed to rekindle in the country the flames of civil discord, and that it betrays an utter disregard not only of plighted faith but of the rights of humanity.”

“*Resolved*: That we will do all in our power to hold our Representatives in both branches of Congress, responsible to the bar of public opinion for the votes they shall give on this question, and to consign to the deserved condemnation of this and future ages, those who, at this crisis, shall prove recreant to the cause of right and of human freedom.”

“J. Bell, Chairman. F.B. Sanborn, Sec’y.” [Exeter News-Letter, 20 February 1854]

21 March 1854: Attends PEA trustees. Appointed with Andrew Peabody committee chaired by Francis Bowen to consider changes/reforms to improve the usefulness of the Academy. [Page 346, PEA Minutes, use only by permission of the PEA Librarian]

3 April 1854: BBF records that Frank came home on 31 March to spend his short vacation. He will return to Exeter on 4 April. French never writes about doing anything with him. [FFP Reel 1]

4 June 1854: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “Who cares about Nebraska, Niggers, and No-Things – I don’t. I think the Union is worth something yet I shall do my prettiest to preserve it, but if you Northern men are determined to blow it up, I trust I can stand the explosion as well as most men, and I do not mean to fret, or borrow trouble about it. I should like to see you a Senator, and would pardon a good deal for the sake thereof – but I should like to hang Wendell Phillips, Theodore Parker and a few others of that stripe – yes, opposed I am to hanging people in general, I really should glory in putting ropes around their traitor necks – pulling the caps over their traitor eyes, and launching their traitor souls into hell – the only fit place for them!! Savage, aint it? Well I am savage against men who will act so like unprincipled vagabonds as those men do!

“There will never be ‘either slavery or involuntary servitude’ in Nebraska or Kansas, and the North have gained a march on the South of which, in time to come, they will be proud, and the South will mourn in dust and ashes their folly, in suffering our yankee ingenuity to so completely entrap them! You may laugh or not, just as you please, but you will live to admit the truth of what I say.” [FFP Reel 5]

30 June: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “No N.H. Senators this year! Well if our democratic party will behave so we must submit! I bow, with all humility, to the unfortunate state of things, suffer the consequences – and they may break their hearts of they choose, but they shan’t break mine! I have some misgivings as to the fact, whether this Administration does really appreciate honest men!!” [FFP Reel 5]

11 July 1854: PEA trustees appoint Tuck to audit treasurer’s account for ensuing year. Tuck attending. [Page 347, PEA Trustees minutes, use only by permission of PEA librarian]

31 July 1854: Tuck attends PEA Trustees’ meeting. They consider Bowen’s report and voted to implement a lengthy list of improvements and expansions of the Academy. [Pages 348-352, PEA Trustees’ Minutes, use only by permission of the PEA librarian]

The main thrust of the reforms as approved is revealed in that year’s catalogue, which ended the old academic structure of a Classical Curriculum and an English Curriculum. New unified curriculum also stipulated four classes: Preparatory, Junior, Middle, Senior, and Advanced. Those students completing the advanced class, would be expected to enter college as sophomores, and they also could substitute German or French for physics. [PEA catalogue for 1854-1855]

7 August 1854: Grand-daughter Laura Tuck Nelson is born. [Dow]

30 August 1854: Mass convention at Wolfeborough of 2000 people who want to restore Missouri Compromise (reported in 4 Sept. Exeter News-Letter). President was Ichabod Goodwin of Portsmouth. Speeches by Amos Tuck, James Bell (Whig candidate for governor) Salmon P. Chase of Ohio, John Z. Goodrich (congressman from Mass.), Rev. Dr. Cleveland of Northampton, John P. Hale, Daniel Clark of Manchester, Gilman Marston of Exeter, William Plumer of Epping, and others.

“Amos Tuck, late member of Congress from this district, made a good speech. Mr. Fogg, of the Independent Democrat, showed that he can speak as well as write. Mr. Marston, whose name is mentioned above, spoke during the last hours of the meeting. We were not present at the time, but heard his speech highly complimented. His voice has seldom been heard beyond his profession. We are glad, however, that he is not indifferent at this crisis in the affairs of our country. Mr. Marston is a gentleman of a high order of talent and of much force of character, and we hope to hear from him again. James Bell spoke with great earnestness and effect. His speech was characterized with more than his usual ability. Compact and comprehensive, keenly

logical and cuttngly sarcastic, he laid bare some parts of the Nebraska swindle with the hand of a master. Salmon P. Chase, a man that every New Hampshire man must be proud of, fully sustained his high reputation. Mr. Chase is a fine looking man, tall, towering, elegant in person, his countenance open, bland, expressive and intellectual. His talk is in keeping with his person and looks.”

Five resolutions passed:

“1st. That the repudiation of the compromise measures by the Representatives of New Hampshire, was an act of perfidy in the estimation of the people of that State, and to the cause of free labor throughout the world.”

“2nd. “That free labor and that of slavery cannot exist but to the destruction of the rights of the former, and that the introduction of slavery into Nebraska and Kansas excludes free labor therefrom in all coming time.”

“3rd. That the administrative action of the Government in the matter of the territorial bill, has dissolved all slavery compacts.”

“4th. “Endorses the objects of the ‘Washington Union Emigration Society,’ and approves of the establishment of auxiliary associations of N. Hampshire and over the Union.”

“5th. That independently of party ties or peculiar party opinions, this convention resolve to stand shoulder to shoulder in opposition to the extension of slavery.”

[Exeter News-Letter 4 September 1854]

3 September 1854: BBF reports that Frank left for Exeter a week earlier. “He went to Cambridge on Monday, and evening before last we recd. a despatch that he was admitted [to Harvard] as a Sophomore. So now he is fairly entered college. He has started well – may he end as he has begun.” [FFP, Reel 1]

11 September 1854: Exeter News-Letter reported the full text of the five resolutions approved at the 30 August Wolfeborough meeting. The first resolution was clarified: “That the repudiation of the principle of the prohibition and non-extension of slavery in the Nebraska bill, and the support of that bill by a majority of our delegation in Congress, were acts of perfidy to the people of New-Hampshire, to all the free states, and to the cause of freedom and free labor throughout the world.”

19 September 1854: Tuck attends PEA trustees meeting at Portsmouth. The Trustees voted on a further series of implementation measures to improve and expand the Academy. [Pages 353-354, PEA Trustees’ Minutes, use only by permission of PEA librarian]

28 November: Tuck attends PEA trustees meeting.

5 December 1854: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck and Abby Tuck. “We did not receive a letter from you yesterday, but we doubt not that you arrived safely. It was fortunate that you

escaped from N. England, when you did. Saturday was some snowy here, also Sunday; but Sunday night brought a most driving storm, so that Monday morning introduced us to more than a foot of snow. It has since been milder, but we are in the midst of an old fashioned winter.”

“We are all well and in comfort. The house has a vacant look about it, - no Abby, no Ellen, and no baby. How does the dear little Laura? We think much of her and want to know how she bears the change in milk, climate etc.”

“I am busy at the office, and Ned is busy in the snow, and your mother is busy about house. She sends love.”

“Your affectionate father Amos Tuck.”

“P.S. Did you send any bundles [sp.?] from Boston? And how? Ned did not find that Odlin had seen any of you.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

28 December 1854: Tuck, Solomon J. Perkins, and Benjamin R. Perkins lent William C. Clark of Eliot, Maine, \$400.00 in exchange for a mortgage on a houselot on Spring Street. Tuck and the two Perkins were apparently acting on behalf of the trustees of Phillips Exeter Academy. A later marginal note stated that Amos Tuck fully discharged the mortgage as far as he “was able” on 4 December 1857. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 360, Page 461]

1855

1 January 1855: Exeter News-Letter publishes a 27 December 1854 letter from Henry Flagg French (from Washington) flatly denying that he is a Know-Nothing candidate for governor. French also asserted he was strongly opposed to Know-Nothing principles.

5 January 1855: Tuck “sold” a tract of land in Exeter to Irena Robinson, executrix of Jeremiah L. Robinson of Exeter, for \$1,500.00. The land and the buildings thereon contained 25 acres and was to the south of the new cemetery and was bounded on the east by Neck Road and on the south by Little River. This was the land Tuck had earlier bought from Joseph G. Batchelder. The transaction was on the condition that, if Tuck repaid the \$1,500.00 to Irena Robinson by 1 September 1857, plus interest, and if Tuck paid the balance of the note for \$3,000.00 he had given Robinson (that same day), by 1 September 1859, he would recover ownership of the property. A later marginal note states that the note was fully paid on 7 February 1857 and the mortgage was discharged. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 363, Page 49]

11 January 1855: Tuck paid \$2,500.00 to Nathaniel Gilman of Exeter for a tract of land containing about forty acres. The tract was bounded by the Little River, the railroad and Neck Road. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 363, Page 17]

21 January: BBF reports that Frank came home previous day for his six-weeks’ vacation. “He is in good health and has improved in appearance since he left home last August to commence his college course at Cambridge, as a Sophomore.” [FFP Reel 1]

6 February 1855: Tuck lent \$450.00 to Thomas Fieldhouse of Exeter in exchange for a mortgage on a tract of land with the buildings thereon. The loan enabled Fieldhouse to buy the land from Tuck. The tract was situated on the street leading from Orin Head's house to the Pipe Co. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 363, Page 68]

13 March 1855: The Democrats were utterly routed in the NH elections. Ralph Metcalf elected governor, Tappan, Cragin and Pike elected as U.S. representatives. [Corning, p. 77]

20 March 1855: Tuck did not attend PEA Trustees' meeting. [Minutes of the PEA Trustees (Use with permission)]

2 April 1855: Exeter News-Letter reports that in the session of the Court of Common Pleas held in the last week of March, "Stickney & Tuck" argued unsuccessfully for the plaintiff in the case of *Cyrus Fellows v. Sarah Fellows*.

4 April 1855: The Exeter News-Letter published a letter from Tuck (signed T.) with recommendations for the proposed reform of the New Hampshire judicial system. Tuck advised creating a new Court of Common Pleas with four additional judges who would share the burden of the Superior Court judges on a 4:1 basis. Tuck would also give parties in the Court of Common Pleas the choice of a jury trial or one before a judge only. Finally, Tuck also recommended abolishing the Boards of Road Commissioners, giving their duties to an elected Board of County Commissioners.

30 April 1855: Tuck published an article in the Exeter New Letter giving his views on the re-organization of the NH judiciary. He frequently went to Concord during the June legislative session to consult on this issue [and perhaps others?]. [Corning, p. 77]

April 1855: Exeter property tax records show Tuck was assessed for his own house (\$4900), Batchelder Farm (\$1200) and the Gilman Land (\$1500). [Exeter Town Clerk]

11 April 1855: BBF (Washington) to Henry. Mostly about Anne's health, still improved, and about her planned return to NH in May or June. "Tell Simon and the Doct. that Mass. has disgraced herself in her action relative to Catholic schools. Were I a K.N. to the back bone I could not forget that I was a gentleman, and not born to make war on innocent women and children!" [FFP Reel 5]

20 May 1855: Amos Tuck (Madison, Wisconsin) to Edward Tuck. "Take the map, with Ellen, and trace around the path I have taken, since I left home. There is a large map of the U.S. in the Library, done up in book form, that is, in the covers of a book, in the right hand Alcove, which has not been taken out for years. Take that one, and follow me around. In believing that you do this, I shall feel somewhat as though you were accompanying me. I am quite happy in my

journey, but still I journey, pretty much as I do business, - not from the pleasure I take in it, but from the advantage to be expected or hoped from it. I shall rejoice when I get back again to our quiet, happy home. Keep that home as happy and nice as you can, my son, while I am away. Continue your visits to the farm, and let nothing go wrong, without knowing it. If you say anything, to Barney or Tom, say it in that manner, which is proper, and which will not be needlessly offensive. Make that progress in your studies which you think ought to satisfy me and you. Don't let your attention be diverted, when you undertake to study, and put things along right."

"I want to see you and know that you are well an happy, and doing well."

"Your mother will read you most of my letter to her."

"Your affectionate Father Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 June 1855: HFF (New York City) to BBF. "...If you have gotten out of this office with a good grace, I shall not regret that you are out, but I fear that you are not decidedly enough anywhere to have much political capital left out of the operation. But, Major, office holding is a mean business at the best, and I do not see why you cannot do better in the Court of Claims than as Commissioner. I presume your course will be to advertise forthwith as ready for business."

"...I am afraid Russell will get removed, but hope not. I suppose Ned's Catholic wife will go security for his good behavior!...." [FFP Reel 11]

7 June 1855: BBF reports that a newspaper threatens to publish articles French had written earlier (apparently in support of the Know Nothings), so French sent his resignation to the President. After initial reluctance, Pierce accepted it. [FFP Reel 1]

10 June 1855: BBF (Washington) to HFF. Has had a busy week including his resignation. "...have attended the Ward election and voted A[n]ti K.N. ticket – have been cursed by many and blessed by many...." "...read Governor Metcalf's message his morning and wrote him a congratulatory letter...Gov. Metcalf's message is the best one I ever read, better than I expected even from him, from whom I did expect a good deal. If the Legislature carry out his ideas and recommendations you will be all right in N.H. and if he acts as well as he writes, he will be the best Governor N.H. has had in many a long year." BBF apologizes for not writing, but blames "the bursting out of the floodgates of K.N.ism and Democracy upon me...." [FFP Reel 5]

10 June 1855: HFF (Boston) to BBF. "...And how are you now, Major? since the noise of the battle as rolled past. I am sorry you resigned in a hurry, tho' I appreciate your motive. But, though it seems that all the world is looking at a man when his name is bandied about, yet but very few know or care about him, and still fewer ever get the right of the story. If I ever get Pierce locked up an hour with me, I shall tell him how treacherous he has been to me and my friends, and how ungrateful to you. Had you resigned because the office was unworthy of him to give or you to receive, I should have been satisfied. I want to hear that you are out of it, and at liberty to attend to business in the way of claims."

“...I saw Tuck yesterday passing homeward from the West, at the cars – also Goodale, Clerk of the House. These are times about Senators. I still think Hale and Clark will be elected, tho’ Bell is strong, and they may split all up. Ralph gives Agriculture quite a boost in his message.” [FFP Reel 11]

12 June 1855: (Independent Democrat) p. 2 – “B.B. French, formerly of this state, has been removed from the office of Commissioner of Public Buildings at Washington, for the crime of being a ‘Know Nothing.’ It is a great pity Frank Pierce hasn’t sense enough to remove himself for the same crime.”

13 June 1855: (Independent Democrat) p. 2 – Anti-Slavery Convention to be held in Concord 21-22 June. Expected attendees are William Lloyd Garrison, Stephen S. and Abby K. Foster, Wendell Phillips, and A.T. Foss. Article signed for the Executive Comm. of the American Anti-Slavery Society by Samuel May, Jr.

14 June 1855: New Hampshire legislature elects John P. Hale and James Bell to be U.S. Senators.

14 June 1855: (Independent Democrat) p. 2 – John P. Hale and James Bell elected Senators for terms of four and six years. Hale well known for his anti-slavery. As for Bell, “We make no doubt that on all leading questions, especially such as pertain to Liberty and Slavery, he will be found standing side by side with his personal friend and colleague, John P. Hale.”

21-22 June 1855: American Anti-Slavery Society holds convention in Concord.

22 June 1855: (Independent Democrat) p. 2 – Full transcript of speech by Senator Henry Wilson of Mass. at the Philadelphia Know Nothing convention.

p. 3 – “Gen. Wilson’s Speech – We need make no apology for giving up so much of our paper, to-day, to the bold eloquent and manly speech of Hon. Henry Wilson. It is a speech creditable alike to him and to the principles whose unflinching advocate he is. Every man in New Hampshire and in the Free States should read it, ponder it, and lay its spirit and its truths to heart.”

23 June 1855: (Independent Democrat) p.2 – State Temperance Convention to be held in Concord on 28-29 June. Governor Metcalf will preside, P.T. Barnum will speak as will Governor Morrill and Neal Dow of Maine. Submitted by E.W. Jackson, Secretary.

p. 2 – “Public Meeting! – Hon. James Bell and John P. Hale, U.S. Senators elect, will address the Members of the Legislature and citizens generally, at Depot Hall, next Wednesday evening, at 7 o’clock.”

p. 2 – “The American Anti-Slavery Society has been in session at Rumford Hall, in this city, for the last two days. Among the speakers present, were Wendell Phillips, Wm. L. Garrison, A. Foss, Stephen and Abby Foster, and others. Press of business has barely permitted

us to look in upon the Convention; but we understand it has been well attended, and cannot but hope its influence will be widely felt for good to the Anti-Slavery cause in New-Hampshire.”

26 June 1855: (Independent Democrat) p. 2 – Full proceedings of the State Anti-Slavery Convention.

26 June 1855: HFF (Chester, NH) to BBF. “Yours came last evening in which you say you can do nothing as agent, until July 1st – a perfectly absurd idea, worthy of Corbin – that a man who has resigned cannot engage in or look after anything but his office till the clock strikes twelve – the day he goes out.” (FFP Reel 11)

28 June 1855: (Independent Democrat) p. 2 – Article printing S.P. Chase’s 15 June letter to the Portage County, Ohio Republican County Committee concerning the latter’s invitation to speak at a mass meeting on the Fourth of July. “We ardently hope to see him made the standard bearer of Freedom through the coming contest in Ohio, and triumphantly elected chief magistrate of that noble state.”

29 June 1855: (Independent Democrat) p. 2 – Senators Hale and Bell addressed a meeting at Depot Hall opened by E.H. Rollins, chairman of the arrangements committee. Joel Eastman elected to be president of the meeting. Both men spoke on issue of slavery.

1 July: BBF reports he is no longer commissioner. Describes his position: “An American in heart and principle – so a much a Freesoiler as to be opposed to the addition of any more slave territory to this Union – but utterly opposed to the agitation of the question of slavery is it can be avoided, and, although abhorring slavery in the abstract, defending it to the utmost of my power so far as it is tolerated and justified by the Constitution. I am for letting every State in this Union enjoy its rights fully under the Constitution. I regarded the repeal of the Missouri Compromise by the last Congress as the greatest political blunder that ever was committed, although I defend the principle, and should have voted against it...” French recounts how in the winter of 1853-4 his brother Henry had been in Washington DC a great deal and had spoken out strongly against the 1854 compromise, and that Pierce had called French in to warn that Henry was injuring Benjamin politically. (FFP Reel 1)

10 July 1855: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees’ annual meeting. Trustees appoint Tuck and Gideon Soule to receive the papers and records of resigning Treasurer John Kelly and ensure they are given to the new Treasurer. [p. 358, PEA Trustees’ minutes to be used only with the permission of PEA librarian]

13 July 1855: (Independent Democrat) p. 2 – Text of S.P. Chase’s speech on 4 July at Portage County.

1 August: BBF reports that he and Henry went to Exeter the previous day. Went to a party at Mrs. Cobbs' house. They were eating their meals at her house, but sleeping at Henry's house. "While at dinner [on 1 August] we received an invitation from Hon. A. Tuck to take tea with him at 6 this evening. Accepted." [FFP Reel 1]

2 August: BBF reports, "Henry and I went to Mr. Tuck's and took tea last evening. We staid till nearly 11 o'clock and then came home and retired. We had a very pleasant time. Mr. Nelson and his wife and baby (She was Abby Tuck) were there, and Miss Ellen Tuck, Mr. T's daughter who is pretty, and they tell me, a sensible girl. I never saw her before, that I remember. Mr. Hoyt came in the evening, and we enjoyed our visit first rate." [FFP Reel 1]

5 August: BBF reports: French and Henry left Exeter the afternoon of 2 August and returned to Chester. "Now to sum up. I have passed the last week rather pleasantly. My visit to Exeter, although I was so much alone, gave me great satisfaction. I read over many of my old letters, some of them written 28 years ago! At Newport N.H. and they brought the days back to me as fresh as possible, when Bessy and I began life together—then I looked through Henry's house...saw my old friend Tuck and talked about the times, etc..." [FFP Reel 1]

13 August 1855: PEA trustees hold a special meeting and establish tighter financial procedures and clearer records tightened. Tuck appointed to the finance committee along with David W. Gorham and Samuel Hale. Trustees also appointed Tuck and Gorham to audit the Treasurer's account of the following year. [pp. 358-60, PEA Trustees' minutes to be use only with permission of PEA librarian]

29 August 1855: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. "I have just arrived here at 5 P.M. Wednesday. Anne and I had a pleasant journey – passed the night at Wm. Richardson's, and got home to Chester at 3 yesterday." [FFP Reel 11]

28 September 1855: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. "The occurrence of the fair, and the busy engagements which followed were the cause, my Dear E. that I have not written you within a few days. Your mother would have written you on Sunday, had she got your letter of Saturday the same evening, instead of Monday morning."

"Mr. Bell stayed with us two days, having come from Gilford to deliver the agricultural address. Mr. Robinson and wife of Chester were here to dine yesterday, and Mr. Fogg and Mr. French dined with us to-day. We are now empty. Ned was one of a company of Continentals who dressed in the garb of Washington's Army, and materially aided to get up a good show. They had a fife and drum and marched about like any old soldiers, having their place in the procession always duly respected. Their clothes were made by the quantity, and money raised to pay the bills. 'Mary' has been called away by the sickness of a brother, and will not be back till Monday, - perhaps not then. Your mother is in better health, and will stand it well till Monday. We are all well. Our melons are about disappearing, having been abundant for the last two weeks. Ditto of tomatos. Matters are quiet in the town, and no important news. We expect a

letter from you to-morrow. I will write you again on Sunday. Do not write to many of your acquaintances, as it will take up much time and cause you to do carelessly, what you undertake to do. Your last letter exhibited a falling off in respect to care in writing. Do not indulge it at all, with me, nor with others. Write a careful, distinct hand, and by not writing to many others, save time to write to us, not in haste. I am glad you thought so approvingly of my advice respecting your acquaintance with Miss B.”

“In haste your affectionate father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

2 October 1855: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “It is true I have spoken in my letters of the time of my going to Boston, yet I have often thought of my promise to you on leaving, and I am anxious to see you, and shall go to the city on the first excuse which business gives me, and if that does not occur, then I shall go solely to see my dear daughter. Your good letters all come duly to hand, and we are all delighted with them, especially myself. I will not fail again to commend you for the care you bestow upon them, and to testify to you of the favorable impression they must carry to all who read them. It really gave me uneasiness, to see what a careless manner you had, when you left home, in regard to writing. I felt that the same haste, want of precision and carelessness must pervade your mind generally, and I was most anxious for your recovery. I congratulate you on your convalescence, but must caution you against the belief that you are entirely cured, or can be, except by long continued effort and watchful care. Additional plainness and simplicity in your handwriting, should be sought after; but your present hand is quite beautiful.”

“I am glad you do not give way to the common antipathy which seems to be growing up against Miss B. Though she may be uncouth in the manner of expressing her opinions, and may have a vanity in regard to ‘my friend’ etc. yet the depth of her convictions, the definiteness of her opinions makes her earnest and forgetful of the noise she makes. Please, my dear Ellen, to make an effort to look through and beyond her faults and foibles, and judge impartially her real qualities. Cultivate this faculty, as well as you can, in regard to all. Strive to look at the heart and not qualities of the mind, of your acquaintances, and judge them more correctly than others. But entertain no antipathies. Permit no girls in the school to feel that you are not their kind, well wisher, and friend, so far as they are acquainted with you. Rebuke their faults, as a duty but do it, with a kind anxiety that they be right.”

“As to the revival, I want you to grow up a religious woman, and I should not regret to have you adopt the current beliefs of the Congregationalists. Yet I do not believe that many persons are so constituted that they can be converted in a minute. It is a slow process generally to rectify the human character. I do not believe that the fate of the wicked is clearly revealed in the Bible, nor indeed the fate of those who love God on earth. Yet it is sufficiently revealed to us, that the consequences of denying God’s law on earth, and refusing to submit ourselves to his guidance and to obedience to his law, will be bad, and inconsistent with happiness, and that it has not entered into the heart of man to conceive the happiness and glory that will result from humble charitableness, and imitation in our lives of Jesus Christ our Savior. I want you, my dear

Ellen, to have a heart full of love to every human being, and love to Jesus Christ, and [word illegible] for him. Think over, and read over, often, the conduct of Jesus. Pray often for God's aid, [word illegible], guidance and protection. Do this, and you will be in the Christian path, without the aid of a revival. Read over what I have written, and see if it does not accord with your belief, and if it does, apply yourself to a religious life, and let their private meetings be attended by others. Treat charitably, never in fun, the religion of others, but explain your own theory of religion, and adhere to it, till you are convinced of error."

"I have written you long on the last topic, (it is important), and it may seem dull."

"Ned is busy with his studies, is happy and in good health. I intend going to Boston soon – within a week or 8 days – can't tell exactly. We are getting along very well and happily."

"I am your loving father, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 October: BBF (Washington) to HFF. Wonders if Frank will publish his review of Tennyson's "Maud" in the Harvard Magazine [suggesting Frank was the editor of the magazine]. [FFP Reel 5]

13 October 1855: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. "...The News Letter folks have paid off Charley Bell, and got a new editor - I will tell you about it some day. Dr. Leonard is to be editor, and Hoyt (Privately) to assist, and one or two others to contribute, and in future the paper is not to be controlled by Marston's clique, and snub all the decent men in town!...." [FFP Reel 11]

23 November 1855: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. "We shall not write you again, before your return. I enclose you \$5 to come home with, it being possible that you may need some more."

"Snow has come, and my Ellen is not likely to see the bare ground of Exeter again at present. Well, it matters not much, for the frost has killed every green thing, and barrenness rules the earth, from this time till April or May next. God grant we may all survive the winter, in peace, happiness and improvement, and live to welcome the spring with joy and gratitude."

"I returned from Portsmo. Wednesday and hope not to be compelled to go to Court again till after Thanksgiving. I tried a long case there, and obtained a verdict for my client, which was clearly just, and much to my gratification."

"I am gratified with your letters, which indicate improvement in self-knowledge, and in resolute determination to improve all your faculties. The first step in improvement is a conviction of our deficiencies. Every suggestion which acquaintance with others gives us of our faults or our wants, is more or less uncomfortable, but is good in the end, as it leads us onward and upwards. You are young, and if you now get your eyes open to your wants, and form a worthy standard of character, which you desire to reach, you can do much in the next 3 or 4 years, to put yourself where you wish to be. In this connection, I must express my pleasure, in witnessing your desire for mental and moral elevation, when I see how utterly blind and objectless most young women are. For instance, Ellen Gorham [name scratched out] – how trivial she is. One may for an evening, be pleased with her trifling conversation. But when you

invite her to lay aside common chit chat, and talk seriously, she is utter barrenness, or repulsive error. Last night she was at our house till ten o'clock, and during the evening spoke of 4 persons whom she most of all admired. One is a vulgar man, whose conversation real gentlemen blush to listen to, (he lives out of town); another, is almost a drunkard, a third is a fractious, impracticable man, whose traits consist principally of antipathies, and the other is a notorious debauchee living also out of town. Not one of them has any known religious principles, nor even naturally takes sides with morality or religion. Nothing, scarcely, could pain me more, than to have a daughter of mine so morally out of joint, and exhibiting a heart with such downward tendencies. I am happy to say, and to know, that my Ellen has never shown any such signs, and I have no apprehensions that she will. You have a desire, and I counsel you to cultivate it, to help upward those with whom you associate intimately. Never let the closest friendship prevent your reproving, or remonstrating, at least, against any error in principle, or practice, of a friend. It sometimes must be done, with great consideration and tenderness, but it ought always to be done. Enough ought, at least, to be said or done, to show what you think and feel. I remember some instances, when ladies have expressed a gentle disrelish of positions taken, or remarks, made by me, which have done me good, and given me a sort of reverential love to them, for their goodness of heart, which they were probably never aware of. Never let a remark be made in your presence, which indicates a want of good principles, or a want of religious veneration for holy things, without showing by your actions or words, that you condemn it. Often a mere word or two, as 'Don't say so, I pray you,' or 'I disagree with you' or 'Can that be right' or 'Is that just right,' or a sad look alone, without a spoken word, will be all that you are called on to manifest. Sometimes a woman should put on all her dignity, and deal the heaviest blow of condemnation that she can. But enough. The female character that I like is: a happy, laughing, enjoyment of all innocent pleasures; a loving attachment to friends; a love for everybody; a cheerful companionable disposition, and behind, and supporting all her other traits, a deep seriousness of purpose, religious convictions, and resolute determination to be true to God, doing, doing every duty conscientiously."

"There, my dear Ellen, I have written a preaching letter, but not because I am dull, for I am on the contrary very happy."

"I shall expect you Tuesday night and previously a letter, telling us when you shall come. This letter must not be shown to the girls. We think you took the right course about the sour bread, and that M.S. took an odd course. Adieu my dear Ellen, Amos Tuck."

[P.S.]"You need not acknowledge rcpt. of this money." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

27 November 1855: Tuck attended PEA Trustees' meeting. [PEA Trustees minutes (Use with permission)]

2 December 1855: HFF (Chester) to BBF. "...Tuck has 'gin out' as to his [furnace?], and put on an air tight wood stove in his parlor, and as there is machinery he has worked it thus – put the [funnel?] down thru' the floor, behind the stove, under the floor it meets a chimney which goes down to the bottom of the cellar, and then runs on the bottom of the cellar 17 feet to the furnace

chimney. Thus [Henry draws a picture of the pipe running down from the stove to the cellar floor across the cellar and then straight up.] He has just got it up, and it don't work much better than your well did: the first time digging!! If the wind is right and there is a small fire in the furnace, it don't smoke! He has only a 5 inch pipe to his stove. I tell him to make it seven or nine and it will draw...."

"Ellen Tuck is coming over this evening. She was here and Frank at Concord at Thanksgiving." [FFP Reel 11]

9 December 1855: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck (Auburndale, Mass.). "Mr. Hoyt having been here, for the last 4 hours, I have not time, before going to bed, to write you a long letter. Your mother would have written had we passed the evening without company. We had a pleasant visit at Biddeford, going on Tuesday, and returning Wednesday evening. They were all very glad to see us, and the visit was the very best we have ever made to our relations. Caroline impressed us very favorably, and she will probably spend a week or two with us soon. Ned and Geo. Batchelder had a delightful time with their skates, and with the horse and waggon, till Saturday morning, when George put for the Beach. He came on the evening of the day you left. Nothing new seems to have happened during the week. Your letters have arrived seasonably, and done something towards modifying our sense of loss, resulting from your bodily absence. You make a great gap in the household, and we should not consent to it, except for your ultimate good."

"I am much pleased with your anxiety for improvement. Keep your mind active in the effort, and you cannot fail to progress."

"Are you sure that your body will not be neglected in exercise, if you carry forward your plan for readings with Miss Barnes? Do not omit an observance of any of the known rules of health on any account. If you are confident that your mind and body will allow it, devote the proposed hours to reading, as contemplated. Otherwise not."

"You ask what you shall read. I am not prepared to advise any one book before all others. I will mention some that would be good, and then you can choose from them, or others, as you think most agreeable. Macaully's miscellany, Ditto History of England. Irving's life of Washington. Dickens' child's History of England (written for grown people). Bancroft's History of the U. States. De Quincey's Essays – some of them, not others. Shakespeare."

"All the above are as interesting as any respectable novel ought to be, but I would confine you to select from them. With the suggestion, do as you please."

"I want to repeat a remark I have often made. Let your plan be, rather to become familiar with a very few books, than undertake to read many. One distinguished man said, that he should not have known more than other people, had he read as many books as other people. Mr. Webster had but few classical books, that he read, and those he kept reading and studying all his life time. Shakespeare and Milton and Scott, were his English poets, and he had no large number of authors in history or literature. He glanced at more, but was familiar with but very few. The

truth is, no one is competent to read any considerable portion of what is published, and if undertaken, it injures days and disheartens.”

“About your memory. You have no occasion for discouragement. Do not undertake to remember the subordinate facts in your chemistry, or other studies. It is not possible for any one to do – it is not desirable. Understand at the time, but do not expect to load your mind with a pile of matter that no one can remember long. I am confident you are trying to remember too much. It will only perplex and weary and discourage you, and will besides incapacitate you for getting the good you might otherwise get. Let your mind have free play, and go to bed each night with no perplexity upon you. You will then take in, instruction and assimilate to yourself the mental food you strive to live on.”

“Your mother will write by the middle of the week. She and Ned send love and I am Your affectionate Father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

9 December: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “The foolish House is going on voting for a Speaker and making no choice. Banks came within 11 votes of an election yesterday, but not a Southern member will lift a finger to the North or West! On the first day of the session all the Freesoilers I talked with, except Giddings, came out openly for Cullom [as] Clerk, and gave as their reason that they must elect him Clerk to secure their Speaker! I gave up all hope of course, and went to my friend Giddings and said ‘everybody seems to be for Cullom, and it seems to me as if there were not a ghost of a chance for me.’ He replied – ‘Mr. French, you keep still – Cullom cannot be clerk in my opinion – he thinks he is sure, so much the better for you, your chance is much the best, hold on and let me manage your matter.’ I followed the old hero’s advice, and kept still, and now my chance is ten times better than Cullom’s, or I am greatly mistaken,....

“Senator [James] Bell [Tuck’s first law mentor partner] has really placed himself under my advisement – and I went all around with him yesterday trying to find him a house to rent...” [FFP Reel 5]

20 December 1855: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “When I wrote about your selecting a few books, and making them manuals, having them close to you for life, I did not intend to recommend your limiting your reading entirely to them. The best farmers are not those who cultivate the most land, nor are the best minds, those whose possessors devour the largest number of books. The press has become so prolific, that the power to select, is one of the best qualifications of superior ability. Therefore, it is best to receive into terms of the closest friendship, a few classic authors of English literature only, and indulge in others according to opportunity and inclination, but always holding them secondary, to the former, with whose excellencies, it should, be your purpose to become familiar. But, my dear daughter, I know too well the circumstances of a school girl, to think you can ever read a few authors to much purpose, in connection with your daily studies. I only write on this subject, that you may be forming a right opinion, and may feel relieved, hereafter, from any supposed necessity to read extensively in order to be intelligent or accomplished. With your studies, I cannot see how you

can find any time, to devote to reading; still, with an observance of all the rules of health you are acquainted with, I leave you to indulge with Miss Barnes, to the extent you deem proper and safe.”

“You gave us a good account of Thackeray and his lecture, and your letter was very gratifying. I am glad you went to hear him.”

“Last night we expected to have a Lyceum Lecture from Theodore Parker, and we all went, as usual, including Caroline. After sitting long enough to make a genteel call, Mr. Hoyt announced that we should have no lecture – Mr. Parker was unaccountably failing to arrive. The audience departed receiving back their tickets and money at the door. The disappointment is thought to have been caused by some confusion that had come over the mind of the Secretary, George S. Sullivan, and that in fact Mr. Parker is booked for some other evening, no one knows when.”

“Caroline is still here, and is busying herself working a pair of slippers for her father, after the pattern of a pair for me, now being made by your mother. She is a good girl, but knows nothing of the art of moving in society, - has been taught nothing of the way to discharge the obligation, which every person, going into society, assumes upon himself – that of contributing the full share of one person, to the conversation, entertainment and amusement of the company. I have been plain to her giving her what hints and suggestions I thought appropriate, and have no doubt she will improve.”

“Ned is well. He is very busy, considering that he has Greek, Latin, Arithmetic and skating to attend to; and he does not indulge in letter writing at all. He often speaks of Ellen, however, and would be in the greatest affliction, if anything untoward should happen to you.”

“Things are going on very pleasantly here, and we are all happy. May angels guide, guard and protect you, my dear daughter.”

“Your ever affectionate Father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

28 December 1855: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “As you may expect a letter by Saturday night, I will write you a few lines.”

“Your letter to your mother came last night, and gave us pleasure as usual. I think you did right to accept the book, and exactly right to decline peremptorily, to take the turn to Boston. A young lady must be the guardian both of her heart, and of her reputation, and both of them must be preserved intact, till school days are over, and the latter forever. Do not [word illegible – allow?] Frank go so with his generous presents, as to consider you his property. I do not want people to say you are courted by anybody at present.”

“Joseph Wells, bro. of John S. is dead. He was here 3 weeks ago, and called on your mother. He went to N. York, was taken with pleurisy, and died a day or two ago at the Astor House. He had never been married – lived in Chicago and had been Lieut. Gov. of Ills.”

“Your mother is not well to-day – having eaten an apple last evening, which did mischief. She will be up to-morrow. It was rather risky to go to Boston, Christmas eve.”

“Mail is about to close, and I will close.”

“Yr. aff. – Amos Tuck.”

“P.S. I don’t think you better crowd your letters so. It gives them a bad appearance, and as you want to get every grace, I counsel this improvement.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1856:

5 January 1856: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck (Lasell Seminary, Auburndale, Mass.). “I will write this morning, mostly to say that your last letter to your mother, received last evening, was worthy of you, and excellent in manner and in substance. Your hand writing is neat and good, and legible. You need have no discouragement, as you will be certain to be an uncommonly good letter writer, if you persevere. So take heart, my dear daughter, and taking hints from all my plain criticisms, go on to perfection.”

“Your good sense served you the best purpose, in leading you to decline firmly, the invitation to go to Boston. He will grow into the good judgment to see, that your refusal save you from an impropriety. You also decided wisely, in determining not again to go to Boston this term, with any of the girls. Pursue this practice, until it becomes a habit, that when your judgment suggests a course as wise, to adhere to it mildly, but firmly, even against the urgency of your friends to vary from it. Let nothing but better arguments, ever induce you to give up an opinion already formed.”

“You ask, what we shall do with you in vacation. Why, my Ellen, we shall time our return so as to be with you at our own house. I prize your company in vacation more than anything to go away; and if we encroach at all, it will be but a few days upon your time at home. We will determine when we see you, what shall be done in case of our being detained at all. Had you not better come to Boston, to see us, instead of our going to Auburndale?”

“Mrs. French is not quite so well, as she has been.”

“It is awfully cold here, but we are well, comfortable and happy.”

“Your affectionate Father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

6 January 1856: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. Henry reports on investments perhaps made through Tuck. “...I have sold all my Illinois Central R.R. bonds at 82 – cost me about 15 - \$2000 nominally – so I made on them \$340 – besides 10% interest. I am sorry now you did not take my advice and sell your Telegraph stock, in which I have no great faith as a permanency. I hence sold all the stocks I had, and borrowed \$700 and sent \$3000 to Wisconsin on a loan at 10 per cent for 5 years, int. semi-annually. I shall pay the \$700 in 60 days, and my name is on no other note in the world, and I have some notes due me....”

“Tuck and his wife intend to visit Washington about two weeks from tomorrow for a few days merely to see their friends....” [FFP Reel 11]

18 January 1856: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “My Ill. Central bonds sold at 82 ½ - and I can buy them at 81 now. The stock may go up, but the bonds cannot go above par.” [FFP Reel 11]

31 January 1856: Tuck is one of the speakers at the dedication of the new Exeter Town House. [Hannah Brown Diary, p. 15]

3 February 1856: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. "...Anne is just now pretty comfortable, but is failing....When she comes down, I carry her up stairs in my arms. Mrs. Barker went home Friday and Fanny came. Ellen Tuck was here last eve, bright and blooming." [FFP Reel 11]

17 February 1856: BBF notes: "Mr. and Mrs. Tuck took tea and spent last evening with us, and we enjoyed their company very much." [FFP Reel 1]

18 February 1856: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Edward Tuck. "We hope to get home Saturday next. If we conclude to stay longer, I shall write you again. Go to the Post Office next Saturday, after the mails come in, and if you do not get another letter from me then, go and see Barney, and tell him to have the House warm for us, by Saturday evening. Be careful to tell him to open the Registers."

"We are well and are enjoying ourselves. I hope you are well and happy it is very cold here, and but little snow. The dust is blowing all about. I hope you will not freeze in Exeter. With our regards to Mrs. Cobbs, and love to you, I am your affectionate Father Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and Family, FFP, LC]

22 February 1856: National Republican Convention held in Pittsburgh. Francis P. Blair presided with 18 vice-presidents. The convention received a telegram from the concurrent convention of the Know-Nothings in Philadelphia which reportedly declared, "The American Party is no longer united. Raise the Republican banner! Let there be no further extension of slavery!." The convention decided to call a Republican Convention to nominate presidential and vice-presidential candidates in Philadelphia on 17 June. [Exeter News-Letter, 3 March 1856]

24 February 1856: BBF (Washington) to Henry. "We had a glorious little visit from Mr. and Mrs. Tuck last week, and enjoyed it very much. Tuck is a right down good fellow – 'long may he wave.'"

"Mr. Conway has given our people two doses [of] abolition, and the Society is in a perfect perm[?] I think they will try to dismiss him. If they succeed the Church is 'a goner.' I will send you copies of his sermons. One was published in the Era, the other in pamphlet form."

That morning the family went to church. "Conway gave us a first rate sermon – text 'I am not alone for my Father is with me.' Hale was there and sat two pews behind me – as soon as the sermon was over, he leaned over and said to me in his usual sotto voce – loud enough for all to hear – 'No one but an abolitionist could preach such a sermon.'" [FFP Reel 5]

2 March 1856: BBF notes: “New Hampshire election takes place a week from next Tuesday. Pierce and his understaffers here have sent thousands of dollars to that State to buy up the voters and carry the state for his cause – my belief is that they will not succeed – I hope not certainly.” [FFP Reel 1]

13 March 1856: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “Town meeting is over, and so are the drifts, which have encumbered the Railroads for some days past, so that the mails have not arrived. Mr. [John Sullivan] Wells is defeated. I expected he would be beaten, and also more soundly than he has been. Nevertheless I am pretty well satisfied, as we have got the victory, and Mr. Metcalf is again to be Governor; and, having the unpopularity of the Maine liquor law, which our party enacted last June, to carry, and power of the Administration at Washington to resist, it is no wonder we had no greater majority. Mr. Wells looks pretty blue, and if he has much good sense, (which I doubt), he will never let his name be again before the public for office. He always get whipped. At the Lyceum last evening, Katy Wells and George were out, looking as usual. George made a favorable impression here, and in fact seems to be quite an agreeable young man. I believe the women think he may be a successful suitor from the hand of your quondam friend.”

“They organized for a Lyceum next year, at the meeting last evening – chose Mr. Hoyt, Mr. Stickney and three managers, and thing will be put in better shape for next year – that is, the present Secretary will be left out – (private). The term at the Academy will close next Tuesday. I have no doubt Ned is striking for the first place in his class, and have no doubt he will hit quite near it. I do not let him know that I suspect what his drift is, but I see that he don’t let any lesson escape his notice, and that he is diligent in his application, and I have little doubt of his object. He knows, however, that I do not wish him to stand first, unless it comes of a fair amount of application, and without straining at all. I will write you soon after Tuesday and let you know where he stands.”

“It melts (the snow) to-day, and the water runs in the streets. I think now we must have an entire change in the atmosphere, the days are so long. Mrs. French continues better. Your mother is now in good health and spirits. Nothing more now. Your affectionate Father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

16 March 1856: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. Reporting on state election results. “Wednesday night after election, Wells’ friends called him up, and proposed to fire the big gun, having got word he was elected. He advised them to wait till next day, and they did, and then news came the other way. Our friends, Tuck and Hoyt, gave it up Wednesday evening as lost, but I did not, and told them Wells would not gain in the small towns as in the large ones from which we had heard – so I slept well and woke to success the next day.” [FFP reel 11]

18 March 1856: Tuck attended PEA Trustees’ meeting. [PEA Trustees’ minutes]

26 March 1856: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. "Your interesting letter came duly to hand finding us all in good health though your mother had been again afflicted with a severe cold. The vacation is passing away, and Ned and the other boys are enjoying themselves very much. The snow is so far gone that sleighs and carriages are about equally numerous. The water runs in the streets all the way from our house to the office, but it is not so abundant as to give us much trouble. The drifts are still pretty deep. Whenever the French family turn out, I see that they ride. I was at a Gilman family 'tea' at Chas. Conners on Monday night. Saw and talked with Mrs. Gordon, Ellen G. etc. etc. who all enquired after you affectionately. Ellen was unusually bright and pretty. Mary was there too, Ellen Gilman of Portland, her mother, Mrs. Long, Eliz. Gilman, Miss Noble etc. etc. They had a pleasant party, and I returned about 11 o'clock. Your mother was not well. I have to-day been to Hampton with Mr. Marston, on law business. I took Ned with me, and tarried a half hour at Mr. Nudd's. The old gentleman looks better than he did last fall, but the old lady, no more robust. She had a cough during most of the winter and looks pale. The traveling is bad, and I shall venture again till there is a change for the better. Charles Rogers is here, and appears quite manly. He is 21 yrs. old, and I have settled with him as his guardian. He is much altered and I like him quite well. Mrs. French still continues to mend in health, and give continued promise of ultimate recovery. Isn't it wonderful. You spoke of Hawes. I regard him with scarcely any confidence, and expect nothing more of him, than that he will sink into hopeless vice, as so many city products and others fitted by nature for better ends, have done before him. His invitation to you to go to Boston under his patronage, to engage rooms for you and friends etc. was highly improper, and your refusal could not have been too emphatic. I am sorry you went to Boston to hear him, and I shall be sorry if you allow him to perform any further acts of acquaintance ever. If he comes to call on you, make some truthful excuse not to see him. It is presumptuous for a roué, though professing reform, to seek an acquaintance with you, till he has by long years of penitence and virtuous behavior, established a new character. He is not esteemed here, and it will prejudice you to allow him to call on you. He may bring over the \$50 I gave him, (or lent him), but I think I was 'done' out of it, by my being too credulous in regard to Mr. Hoyt's account of him, and hoping from him too much on an imperfect acquaintance. I think he will come to nothing. Your mother has lost all confidence in him since he went from school, and ceased to give any account of himself."

"Did you receive a letter from your mother? You did not say you had, tho' she wrote you a long one. She is now well, and in good spirits."

"Lizzie's poetry on Ellen W.'s death was very good indeed, doing her great credit. I sympathize in your musical efforts, and doubt not you try hard. When you have so long practiced, as to play before any person's, without perturbation, you will have gained a strong point. Tell us in your next, whether you are intending to learn to play church music, or intend to. Also, tell me what studies you have, what hours you recite, how long are you in the reciting, how many in the classes, whether you converse in French at the table, whether you write French etc."

"Your loving father, Amos Tuck"

"P.S. I shall be as glad as you to see you at the close of the 4 ½ weeks next ensuing."

[marginal comment] “Do write more like this, - heavy, plain and legible.”
[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 March 1856: The National Committee of the Republican Party issued from Washington DC a call for a national party convention to convene in Philadelphia on 17 June. George G. Fogg was the New Hampshire representative, and John Z. Goodrich represented Massachusetts. [Exeter News-Letter, 21 April 1856]

15 April 1856: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “Mt business in Court has utterly prevented my writing you, as usual, on Monday. I might add that the care of directing and aiding Barney in measuring potatos, preparing the ground at the farm. Overseeing Mr. Sawyer, who is oiling the blinds, etc. added to the law, has prevented my writing. Your Mother did not reach the cars in season, and so had to stay till the next day, and then came home very tired. She was confined to the house two days, but was out last night to hear Theodore Parker, and is bright to-day. We [had] some six or [seven] gentlemen at our house last eve. to pass an hour with Mr. P. who stayed with us and left this morning early. We sat up till 12 o’clock, and were much entertained by Mr. Parker. I am now at the office, and Mr. Stickney is waiting to consult me about business. Your letter came this morning, to your mother. I like your dresses very much, and think you are very modest and correct in your taste. Miss Conner shall be spoken to, and engaged over again not to disappoint you. Ned is in good case, and again ahead in his studies. He will be able to gather flowers for you, and also to ride with you, when you rejoice us by your return home.”

“I am most affectionately, your Father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 April 1856: New Hampshire Republican Party state convention held in Concord, called into session by State Committee Chairman E.H. Rollins. Joel Eastman of Conway elected president. Joseph Blake was the Rockingham County vice-president. The convention elected four at-large delegates to the national convention in Philadelphia. The total number of voting delegates was 515, and the four delegates elected were Edward H. Rollins of Concord (514), Aaron Cragin of Lebanon (499), William Haile of Hinsdale (385) and Amos Tuck of Exeter (381). It seems likely that Tuck was present, but the article makes no specific reference to his presence. [Exeter News-Letter, 20 April 1856]

12 May 1856: Amos Tuck (Biddeford) to Ellen Tuck. “I have been here since Saturday, but propose to leave at 10 ½ o’clock for home. Caroline is hopelessly sick, and can live only a few days. She took cold a few weeks ago, and her lungs became so severely attacked, that the result is a disease of one lung, and a complete prostration of strength. They talk with her but little, and have not thought fit to let her know of my being here. I have seen her when she was asleep, however, and she looks very pale and weak. Her father is in the deepest depth of affliction, she having been his pet and pride [sp.?]. I can do no good, except by sympathy, and have concluded not to delay my journey west. I shall accordingly, leave Exeter, to-morrow by the middle train,

if nothing has occurred at home, to prevent, and Mr. Hoyt with me. I cannot see you, probably, but I want you [remainder of letter unavailable].” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

13 May 1856: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “Tuck and Hoyt start today for Chicago, and I would borrow \$5,000 at 6 per cent and let Tuck loan it for me there, if I could. I presume there are \$200,000 from Exeter invested in the neighborhood of Chicago!”

“I made an effort and sent \$3,000 to Madison, Wis., last January, which is invested at 10 per cent for 5 years, and my last note to the bank for what I borrowed is due the 26th of this month, and will be then paid. I gave notes on 60 days for what I borrowed, and renewed them when due. Hence you see that there is no loose change round here.” [FFP Reel 11]

14 May 1856: James Bell (in Gilford) sends Tuck a receipt for \$70.48 the latter had collected to settle J.M. Hibbard’s account. Bell informs Tuck of his weakening health and of growing support for Fremont among “colleagues” in Washington [TFP Box 9 Folder 6]

20 May 1856: Amos Tuck (Racine, Wisconsin) to Ellen Tuck (Auburndale, Mass.). Mr. Hoyt and I are on our way to Manitowoc, where his brother’s widow lives, and where he has persuaded me to accompany him. We stay over one train at this place, to enable me to do some business for Mr. Robinson’s heirs. The western prairies begin to look green and beautiful, and the weather to be warm and comfortable. I see much to admire in every place, and great enterprise and activity. Still I like N. England best, and at my age have no hesitation in giving a preference for dull old Exeter, over any place I have seen.”

“Mr. Gill and Perry Moulton, arrived at Chicago yesterday, and left to-day for Dubuque, Iowa. Mr. Wells [sp.?] was also at Chicago, this morning when we left, and was in poor health. He went to see George, but took cold, stayed with him but one day, when he returned to Chicago, sick with rheumatism.”

“My money matters at Chicago, seem to be in a comfortably prosperous condition, and I doubt if I make any change of my property by coming home. There is nothing talked of, but money making in this part of the world, and I am quite sick of hearing the word ‘dollar,’ and money, eternally on every tongue.”

“With great love, your father Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “As I go North, I cannot write again soon.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

25 May 1856: Amos Tuck (Davenport, Iowa) to Ellen Tuck. “Here we are, Mr. Hoyt and myself, on the Banks of the Mississippi passing a Sunday, in walking over the prairies, musing upon passing events, calling up the past and thinking of eastern friends, and writing to them. Of course my Ellen comes in for her share, and I will write to you that you may know I am in safety, and think of you wherever I go. In writing to William, as I do on business, of course I report myself to Abby. This is a beautiful city, - nearly equal, if not quite, to Madison in Wisconsin. A high bluff surrounds the town, on which locations of beautiful houses would afford most

exquisite homes. We have been to Wisconsin, and taken a broad circuit, so we have seen any amount of prairie land. It is beautiful beyond description. Flowers are seen in every direction, and the power of production is beyond the power of calculation. I have written several letters, employing the last 3 hours in getting up my business correspondence and in writing to your mother, to Jonathan, etc. and must make a short letter to you.”

“It seems Caroline lingers along, and makes it possible she may get up. I cannot, however, entertain more than a gleam of hope, the prostration was so complete when I saw her. How it made me constantly think, to see her lying on a supposed bed of death, of the desolation that would happen to us all, if you were in her place. My God protect and bless you, my dear daughter, and may we meet again in the full enjoyment of those many mercies that he has so long been giving us abundantly. I am perfectly well.”

“Your loving Father Amos Tuck.”

[marginal comment] “Shall return in 10 days” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

25 May: BBF notes: Special meeting of directors of Telegraph Co. in Philadelphia previous Monday. “Politically we are getting upon troublous times – not only troublous, but fearful. I cannot but feel that the Union is now really in danger. The Kansas difficulty is ominous of wide spread difficulty. The attack of Preston C. Brooks of So. Carolina, a member of the House, upon Charles Sumner, Senator from Massachusetts, while seated in his seat in the Senate Chamber, on Thursday last, for words spoken in debate, although, in itself, a personal matter, must and will create a feeling throughout the Union that cannot easily be calmed. No one can tell what the end is to be, but it must necessarily be bitter.” Open war between Pierce and Buchanan forces. [FFP Reel 1]

29 May 1856: BBF (Washington) to Henry. “The Republican Association elected me a delegate, last evening, to the National Convention at Philadelphia, and I shall be there. Why cannot you meet me there and come home with me.”

“We are having, as you remark, ‘pleasant little occurrences’ here and my belief is they are not done with yet. Gen. Wilson carries a revolver in his pocket and he is just the man to use it too, should occasion require, and the rumor is that Brooks is seeking him. He is now out of the City, making speeches. J. Watson Webb has published a long letter in the Courier and Enquirer, which I read last evening, and which will stir up the Chivalry! and I should not wonder if a fight should grow out of it. Webb is a man who fights, and if attacked, will resist vigorously. I think, taking every thing into consideration our ‘Brigadier,’ as Forrest calls the President, is in rather bad odor, and he will stink worse yet before the 4th. of next March. The Kansas outrages are all imputable to him, and if he is not called to answer for them here – ‘In hell they’ll roast him like a herring.’ If the Republicans nominate John McLean he will be elected President like a flash – if they nominate a little chap like Fremont, for instance, Filmore will be President – mark that...” [FFP Reel 5]

1 June 1856: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. "I have just had a talk with Hoyt who has just returned from the West. He seems to think Fremont is the available man, and that he is reliable on the slavery question. He would prefer Leonard or Chase or Turner." [FFP Reel 11]

7 June 1856: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen Tuck. "I telegraphed to Boston, from Peekskill, yesterday, with directions to mail the letter to Auburndale for you, asking you to meet me here, (at American House), this fore-noon. As you have not come up to this hour, I presume you did not receive the dispatch, and of course will not come. I was anxious to see you upon returning, particularly because Abby informed me you had been sick some weeks ago. I was anxious to see you and know that you are well again. My Dearest Ellen, I must not have you away from home, if you are not entirely well – and you must, at home or away, more carefully guard and cultivate your health than your mind. If the body be not preserved, what can the mind do?"

"I have been in good health during all my absence. I have sold much of my railroad stock, and invested the money in loans and mortgage security for the payment on real estate. I think I have done what will be profitable to me. I went to Madison, Wis. Davenport and many other places, have travelled miles enough to cross the Atlantic, have escaped all accident, improved in vigorous health, and am returning with some gratitude for the mercy I have experienced, and with renewed love to you and all my household. Abby is in fair health, and will come home, when most convenient to us during your vacation. I expect you to write to me at Exeter, at once, and to tell me explicitly whether you have recovered and are now in good health etc. etc."

"With great love, your aff. father Amos Tuck."

[marginal note] "I suppose the politicians had charge of the telegraph yesterday, and that that was the cause of your not receiving the dispatch. A.T." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

7 June: BBF notes: Buchanan nominated the previous day."...now we know whom we have to beat, and it behooves us to unite and beat him, as we can." Democrats had defeated Pierce because they knew that the man who had destroyed the Missouri Compromise and thrown Kansas open to slavery could not be re-elected. Buchanan was clean because he had been out of the country at the time. [FFP Reel 1]

9 June 1856: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. "I arrived safely home, and found all things in good condition, and the town very much changed for the better since I left. All nature is dressed out in the best attire, and no town in all my travels looks so nice as Exeter."

"I regretted very much not seeing you, and have no doubt you did also. I went to the telegraph station, as I left Boston and ascertained that the dispatch I sent you, was not mailed at Boston, in time, on Friday to go to Auburndale that evening. Hence I see the reason you could not meet me at the American House, as I requested. However, it will be but a short time before you will come home when I shall have ample opportunity to see you. I go to Concord on business to-day and may not return till Wednesday. Your mother accompanies me. Abby was well and she and hers will come here in July. Ned is in good health and spirits, and looks

forward with much glee to his and your vacation. Mrs. French is about some, and Caroline still lives, though very weak and in an almost hopeless state.”

“I have got up this morning to write sundry letters before going to Concord, and my dear Ellen must excuse the racy nature of my hand-writing.”

“Your ever loving father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

14 June 1856: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “I leave by this train, to go to Philadelphia, to the Convention. It is possible that I may be able to see you on my return, but it is not so probable that you better rely upon it. I sympathize with my darling daughter in her disappointment in not meeting her. But it was probably for the best. It will be but a few weeks before you will be at home for some time. I shall return, I hope, next Thursday or Friday.”

“Exeter looks beautiful. We had a shower last evening, which prevented our going to Mr. Lowe’s to a party. Mrs. French is no better but rides out somewhat. I have some good melon prospects – also tomatos. Our roses are coming out beautifully, and also other flowers. Ned is wide awake and in good health. I enclose to you letter stamps. I did not decide to go to Phil. till this morning, and as usual am driven, as to time.”

“Yrs. affectionately, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

15 June: BBF is going to the Republican convention in Philadelphia the following day. [FFP Reel 1]

17-19 June 1856: In June, Tuck was chosen as a delegate to the Republican state convention to choose delegates to the Republican national convention in Philadelphia on 17 June. George Nesmith was the president, and Tuck read the resolutions which he had helped author (according to Corning). The new party was committed against slave labor and slave institutions in free territories. Convention closed by endorsing Fremont. Tuck, William M. Weed, Daniel Clark and Levi Chamberlain were delegates-at-large; George G. Fogg, Austin F. Pike, Isaac W. Smith, John M. Parker and Levi W. Barton were [congressional?] district delegates.

Tuck was one of national convention vice-presidents [it appears each state had one]. He reportedly was a member of the committee that reported the platform of principles to the convention, according to an unidentified newspaper obituary.

Joseph Dow states that Tuck was a member of the platform committee, and that he helped to draw up the principles of the new party. [Dow]

The Exeter News-Letter reported (23 June 1856): “The National Republican Convention met at Philadelphia June 17, and was organized by the choice of Col. Henry S. Lane, of Indiana, for President, and 25 Vice-Presidents – from N.H., Hon. Amos Tuck. There was no ballot for a candidate on the first day but on the 18th John C. Fremont, received at the first informal ballot 359 votes, John McLean 196, Sumner 2, Seward 1. A formal ballot was afterwards taken and resulted in the entire vote being cast for Fremont, except 23 from Penn., and 14 from Ohio, for McLean, and from N.Y. for Seward, ...[William L. Dayton nominated as vice-president].”

22 June: French has little to say about the convention other than that he met many old friends and: “Our Convention was very harmonious, and I hope our candidate will be elected, but now I doubt. I have not yet seen enthusiasm enough to make up my mind.” [FFP Reel 1]

28 June: BBF (Washington) to Henry. Henry apparently sought BBF’s advice via a letter to their in-law Russell. “Therefore, you get Tuck to write the strongest kind of a letter to Banks, and any other members to whom he thinks his letters will avail any thing, and stir them up properly to see that ‘the crime against’ Russell is not suffered to pass without a corresponding crime against some rascally democrat who had the impudence to vote for Magruder, and who hopes Buchanan will be president. ‘Off with his head,’ and let Russell occupy his place! Write to Brown to ask Wilson, and some of his House friends to put the shoulders to the wheel. As for me, I will do all I can here. I have been trying, but no favorable result has yet crowned my efforts.”

“...I don’t think I have written to you since the Republican Convention. That was a Convention what was a Convention. It did honor to itself and to the Republican Party and perhaps a little too much to Col. Fremont! But, we shall see. The news comes in well this far; and my belief is, if Fillmore continues on the track, Buchanan cannot be elected by the people. If the Republicans and American Freesoil could not unite in Pennsylvania, I should regard Fremont’s election as absolutely certain for he could carry that State by 40,000 majority. If they do not unite, Buck will carry it by 40,000 plurality. But Filmore will get Md. Ky. Tenn. Mo. N.C. and perhaps other clave states probably, and if he does Buck may hang up his fiddle. Time will develop.” [FFP Reel 5]

8 July 1856: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “As you were to come home so soon, I have not been careful to write as often as formerly. We are all well, and shall be glad to have you come, being all ready to receive you.”

“Do not undertake to meet Abby so early as she proposes – you cannot do it with any comfort or even safety to your health. Do not be so foolish as to fail of your sleep Wednesday night.”

“As to [the] more important part of your letter, I will now only say, that there must be no understood engagement as well for F[rank]’s as for your good. Go right forward, attending to the matters you have both to look to, purposing to be wise, good and capable. If your natural partiality is well founded, it ‘will keep;’ if not let your relations be such that it can pass off without damage to either of you.”

“In haste, your aff. Father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

9 July 1856: Tuck attended PEA Trustees’ meeting. Tuck and Gorham again tasked with examining the Treasurer’s accounts for the ensuing year. [pp. 364-5, PEA Trustees’ minutes not to be used without permission of the PEA librarian]

14 July 1856: Law firm of William W. Stickney and Amos Tuck dissolved (announcement is in Exeter News-Letter of 18 August). Firm dissolved by mutual consent. Stickney to conduct any pending suits.

15 July: BBF (Washington) to Henry. Frank arrived previous Saturday evening. BBF, Frank and neighbor friends discussed Frank studying law. [FFP Reel 5]

20 July 1856: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “Yesterday, I took Hat. and Fan. and Nell Tuck in the ark to Rye Beach, and we all went in bathing. The ocean was very cold towards us I tell you, and I came near freezing. It was a cool day and we had a ‘splendid time’ at least so the girls said. We took a lunch with us, and ate on the beach – got home at 8 ½ P.M.”

“...If Mr. Adams can get you 12 per cent for your money, that is the best you can do with it. We loan ours out West at 10 per cent, on five years, int. semi-annually, paid here, and that is a rather neat investment, if one has enough of it! I have \$3000 in that way, that gives me \$150 every six months very conveniently.” [FFP Reel 11]

21 July: Tuck announces “I shall not attend any of the Courts, but will give legal counsel, and transact such other professional business, as does not involve the necessity of conducting suits. I will also act as agent for the loan of money at the West, on real estate securities, ascertained to be of undoubted character, at Western rates of interest, payable semi annually in Exeter.” [Announcement in same 18 August News-Letter]

30 August 1856: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Greenleaf Whittier. “My Friend: A young man who married my daughter, Wm. R. Nelson of Peekskill, N.Y. is anxious to possess your poetry written on the occasion of the death (murder, rather) of Thomas Barber, and having just returned to P_____ has made me promise to request a newspaper copy of it to be sent to him, if you have such at your command. Can you oblige him and me, by sending a copy to him or bringing it to me, when you came here on Tuesday. Come yourself directly to me house to dine etc. – or the night before. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” (Phillips Library, John Greenleaf Whittier Papers, Box 2, Folder 21)

1 September 1856: Fremont Club of Exeter holds a rally at Town Hall. Speakers include William E. Chandler and Edward H. Rollins of Concord, and Charles Bell and Amos Nudd of Exeter. W.W. Stickney moved to adjourn the meeting until the next day.

2 September 1856: Fremont Mass Meeting held to choose a presidential elector for N.H. District 1. Delegations and floats from many surrounding towns, including one from Amesbury, Mass that contained John Greenleaf Whittier. Amos Tuck called the meeting to order and introduced President of the Day Gilman Marston. Speakers included Daniel Clark of Manchester, Ichabod

Goodwin of Portsmouth, John L. Swift of Boston, and John P. Hale of Dover, . The evening speeches were delivered by Charles Francis Adams and Professor Bailey of Yale College. On Tuesday morning the correspondent estimated the number of strangers in town at 8-10,000 people. The assembly chose W.H.H. Bailey as the Fremont elector for district no. 1.

Young Charles Gill recorded in his diary that a young slave girl was presented on the platform of the meeting on 2 September: "A contribution was then taken to free the little slave girl, who is perfectly white. She is staying at Mr. Tuck's." The Exeter News-Letter reported that "\$46.30 was collected at the Mass Meeting, last week, towards paying the balance of \$150 due for purchasing the freedom of the slave girl who was present on that occasion." [Exeter News-Letter of 8 September 1856 and Diary of Charles Gill]

1 October 1856: Fremont Mass Meeting in Rye. [Gill, Diary]

1 October 1856: Tuck addresses meeting in Rye on the upcoming presidential elections. [Independent Democrat]

1 October 1856: [Independent Democrat] p. 1 – Second part of Rep. Benjamin Leiter's speech in the House of Reps. on 5 August 1856 on Kansas.

p. 2 – First item is an announcement of support for Fremont and Dayton, with a list of presidential electors, one from each congressional district.

p. 2 – News item on the Democratic Fremont rally held at Phenix Hall last Tuesday.

p. 2 – Item on the Republican rally held at Moultonboro on 11 September. Speeches by Judge Eastman of Conway and Daniel Clark of Manchester.

p. 2 – Fremont rally at Canaan on 26 September. Speeches by A.H. Cragin and G.W. Murray.

p. 2 – "Hon. Amos Tuck – Will address the people of New-Hampshire on the great questions involved in the coming Presidential elections as follows: At Rye, Wednesday, October 1. At Hampstead, Friday, October 3d. At Rollinsford, Friday evening, October 3d."

p. 2 – A.H. Cragin will speak in Hanover, Littleton, Charlestown, and Walpole.

p. 3 – M.W. Tappan will speak at Unity, Keene, and Sanbornton Bridge.

3 October 1856: Tuck to address meetings in Hampstead and Rollinsford.

3 October 1856: (Independent Democrat) p. 1 – "Fremont Clubs! The People are Coming! List of club officers in various town.

p. 2 – Sarcastic article on visit to Concord by President Pierce, campaigning for Buchanan.

8 October 1856: (Independent Democrat) p. 2 – “Grand Rally at Lee. – The Republicans of Lee and vicinity, will meet at Tuttle’s Corner, Saturday, Oct. 11th, at 10 o’clock, A.M., when they will fling to the breeze **A Fremont Flag**. Hon. Ichabod Goodwin, of Portsmouth. Prof. J.G. Hoyt, Exeter. Walcott Hamlin, Dover....”

8 October 1856: John Tuck (Biddeford) to Betty Tuck. Letter from John to his mother saying he is glad her lameness has gone. Suspects Amos is with her now. News of neighbors. “I have not received any news from Amos for some weeks and do not know the occasion and was glad to know her was going to be at [Effingham] on your account Mother and on the account of the Republicans also, and hope you will all have a good time...Should Amos come this way home it will give us pleasure....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder1]

9 October 1856: Tuck addresses rally in Effingham. [Independent Democrat]

10 October 1856: [Independent Democrat] p. 2 – Text of platform adopted by Republican Convention at Philadelphia on 17 June 1856.

p. 2 – Report of meeting of the Fremont Club of East Kingston first Tuesday in September. A.B. Currier presided. Speakers included N. Gordon of Exeter and E.F. Noyes of Dartmouth College. “Hon. Amos Tuck, of Exeter, next addressed the meeting in his usual clear and convincing manner, covering the whole issue in the ensuing campaign.”

p. 2 – “Hon. Amos Tuck – Will address the people of New Hampshire on the great issues involved in the coming election, as follows: At West Littleton Tuesday eve, October 14th. At Bethlehem, Wednesday eve, October 15th. At Littleton Village, Thursday eve, October 16th. At Franconia, Friday eve, Oct. 17th.”

13 October 1856: [Independent Democrat] p. 2 – “Kansas Aid Levee – The ladies of Epping will give a Levee at the Town Hall on Thursday evening, October 16, for the purpose of raising funds for the suffering Free State people of Kansas...” Speakers will include James Pike, J.G. Hoyt, Gilman Marston, Nathaniel Gordon, J.W. Emery, W.H.Y. Hackett and others

p. 2 – Hoyt also to speak in North Dunbarton at a Fremont rally. Other speakers to include M.W. Tappan, W.H. Gove, and N.B. Bryant.

p. 2 – “People’s Meeting **Mass Meeting!** At Dover N.H. in Wright’s Mammoth Tent! Capable of holding 10,000 people!....” on Friday October 17th. Expected speakers include Henry Wilson, Anson Burlingame, Lott M. Morrill, F.O.J. Smith, John P. Hale, Hannibal Hamlin, and N.P. Banks.

14 October 1856: Tuck addresses Republican rally in West Littleton. [Independent Democrat]

15 October 1856: Tuck addresses rally in Bethlehem. [Independent Democrat]

15 October 1856: [Independent Democrat] p. 2 – Reminder of Tuck’s speeches at Littleton Village (16 October) and Franconia (17 October).

p. 2 – Rally at Northwood on 18 October. Speakers: J.G. Hoyt, Nathaniel Gordon and George Fogg.

p. 2 – “Great Enthusiasm at Effingham” - Large meeting held on 9 October. Chairman introduced Hon. Amos Tuck of Exeter. “The Republican Platform was read during his remarks, the mere reading of which it seems is enough to convince any candid mind of the soundness and correctness of its principles. But the comments upon it by the speaker were to the point and served to illustrate more fully the position we have assumed at this critical period of our history. At the close of Mr. Tuck’s remarks, Hon. Joel Eastman of Conway was announced....”

p. 3 – Article on State Temperance Convention in Keene the previous Thursday.

16 October 1856: Tuck addresses rally in Littleton. [Independent Democrat.]

17 October 1856: Tuck addresses rally in Franconia. [Independent Democrat]

17 October 1856: Fremont Mas Meeting in Dover. [Gill, Diary]

18 October 1856: [Independent Democrat] p. 3 – Article on the mass meeting at Dover.

21 October 1856: Great Fremont Gathering at Hampstead. Held last Tuesday. Speakers included Shubael P. Adams of Lowell, Mass., Amos Tuck, Gilman Marston, C.A. Phelps of Boston. 6,000 to 8,000 attendees. [Independent Democrat]

4 November 1856: Election. [Independent Democrat of 7 November headline]: “New-Hampshire is Free! A Glorious Victory – 6000 Majority for Fremont!” Vote totals given for every town. Exeter: 498 for Fremont, 201 for Buchanan, 9 for Fillmore. Greenland: 94 for Fremont, 67 for Buchanan, 1 for Fillmore. Rockingham County: 5904 for Fremont, 4714 for Buchanan, 109 for Fillmore.

7 November 1856: [Independent Democrat] p. 2 – “New-Hampshire is Free! A Glorious Victory – 6000 Majority for Fremont!” Vote totals given for every town. Exeter: 498 for Fremont, 201 for Buchanan, 9 for Fillmore. Greenland: 94 for Fremont, 67 for Buchanan, 1 for Fillmore. Rockingham County: 5904 for Fremont, 4714 for Buchanan, 109 for Fillmore.

9 November 1856: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Abby Nelson and Ellen Tuck. “It has been a wet disagreeable day. I and Ned have been to church, as usual, while your mother has been more disposed to a day of rest, and has staid at home. Mr. Mann preached this fore-noon a funeral sermon upon Mr. Hurd, eulogizing him very much, but not saying too much, I think. Mr. H. was

a dignified, Christian gentleman, deserving and possessing universal esteem, and it is well to have justice done to his character. The Meeting House was not full, but I saw Lucy, Mary John etc. in their usual places. I noticed too, that Carry Kelly had returned, having a new Talma with a bow on the back.”

“Your mother and her Irish ‘help’ have been ‘cleaning house’ for 4 days last past. Yesterday the parlor was thoroughly cleansed, and I believe the worst of the job is done throughout. Your mother tires herself daily, but succeeds by the help of medicine in preparing herself to begin anew each morning. Ned is in health and spirits. He has to-day been promoted from his small sleeping room to Ellen’s chamber, where he expects to do his snoozing for the coming winter. I am in better spirits than most of my Freemont brothers in regard to the election. I feel that I have done my part towards victory, and so have the men of the North, generally, except those of Penn. N. Jersey and, possibly, Indiana. Our principles as embodied in our platform are true, vital, and therefore foreordained to be predominant in the end. If that good end comes in my day, well; if not, I will work none the less faithfully for it. I am glad William took hold for Freedom at this election. Let his path here-after diverge, if it must be so, from that of those who feel so many incumbrances of one kind and another that they cannot keep step to the progress of the age. Fillmore defeated the Republican party, is therefore accessory to the enslavement of Kansas, and will not be forgiven in this world nor the world to come.”

“But as I said, I am in good spirits. I was banteringly enquired of by a Border ruffian-democrat, a day or two since at the P. Office, in hope to annoy me, being surrounded by his democratic friends, what was the result of the election. I answered, that the whole civilized part of the country had gone for Fremont, and all the Pirates for Buchanan. The next day, the story went, that I had said the Democrats were all Pirates. A friend offered to bet \$100 that I had not said so, and came to me to know the truth, which I told him. Hoyt growls disconsolately, and your mother has been on ill terms with Providence, saying that all good men and women had been praying for Fremont’s election for 6 months, and now old Buck is in. I tell her we shall furnish first rate instruction to future ages, showing by our history the fatal evils of slavery; but she is not ambitious of benefitting the world in that way, and rebels. My faith is, that this wickedness of 1856, embodied in the Cincinnati Platform, designed to revolutionize the Government of freedom established by our fathers, will break down in 4 years, and then we shall have a restoration. But too much of politics.”

“I want to hear often from you. I feel anxious about Ellen’s health, and especially by her cough etc. But I feel confident both of you will do what you can to re-establish her healthy habits. Love to all, yrs. aff. Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

26 November 1856: Tuck attended PEA Trustees’ meeting. [PEA Trustees’ minutes. Use with permission]

27 November 1856: BBF (Washington) to Henry. “...you may possibly have heard, there has been a Presidential election, wherein Know-Nothingism was essentially used up, and Black

Republicanism, out of New England, N.York and Ohio, came out rather striped! “Just as I expected.”!

“...I suppose Senator Bell of N.H. will be here in a day or two now. I forget whether I told you that he is to live with us next session. We have fixed our Chamber for him and occupy the front one ourselves.”

“I wish to God the States, by common consent, would just say to South Carolina “We consider you a public nuisance, and respectfully request that you would retire from the Union.” I think that state has the honor of containing more fools than all the rest of the Union. What little I have seen of the recent message of her Governor, is the most disgraceful and ridiculous mess of stuff that I have ever seen – it is unworthy of the darkest part of the dark ages. I do hope people will become equal to puppies 9 days old soon, and get their eyes open. A part of the North and West has waked up, but see New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Indiana, and Illinois – poor benighted heathen that they are! hugging their chains to their bosoms and saying to the South “we are yours – enslave us as soon as you will, we deem it an honor to be beaten and spit upon by you.”

“I rather think Buchanan will show them that he is not so weak and miserable a poltroon as Pierce has been – but he must go with all the whims of the South, or become our candidate next time! Some things have fallen out, that indicate his intention to have Kansas a free state if he can without too much political uproar.” [FFP Reel 5]

25 November 1856: Tuck’s grand-daughter Ellen Tuck (Nellie) Nelson is born. [Dow]

26 November 1856: PEA trustees. [PEA Trustees’ minutes. Use with permission]

17 December 1856: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “There is to be a minister’s gathering here to-day, and we expect my friend Tenney and possible his wife, to remain to-day and night. Rev. Mr. French of North Hampton was buried yesterday. He was one of the Trustees of Hampton Acad. and I have been intimately acquainted with him for 25 years. Your mother knew him well also, and used often to hear him preach, when she was a girl of your age in old Hampton. I remember hearing my father speak of his being present at the ordination of Mr. French at North H. when he was in his teens, and of some youthful incidents in which he took part.”

“I have been much encouraged by William’s and your account of your appetite and prospects. Also, Abby’s - I hope strongly now. As to the party, I feel that Wm. will not want you to go, unless it be safe.”

“I cannot tell what time I shall go to Chicago. Should you like to go with your mother and me? I have thought of it, and have mentioned it to your mother. In case your appetite shall bring back your healthy customs, and [you] wish to go with us, and in case we go, as I think we shall, about the last of January, you may go with us. We should be about a month or two, if you go with us. I assume that Abby shall be well again, or you would not, of course, desire to go, or we to go either.”

“I have just rec’d William’s letter of yesterday, saying he had ordered purchase of 2 shares of stock. Tell him, I am not uneasy about La Crosse stock and that I am expecting a letter in a few days which I will send to him, and which will satisfy him that my investment is not of a speculative character. Still I shall be cautious of any action in future, and not hazard much of what I possess, in the hope of getting more. If I go to Chicago, tell Wm. I expect to financier for the Weare Bank, enough to pay expenses of myself wife and daughter at the Brigg’s House in Chicago and elsewhere. With love to all, your aff. Father A. Tuck”

[P.S.] “Go to party if you think it safe.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

17 December: BBF (Washington) to Henry. “Mr. Bell is with us, and we like him exceedingly. He is pleasant, social, and lively, and appears like one of the family. He seems to be too much afraid of making trouble, which is his only fault! His health is pretty good now.” [FFP Reel 5]

1857:

1 January 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “Most heartily do I wish you a happy new year. Earnestly do I pray, that no disease, danger, suffering, or sorrow may come near your sensitive loving heart. May you close the present year, as happily, at least, as you did that which came to an end last night. We know not what a day may bring forth, but we believe in God, and in his universal goodness. Commend yourself to him, Dear Ellen, and pray to him, that you may live aright, and may be shielded from sorrow, during the coming year. This will be a prayer for us all, because nothing can afflict you, without also afflicting those who love you. Give Abby also, exactly the same hearty good wishes from me, and assurances of sympathy and union, in everything that affects her happiness.”

“We are living a monotonous but pleasant existence here. There are sings, sermons, caucuses, and conventions, which ripple the surface of things, but no convulsive heavings of the earth in Exeter. I leave to the girls, to acquaint you with the chit-chat news of the day. Don’t bother your head, too much, dear, by writing long letters, or many of them, to your companions. It is good sleighing here, but we have not ridden (except on business) as Barney is hurrying to haul the wood before the deep snows come. Last evening I had Mr. Wm. Stickney Jr. Mr. Noyes, (two students in Mr. S.’s office) and Jacob Cram, at tea. They left at seven, and all of them seem to be agreeable young men. John Gardner is also at the office, and is quite a likely young man.”

“I think we shall be at Peekskill, during the month, but towards the last. I must go to Concord next week 3 days, and the week after go to Effingham to see my mother. After that, I shall get ready, as soon as I can to go west. Ned will board at Mrs. Cobbs’, having a room, fire etc. by himself. Barney will supply him with dry wood.”

“Am I mistaken in supposing you would choose to go west, in preference to coming home and boarding at Mrs. Cobbs’? I have taken it for granted you would much rather go to Chicago.”

“I must close. We rejoice that Abby is able to go out, and in the good account you give of little Nell. I was sorry to learn from Fanny Gilbert that you had taken a cold ‘at a fire.’ I do not mention it to your mother, but I shall be anxious about you till [I] know you are rid of it, and not damaged by it, at this critical period. With love to Abby, Laura, Nelly Jr. and all, I am your aff. Father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

2 January: Senator James Bell of NH is boarding with BBF: arrived on 10 December. They were boyhood friends, and studied law in the same town. [FFP Reel 1]

13 January 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “How do you do, Dear Daughter, and how do all the rest? Here we are in old Exeter, enveloped in snow. This Monday morning, I arose at 6 o’clock, and taking broom in hand went upon the top of the house, to sweep off the snow from the tin roof, to avoid future annoyance. It took me till 7 ½ o’clock, by which I got exercise enough for the rest of the day. We then sat down to a beef-steak and corn bread breakfast, which I relished as usual. After wards, Ned took the broom and swept the piazzas, for his exercise before going to school, and the sweeping of the Parlor and dusting of the rooms constituted the morning employment of the female portion of the family. As one looks from our Parlor windows, industrious shovelers of snow may be seen in many directions. Mr. Hough, aided by Kimball, Mr. Gill, shoveling daintily, as a cat jumping to avoid pools of water, the Gill boys, looking squalid in their gingham aprons, and working in earnest. Prof. Hoyt in his morning dress clearing a path in a slovenly way – and Mr. Buzzell [word illegible] displaying himself with both shovel and broom, working thoroughly and systematically, like any man, having nothing to do but wait upon his wife. Barney is doing the needful our well, clothes’ line etc. To complete [the] picture, look down street, and Sawyer may be seen, with shawl wound about his neck, looking like a young lion, and clearing every drift, in eagerness to pay a morning devour to his Mary Dear. There, that is a winter view from Tuck Hall, forestreet, Exeter, N.H. Jan 13, 1857, at 8 ½ o’clock A.M.”

“But I am not ‘thar.’ I have left the ‘Hall’ and am now at Mr. Stickney’s Offices writing to you till the arrival of the trains, when I shall have other calls upon me, and be forced, peradventure, to break off abruptly. I will not undertake to write the Town gossip, If there be any, because Hatty F. and others will tell you all of that. I met Hatty at depot, Saturday, with Mrs. Underhill, who was going to Manchester. They both pronounced benedictions on you – Mrs. U. saying she loved you particularly. I told her, it was not hard work to do that thing. The cordiality you experience from the Exeter family of Frenches will go far towards preparing you for a conquest by a collateral branch. So look out – Don’t believe all is gold that glitters, but hold your mind unresolved for the present.”

“There, the ten o’clock bell rings, and I must see what letters need answering by the 11 o’clock mail.”

“We are all in good health. I want to see you, as well as Abby and the rest. Were it not that I meditate my western jaunt I should now be planning for your return, and fixing the time for my going on after you. As it is, I do not expect to see you till I go with wife, en route for

Chicago. When this will be, I am not determined, probably week after next. I must go and see mother, which I can not well do, till last of this week, or first of next.”

“With great love to Abby and her children, and all, I am your loving father Amos Tuck.”
[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

27 January 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen. I rec'd Wm.'s letter this morning, (Saturday morning) reporting the terrific weather, the continued health of you all, and his wish, in connection with yours and Abby's, that you may remain at Peekskill, till we go west. Perhaps, on the whole, this may be best. It is never very bad management, to let well enough alone, and as you seem well, or gaining to become well, and as your company is a source of comfort to Abby and the family, I consent. Put it down, however, as a possibility, at least, that we may go to Chicago, in one or two weeks even, and in that case, I should expect you to be ready, if we pop in upon you, to go along at any time. Unless you should prefer a Fall visit? How is it? Though I have had no other thought than that you go with us, and shall not monition it to your mother, I would not have you feel obliged to go, in order to please me. Your happiness, my dear daughter, is my object, and I consent to any arrangement that will promote it. I take great satisfaction in your visit, because it enables you and Abby to be together. Give my never failing love to her, as well as [word illegible] to yourself. We are well and happy here. Ned is doing well, and happy.”

“I will write you again in a day or two, and not having more time, I will close in time for the going mail.”

“Most affectionately, your Father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 January 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “I have had occasion to go to Hampton Falls, to-day, else I should have written you this morning. I will now apply myself to the business, and leave off, when my paper fails, or the leaving of the mail makes necessary. Now, just as I sit down in the parlor, with this pleasant prospect before me, in comes Sarah Cobbs, and throwing aside her hood and cloak, evidently intends to stick by for all coming time. I have just turned to her, and said, ‘Excuse me, Sarah, as I have a letter to write, before the mail goes out.’ She replied, ‘Oh, yes;’ and accordingly I can go, prevented only, in a degree, by talk between her and your mother, about Capt. Chadwick, (who has just arrived at Boston), Brooks' death, (which is considered a dispensation of Providence) and Mr. Sawyer etc. etc. I think I can go on, with material diversion of my attention. We have recovered a little since the cold, an yesterday people were moving briskly in their sleighs, making calls etc. I took a ride about town with your mother, having a little business to harness up for. Mrs. Taylor left us yesterday. She would have staid till doomsday, had I made myself as amiable as possible, as she seems determined to have no settled abode, but float round among her relatives and acquaintances, staying with each, a longer or shorter time, according to their respective power of endurance. I did not become rude, but lost the power of being cordial for a week or two past, and consequently, she ‘vamosed the ranch,’ as they say in California.”

“We are in good health, all of us, and in a happy state. The news in town you must hear from the girls, as I learn they write long letters to you – not, however, as long, I judge, as 11 ½ pages, being the length of one sent by you to one of the Gordons. My Dear Ellen, you do wrong thus to tax your brain, and body. You promised me otherwise, and I exact the fulfillment. Your body and mind forbid such diluted [?] and extended communication. I told you to concentrate all the bright things you had to say, upon one sheet. I know that is the right course to pursue, and I again enjoin it upon you, as necessary. Your letters have been vivacious and good – very good. Bating your careless hand writing, I have not read any better letters. Abby writes in a womanly style, and does herself great credit. Now follow my direction religiously, and be profited thereby, in body and mind.”

“Abby’s letter to your mother arrived yesterday. We acquiesce in your staying at Peekskill, till we go west, as I stated in my letter, yesterday, (Mr. Gilman has come in, and I must close abruptly). It is possible that I may go West next week, that is, may go to Peekskill by Saturday of next week. Your mother and I of course should stay a day or two. I want to talk with Wm. about business before I go to Chicago, and most of all want to see that baby, and realize whether we ought to worry about her. I want to see you and Abby very much. I have more interest in regard to your health since your and Abby’s letter. Is it best for you to go with us, if you have occasion still to take medicine? I shall be governed by you and Abby and Wm. in this matter, and shall not mention your not going till I see you. Excuse me, as I must now devote myself to Mr. Gilman. Tell Wm. to send me the Stock by the next mail as I want the certificates before I leave.”

“With love to Abby and Laura etc. I am affectionately, your loving Father.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 February: Previous Sunday BBF presided over the DC Republican Association. [FFP Reel 1]

7 March 1857: Amos Tuck (Dubuque, Iowa) to Abby Nelson and Ellen Tuck. “Before leaving in the stage, as we do to-morrow morning, for the interior where letter communication must be infrequent, I must indite a few lines, on this ½ sheet, to my DAUGHTERS. What a world of love and good will is called up, by the word ‘daughter!’ ‘Father and daughter – Daughter and Father.’ Perfect relation, producing holy, happy interchange of love, confidence, mutual felicity. I thank God, that I have loving, good daughters to think of, and to be with, so often and so much as I hope to be.”

“You erred in thinking me dispirited when I last wrote. I am A.1. in spirits, and nothing has gone wrong since I came here. In truth, I think I shall decidedly improve my income by the journey. I am well, and so is William. We take comfortable protection, and start early in the morning. You will not hear from us for two weeks, possibly. In the mean time, take care of your selves, and the family.”

“With much love to Laura and Nelly, Junior, I am yr. aff. Father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 March 1857: French reports that Henry and his daughter Henriette visited Washington again on the 20th of February, remaining until 6 March. Frank left for Cambridge on 1 March. Henry is obviously in town for the inauguration of Buchanan. [FFP Reel 1]

24 March 1857: Tuck attended PEA Trustees' meeting. [PEA Trustees' Minutes (Use by permission)]

April 1857: Exeter property tax records assess Tuck for his house (\$4900), farmland (\$2000), Bank stock (\$2000), and money (\$6000). [Exeter Town Clerk]

4 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to S.L. Nudd (Hampton Falls, NH). "I wish you would take your note to the Weare Bank, and request Mr. Dodge, Cashier, to pay the balance due from me to you, out of money belonging to me at the Bank. This letter shall be good authority to him to do so."

"I hope your land will pay you 6 per cent interest."

"Yours truly, Amos Tuck." [Correspondence Book]

5 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. "Immediately on our arrival, I wrote in pencil, a hasty note to Abby, announcing our safety in Exeter. I hope she received it. I know that you would both be anxious to learn whether we were safe and well."

"Laura has been a good girl, and is the cynosure of the household. Nevertheless we are impressed when we realize the watchfulness she needs or the propriety of [13 lines illegible]....I think she will improve, while here. She obeys me in all humors, and will become the [word illegible] to my wife, if not to Ellen. We are all delighted with her."

"I continue to be gratified with my negotiations at New York, and have already a market [sp.?] for several Bonds, including those sold before going to N. York."

"On further negotiation with Mr. Miller [sp.], I incline to think, if I adhere [several words illegible] in the Wisconsin Bank, it will be [several words illegible] to proceed [several words illegible] by paying in cash, for what securities I furnish."

"I have thought more of your proceeding at Osage, and I feel confident that you ought to entertain the [several words illegible] what you have done. Unless the past history of western [several words illegible] it is not unlikely to have the most profitable transaction of your life [sp.]. Having made 12000 in the past [sp.], I see no the occasion for your indulging in anything but self-complacency, unless you propose to illustrate oft repeated folly of being more unhappy with than without pecuniary prosperity."

"I hope to go west at, or about the time you do; but my course will depend on selling the bonds, or hiring money on their pledge. I will write to you often, and hope to hear from you as often. Love to Abby and Baby, yours truly Amos Tuck." [Correspondence Book]

5 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to E.J. Tinkham. "Your favor of 30 ult. is received. I will provide security for another \$5000 and have the bills sent to you from the Weare Bank, within a

few days. When received, send your securities, and we will send you another \$5000 before long.”

“It was the understanding that your note for bills received, should not bear interest, till put in circulation from your bank.”

“I see that a Madison Newspaper magnifies my interest in a new Bank to be established there. Had I thought half as much of it, I should have talked with you about it. The arrangement I have with you, is of much more consequence [word illegible] and my hope is, by attending [line illegible] making it satisfactory to you, as well as to myself.”

“Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

6 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. J.C. Webster (Hopkinton, Mass.). “My dear friend: I take pleasure in complying with your request, sending, by express tomorrow morning, a rather scanty quantity of peas for seed. Had I more, you should have more. But I was away, or neglectful, and did not have much seed last season.”

“I was at Chicago last month, and had the happiness of seeing your bro. Dana [sp.?] and spending [an] evening with him. We talked about the past, and you and your father’s family made up of course, an important part of the subject matter of our conversation. He continues sound, I believe, in head and heart, notwithstanding his fidelity [sp.?] is tested by great prosperity, and few men in the City or State are equally esteemed. He has done a great deal for Kansas, and is still laboring to resist the barbarism of slavery, threatening, as it does, the existence of free institutions in America.”

“The more I think of the despicable decision of the Supreme Court, the more impressed I am, with how little remains to be done by the Judiciary, to make slavery universal. But brave and true hearts are so numerous, and strong arms so powerful, that not yet do we go under the yoke. I believe the nation will be saved perhaps all the sooner, by reason of the wickedness, lately perpetrated to render slavery national.”

“With much regard for yourself and family, in which Mrs. T. begs to join, I am, truly yours, Amos Tuck.” [Correspondence Book]

6 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to S.C. Howard. “As requested I send herewith the 12 Watertown Bonds, to be exchanged for 12 Madison Bonds. I have regretted that I was so thoughtless as to take them away from your office, as I might have then your agreement not to send the 12 Madison Bonds to me, which would have been equally satisfactory. This occurred to me, at the hotel, after it was too late to go around your office and leave them.”

“I hope Mr. Fairchild, Gov. Farwell and Mr. K[rest of name unclear] brought good news from Madison, respecting the Road and other things.”

“With my respects to Mr. Law, I am yours respectfully Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

7 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. "Dear sir: I rec'd Mr. Henry's letter to you with interest and herein enclose it. Either this Spring or Fall, it would seem you ought to go into the region of your unimproved lands in the western Counties and sell to the men who want to till the earth. I do not think I can go to Wisconsin with you; whether I go or not and when, depends on my selling the Bonds. The Galena R.R. offer 7 per cent Bonds to stockholders for 75 per. ct. This is cheap."

"Laura is still well, and behaving nicely. She has no cold and is as happy as she can be. She says 'Mama gone away' 'Papa gone away.' We are all well, and hope that Abby will soon be strong and in perfect health."

"Yours truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

7 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Tuck. "Dear Brother: I shall be perfectly willing to sign, with Jonathan, as your surety, on the note for \$900 you propose to hire."

"I have bought, by sale of Galena stock, a number of Bonds of the City of Madison, Wis. of a \$1000 each, guaranteed by the Watertown & Madison R. Road, payable in 20 years with 7 per ct. int. per ann. payable semi-annually in N. York, with interest coupons attached. Also similar Bonds of the City of Watertown, Wis. drawing 8 per ct. int. payable semi-annually in N. York. Each of these cities has over 10,000 inhabitants, and the Bonds are perfectly safe. I want to sell some of them, - the 7 per cts. at \$800, and accrued int. each, and the 8 per cts. at \$850 and accrued int. each. If any moneyed man in your region wants one of them, I can supply them"

"Yrs. aff., Amos Tuck"

[P.S.] "I got, by a streak of luck, \$104 $\frac{3}{4}$ per share for Galena stock. I believe Galena is good, though I have sold." [Correspondence Book]

8 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Jonathan Tuck. "Dear Brother: I take the expression of your solicitude in behalf of Ned, as new proof of your deep seated brotherly affection. I have given it much consideration, and shall be mindful of your reasons always hereafter. In the general principles of yourself and John, in respect to the mind and body, I mainly agree, and shall endeavor to regulate my conduct accordingly. Last night I went to see Mr. Soule, the Principal of the Academy, who has for over 30 years, had opportunity to watch the effect of study in Exeter Academy, upon boys of all ages. I told him of your letter, and of my solicitude to take the safe course. He says Ned has not shown any evidence of weariness in his studies yet; that he will watch [sp.] him with care, will not allow him to be pressed, and will notify me of any flagging symptoms he exhibits; he says he would advise, to let him go on gently in his class till he gets ready for college, when he would advise his lying by, for a year. I conclude to let him go into the School the present term, and shall act on Mr. S.'s judgment unless I see some symptom that he is crowded. At present he is in better health than almost ever before, his illness at Biddeford, having been caused by over-eating, and now wholly passed off. He grows fast now, and by recreation, horse-back riding and a little manual labor, I have hopes he can go on, as

safely in school as out. He has a mind that craves something to act on, and if out of school, I should have some fears, that he would not be as well as he would in school.”

“I cannot now suggest the time of going to Effingham, as I have some engagements to confine me about home, which I cannot tell when will end. I will write you again when I ‘see land.’”

“Ellen and the rest of us depend upon Lois Ann’s visit, in due time. Also Miss Baily’s being here a while with her. Ellen says she shall write in a few days.”

“Yours affectionately, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

8 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. “Private Dear sir: I regretted not seeing you when I was in N. York. I am told by Mr. Howard, it would be all the same [five words unclear].”

“I wish my negotiations at your office to be regarded as confidential. I shall not offer bonds at less than 85 and 80, and of course do not want the bonds depreciated, by a knowledge of sales below these figures.”

“I have had some negotiations about buying 42 shares in the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad, and paying therefore with the Madison and Watertown Bonds. If disposed, I wish you would write to me that you will give me 3 Bonds of City of Madison, and the accrued interest, and two Bonds of the City of Watertown, and accrued interest, for 42 shares of C.B. & Quincy stock, and will also give \$100 in cash besides. Then write me, in another note, how much cash I must pay you, beyond my profit in such a trade, for a Madison or Watertown Bond. If I can affect a bargain, I will then send on[sp.?] the stock and cash, and you can send back the 6 Bonds. I think on enquiry you will find the Chicago, B. & Quincy stock, though not found at the Brokers’ Board, is yet at the head of the stock market, and easily sold at a premium. I assume that your offer will be made on the basis of the minimum price at which the Bonds have ever been put.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

8 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. [No salutation] “Will you give me 2 Watertown Bonds and 3 Madison Bonds, for 32 shares of Galena Stock? If so, send them to me by express, and notify by telegraph, and I will at once send the stock.”

“Yours respectfully, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

8 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. “Private Dear sir: I propose to turn over to you, instead of improving it myself, an opportunity to sell four Bonds, if you are still in condition to allow me a profit for so doing. It is this: to give you 32 shares of Galena & Chicago stock for 2 Watertown and 2 Madison Bonds, selling flat – you to allow me, to the minimum price you proposed for the Bonds, for the trade. If you accept, make out a bill for same, and state on another paper the commission and difference allowed me. If you accept, I shall probably be willing to take the profit etc. in part for another Bond.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

8 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Betsy Towle Tuck. “My dear Mother: I have only neglected to write you, because I have waited from day to day, in the hope of being able to name the time when I could start and go to see you. The travelling is so bad just now, that I do not think it best to venture. Jonathan proposes to meet me at Effingham when I go. I wish John Hodgdon would write to me as soon as he receives this telling me when he thinks the travelling by stage from Wakefield will be at all good, and I will write him at once when I can go. I have been very busy indeed, since I returned, having some things of importance to other people to transact. We have all been in good health. Ellen is at home, and has brought Laura with her, Abby’s oldest child. She is a nice, good [remainder of letter not copied]

[Correspondence Book]

9 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Joseph W. James. “My dear sir: I have received your friendly letter, and was glad to hear from you. I have talked with a discreet friend, who, like you and myself, is so well satisfied with the past, as to be determined to persevere, in regard to the proposition for a meeting. He was of opinion, and I concur with him, that there is not now a craving in the public mind for a political gathering, such as would make it enthusiastic and satisfactory. Besides, several men, like Prof. Hoyt of this town, and Mr. Hale of Dover, are somewhat out of health, and their presence, though very desirable could not be relied upon. I shall, myself, be liable to be out of town, but that would not be of much consequence. If at home, I hope you will call on me, while you are at Exeter.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

9 April 1857: [Contract] “Know all men by these presents, that I, Amos Tuck of Exeter, in the State of New Hampshire, am held and stand firmly bound unto John W. Dodge of Hampton Falls of said State, in the full sum of ten thousand dollars, to which payment well and truly to be made, I hereby bind myself, my heirs and Executor, firmly by these presents.”

“The Condition of this obligation is such, that whereas the said Dodge, as cashier of the Weare Bank, has been authorized by the Directors thereof, to send to Edward J. Tinkham of Chicago, Illinois, bills of said Bank, to be loaned by said Tinkham for said Bank; and when said Tuck has agreed with said Dodge, to hold him harmless for sending bills of said Bank to said Tinkham, and to be said Tinkham’s surety for repaying said Bank, and for returning said bills, or their equivalent to said Dodge, to the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars; Now if said Tuck shall faithfully perform and keep his agreement, as aforesaid, then this obligation shall be void, but shall otherwise remain in full force. Signed, sealed and delivered this 9th day of April A.D. 1857”

Witness

Amos Tuck [seal] [Correspondence Book]

10 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. M.D. Miller. "It has occurred to me there will be great inconvenience, as well to you at Madison, as to me at Exeter, in my occupying the proposed position in the new Bank. Now is the time you should present your application, to the Comptroller, and file the required Bonds; also the time when you find it convenient to determine what securities to buy, and how, and when to buy them. If I am to sign the application and Bond, and to stand in an official position in the Bank, I should be at Madison at this time, and in fact hereafter, whenever you increase the capital, buy and lodge new securities, and give new bonds. I cannot leave home at present, and not improbably may be obliged to defer my contemplated visit west till fall. It might be uncertain whether I could meet you at a specified time, even in N. York, while I see that except for myself, it would not be necessary for more than one of you, probably, to come to N. York at all."

"For these reasons, I propose that I be relieved from my position in the Bank, and that you proceed with the enterprise, as at first contemplated, without me. I am the more disposed to suggest this, because I find it more inconvenient, than I first anticipated, to raise the \$5000 expected of me, while I feel impelled to decline buying securities on credit, which might be both proper and advantageous for the rest of you to do. If I step aside, and leave you at Madison, free to act without reference to a man 1500 miles away, I am confident it will be best for you, while if I do not reside at Madison, and thus be able to partake in the incidental benefits of the Bank, it is not doubtful that my money will be better used in another investment."

"If it be supposed that my name as Vice President could give any currency to the Institution, or if any person has subscribed for stock, influenced in the least, by such an unimportant consideration, a satisfactory arrangement in that respect could be made."

"I hope the reasonableness of these views will be appreciated, [two words illegible], in which case, I assure you and the other gentlemen, I shall continue to take an interest in the success of the Bank, shall cultivate the friendly relations between us, and shall expect to see you, when you come east, and do what I can to aid you in obtaining stock subscriptions."

"Make my regards to Gov. Farwell and Mr. Rose, and at your earliest convenience, write to me."

"Respectfully and truly yours, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

10 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. M.D. Miller. "Confidential Dear sir: Read the enclosed. I am very desirous to be relieved from this Bank business. Until I am actually a resident of Madison, I do not want my funds out of my hands, and can do better, as you know, than to invest in the Bank. If I should hereafter determine to change my residence, I should like to be entirely free, but might find the Bank business exactly to my liking."

"Now, I depend on you to get me relieved, and with good feeling on the part of the other gentlemen. If you will do so, I will engage to raise the \$5000 for your note, and deposit the same in Boston to your credit, by the first of May, even if I am obliged to sell my own securities, at a sacrifice, to do it. Money is scarce beyond precedent and is realized with difficulty."

"Write me confidentially and fully, at once, and oblige yours very truly, Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

10 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. Dear sir: "I am obliged to you for your information, in respect to N. York law, on the legality of municipal Bonds issued for the benefit of Rail Road improvements. The same reasons to doubt, do not exist in such securities in Wisconsin, because the State Constitution is broader than in N. York, and the Legislature have declared, in a joint resolution of the two branches, that the Constitution imposes no restriction, and is broad enough to give the Legislature power to grant the privilege of issue. The people have also voted the issue of the Bonds. More than this, the Bonds are guaranteed by a Road whose stock even, is of value. I think the securities safe, beyond doubt, yet I shall not recommend them improperly, nor compromise myself in any way. I shall not keep any of them, probably, for any considerable length of time. I have already sold seven of them at 80 and 85 respectively, and accrued interest. Selling my stock at \$104 $\frac{3}{4}$, you can judge whether thus far, I have not done well."

"I foresee that I cannot go west with you. I must remain at home this month, or most of it. My business, the sale of these bonds, and my correspondence require it. So it better be given up, at once. I regret not being likely to enjoy the pleasure of the trip with you."

"My brother John is worth about \$5000. He is to hire \$900 the 15th of this month, for the purpose of loaning it, through me, and making a profit. I think I must pass it to you, and get you to loan it, on the best security, on short time, or on 2 or 3 years, as you may find opportunity. Where shall I send the draft to you, in case he does not obtain funds in time to send to you at Peekskill?"

"I also have \$400, and a land warrant for 160 acres in my hand, to dispose of for a friend, which I think I will pass to you. In both these cases, it would be expected to pay you, moderately perhaps, for your trouble, and you to do the best you can."

"Laura and all are well, and everything goes on pleasantly. She (L.) was at the Stair [?. - word unclear] of the 2nd Parish yesterday, and of course made a sensation. She expresses to me the wish, to renew to her mother the assurances of her distinguished consideration. Also to her father – 'papa and mamma gone away.' Bless her soul."

"Love to Abby etc. (i.e.) Ellen Tuck Nelson. Affectionately, Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

10 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. "Private Dear sir: In making your proposition, respecting the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Stock, you mistook the offer desired, and I cannot make a trade on the basis of it. You should have offered to give 3 Madison Bonds and accrued int. 2 Watertown Bonds, and accrued int., and also \$100, for the 42 shares of stock. Instead of this, you demanded \$100, in addition to the stock."

"Please write me another [four words illegible] you will do, as above indicated, and I can accomplish the trade, I think."

“I trust you will put your bonds at the minimum, as before, in which case the calculation would be somewhat as follows (Private) – as between you and me

3 Madison Bonds at 700	2100	
3 Watertown Bonds at 750	<u>2250</u>	
	4350	
To be paid by you on exchange	<u>100</u>	
		\$4450

Cr. By	42 shares C. B. & Q R.R. stock		
	at par	\$4200	
	Cash to be sent you	<u>250</u>	
		\$4450	\$4450”

“You may regard the foregoing as too large a profit to me; but you see I can sell my own bonds, if I choose. But I choose to keep mine and sell yours, if I can. Mr. Howard has written me that will put other bonds, and same terms as those I took. I have no doubt you will desire to act liberally. I hope I may accommodate with a sale of other bonds and securities.”

“I believe, but do not certainly know, that the stock can be sold at a premium.”

“If you accord, substantially, with the basis of this letter, telegraph me, on receipt of this – ‘Terms of your letter accepted. Send Burlington stock by express,’ and I will do so; you can also send by express the 6 Bonds with a private note.”

“I await your answer in respect to Galena & Chicago Stock, which if favorable will modify the balance between us, which would otherwise exist, of course.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

13 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to E.G. Dudley: “Dear sir: I have been notified of the recall of the Draft for 4350\$, payable the 15th inst. which you accepted on my account. It was given for land, and after a correspondence for two weeks past, I have the proposal to re-convey, and am notified for the recall of the draft. I shall decline to re-convey, and pay the draft, if it has not gone back. I send herewith \$4350, with which I wish you to pay the draft, if it is still in Boston. Pay it to-day, if you can, first exchanging so much of the Weare Bank money as is convenient. I and Mrs. Tuck go to Boston tomorrow and shall see you. I am obliged thus to trouble you to-day, because of hearing on Saturday for the first time, of the recall of the draft, which I am desirous to pay, and have done with.”

“You might ascertain if the draft is still in Boston, before exchanging the money for foreign bills.”

“In case the Draft is not to be found, hold on to the Bills now sent till I see you.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

13 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Hon. L.J. Farwell. "Had I known of your protracted visit in New York, I would have renewed my invitation, that you come to Exeter. A few days with us would have given both myself and Mrs. Tuck great satisfaction. Is it too late now?"

"I regret I cannot go west at this time. I so wrote Mr. Nelson two days ago, telling him my varied engagements, will keep me at home during this month, at least. I am now the more sorry, when I learn that you are to be en route for home, at the same time. Make my respects to Col. Fairchild, and regrets at not meeting him also."

"I have Ballou's Pictorial, and think the article and lithograph got up in first rate style, and likely to do great good to Madison."

"When you arrive at Madison, Mr. Miller will consult you on a letter I wrote to him, when I found I could not go to Madison at present. It was to the effect, that as the application, bond, articles of association etc. respecting the new Bank, must be drawn up immediately, as well as the time when the bonds or securities shall be purchased, the kinds of securities, and the manner of paying for them, be determined upon, it would be manifestly inconvenient to consult me, and I better be relieved, and the association which must begin de novo under the new name, be formed without reference to me, as at first contemplated. As the Bank is [word illegible], the necessity for consultation becomes renewed, and successive bonds and papers must be signed. Living 1500 [miles] from Madison, I should be an inconvenience to the Institution. Without the proposed position, I could do your Bank an equal amount of good. In fact, I could be an honorary officer, without being one of the original associates, if such [a] thing were thought at all desirable. I wrote to Richardson & Co. Mar. 29th as you suggested, that I should depend on him (R.), and you, to give me such a title, as I ought to be satisfied with. By a letter just received, bearing date Apr. 4th, but not mailed, as I perceive from the envelope, until Apr. 7th, I am informed that they had ordered back the draft, (which they before declined to do), and am requested to sign and execute a deed of re-conveyance of the land. No explanation is made of this request. I provided the money to meet the draft, which had already been accepted, and I shall notify them by this mail, that I decline to re-convey."

"Yours very truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

13 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Messrs. J. Richardson & Co. "I am just informed by your recent letter, that you have ordered back my draft on E.G. Dudley Esq. payable the 12th inst. and am requested to execute a deed of re-conveyance of the land sold to me. After you declined to return the draft, as it had been negotiated, and indicate your expectation to perfect my title without the intervention of Mr. Cuthier [sp.?], I could expect to do nothing less, than to meet my draft, which had already been accepted by Mr. Dudley. I accordingly raised the money by a sale of securities for the purpose, and forwarded it to Mr. Dudley to meet his and my liability. I now have your letter, which seems, by the postmark, to have left Madison on the 7th inst. notifying me, and requesting a re-conveyance, as above stated. I cannot accede to your request. The money is in Mr. Dudley's hands, if it has not already been paid on the draft, and will be ready to meet the draft whenever presented."

“Should you find your title, as warranted to me to be defective, a re-conveyance can be had, to protect you from damage.”

“Yours respectfully, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

13 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. “Your dispatch in regard to Chicago and Burlington stock is received; also your letter in regard to Galena & Chicago.”

“Send me 5 Bonds of Watertown and 5 Bonds of Madison, with a statement in regard to balance, which I will adjust by draft. I presume I may receive some of the Bonds, before your answer to this is received.”

“Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

14 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to E.G. Dudley. “I receive your favor last evening, and am more than usually obliged by your good services. The weather is so unfavorable that Mrs. Tuck and I shall not go to Boston to-day. We expect to do so when it clears off. I will then report myself at your office, (and if I shall happen not to see you, will leave a note), and will accept your hospitality for the evening and morning, but shall not be able to dine with you, as we shall be busy during the day.”

“Yours very truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondent Book]

14 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Edgerton. “The enclosed paid draft, drawn by me upon E.G. Dudley Esq., was the consideration for land purchased by me of Mr. Timothy Brown, the Deed of which was left with you to get recorded, and to send to me. Please forward same by Mr. Nelson, and oblige.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

14 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. “Dear sir: I have concluded the Warrant, being for an indifferent and Bettyish person, would be more plague than profit to you, and have given it back to him. The same person had the \$400, and as he had been west himself, last year, I found his notions of gain so extravagant, that I have declined taking his money. My brother John will send you a draft, directed to you at Madison, or I shall send it, for him.”

“When you see Richardson, he may speak to you of a correspondence I have had with him, respecting the title to the land I purchased of Timo. Brown, one of his partners, resulting in him requesting me to re-convey to Brown, after he had at first refused to do so, and my declining. When I see you here, I will show you the correspondence, when you will see I have only requested what was just and right, and if he be displeased with it, it is because I refuse to re-convey, when he has probably discovered that my purchase is likely to be a profitable one. I shall endeavor to take care of myself, by all honorable means, and having never yet incurred an accusation of injuring any man, and having never yet displeased any one, by my business relations with him, I am not disposed to re-convey, on any affected dissatisfaction, at requests I had made for a quiet title, especially when I suspect the land to be of a higher market value, than

what I paid. I shall be glad, if you will look at the land, and give me your idea of its value. I enclose a letter to Mr. Edgerton, and paid draft, on view of which he will deliver the deed in his hands of the land, which I wish you to enclose to me by mail, rather than take with you to Osage. Send also the paid draft.”

“I hope to hear from you, as you progress, and shall take an interest in all that affects you. Should I possibly go west before your return, I shall endeavor to meet you somewhere.”

“Laura and all are well. She behaves well, and is improving in every respect. She could not be in better hands for her good. So be content. Will write Abby soon. With love to Abby and all, yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

14 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John T. Hodgdon. “My dear Nephew: Your letter of Sunday is received. I think I will go to Effingham next Saturday, and I shall write Jonathan to that effect. If it should happen that I cannot possibly leave, I will write Thursday. If it storms, I shall put it off one week.”

“With love to mother and all, I am yours, affectionately, Amos Tuck”

“P.S. I shall be obliged to return on Monday, but intend to visit you in a month, or two at longest.” [Correspondence Book]

14 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Jonathan Tuck. “Dear Brother: I have written to John T. Hodgdon that I shall visit them next Saturday. Can you meet me there, Sat. night? I trust there will be no obstacle. If you shall carry any little presents to Mother, write me what they will be, so that I may take something different..”

“Yrs. affectionately, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

14 April, 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Samuel Upton. “I am requested by the agent of the Swamscot Machinery Company, to enquire what progress has been made in the suit against the stock-holders of the Can Factory, which suit you have in charge.”

“Please answer and oblige, yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

14 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John W. Dodge. “I shall be obliged to go away on Saturday next, and of course cannot attend the Bank Meeting that day. I will visit you Friday afternoon, say at 2 o’clock, and if you think it will be convenient for the other directors to meet then, and you can notify them, you may do so. I have no special business to lay before them, and you must judge whether it be worth while to notify them. I have given the subject of the unsold stock some thought, but have not yet settled a modus operandi. Set your machinery going on that topic. I doubt not we can arrange it in a perfectly satisfactory manner. But you and I must talk it over together. I go to Boston to-day, and shall not return until tomorrow evening. I shall stay at Mr. [Elbridge G.] Dudley’s, Shawmut Av No 78, tonight, and the rest of the time, shall be a vagrant in the streets, attending my wife. Find me, if you happen in Boston!!!”

“Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

17 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Tuck. "Dear Brother: I went to Boston, Wednesday, to do some business, Thursday, but found it Fast day, and returned last evening, without accomplishing anything."

"The \$925 is safe, and I send you herein a receipt for the same. I will do the best I can with it, and if you want it, before it comes in, I will advance the money to repay where you have hired it. I have no doubt it will be satisfactorily profitable in the way of interest."

"A snow storm greets us this morning. I think it will be severe, and shall not allow it to prevent my going to Effingham to-morrow, unless it increases very much."

[Last paragraph illegible.]

"Yours aff., Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

17 April 1857: Receipt. "I have received of John Tuck nine hundred and twenty five dollars to invest at interest for him, in the western country, to the best advantage I can. He is to have the first twelve per cent per annum interest which is obtained for the use of the money, and I am to have, for my trouble, one half of the excess above twelve per cent which may be obtained. To make the said John Tuck secure against loss, I agree to pay him on demand the said money, and six per cent per annum int. if he chooses at any time to close up the business on those terms. Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

17 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. Daniel Tenney (Brighton, MA): "Dear friend: I am glad to hear of your welfare, that you are in New England, busy in the vineyard of the Lord, and laboring with so many proofs of success. Go on and prosper in all the work of your hands, while thus desiring to be useful, let me hear from you occasionally, and when you happen in this vicinity, visit me at my house."

"I wish you would send me a copy of the terms of my subscription for 'the Western Female Seminary.' When I make the conveyance I wish you to do so in accordance with those terms. I still retain my lands, but I am not now able to convey the 40 acres, and shall not be till I have a description sent me, which I have employed a man to obtain, and which I expect in the course of a month. I will then convey."

"Very truly, your friend Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

17 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. "Your favor of the 15th inst. is received, with enclosure of 2 Watertown, and 3 Madison Bonds. Your statement in regard to price, is entirely satisfactory. I had previously received 3 W. and 2 M. Bonds."

"I had not anticipated taking one of the Madison Bonds, and in case I did not, there would be \$50 in cash due me, and one of the Madison Bonds I should have to return. Still retaining most of the Bonds I at first purchased, (26), and having sold some on time, I should prefer, for the present, not to take this Madison Bond. Yet you may have made the stock and bond exchange, with a different expectation, and may choose that I keep the Bond, and send you

\$650 instead of your sending me a check for \$50. Please indicate your wishes, and I will comply. I saw and was gratified with a paragraph in the Tribune about the Road.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

“[P.S.] I shall negotiate for your securities, only with you, as suggested.”

[Correspondence Book]

18 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to C[harles] Howard. “Dear sir: I received the Madison Bonds, in exchange for the Watertown which I had sent you. I also have one Bond of the Township of Waterloo, sent me by you, to try the market upon. I have aided Mr. Lawrence in selling some more of the first class of bonds, and our limited market is at present quite well supplied. I doubt my ability to dispose of any more, but if you will allow this bond to remain with me, I will give it my attention. If I do not dispose of it till you want it, write me giving directions what I shall do with it.”

“Yours respectfully, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

18 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. H.D. Miller. “Your favor of the 13th inst. is at hand, enclosing your note of \$5550, and Gov. Farwell’s certificate relating to it. I think you better obtain the mortgage from the Records, and, if necessary according to your laws, assign it in blank and send [it to] me, so that it will go with the note. In case of your favorable reply to my last letter, (not received, when yours of the 13th was written), I shall have the money for you somehow, though it is a thing not easily done here. I shall be compelled to allow the \$550, to induce any one now to invest so large a sum in this way.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

18 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. “I enclose to you a draft for my brother, John Tuck of Biddeford, Maine, for \$925. Being a man of poor health and moderate property, I told him, if he could hire some money, to do so, and I would let it for him to good advantage. He has succeeded in getting this money. My object, of course, was to enable him to increase his moderate income. I pass it over to you, and trust to your judgment entirely. Loan it, as you shall think best, but only on A.1. security, as I should replace it if lost. A loan for one year would be desired. Whatever you do, ought to be paid for, and my brother will cheerfully allow you to take what you believe right for your services.”

“Laura remains well and happy, as do the rest of the family. No letters lately, from Abby, yet we trust all is well with her.”

“My bonds go off readily, and I think I can sell all that I desire to sell, of my own. It may take me some time to sell them all.”

“I leave in a short time to go to see my mother, who is unwell, and shall not return till Monday night, and so must be short. Please acknowledge receipt of this, at once. If I knew where to write you, I would write you again. I shall think much about you, hoping you will journey safely, and return in a few weeks, satisfied with your enterprise. In the mean time, feel

assured that for our sakes and yours and Abby's, we shall keep the Dear Laura all right. She improves in talking rapidly. Yours truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

18 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to S. Hopenden [sp?]. "I am just in receipt of your favor, as I am about to leave town for a few days. The claim of title you speak of, has entirely gone out of my memory. I will see Mr. Stickney on my return, and, appreciating fully, and reciprocating your friendly intimations, in regard to our past and present relations, I feel desirous of doing everything reasonable to maintain them."

"Very truly yours, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

20 April 1857: The Exeter News-Letter published a letter signed P.H.T. [probably Tuck's brother-in-law P. Henry Townsend] describing in upbeat terms the condition of settlers in Kansas.

21 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Charles Howard. "Enclosed please find Bond No. 58, in exchange for No. 192 sent me for the purpose." Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

21 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to [Dr.] Mrs. C. L. Rawson Le Vanway , Box 1440, Chicago, IL. "Your favor of the 13th inst. is received. I regret that the condition of the money market in this region will not, I fear, enable me to negotiate a loan, as desired. Men have been here from the west, to raise money, offering large interest, and have succeeded in obtaining a pretty clear sweep of all surpluses. Very respectfully, Amos Tuck."

[Correspondence Book]

21 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. "I was obliged to leave town on Saturday, to visit my mother, in the country, and consequently did not receive your dispatch until my return, last evening. I regret the delay in responding."

"I enclose a draft for \$650, on Boston, which I believe is worth par, in New York, and is as good at the west, as a draft on New York. If you are sending funds west, and conveniently send this draft there, I wish you would do so, as it helps our Bank 10 or 12 days circulation. Still it is not of much consequence."

"This \$650 is in full for bonds heretofore sent me."

"Please inform me how long I can count on a supply of bonds, probably, from you, in case of further negotiations. Yours truly, Amos Tuck." [Correspondence Book]

21 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William A. Ernst, Sec., Madison Gass Co. "Your favor of the 14th inst. is received, and would have been answered sooner but for my absence."

"I have enclosed your letter to Mr. Wm. L. Walker, Sec. of the Swamscot Machinery Co., South New Market, N.H. who will reply to your enquiries immediately, and I trust make a

satisfactory proposition to you. I believe [2-3 words illegible] confidently relied upon [two words illegible] latterly they have not made castings but butt welded pipe only, being a smaller size than you enquired for. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

21 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William L. Walker. “Please to reply to the enclosed letter from the Madison Gass Co. I have written the Secretary, you will do so, but that latterly you have not gone so much into castings, as other pipes, butt welded).”

“Should you incline to a bargain with them, I think they would stand a good price, particularly, if you give them good credit, and that you might make it a condition that the security be made satisfactory to your brother James Hill, in which case, I would advise to write Hill to be particular. Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

21 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Jonathan Tuck. “Dear Brother: I returned home last night. We were all sorry not to meet you at Effingham. Had I known of the freshet they have had, I should not have gone till next Saturday. But I had written in such a manner, and supposed mother to be in such a state, that I felt compelled to go, if it did not actually storm. I got along well enough, though the travelling was poor. On other routes, the roads are worse.”

“Mother is in fair health, except for rheumatism. Her arms are raised with difficulty, and I think she suffers more pain, and looks more feeble, than I have seen her lately. We must write to her and visit her often. She begins to show increased infirmity. I carried her a few pounds of cheese, a few dates and tea; also a new delain for dress, and a dress for Betsy. She wants you to carry her some gin for a peculiar infirmity. A box of figs, some oranges, etc. will be acceptable, no doubt. It is well to give enough to the family to make them feel amply compensated for entertaining us, however often our visits. It is one way of supporting mother. But this occurs to you without my suggestion. By and by, mother’s needs will be more than \$1.50 a week, when I will consent that you encourage them, by adding $\frac{1}{4}$ to what is now paid. But the price is high enough, with presents, for the present.”

“I paid to May 1st for board, and int. on my notes, (for \$200), paying them in all, besides \$5 to Mother, and \$5 given Hiram, (who has lost his pig), about \$40. They felt well, and loaned me \$100 (private from mother), so that I now owe them \$300, and shall pay them ten per cent for it. Write them when you shall go to E. Yours affectionately, Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “I think you better quicken Betsy’s [two words unclear] in regard to mother’s infirmities.” [Correspondence Book]

21 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Charles Howard. “I have disposed of Bond No. 58, Watertown, but shall be able in a few days to exchange another for it, when I will send same to you by mail, as requested. The man who bought it lives a few miles out of town.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

22 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson (Madison, WI). "I suppose a letter will reach you at Madison, before you leave there, en route, for Osage. So I send you a few lines. A letter was received yesterday from Abby, written Sunday, saying you would leave Monday, being better in health, but not well enough to relieve her from apprehensions. Be careful of yourself in every aspect, on a journey thus undertaken. I was pleased with the aspect of your trade for New York property. Land at the price you got for the 1040 acres, had generally better be sold. I have full faith, that unless you are under an entire misapprehension, as to value, you have made a strike above \$1000, considerably. I have only 10 or 11 bonds left, out of 28 which I have had, (2 besides those first obtained). I have not much money on hand, but can convert into cash, some thousands, if I go west. I cannot plan to go, till I have adjusted certain matters, west as well as east."

"So I cannot write definitely, as to my plans. You will see Mr. Gordon at Osage. Do not illuminate to him, as to terms of my purchasing of my Bonds. Write me as much at length as you find convenient, and as often. I would make suggestions as to your proceedings, except for my belief, that every man can do his own thinking best, and that you have shown your ability to do yours, by your success for [numeral unclear] years past. Laura is well, and maintains her popularity, and sends a kiss to her father. Yours truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

22 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Abby Tuck Nelson. "My dear Daughter Abby: Ellen and your mother received, each, a letter from you yesterday. Your mother's was a good, satisfactory and womanly letter, worthy the pen of the best daughter and mother in the land. Ellen has not exhibited hers, but I doubt not it is equally creditable to your head and heart. You spoke of writing to me soon, but I do not wish you to feel obliged to write me, out of a fear of my feeling myself neglected. I know you cannot feel like writing very often, and as I took your mother's letter as mine also, I need no new assurance of your thoughtfulness about me. We are all prospering well, and going along comfortably. I have just returned from Effingham, where I saw all our friends there, and conversed with them on all topics, touching my, and their interests. You and your children came up of course, and they all manifested interest in your welfare. Mother is a sufferer from rheumatism, and is partly disabled in the use of her arms, but other wise in fair health. Sarah lives with her husband on a little farm, is in humble circumstances, but is happier than most rich people. She and her 'Hiram' came home, and seemed as glad to see me as the rest of them. There is a large Hotel being built on the pinnacle of the mountain near Mr. Hodgdon's, and I hope we may all go there some warm summer, and spend a week above the clouds."

"Laura continues to excite the admiration of her friends, and by her wise sayings, bids fair, in the end to become an oracle. She has done some 'Ebeneser,' but not so much as common mortals, and on the whole, is a pattern child, bountifully beloved by all of us."

"Mr. Mann still adheres to the Parish, and makes every effort to apologize for his sectarian history in Exeter. He seems willing now to practice any degree of liberality, provide he can save his position. I fear he speaks too late. He will have to leave the Parish before long."

“I write to William by this mail, directed to him at Madison, Wis. I have given him cautions as to health, and you must continue your admonitions firmly, but modified by that manifest love and tenderly respect, by which alone can a wife retain the devotion of a husband and influence him for good.”

“All send love, especially Laura, who is this minute very busy with Barney, whom she halloos for, whenever he comes in sight.”

“Your affectionate father, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

22 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. M.D. Miller, Madison, WI. “Private My dear sir: Your cordial letter has caused me to write you the enclosed letter. If you see it is for the interest of the Bank, and think there would be no objection to sign the enclosed obligation to me, and if you wish me in the Bank, on these terms, I consent that you show the letter, and proceed on the basis of my raising my \$5000, when the rest of you are ready. But if you have doubts, don’t submit my accompanying proposition.”

“I shall not make, and do not desire to make anything on your note. I have already proposed to a bank, as an inducement for the long loan, to take the note for \$5000. They have it under advisement. Please do not mention to Gov. F. this accommodation as I was not able to oblige him. But you may rely on the \$5000 by May 1st, whatever turn our other affairs take, as your friendly sentiments towards myself shall [one or two words illegible] cause me to raise the money somehow.”

“Please write me immediately. Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

“Madison, Wisconsin 1857”

“For value received, the undersigned, jointly and severally, promise Amos Tuck of Exeter New Hampshire, to pay him, his heirs and executors on [sp.?] order, three months after delivered, at any time within three years, the [word missing] original value of any and all stock he may [sp.?] hold in the Wisconsin Bank of Madison, not exceeding five thousand dollars in amount; and in the mean time, do hereby guarantee five per cent semi-annual dividends to be paid on said stock.” [Correspondence Book]

22 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. M.D. Miller. “I have received your kind favor of the 16th inst. and cordially reciprocate the esteem and confidence therein manifested. It would cause me discomfort, and dispel many pleasant anticipations, to foresee an interruption to, or cessation of, the pleasant relations, which I have expected to sustain, with yourself and your associates in the new Bank.”

“My letter of the 10th instant pretty fully set forth the reasons of the letter. I felt that my absence must encumber you, - that if I continue to live in New England, the signing of bonds and the responsibilities incident, might become irksome to me, and that in the present condition of money matters, it might be as well for you at Madison, as for me here, to submit the propositions of that letter, and for me to step aside. But I cannot propose a course to myself, which will embarrass you. I will therefore consent that my name stand as it has been announced, if you

deem it desirable, and your associates concur with you in that opinion. I further say, that if you think it would be more satisfactory, I will put in \$5000 as at first contemplated, but wish to be relieved from signing bonds and, on account of possible mortality on my part, also to have your corporators sign the enclosed stipulation. In case of my death, or of unexpected inconvenience in the investment, it would be an object to have the means of easy change.”

“I am only willing that you suggest this last arrangement, in case you are confident your associates, would cordially acquiesce in it.”

“If the result of the whole matter is, that I become thus identified with your Bank, I shall rely upon you, upon my valued friend Gov. Farwell, and upon Judge Rose, whom I feel impelled also to call friend, though I have known him for so brief a period, to keep me posted in all that is necessary, and enable me to stand with you, in all the advantages of original owners of the Bank.”

“Whether it be practicable to hold \$10,000, each, of the stock, as heretofore contemplated, I have considered somewhat doubtful. If it can be, so much the better.”

“I still incline not to buy stock on credit, and to buy free state securities. I am afraid of repudiation down South. If it be desired I will try to meet you in N. York, when you come to buy the securities. Yours very truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

22 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Z. Dow Creighton, [Newmarket?]. “My Dear Sir: Your favor was duly received, and I feel particularly obliged to you for your disposition to protect me. But I am ‘in for it,’ I presume. I requested him to provide new sureties, on the Academy note, and he, thereupon, gave mortgages to others, to defend them, and not me. I am getting to think it best, to let all these slip-shod, clever, improvident men, go to grass, without again trying to help any of them. About all of them I try to aid, remain just as bad off in the end, and damage me too.” “Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

23 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to J.R. Palmer, Chicago. “Your favor of the 17th is received. The draft has been presented and will be honored at maturity.”

“I cannot now say, certainly, whether I can raise the money without a sale of the stock or not. Mr. Dearborn has just had negotiations with Weare Bank, Granite State Bank and New Market Bank, preparatory to his going west, and they may not be in condition to give down. I know the Weare Bank is not. Still I shall not allow the stock to be sold at a sacrifice, - not much, if any, below par (\$100). A week ago, Dr. Gorham sold 42 shares of this stock at par, and took municipal Bonds in pay. So I think it not a bad thing to sell at that price.”

“I do not think the \$6000 can be done here. So far as I can feel justified in asking anything of the Weare Bank, my rights with them will be exhausted by what I have already presented to them for consideration.”

“I will write to you again, as soon as I have raised the means for paying the \$1600 draft.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

23 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to J.W. Dodge. "I shall attend the Director's meeting on Saturday. Feeling confident it would be a nice thing for the Bank, and your letter assuring me of the favorable views of the Directors, in regard to the Rose note, I have written to Mr. Miller, the payee, that the money shall be ready by May 1st. It is best to have a quorum present on Saturday. Thinking it over, I incline to the belief, that a bonus of \$500 to the Bank, is all they ought reasonably to have. The \$50, I will appropriate towards paying the \$350, cost of my going west!!"

"Mr. Marston says we have an attachment in the Currier & Townsend suits of \$400 worth of lumber. He is less inclined to a settlement, unless Reed puts himself within the terms already understood between him and us. I have made no modification of the terms since I saw you, nor in fact, at any time, with him." Your truly, Amos Tuck"

"P.S. I wish you would send the enclosed paper to Mr. Brown, if you have opportunity."
"John B. Brown, Esq.

Dear sir: I wish you would to the Bank Meeting on Saturday, Watertown Bond No. 58, as I want to exchange another for it. Also give me the numbers of all your bonds."

"Ap. 22, 1857 Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

23 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. M.D. Miller (Madison, Wis.) "By Telegraph. Await letter from me. Will take stock according to letter. April 23rd, 1857 Amos Tuck"
[Correspondence Book]

23 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence, No. 39 ½ Exchange Place, New York). "By Telegraph Send two Watertown and two Madison Bonds by express. April 23rd, 1857 Amos Tuck"
[Correspondence Book]

23 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. M.D. Miller. "Confidential Dear sir: Your favor of the 17th inst. is received, in which you state your purpose, or proposition, to take my stock, and to withhold my first letter, in regard to withdrawing, till I could put the same in a given form. Your scheme was based in wisdom, and met my approval entirely. Yet I had referred, in a letter to Gov. Farwell in New York, to my first suggestions to you, thinking it best to give him time to con it over, and also thinking it inexpedient not to refer to it, when I was writing him a letter on other subjects. I wrote you, yesterday, proposing to stay in the Bank, on terms set forth, and I telegraphed to you today to await my letter."

"Now, I am willing to do just as you wish, and shall govern myself by your expressed wishes on the subject, after you receive this letter. I stay in the Bank, if at all, because of my confidence in you, without whom I should not hesitate to withdraw if I could honorably do so. I await with interest, your reply, by which I shall learn how you broached the matter, and how it was received, and how you have progressed."

“I hope it will be found practicable, at least after we get started, to hold stock to [word unclear] \$6700 [?] in amount, and thus make some extra profit. But that can only be ascertained by experiment.”

“I shall depend on you for a knowledge of all inside plans, and shall cordially cooperate with you to keep all stockholders perfectly safe. Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

23 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Stephen Fessenden. “Dear sir: I have seen Mr. Stickney and learn that the actions have been entered. But they shall be continued without charge to you, and when your proposed settlement is made, everything will be satisfactory, as I have no doubt.”

[Correspondence Book]

24 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Hon. James W. Bradbury. “By Express Dear sir: I enclose to you one Bond of the City of Madison, No. 58, for \$1000, agreeably to the arrangement between us. I have made an arrangement for two more, at same price, if you notify me, within a few days, that you want them.”

“The Bonds bear date Jan. 15th, 1857. The accrued interest is \$19.18, and the price of Bond \$800. Please send a check on a Boston Bank for \$819.18 in full for this Bond.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

25 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to C.B. Locke. “Dear sir: The following are the dimensions you will need in making my blinds.”

“The length, from the top of the rollers, now in the two front, and one end window, to the bottom of the sash, is 6 feet 9 inches. The length of the piazza window, measured in the same way, is 8 feet 9 inches.”

“The width of the stile, which divides each of the two front windows, is 4 inches.”

“The width of the stops and finish, at the sides of the windows, is 1 ¼ inches. This is wider than I supposed, yesterday.”

“The window recesses are 9 inches deep; but perhaps this is not of consequence. The recesses are square, not beveling.”

“Yours resp., Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

25 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to David Marston (Newmarket). “My old friend: I believe you were compelled by others, to give the securities you lately did, leaving me unprotected, when I might have otherwise expected. On this account I have no reproaches to bestow, but I retain my confidence in your integrity and your desire to do all you can, to be just and friendly to me. I continue to have a sympathy with you, and though I have lost by being surety for others, I shall never cease to be your friend, even if I lose by you, providing you do as well as you can for me. You may rest assure too, that I shall not attempt to collect anything forcibly. You need fear no suits from this quarter. Pay the interest, and let the debt stand to a more convenient season.”

“Your friend, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

27 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to S.A. Haley. “I enclose to you one hundred, (\$100), to pay the interest in advance, on my \$5000 note to the N. Market Bank. It ought to have been paid on the 10th inst. and I am mortified at my oversight, causing this delay. I shall not let it happen again. Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

27 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. “I received the two Watertown and two Madison Bonds, sent me. I enclose a draft for \$3220, and wish you, if you please, to send me your check on your bank for \$320, balance above paying for the Bonds. I have not time to exchange this draft for one smaller, before mail leaves.”

“If you have three Watertown Bonds, so send me on same terms, I will take them, sending you 24 shares of Galena & Chicago R.R. stocks, which you can sell, at the best price you can, and send me the balance in return.”

“I am getting my friends so interested in your bonds, that you must look out for us beyond all question!!”

“I authorize you to make out an account against me, in terms of the one enclosed, and forward to me. I will make it right, hereafter, with you. Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

“Amos Tuck to H.K. Lawrence Db.

1857

Ap. 23	To accrued int on	
	2 Watertown Bonds Nos. 99 and 100	\$50.53
	To accrued int on 2 Madison	
	Bonds Nos. 42 and 43	<u>37.82</u>
		\$88.35”

[Correspondence Book]

27 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson (St. Charles, Floyd County, Iowa).

“Dear sir: I am just in receipt of yours of the 22nd, written me at Chicago.”

“Our ‘charge’ is all safe. Laura is well and flourishing, giving us great comfort, and never making us otherwise than rejoice that she is with us. Still giving us demonstrations of the never tiring inquisitiveness, healthy, sweet, provokingly curious child. She increases in ability to talk, and by June or July, will be able to carry on quite a conversation.”

“The rest of the family are in health and comfort.”

“I have sold my bonds, down to ten in number, and have also sold 15 others, of same sort. I have not [two or three words illegible] the security, but let people judge for themselves.”

“I cannot determine that I shall go west, at all, this Spring, though I may go west, as far as Chicago, some time in May, to let some money. At present I have some notes I could get cashed, but have no cash to recommend my starting. If I had any, I might still let you loan it for me, rather than think of going myself. I await your report from Osage.”

“I regret that you bought any Land Warrants. If you can dispose of them at a small loss, I would not hesitate to do so, and make it up some other way. If you can make time entries on them, I recommend you to take time to do so, even if it causes your visit to be prolonged. Still, I know you will have more facts to govern your action, than I have at this distance, and I have faith that you will come out whole, and perhaps largely profited by the purchase.”

“When I see you, I will acquaint you with a new phase, which my Madison banking has assumed, by which, with certain collateral guaranties, I have been induced to become more interested than I at first contemplated.”

“Mr. Gordon’s heart failed him, and he did not go west, and you will not see him at St. Charles.”

“Hoping to hear from you often, I remain, your truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

27 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to J.R. Palmer. I have paid your draft out of my own funds, not able to get a discount readily. I will take your note, at 1 ¼ per ct. a month, myself, and not sell the collateral; or will sell the collateral [to] re-imburse me, as you think best. If you prefer the former, send me a draft for \$80; if the latter, notify me accordingly.”

“Mr. Nelson is at the west, and I am in doubt, whether to send what funds I can command, to him, or to go there again myself.”

“Would you like to give about \$6000 for Prof. Hoyt’s house trees etc. etc.? He is privately resolving to accept a professorship in William’s College, and will probably sell, giving possession in August or Sept. next. He would make the terms easy.”

“I saw your wife at Church yesterday. Mr. Dearborn left for Chicago, yesterday.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

27 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to J.W. Bradbury. “Your favor of this day is received, enclosing \$819.18 in a draft, to pay for a Bond of the City of Madison, [last year sp.?]. Over twenty thousand dollars of these bonds have been taken in this town and vicinity, and more will be taken, if they can be had. Our best businessmen have been desirous of this investment, and I believe it will prove satisfactory to us all. I don’t know of anything that seems more safe. I do not expect soon to go West, although I may go in May. Some things seem to prevent my getting away conveniently. Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

28 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. M.D. Miller. “I have negotiated your note at Weare Bank, Hampton Falls, N.H. They agree to give \$5000 for the note, and to have the interest begin, so far as they are concerned, on the first day of May, when they will remit a draft for your benefit, to the order of the “Market Bank” Troy, N.Y., sending the draft directly to the Market Bank. This makes it a 12 per ct. loan, as you arranged it at the outset. You can retain one month’s interest, as you receive it of Judge Rose, and send me only the interest after May.”

“I do not know that I have anything further to say in regard to our “Wisconsin Bank” matters, till I hear from you. When we completely understand our arrangements, I shall determine my own plans in respect to visiting or not visiting Madison and the west again this Spring. Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

28 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John W. Dodge. “I have written to Mr. M.D. Miller, that his note has been ‘done,’ and that on the first of May, the Weare Bank will remit a draft according to his previous direction, which is, ‘to the order of the Market Bank, Troy, N.Y.’ I have told him the interest on the note, so far as the Bank is concerned, may begin May 1st.”

“I suggest that the Draft be drawn, ‘to the order of the Market Bank, for the benefit of Mr. M.D. Miller,’ or to indicate in some better way, for whose use the money is intended. The draft is to be sent directly to the ‘Market Bank,’ Troy, N.Y.”

“I intend to be present Saturday, yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

29 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to [William R. Nelson]. “Your second letter from Chicago is just rec’d. I will write you, as requested, directing to you at Osage. I note all your doings at Chicago, and approve your selling your warrants and making the exchange for gold. It is not unlikely that you will make a larger profit, by having land warrants, and by your extensive land investments; but I suggest to you, to keep a goodly quantity of your funds more readily convertible to cash, which things is done, by loaning on well secured paper. But I need not suggest this, when I recollect what you have told me, and read your letter, wherein you speak of reserving funds to loan at Chicago, on your return.”

“As it was but day before yesterday I wrote, I have not, of course, any new views to present. We are in status quo; (that last letter is an o not an a, so don’t laugh at my Latin; I can yet quote that phrase correctly, and also that other classical phrase, E Pluribus Unum: - now take off your hat, young man). Ellen would write you, but our girl has ‘vamoosed the Ranch,’ and we are at present enjoying the luxury of a resort to first principles. I am no longer seeking to re-affirm the ‘natural rights,’ we read of, nor bothering my head about an abstraction, ‘that all men are born equal’ etc. We have got the thing sure, ‘introduced into my family,’ domesticated. Of course, it works well, ‘just what I expected,’ ‘the perfection of human society,’ etc. etc. Nevertheless, we might take a respite from this perfect enjoyment, if a capable Irish girl should present herself, at 1 ½ \$ a week, or we should give \$2 a week or more, just to see how it would seem, to have a servant again. This subject suggests to my mind, ‘by way of improvement my dear brethren,’ the words of Pope –

‘Order is Heaven’s first law, and this confessed,’

‘Some are and must be greater than the rest.’

Pope had a great many errors, but in my heart, I can forgive him for this one; though I take this occasion to renew my adhesion to the equality doctrine – how beautiful, how touching, the expression,

‘Give me liberty or give me death.’

My wife and amiable daughter, don't yet so fully accord with me in sentiment, as they might. As they go to their daily tasks, in the routine of house-keeping, cooking, sweeping, etc. they seem to feel as Madame did, when about to be executed, as she said, 'Oh, Liberty, how many crimes have been perpetrated in thy name!' Still, I think they will remain faithful to the last; - things will be better, or worse, in a few days, that is sure."

"Laura is well, happy and popular – a universal favorite, and growing like a pig. She says, when she sees the cars, 'Cars, cars, go see mamma, papa.' I hope you will write me from Osage, if you have time. All send love, yours truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

29 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Abby Tuck Nelson. "My Dear Daughter: Since Ellen's letter yesterday, I have thought about you constantly. The change of secretions, by which your milk has suddenly failed, must affect your health seriously, and I shall anxiously await further accounts from you. If you feel languid, or sick, do not write but a line, yet be sure to give us some indication immediately, of how your condition to be. I have lately written William twice, in answer to two letters receive from him at Chicago. Though he has discouraging news in regard to the rush of Land Warrants at Osage, yet I think he will do well with his warrants."

"Laura is still well, and is doing as well as she could, in any place. She grows like a little pig, and when the warm days come, will be in an exstasy [sic] of pleasure. Having just written a long letter to William, I will close this brief letter to you. All send love, especially Laura. With love to the Angelic little Nellie, I am your affectionate father Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

29 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to E.J. Tinkham. "Dear sir: Your favor of the 23th inst. is received, covering H.B. Goodrich's draft for \$3240. of same date, 4 mos. on J.S. Wright. I have just returned from the New Market Bank, with whom I have made a conditional arrangement for a discount of same."

"John R. Palmer, A.W. Seamans, and J.S. Wright, gave me their note on 6 mos., from Nov. 1st '56 for \$4000, due May 1st 4th, at J.W. Clark & Co.'s Boston; which note I had cashed at New Market Bank. If this note is paid, at maturity, as I have no doubt at all, it will be, then the New Market Bank, on the 5th of May, [will] discount this Goodrich bill, sending me a sight draft on Boston for that sum, which I can use to answer my own draft, by the time it returns from Chicago. Now, you can find out from Palmer, whether his \$4000 note, endorsed by me is to be paid; in fact you do his business, and will easily know. Find out this, without offending him, on account of my enquiring on so delicate a point. I have no doubt at all it will be paid. To avoid loss of time, I send you a sight draft on E.G. Dudley of Boston for \$3136.86, being the avails of the Goodrich note, deducting 6 per ct. an. int. and 1 3/[number illegible] exchange, reckoning as of May 5th. Use this draft only when you have ascertained that the \$4000 will be paid."

"I used your authority and endorsed your name on the Bill, and also my own."

"Palmer and others owe another note to the New Market Bk. endorsed by me, and altogether of same tenor as the above, but due from June 1st 4th. The Bank agree to discount for

you and me, on the 5th June, if we want, \$4000 on 4 mos. on same terms as this Goodrich bill provided this Palmer note shall be paid. Advise me of your wishes.”

“The Wright paper is largely offered, and I commend your taking unquestionable collaterals.”

“I am pleased with your disposition of our funds, and shall continue my exertions at this end, to send you money. Take the safest paper at the best rates.”

“Mrs. Tuck reciprocates your kind remembrance, and both of us remember your pleasant hospitality,, and wish to be recollected, with many regards, to Mrs. Tinkham.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

“\$3136.86 – To E. Gerry Dudley Esq. No. 20 Court St. Boston

“At sight pay to the order of Edw. Tinkham Esq. thirty one hundred and thirty six dollars and 86/100, and charge same to my account.

Exeter, N.H. Ap. 29, 1857 Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

30 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. “I herein enclose 24 shares of G. & C. U. R.R. [Galena & Chicago Union Rail Road] stock, to sell at the best price, reimburse yourself for 3 Watertown Bonds, sent me, and the balance to remit me, as you did the last, by your check.”

“We are in, so deep in your bonds, that though I could not doubt them, I liked your re-assurance in regard to them.”

“I have passed off those I have sold, mostly by inducing people to sell stocks and notes they held, and to invest in these bonds, paying a better interest.”

“I have been applied to, to sell some western ten per cent R.R. bonds, and have been offered 10 per ct. commission to do so; but I have declined doing anything, except in your securities. I hold \$10,000 only myself; - \$5000 in Madison Bonds, and \$5000 in Watertown.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “Certificates sent – No. 4750 for 2 shares

No. 1102 for 15 “

No. 3660 for 2 “

No. 3378 for 5 “

24 “ [Correspondence Book]

30 April 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to P.H. Townsend. “Dear Bro: I rec’d a long letter from you, and learn of your brightening prospects of employment and profit. I wish you would frequently give us an account of your experience and observation, as it will always interest us. Before saying more in regard to you and Kansas, I will assume that you are interested to learn something of Exeter and Exeter people.”

“This 30th of April is the first warm day of the year, and this is nothing to boast of. The May flowers are abundant, but no other blossoms rejoice the seasons. There is no snow, and in a few days, people will be sowing their gardens. The people of Exeter are in status quo ante you

left. Hoyt is out of health and thinks of accepting a professorship in Williams' College, on less salary (1200\$), and with less labor, and giving up here. The young men of the town are less numerous than heretofore, and the candidates for old maids are on the increase. Ellen is to have a surprise party to-night, and she and Kate have been all day peeling oranges and preparing generally. Of your old friends invited, are Lucy and Mary Gordon, Hatty and Ellen French, Sarah Cobbs, Mrs. Cobbs, etc. etc., also John Kelley, Mr. Hoyt, Judge French, and a new succession of Academy boys. Barney continues with me and I still retain my farm. I suppose it is throwing away industry to cultivate it; yet while I live here, I must have some amusement. I also have 4 steers, 2 heifers on my farm, and a cow yearling and a horse, kept at my new barn near my house. So much for Exeter. It looks dull, and you could not be content in it, a month. Now about Kansas."

"You are in the very focus of emigration. The supposed mild climate of the territory, with the romance of going there, are reasons enough to turn multitudes to your borders. Many will not stay, but a majority will be obliged to stay any how. We are pleased at your prospects, and think you cannot fail to reap a small harvest, at least, in the rise of property. I advise you to counsel with the shrewdest men, deal securely, and only sell your land at high prices, holding on so long as you see things going up rapidly."

"Where are the fractional lots you bought so low? I thought your bargains good, and hope you will make money on them. I commend your building a house, if you can sit down, cypher it out, before you build, and see that it will be profitable to do so. Do you plant this spring? Where the emigration is so great as it is now, and will be in the fall, you can count on high prices, so look out for such time."

"If you go in with 'the lawyer,' look out that you don't trust, till you know you are safe."

"I would like to go to Kansas, but I do not think a fortune only, would compensate for leaving all I should have to leave in N. England. Still, I have uneasy 'spells' occasionally, and there is no telling what I may do. It is not unlikely I shall appear to you, at Bigg Springs next Fall."

"I have thought it best that your stock in the Galena Road should be sold, and some eight per cent Bonds of the City of Watertown, Wis. be bought in its place, to be held by the Academy as collateral to your \$2000 debt. The bonds are \$1000 each, and are sold at \$850 each. They draw 4 per ct. int. on 1st of July and January, and are guaranteed by the Watertown and Madison R.R. They have interest coupons attached. I have \$10,000 in bonds, and have bought \$3000 for you. Your 3 bonds stand \$2550. Your stock brought at 102 brought \$2448, or say \$2450 bal. due me \$100. I will send you in a few days a draft for \$150, and you can send me, when you receive it, your note for \$250. On first of July, you will draw a half year's int \$120. I will write more fully Saturday. Yours truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

[30 April 1857: Tuck's summary of his bond sales]

Nos.	Watertown Bonds	Date of Sale	Nos.	Madison Bonds	Date of sale
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1857			1857		
143			59	Geo. Gordon	May 1st
144			62		
145	Geo. Gordon	May 1 st	63		
146			64		
147			65		
42	Nath. Gordon	Ap. 25 th	68	Charles S. Brown	Ap. 30 th
43	Nath. Gordon	“ 25 th	69	Richard Dodge	Ap. 24 th
160	Nath. Gordon	“ 16 th	95	Nath. Gordon	Ap. 16 th
169	Nath. Gordon	“ 16 th	96	Nath. Gordon	“ 16 th
166	D.W. Gorham	“ 14 th	99	Nath. Gordon	“ 16 th
167	D.W. Gordon	“ 14 th	100	Nath. Gordon	“ 16 th
168	John Lowe, Jr.	“ 17 th	71	D.W. Gorham	“ 14 th
109	John Lowe, Jr.	“ 17 th	72	D.W. Gorham	“ 14 th
192	George Gardner	“ 10 th	73	D.W. Gorham	“ 14 th
99	P. Exeter Academy	“ 1 st	57	Geo. Gardner	“ 10 th
142	S.H. Stevens	“ 21 st	94	S.H. Stevens	“ 21 st
56	John B. Brown	“ 8 th	66	John Lowe, Jr.	“ 17 th
107	John B. Brown	“ 15 th	67	John Lowe, Jr.	“ 17 th
3	P.H. Townsend	“ 30 th	58	Jas. W. Bradbury	“ 23 rd
4	P.H. Townsend	“ 30 th	47	P. Exeter Academy	“ 1 st
5	P.H. Townsend	“ 30 th		John B. Brown	“ 8 th
	Wells W. Healey	“ 15 th		John B. Brown	“ 30 th

[Correspondence Book]

1 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to P.H. Townsend. “Dear Bro: I wrote you that I would write you, Saturday, and send you some money. I write to-day, but shall not dispatch the letter, till to-morrow.”

“I send you enclosed herein, a draft for \$150, and as the three bonds come to \$100 more than your stock sold for, I wish you to send me your note for \$250, to make it square between us. I agree to sell your stock for you, at any time you may desire, for a sum equal to its cost to you. I enclose a note for you to sign to the Academy, and with it, I design to take up, and send to you, the two notes (\$2000 and 200), now held by the Academy. By reading it, you see I propose to pay on the two notes, the int. to July 1st, when \$120 in coupons to said bonds will be collected, which will pay the interest, and leave a balance, which if you stand in need of, I will sell you, but if not, I will endorse on your note to me. I have bought these bonds, because N. Gordon, John Lowe, Geo. Gardner, Dr. Gorham and others, with me, have thought them more desirable than Galena stock, and have invested largely in them.”

“Ellen’s surprise (!) party broke up at 11 ½ o’clock, and to-day, we are all, tired out.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

“Big Springs, Kansas, May, 1857”

“For value received I promise the Trustees of the Phillips Exeter Academy, to pay them or their order two thousand dollars, on demand, and interest semi-annually from July 1st; and I hereby assign to said Trustees, three bonds of the City of Watertown, Wisconsin, of one thousand dollars each, to hold as collateral security for the payment of said note -- \$200 – Payment of said note to be made at Exeter, New Hampshire.”

[Correspondence Book]

1 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to S.A. Haley. “I want you to send, on Tuesday morning, (May 5th), a draft for the \$3136.86 negotiated for, to E. Gerry Dudley Esq. No. 20 Court Street, Boston, on whom I have drawn in favor of Mr. Tinkham. I have written Mr. Dudley, that the first mail to Boston, on Tuesday, will convey to him a draft from you, to cover the sight draft I have drawn on him, which cannot arrive till Wednesday.”

“Mr. Tinkham does Palmer and other’s business in Chicago, and will not use the draft I have sent him, until he first knows that Palmer’s note is to be paid. But I suppose that there is not the least doubt of Palmer’s note being properly met.”

“Please write me, that I might know you have rec’d this note, and accord with this arrangement. Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

1 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to E.G. Dudley. “I have been obliged to make a sight draft on some one, and have again taken the liberty to do so on you. I have sent to Edw. J. Tinkham of Chicago, a draft on you, for #3136.86, payable on sight. I suppose it will reach you on Wednesday or Thursday next. On Tuesday, by the first mail from the East, a sight draft in your favor, for the same amount, will be sent you, by S.A. Haley Esq. Cashier of the New Market Bank. I would apologize for continuing to tax you in this way, if I could; but having exhausted my skill [sp.?], by former attempts, I give up, throwing myself on your known friendship, to make an excuse for me. Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

7 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. “Your favor enclosing check for \$161.50 is rec’d.”

“If you will not lose a trade thereby, send me two Watertown Bonds, which I have a fair prospect of selling, but which I will return next week, if not sold.”

“Have you Waterloo Bonds? If so, give me your minimum for them, and state the population of the township and other leading facts, indicating their security.”

“I trust the Messrs. Howard are going on smoothly, and that no interruption is apprehended to the completion of the Road, as anticipated. Your truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

8 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Betsy Towle Tuck: “My Dear Mother: Jonathan has written me about an arrangement he had made respecting letters, with which I am well satisfied,

and will most cheerfully try to perform my part of it, with punctuality. I should write you at this time, if n such engagement had been made.”

“Jonathan has written me an account of his visit, and I am very sorry to hear that you suffer so frequently. I wish I could be nearer to you, so as to be able to try to relieve you. I hope and pray that the means which shall be used may prove efficacious to relieve you and also to cure. There is nothing I would not do, to give you freedom from suffering. I want to hear as often as I can, how you get along, and whether you do not find relief. The weather must soon become more mild, and then, I think it must happen that you will feel better.”

“My family are all in fair health, as usual. Lois Ann is here flourishing with Ellen, and both seem to enjoy themselves merrily. Laura is still happy and well, except a slight cold. Ned is sound [sp.?] as usual, and had planned an expedition, with Lois Ann at the next vacation, in July, to go to Effingham. So you may expect to see him about huckleberry time.”

“I am busily engaged, making my garden, and planting generally. I have two men engaged, and find plenty of work to be done. I have not heard from Abby for some days, and as her husband is absent in the west, we feel anxious about her. Yet we hope she is well.”

“I will write again before long. In the mean time, with love from all my family to you, and to Bro. Hodgdon’s family, generally, I remain, your affectionate son, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

8 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to S.A. Haley, Cashier. “Please consider the following proposition: -- to discount an acceptance by Starling Mc Cullok & Co. of N. York for \$5000, on 60 days from Ap. 28th, without grace, drawn by M.L. Sullivant and J. Sullivant, and endorsed by Ed. J. Tinkham and Amos Tuck; -- the funds to be a draft on yr. Bank in Boston, payable May 18th (without grace, if practicable), and the note 6 per ct. and 3/8 per ct. exchange [rest of the line illegible] – that is, 10 per ct. per an. The drawers and acceptors of the draft are A.1., without the credit of the endorsers. If you have a chink to fill up June 28th, this is a good opportunity. Please intimate the prospects to-morrow morning, and if favorable, I will go to the Bk. on Monday, and we will fix it up. But I don’t want this to interfere with your proposed accommodation, June 5th, for \$4000. I should like an arrangement for \$5000 a month, on 4 mos. if you have no better use for the money. But this you can consider, hereafter. I would always have on deposit with you satisfactory security. Yours truly, Amos Tuck.” [Correspondence Book]

8 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to E.J. Tinkham. “Your favor, enclosing the \$5000 acceptance, came safely to hand, but was 6 days coming. I will see what can be done about the discount, and write you in a day or two.”

“The Weare Bank are short, just now, and will have to delay sending more money, for some weeks. Mr. Dodge says he thinks your circulation has been very good, and that next time he will mark [sp.?] the bills, and so have knowledge on that point in future.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

9 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to M.D. Miller. "Your letter enclosing deed is received. All right. You can put me down for \$10,000 of the stock, as suggested in your letter. I have an engagement for \$2000 besides my order, and shall obtain other stock here, in all probability. Will write you in a few days again. My \$5000 and the \$2000 taken here, will be ready, any time, when you are ready to dip in at Madison. I shall require only a week's notice. In haste, with regards to friends, yours truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

10 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to E.J. Tinkham. "I do not find it practicable to get this \$5000 cashed, and so I return it, as requested. I think I shall, by and by, have an understanding with the N. Market Bank, and perhaps one other, by which we can be accommodated to the extent of \$5000, or more, a month. As you remark, I see how it multiplies our profits, when we can double the thing over, by a re-discount."

"Galena stock is down! On the 1st of April, I sold all mine, (179 shares), for 104 $\frac{3}{4}$; -- pretty well, for April fool day. Will it go above par again? Yours truly, Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

10 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Messrs. Briggs and Lasell. "Gent. I enclose \$5 for your bill, and you can remit balance in postage stamps."

"My daughter is now at home and in good health, which was not the case, during the winter. She begs to be remembered with many regards, to you both and your several families, to whom she and we, feel under many obligations for your kindness to her."

"With much respect, your very truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

10 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to J.W. Dodge. "I enclosed to you the recorded mortgage, assigned to Blank, to secure the note discounted by the Bank for M.D. Miller."

"I also enclose Benj. Sewall's note for \$585.77 due in Boston May 16th, and Shoney & Co.'s note for \$700, due in Boston May 23rd, for collection."

"Please send these last to Boston, so that if not paid, (as they will be), the endorsers may be notified."

"I think of going to N. York, to-morrow, to return on Friday. Yours truly, Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

10 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. "Your proposition for me to take \$50,000 of the Madison Bond, is rather too large for me to contemplate. But I will comply with your suggestion to go to New York, particularly because I would like to converse with you about Madison, our Bank and the West, generally, before you go thither. If nothing extraordinary shall happen to prevent, I will go to N. York, by the Fall River Boat to-morrow, (Tuesday night), an call at your office early Wednesday morning. The Telegraphic lines are cut between here and Boston. Yours truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

15 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John R. Palmer. "I have just returned from N. York, where I should have disposed of the stock, had I not forgotten to take the certificate with me. But receiving your letter and draft for 80\$, I will hold the note myself. The note is dated Ap. 25th/57, and is on 4 mos. for \$1600 [2-3 words illegible] J.W. Clark & Co.'s Boston. Of course, it will be due Aug. 25th, 28th."

"I hold a certificate No. 919, for 16 shares in Chicago, Quincy & Burlington R.R. stock, as security for the payment of the note."

"I cannot raise any money for use at Chicago. I have had some [word illegible] in the way of long term investment, obtained at New York, [several sentences illegible] Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

15 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward J. Tinkham. "I have just returned from N. York, finding yours of 8th awaiting me. I regret it so happens, that the three banks, to which I have occasional access, are so short as to be unable to do anything beyond administering to the wants of those who constantly depend on them for carrying on different branches of manufacture, trade, etc."

"The Weare Bank have been compelled to [word illegible] advance some money, to prevent losing a debt, and are in a straightened condition. It will be some little time, before they can make another remittance to you. I think the 4000\$ promised from the New Market Bk. is the first that can be counted on from this quarter. For some cause or other, the Banks here, have not arranged to have much money come in during this month. Yours truly, Amos Tuck"

"P.S. I enclose the \$2167.72 acceptance sent me." [Correspondence Book]

17 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Tuck. "Dear Brother: I believe I wrote last to Jonathan, and I will now address this letter to you. I have had many things to occupy my mind, for the last few months, and have not written you, or Jonathan, as often as at some periods heretofore. I find that since I left the law business, my time has been quite as much occupied, as it was before. Last fall I built a barn, - this winter I went west, and since my return I have had my hands full of one thing and another. I went to N. York last Monday, on business respecting the purchase of some more of those Bonds. I think I told you, I bought 26 thousand dollar[s in] bonds in N. York, the 1st of April. I know I wrote to you about wishing to sell some of them. In the month of April and the 1st of May, I sold forty two Bonds in all. I sold them at a rate, which made the transaction a paying one, amply compensating me for selling my R.R. stock. My business at N. York last week was a negotiation for more bonds, which I may keep, as the market is supplied, and the price enables me to retain them, with a fair income from them, though they draw only 7 per ct. on their par value. Of course I get them as less than par. You perceive Galena stock is down, somewhat. I do not think its intrinsic value is less than formerly, and do not [word illegible] that it will pay 10 to 15 per ct. hereafter; [two words illegible] people here still retain all their interest in it, S.W. Dearborn among them. I intended to explain to you and Jonathan an interest I have in a new Bank at Madison, Wis.; but I did not get time to [word

illegible] write you about it. I was induced to take \$5000 in a new Bank there, having a stipulation that I shall [four words illegible] for the stock at any time within 3 years, and at least 10 per ct. income in the mean time; - this stipulation signed by four responsible men. They put me in Vice Pres. of the Bk. for which I am sorry, as it has caused so many questions, since it went into the newspapers. Some have inferred from it, that I intend to move west which I have no thought of doing. I was appointed to that office, to give the Bank some notoriety east. I also bought some city land in Madison, for which I paid \$4350. Thus I state all my transactions intending you and Jonathan, to know all about my transactions, but not wishing you [to] let other people know much about it, as it readily runs back here, or would be likely to, which I should not desire. So much for my business.”

“I was at Peekskill Wednesday night. Abby and her baby were quite well. You know her oldest is with us at Exeter. Wm. R. Nelson is in Iowa, at the land sale, now taking place at Osage. He has land warrants and money with him to use there. He is rather doubtful about the prospect for buying wild land, to a profit. He acknowledged the receipt of a draft of \$925 for you, and said he was do[ing] his best for your benefit. I have no doubt he will make a disposition of it, gratifying to you. Probably in a week, or two, at longest, he will be able to give me a full account of what he does for you, as well as for himself.”

“I had a letter from Effingham, two days, since, learning that mother has real and imaginary illness. We will do all we can to allay both, and smooth her declining years. No doubt you have information from her.”

“Lois Ann is still in Boston, we suppose. I think Ellen has heard from her once.”

“I trust you are still in fair health, as well as your wife and family – also Jonathan and wife. With love to all, yours affectionately Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

19 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to M.D. Miller. “Nath. Gordon of Exeter will take \$1500, of our Bk stock. – possibly \$2000. He has the money now in hand.”

“Prof. J.G. Hoyt will take \$1200, paying for it with a check on Greenebaum Bros. of Chicago. This is all for the present.”

“I have been induced to engage bonds, largely, of Mr. Lawrence. This may disenable me from paying my \$5000 all, on the short notice I mentioned. But I shall not need much delay.”

“I see that Thompson’s Reporter speaks of our new enterprise in the right way – or rather I am told it does, not yet having seen it.”

“With regards to Gov. Farwell and friends, I am yours truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

21 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward J. Tinkham. “Your favor of 16th inst. is rec’d, and I note with gratification, your transaction in regard to the sale and re-investment of the \$5000 bill, sent back from here.”

“I suppose we can depend on the accommodation at the New Market Bk., June 5th, on the condition that Mr. Palmer pays his \$4000 and \$212 notes, due at Clark & Co.’s June 1st 4th. I

will write the Cashier to-day, and in a short time let you know the result – perhaps send you a draft.”

“I will see Mr. Dodge in a few days; I think he has received the R.R. stock sent him.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck.” [Correspondence Book]

21 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to S.A. Haley. “I suppose it arranged, that in case the Palmer and Seamans note is paid, June 1st 4th, your Bank will accommodate me, on 5th June, on Edward J. Tinkham’s note for \$4000, on 4 mos.”

“If such be your understanding, I will send to Mr. Tinkham, in anticipation, my draft on Mr. Dudley of Boston, to be used by him, only when he knows the Palmer note will be paid; and I will depend on you, as before, to send your draft to Mr. Dudley, to meet my draft on him. How much will your payment be on \$4000 on 4 mos. paper?”

“If your bank will give me a monthly accommodation of 3 to 5000\$ on 4 mos. on Tinkham’s and my paper, on the terms of the last, I will keep ample collateral with you, and accept it. Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

22 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John W. Dodge. “I have rec’d a letter from Mr. Tinkham, wherein he enquires if you have rec’d from him 54 shs. C.B. & Quincy R.R. stock as collateral. Please write him at once. If you can stand another remittance to him, if it be only \$1000, I think you better send it on. He will not wish to have so much collateral [word illegible] without our sending him something, if we can. But do not encumber yourself. Tell him in your letters, about what time you will probably send him some more. I wrote him that the Weare Bank were expecting to be obliged to advance to another party to save loss. This was when I expected that we must advance to Mr. Currier to enable him to buy the Rogers lumber [sp.?]. Perkins expects \$300. Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

24 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward J. Tinkham. Mr. Seamans is here, and applied to me yesterday to loan him some money, to meet the Palmer note for \$4000, due June 1st 4th. I could not do it. On being pressed to accommodate them, I told Mr. S., that I had, among other things, to pay you \$4000, (of course not telling him anything further about our private transactions). I shall not perhaps send you the draft spoken of in my last, till I know more certainly than now, that the Palmer note will be paid. But I shall arrange that we shall not have to pay int. till about the time we can use the funds. In the mean time, should Palmer apply to you to loan him this money, I suggest collateral as prudent, though I think he will stand. I find Wright, Palmer and Seamans owe heavily. I would prefer that you loan him this \$4000 (on good security) to his failing to pay the note in Boston. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

24 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to S.A. Haley. “I was yesterday called on, by Mr. Seamans, in behalf of himself and Messrs. Palmer and Wright, with the request to loan them for 60 days,

money to meet the payment of their \$4000 note, due June 1st 4th. I could not do it. It is perhaps unnecessary for me to say to you, that I do not wish your Bk. to extend the time of payment on this note. Though they are good, it is not my purpose to be their surety, beyond the life of the present note. I do not expect application for extension will be made to you, but if it is, the above is my wish, though I want you to decline the extension for your own reasons.”

“Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

24 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John R. Palmer. “It was out of my power to accommodate Mr. Seamans on his application yesterday. The notes (4000\$ and 212\$), were discounted some time since, the first at New Market Bk., the last at Weare Bk. I have to make out for Wisconsin Bank \$5000 June 1st; \$4000 by June 5th to Mr. Tinkham, (which I can get of the N. Market Bk. on condition your note is paid on the 4th), and \$3000 by June 5th, to be paid in N. York. I thus state my heavy liabilities which put out of my power to oblige you. When this last obligation, (at N. York, for \$3000 June 5th) was incurred, I expected to sell the R.R. stock pledged to me, but found on my return your last letter, and shall not sell it, of course. So excuse, yours truly Amos Tuck.” [Correspondence Book]

24 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. “Though I have not heard of your arrival home, yet I suppose you must have arrived by this time, inasmuch as I have not lately heard from you, and judge you must be en route for Peekskill. If I am mistaken, and you have not arrived, then Abby can keep this letter to give to you when you do come. It may not be devoid of interest, some days hence.”

“In the first place, Laura is alive, ‘and alive likely to be,’ notwithstanding your dreams. No child could be healthier, more robust and active, than she is, and has been, ever since her sojourn in the old Granite State. As proof of this, I adduce her present employment, while I am writing. She stands on a cricket at the end of my table, boisterously as on a piano, and singing as boisterously. Her music does not disturb me, though I do not suppose it ranks high with musical artists, and except for the proof it gives me, that she is ‘alive and kicking,’ I might not crave it at all times. If you discover any rambling characteristics in this letter, or any angularities or irregularities in the chirography, you may attribute them to the antics of this same Laura Nelson, who has left her piano performance and is asking all sorts of questions, and pressing around and juggling in all [3-4 words illegible] Gappa’s [sp.?] elbow, so that my writing will remind you of patriot Hopkin’s signing the Declaration of Independence. There, she has passed by me, and now I can write with less disturbance. But she is well, is improving in ability to talk daily, and grows ‘like a pig.’ She has not forgotten Pappa or Mamma, and I have no doubt, when you come she will detect her ancestry immediately.”

“Have you come back, ‘down in the mouth?’ If so, cheer up. You have tried great things, and if you have not achieved all you attempted, you have not ruinously failed, and have in the mean time, gained an experience, which will be of great value to you hereafter. The fact that the land warrant business has nearly broken down in Northern Iowa, will result in enhancing the

value of well entered or well purchased lands, and I feel sure your land will go up. You have not anticipated a fortune at once, and I doubt not that if you keep your head cool, your feet warm, and your courage strong, you will get a fortune as soon as it will be for your permanent happiness to become rich. If you should become wealthy at once, it might possibly happen, notwithstanding all signs are now so much to the contrary, that you would be tempted to indulge, now and then, in cold and stewed oysters, and that the aforesaid oysters would result in giving you a pain in one of your toes, and so you would have more pain in consequence of becoming suddenly rich, than would happen by taking it gradually, as I and your father have done! But when I remember how abstemious you have lately been, and how you did not have a demijohn of brandy at Osage, and did not drink, or course, I think you indurated in sobriety, and not needing any more discipline. In any view, cheer up, being thankful for the property and other blessing you now have: -- your wife, your Laura, your Nellie, -- your relatives and friends generally, -- not indulging any unhappiness or a failure to accomplish all you hoped for. When you get rested, write me.”

“When you have been home long enough to feel an appetite for Exeter, ‘come on’ as Laura says. You will find a hospitable welcome awaiting you and yours. With love to all, Yours Truly, Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “The \$1 enclosed is for Mrs. Thomas Nelson, for a bill sent on for redemption.”
[Correspondence Book]

25 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William J. Bellows. “Your favor of the 20th ult. duly came to hand, but has remained unanswered, partly because of absence and other pressing engagements, and partly because no important suggestion occurred to me, relative to the matter in question.”

“I well recollect my conversation with Mr. Rowell, and my suggestion in regard to some employment at the session of the Legislature. It seemed to me that he was faithfully laboring for a good cause, and doing work important to your locality, for so moderate a return, that our party ought to use some of its patronage, to extend to him a helping hand. I think so still, and it will give me pleasure to promote his and your wishes, at Concord, by what little influence I can exert in his behalf. If conflicting claims arise to the assistant clerkship, (as I hear suggested from your region), make a claim for him, for something else, in the Senate or the House, which would be equally profitable. Yours very truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

25 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck, Dug Out, Illinois. “Dear sir: Your letter from Boston, of April 27th, came duly to hand. I proposed to put the case into Mr. Stickney’s hands, having left the law business myself. I spoke to him on the subject, but learned he was employed in advance on the other side. He said it was represented to him and that respectable men would say that it would not be well for the daughter to have her money go into her hands and be subject to the hazards of your movements. This may be so, and I was convinced, I should not, if in your case, insist on getting the money into my own hands. It being hers, and now safe,

I should be more anxious to keep it safe for her, for a future time, with a moderate interest in the mean time, than to get it into my hands now, hoping to make it more profitable, but not know what the future is to disclose in regard to new investment. Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

27 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Tuck. “I was glad, and relieved from apprehensions, by hearing from you an account of mother’s condition. She has now had visits from all her sons, in succession, and may feel contented a while without us. If we went to see her for our own satisfaction mostly, we would all go together; but I think we shall do her more good to continue to visit her separately.”

“As to the Galena & Chicago R. Road: I believe it is in good hands, and that their affairs are managed with prudence. They are not men of artifice, and consequently expose to public view, more than many others would, all transactions which invite criticisms. I think their stock is now a good investment, and will pay 15 per ct. for a series of years. It is intrinsically worth as much, as though it sold for \$120. I advise you to give Mr. Turner [sp.?] a Power of Atty. at once, to represent your stock; so Jonathan’s and Mrs. Andrew’s”

“I have enquired of Ned, and have examined my own accounts, but can get no light on the interest question with Mr. Gilman. I think you better write him that having sent the money sometimes to me, and sometimes directly to him, you have not the means of telling exactly your transactions respecting the payment of interest. Tell him that if you let one whole year, (1856), pass, without a single payment of interest, it was the greatest blunder that could happen, and contrary to your modes of doing business. That if he is confident all the payments appear on the note, you shall think you have committed the blunder, which otherwise you would have found it difficult to conceive possible, and that I will pay the interest, and that I will call on him in a few days for that purpose. I will then call and re-examine his books and papers, and if no error be detected, will pay it, as you request. One thing is certain. Mr. Gilman intends to be correct, and though he has made two blunders in writing you, is usually accurate.”

“I am busy with my farm and grounds. I have an engagement at 2 ½ o’clock at Mr. Stickney’s office, and to get this letter into the P. Office in season must close up at this place. We are all in fair health, and with love to all, I am yours affectionately, Amos Tuck.”

[Correspondence Book]

27 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to E.G. Dudley. “The first thought I have in taking my pen to answer your favor of 25th inst. just rec’d, is upon what you put in the Postscript to your letter – the event in your family. Be assured that I enter into your feelings, in regard to this event, and know that although it is mentioned, delicately, only in the P.S. it was an occurrence that struck near your heart, and will cast a shadow on your spirit for some time. Had the son lived, he would have been a most precious boon to you and wife, and family, and it is impossible for you to have had this bare glimpse at his existence, without sorrow at his loss. Mrs. Tuck joins with

me in the kindest wishes for Mrs. Dudley's welfare and happiness, and many regards to yourself."

"Prof. Hoyt has not decided to accept the position at Williams' College. He will not decide until July 4th. Immediately after that, the Trustees of the Academy will have a session, and if he go, will proceed to fill his place. I will do anything to promote Prof. Hedrick's wishes, proper to be done as to this Academy. But rare qualifications as a Greek and Mathematical tutor, would be requisite in the successor of Mr. Hoyt who is the best teacher in both these branches that I have [two words illegible] from the character of Prof. Bowen, Dr. Burroughs and Mr. Soule, all masters of this Acad. I have many apprehensions that Dr. Hedrick would encounter obstacles in securing a place here, for want of practice in the northern method of teaching Greek and Mathematics. Still if you will get evidence of his qualification in these branches, I will present him in the contingency of Prof. Hoyt's leaving."

"I sent your letter of Friday last, to Mr. Dodge, with a request that he 'give down' in funds, if possible. I trust he did so. There was no Directors' Meeting on Saturday, and hereafter there will usually be only meetings on alternate Saturdays, giving the Cashier power to act in the mean time, in proper cases. Yours truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

28 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Cass [sp.?] L. Dearborn. "Dear sir: Taking it for granted that you received the list of lands, which I left at Gov. Farwell's office for you, and that you had taken the journey that I had engaged you to take, and examined the lands, I have been for some time expecting a letter from you on the Subject. But I have received no letter from you. Please write to me and tell me what you have done."

"I have seen your father and described to him your farm, circumstances and family. He and your mother were at Exeter one day soon after I returned, but I was out of town and did not see them. Since that time I have seen your father, who took an interest in everything I could tell him about you. He is looking well in health, and appearing well in spirits."

"The spring is backward here, but a few days of warm weather have done wonders, and it will not be strange, if we have good crops. The apple trees will blossom full: - so of pears and plums. I have two Irishmen on my farm, but am not doing much in the way of a crop, but am improving the land, fences, etc."

"With a request to be remembered to your wife and family, I am yours truly, Amos Tuck"
[P.S.] "I expect to go to Madison this fall." [Correspondence Book]

28 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward J. Tinkham. "I presume the Palmer note will be paid. I therefore send you a draft on E.G. Dudley, Esq. for \$4000, less 4 mos. and 3 days int. at 10 per ct. per an. (136 66/100, if I reckon right) - equal to \$3863.34. Ascertain if Palmer is to pay his note, before using this draft; for the Bank will not be in condition to let us the funds, on the 5th, unless this note is paid on 4th. Mr. Seamans succeeded in getting Mr. Dearborn to extend the time on a \$10,000 note, becoming due June 1st, and I therefore conclude they will meet the

New Market note, without much doubt. I expect to receive 4 mos. paper from you, to use for raising this remittance, but I send the draft in anticipation, as you may wish to have it early.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “Cash shall not reach Dudley till June 5th.”

“Exeter, N.H. May 28, 1857”

“At sight pay to the order of Edw. J. Tinkham, Esq. thirty eight hundred and sixty three dollars and thirty four cents (\$3863 34/100), and charge same to my account.”

“To E. Gerry Dudley Esq.

“No. 20 Court St., Boston

Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

29 May 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Betty Towle Tuck. “It is my turn to write to you next Saturday, according to Jonathan’s arrangement. I anticipate the time two days, because I have occasion to leave home this morning, and omit writing at all, unless I do so, now.”

“I have risen earlier than common, and before anyone else is up in the house, so as to write to you, take a lunch, and be ready to leave in the cars, to go to Gilford to attend the funeral, this afternoon, of James Bell, my partner in law business for between seven and eight years, when I first began business in Exeter. Of course you remember all about him, and how he left this town in 1846, and was elected a Senator in Congress two years ago. He has always been my friend, and I feel I ought to show my esteem for him by attending his funeral. I received from John an account of his visit and of your health. I have some fears that it will injure you to lose the blood that Dr. Levett took from your arm, because old people make blood so slowly. But it is possible it will do you good, as I hope most earnestly it will. Try to keep up the most hopeful and cheerful state of mind you can, as that will contribute to make your life long and happy. Think of the good things you have had, and how anxious all of us are, that you shall live long and happy, and remain as you now are, the central point of our family. It seems to me that if in my more advanced years, I can find myself as much surrounded by those I love, and by whom I am loved, as you are, I shall have enough to make me thankful and happy. But I know that you are more thankful than I shall be, because I believe you to be better than I am, or shall be. I only mention this, that you may be as happy as you are thankful. Still we cannot take away your pains, as we would be glad to do, and divide among us. We can only do what we can to relieve them, and to defend you to the utmost of our feeble power, against all suffering.”

“My family are all in good health. I have bought Ned a gun, and he is much tickled with it. He will want to carry it to Effingham in huckleberry time, but I may not let him take it, as I know you might fear it would ‘go off.’ He is a careful boy. Lois Ann staid here a week, and then went to Boston, and staid two weeks, returning day before yesterday. Caroline Bailey was with her. As it is getting to be time to go, I must close with love to all.”

“Your affectionate son, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

1 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Tuck. “Dear Brother: Your letter of caution came to me in due time. I appreciate and reciprocate the brotherly interest you have in my welfare, and I

generally approve your views of security and circumspection. It is impossible to tell who is safe, at a distance of 1500 miles from us, and I sometimes feel that if I could have my property before my eyes, well secured, I would abandon all western enterprises, with all hopes of immoderate income. Still I have made a moderate competence, by investing at the west, and thus far, in 6 yrs. experience have occasion only for satisfaction, having not yet run my head against any beams, nor got my foot into any holes, which has [word illegible] done me damage.”

“The Bonds I have, are Bonds of the City of Madison, Wis. guaranteed by the Watertown & Madison R.R. now mostly graded and ready for the Rails. The Act of Incorporation gave the City the authority to issue these Bonds (\$100,000 in amount), and prohibited their incurring any further indebtedness. The City officials issued the Bonds, after taking a popular vote thereon, with 9/10 of the people approving, and as strong a vote at the ballot box. The City take \$200,000 in full paid stock, as security from the Road that they will take care of the Bonds, saving the City [word illegible]. The Laws of Wisconsin enable a holder of an execution against a City or any Municipal Corporation, to levy the same on private property if not paid after a short notice, -- making it the duty of the City or Town authorities to collect a tax, to reimburse the private person whose property has thus been taken. Now the City of Portland owe \$2,000,000, and the City of Bangor, comparatively, as much, yet their 6 per ct. bonds are at par. Madison is the State Capital, has grown to a population of 10,000 in 12 yrs. is growing still, and it seems to me, ought to be good for these bonds. What do you think [of this?] explanation, and what thinks Mr. Chapman? (Don’t let anyone else know about my business out of our family).

“I think you need have no fear of Galena & C. stock. It is now down in price, and a crash may come. But nothing will happen, in my belief, to prevent it earning and paying 10 per ct. Still, if you feel very uneasy, sell down to 20 shares, as you mention. I know the men who control it, and I have confidence in them, and I have intended to buy again into the Road, this fall, provided I can see the prospect of an extra-dividend (not in stock) next February.”

“Having other letters to write, I must close – Yrs. aff. Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

2 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to L.J. Farwell. “I have rec’d two drafts on Am. Ex. Bk. N. York for \$460, for int. on 8 Bonds for \$10,000, and two Bonds for \$2000, to date, and have endorsed the int. on same. Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

2 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. “I duly rec’d the 5 Madison City Bonds, and herein send you, in pay according to the terms of our agreement, a draft on the Suffolk Bank, Boston, drawn by Jno. Dodge Cashier of Weare Bank for \$3000, payable June 5th. Please acknowledge rcpt. of same and advise me of progress of the work on the Road, your safe arrival, and Madison affairs generally. And oblige yours truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

2 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George L. Nichols. “Your gratifying letter of 26th ult. is at hand, enclosing a note against G.M. Batchelder and G.K. Turner for \$1915 – [past avails sp.?] of

my advance of \$2000, (not \$1800 as stated in your letter), made to you May 24th 1856. You give me good reason for rejoicing at the fulfilment of the sanguine hopes you expressed to me, a year ago, and which then so far commanded my confidence that I entrusted you with a sum of money, to me quite important. I am glad of your being likely so well paid, for your skill and attention in the promises [sp.?], and you will accept my thanks for the prospects of advantage to myself. Let me hope too, that the health you were in quest of, last winter, has been secured.”

“I do not require any collaterals, from you, and so I return herein the three notes, for which I gave you a recpt. last year, and which recpts. I wish you would send me.”

“Am I to understand from your letter, that the \$1915 cash rec’d by you, and this \$1915 note, sent me, are the avails of my investment of \$2000, and that this closes up the transaction? Your letter is not quite explicit on this point. I suppose you intend I shall keep this note for collection, a year hence – if so, send on the recorded – mortgage – when you receive it from Minnesota.”

“If the cash \$1915 rec’d and this \$1915 note are the full avails of all to be expected, as I conjecture to be the tenor of your letter, and if you believe the note will be secured, I am so well pleased with the transaction, that I will receive the note, and consent to strike the balance of profit, at once, you keeping your share of the \$1915 cash rec’d, and sending me a draft for the balance due me. Yours very truly, Amos Tuck”

“P.S. I shall show your account of transactions for evidence [sp.?] and recommend my friends to ‘go and do likewise.’” [Correspondence Book]

2 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to S.A. Haley. “I send you enclosed a note for \$4000 on 4 mos. from June 5th, payable at Eliot Bank, Boston. Please to send to E.G. Dudley Esq., No. 20 Court St. Boston your draft for same, by the morning’s mail of June 5th, as he may on that day be presented with my draft on him – Amount \$3863.24 --. I learn that money to pay the Palmer note has been sent to Boston.”

“If you Directors next week conclude not to enlarge stock, see if they will let me pay my note in the [manner proposed?]. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

“Exeter June 5th 1857”

“Four months after date, for value received, I promise the New Market Bank to pay them or their order four thousand dollars at the Eliot Bank, Boston.

\$4000

Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

2 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Tuck. “I have written many letters, and done as much business of one kind and another, that I am weary, and shall write short. I have paid Mr. Gilman \$182 for you, being on the whole, rather of the opinion that there is no mistake. I found the 66\$ explained by my own cash acct. It was pd. June 14th 1855, and applied to pay ½ yrs. int. on \$1000, and a yrs. int. on the \$600. Formerly you pd. only annually, and this may have caused yr. misapprehension.”

“I am about to plant. Grass looks excellent – everything else pretty blue.”

“All well. Had a letter from Eff – mother is a little brighter. Love to all.”

“Yrs. aff. Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

3 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.G. Gilbert, Cashier. “I send you enclosed three drafts, for the benefit of M.D. Miller, Esq. of Madison, Wis., the President of the Wisconsin Bk. of Madison, soon to go into operation there. These drafts are to pay for stock to be taken by the parties who send them to you –

“1. Draft for \$1500, drawn on Bk. of No. Ham. [sp.?] by S.H. Stevens cashier of Granite State Bk. and endorsed to your order by Nath. Gordon Esq. who takes stock in the Wisconsin Bk.”

“2. Draft for \$700, drawn on Suffolk Bk. by J.W. Dodge Esq. Cashier of Weare Bk. and endorsed to your order by myself, who take stock in said bank.”

“3. Draft for \$1200, drawn by Joseph G. Hoyt upon Edw. J. Tinkham, Chicago, made to your order by Mr. Hoyt, who takes stock in said bank.”

“All sent to you by request of Mr. Miller. Please acknowledge receipt of same, and oblige – Yours respectfully Amos Tuck”

“P.S. If Mr. Tinkham has not collected the money to answer Mr. Hoyt’s draft, Mr. H. does not want the draft protested. But he has no doubt Mr. Tinkham has collected the money and will honor the draft. A.T.” [Correspondence Book]

3 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to M.D. Miller. “I have forwarded to-day to H.G. Gilbert Esq. Albany, drafts as follows:”

“For Nath. Gordon Esq	\$1500
For Jos. G. Hoyt, (for E.J. Tinkham Chicago)	1200
For myself, being all which is now convenient	<u>700</u>
	\$3400”

“I have told Mr. Hoyt we will try to save him the cost of exchange.”

“I would like to know how fast the other Directors pay in, so as not to be behind them.”

“As to stocks, I submit the whole thing to you, being willing to acquiesce in Missouri’s, if you are satisfied. Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

3 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to “His Excellency, the Governor, and the Hon. Council”. I have long been acquainted with Cyrus K. Sanborn Esq. of Rochester, and bear cheerful testimony to his high character as a man, and his undoubted qualifications to discharge, acceptably, the duties of a Bank Commissioner. I have no doubt that his appointment would give great satisfaction to Mr. Sanborn’s numerous friends and acquaintances in the southeasterly portion of the State.”

“With great respect, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

3 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Segno [sp.?]. “It will always give me pleasure to endeavor to promote the interests of my old friend Cyrus K. Sanborn Esq. I enclose a letter to the Gov. and Council, as requested.”

“Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck

[? - marginal notation to above letter – see next letter] “To Suffolk Bank: I enclose \$1965.56 to be entered to the credit of the Weare Bank as rec’d from me Amos Tuck Exeter, N.H.” [Correspondence Book]

4 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John W. Dodge. “I have sent to-day to Boston, (to the Suffolk Bank), on account of Weare Bank, \$1965.56, out of the \$2500 which I have in my hands to exchange. Please credit same, so that in case of mortality, it may be right for us all.”

“Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck”

“P.S. I go to Concord this morning, and will soon exchange the rest. I propose to return Friday, but shall not go to Hampton Falls Saturday. A.T.” [Correspondence Book]

4 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Abby Tuck Nelson. “My Dear Daughter Abby: I wrote a letter, as I have once stated in a letter to you, intended for William’s perusal on his return. It was written when his prospects were not encouraging, but may not be amiss now, when he is expected in better courage. Tell him I would write again to him, only that that letter will answer his purpose on his arrival. Soon I will write him again. I am about starting for Concord to return to-morrow. Ellen will write to-day. Yr. letter and patterns came last eve. We hope Susan will not get yr. girls away. We have an excellent girl. I am not desirous of being a candidate for the Senate. Hale is from this part of the State, and that is our share. I may take a different course a year hence, when another Senator will be chosen, (to succeed Hale). Ellen and Ned were at Hampton yesterday. All well. Laura first rate. Your aff. father, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

5 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John W. Dodge. I was at Concord yesterday, and not readily finding a better opportunity for exchange, I gave to Jos. A. Gilmore Esq. \$535 of the Weare Bank Bills, in my hands, being the remainder in my hands for exchange, and 56 cts. besides, which he agreed to deposit, (rather the proceeds thereof), in the Suffolk Bank, to-day, to the credit of the Bank. So balance the memorandum you have made for the money delivered me.”

“The Senatorial question indicates the election of Clark. The caucus will be next Tuesday. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

6 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Leonard J. Farwell. “Mr. Lawrence has been kind enough to send me the proposition made by the Mad. & Watertown R.R., to the La C[rosse] and Mil. Road. Allow me to query with you, whether the Madison & W. guaranty of the Madison City Bonds, made as late as Jan. 15, 1857, is within the terms of obligation assumed by the La. C.

Road, if they acquiesce in your proposal. No doubt you intend it shall be. I earnestly hope your object will be consummated, and the consolidation achieved. As I am to have \$31,000 of the Mad. City Bonds my interest is apparent.”

“I find I cannot go west till after the hot weather, when I hope to spend some time in Madison. Mrs. Tuck and I shall remain at home, till Sept. and in the mean time shall be most happy to see you and Mrs. Farwell, as also the Gen. and Mrs. Copes [sp.?], should any of you come east and be able to give us a call.”

“With many regards for your family, I am, yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

6 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Mrs. Bell. “Your letter of the 3rd inst. came to hand to-day. I am glad you think so favorably of coming to Exeter with your family to reside, and the [word illegible] will give great satisfaction to all your friends in this town.”

“Desirable tenements, for rent or purchase, are very scarce in Exeter; yet I have confidence that between now and winter, accommodations can be secured that will do, at least temporarily. I make a more immediate reply than I should have done, to your letter, because Prof. Hoyt has to-day informed me, that he is agent [sp.?] for the sale of the house on this street, formerly occupied by me – the one I lived in, when you removed from Exeter. It is now owned by Prof. Chadbourne of Williams’ College, and occupied by Rev. Mr. Mann who will soon vacate it. If this House is good enough for your wishes, I consider it an object for you to secure it. It is not such a nice house as you now occupy, nor can such an one be obtained here, without paying a large price. Mr. Hoyt says he can sell this house for \$2000, and at my request he will not sell to any other person till he has heard from you. I have spoken to two or three persons about it, who all consider the price much less than any other house of equal desirableness can be bought for. There is a good garden spot [word illegible] with it, (which usually dries up), and 15 to 20 bearing apple trees. I think if you should have a favorable disposition for buying, satisfactory arrangements for completing the purchase could be made, to be completed any time this summer or fall, which you should desire. Should you conclude to come here, to examine for yourself, and converse with your friends, Mrs. Tuck and myself will be happy to welcome you and any of your family at our house.”

“I have told Mr. Hoyt not to offer the Chadbourne house publicly, as I fear there will be a competition for its purchase, if it is known to be in the market.”

“Very respectfully yours, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

8 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William Conn [sp.?]. “I desire to act in accordance with the wishes of a man, who has been so friendly in his assurances, as you have been towards myself. Yet I have concluded not to go to Concord to attempt, actively, to control the election of Senator. I have no vote, and thus no occasion to enter the arena. Having no vote, any candidate seeing me a volunteer in the field will naturally regard me as personally unfriendly to himself, and perhaps in league against him. Had I the rightful power to cast a ballot, I should

immediately announce my choice publicly, and no man would be justified in accusing me of personal hostility. Not so, when at most, I can only be a lobby member.”

“It is known that I have been a supporter of Mr. Goodwin for Gov. and that whenever I have spoken of him, it has been in those terms of appreciation in which his best friends indulge. He has strong, and discreet supporters in the Legislature and will obtain his legitimate support. It is best in my judgment, for me to attend to my farming, and not to volunteer to aid in that which I know no more about, than you who have the choice in your hands. Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

9 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. “I am much pleased to hear so encouraging accounts of the progress of the Road. I trust the consolidation will be consummated, and doubt not that you, and the Directors, who all know so much better than I do, the importance of it, will remove every obstacle possible, to an early acceptance of the Mad. & Wat. proposition. Are the relations between the La Crosse and our Road, actively amicable? The paper you sent me had a look of the M. & W. Road, throwing themselves on their legal rights to a consolidation, rather than that of addressing the voluntary wishes of the La Crosse men.”

“I want a copy of the act of the Legislature giving the City of Madison authority to issue the Bonds I am to have of you. I do not find that authority contained in the first Act of Incorporation passed March 4th 1856.”

“I also want to know what I had better do with the Watertown Bonds which I have, to make them uniform in their appearance, in this respect. The Guaranty of the R. Road endorsed on them all, bears date June 1, 1856, but is signed on some by Messrs. Hibbard and Lathrop, as Pres. and Sec., and on others, by Messrs. Fairchild and Lawrence. Both can't be right. Have you answers to those queries I sent by you to Madison? Please answer and oblige,”

“Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

“P.S. I saw an important decision of Judge McLean, in respect to the validity of Municipal Bonds, in the Tribune's money article of last Saturday.”

“I cannot now take more of your Bonds; but I will see by and by.”

[Correspondence Book]

10 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward J. Tinkham. “I have rec'd the draft I sent you on Mr. Dudley, of May 25th/57, for \$3863.34 the same [sp.?]. having been paid. To raise that sum, I gave my note to the New Market Bk. on 4 mos. from June 5th for \$4000 payable in Boston. Please sign the enclosed note to me, which I will endorse to the Bk., taking up the note I gave. I will then depend on you to pay it, unless we get a further accommodation from the Bk. It is probably we can get 3 or 4000\$ monthly from the New Market Bk. if you feel confidence in your securities, and the rate of interest be such as to compensate us both for the risk and trouble. Mr. Dodge does not remit rapidly, being pressed at home for discounts more than he expected, but

will steadily add to the amt. in Chicago, and probably not ask actual payment [some words missing]. Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

“June 5th, 1857”

“Four months after date, for value received I promise Amos Tuck, to pay him or his order, four thousand dollars, at the Eliot Bank, Boston.

\$4000—“ [Correspondence Book]

17 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to M.D. Miller. “Your favor of the 10th inst. came safely to hand yesterday, with enclosure of guaranty, which is entirely satisfactory. I send by this mail, to Mr. Gilbert, a draft for \$800 on my own account for stock. When you get your certificates, send me a certificate for 15 shares, full paid, as I can better use it for collateral, than if not paid in full, though a larger number of shares; 12 shares, full paid, for Jos. G. Hoyt, and 15 shares, full paid, for Nath. Gordon. All the items of your letter were of interest to me, and I have no occasion to make any suggestion, having such full confidence in your ability and disposition to do all things well. I am gratified to learn that even in these times, you have the means of ordering so many securities, to be bought at so early a day. With regards to Gov. Farwell, I am,”

“Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

17 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.G. Gilbert. “I enclose to you a draft from Cashier of the Weare Bank on the Suffolk Bk. for \$800, to be posted to my credit, as a payment on my stock in the Wisconsin Bk. of Madison, in your acct. with M.D. Miller, Pres. of said Bk.”

“Yrs. respectfully, Amos Tuck.” [Correspondence Book]

18 June 1857: BBF (in Boston) to HFF. “Hattie and Nell Tuck came down to day, arrived at 2 o’clock, and Fanny, who came down day before yesterday met them at the cars to day and came here [Dr. Barker’s] with them. Frank also met them and shipped them off safe in a hack, I returned to Cambridge, but will be here at 4. They are all well and lively as crickets. They have gone up to the Common to see the Military, who are parading there. A whole regiment came from New York to help inaugurate the Warren Statue yesterday.” BBF also spoke at Chapman Hall, apparently at a Masonic affair.

“...Saturday morning June 20th at Dr. Barkers, with Nell Tuck, Hattie, Fanny, Wm’s Ellen, and Frank all around me. Doct. smoking his pipe down below, and Mrs. B. as usual, attending to household affairs. Class day is over and gone. It was a glorious occasion, although the weather was not good. It rained by spells all day but only interfered with the exercises in the single thing of dancing on the college green. That could not be done on account of the wetness of the grass. Frank’s poem was a perfect success, not only in matter but in manner of delivery. It made a very manifest sensation, not only on the audience and scholars of the College, but on the Faculty, and those who could judge, - Lowell and Longfellow, and many others praised it much – Prof Peirce said to me that it must be printed, that such a poem should not be lost. Indeed, Frank was the lion of the afternoon, and I felt gratified and proud. I suppose from fifty

to a hundred persons congratulated me on his success. F.O.I. Smith came up purposefully to hear it, and returned in the next train to Portland. He was exceedingly pleased, and I considered his coming a great compliment....Ariana [Sleeper] looked well and enjoyed Frank's "spread" at his room. He and Gorham had as elegant a collation as I ever saw in Washington. We all attended the ball in the afternoon, and saw the graduates dance round the old elm and sing and hug each other, and bid good by. It was a very joyous appearing affair, but I could see the deepest feeling beneath it all, and if there were tears in no other eyes, there were in mine. I couldn't help it- and cannot now as I write about it. I don't think my heart is made of sool-leather!" [FFP Reel 5]

19 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Betsy Towle Tuck. "My Dear Mother: It is my week to write you a letter, and I have no inclination to omit the pleasure and the duty of doing so. Since I last wrote, no particular change has taken place in regard to me. Besides writing a few letters and attending to necessary transactions of my private business, I have occupied considerable time on my land. I have a love for farm work, though I never undertake to work a full day, or even half of it, without interruption. I keep two men, as I am making improvements and can keep them well employed. After this summer, I shall keep but one. My bushes will be cut, my fences made, and ditches dug, so that one man will do all I need, except in haying time. The weather has been so wet, that I have felt a good deal discouraged about the crops; but as I am so accustomed to buy all I use, or a great part of it, that I shall not mind it, as those will who make their whole living from work on their farms."

"We have had a ministerial removal in our society, which has interested us all for a few weeks past considerably. We have had a Mr. Mann as minister, who is given over to preaching creeds and points of doctrine, with which he has bored us, for some years, to the neglect of preaching ritcheousness [sic] and a christian life, until we got out of patience and all as one asked him to go off. But he holds he is settled for life, or so long as he can preach, and does not change his doctrine, nor become guilty of immorality. But we have nearly started him, having had a council yesterday who voted unanimously that he ought to go. Mr. Mann thinks of accepting a call to Biddeford. I pity them if he goes there, as they will find out on acquaintance with them, that they have caught a tartar."

"My wife has an aunt from Bartlett visiting her for a few days. Ellen has gone to Boston, to be gone a few days with some other girls to attend college holiday at Cambridge. Abby, husband etc. are expected to be with us in July. Laura is still with us, and is as fat and chubby, and as good a child as need be, and is much set by, both by wife and all the rest. We talk of letting her go back to Peekskill with Abby, but shall find it hard to lose her, and I have hopes she will stay with us till Fall at least. She will be 3 yrs. old in August. Ned's school will close in two weeks. He will then go to Hampton Beach for a while, and then go to Effingham. He anticipates his visit to you, with great pleasure. We are all in good health, and if we can know that you are happy, and in fair health, and the rest of our family relatives are enjoy[ing] similar blessings, I feel that we have as large a share of human enjoyments, as can reasonably be

expected. I hear from you by Biddeford, when they hear from you, and am always anxious to know of your welfare. With love to Betsy, Sarah and all, I am”

“Your ever affectionate son Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

20 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Reverend R. Harris. “Your favor of 11th instant reached me a few days since. I was glad to hear from you, and to recognize your familiar handwriting, so identical with what it was, more than a quarter century ago, when I had the good fortune, as I have ever regarded it, to be under your instruction. Be assured of my continued esteem, and of the gratitude with which I recollect your kindness and fidelity, as a teacher and friend. I congratulate you upon the hopeful sons whom you have done so much for, and who afford so consoling a promise, of being blessings to you and to their fellow men. I have occasionally been able to hear something of them, and have always rejoiced in the assurance of their being likely to become rich blessings to their father, in later life, as they had been dutiful and good sons thus far.”

“There will be no vacancy immediately, in the instruction Department of Exeter Academy. It is not improbable that there may be, within six months, and if that should take place, I will present your son’s case to the Trustees, and see that he is favorably considered by them. I will keep your letter as a memento and direction, and be careful not to overlook your desires.”

“You allude to my supposed success in life, and admonish me to remember my Heavenly Father, and the source of all human blessings. It is still my general purpose to do so, and I allow no day to pass, without humble acknowledgement for His many mercies. Yet I find the cares of this world an encumbrance to the Christian life, and am obliged to acknowledge a want of that growth in Christian graces, which our Lord and Master enjoins. I am resolved, however, never to lose sight of the true end in life, and object of our being on earth. Let me hope, that you still find, as you have found heretofore, in all trouble, the full consolations of that religion, which you have so uniformly recommended, by precept and example, to the practice of others.”

“With sincere esteem and goodwill, I remain your friend Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

20 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Henry S. Swasey. “I acknowledge your kind invitation to be with your citizens on the 4th of July, and address them on that occasion. If your meeting shall take place at such a time of day, that I can, by going to your place the evening before, (if necessary), be able to return home by the last train of cars Saturday evening (the 4th), I think I can comply with your request, otherwise it will be out of my power.”

“Please state how this may be. With thanks to yourself and your citizens for their courtesy, I remain yours truly Amos Tuck”

“P.S. If I go, I do so, without pecuniary compensation. A.T.” [Correspondence Book]

22 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Tuck. "Dear Bro. John: I enclose you a note for \$148, due May 4, 1858, which completes the loans of your \$925 sent to W.R. Nelson for loan at the west. I guess there is no doubt it is all well secured. If so, it will make a handsome gain to you, over 6 per ct. I suppose not less than \$2 a week for the whole year."

"I wrote to mother on Friday, last. You and Jonathan are to write the next two weeks."

"Is Mr. Mann to have a call at Biddeford? If so, Mr. Somes [sp.?] better get out of his head the idea of life settlement. But I don't wish anything said. Your aff. Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

22 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. "You will see that one of the enclosed Bonds, (No. 42), has but about half the coupons signed by the Mayor. As it will be necessary to send \$11 to get this omission supplied, I send two other Bonds, (Nos. 29 and 43), so as, if practicable, to have them cancelled for others of same numbers in the form procured by Mr. Howard for those sold by him."

"Please let me know, if we must send our coupons to your office for payment instead of the Bk.'s. If so, I will give notice."

"One coupon for July, cut off, will not have Mayor's name on it."

"Yrs. truly Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

22 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Leonard J. Farwell. "My friend, Judge French, is absent in Europe. I ought to have sent the enclosed to you, sooner, so as to be certain to articulate the sending of your interest to him. If you have already sent a draft to him, I will take the liberty to open the letter to him, and endorse the draft."

"I hope our Bank is soon to be in motion – as Mr. Miller writes me."

"Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

23 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Mrs. Taylor. "Dear Sister: I rec'd your letter and draft last evening. I have less confidence in my judgment than you seem to have, as I seldom decide on important matters, for myself, without misgivings, more or less troublesome. I think I should not have had courage to advise you to disturb an investment paying 18 per ct. int., but as you have already got your money back from Iowa, I don't know but you better send it to Henry. I have written a letter to Henry, enjoying care and diligence on his part. As you may possibly have more doubts than you had, and as Kate says she should be afraid to trust it so far away, I conclude to send my letter to him, first to you, that you may read it, and if you still adhere to sending, put your name on the back of the draft, writing above it, "Pay to the order of P.H. Townsend," and send it to Henry. I don't know but it may be the best thing in the world for you to do. If Henry had the business talent of some men, it would not fail to do well. You want, I suppose, a steady money income. If you have enough to support you, besides the income from this \$300, you may safely invest in land. But if you have not, then I think it ought to be let at interest. You can append to my letter to Henry such regards and directions as you think best."

“All well. Mrs. Wyman went to Nashua to-day. Ellen is in Boston for a few days. Kate sends love. Yours affectionately Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

23 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to P. Henry Townsend. “I write to enclose to you \$300 for Mrs. Taylor. She has written you on the subject herself. I add only, that you must exercise the utmost caution. If you invest in land, don’t run any risk as to title. If you loan at interest, take good paper security, and let it only to a man of sensible notions, good habits, and character besides. Let the interest be payable half-yearly. But she seems inclined to put it into land. I suppose therefore she does not need the income at once. But land has gone up very much, since you suggested her sending the money, and may be too high to touch. If so, of course she wants to it let at the best rates on perfect security.”

“Kate wrote you a few days since, so I will not enlarge. We are in good health, pursuing the even tenor of our way, with the usual amount of monotony. I enjoy your getting tired, by manual labor. It has done me good in my day, and it does you good. It will be to you, what iron is to some constitutions – just the thing to fill the vacuum, and supply all deficiency. Go on, prosper, get a big crop, and be ready to exhibit, when I arrive in the Fall.”

“Yrs. aff. Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

[24 July 1857]: “Cancelled A Tuck” [Later notation]

“Know all men by these presents that I, Amos Tuck of Exeter in the State of New Hampshire, am held and stand firmly bound with George Gardner of Exeter aforesaid, in the full sum of thirty five hundred dollars, to which payment will and truly to be made, I hereby bind myself, my heirs and executors firmly by these presents –“

“The condition of this obligation is such, that whereas the said Gardner has this day purchased of said Tuck two Bonds of the City of Watertown, Wisconsin, numbered severally 14 and 147, of one thousand dollars each, and paid said Tuck therefore, seventeen hundred dollars; and two Bonds of City of Madison, Wisconsin, numbered severally, 51 and 52, of one thousand each, and paid therefore sixteen hundred dollars; and in consideration, the said Tuck has agreed with said Gardner, at any time within two years, to receive said Bonds, and to pay therefore to said Gardner or his heirs said sums, making in all thirty three hundred dollars, on three months notice by said Gardner, or his heirs, and request so to do. Now if said Tuck shall well and truly perform and keep his said agreement, in case of request, as aforesaid, then this obligation shall be void but shall otherwise remain in full force.”

“Signed, sealed and delivered this 24th day of July A.D. 1857 –“
 “Witness Ellen M. Tuck Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

25 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. “When I wrote you yesterday, I hoped to make an arrangement to prepay, as proposed by you, for the Bonds to be sent to me early in July, but I find our Bank facilities here, so much exhausted, that it cannot well be done. I regret therefore to inform you that I cannot now foresee my ability to raise the money.”

“Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

28 June 1857: BBF notes that he left for Boston on 11 June. Met Frank in Concord at the Brown’s on 13 June. “Frank read his class poem to Mrs. B. and me in the afternoon.” Frank went back to Cambridge on Monday morning. French went to Cambridge and called on Frank in his room. The two with other relatives went into Boston. After attending the Warren statue dedication and much visiting: “Thursday I was all about the City, doing errands and calling on my friends. Friday [19 June] was Class day at Cambridge, and at ½ past 8 Mrs. Barker, Hattie French, Nell Tuck, and Fannie Gilbert, (the three latter came down from Exeter the day previous) went out to Cambridge. We made Frank’s room our head quarters, and witnessed with great pleasure and satisfaction the ceremonies of the day. Everything passed off admirably, notwithstanding that the day was rainy, by spells throughout. Frank acquitted himself well, and received much praise from those whose praise was worth having.” On Saturday, he wrote a letter to the “Judge” (his brother) who was in London. “Sunday morning Frank and I took a long walk over the Common.” French left that evening for New York. [FFP Reel 1]

29 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence, Treasurer. “I think I can accept your proposition, sending you by the 2nd or 3rd proximo, \$5640, in cash and coupons of your bonds, in full for my \$6000 note, which I was to give for the \$10,000 in Bonds, payable 1st Oct. I will immediately ascertain, and if I cannot do so, will telegraph you to-morrow, (Friday), to that effect. Eastman, contractor on Fond du Lac R.R. is ‘about here,’ offering Watertown and other Bonds for \$700 on \$1000! This amazes me, but I tell the people, I know the bottom of our Bonds, and that 80 and 85 are the prices of H.K. L. and ours are out of the market. ‘Verbum sat.’

“Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

30 June 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. “On the 2nd July, \$3500 in bills will be sent to you, on my acct., by S.A. Haley Esq. Cachr. of New Market Bk. and same day, by train or Express, that will reach N. York on the night of the 2nd, I will send you enough to make \$5640 in all. I have agreed if you have to pay the bills out on the 3rd. You shall do so, at the latest business hour of the day, so as to prevent, if possible, their return to Boston till next week.”

“I wish you would send the Bonds as soon as released, as I want to be using them.”

“Let me vary the payment from the 15th of Oct. somewhat, so that I can endorse some notes to you, and be so relieved as to go west. I refer to the pay for the last batch of 13 Bonds.”

“Yrs. truly Amos Tuck.” [Correspondence Book]

1 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. “I send herewith

8 Madison Bonds’ coupons	356.64
3 Watertown “ “	120.00
In Granite State Bk. notes,	1600.00
In Weare Bk. notes and change,	<u>163.36</u>

Making	\$2140.00
S.A. Haley, Cashier, will send to-morrow	
In New Market Bank Notes	<u>\$3500.00</u>
Making in all	\$5640.00

This is in full for the \$10,000 in Madison Bonds to be sent me.”

“Please acknowledge receipt, and oblige Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

1 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Tuck. “Dear Brother: I take a small sheet because I have but a few moments to write. Do not sell your Galena & C. stock. A Mr. Gill, my neighbor, has just returned from Chicago, and has investigated. It is A.1. stock, and there is no dishonesty about it. The stock ought to be 20\$ a share higher in the market than it is, and will pay more than 12 per ct., permanently, on its par value. Had I money I should buy into it. This extract from John Wentworth’s paper is push-a-diddle [sp.?]. He (Wentworth) owns 20,000\$ of the stock to keep, and he thinks it will do the Directors good to be stirred up, occasionally.”

“All well, hoping you all are. Yrs. affectionately Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

1 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to N. Lee, Cashier. “I acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 25th inst. enclosing my certificate for 15 shares in the Wisconsin Bank. It is put-up in good form, and certainly looks as if it were worth par. I congratulate you on assuming your duties in the Bank, and trust and believe, the position you occupy, will be agreeable to yourself, and profitable and agreeable to all connected with the Bank. I propose to go to Madison in early Autumn, an then hope to make your acquaintance personally. In the mean time, I am respectfully and truly Yrs. Amos Tuck.”

“P.S. I hope, before long, to pay for more stock, but my business with the Mad. & Wat. R.R. has, and will delay my payments, unexpectedly.” [Correspondence Book]

2 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to W.M. Larrabee. “I acknowledge the recpt. of the 10th Ann. Rept. Of the G. & C.U. R.R. Co. I have examine it with satisfaction, and am happy to state my undiminished confidence in those who manage the Road. I sold out my stock on the 1st of April, not because I doubted the value of the stock, but because I believed all stocks were to have temporary fall, at least, and I thought our stock would sympathize. At present prices, had I \$50,000 to invest, I should put it all in the Road, and it is my purpose to invest again in the stock, at my earliest convenience. I retain my regards for my old friends in the road, especially for yourself, and subscribe myself Yrs. very truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

2 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Mrs. James Bell. “Mrs Bell: After Miss Bell called last evening, having heard that Mr. Mann had the lease of the house for a series of years, I sent Mr. Hoyt, at once, to Mr. M. to ascertain the state of the case. To my surprise, I learn that an old rumor, which I had supposed unfounded, is true, -- that he, (Mr. M.), has a two year lease, now

only half-expired, and that he is uncertain of his future movements. The house was offered, unconditionally, by Prof. Chadbourne, and I supposed the coast was clear. It is not unlikely that he may desire to leave the house by Fall, but his uncertainty, will prevent a sale, of course, to any one. I shall be glad to continue enquiries, and to notify you of progress. Please command my services, always. Yours very respectfully Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

2 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to P. Henry Townsend. “I enclose the two notes you gave the Academy – having passed to the Treasurer the note of \$2000 instead of them. The Int. due on these notes to July 1/57, was \$44.60, and the coupons of the Bonds was \$120. The Balance, \$75.40, I have endorsed on your \$200 note to me of Ap. 1/57. It pays int. to date (\$2.) on your note to me, and \$73.40 of the Bal., leaving \$126.60 still due me. You will now derive \$120 per ann. profits on this loan of the Acad. and your interest in it. It is best, I think, not again to disturb it, but ‘let the chickens set,’ as Stephen Dearborn says. Galena & Chicago is down to \$87 a share.”

“It is cold, hopeless, weather here. The grain and grass crops are promising, but corn was never more backward. Emigration to the west, and transfer of funds thither, have converted N. England into a cracking tabernacle, and people have been prophecying that the sky will fall, for the last 6 months. Still, I see no signs of convulsion, and think the world, social and financial, will continue to wag on in future, as it has in the past.”

“Yet N. England’s destiny is downward, and the West upward. There is an uncontrollable instinct of emigration among our people, which will lessen our population, whether emigrants fare better or worse. The enterprising, active, uneasy portion of the Community ‘are bound’ to move at all events. Their example is contagious [sp.?] and the dullness [word illegible] N. Eng.’s monotony is intolerable, with most of our [word illegible] young people. I do not repine. I look upon the movement as an inspiration, whose purpose is the saving of the nation, and this in particular - What better use for a Yankee to be put to, than to be made a missionary in behalf of free schools, and of free men, and a free religion, and to be made so, not by societies, who send out dull agents, to beg for funds, but by an enthusiasm, which makes the man feel, ‘Wo is me, if I preach not this gospel.’?”

“Your letters are good, as well those private, as those published, and the latter do you honor. Go on in the development of manhood. Harden your body by manual labor, and invigorate your mind, by perfect control over every directing influence, and by grappling with all intellectual problems which business and intercourse put you in connection with.”

“Exeter is dull as usual. Still we continue to [word illegible] our strawberries and cream, and other things without repining.”

“Tell me all about your employment, your crops, your enjoyments, your annoyances etc. etc., being assured I shall rejoice in all that does you good, and [word illegible] in all that does you evil. Yrs. affectionately Amos Tuck.” [Correspondence Book]

3 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. "Dear sir: Capt. Gill returned two days ago from the west. He says all the land he entered in Osage was well entered, and that he could sell it for 2 ½\$ an acre in a lump [sp. ?]: that he sold some of it before his return, for \$3 an acre. He says the croaking is caused by the fright of Eastern people; that men and money go so rapidly westward that from Philadelphia to the extreme north, a panic has spread, and that the croaking is the result of it. Tyrrell and Palmer have arrived and give expression to similar sentiments. Crops look better than ever before, except corn, and the people are generally in the best of spirits. Such they say is the general feeling. I express no opinion to you, but simply state the fact. One Scholium, however, from this Proposition, as saith Euclid. If Mr. Gill's land, entered, with his advantages, be worth 2 ½\$ an acre, W.R.N.'s are, a fortiori, worth that sum. Ergo, W.R.N. doubled his money, invested in land warrants."

"I have apprehensions, as you have, in regard to the west. I do not feel as comfortable with so much of my property, at thousands of miles distant, as I should, to have it under my own nose. But what shall be done? I can get 6 per ct. or let it remain with what securities I can get, where it has doubled, and so far has done well? As I increase in means, I intend to increase in demands for security. I recommend the same to you, though I think you are growing cautious so as to stand in little need of my admonition. I have not yet heard a word from the man I employed to examine my Wisconsin lands, and I am fearful that I have little land of value, which I have got through any of the Madison people. Perhaps I have more doubts of Madison, because I am better acquainted with it, than with any other spot. But I think the bona fide sales of land there for large prices are few. I don't know how you can sell yours, when all the land about your lots is for sale, and they have agents to look up purchasers, who are ever on the ground while you are here, -- or rather at Peekskill. It is best for you to see the bottom of the thing, when you are there this Fall, and if it cannot be sold, ascertain that fact, and put the land down in your assets, at a nominal value, and let it rest. I am glad you are going then, -- I must go in Sept. as I have an agreement from Richardson, to take my land back, and pay me the cash, within 6 mos. from a date which expires in Oct. I must be on hand to reconnoiter before hand. I intend to sell my wild [sp.?] land in Wis. while at Madison, if I can. If I can't sell, I shall put down in my estimate of my property at the sum of \$1___, no matter what Farwell may say about the magnificence of the value. I have confidence in North Eastern Iowa, which I have not in that part of Wisconsin which is presided over by Farwell & Co. I must think my Madison Bonds are safe. (I have but one Watertown Bond left). Should all these Bonds I have sold and still have, prove worthless, I should be \$15,000 worse off, than if I had staid in the Galena & C. Road. If they are worth 80 cents on a dollar, I am \$14,000 better off, than if I had staid in the Road, and taken on my head the thunderbolts of depression of that stock. Judge McLean of the U.S. Supreme Court, gave that Indiana decision, in favor of the Bonds, (I have a note of it), and at the same time said, that the Supreme Court at their late term, had a similar question before them, and were unanimous in opinion, as to the validity of the Bonds. I was glad to hear of your law in N. York, as lately expounded. It seems to me I have a mortgage on Madison, to the amount of my bonds now in

my hands (\$29,000) and on Watertown \$1000. Had I \$10,000, I should put it all in the Galena stock. Mark that, and see the result.”

“The Palmer notes are all paid, and I made on their discount \$850. I rejoice that you have as good luck in having the Jesse Little note paid – as well as all other matters west – your Halissa [sp.?] property, spoken of by Mr. Henry, should be visited by you this Fall. I don’t believe in your trusting even him, any longer, without going upon the spot, and examining for yourself.”

“So much for business – now for family matters. I have solemnly announced to Laura your paternal tenderness. She feelingly replied ‘I want breddy butter.’ This was at the table. She is now by my table, with my parallel ruler in her hand, saying, ‘Grappy, I make pie, Grappy, Grappy, I make pie, I make pie,’ as she rolls the ruler over a half sheet of paper. Wife has just now taken her from the table to have her up stairs; whereupon Laura said, ‘I want write letter to letter to Mamma.’ She sends love, and I send the kisses I gave her five minutes since, being ten in number.”

“I do not think Ellen can go to N. Haven. I guess it would not pay. We are disappointed in the failure of [the] prospect of Abby’s coming by the 20th. However, what is best, adhere to Now [?] as to yourself. We should all be glad to [have] you stay with us all the time that Abby is here; -- and once for all I say, come as early as you can, and stay as long as you can. I sympathize with your distress in having the Chase girl and bro. with you. I can’t see the use of it, and hope the dose will not be repeated. As to Abby’s going again to N. York, to avail herself of Miss Chase’s taste, as you say, I think dresses enough have been bought on her own taste, to dispense with gratifying others. I wish there was a law passed, that no woman in America should have another dress, till she had worn out all but three that she now has. We should not see any purchases for the next 5 years.”

“But as you approve of all Abby’s things, and get so many of them yourself, I presume I am lecturing you, as well as womankind in general, and so I will stop. Let us know your prospects of coming, and all else of interest.”

“Yrs. truly, with much love to Abby and Nellie Tuck Nelson, Amos Tuck”

“P.S. I go to Milton N.H. this evening to ‘speak in public, on the stage,’ tomorrow.’

A.T.” [Correspondence Book]

6 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. “I am afraid I shall not be able to cash my next note, even at 4 per ct. a mo. I cannot now see my way clear to it.”

“Have you sold all the Madison Bonds? I find I have taken \$50,000 of them. Can your Road go right on with the construction, notwithstanding this remarkable discredit of all railroad schemes? Has the consolidation progressed any, of late? What is the assessed property of Madison?”

“Please answer these questions, and oblige Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

“P.S. Please let me know when you go to, and when return from Madison.”

[Correspondence Book]

7 July 1857: Tuck attended PEA Trustees' meeting. [PEA Trustees' minutes (Use by permission)]

9 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. "I send you two schedules of land; the longest one, is of lands owned by me and two other persons, which I am more willing to sell, on that account. The second I own myself. I put the price low, perhaps too low, but I will sell, and allow for selling, 25 cts an acre. I would sell either schedule, at the price offered, but would not divide a schedule, nor sell for other than cash, or a good three mo. note on interest, payable in N. York."

"We are all quite well. I went to Hampton Beach, yesterday, with Ellen, Ned and Laura. Left Ned with Laura. I anticipate pleasure in going there with you, in a month hence, or less."

"Laura is pretty much all father in her ways; but has a mixture in disposition, of father and mother. We are unanimous in the opinion that it is an improvement on the Tuck branch, and expect you, in courtesy, to acknowledge it is equally so in the Nelson branch. She is a good natured, peaceable child, and we have to-day noted there is not, probably, another in town so good natured. She is lively and continually active."

"The cow has a calf, and Laura is delighted. Milk and cream will be abundant. Mr. Dudley of Boston insists that your tribe shall visit him, coming or going. He and his wife will visit us while you are here."

"Don't put off your visit again, and come yourself, if practicable, when Abby does."

Yrs. truly Amos Tuck"

[Land schedules]

Dane County: S.W. ¼ S. 30. S. 5. N. of R.7 E.	145.50
W. ½ S.E. ¼ S. 30 of do.	80
S.W. ¼ Sec. 18 do.	<u>138.48</u>
	363.98
Sauk County: S.E. ¼ N.W. ¼ Sec. 35 S. 10 N. R. 4 E.	40
S. ½ N.W. ¼ Sec. 22 S. 9 N.R. 5 E.	<u>80</u>
	120
	<u>363.98</u>
	\$483.90

"This land is represented to me by Gov. Farwell of Madison Wisconsin, as all good land. I bought 18 months ago, when it was valued to me at 2 ½ and 3\$ an acre. Gov. F. then told me it was worth \$5 an acre. It has never been offered for sale by me, but I will take \$3 ½ cash."

"The country is being opened by R. Roads, and I have no doubt the land can be sold for a higher price, but I have never dealt in lands, and am desirous of selling out what I have."

"July 9, 1857 A. Tuck"

Acres

Richland County: W. ½ of S.W. ¼ Sec. 36 T.10 N. of R. 2 W.	80
S.E. ¼ of do. do.	40
Crawford County: E. ½ S.W. ¼ S. 19 T. 9 R. 3 W.	80
S.E. ¼ of N.W. ¼ S.19 do. do.	40
E. ½ of N.E. ¼ S. 6 S. 9 do. do.	81 11/100
N. ½ of S.E. ¼ S. 3 T.7 R.5 W.	80
S.E. ¼ N.E. ¼ S. 3 do. do.	40
S.W. ¼ S.W. ¼ S. 6 do. do.	40
E. ½ N.W. ¼ Sec. 4 do. do.	80
S.E. ¼ N.E. ¼ do. do. do.	40
S.E. ¼ S.W. ¼ Sec. 3 do. do.	40
E. ½ S.W. ¼ Sec. 2 do. do.	80
S.W. ¼ S.E. ¼ do. do. do.	40
N.E. ¼ of N.W. ¼ Sec. 8 do.	40
N.W. ¼ of N.E. ¼ do. do.	<u>40</u>
Acres	841 11/100

“The first two pieces, (all in Richland County) are represented as having living water, heavily timbered, good farming land. All the land in township 7 is represented as gently rolling, sparsely timbered, good farming land. All the rest is excellent farming land. All this was entered and purchased by me, over two yrs. ago, and has never been offered for sale. Mr. Jarvis of Madison, who entered it and purchased a part, told me in Feb. last it was worth in a body 5 to 7\$ an acre. I was then offered \$3 an acre for the whole. I will take 3 ¼ an acre for the whole not for part, cash. July 9, 1857 A. Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

10 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Tuck. “Dear Brother: I wish to use some money and I will take the \$500 of Mr. Fuller. Get him to agree to let it stand some time, and take the money in such a way, as not to incite him to a change of mind in regard to letting the other stand at 6 per ct. Will it not be well for you and Jonathan to hire this \$500, and let me have it, or will it answer as well to give my note directly to him? The latter course will probably be best, and so I send a note. Let me hear from you to-morrow.”

“I am busy haying, and having a letter to write to mother this morning I must close. Abby and family will not come till the very last of the month. Ned is now at Hampton Beach. He will probably go to Biddeford and Effingham in 2 to 3 weeks.”

“Affectionately, Amos Tuck”

“July 11, 1857

For value received I promise Marsden [sp.?] Fuller to pay him or his order five hundred dollars on demand and interest annually.

\$500---

Amos Tuck

It is agreed that the int. shall be at 8 per ct. per annum.”

[Correspondence Book]

10 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Betsey Towle Tuck. “My Dear Mother: John Tuck Hodgdon wrote me a a very good letter, a few days ago, and I was glad to hear you were still getting along, without much increase of suffering. As you request in John’s letter, I will try not to worry needlessly about you, but I hope it will ever be impossible, as it has been heretofore, for me to be at ease, while I know you to be suffering. May you have many years of health and strength yet before you, to live and bless those who owe, as your children do, all they have to you. If we have some good qualities, we feel that you impressed them on our minds, when you had our tender faculties entirely in your power. If I am as faithful towards my children, as you have been towards us, I have no doubt my judge at last, will say, ‘Well done good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of the Lord.’ I was at Milton Mills on the 4th of July, and made a speech. There was present a man, named Ralph Farnham, who is now in his 102 year. He was 24 yrs. old when Father was born, was 19 yrs. old at the Battle of Bunker Hill, was at the battle, and is the only survivor. Yet he is now bright and sound in body and mind. He conversed with me familiarly and sensibly, and could remember distinctly the revolutionary battles, and the events of the times for 15 yrs. before. May you live as long as he, and enjoy life as well.”

“I am now haying, having two men. The grass is very good, and everything else on the farm looks encouraging, except corn. If this weather holds, that also will get a good start. I have written John to-day. They are well down there, I believe. Ned’s school has closed and he is now at Hampton Beach. He intends to go to E. by way of Biddeford in 2 or 3 weeks, -- probably three weeks hence. He wants to be with you in blueberry time. Abby and family will come about the last of the month, and expect to stay a month. Ellen is in fair health. My wife is not well, but is about the house. I am in perfect health as usual. My Irish help need my oversight, and I will close. With love to all, Your affectionate Son Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

11 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Jonathan Tuck. “Dear Brother Jonathan: I propose to use some money next week, and if you can discount my note at your bank on 60 days, I would like it, and the money sent on Tuesday. If you can’t do it, return me the note cancelled, when you reply.”

“I have written several letters to John since I wrote directly to you, he having written to me. I suppose my letters to be, to both of you, as a general thing. I am haying and pretty busy, having my finances to manage besides. I wrote Mother yesterday. She was pretty well a few days ago. Yrs. affectionately Amos Tuck”

“\$1000

July 13th, 1857

Sixty days after date, for value received, I promise Jonathan Tuck, to pay him or his order, one thousand dollars at the Biddeford Bank. Amos Tuck”

[Penciled notations say “cancelled” and “Not used.”]

11 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Tuck. “Dear Brother John: The \$550 came safely, and [I enclose] the note of 50\$ below, to make up for the whole sum. I sent another note to Jonathan to get discounted, if convenient. It is not indispensable that I have it, but it would probably be beneficial to me to get it. Yours affectionately Amos Tuck”

“July 10, 1857

“For value received, I promise Marsden [sp.?] Fuller [sic] to pay him or his order fifty dollars, on demand and interest. Amos Tuck
8 pr. ct.” [Correspondence Book]

13 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. “Dear sir: On receipt of this, I wish you to go to N. York, and buy for me 20 shares Galena & C. R.R. stock, buyer 3 days [?], if you can do so, at not over \$94 including all expenses. I hope for a lower figure. If you find you cannot buy at that maximum, call on Hon. J.C. Fairchild Pres. of Watertown & Mad. R.R. at their office No. 39 ½ Exchange Place, say that you come from me, and that I will give him, (in absence of Mr. Lawrence, Trsr, with whom I negotiated) \$6500, in three days, in lieu of my note for \$7000, payable Oct. 15th. They are ready for a large share, for cash. This 7000\$ is a bal. for Bonds. They are to send me 13 Mad. Bonds immediately. In haste A Tuck”

[Marginal Note] “Telegraph result, immediately from N. York. A.T.”

[Marginal note] “By telegraph – Exeter, July 14, 1857 To Thomas Nelson Esq. No. 70 3rd story Wall St. N. York City. Tell William, make offer first to Fairchild. If he declines, buy stock. Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

13 July 1857: HFF (Brauncewell, Ruskington, Sleaford, Lincolnshire) to BBF. “I shall be glad to get back home safely, and to the land of my friends again. I suppose my wanderings are more than half over, and since I came out of the ship I have had no trouble. I should like of all things, a friend from home, you, or Hoyt, or Tuck, for a companion, to lie down on the grass with, and look up into the blue and talk of home. It is lonely sometimes, though not more so than it has been everywhere since last August.” Henry writes further on the ancient sites he saw. “You may send this to Exeter if you please, and when it gets there, Hattie may hand the printed notice of my speech to Hoyt, and he may make note of it for the News Letter. He won’t publish the speech, but merely a paragraph or two to show, as Moses says, that ‘I am around’.”

[FFP Reel 11]

14 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to J.C. Fairchild, Pres. “I was glad to have my letter to Mr. Lawrence, answered by yourself, and to learn from you of the hopeful condition of the enterprise under your charge. I consider you made a great bargain in effecting the compromise with the LaCross R. Such damages for a ‘breach of promise,’ seem to me to be better than an actual

marriage would be, especially when we look at the price of their stock in the market. Judging by the Roads east, your link of 33 1/3 miles, in an important chain of communication, must if well managed, be a profitable road, even to stock holders, at par. If you can control your connections, (and I understand, those have already been looked after), I think your road may become a most creditable enterprise, and most satisfactory to those interested. But I am aware that I understand your affairs imperfectly, and of course can give you no new ideas. If I see any prospect for your 1st mortg. Bonds, I will write you. Your Madison City and Watertown Bonds, so far as I have dealt in them are valued at 80 and 85 respectively. Let that be held as your price, as far as N, England is concerned. I do not want them offered for less, and presume the few Madisons you have left, will not find their way hither. I shall be glad to hear from you, and shall maintain my interest in your city and Road. I now own myself 29 Madison Bonds, and shall not sell them for less than 80 per ct. and accrued int. I can sell as readily at that, as at a lower figure, though it is not easy to sell at all, such an avalanche of bonds has been thrown out upon N. Eng. by the Fond de Lac and other roads, and at ruinous deductions – ruinous also to the credit of their securities, since our people do not believe a bond for \$1000, can be good, if a man is willing to take 500 or 600\$ for it. Resp. and truly yrs. Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

15 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to S.A. Haley. “I have received your draft for \$1564.49 enclosed in your favor of the 13th inst. The bills you propose sending to me to-morrow, I will give a circulation to, as good as I can.”

“The clothes have not yet come to hand, any of them. I only mention the fact, so that, if you have entrusted them by any one, you may know they have not arrived. The delay is of no consequence, as I have not needed them. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

14 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to N. Lee, Cashier. ‘When last at Chicago, I loaned \$10,000 to a man, who I learn, is on the point of failing. His notes, due in Oct., I have depended upon, to raise the \$3400 to pay for additional stock in the Wisconsin Bank. But I dare not discount the notes, till I have confidence they will be paid without protest. I think the surety on the notes is good, but they will not be paid promptly, unless paid by the principal. This state of facts, must be my apology for my delay in taking the full amount of \$5000 in stock, at once. I have used my means liberally, in purchasing Madison Bonds, and shall not be in condition to advance more money immediately, unless I have more encouraging news from Chicago.’

“Yrs. very respectfully Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

15 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. Mr. Diman [sp.?]. “I am one of a committee of three, to supply preaching for the 2nd Cong. Society in this Town, lately presided over by Rev. Asa Mann, whose connection with us has been dissolved. I have been told you would be a good judge to recommend some one to preach to us a few Sabbaths. We can obtain enough about here, but not of the right cast for us. We are Congregationalist Orthodox, an old Society, and have no idea of changing our creed, which, by the way, is a liberal one. Still we fellowship such

Unitarians as Drs. Peabody and Huntingdon, and want a minister, who will not consult surrounding influences, but exchange with whomsoever he pleases. We want a progressive, outspoken, able man, unsectarian in his feelings, who preaches and practices that the proper way to show love to God, is by loving our fellow man. We believe there is more religion in such a course, than reproducing creeds and singing doxologies. We can give the usual pay for ministerial services, and when [we] find a man we like, who likes us, can give him \$800 to \$1000 a year salary, and a situation with us in as pleasant a village as there is in N. Hamp.”

“My apology for writing you is, that you are said to be such a man as we should like, and that you probably know of some one, whom it would be profitable for us to have for a few Sabbaths. An answer, will oblige – Yours respectfully Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

15 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.B. Goodrich. “According to your request, I enclose to Mr. Palmer, by the same mail that carries this, the blank note, to be filled up by you. I enclose herein the paper which you and I signed, when we proposed leaving it, (the note), with Mr. Tinkham, which I at first did, but afterward thought I might need it at home, to fortify the John S. Wright notes, if I should offer them for discount. I recognize your friendly purpose, in sending for the note now, and shall trust to you to advise me of what my interests require, in future, in case of an exigency. I have heard that times were tight in Chicago, but I hope that Mr. W.’s collections, may be such as to relieve all concerned, from annoyance or inconvenience. Accept my thanks for your kind wishes and desire to protect me, while I remain, Yrs. very truly Amos Tuck”

“P.S. Please write me if any new phase comes over Mr. W.’s business.”
[Correspondence Book]

15 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John R. Palmer. “I have a letter from Mr. Goodrich to-day, requesting me to send to you the Walter Wright note of \$10,000, to be filled up. I acknowledge your kindness in remembering my interests, so early after your return, and in procuring that to be done, which I deemed to be important. It seems you did not delay at Syracuse, but pushed on at once to Chicago. It is extremely hot here. I trust you do not roast at your place. Perhaps you better send the note back to me. But if you think it better, to retain it, do so. I hope you have entirely recovered from the injury you received, and that nothing will occur in your business to limit in any degree the extent of your profits. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck”
[Correspondence Book]

17 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. “Dear sir: I rec’d and answered your despatch from N. York yesterday. The stock had gone up so much from the time I wrote, that I was not ready to order a purchase, without consideration. I find I uniformly lose by the delay of troubling you to go to N. York, and in future it will be better for me to order purchase [rest of sentence illegible]. Mr. Gordon telegraphed to Hampton after I wrote and bought 50 shares at 90 [?] two days before I got an answer from you. I have concluded to buy only 50 shares, and Mr.

Gordon has [several words illegible] to buy for me to-day, at not over 95. I took up [sp.?] my payments for bonds by the middle of Oct., and by a letter from Mr. Lawrence, I thought the road would submit to a good shave, by my anticipating the payment, but I presume Lawrence arranged for a supply of money, before going west a week ago. I shall let 50 shares of G & C stock stand, as 90 is not a high figure, at which it will stand me after the dividend.”

“We are glad Abby is coming next week. We expect a letter stating the exact time when she will arrive in Boston. It is possible some of us may meet her there, though she must not rely for certainty upon it, but manage her own business, and press right along in her own way. So I see you do not conclude to come till near the close of Abby’s visit. Well, when you do come, we will contrive to enjoy life, in some way, and among other things will go to the Beach, -- fishing, etc. etc.”

“Ned is at Biddeford, and will go to Effingham [two words illegible] intending to be home by the time Abby and family arrive. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck”

[P.S. We will settle expenses of yourself [sp.?] [two words illegible] when I see you.”
[Correspondence Book]

17 July 1857 [?]: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to S.A. Haley [sp.?). [Entire letter illegible]
[Correspondence Book]

18 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Thomas J. Whittier [Whitem?]. “Mr. Linehan [sp.?] presented me your bill for \$1.50, to-day, which I paid. Allow me to contribute the enclosed five dollars towards the expenses of sustaining your valuable paper. Present your bill as usual hereafter, and I will hope to be able to repeat, or enlarge my contribution. It was my hope and I repeatedly called upon Mr. Fogg and Mr. Rollins in June, that some patronage worthy your acceptance might be bestowed on you, as the supporter of a necessary organ of political truth. Command my limited influence in your behalf any time, and believe me Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”
[Correspondence Book]

21 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edwin A. Kimball. [Most of the letter is too faded to read.] “...I have been a teacher: paid for my education by the means I got by teaching. I was pleased with the business and moderately successful. But I should not like it myself for a permanent business. I should rather be a machinist....” [Correspondence Book]

24 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Elbridge Gerry Dudley. “Dear sir: I wish to trouble you so much as to send the enclosed certificate to J.E. Thayer & Bros. Boston transfer agents, and have them issue a certificate in my name for the 16 shares of C. B. & Q. R.R. and send same to me.”

“Mr. Hoyt says he saw Fogg yesterday, and he says he shall come here next week, the last of it, to go to Pr____ [word illegible] with Hoyt and me. I suggest that you correspond with him and hit [sp.?] here at same time. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

24 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John R. Palmer. "Dear sir: I have only a moment to write. You were not aware that there is a transfer office for the Railroad, (J. E. Thayer & Bros.) where the stock can be transferred to me. I send the certificate by this mail to a friend in Boston, to get transferred and returned to me. I would as soon send it to you at Chicago, and have sent it to Boston, as I thought you would prefer, if it had occurred to you, that there is an office there."

"I will fill out the mortgage to-day and send to you to-morrow, or by the P.M. mail to-day. I will do in any [word illegible] what you desire, and don't doubt you are taking the precautions a wise man should do. I see your attention to my safety in regard to changing the notes, and am gratified in believing Mr. Goodrich will follow your suggestion in the same honorable and kind spirit. No one shall know a syllable of what you communicate to me."

"Yrs. very truly Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

27 July 1857 [?]: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to "Dear Cousin." "I was glad to receive your letter of the 22nd inst. and shall continue to take an interest in your welfare and want to hear from you as often as convenient and to see you and your family when I can. Since I last heard from or seen you I have given up attending to law business. I had been in more or less in the profession for 18 years and having a farm adjoining the village of Exeter have business of my own to take care of and a moderate income to aid me. I left my business to my partner, Mr. Stickney, last year, and cut myself off, at once, and entirely from the practice of the law. My time is now spent mostly at my house and at my farm. I keep two hired men but shall keep but one, after I get the improvements finished. The daughter you saw when here, has since that been married, is now visiting us, having multiplied in the mean time, and now having two children, one 3 yrs. old in Aug and the other 9 months. It was a yr. ago in Sept. that you and yr. wife were at Exeter. My second daughter is 19, is at home, and not likely to marry at present. My only son Ned is a member of the Academy, but is now on his vacation, visiting my mother and brother Hodgdon's family at Effing[ham]. He will be 15 yrs. old in August and will be fitted for College if he continues prosperous when he is 16 yrs. old. He is small of his age and not so strong in his body, as I could wish him to be. He will probably, go to College, though it is not certain. I shall let him follow the bent of his own inclinations."

"As to your son, it must be a great satisfaction to you and your wife to have so promising a child to whom you justly look with so much hope. May he fulfill your most sanguine expectations, and be an honor and comfort to you both in your more advanced age. I think it impossible without an intricate knowledge of a child's particular character to give anything like an accurate judgment of what is best for him. [Here there is a break of several faded, illegible pages.] [Correspondence Book]

29 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Charles R. Palmer. "Dea[con] Gordon has suggested to the Committee of the New Parish, to write to you, to secure either Mr. Chas. Reed, or Mr. E.H. Dwight to preach for us, next Sabbath. We wish one or the other. Please ask Mr. Reed first, and

if he is engaged, Mr. Dwight. Dea. John S. Gordon, who lives a short distance west of the Railroad Station will accommodate whoever comes.”

“An immediate answer will oblige Yrs. resp. Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “We expect to pay \$10 and the expenses in Exeter – each Sabbath.”

[Correspondence Book]

30 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to J.S. Kellogg & Co. [sp.?]. “I have shown your letter to some of our people, and we think a bell of 1500 lbs. will be the best for us, and pitched on A. If it can be done, we would have the A a shade flat, but not A flat.”

“The bells we wish to harmonize with, are E and C natural. Both are a shade flat, but are always called E and C respectively.”

“If our selection I still doubted, we wish further suggestion made to us, before having the bell sent. Respectfully Yrs. Amos Tuck for New Parish.” [Correspondence Book]

29 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Reverend Jos. Bartlett. “We are without a minister. We should not select one immediately....” [Several lines are illegible, but the gist is that Tuck is inviting Bartlett to preach at the New Parish to be paid \$10 per week.] “...If you can come, please write me immediately. Dea. John Gordon, living a short distance west of the R.R. Station will entertain you. I have visitors at my house or I should desire you to stay with me.”

“Very truly yours, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

30 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George S. Nicholls. “Your favor of 5th inst. came safely to hand. I think I cannot do better than to await your final settlement, in regard to the investment you made at Faribault and receive such profits on my \$2000 as you then find to be due. I have [1-2 words illegible] curiosity, as well as a pecuniary interest, in seeing how the thing will work out. As you propose going there in August, I will hope to receive a letter from you there, or soon after your return. I am meditating a journey west, this Fall, and hope then to see you personally, and may be prepared for a new enterprise, of moderate dimensions.”

“Very resply Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

30 July 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Mr. Hill. “Dear sir: I wish to obtain some information in regard to the estimated value of my lots, and to get an opinion from you, as to the profitable course for me: -- to sell or to hold on. I have an offer from Richardson to pay me \$4,000 for the 10 lots, (being all the lots in Block 129, on the side nearest the lake, and one corner lot, next the Steam Mill), he having written me to that effect, last spring. His offer was to run 6 mos., and will expire by Oct. 10th, or about that time. Gov. Farwell would estimate the lots at nearer ten than five thousand dollars. But I want to hear whether these lots would now sell for more than \$4,500 cash; whether the building of the Railroad has enhanced prices in the vicinity of Block 129, and whether you think I may reasonably hope to retail out the land at \$1000 a lot by holding on a year or two. Unless I can hope to do that, I shall choose to sell and invest my money at the

best rates of interest, or perhaps pay up some of my debts [short insertion illegible]. I shall feel greatly obliged, if you will enquire privately, among your most judicious friends the real value of these lots and give me your opinion of my best course. I hope to go to Madison in October or rather September, and wish before [word illegible] to get well [word illegible].”

“I have seen your father here finally [sp.?), who looks well and hearty, and quite too young a man to have a son, as large as you, when I saw him, a few weeks ago, on Mr. Gilman’s farm in Exeter, showing the management and working of his mower. It worked beautifully, and I think he sold it to Mr. G. Yours very truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

1 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Mrs. James Bell (Gilford, NH). “I called on Mrs. Odiorne yesterday, told her you were disinclined to purchase a house, and queried with her in regard to renting to you. She was evidently anxious to sell at \$3000, and I thought was in a state of mind to take a smaller sum. But as I introduced the matter so as to cut off a hope of selling, she entertained the proposition to lease it to you, at once, and talked quite favorably about it. I proposed \$225 a year, and a lease for 5 years. She says she is desirous of your having the house, and will give me an answer next Monday evening. The prospect is, she will buy of Mrs. Chellis, and lease it to you; still, she may change her mind. Miss Serena, her sister, was present, favoring your application, so that my hopes are strong, of a favorable result. Mrs. O. said she should lay out \$100, at least, before allowing you to occupy, and she will expect to pay taxes, insurance and repairs. This will be much better than for you than to buy, as you can, no doubt, buy hereafter, if you choose, at a cheap rate, as now, and in the mean time, make a pecuniary gain on the rent. Dr. Curtis told me yesterday, that he pays \$160 a year rent, and Mrs. Odiorne said Mr. Cole has offered \$225, last fall, and Mrs. Chellis had refused. Dr. C. and his wife, (now deceased), have been particular friends of Mrs. C. and she let them have the house cheaper.”

“Please make no apology for any trifling assistance I can afford, as it will be a pleasure to be of service to you. Very respectfully yours Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

1 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Jonathan Tuck. “Dear Brother: I was sorry to hear of John’s accident. If he escapes with a temporary lameness only, he may consider himself fortunate. I have examined my own leg, and see not how he could kick a scythe, in the way you describe, without cutting the cords, or tendons, which raise the foot. If he should prove worse maimed, than you supposed when you wrote, let me know at once. The Doctor ought to know, and perhaps is perfectly certain of the extent of the injury. Yet I shall be freer of anxiety when I hear he can move his foot. Of course he cannot expect to move it much just now, but if he feels he can move it, he is safe for a good leg and foot still.”

“Ned got home Monday, and Thursday went to Hampton Beach, where he will stay with Abby and Ellen and retinue till the last of next week, when we expect more company for a few days, and they will return. I have two tons of hay out, one of which and more is in the swarth, half wilted, and just in condition to be damaged by this southerly rain. The rest is capped. Don’t

worry about your Galena stock. It is better to keep the \$120 a share at 10 per ct. int. Send this letter to John. Yours affectionately Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

1 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to N. Lee, Cashier. “I think it will not be practicable, till a further lapse of time, to obtain currency from our Banks in this vicinity. They are pretty much all of them pre-occupied, so far as they are willing to step outside of their own neighborhood. It is my purpose to go West in September, and I shall have greater facilities, after my return, to make negotiations than I now have.”

“I wrote you of a reason for delay in taking the \$5000 in the Bank, and paying for it at once, as I had proposed. I regret that a man who owes me \$1150 in Chicago, has failed, and that I cannot negotiate his notes, due in Oct., without fear of being obliged to pay them myself at maturity. This will necessarily delay my further payment for stock. I was notified with the Bank statement, and trust every thing will go on to your satisfaction. Yours truly Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

2 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Betsey Towle Tuck. “Dear Mother: This is my 47th birthday. I have lived most half a century, and already begin to be accounted [sp.?] among the old. It seems strange to be so old. It is 30 years since I began to be absent from my father’s roof, and from my mother’s immediate care. Then you was younger by 3 years than I am now. A generation has passed off the stage, since then, and as many died as were then living. Our family has lost 3 out of the eight, which then constituted our number, and most of your children have since married, had families, and lost numbers of their dearest friends. The scenes of a lifetime are found in these 30 years: labor, pain, joy, success, sorrow, and death, are shared along all our memories. After these many years, we still survive: you, with four of your six children, each having a family; and we, with the remnant of children and friends lost, still rejoicing that you survive, and with hope of a longer life, to cheer us in our onward journey. May it please our Heavenly Father, that our number not be lessened by any new breach, for years to come.”

“I omitted to write Saturday, as was my turn to do, because Ned had just returned, or rather, because that fact served to make me forget my duty to be exact. We are now all in good health. Abby and Ellen, with Abby’s children and nurse, are at Stacy Nudd’s, at Hampton Beach, boarding for benefit of recreation and sea air. Abby’s baby is a pale thing and she thinks the sea breezes are building it right up. Ned is at the Beach, at Batchelder’s – gunning and playing. He is so busy when at school, that during his six weeks summer vacation, I let him have a loose rein and run at large. He was delighted with his visit to Effingham, but regretted not carrying his gun with him. Had he proposed it, I should have had no objection. Near the close of this week, I expect Mr. Dudley, and wife, of Boston, at whose house we often stop, to come and stay with us some days. This is the visiting season, and the people of cities, now take what leisure they can afford to do. Mr. Dudley was at Pembroke at school, with Mary. He is now a lawyer, and rich, but has not forgotten his old friends.”

“You have heard of course that John cut his leg with a scythe, and will be lame for a week or two – I hope he will have no relapse. I shall write to Jonathan to send you some Brandy, as I think it best you shall have some by you. I will not omit to write at my turn hereafter. I must hear from you often. Love to all the family. Your affectionate Son Amos Tuck.

[Correspondence Book]

3 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to W.H. Estes (Dover, NH). “My dear sir: I think I shall go west in Sept. If the benefit to you would be adequate compensation for the trouble, and the hazard, I should be desirous of complying with your suggestion in regard to the using of money to the west. I should desire that you should fare as well as I, in any such enterprise.”

“Since you were here, I have thought more of your questions, in regard to giving up your present business, and I confess to entertaining more doubts, whether it will be for your benefit to do so. One wants something other than speculation to lean up; -- he wants a regular business to fill up his spare time, that will pay part, if not all, of his family expenses. Some of our folks here, for instance Mr. Dearborn has been impatient this last spring for something to do, besides attending to his money. If then, your business be somewhat remunerating, think twice before you give it up. You understand it, and might want it back, if you cast it away. Again, I think at your age and mine, we should not feel comfortable to emigrate west, though I know that is the country to make money in. You have a good position in Dover, you know people extensively, have an influence in the state, and will never feel so much at home elsewhere. Had you not better stick by, in N. Hamp, operate somewhat west, with me, or alone, and decide to make no important change? If you come to the latter conclusion, I see not why it would not be a reasonable recreation for you to indulge your friends in sending you to the Legislature, and I should be very sorry, if you should not do so. It is right that we should keep up our interest in public affairs, and strive to keep the country right side up. The year 1860 will soon be upon us, and according to present signs, the Republicans will sweep the country. I hope you will maintain your activity in politics well after that time. As to your allusion to myself, politically, I have only to say, that if I am hereafter elevated to the office, you suggest, it will be the work of kind friends like yourself, and that it is a part of my religion not to forget such friends.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

3 August 1857: Tuck lent John R. Palmer of Exeter, then a resident of Chicago, \$2,000.00 in exchange for a mortgage on two tracts of land in Exeter. One tract was on the road running from Joseph Cilley’s house to Cram’s sawmill and consisted of about nine acres. The second tract consisted of six acre. A later marginal note states that Amos Tuck discharged the mortgage on 26 November 1857. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 374, Pages 442-443]

5 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.B. Goodrich. “Dear sir: I have heard with regret, that Mr. John S. Wright has not been able to avoid a suspension. I trust that in the end, it will not prove so great a misfortune to him or his friends, as such occurrences often are. Let me enquire

if you think his suspension will affect the promised [sp.?] payment of my notes against him; -- and if it does, whether the Walter Wright note due Oct. 24th, will be paid at maturity. I want to use this paper, which I do not dare to do, without your opinion in regard to its payment when due.”

“I received, through Mr. Palmer, the note of W. & J.S. Wright in form, and for your readiness to ensure my safety, and for all favors and courtesies, I am, Yours very truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

8 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.K. Lawrence. “The Madison City Bonds will be of more service to me, than the 1st Mortgage Bonds. If to supply me with the 3 you owe me, you are to buy of any person, I propose to take for the three, what I gave you, and interest to date. I have a heavy amount for one investment, on my own hands, and would willingly diminish the quantity, as proposed. I would take the note of the Railroad, payable Jan. 1, 1858 with 4 1st Mort. Bonds as collateral, and to have the coupons for the 6 mos. due Jan. 1, /58 for the int. The bonds stood me about 2 ½ per ct. above 60 – the last batch.” Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

14 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Messrs. Jas. Richardson & Co. “In case I re-convey to you, availing myself of the stipulation in your letter of Ap. 20th, what will you pay, if instead of receiving cash, I allow credit, taking installments of \$1000 a year, till all is paid; and if, instead of 12 per ct. int. I take ten per ct. per annum; the interest to be paid semi-annually here, in drafts on N. York, and the annual installments of principal in the same funds; -- the whole to be secured by mortgage of the premises conveyed, and the interest and installments to be reckoned from the 1st day of April last. Yours respectfully, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

17 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to S.A. Haley. “I feel obliged by your discounting that note yesterday. My business with Mr. Tinkham made me particularly anxious to get it done.”

“His note becomes due at J.W. Clark & Co. Boston, the 26th, and my wish is, for you to send \$5000 there, to the credit of E.J. Tinkham & Co. to pay the note. Observe the “& Co.” I will send you the discount on the \$5000 note, done yesterday, and your tailoring bill, when you notify me what they are.”

“The Wright note for \$3200, due 26th, Mr. Tinkham will [word illegible] paid. I am still confined, but better in health. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

17 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to E.J. Tinkham. “I have arranged to have the Bigelow note discounted at the New Market Bk. to meet the payment of your note at J.W. Clark & Co.’s Aug. 26th. The Wright note is due on the same day. I am confined to my house, by illness, and sent a friend to N. Market, on rept. of yr. letter yesterday. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

20 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Catlin. "Dear sir: Having waited a long time, in vain, for the promised proposition from you, respecting your tax claim upon lots in Block 129, City of Madison, purchased by me of Richardson & Co., I enquire what is your purpose in regard to this matter. And remain yrs. respectfully Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

21 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Betsey Towle Tuck. "Again I take my pen in hand to send you my periodical letter. Since I last wrote the children have all returned from the Beach, and have been some time at home. The time draws nigh, when Abby will leave with her children. He husband is expected to-morrow morning, and will stay here, and about here, for nearly a week, and return with his family next week, not again to visit us still next summer. My wish is for my children to visit me, at least once a year, for a long visit, and oftener if convenient; -- this wish is, of course, prospective as to all but Abby. I have been confined to the house for nearly a week till yesterday. I must have taken a severe cold, as I was troubled with severe pain in my limbs, which was only relieved by dieting, sweating and castor oil. I am now quite well again. My wife is often unwell, and is now considerably so, though I hope it will all pass off, as a slight summer complaint. The rest of the family are rugged. Jonathan, it seems, with his family have lately visited you, and John but a short time since. Your children certainly visit you, much oftener than many others do their parents. They ought to do so, as you have taken more interest in your children than other mothers often do. I hope you will live to have much more proof that your love for your children is all reciprocated by them to you."

"I have a letter from John or Jonathan every week, on an average. It seems Harriet is expecting soon to be confined, which is a surprise upon us, as we had heard nothing about such a prospect. John may yet be as fortunate as Job was, after his afflictions."

"We should be glad to see any of Brother Hodgdon's family here this fall, but we have been so seldom been favored in that respect, that we don't entertain strong hopes. We have also hope of having you visit us again, and think we could make a visit agreeable; -- still we shall not urge you to move yourself to us, against your judgment. I do not think Abby can go to Effingham this visit. She and all send their love to you and the family."

"And I, with love for all, remain your affectionate son Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

23 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Hon. Leonard J. Farwell. "I have heard with deep regret of your suspension. Allow me to assure you of my sympathy in this misfortune, and to express my sincere and ardent hope, that you may soon enjoy the sunshine of prosperity, when temporary embarrassment shall have passed away."

"When leisure allows you, I shall be glad to learn how far your embarrassment is likely to affect the loans made by me, and through me to you. I feel the same anxiety in regard to my neighbors, who have relied on me, that I do in regard to my own interest. In fact, I feel that I must save them harmless, in their humble property."

“With desire to be remembered with Mrs. Tuck to Mrs. F. and your family, an in hope of seeing you in Sept., I am yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

23 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to M.D. Miller. “I learn with great regret the suspension of our friend Farwell. I have only time to enquire the amount of his indebtedness to the Bank, and whether amply secured or not; and whether his misfortune will at all affect the Bank. I do not doubt that he has honorably protected the Bank, but still I feel anxious for a line from you. I intend to be in Madison, early in September. Yours very truly Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

25 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to S.A.Haley (New Market). “I send enclosed \$45 for int. due you on discount of Bigelow note for E.J. Tinkham.”

“I also enclose \$33 for your bill of clothes.”

“Both accounts are entirely satisfactory.”

“I presume you rec’d the \$100 by Mr. Merrill, sent you by me, as int. on my \$5000.”

“Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

25 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Jonathan Tuck. “Dear Brother: I am glad you are better of your dysentery, and I counsel a continuance of the utmost care. To keep warm and motionless, is important, in aid of the best medicine. My wife is down with diarrhea, tending to dysentery. The rest of us well. Mr. Nelson is here. He will not be able to go to Biddeford this time. He takes all his plunder back this week. The \$27 sent yesterday is rec’d. I don’t think John can easily buy a single share, unless privately. It is best, to let things rest, as they are. The stock is good, but there is a panic in Western Stocks. We did not expect Harriet’s prospects till within a week. I expect to go west early in Sept. Will write you again; shall not have occasion to stay long. Yrs. aff. Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

26 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to E.J. Tinkham. “The failure of Thompson, and others, in N. York yesterday, the suspension of Mr. Ogden, Farwell etc. at the West, produces quite a panic in the East, in regard to Western securities. I feel anxious to learn from you, whether any of paper in which you and I have a common interest, is bad or doubtful. Excuse my anxiety in these times. Please answer by return mail, as I wish a line from you before leaving home for a journey west, when I expect to see you. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

30 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to P.H. Townsend (Big Springs, Kansas). “Dear Bro: It is some time since I wrote you at any length. But we all think as often of you, and with a much interest, as though we wrote oftener. We all were much gratified with your being selected for representative, and your consequent election. It is an honor to you, and we appreciate it, and rejoice in it with you. You have talents enough to stand among the best of the Kansas men, and if you are crowded, so as to exhibit headlong activity, and give full play to all your talents, I

doubt not your position will become entirely satisfactory to yourself and friends. I have read your letter of Aug. 7, in the Independent Democrat, and think it an excellent production, which takes the hide from the back of the Boston Courier, in a successful and artistic manner. You have several times asked me of the expediency of your going into the October election. I should have replied immediately, had I felt competent to give my assistance to men on the ground, knowing many things which I do not. If it be practical to have the polls guarded on the front by Lane's militia, only your true men, so that you can go in and win, to have a strong probability of winning, my impression would be strong in favor of doing so. In such case, I would have the volunteer defenders of the polls, -- the true men of Kansas, imbued with a spirit of heroism, by which they would resolve to defend the ballot boxes with success, or die in the attempt. A man can put himself to no better use, than to devote himself thus to his country. But is there is a probability that you cannot conquer at the October election, then stay away, and stand as you have stood, indignantly contemptuous towards Ruffian Democracy, in all its designs to make you partakers in its schemes for subjugating the country."

"The season has been most remarkably wet in N. England. The potato rot is afflicting us with discouragement in regard to that item of provision. Other prospects in regard to food are good. Exeter is dull -- even duller than when you left. Nobody is growing richer, by anything done here, and no great good is accomplished, that I can see. Gov. Farwell of Madison, Wis. has suspended. He owes \$24,000 in Exeter, all procured thro me. It was all thought to be well secured by mortgages of Real Estate, but I feel uneasy in regard to it, and intend to go there in a week or two, to look after the business; I am personally interested in about \$6000 of his debts. I do not think I can go to Kansas. I shall have to be in Madison some time. In regard to money, you will not have any more, naturally, till Jan. when the int. becomes due. But if you cannot survive without some, we must contrive to raise the wind. Don't loan Mary Anne's without undoubted security in abundance. All send love. Yrs. aff. Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

31 August 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Elbridge G. Dudley. "Friend Dudley: I have given the matter of our conversation considerable thought, and flatter myself that I have come to a conclusion that you will not disapprove of, though I cannot name on paper in a short letter, (I have not at my house, any larger sheets of paper than this), all the reasons that have caused me to suggest what I do."

"If we sign the \$25,000 note, it is not perhaps improbable, that one or the other of us will die before we shall choose to pay it. According to my present views, I should be willing that it be paid by the Bonds, at their maturity. We should therefore adjust our business, on signing so large a note, in a way to fortify ourselves, or rather prevent our estates from inconvenience, or loss in any court."

"We believe the Bonds good, and that the regular payment of interest upon them for a few years, may make them our favorite investment. Yet buying them at a discount, and to guard against possibilities, I think it prudent, both for you and me, to give each other security, as

follows, against all contingency, that may happen in our day, or after. I will mortgage to you my interest, over and above the mortgage thereon, in the houses on Tremont Street, to secure you and your heirs, (and consequently Mrs. Philbrick and your other friend, who may sign with us), from possible loss, by delaying payment; and you may select from your mortgaged houses, which you are most likely to keep, a proportionate amount of property, and mortgage to me, for a similar purpose, in regard to your \$15,000. Neither you nor I should be likely to desire to make a second mortgage, except for this purpose to each other, and consequently we should not encumber property on which we wish to raise funds. In case of a future sale by either of us, of the whole or a portion of the mortgaged property, we should be ready to release, taking other property instead of what we had. I send you the condition, I should suggest, in my deed to you. With such guards for us, mutually, I should be willing to sign the note and deposit the Bonds. I need not say, that the suggestions of this letter, wd. be the same in dealing with my brothers. I will go to Boston by the first train to-morrow, and go directly to your office. I will take your house on Kingston St. or some other. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

[later notation at head of the following language] “not carried out”

“Provided, however, that if the said Amos Tuck, or his heirs or his executors shall pay to the Boston Five Cents Savings Institution, or their order ten thousand dollars, with interest, according to the tenor [sp.?], and as part of a note for twenty five thousand dollars, dated September 1st 1857, signed by E. Gerry Dudley, John S. Philbrick [space left blank for Dudley’s friend] and Amos Tuck, payable to said Bank or their order, on demand and interest semi-annually (the said Dudley being obligated to pay fifteen thousand dollars of said note, according to the tenor of the same); and if the said Tuck or his heirs or Executors, shall pay said ten thousand dollars, when thereto requested by said Bank, or by said Dudley, himself offering to pay the remainder of the note; then this deed is to be void, but is otherwise to remain in full force.” [Correspondence Book]

1 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Willis H. Estey. “Dear sir: I was astounded to hear of ex-Gov. Farwell’s suspension. I have had no explanation direct, myself, but saw a letter in Boston a few days ago, stating that he shows an exhibit of \$600,000 in property, and debts to \$200,000. This would seem to be margin enough to pay all debts eventually. Even if you had no collateral, I should not despair of getting the debt. He owes me nearly \$1000 without security (this is private). I expect a letter from Madison daily, and will write you any additional news I have. The sky seems almost falling at the west – but it will be bright by and by, I trust.”

“Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

1 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. “Dear sir: I was anxious about you and family, Friday night, and am thankful to know of your safe arrival home. I have just returned from Boston, where I have closed up business with Mr. Dudley. Have sold him 16 bonds and purchased 3 estates, worth 29 or \$30,000, having \$14,000 encumbrance on them all,

and he giving me \$400 balance. I am satisfied. I declined the loan, though he was willing to give me mortgage security for my liability to him. I won't incur liability to damage, though apparently remote. Am sorry to learn of your mother's illness. Ned is just out, after 3 days confinement with biles. Talk with Laura about Grappy, etc. Don't let her forget Grappy, Grammy, or any of us –We love her. I hope Abby is well and yourself, and Nellie better. With love to Abby [last line illegible] Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

2 September 1847: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. C. Whiting [sp.?]. “I have rec'd the [5-6 words illegible] the Whitfield [sp.?] memorial fund, which makes [one word illegible] collected in all. It still increases every week, and when the contributions begin to cease, I will deposit the money in some savings institution, to the credit of myself, as Treasurer, or to the credit of the Committee, as shall be thought best.”

“Unless I hear from you again, I'll understand that nothing further is to be done.”

“I write to Mr. Alvord to-morrow, that our people are anxious that he come back to us for two Sabbaths more, and in the mean time hold himself uncommitted to a settlement elsewhere. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

3 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. Mr. [John W.?] Alvord. “Dear sir: Our people were more interested in your preaching and personal appearance among us, than they have been in any other person. The impression you made, was such as ought to be entirely satisfactory, to most partial friends. Our people are very desirous, generally, of knowing you more. It is the general wish that you shall come and preach to us for two or three Sabbaths, beginning with the 20th inst. They wish you not to engage yourself, elsewhere, by way of settlement, many of them having expressed earnest wishes that you may come here permanently, and many others hoping that a further acquaintance, may show that we are mutually adapted to one another. I think it desirable for you again to visit us, and hope for an early and favorable answer.”

“Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

3 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John P. Palmer. “The draft etc. etc. all rec'd, and shall be attended to, at once, as you have expressed a desire. I understand.”

“Please ascertain before you return what I had better do. Will Mr. G. certainly meet his \$1540 note? Will Walter show fight on the \$10,000? Will he want an extension, and how much interest will he expect to pay? Why did Mr. G. put the day of payment of Walter's note 24th Nov. instead of Oct. which was the time of maturity. Can I see W. beforehand and make an arrangement for part pay, and extension on the rest? Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

4 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Messrs. C.D. Kellogg & Co. “Gent: By your favor of this day, we are apprized that the Bell is en route for Exeter.”

“It was, I suppose, that the old bell should be taken in part pay for the new bell, and you may remember that you said you could not tell certainly whether you would get 27 or 28 cts. a pound allowed for it, but would do as well as you could for us. When the old bell is weighed and accepted at Troy, we will at once remit balance. Yrs truly Amos Tuck for parish”

[Correspondence Book]

4 September 1857: HFF (Steamship Europa) to BBF. HFF “Will send Bess’ lace as soon as it has been seen by Mrs. Tuck.” [FFP Reel 11]

6 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Jonathan Tuck. “Dear Bro: We are at length in a fair state of health, my wife having shaken off, to a considerable extent, her variety of infirmities, which have made her an invalid all summer. Mr. Nelson and family have returned safely to Peekskill. He was sick while he was here, about all the time. He received your letter, as well as one from John, and was well please with both. He recognizes and is pleased with his relationship to you at Biddeford, and is impressed with the conviction that the Tucks have some brains. We are all oppressed, of course, with a feeling of want, in regard to this commodity, but if he has a mind to fall into such an error, I am not going to spend my time, to correct his notion.”

“Since my illness, a month ago, I have been in good health. I am exceedingly liable to eat too freely, and have to guard my appetite for food, as carefully as some men do theirs for liquor. I can often trace a foul stomach, and nauseous mouth in the morning, to a bountiful supper. It is in vain to pray the Lord to keep us in health, to spare us from Sickness and lengthen our lives, if we disobey the laws of health, and set at naught the lights of reason and common sense, in our habits of living, as God is otherwise employed, than in working miracles to continue in existence those who are constantly destroying life. This preaching, I indulge in, not for your sake, so much as to impress on myself the certain penalty of transgressing God’s laws [sp.?), in regard to the conditions on which I am permitted, by his goodness, to keep soul and body together. When I have not sense enough, nor regard for Him sufficient, to make me exercise self-control, and to obey his laws of physical life, the it will be right for soul and body to fall asunder, and the soul to go one way, (to God who gave it), and the body, the other, to dust and the elements from which it was compound[ed] as well [several words illegible] other animals, trees [several words missing].”

“[Ned?] went to the Sea-shore after his [trip to?] Biddeford and Effingham [two lines illegible] for new growth and better health. He has just begun a new term at the Academy. I shall be careful about too much study for him.”

“I do not think your information in regard to the earnings of the Galena Road can be correct. It may be that the rebate [sp.?) earnings fall off somewhat, but I do not think it possible that the deficiency can be \$100,000. I own 75 shares in that Road. I am not alarmed at the depression in price, during this panic, and still think it good stock to keep, at par. There is no occasion to worry about an investment in that Road where a man desires to keep it. If Andrews

gets alarmed, tell him, you will give him \$90 a share for his R.R. stock, if he will take a Bond of City of Madison for \$1000, drawing 7 per ct. in (3 ½ semi-annually, payable at N. York), and he shall have the Bond for \$800. I have sold most of mine, but still have eleven, which I shall sell, in part at least.”

“I shall write to mother next week. I have not thus far spoken of your health, but yet I realize that you have had a serious time of it, and that you will have occasion for watchfulness hereafter. By the way, I have not thought of it till this moment; but will you not avail yourself of the Railroad meeting on Wednesday, at Lawrence, to borrow some certificates for yourself and family, and come and see us? We shall be glad to see you. My impression is that I shall not go, but be at home. Send us word, whether you will come. I suppose it would be of no use to ask John. We are anxiously awaiting news from his family, hoping all will go well with his wife, in approaching trial. With love to all, yours affectionately Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

7 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to C.S. Daveis [sp.?]. “I spoke to you on Saturday in regard to your price for the 30 acres of land lying near the depot, in this town, adjoining land of Mr. Yeaton. I understood you to say you were not so situated, as conveniently to name a price, but might favorably consider a proposition. I own a small farm adjoining the 30 acres, and am willing to give a fair price for your land, if I can pay for it, in a manner satisfactory to you. I have securities which I have taken for investment, which I believe to be good, and in case of trade would like to transfer to you. I will give you for the land in question, \$3000 in bonds of the City of Madison, the Capital of Wisconsin, with coupons attached, drawing 7 per ct. per annum, payable semi annually in N. York, and will give you, \$200, in cash, besides. I own \$14,000 in these bonds, and took them for investment 6 months ago, believing them to be perfectly good. I know no reason to doubt that they are as safe as similar bonds at the east. The City of Madison is the most pleasantly situated of our State Capitals, and is one of the most flourishing. It is said to have about 11000 inhabitants, and has come from nothing in 12 years. The Legislature of the State, passed an act in a clause of the City Charter, authorizing the issue of the Bonds. Besides this, each bond has the Guaranty of a promising Railroad, running from Madison, Easterly, to Watertown, and thence to Milwaukee, that, the principal and int. of the Bonds shall be paid punctually. The Bonds run 20 yrs. from Jan. 1, 1857. These Bonds have been taken for investment in this town and vicinity to a considerable extent. Mr. Nath. Gordon has some of them, Dr. Gorham, Mr. Lowe and others. I expect to hold \$10,000 permanently myself. There were only \$100,000 of them issued, or authorized, and the City took security of the Railroad, to cover the City liability under the Bonds. Mr. Frank B. Hayes of Boston, son of Judge Hayes, late of So. Berwick, having a brother at Madison, took 24 out of the 100 bonds, and a portion of them are held by his mother and friends for investment. The reason of my taking any of them, was my acquaintance of Madison, and my belief 6 mos. ago, that it was well to sell some Galena & Chicago Railroad stock, and invest the proceeds in less fluctuating funds.”

“As I expect to leave town, for a journey of some length, a week hence, I shall be obliged by an early answer.”

“Very respectfully, your obdt. sevt. Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

7 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George C. Peavey. “I own some \$14,000 in coupon Bonds of City of Madison, Capital of Wisconsin, taken 6 mos. ago, on sale of my western Railroad Stock. They are in thousands each, drawing 7 per ct. per ann. int. payable in N. York. Mr. Gordon, Dr. Gorham, Mr. Lowe and others have some of them. I believe them good, of course, and know no reason for doubting their perfect security. They are guaranteed by Watertown & Madison R.R., pr. and int., from whom the City, (authorized by the Leg. to issue them), took security for issuing the Bonds. If you fancy such a trade, I will give you one of these bonds, (\$1000), for your land, near Judge French’s, and \$200 pd. me in cash.”

“I hope you are convalescent in health, and assure you I shall ever rejoice to hear of your welfare, and be consoled by hearing of your patience under affliction.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

9 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) “To His Excellency the Governor and the Hon. Council: I am informed that a petition will be presented to you, in behalf of the appointment of Thomas J. Whittam Esq. to the office of Adjutant General. I desire to write, with others, in a respectful petition for Mr. Whittam’s appointment. His unquestionable qualifications for the office in question, his disinterested and important services for the public good, and his modest bearing, and upright conduct under all circumstances, make his appointment very desirable. I have no doubt, it would be extremely gratifying to a large portion of the people, in this portion of the state. Very respectfully, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

9 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to W.H.H. Bailey. “Dear sir: Our friends of Hampton Falls, and vicinity, are very desirous that Gen. Nason, now the senior Brig. General in this Division, may receive the appointment of Maj. Gen., at the next Executive session. I have no hesitation in saying to you that I am anxious to have our friends gratified in this particular. I have heard no other person named, whose appointment would be as gratifying to the people, generally, than Gen. Nason. I think it is rather necessary for efficiency’s sake, among our friends, that he should have the appointment. He is connected with a most indomitable set of workers, who seldom ask for anything for themselves, and who are evidently making a point of this matter. I hope you may learn enough of the state of matters, have a heart [?], to coincide with my views, and if you do, it will be very agreeable to have your important co-operation.”

“Very truly yours Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

9 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Thomas J. Whittam. “Dear sir: There is a growing dissatisfaction with the adequacy of the News Letter for the demands of our friends in the interior of the County. Mr. Hall now owns the whole of the Establishment, and needs just such a man as yourself, to take charge of the Editorial and business part of the concern. Should you on reflection, think it worth your while, to undertake any negotiation, or attempt at negotiation, with

the view of consolidating the Ballot and News Letter, I shall stand ready to advise Mr. Hall, that I think his Paper needs your assistance, and to aid in bringing about a satisfactory arrangement, in any way I can. I understand it is becoming apparent to Mr. Hall's best friends, that he cannot carry on the News Letter successfully, without some new partner in it."

"Yrs. truly Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

9 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Cass L. Dearborn (Madison, Wisconsin). "Dear sir: I did think it strange that I did not hear from you, as agreed upon. But your letter is sufficient excuse for your not examining the land. I expect to go to Madison within the next few weeks, and I wish you not to do anything about my land till I see you then. I had heard of Farwell's failure, and was sorry for it. I feared something of the sort, but hoped he would sustain himself."

"Old Exeter continues about the same. There has been little business this year in town. They are building a new Jail, back of the Rowland [sp.?] House, and a few people are repairing; this is all. It may be dull times west, but it is quite as dull here. The truth is, a man has to do some work for a living everywhere, and if he gets a little beforehand, he has to work to keep. The rich are becoming poor, and the poor are about as well off as the rich – any way. With respects to your wife and children, I am yours truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

10 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Jonathan and John Tuck. "Dear Brothers: You spoke, (Jonathan), in your last letter of your fears that Gov. Farwell's failures might do me some damage. I have done considerable business with him, and may be damaged by him, though not to much extent. He has suspended payment, but people feel so much confidence in him, and kindness towards him, that no suits, I understand, have been commenced against him, and he still holds a large amount of real estate, open to Attachment. His liabilities, which may affect me, are these – he owes me \$940 in two notes, not yet matured, and not secured by any mortgage or collateral. I took Bonds and mortgages on real estate of him, a year ago last spring, which I have since sold and guaranteed, to the amount of \$5000. The real estate was valued, at over twice the amount of this \$5000, and the Bonds run 5 yrs., int. semi-annually, at rate of 8 per ct. per ann., on \$3000, and 6 per ct. int. per ann. on \$2000. I am bound to see the int. pd. on this, and the principal, when due. The \$940, and the 6 per cents did not cost me much, and I have no fear of losing so much as I made on the operation, which led to my having these securities against him. I have no transactions with him, by which I can be hurt, other than the above."

"I confess myself disappointed with the descending quotations of Galena & Chicago stock, but still have confidence that it is a safe stock to keep for a steady and reliable income. I shall not sell, nor allow myself to be uneasy about it."

"I expect soon to hear something important from John and Harriet. See that Indian corn pudding does not relax your bowels. That is the natural effect, and you may do better on Farina, or rye pudding. Abby is reported sick abed, since her return, from woman's weakness, aggravated. I hope to hear she is better to-day. I am laying tile drain at my farm, and getting in a

2nd crop of hay. My Chenango potatos rot, to the extent of 70 bushels – my corn (1/2 acre) is good. I will write to mother Saturday. Yours affectionately, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

11 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Betsey Towle Tuck. “My Dear Mother: I was sorry that the last letter did not reach you on Saturday, as it should have done. I wrote it, as I do this, on Friday morning, and it was the fault of the Post Master, that it did not go directly. Since I wrote to you before, our family have been diminished by Abby’s departure with her family, taking Laura, whom had been here four months, and to whom we had become attached, as our own child. We tried to get the consent of the parents that she should remain; -- Abby was willing, but Mr. Nelson would not agree to it. He felt it would be giving up the affection of the child, who was beginning to love us, and he could not agree. My wife loved her very much, and when she left burst out crying, very much against her will. I felt very bad, and could not help having a moist eye. They left here two weeks ago. Mr. Nelson was here a week, but was sick, and went out but little. Abby has been sick since her return, but I hear she is now well.”

“We are in good health. I am busy making tile drains, on my farm. Wife and Ellen are making pickles, and tomato sauce, to preserve in tin cans for winter use. Ned goes to the Academy, being in better health, [four words illegible] passes along with us. Jonathan wrote last eve. that Harriet has another daughter, and that she is getting better in health [two words illegible]. Our watermelons are not yet ripe, but if they come to anything, which is somewhat doubtful, I shall send you some. I may be obliged to make a short visit to Chicago and Madison, on business, within the next few weeks, but shall hasten back as soon as possible. Having property there and money loaned, I [word illegible] to look up tenants [sp.?] to keep it safe. They are having hard times there, but I hope [two or three words illegible] without damage to myself. We understand that John Tuck Hodgdon [three words illegible] of the family coming to see us this [one word illegible]. Tell him not to fail, and that we shall all give him the heartiest welcome any day. We all wish we could see you here. Also all the family. All of us send love.”

“Your affectionate son Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

11 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Harrison A. Hill. “Dear sir: I acknowledge the recpt. of \$1.00 contributed by Mrs. Anna Hill of Oberlin, Ohio, towards erecting a monument to the memory of Rev. Joy H. [?] Fairchild, dec’d. which [two to three lines illegible] also a copy of the Oberlin Evangelist [four lines illegible]. Yrs. respectfully, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

11 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. “I have rec’d a letter from Richardson, saying he will send me a draft for purchase money of my Madison lands, on my sending a deed to Wm. A. Hayes at Madison, and giving the high price and scarcity of exchange as the reason for not sending money at once. He seems to be straight forward.”

“I wish to close up early my business with Walter Wright et. al. but do not think it best to leave till I have rec’d. Richardson’s remittance. I have a letter from Tinkham, saying if there is any stock in the world worth par, it is Galena & C.; that the falling off of recpts. in August is solely owing to a late season, (one month behind last year), and that the Road never before stood so well, and that he knows that Turner and others bought in, at 90 and upwards.”

“It must have been the Bonds of Watertown guaranteed by the Fond du Lac & Chicago R.R. which were sold, and not ours, which are out of the market. That same Fond du Lac, which carried down Ogden [sp.?], and which has done more than any other Road, except La Cross to produce this panic. I think the best R.R. stocks have now reached bottom. I will attend to all your business with care, when I go west. Farwell says he is going on, as usual, and he don’t see how my interests can be affected by his suspension.”

“Last and most important: -- it gave me, and all of us, great relief to get your letter of yesterday, stating Abby’s convalescence. Before I had many apprehensions. She must be careful about the stairs. You are right when you speak of a constitutional weakness. She never could stand up to be measured for a dress, without feeling faint. But I must close, with blessings for Laura and Nellie – and love to A. and all. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

11 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to F.W. Turner. “Dear sir: I have your bill for the Boston Semi-weekly Atlas from June 25/56 to Apr. 11/57 -- \$15.20. I have paid for the Boston Atlas, during all the time it was ever sent to me, and have recpts., therefor. The last bill I paid, covered a period I thought I had not taken the paper, and since the last payment, I have not received, nor has there been sent to me, a single copy of the Paper.”

“Yrs. respectfully Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

11 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to O.F. Fuller (Chicago). “Dear sir: I am about to take a journey west, and before doing so, expect to get discounted the note for \$2450, due at the Marine Bank, and signed by Messrs. Heath and Hurd and by yourself, which Mr. Nelson took a year ago, in my behalf. Will you have the kindness to write me, on receipt of this, whether there is any possibility the note will not be met, as I could not afford to have it liable to be protested, during my absence. Feeling acquainted with you, through Mr. Nelson and family, I ask this favor. Yrs. respt. and truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

12 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Mrs. James Bell. “Mrs. Bell: After you engaged the house of Mr. Emery, the Agent of the Geo. Gilman heirs, Mr. Lovering, who had been an applicant, set up a claim to it, on the ground of a conditional engagement, and it was with some hesitation, that the Heirs concluded to be governed by Mr. Emery’s promise. I saw Mr. Daveis, (Hon. C.L. Daveis), of Portland, a few days since, and he spoke of the uncertainty of your having it long, as they might determine to sell it, and he writes me to-day, that if you want it for any length of time, he thinks you would be [two words illegible] signifying your wishes soon. At

any rate I so understand [?] his letter, which I herein enclose. I suggest whether it may not be well to write him, what your probable wishes will be. I understand the house is nearly quite ready for your occupation. Yrs. respectfully Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

12 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George C. Peavey. “I made the proposition to you for the purchase of the lot, under the idea that you may want an investment, yielding a steady income, and in the belief that the Bond would yield \$35 semi-annually, with punctuality. If you want to realize cash, I should not advise you to accept my offer. [word missing?] although the Bonds have always brought \$860 each, at this distance from Madison, they cannot always be sold for that. My reason for selling, was that I had more of the Bonds than I wish in any one investment, and thought I could turn the land, in the course of the year, to relieve myself in part from debt. I do not want any more real estate, and being now in debt, pretty largely, I do not like to give my note for any thing, if I can help it. It would give me pleasure to aid you in selling the land.”

“There is general sympathy felt by your friends here in your [two words missing] misfortune, and you are spoken of with much regard by them. I assure you that I feel a deep sympathy with you, and sincerely regret that you cannot be out and active, as is so consistent with your nature to be. Be patient and hopeful, and you will be entitled to more laurels for your fortitude, than many men who take cities and govern kingdoms. If I go in your neighborhood, I shall take pains to go and see you early after your being able to come to Exeter.”

“With a desire to be remembered to your sister, whose hospitality I shared at your house, I am very truly, yours Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

12 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to W.H. Estey. “Dear sir: Farwell will accept one of your propositions, -- rely upon it. I am afraid you made him an unnecessarily favorable offer, and think you ought to have asked him 10 per ct. on the long loan, with good security. He owes me \$940 without any security. I hope to get it, however. I will do anything I can for your security, and will put it to Farwell, if he does not comply at once with your offer. You better hold on to your note etc. till you know you cannot arrange it, without me, and then I will take charge of it, if necessary. I agree with you, as to keeping everything confidential. I am sorry enough that F. had my confidence. Truly yrs. Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

13 September 1857: HFF (Exeter) to Elizabeth French. “...Sir Charles Fox and son, arrived at 7 last eve., and Mr. and Mrs. Ellen Tuck [sic], Hoyt, Rev. Mr. Dole, Dr. and Mrs. Leonard called and we gave them a feast of melons, peaches, pears and apples – and at ten the new band gave me a serenade, and altogether we ‘did credit to the subject.’ The company went at about eleven, and then Sir Charles and son and Hattie and Fanny played sang until about one, all sorts of songs. [FFP Reel 11]

16 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Messrs. C. Kellogg & Co. “Gent: The old bell weighed 714 lbs., by our R. Road scales, and was sent two days ago, to West Troy, according to the desired directions. The freight on the New Bell was \$16.30. We did not pay the freight on the old Bell. Will you make out a bill, giving us credit for what would have been the freight from Troy to Boston on the New Bell, and charging us the freight on the old, and giving us credit for the old bell, and send [to] us. Our collector is getting the funds together, and we shall be ready for the bill when it comes. The new Bell is up, and is very satisfactory.”

“Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

16 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.B. Goodrich. “I have seen Mr. Seamans, who tells me you think of coming to Exeter, next week. I shall be glad to see you in this town. I fear that I shall be obliged to go west, and I have thought some of going next week. Please inform me, on what day you will be here, that I may wait and see you. If I have to look to Walter Wright for the \$10,000, I pray you to help me out, on the \$1542. I am crowded by my own liabilities, and must have that last sum, if possible. I know you can put me aside for others, if you choose, but I cannot think you will, remembering my entire reliance on you, when the loans was made and knowing that I am not a man who can dispense with \$10,000 without being pressed in my means. I have discounted \$2000 of J.S. Wright’s paper, and I suppose I shall have to retire that note and provide other means to meet it. I pray you Mr. Goodrich to set aside enough of your receipts, on your collaterals, to pay the \$1542. I want your opinion whether I can’t do better. W. Wright would probably give me my security, for an extension of my \$10,000 to a time convenient to him.”

“Also does Walter W. know that his note for \$10,000 is in my hands? An answer will” [last lines of the letter missing]. [Correspondence Book]

18 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William A. Hayes (Madison, Wisconsin). “Will accept Eastern Draft, payable October twelfth. If this cannot be had, take currency which Send to Edward J. Tinkham, Chicago, to my credit. Telegraph your transaction. Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

18 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward J. Tinkham. “I have conditionally, (if an eastern draft could not be obtained), ordered Wm. A. Hayes Esq. of Madison, Wis. to send you about \$4500 in Wisconsin currency, to my credit. I very much want this money in Boston, the 15th of October, and have ordered it to be sent you, to remain till I bethink myself what is best to do. If it is sent you, please keep it as a special deposit, in bills, till I make some further request in regard to it. Or if, in any event, it would be as well for me, you can give me credit for it, and use the currency, till I make some order. I shall probably see you first. I hope to go west next week.” Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

18 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. "I have not yet started west. I rec'd a dispatch yesterday, from Mr. Hayes, at Madison, saying that Richardson would pay the money for the land and current exchange, but that exchange could not be obtained, and enquiring whether he should take the currency, and deposit in 'Our' Branch, to my credit. I telegraphed to him to accept a draft payable on 12th Oct. and if he could not get that, to take currency, and send it to Tinkham. Hayes has my deed for delivery, -- sent him a week ago, at Richardson's request. I thought it best to order him, (H.), to take the currency, as I want the land off my hands, having as much interest in Madison already, as I want. I shall not leave for the west, till I know what has been done by Hayes, and till I know whether I can meet in Chicago, all the [word illegible] I desire to, in regard to my business with Wright. I learn that my Wright notes are undoubted [sp.?], but that Walter W. is not particular about paying at maturity. Palmer is to be here in a few days. I must wait to see him, and according to present appearances, I may not get away till near the 1st of October. When do you propose to go? Is it necessary for you to go at all? It is bluer in Boston than ever known before and the Banks [two words illegible] to talks of suspending [three words illegible] though they will not probably [four words illegible] was too smart for Boston, and came there a week or two ago with a large amt. of Boston paper, hold it for what it for what could be got, and took away the dollars to N. York. The consequence is Boston is sewed like a napkin [?]."

"I have a \$7000 note to pay Oct 15/57 at Boston. I shall meet it without difficulty, even without calling back the Richardson money, which I [word illegible] consider, as good as paid, and which I shall not pay a large exchange for getting cash, preferring to loan it at Chicago to paying 2 per cent. for an eastern draft."

"These are trying times. Few men will be able to keep as much property as they have had. A few, a very few, will – richer by the tribulations of the masses. I am thankful it cannot hit me very bad, and shall retain a cheerful mind, in spite of a little annoyance."

"Mr. Gordon [sp.?] is dead – died at Gibraltar, Aug. 11 of congestion of the brain, induced by sea-sickness, and mental trouble about his money losses. His family will be reconciled to it, after the appropriate [word illegible] of grief."

"Ellen will write to Abby in a day or two -- say Sunday – telling her about Mary Gordon's [sp.?] party – Judge French's return, – Hattie's jealousies, -- and the current conversation of the town. I hope Abby is well now, I thought a great deal about her, and hope in your next, to learn that she is entirely well. Laura, does she still remember Grappa? If I should go to Peekskill, and if she should come to me, and cut you, as she did me, when you came here, should not I feel that retribution just had overtaken you? Love to Nelly, love to Abby and children. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck"

[P.S.] "When can you, or shall you go west? Write me, as I may stay till you go."

[Correspondence Book]

18 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William A. Hayes. "I telegraphed to you yesterday, in answer to yours, saying that I would accept an eastern draft, payable 12th of October, but that

if this could not be had, I wished you to accept of currency and send same to Edward J. Tinkham of Chicago, to my credit. I have business relations with Mr. Tinkham, and can make the funds more available with him, than if deposited in Madison. I shall be in Madison, I suppose, early in October, and shall then, I trust be able to make my acknowledgements, and confer compensation for your kindness and services. Times are blue in Boston. But it is hoped the worst is over. I have been delayed at home unexpectedly [sp.?], and now fear I may miss seeing your seeing your bro. F.B.H. at Madison. Resp. and truly Yrs. Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

19 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Catlin. “Dear sir: I am happy to say your tax title, which cost you, I believe, some \$3,500, will give me no further anxiety, and least of all, will be an occasion for involuntarily buying a large amount of undesired real estate in Madison. I have re-conveyed, by quit-claim, all the interest in Block 129, which I bought of Mr. Brown, and on terms quite satisfactory. Yrs. etc. Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

21 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to “My Dear Friend.” “As one of the Committee for supplying our desk, I invite you to preach to us next Sabbath. I desired to invite you earlier, but have thought it more important to acquiesce in the partialities of others, to hear their friends or acquaintances, than to gratify myself and some others who have wished to hear you. I hope your arrangements will allow you to come, as I expect to be at home next Sabbath, but to be absent some weeks at the west, afterwards. Our terms usually paid are \$10 a Sabbath, and expenses in Exeter. Entertainment is provided by the Parish at Mrs. Cobbs’.”

“An early answer is of course desired. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

23 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward J. Tinkham. “I send you for collection, a note for \$2450, against Heath & Hurd, and O.F. Fuller, druggist, due Oct. ¼. I suppose it will be paid. Fuller is security to H. & H., and has a collateral mortgage to secure him.”

“Your dispatch, saying exchange is 2 ½ pr. ct. is rec’d. I wish you to send me what currency Mr. Hayes sent you from Madison, (\$4479), less exchange etc. in a draft on Boston, or New York. Also, when collected, send me the avails of the Heath, Hurd, and Fuller note, in same way. It is hard to take, but I must submit to the necessary exchange, to meet some paper becoming due in Boston.”

“If any mishap occurs, by which you are unable to comply with my requests herein, telegraph to me. I shall delay going west till some time in October.”

“Please acknowledge receipt of this, and if you happen to know, watch the earnings thus far in Oct. of G. & C.U.R.R. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

24 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Messrs. Fay, Mudge & Atwood. “I enclose to you 21 shares Boston & M.R.R. stock, which I wish you to sell, at the highest market price, and with proceeds, and so much of the \$25 enclosed as may be necessary, buy 25 shares of Galena & Chicago R.R. stock in N. York. I wish you to send to N. York to-day, if you can, as I think G. &

C. stock is likely to rise. If by possibility, I have not sent money enough, please buy me 25 shares, nevertheless, and I will remit balance. Send me the certificates by mail, and your check for bal. or draft, as case may be. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

“P.S. I have referred to you by Dr. G.H. Gorham.” [Correspondence Book]

24 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to S.A. Haley, Cashier. “I enclose to you the certificate of deposit on the 21st inst. of \$1000 to your credit, at the Eliot Bk., for money deb’d me by Mr. Dow.”

“I shall send you in a few days the notes negotiated for, in regard to renewal, and loan of of \$1000 on the 15th or 17th of Oct. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

24 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Austin Corbin, Esq. “Dear sir: I send you a draft on Messrs. Cook & Sargent, who are to collect on the 6th/9th Oct. a note for \$668.81 and int. for one year, at 10 per ct. and \$133.76, on account of interest on two other notes for \$668.81 each; -- making in all \$864.47. These collections have been requested by the Weare Bank, and will be made at maturity. I wish you to loan the same for me, on perfect security, at the best rates, for 3 or 4 mos., and notify me of your action. Let me know, if you still feel confident of your ability to make good loans, and what I can probably get, through you, for the use of money.”

“I heard of your being at Newport, and was sorry that your business or pleasure did not lead you through Exeter, where I should have been happy to reciprocate your curtesies [sic] when at Davenport. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

24 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. Mr. [John W.?] Alvord. “I have not had opportunity to see as many persons during the last few days, as I desired; but being under engagement to write you by Sunday, I will take no further time for enquiry. The condition of Parish partiality is such, that there will be a general regret to learn of your engagement elsewhere. At the same time, I am still of opinion, that our people are not yet ready for settling any minister, and may not be, for months. I do not expect, when they do conclude to move, that they will be more general, or decided in partiality, than they seem to be towards you. Yet the fullness of time for action does not seem yet to have arrived. If you must give an answer soon, to our neighbors at Byfield, we cannot complain; but if you do not accept there, we shall be glad to know it. Yrs. very truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

26 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Messrs. A. Menedays [sp.?] & Sons. “Yrs. of the 23rd is before me.”

“We sent the Bell to your address via Lawrence, Lowell and Worcester, according to directions, more than a week ago, and I think it must have reached you by this time. The new Bell was on the Roads more than a week. I have enquired at the Exeter Depot, and find it was not delayed here. Our freightman is to enquire after it. Yrs. etc. Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

26 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Messrs. C.D. Kellogg & Co. “Yr. favor of 24th int. is rec’d. The Bell was not delayed at the station here, and must be progressing towards Troy, with about the speed the other came to us, taking about ten days. I have replied to a note from Messrs. Menedays on the subject.”

“I enclose to you a draft for \$ in part pay for the Bell – being amount of collections for that object to present date. We will make no delay, in paying bal. when your bill arrives. Do you take out the weight of the big staple, in the Bell we have, on the same principle as the deduction to be made in regard to the old bell? Several of our contributors make this enquiries [sic] as we find our Bell, (a very fine one), is costing us more than we anticipated.”

“Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

[27?] September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William A. Hayes. “You [have my?] thanks for your careful attention to my business with Messrs. Richardson & Co., and your course in closing it up, has my entire approval. I enclose herewith the Deed, authenticated in the manner required. It was my impression, that being acknowledged before a Not. Pub. using a seal, no certificate from a court would be required. Please say to Messrs. R. & Co. when you deliver the deed, that I had no doubt of their expectation to pay current exchange, and that I am confident, a little reflection will satisfy them, that I was justified in this expectation, and that they will pay it, as suggested, when I see them. But I make no hesitation in delivering the Deed, as stipulated by you, and [word or two illegible] you stipulated in my behalf, leaving the question of exchange to be adjusted by them and me.”

“I delay going to Madison, because of some business I have in Chicago, cannot be well attended to, till some time in October. Yrs. very truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

28 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. “I shall not go to Chicago so early as I anticipated. Mr. Goodrich, the man who has had charge of J.S. Wright’s business at Chicago, to whom I let the \$10,000 last spring, has been here, and I find it best to delay going till some time in Oct. – perhaps later than you go. He says Walter W., (whose note I have as collateral), will be ready to give security, when his paper matures, and he thinks my debts may all be paid by him (G.), as early as Jan. out of collateral which he has in his hand for endorsing. The damage I suffer is by delay, not having the funds now, when there is such a rare [sp.?] chance for investment. But if I can get through this yr. without serious diminution of my property, it is all I will ask, or you ought to ask. These are most extraordinary times. Will it be necessary for you to go, when you propose? It seems to me there is no sign that any one will be able to meet his liabilities this Fall, and if you can’t be sure of making money don’t go. Still your letter seems to present a fair business inducement for going. As to Farwell, I don’t know if there is any substance to his visions or not. He is an airy, visionary man, and refuses to realize that he is a humbug. So he may not be one. Most men in his case would evaporate. I must write Abby. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck.” [Correspondence Book]

28 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Abby Tuck Nelson. "My Dear Abby: Ellen just now tells me 'Father, write a line to Abby, I was engaged last night and am busy now and can't do it.' So I obey, though Barney is to be attended to, in his ditching, and other letters are to be written for the next mail. You apologized for yr. letters in your last, as they were not good. Once for all let me say, you write remarkably good letters. But I shall not insist on yr. writing to us, whether in the mood of it or not, under the fear that we shall feel ourselves forgotten, if you do not write. We know better, and you must not think that we forget you, if we omit writing you as often as you expect. As to Ellen going to P. in Oct. I think it is not best. I can not give all the reasons now, but I am confident it is not best. You will know it is not for lack of love to you or her that I say so. Mr. Tenney [sp.?], my special friend, preached here yesterday, and I have hopes of being settled here. Mr. French and Hoyt and Mr.[sp.?] and Mrs. Soule were in, last eve. to see him and us. The weather is delightful. Our melons are delicious, but no one eats them but Ned and I. Ellen can't indulge and yr. mother likes tomatos [sic] better. We talk of Laura and brag of our love for her as usual. With much love to her, to Nellie, and to yourself I am yr. aff. father Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

28 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward A. Tinkham (Chicago). "Having made an arrangement with the Weare Bank, with regard to the note against Heat, Hurd and Fuller, I wish it collected in the name of John W. Dodge, Cashier, and the signers notified, if need be, that the note is Dodge's, and must be paid at maturity."

"If exchange can't be got, I must rely on you to keep my funds safe, till some further thought on the subject. In haste, yrs. truly Amos Tuck."

"P.S. I trust your note to N. Market Bk. due at the prox. will be paid, as I am to have a small accommodation conditional on that payment. T." [Correspondence Book]

29 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Jonathan Tuck. "Dear Brother: John wrote me yesterday, about Mrs. Speed. I will contribute to send her to the North Pole, or to any other locality, a great way off. But I choose to bleed as little, in her cause, as is possible, and accomplish the object of removing her from under our nostrils. I will send to you any sum, not exceeding \$25, which you may think I better pay, to get rid of her. Of course you must guard against your, or my contributing money, to enable her pay her store or other debts. If those who expected, or have made profits out of her custom, lose by her, I feel no disposition to contribute for their benefit. If she sells her furniture, I should judge she will not want a large sum to set her feet in Minnesota. I enclose a letter to her, in answer to her application to me."

"The financial panic is fully upon the country. It will annoy me some, and may damage me to some extent, by postponing the payment of my notes due at the west. I have security, which is represented to be ample in all cases, and which I believe to be perfectly adequate in most ['all' is crossed out]. Still it is a bother, in my view, and I am only reconciled to it, by feeling that I shall not suffer very severely, any how, and perhaps feel as well, or at least be as

wise after a loss of a few thousands. I am sorry John is in trouble about his baby. But he did not write so much as to enable me to understand his difficulties fully. Hope soon to hear more. Show him this letter. Yrs. affectionately Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

29 September 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward J. Tinkham (Chicago). “Since writing you yesterday, I have your dispatch, saying exchange cannot be had. Now, my case is just this: I have a note for \$7000 due in Boston, Oct. 15/18, and I am dependent on the funds in your hands to pay this note. In this panic at the East, I cannot raise the money elsewhere. I am willing the funds should lie in your hands, if you can help me to a draft, in time to pay this debt in Boston, at less than a destructive rate. But I cannot pay 3 per ct. for exchange, much less 5 per ct. I doubt not you will do as well for me, as circumstances enable you. Please write me on receipt of this, whether you can give me any assurance in regard to the desired draft, and I let the funds lie in your hands till, say, the 13th of Oct. If there is no prospect of my getting this money east, it is better for me to know it early. You observe in my letters, (I am sorry to trouble you so often), an anxiety in regard to this money. It is because it is of much more importance to me than any other equal amt. ever was. My notes against Wright will not be paid, and I see a corner, ahead, unless I can manage this \$4479 and \$2450, which I have relied upon. I know not the state of things at Chicago, nor whether a panic can affect any of you more than it has. If a storm is coming, and if it can, in any contingency, temporarily impede you, so that the withdrawal of my funds, when it is necessary for me to do so, will put you to inconvenience, I wish you to put my funds, where I cannot be disappointed. I trust you will excuse this remark, from the circumstances I have frankly stated above, when I assure you, that I had the money sent you by Mr. Hayes, for security sake, and that I have no reasons to doubt, but many reasons to confide in your stability, before any other.”

“With esteem, yr. friend, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

5 October 1857: BBF notes: “Frank recovered his health sufficiently to come down stairs and go ride with me on the afternoon of Wednesday, September 26.” His college friend Starr from Philadelphia arrived the next morning on his way west, and Frank improved rapidly after that. French discusses the economic recession: “Banks suspending – Firms failing – Brokers breaking - the money world all topsy turvey – and no specie to be got unless at a ruinous discount.” [FFP Reel 1]

14 October 1857: BBF went to NYC for a Telegraph Co. directors’ meeting on 7 October. “In New York, the talk was of nothing but the panic – breakages, suspensions, banks etc. etc. and everybody’s face was as long and melancholy as possible.” [FFP Reel 1]

15 October 1857: BBF (Washington) to Henry. “Frank is studying law with me – he makes as thorough a business of it as if he were in College and his life depended on his mastering the science. He cannot fail under my tuition of making a first rate lawyer, of course!” BBF says he

“must” send Ben to Exeter next year. BBF expresses a great deal of frustration in his failure to see Secretary of State Cass on the “Aves Case”: he suspects Cass is avoiding him.

“In all the crash of securities, the telegraph stock stands firm as a rock. You see I know how to invest!” (FFP Reel 5)

20 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Mrs. Rowe (Pittsfield, NH) “Mrs. Rowe: I have received your letter requesting payment of the note you have against me. I am ready to pay the note, if I can get sight of it. It is impossible for me to go to Pittsfield at this time. I will therefore send the amount due you, to the New Market Bank, with directions to pay it, on your presenting, or sending the note, to Mr. Haley, the Cashier. You can send, probably, by the Stage Driver from Northwood.

The principle of your note is	\$300.
Compound, or annual interest	
From the date Jan. 15, 1856 is	<u>32.56</u>
	\$332.56

Which amount I have delivered to the Cashier, with which to pay the note.”

“Yrs. very respectfully Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

21 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Jonathan and John Tuck. “Dear Brothers: I have been buffeted of the Devil, for a few weeks past. Last Spring, or rather winter, I formed a connection with E.J. Tinkham of Chicago, by which I hoped, keeping perfect security always within my reach, to gain about \$2000 a year, without much trouble to myself. But this crisis carried Tinkham over the dam, and left me with securities, nearly to the full extent, but with \$17,000 debts to look after, and meet. I also had on deposit, with Tinkham & Co., awaiting to be sent east, where I wanted to use it, \$4479.30 – and thus when he failed Sept. 29th, I went, at once, to Chicago, took the securities into my hands, and put things in train, by which I hope to get off with a whole skin, though I may lose something. In fact, I must and shall lose the damage of going to Chicago twice, of selling Galena stock at \$66, to raise money, and an amount of annoyance worth \$10,000. I can control and pay the debts I am liable for, and have already arranged them all, till I can collect my securities. But I was obliged to return from Chicago, before finishing my business to meet a note of my own here, which the detention of the \$4479 made it inconvenient to pay, and which I had to pay by sale of my R.R. stock. I must return at once to Chicago, to make sure of my claims on Tinkham, and shall start, to-morrow (Thursday), evening, going to Boston, and thence on Friday to Chicago, via Albany, Susp. [sp.?] Bridge,, Canada and Detroit. These matters must be my excuse for neglecting you both, and till I disengage myself from these perplexities, you must not expect a regular correspondence from me. Keep mother posted. I shall write her to-day, but shall of course say but little about my annoyances in business.”

“I saw W.R. Nelson, a few days ago. He thinks and I think, John’s loans west, are all safe, and will be paid at maturity. So let that not annoy you. Galena Stock is good for \$10 a

share for years, but it is not best to count on more, after such a crisis and fright as this. I hope you bought (John), but presume you did not. I should be glad to see you both, at any time. You see I am in some haste, so excuse, with love to all, Yr. aff. Bro. Amos" [Correspondence Book]

21 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Betsey Towle Tuck. "My Dear Mother: It has been some time since I wrote you. I have been to Chicago and beyond, to attend to business, and to prevent my losing money due me, and to look after securities, where I had been unfortunately connected with a man who had failed. I hope I can get out of the business without loss, but at all events I shall not lose so much as to give me great uneasiness, or to lessen my property very materially. I would not have you, therefore, worry on my account. I shall have enough left to make me independent, and if it lead me and my family to more economy, it may be well for us all, especially for the children. I am sorry that my business is likely to prevent my going to see you as soon as I have been intending. I must leave home for Chicago again, to-morrow evening. I was obliged to return before completing my business, and must go right back, to be gone three weeks. I have written to John and Jonathon, particularly requesting them to be attentive to you, during this time, when I am so likely to be interrupted in my letters etc. Call on them for whatever little wants you may have, and if not on them, on me. I mean to go to see you before a great while, after my return. I and my family are well. Mr. Nudd of Hampton has the dropsy, and is not expected to live long. I saw Abby a few days ago; she was not very well. We have been expecting John S. Hodgdon to see us. If he comes, in my absence, the folks will welcome him, and do what they can to entertain him. If I get time in Chicago, I will write to you from there. I shall think of you wherever I go, and ever pray for your happiness, long life, and continued welfare. With much love for sister Betsy, and to the family, I am your affectionate son Amos Tuck." [Correspondence Book]

22 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Brother Locke. "I went to Hampton yesterday, and had a long talk with Mr. Nudd, and presented to him every aspect of the case, to the best of my ability. He promised to erase his name from the will before he went to bed. He repeatedly said, it was better to leave no will than such an one. I did not let him know I had seen you, and in answer to his enquiry, what I had heard, I told him I heard of Mrs. Locke's grief about it, and of her purpose to talk with him. He said, she has talked with me. He said he had had a talk with John, and that John was sick of farming and wanted the Boars Head House. He was at first disposed to set a time after I come back, to meet and do up business, but I told him of his liability with such a disease, to drop off any time, and he finally promised, as I have told you, to erase his name to the Will, before going to bed. Now I propose to have Caroline go over and see him again. It is plain, as he repeatedly told me, that the paper is not now his will, circumstances, as he said, having changed since he made it. He may live but a very short time, and I think it necessary that Mrs. Locke should stick to him, till she knows his name is erased, or the will destroyed. He will be affected by her tears, and her reasonable anxiety for herself, for Martha and Abby, and the thing will be accomplished, if it be followed up. I do not think John appears

craving. It seems to me, if he has fair pay for his services, besides an equal division with the others he will be contented. He did not appear to be jealous of me, though I asked his father into another room and talked with him an hour. Mr. Nudd is influenced by the possibility of John's dying, and the property going to strangers, and by Martha's and Abby's poor prospects, and by his attachment to your wife. When you find out that the will is destroyed, I want you to write me at 'Briggs House,' Chicago, Illinois. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck"

[P.S.] "Hope to return in 3 weeks. I leave to-day." [Correspondence Book]

22 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to David Nudd[?]. "Dear sir: I had an opportunity to have a long talk with Dr. Gorham on your case, and [3-4 words illegible] being my family physician [4-5 words illegible] of great experience and [5-6 words illegible] might be better to get his views [5-6 words illegible] might not take so much later [4-5 words illegible]."

"Dr. Gorham is inclined to the [2-3 words illegible] if you have any heart complaint, it is the [2-3 words illegible] the presence of water in the chest [2 words illegible] impedes the action of the lungs. He thinks the symptoms indicate water in the chest, so far as he can judge of them, without personally seeing you. He does not think you can be cured by any medicine, as a certain thing, but recommends your following Dr. Spofford's direction in that respect. His faith is greater in removing the water, by tapping, in case you become more uncomfortable than you now are, and it becomes necessary. He says, tapping always relieves, and often cures entirely. He is not without hope, that your symptoms may disappear, and you recover your health, without doing anything. But it is best to leave no means untried to promote your health."

"I think you had better send for the chair you spoke of. Take every relief you can, from your discomfort, at any expense."

"I shall go to see you, as soon as I return from my journey to Chicago. Hoping to find you better, I am, Yours truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

27 October 1857: Tuck lent \$3,750.00 to John R. Palmer of Exeter, resident in Chicago, in exchange for a mortgage on two parcels of land in Exeter. A marginal note states that Tuck discharged this mortgage on 10 January 1859 on repayment of the loan. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 378, Pages 18-19]

1 November 1857: Tuck, writing from Briggs's House in Chicago to Ned [in Exeter?] says the house is comfortable and that he went to church that morning. "I would rather be at home than be here; but the necessity of self-defence, and of coming here to exercise it, and the necessity of being patient in order to achieve it, makes me quite contented....I think I go to Madison tomorrow. Love to you, mother + Ellen + regards to Mrs. Taylor." TFP, Box 1, Folder 2]

29 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to William R. Nelson. "Yrs. just received [two words illegible] stay till the 4th if necessary. I think [two lines illegible] I have got security that is satisfactory [most of the rest of the letter is illegible]. [Correspondence Book]

[Illegible letter]

[29 October 1857?]: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to ?. [First part of the letter is mostly illegible.] "...Still I should incline to an extension at 15 per ct. in advance. You better have the int. paid to you, at Exeter, and apply it on your debts – I would not let it in that sum [?]."

"I have succeeded in getting securities for all my liabilities, and debts, growing out of Tinkham's failure, and for all the money due me here, beyond my hopes [5-6 words illegible] and taking land security."

[Rest of letter illegible] [Correspondence Book]

[29] October 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to Jos. S. Gilman [?]. The Spear int. is sure to be paid, if not by Spear then by Greenebaum. So I am assured by G. They tell me the property is worth \$20,000, and I do not think the G.'s are troubled by the hard times."

"I believe I have totally fortified myself in regard to all my interests in Chicago in regard to Tinkham's failure and otherwise. Galena stock, I think, must pay 10 per ct. [two words illegible] though some doubts [5 lines illegible]. I shall remain here in Chicago for about 2 weeks and will [word illegible] any information, and serve you in any manner you desire. I have [two words illegible] on debts due me here [several words illegible] Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

[29?] October 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to Mr. Gordon. "If you should choose to sell your Galena stock at \$75 or \$80 on a well secured loan for the proceeds [?], instead of entertaining the proposition of Walter Wright [sp.?], sent you last evening, I think I can sell and invest for you for 5 years at 10 per ct. [2-3 words illegible] and the exchange yet to be realized on the proceeds in N. York would be the inducement to a purchaser to give so high a price. I don't think you can get over \$80 on security that is perfect."

"I have made long loans at 10 per ct. on dues to me here, since my return, and been able thus to fortify myself, in regard to my late liabilities per Tinkham, to my satisfaction. I am out of the woods. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck"

[P.S.] "If you want any action from me, send your certificates of stock here to me at Briggs House." [Correspondence Book]

29 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to Jonathan and John Tuck. "Dear Brothers: Satan has not been so buffeting towards me, since my return. The Lord has kept the rascal off. I have been able to fortify myself with unexpected and most gratifying success. I believe I cannot lose by these troubles in Chicago, beyond a few hundreds, -- perhaps not [at] all. Elsewhere, I am not exposed to the extent of anything that would alarm me."

"Do not be troubled about Galena stock. I think I can sell it now for \$80 a share, if I would give 5 yrs. time at 10 per ct. secured by ample real estate. It may be best to do this. I am out of it,-- compelled to sell out to raise money when I was at home. Sold in N. York at 65 ½

[word illegible]. I am out of the woods, as to severe hazard and I feel buoyant. Let John write me, giving his debts here, and securities, and I will view the premises. I must remain hereabouts for two weeks. Yrs. aff. Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

28 [?] October 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to Jonathan and John Tuck. “Dear Brothers: Well, I am glad you and John were not caught [three words illegible]. If John loses, he must not fret. Our [word illegible] property, for this year, is to be of more value, than the [four words illegible]. I will take less than it has done, to make us independent. I am glad Mrs. Speed has made tracks, and with so little dam...age to you, and equally glad that John Ed is on the prairies. They can’t well starve out here, but stand a fair chance to have occasion to know all the virtues of ‘hog and hominy,’ during the coming winter. But that is good enough for them. I hoped that John Ed was honest, but vanity and poverty may have made him light fingered.”

“Your anxiety about my losing, is appreciated to its full extent. I have been venturesome, made so, by success, and by the remarkable prosperity of the country, which has turned the heads, and prepared the ruin of so many. It is wonderful that I have been able to protect myself, as I have done here, this week. I hoped for security when [two words illegible], but I did not feel as I do now [three or four words illegible] got it. What energy I have [three words illegible] by God’s blessing attending me, nothing else, I have been enabled to fortify myself, almost to my entire satisfaction, and much more amply than I expected. I had interests and liabilities here, needing attention to not less than \$32,000. Of course, I did not feel that it could all go, but I knew some of it, say half, or more, needed new shields and defences. I have got them, in names and real estate both, and feel that I can’t lose more than a trifle. I accomplished my [word illegible], as to security, by being liberal as to time, and accepting 10 per ct. int. But I am willing to take many loans, well secured, as I don’t want to finger my money, when I see how easy it is to slip through my fingers. But I must close. It is doubted here, whether the Galena Road will make a [dividend as due?] in Oct. because of the difficulty of [sending exchange and money?] to N. York, and the paralysis of business, and the necessity of keeping themselves strong. But it seems to me there can be no doubt, at all, that after Feb. [three words illegible] will be resumed. [Closing illegible] Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

[28?] October 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to Catherine P. Tuck. “My Dear Wife: I have [written?] you once to-day, but you won’t be ‘mad,’ if you receive two letters in the same mail. As business [2-3 words illegible] on my hands, I like to write it off as rapidly as convenient. I now write, to send you the enclosed deed, which I desire to be put on record. In managing the Tinkham business, I got a demand against Palmer and [name illegible] which has resulted in Palmer’s giving me Railroad Stock and this land to secure me, I giving him 6 months. time.

[Two paragraphs mostly illegible] ...put them in the P.O., who in case of loss, would be a competent witness to prove they were sent. I hope to trade some of them off.”

“I have not had time to go anywhere, or to see any of our acquaintances. I am still busy, and shall remain here, some days. It will pay.”

“Dearborn says Gale has lost \$26,000 on the fall of his stock in 6 mos. and enough more in [two words illegible] and real estate to make \$100,000. I guess it is so, but [three lines mostly illegible] but he will be in a snarl for 6 months or a year.”

“You see I am all business in the character of my letter. I think I shall get [word illegible], by the time I return and again be the [word illegible] of my land, pleasant, ‘beautiful,’ [word illegible] I want to be, social, cheerful [three words illegible].”

“With love, to the children and to My Wife, I am [word illegible] your Husband”

[Correspondence Book]

29 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to Dr. David W. Gorham: “Dear sir: Mr. Joy will send you a draft for your interest, asking no division with you, in the expense of doing so. Your case [sp.?] with him is entirely safe, I believe. He is supposed to be very rich.”

“I hear some doubts expressed about a Dividend by the Galena Road, in Feb. not because they will not earn it, but because of the impossibility, almost of remitting large sums, and the occasion they will have to pay for a large amt. of new cars and Engines, purchased early in the season, in the mistaken idea that this year, with a plentiful harvest was to be like other years, with the same advantages. But the paralysis of business has prevented the immense business, which was anticipated. I can’t doubt, however, that with our interim [sp.?), the dividends will again be reliable and satisfactory. I suppose stock might be sold here, on a long loan of 10 per ct. with good real estate security at 75 to 80. I think the stock will pay better than that, but I shall not go in, 1st because I have no money, 2nd because I have [word illegible] my last [sp.?) R.R. shares. Hoping you are well [remainder of closing illegible] Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

29 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to Jos. T. Gilman. “Dear sir: Messrs. Greenebaum Bros. inform me they sent, last evening, to Ballin & Sander, N. York, a draft for \$500 to pay the Spear coupons, requesting them to send to Duncan, Sherman & Co. the proceeds, to pay coupons when presented. If anything shall happen, that shall cause the coupons to be protested, it will be, as heretofore, on account of a mistake, while the funds will actually be in N. York. But I presume no mishap can occur. I write out of [two words illegible] caution, as I should myself, surely regret another protest. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

29 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to Catherine P. Tuck. “My Dear Wife: Your first letter has just reached me. I’m glad you all seem to be well. Don’t work too hard house-cleaning. Wm. writes that Abby seems to be well. Do not be anxious about me; -- I am well, and though it is not so agreeable as being at home, yet I am clearly in the place of duty, in being here. If you think it, at all expedient, Keep Management, as heretofore, sending your washing to Mrs. W. Don’t stint yourselves on meat, or any common comfort.”

“On receipt of this, send to me the \$3080 acceptance, sent to me by Mr. Tinkham, which you have received since I left. I want to exchange it. I think I wrote you to deposit the draft for money, which he also sent me. I expect to send you, in a day or two an order to pay some money to [J.W.S.?] but do not want you, of course, to pay to any body, to any considerable extent without particular request.”

“As ever, your loving H. Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

30 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to Ellen Tuck. “My Dear Daughter: I write daily, not so much to let you know how I survive from day to day, as that business requires it. But if business did not demand it, I should write about every day. I had your and your mother’s second letter come to hand, both cheering and consoling. It makes me glad to look back, imagining you all to be happy. I am well, sleep well, and am quite free from anxiety. Most people here are in a stew. I may go to Madison or Milwaukee to-morrow, but shall write again before going. Do not undertake too many things of a literary character. If you do, you will fail in carrying any of your plans. With this caution, I express my gratification with your self-improving purposes.”

“Tell your Mother that if Thomas Nelson sends her a draft for money, to [crossed out: get it cashed at Granite State Bank] hold on upon the draft till I give her direction what to do with it. With love to yr. Mother and Ned and regards for Mrs. Taylor, I am yr. aff. Father
[Correspondence Book]

30 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to Thomas Nelson. “Dear sir: I am obliged to ask your services, once again. In managing [sp.?] my business here, the enclosed 36 shares of Chicago and Burlington R.R. stock, have come into my hands, which I have occasion to sell. I want to sell, but at not less than \$60 a share. I think [3-4 words illegible] that figure, in the course of [1-2 words illegible] or immediately, and possibly [3-4 words illegible]. The avails, in a negotiable certificate of deposit, to the order of Mrs. Amos Tuck, I want sent to my wife at Exeter. If you will employ the Messrs. Prime and Co. [4 words illegible] equally satisfactory to me [sp.?], deposit, I shall be (as usual) much obliged.”

“I have been looking after Wm.’s matters in the last day or two. He is safe, in his interests here. He writes me he intends to remain at home longer than he planned [sp.?] I see he has a great interest in the [4-5 words illegible]. I hope and pray his wishes may be gratified, and only wish I had the power to secure them. Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

30 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to Messrs. Prime & Co. “Please ascertain if \$1000 Bonds of City of Watertown Wis. and \$1000 Bonds of Madison, Wis. have a marketable value at N. York, and write me the result of your enquiries, directing your letter to me as above. If they have a value, I wish to sell some, that is, if the range is at all respectable.”

“Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

30 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House Chicago) to William R. Nelson. "You will find your matters are fixed up, when you arrive. Call on Greenebaum Bros. and they (Elias), will explain my motives for what I have done."

"Clarke, (in all probability), pays his note to-day	\$1500
6 mos int	75
5 per ct on the exchange	<u>75</u>
	\$1650
Rich will pay 6 mos. int. \$50. 15 per ct. bonus for a year's extension \$150	200
Iglehart [sp.?] will [pay] 6 mos. int. \$150, 5 per cent for exchange \$150,	
Bonus for six mos. extension \$175	<u>475</u>
	\$2335

"I buy a piece of paper, of the best description, secured by trust deed on \$16,000 worth of real estate, of \$2650 payable in 15 mos. for	<u>\$1900</u>
Balance with G. Bro. to your credit	435

"I will give you an indisputably good reason for taking the \$2650 paper, (at 30 per ct. per annum), when I see you. Rich's security is perfect, the best you had. He is to assign to you his Policy of Insurance. The \$2650 is perfectly secured. Iglehart was hard up, but I have got enough out of him to make his now secure. His (I's), was so ample as I desired. By taking the \$2650 I made my terms with him for a big bonus, leaving his, (as well as R's) paper payable in N York. But he did not know that I knew he was hard up. I think you need not be anxious on Coch's [sp.?] account; I believe all these [word illegible] will do to sleep on now."

"I have been obliged to employ Thos. again, to sell some stock, which has come into my hands here – and send proceeds to my wife."

"I think I shall leave for Madison on Monday. You probably better stay here one day, as I may leave a letter with Greenebaum Bros. with directions how you are to finish up with Rich, about insurance and his paying his \$200, which he is not to-day ready to do etc. etc. Then you can go right on to Madison [sp.]. I will write you at Briggs House from Madison, when I shall leave there, so we may not pass each other. I can take part of the \$2650 if you don't want the whole. Love to Abby etc. (i.e.) the children, Yrs. truly Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

31 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to John W. Dodge. "Dear sir: I have had a week of hard labor here, having arrived last Sunday noon, and since Monday, been all the time on the Spring. Tho' among a panic stricken people, I have succeeded in keeping cool, and also in erecting defences between me and the amount of harm I at one time apprehended. I feel much more cheerful than when I saw you last."

"I am obliged to assume the payment of the Tinkham Note, due November 6/9, having succeeded in obtaining no money yet, since my return, except less than \$300 sent me to Exeter, while I was on my way hither, and which is in my wife's hands. But I can pay more money out

of means [sp.?] my wife will have, by the time you receive this. I propose to pay the Tinkham Note as follows:

Draft, J.S. Wright accepted by R. Dutton Due Dec 14/17 at N. York	1000
R. Dodge's note, in wife's hands, about,	900
Cash, in wife's hands, to bal. say	1195
Which amounts to Tinkham's note =	\$3095

On receipt of this, please call on my wife, (I am sorry to trouble you so much), and with the Tinkham note, and with the three collateral Bonds, which I want to turn over, in preparation for the Dec. note, and make a settlement for the \$3095 note on the above hypothesis. I will write to her by this mail to be prepared for you. Endorse the Tinkham note over to me. Take your Latham note, and let him pay it, according to the necessities of the Bank. I suppose you will not hesitate to take it, from what you said of his readiness to pay. If you give him time, it may be well to let him make a new note on 30 or 60 days."

"I can't say when I shall go home. I go to Madison next Monday or Tuesday, and back here at the end of the week."

"Shall be glad to hear that you and the Bank are prosperous. I shall do my best to raise more money on the Tinkham liability in Dec. even before it matures. Yours truly, Amos Tuck"

[P.S.] "The \$1000 draft will be paid at maturity." [Correspondence Book]

31 October 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to Catherine P. Tuck. "My Dear Wife: I enclose you a draft for \$1000, by J.S. Wright, on Rufus Dutton, in favor of H.B. Goodrich, accepted, date Dayton Aug. 14, 1857, payable on the 15th Dec. next, at Saint Nicholas Bank, NY. City. I wish you to pass this draft, and the Richard Dodge note, and about \$1200 in money, to Jno. W. Dodge, Cashier, (whom I have written to call on you), to pay for E.J. Tinkham's note to Weare Bank for \$3095 due Nov. 6th. Cast the int. or let Mr. Dodge do it, on the R. Dodge note, and let him deduct the int. till due on the \$1000 draft. The reck. will stand somewhat as follows:

R. Dodge note	\$876.67
Int. on same to Nov. 6 th about	26.30
J.S. Wright draft \$1000, less int.	995.00
Cash to be paid by you to Mr. D.	<u>1197.03</u>
Equal in all, to	\$3095.00

which is the amount of the Tinkham note, which Mr. Dodge must leave with you. Do not deliver [the] draft, nor the R. Dodge note, nor the money, unless you obtain the Tinkham note. I am growing cautious, and you can plead strict instructions, if requested to vary at all. I have also written to Mr. Dodge to deliver to you 2 Chicago City Bonds, and a Galena & Chicago Mortgage Bond, for \$1000 each, at [the] time he settles with you. You can ask him for them, but if he does not have them, you need not insist on them, but close up with him as above. I am still busy here, constantly improving things, I believe. I expect \$2500 in cash to send to N. Market Bank, in a few days. I suppose you will have some \$400 in your hands, after paying Dodge. If I can do my business in Madison next week, I may hope to return home by the middle of the month – not

much before. I am in good health and spirits, and with a warm heart for my dear wife, am her ever faithful Husband, Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “Love to E. and Ned.”

“P.S. I am expecting you to return me a draft for \$3089 [?] sent by Tinkham. But if it is lost, the debt is not lost.” [Correspondence Book]

1 November 1857: Tuck, writing from Brigg’s House in Chicago to Ned [in Exeter?] says the house is comfortable and that he went to church that morning. “I would rather be at home than be here; but the necessity of self-defence, and of coming here to exercise it, and the necessity of being patient in order to achieve it, makes me quite contented....I think I go to Madison tomorrow. Love to you, mother + Ellen + regards to Mrs. Taylor.” [Correspondence Book]

1 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to “My dear Friends” [sp.?]. “[5-6 words illegible] to-morrow for Milwaukee and Wisconsin [two words illegible] Madison. But you may feel anxious [many lines mostly illegible] In these times of panic, my friends have been frightened as well as everybody else, and I have felt a responsibility in their behalf which has annoyed [several word illegible] to an extent that [several words illegible] if I had had the means to assume every investment as my own. Here you will understand that while I would willingly stay here, for my [4-5 words illegible] my neighbors and especially two or three who have ever been faithfully my friends, I would not for my own [many lines illegible, with the paragraph ending:] I have ventured to say to you [word illegible] notwithstanding the above indicated resolution, that if I had Galena stock, I should keep it if I could [sp.?].”

“Chicago is growing [sp.?] easier every day, but the ease is not very apparent. The meridian of darkness is past, [3-4 words illegible] the fright has caused a universal disposition to take securities instead of pay, and the result has been, to take from [two lines illegible] for those who have to pay [4 lines illegible] I hope to return home in three weeks, but I shall patiently wait at Madison, till all is done there, which I have occasion to think [1-2 words illegible] I can accomplish. On my return [rest of sentence illegible] Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “Mrs. Hibbard, (now Mrs. Mitchell), is here, and assures me the coupons on her bonds will be paid. Reese [sp.?] values the property mortgage at \$10,000”

[Correspondence Book]

2 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to Catherine P. Tuck. “My Dear Wife: I rec’d this morning your letter of Thursday last. You say you are not quite well. I fear you [2 words illegible], and that you are far from well. I leave here in a few minutes [sp.?] for Milwaukee, shall give directions for letters to be sent me at Madison, and shall be anxious till I am assured of your health.”

“I enclose a draft for \$2500, or rather a negotiable certificate of deposit for that sum, payable to order of H.S. Jacques & Co. and endorsed by me to order of S.H. Stevens, Cashier. I want you to get the money for it from Stevens, purchase through Mr. Odlin 21 shares of Boston

& Maine Railroad stock [several words illegible] and enough money with it to make up \$1000 for Mr. Haley to be endorsed on notes held by New Market Bank against me. I don't want Haley to know I have sent home more money than the \$1,000. If by possibility you have not money enough to make up \$1000, send what you have. Look at quotations of B & M stock and judge how much money to send by Mr. O. I enclose order to Mr. Odlin. You can avoid going to New Market, by writing to Mr. S.A. Haley, Cashier, getting Mr. Stevens, if he will to make a draft on Boston for \$1000 to Mr. H.'s order, or sending bills by express, getting Geo. G. Smith to send it; and you requesting in the letter that Mr. Haley acknowledge recpt."

"Your loving husband Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

17 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John L. Dearborn, c/o Aiken & Norton Bankers (Chicago). "Dear sir: I send you Madison Bonds Nos. 47, 51 and 52, and Watertown Bonds 3, 4, 5, 99, 144 and 147, nine bonds in all, which I wish you would deliver [to] Mr. Rees [sp.?] and take up my note; -- these being with the 7 Madison Bonds sent you from N. York, the 16 Bonds which I gave my note to deliver to Mr. Rees. Immediate attention, and the sending of my note to me, will oblige --- Yrs. truly Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

20 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John B. Brown. "Dear sir: Not being able to see you, this week, I write to say, that I have not yet heard from Chicago, and cannot promise, positively, in regard to taking the January coupons on your Bonds, till I do. If I can contrive to meet my own payments, and take your coupons, I will do so. I am willing to relieve you from every possible anxiety in my power, and not willing only, but anxious to do so, while you are afflicted by sickness. The Bonds, although I hope they are good, have given me more annoyance, than they have given, or will give, all others who will own any of them; and I shall never cease to regret, that your partiality for them, caused me to change my purpose of sending them back, refusing to take any of them. But you judged them, as everybody else did, as free from every hazard, and the result was that we bought largely. I do not blame you, and know you have no occasion to blame me; but I want to oblige you, and will take the coupons, if I can do so, and meet my own payments. Yrs. very truly Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

21 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to "the President and Trustees of the Exeter Savings Bank." [Later notation:] "Read to Mr. Odlin and taken back."

"You hold a bond and mortgage for \$3000 against L.J. Farwell, of Madison, Wis., the payment of which, I have guaranteed at maturity. It draws eight per ct. int. and will mature June 2, 1861[sp.]. Farwell has failed in business, and you will have to look to the mortgage security, or to me, for the payment of the interest, and the principle when due."

"You hold a note against Henry Shute [sp.?] for \$300, on which I am unfortunately surety."

"I propose to assume both these obligations as my own, asking you to give me some time on them, and paying you semi-annual interest on them, at the rate of six per cent per annum."

“The reasons of this request, so far as interest is concerned, are these. Six per cent is all that my investments enable me to pay, taking into account expenses of making and attending to them. Six per cent is what the law allows, and is all that men in this part of the country can afford to pay. The revulsion from [sp.?] business throughout the country, will cause some men to avoid asking or receiving more than six per cent interest, in those states which prohibit more than that rate. Whether as a Bank Director, or as a Trustee of the Academy, I shall oppose exacting more than six per cent interest, or legal interest, and I make this proposition, in the belief that your views will not materially differ from mine.”

“An answer in writing will oblige, yours respectfully, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

21 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John L. Dearborn. “I sent to you by express from New York seven Bonds of City of Madison, for delivery to Mr. Rees, and on Tuesday last sent 6 Watertown Bonds, and 3 Madison Bonds from this place, by express. I trust you received both packages, and if you did not, please notify me at once. I owed Mr. Rees 16 bonds, embraced in both bundles sent.”

“The weather is cold, and Ned just begins to expect immediate skating, though he reports ‘the pit’ not quite safe. Stickney Jr. has left town to teach, and the young ladies, in their desperate condition, have taken to reading [sp.?] French, Shakespeare etc., in classes. So I judge from my very limited observation. The prospect is for a dull winter to Exeter people.”

“Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

21 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rufus Dutton (Dayton, Ohio). “Dear sir: I have just returned from Chicago, where I saw Mr. H.B. Goodrich and took from him an acceptance of yours [4-5 words illegible] at Saint Nicholas Bank, New York Dec. 15/57. Mr. Goodrich assured me this note would be paid and said he should have such [sp.?] [word illegible] interview with you, and should so write you, that if the stringency in money should cause delay in any of the paper maturing at the time this \$1000 note does, you would pay this, rather than any other. I have obliged Mr. Goodrich in a particular manner and I know he is anxious for the payment of this note, at maturity, as it is the only amount out of a large sum lent to Mr. J.S. Wright, which I am likely to get immediately. I have therefore had the note discounted, and pray you not to disappoint me in regard to its payment [sp.?]. Excuse [sp.?] this letter [5-6 words illegible] so let me hear from you. Yrs. respectfully, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

21 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Tuck. “Dear Bro: At length I have returned from the west. I have been made a loser by 8 to \$10,000, by these times, and the rascality of mankind. The Bonds I bought in exchange for stock, are not likely to be paid, and I have been half sick, because of buying them myself largely, and being the occasion of my neighbors buying them also. But I made a turn in Chicago, by which I got them off my hands, or expect to. Selling 8 of them for a House and lot, and 12 of them, (\$1000 each), for \$10,000 in notes,

running ten years, int. at 10 per cent. I consider this a great bargain, if it sticks, and I don't see how it can fall through. In this way, I made sale of the 3 Watertown Bonds, which I had bo't for you and which were pledged to the Academy for the \$2000 you owe them. I have been called on to sign your \$2000 note, and have pledged a \$2000 note taken in pay for the Bonds, as collateral. I shall also have something more from the proceeds of the Bonds to pay you, besides the amt. of the note you owe me. You must not pay 5 pr. ct. a month for money, and I will send you some, short of funds as I am, rather than you should pay such destructive interest. Let me know how you are off, as to means. You had 24 shares of Galena stock, which I sold for the 3 Bonds. Had I kept the stock, it would not now bring the \$2000!! So, I see that if the notes taken by me at Chicago, prove good, as I think the mortgage which secures them is good, it was well to traffic in the way I did."

"We are glad to hear you are domesticating yourself. It will do you good to become habituated to paying for your groceries, by your produce, and to making turns for a living. Economise as much as possible. I am practicing it, and the whole family are getting entirely out of the habit of spending money. The fact is there is occasion for it. I think of going again into the practice of law, to pay bills, and help get out of debt. Mary Ann is on a visiting tour of Boston. She was happy, when here. To-day is the first cold day. Exeter is dull – all business is paralyzed, and we must prepare for a [word illegible] winter. Write often."

"Yrs. aff'ly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

24 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John L. Dearborn. "Your favor of 18th inst. came duly to hand, and I am entirely pleased with the manner of your conducting my business. Did the Sutherland note draw int. from its date to its maturity? Did he pay the back int. and also the int. in advance? Please answer in yr. next."

"I sent the remaining bonds, as I wrote you, by Express; I directed Odlin to pay the charges, but was told last night that Perkins had left the charges to be paid by you, because they were so high! I hope you have paid them out of my money in your hands, and that ere [sp.?] this time, you have that note from Mr. Rees which I am so anxious to cancel."

"Hoping soon to hear from you, and obliged by your successful services, I am, Yrs. truly,
A mos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

24 November 1857: Tuck attended PEA Trustees' meeting. Judge French and others submit a memorial requesting admission of both sexes to the Academy. Referred to a committee of Peabody, Burroughs and Hale. [p. 372, PEA Trustees' minutes not to be used without permission of PEA librarian]

25 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to James H. Rees [notation "Not sent"] "Dear sir: I have not yet rec'd the certificate as to title, and as to value, which you spoke of sending to me, in a few days."

“I have negotiated to people whom I owed here, the notes I took of you, and I shall be glad to have their names entered on your books, so that the interest, when due, shall be sent directly to them. Their names and addresses are, as follows:

“Mrs. George Gardner, Exe[cutrix], Exeter, N.H.
for the \$3350 note”

“Joseph T. Gilman Esq. Exeter, N.H.
for all the other notes”

“I hope Mr. Dearborn has, before this time, delivered to you the balance of the Bonds, and taken up my note.”

“Yrs. respectfully, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

25 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to James H. Rees. “I acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 21st, which is entirely satisfactory, respecting your title to Blocks 75 and 77 in School Section Addition to Chicago. If you could, without expense, send me some competent person’s estimate, as to the value of Lot 9, I should feel obliged by receiving it. I have had some negotiation with parties holding my securities in this town, in regard to taking your notes instead of mine. Yrs. very truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

25 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to C.E. Reno. “Dear sir: I called on you at your office, some two weeks ago, in reference to the payment of your note for \$1631.38, which becomes due Dec. 8th. On leaving Chicago, I left the note with Mr. John L. Dearborn, at the banking office of Aiken & Norton, for him to collect when due. I must rely on its punctual payment, when due, as I shall not be situated to grant an extension.”

“Yrs. respectfully, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

26 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Tuck. “Dear Brother John: It is a cause of great grief to me, that I learn from Jonathan, of the extreme sickness of your baby. If it should die, or is already in the land of spirits, I do not grieve at all on account of the child. It is God’s will, and believing in the teachings of Christ, I do not doubt that the child is a hundred times more exalted and happy. There is no doubt an exchange of worlds, or a very brief delay only, in this gradation of existence, is a happy thing to the pure, [word illegible] spirit of a child. But I grieve for the painful sympathy which you and Harriet must feel for the child, (though it cannot have suffered a great deal), and for the distress which is consequent upon parental love, and which you must feel. I would do anything to assuage that grief, and to remove your distress. But it cannot be done. Time only can soften the pang, and religious belief alone reconcile you to such a dispensation. I council [sic] fortitude and willing acquiescence in God’s will. I trust the experience of you both will have taught you how to bend beneath this new affliction, and that you will receive the dispensation, whatever it may be, with a christian, and even with cheerful resignation – ‘Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him,’ is the true spirit of a philosopher, as well as a Christian.”

“It was our hope to have some of you at Biddeford, with us here to-day. But I see that it cannot be; -- we had made preparations for you.”

“I rejoice in your restoration to so much vigor, as to have [word illegible] you to do what you have, this Fall. I should be glad to see you all, -- and your shed. When I visit Mother, I will take Bid. in the circuit. You have economized in your building. I think we are all just as happy to be obliged to economize in expenditures of all kinds, as to be relieved from such necessity. You are as happily situated as money would make you. I think you are perfectly safe, out west.”

“Your affectionate Bro, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

26 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Elbridge Gerry Dudley. “On reviewing the papers which passed between us, on the sale of the Houses, and further considering the matter, I do not see any reason why I should necessarily trouble you at all with any oversight of them. I can, on the first day of any month, or whenever the rent becomes due, send orders by the Express, at a cost of 12 ½ cts. each, to each tenant, and collect the same as easily as you could yourself. I will, therefore, on the first day of December (next Tuesday), go to Boston, and if, agreeable to you, will call with you, and be in the [word illegible] to the rent payers. I should like to examine the Policies of Insurance at that time, and obtain the Deeds from the Records.”

“I do not doubt your readiness to go on with the first arrangement, though there would be no profit to you, but I think it would be better that I take charge of the business and relieve you of the, as well from rent collection as from paying interest on the mortgage debts. Shall you be able to call with me on Tuesday. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

November 1857: Tuck becomes a trustee of Dartmouth College, remaining one until 1866. [Leon Burr Richardson, History of Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH: Dartmouth College Publications, 1932]

27 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Holden Snell [sp.?], Esq. “Dear sir: I am in receipt of your favor of the 16th inst. and of your valuations [word illegible] Mr. Nelson. I have been so much engaged since my return, that I have not been able to reply at an earlier date. I feel obliged by your attention, and your willingness to be of service to me hereafter. I will endeavor to reciprocate by so conducting the loans made by the Academy and Mr. Stickney, as to oblige you. It will be a long time before all the interests of myself and friends in Madison will be disposed of, and I doubt not things will so result as to be materially satisfactory to you and me.”

“Will you ascertain and write me, whether I cannot manage to use the next coupons which become due in January, on the Madison Bonds issued to the Watertown and Madison Railroad Company, for the purpose of paying the taxes that will be due on the land I and my friends hold at Madison. If the City do not pay Jan. coupons in money, it will be an object for me to pay taxes with them. I hope you may have ingenuity adequate to accomplish this thing.”

“The Academy and Mr. Stickney will be willing to sell or lease, on such terms as you may think best, portions of their land; but as they are entirely unacquainted with you, they would

like the approval of Mr. Hill in regard to your contracts. His friends live near here. By and by I doubt not, you will be so known to our friends here, that they will be satisfied with your judgement only. If you succeed in leasing, or selling n satisfactory terms, write me, and for the present, the leases etc. can be signed here.”

“I shall be ready to offer easy terms of payment on all sales to those who will occupy and improve.”

“Let me hear from you as often as convenient, and as business requires.”

“Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

28 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to N.B. Van Slyke, Chairman, Committee of Finance, etc. “Dear sir: I am very glad to furnish you with the desired information, in regard to the present holders, so far as Known to me, of the Madison City Bonds, issued to aid in the construction of the Watertown and Madison Railroad.

Nathaniel Gordon, of Exeter, N.H. owns	\$4,000
D.W. Gorham, do. do.	3,000
John Lowe, Jr., do. do.	2,000
Mrs. George Gardner, Executrix, etc. do.	2,000
Saml. H. Stevens, Exeter do.	1,000
J.B. Morrill “ “	1,000
John B. Brown, Hampton Falls, N.H. “	5,000
Jacob T. Brown “ “	1,000
Richard Dodge, “ “	1,000
E. Gerry Dudley, Boston, Mass.	16,000
Hon. Samuel W. Bradbury, August, Maine	1,000
James H. Rees, Chicago, Ills.	<u>13,000</u>
	\$50,000”

“The holders of these bonds, (or nearly all of them), bought the same of me, paying about \$800 for a bond of \$1,000: -- that is, about 80 per cent. I bought some of the bonds of Messrs. Howard, Contractors, and the remainder of Mr. Lawrence, Treasurer of the Railroad.”

“You thus see, that I am not now the owner of any of the Bonds. Yet my feeling of interest in their security, is none the less on that account. I would rather sacrifice a large share of what I possess, than that the Bonds should become valueless. Most of the Holders took them, influenced chiefly by their confidence in my judgment, that they were good, beyond a doubt. It was my intention to hold a large portion, as a permanent investment of my own, but the change of times caused me to lessen my amount in them, and eventually I found it for my interest to sell out entirely. All the above named holders, are my neighbors, or my acquaintances and friends, and there is nothing honorable, that I would not gladly do, sooner than see any portion of the \$40,000 they have paid for them, vanish away. It would be difficult to express the chagrin and sorrow I should experience, if anything should be done by the City of Madison, to lessen the confidence hitherto placed in your Bonds, or to affect their intrinsic value. They were taken by

me and recommended as safe to others, after such investigation and enquiry as ought, I think, to have resulted in reliable information. At Madison, in February or March last, they were first brought to my notice by leading men of your City, who assured me that the Capital of the State of Wisconsin would under no circumstances, ever entertain the question of repudiation, or ever permit a suspicion to be raised in regard to their integrity. I was made acquainted with the Act empowering the issue of the Bonds, of the almost unanimous vote of the people in their favor, and of the consideration in the way of stock, and of appreciation of City property, which existed, as ample motive and consideration for issuing the bonds. After my return home, I deliberated, and repeated my enquiries. I was assured by Mr. Lawrence, the Treasurer of the Road, that he had never heard any body question the bonds, and that their issue was not a party measure, but one in which the whole City joined with as complete unanimity, as could be expected on any subject. He said, if he had money he should invest it in them, in preference to any other security. On the 19th of May, 1857, Rev. M.D. Miller, of Madison, wrote me, in answer to my enquiries, as follows:

‘I think the Madison City Bonds are good beyond a question. The \$100,000 Railroad Bonds, passed by a vote of citizens, -- only 19 against it. It was decided by a popular measure. The \$10,000 Cemetery Bonds have been questioned, because issued after a Legislative enactment that the City should not increase its indebtedness. Yet those are probably good, on the ground that the contract was made before the enactment of the Legislature.’

“This was the tenor of all information which could be got by me from any persons, and I fully indulged the belief that the Bonds of Madison were as reliable as the Bonds of the City of Portland, or of Bangor, or even of Boston. No longer ago than the 4th of November, present, while I was holding eleven of the Bonds, I received assurance from the citizens of Madison, according to the tenor of a paper, now before me, of which the following is a copy. This paper was obtained, to assure the holders of the Bonds, that the pecuniary revulsion of the country had not changed the purpose or opinion of Madison people in regard to the Bonds.”

“Copy

‘Madison, Wis. Nov. 4, 1857

The \$100,000 in Bonds of Madison, the Capital of Wisconsin, issued to aid the construction of the Watertown and Madison Railroad, are the only bonds of the City, issued for Railroad purposes.

The Legislature, by provision in the City Charter, authorized the issue of these Bonds, and the City by popular vote, almost unanimously decided to issue them.

The City have corporate property, abundantly sufficient to answer any claim [two words illegible]

Their validity has not been questioned to our knowledge.

The population of the City is about 10,000.

The Legislature has forbidden by law any further issues of City Bonds, for any purpose whatever.

(signed) S.H. Carpenter, City Clerk”

‘I fully believe these Bonds to be perfectly good, and that the interest will be paid.’

(signed) S.H. Carpenter
 Joseph Hobbins, Alderman, North Ward
 M.D. Miller, Pres., Wisconsin Bank
 David Atwood, Editor, State Journal
 J.G. Fairchild, ex-Mayor
 L.J. Farwell”

“Since the date of this last paper, I have exhibited it to the sundry holders of the Bonds, as new assurance that the credit of your city deserved to stand as high, as we thought it to stand months ago. I have told the holders of the bonds, I found no disposition to resist them among the people, and have ventured to add that I did not believe the State would allow their Capitol to hold a place among repudiating corporations.”

“I cannot easily express the intensity of regret I should experience, if your City should undertake to resist the Bonds. It seems to me it would be a calamity to yourselves. You would not only fail of receiving your appropriate portion of future emigration, but would be likely to lose some of your present population. I know of one man of large wealth in your City, who has said within a short period, that he would remove from the place, if the City repudiated their Bonds. As a property holder of Madison, I should regret it, and place a less value on property there, in consequence. For the Capitol of Wisconsin, the most beautiful Capitol of any state, and destined ere long to become a populous and wealthy place, to throw away her reputation for integrity, for the comparatively small sum of \$100,000, in 7 per ct. Bonds, payable 20 years hence, would be an event, which the country would be unprepared to hear, and astounded when it should be made known. If the Railroad is never to be revive, Madison is destined to prosper, if true to herself, and her future inhabitants will be able to take care of these bonds, without difficulty, if the City will now but consent to bear the burden for a short time.”

“But I will not disguise that my chief interest is in behalf of the Bondholders. A widow and orphan children are interested in two of the Bonds; one is held by a young man, just married, who labors hard for his money, and has put his first accumulation into this security; another is held by another young man, quite similarly situated; five are held by a man, who has made this his first venture at the west, -- he is a farmer, who has saved money in small sums, and would be liable to insanity, if he should lose so large a share of his property; another bond is held by a mechanic, two, by a man living on a small salary; one by another man, who lives on a smaller salary; three by a physician, a near neighbor and friend of mine; four by another neighbor and friend, a lawyer without practice, but having a salary of \$400 as Secretary of an insurance company; one is held by ex-Senator Bradbury of Maine, who has probably never yet entertained a doubt of the safety of his investment and sixteen are held by a lawyer of moderate property in Boston, who paid for them with accumulations of many years of hard labor; and the remaining thirteen, are held by Mr. Rees of Chicago, an upright and honorable man, who took them of me, within the present month, in the full assurance that they were a safe investment.”

“For these reasons, I am most anxious to hear, that your City Council have determined to save the credit of the City, to refrain from any act that shall involve so many in trouble as resisting the Bonds would do, and by a courageous effort for the present, have resolved to protect the honor and promote the prosperity of the Capitol and the State of Wisconsin.”

“I have not referred, in this communication, to the case which arose in Indiana, wherein Judge McLean, vindicated municipal Bonds of this character, as irresistible, remarking that the Judges of the Supreme Court of the U. States, had expressed a unanimous opinion in their favor, nor to the Courts of Iowa, which have held such bonds as binding; because I have not intended to make any other appeal, than to the honor and integrity of the City of Madison.”

“With personal regards, I am yours very respectfully, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

28 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Walter Wright. “I have been so employed since my return, that I have not written you as early as I ought. I find Mr. Gordon, on whom I relied to furnish the money, is in doubt how soon he may have some money which he wishes to put with his Galena stock, and consequently is not ready for decisive action in regard to a loan. I find the enhancement in price of stock, has also magnified his notions of its value, and I regret to say that I fear I may not be able to get the loan taken, as I have hoped. I have recommended it to my friends, but most of them are in a panic, in regard to distant securities, and shrink from sending money out of their sight, while the rest of them have no funds at hand. I will continue my enquiries, and if I can negotiate the loan, will do so with pleasure. I shall be ready to receive the money on any notes due me from you, even before the maturity, if you choose to pay them.”

“Resp. and truly yrs. Amos Tuck”

“P.S. I sent the Bronson Contract to Capt. Webster by Mr. Palmer. I have no doubt you will see that the money is paid according to stipulations in it.” [Correspondence Book]

28 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to N.B. Van Slyke (Madison, Wisconsin). “By the last mail, I sent you a somewhat long reply to your enquiries respecting the bonds. I assume you are in favor of protecting them, and flatter myself that your letter was dictated by a friendly wish to do all that could properly be done, to protect my interests. In this view, I make acknowledgement of my grateful obligation. The anxiety which I feel, to have the bonds sustained, is intense. I shall not make known to my friends any possible question in regard to them, till I hear again from you, and shall not enjoy much comfort, till I am assured they are to be honored. I made my reply to your letter, in the expectation that you would read it to your Board, if there arose any occasion to do so, in order to help the Bonds. I take this occasion also to send to you, by this mail, the N. York Tribune of June 6th, 1857, in which I have marked two decisions of Judge McLean in Indiana; -- one in regard to County, and one in regard to City Bonds, issued to aid the construction of Railroads. You will see that the law is on the side of these securities. Yet I should not desire to thrust the law in the face of your City authorities,

preferring to make an appeal to their sense of right, and to their regard for the reputation of the City.”

“I mentioned that a wealthy man in Madison had said he would not live in a city, which repudiated her obligations. Should you have an interest to know who made this remark, I will say that Mr. James Hill of Madison told me his father-in-law so said.”

“I and my neighbors shall have to pay a large tax in Madison, the coming winter or spring, and it has been my design to buy the coupons to these bonds, and remit for taxes.”

“If there should be such a stringency in money in January, that the City could not pay \$3500 in N. York, it seems to me a course could be pursued to save the credit of the credit of the City in some way, by acknowledging the obligation, by taking the coupons for taxes, and by some other means, that might be devised.”

“I understand Watertown is loaded heavily with bonds, and it has occurred to me that they may propose, under leave of the legislature, to issue new substitute bonds for a percentage only of the present amt. but which they can take care of, and offer them to their creditors, by way of compounding their debts.”

“I wish you would advise me of your progress in this matter, and greatly oblige Yrs. very truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

29 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Betsey Towle Tuck. “My Dear Mother: It was my intention to write you so as to receive my letter on Saturday last, but I had some calls on my time when I should have written, and I missed being in season for the mail, which I very much regret, as I know it was a disappointment to you. Within the last six weeks, I have had occasion to be much from home, and to travel thousands of miles by the cars. During all the time, I have been in good health, and have met with no accident more serious than causing a few hours detention on the Railroad. The wonderful business revulsion and calamities, which have affected all men who had money due to them or owed money, and many other who did not owe, but had their property in most kinds of stocks, had some effect on my interests. As you know, these times made it necessary for me to go west, and to be very attentive to my business, to avoid serious loss. I never applied my mind to affairs with more energy and zeal than I have lately. I shall experience some loss of property, but not enough to affect my comfort, half as much as it is affected by sympathy with my friends and acquaintances, who have lost more seriously, and with less ability to bear it. I shall have enough left, I believe, for all reasonable wants, and also to make all contributions to my beloved mother, which are necessary to her comfort, and which I have been in the habit of doing. I think it unreasonable to expect entire freedom from the misfortunes which seem to be universal with men of property, and so I strive to content myself, and be thankful that I have a competency left.”

“My family are all in fair health. Abby is very thin in flesh, but it is tolerably well. Her children are the very image of health and vigor. Ned is growing in height and is well. Ellen is fat and happy. She cuts and makes all her own clothes, and says she would not hesitate to do it for others, and earn her living in that way, if it were necessary. My wife has not much strength,

and for a year and more, has been a good deal disabled. I trust she is now somewhat more firm, yet she is not vigorous, and I am anxious about her. I cannot say when I can go to Effingham. I have some business matters, which now detain me about here, as my absence so much has made it necessary to remain at home a while. But I intend it shall not be long. I want to hear from you and hope John will write to me this week. Brother John's baby has been very sick, and I have almost expected to hear of its death; but the last account was, that it was better, and I now hope for the best, with some confidence. He or Jonathan will write you more of the particulars. I always address my letters to you, but I always have Betsey and her family in my mind, and want them to know that they are never forgotten. With love to them all, I am your affectionate son,
Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

30 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John L. Dearborn. "Your suggestion is a good one, in reference to the use of money at Chicago, in preference to paying 7 or 8 per ct. for exchange. I have had some transactions with Messrs. Greenebaum Brothers, Bankers, Chicago, and I wish you would pay any balance in your hands over express charges, and pay for your own trouble thus far (I shall trouble you further), to them, and I will write them by this mail what I want done with the money."

"The note to Mr. Rees was duly rec'd and everything done right. If rent can't be collected in full, perhaps it may be well to get a well secured note for the balance [sp.?] giving a little time."

"I see your father often. He appears wide-awake. Mr. Palmer leaves for Chicago this morning. The weather here is mild with no snow. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

30 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. "I send you a letter I have rec'd from Mr. Van Slyke. I have replied to it, giving him a list of the owners of 50 Madison Bonds, which have passed, (mostly), through my hands, and the price they paid for them. I have not written him what I paid as I do not now hold any of them, but have told him, that what I bo't, were had of Messrs. Howard Contractors, and of the Treasurer of the Watertown & Mad. R.R. Of course, I had reason for keeping my transactions, as to price paid private. I also gave him my reasons for believing the Bonds good, and the Chagrin I should experience in having them dishonored – that it would be calamitous to the prosperity of the City to discredit them, and as a property holder in Mad. I should mark down my valuations, if the City were added to the list of repudiating corporations. I described to him the circumstances of the holders of the Bonds, and attempted, in a long communication, which I told him in a private note I wanted read to his Board, if necessary, to bring every notion of honor, sympathy for the holders of the bonds, regard to their own interest in avoiding the odor of repudiation, to bear in favor of their responding to the Bonds. I also sent him the N. York Tribune of June 6th 1857, in which are two decisions of Judge McLean in the U.S. Circuit Court in Indiana, fully sustaining the bonds of the City of Aurora, and the County of Knox, issued under exactly similar circumstances. I repeated in my

private note to him, my great interest in these bonds, though I do not hold any of them, and my strong desire to see them sustained. I have thus detailed to you, what I have written, in order that you may judge, whether you can not bring something to bear upon him in a right direction. If you can, do it – in a letter to him. I have written very gently to him, in both communications, but with the earnestness I feel. I would do anything to prevent my friends from loss, which I could honorably. I have a certificate signed by leading men of Madison, when I was there last, saying they had never heard the bonds questioned, believed them good, that the int. would be paid etc. etc. A copy of this I sent to Mr. V.S."

"Would it be of any use to offer to take care of any of the coupons for them, for a consideration. I would be willing to buy up \$500 in coupons if they will take them to pay for taxes. Still I have not proposed any thing of this fact to V.S."

"Have I told you the particulars of my selling 20 bonds in Chicago? I sold them, without personal recommendation to Mr. Rees. Got a house and lot worth \$5000, unencumbered, and \$10,000 in notes secured by real estate running 10 years at 10 per ct. int. This cleaned me out, to my great relief."

"We are all well, and getting along quite comfortably. Am sorry to hear that Abby is so thin. Hope for immediate improvement. Some of us must be in Madison next summer [sp.?]. I don't see that I can go, without damaging [sp.?] my prospects at the June session of our Legislature. Can you entertain the idea of going? with wife and baby, leaving Laura with us? or in any way? I do not propose it, but we must think out what is best. Say to your bro. Thomas, I have rec'd the money, and as usual am greatly obliged. Love to Abby and the dear children, Yrs. truly Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

30 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Messrs. Greenebaum Brothers. "I have written to Mr. John L. Dearborn who has a small balance of money belonging to me in his hands, to deliver the same over to you. On receipt, I wish you would loan it, alone or with some other money, on best security for 4 to 6 months. I want it here now, but I prefer to let it remain at Chicago, rather than pay the present rate of exchange."

"Mr. Samuel E. Ferris does not remit his semi-annual int. (\$50), on his \$1000 note. He lives at Niles, as you may remember, and I have a Trust Deed running to your Elias Greenebaum to secure the same. The note is not now mine, but the holder calls for the int."

"Please reply, while I remain, Yrs. very truly Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

30 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Daniel R. Coit. "I should be glad to have you read a communication I have made to Mr. Van Slyke, in answer to some enquiries respecting the present holders of Madison City Bonds. Mr. V. S. wrote me as Chairman of the Com. of Finance of your City Govt. and I inferred from his letter, that he was himself in favor of sustaining the bonds, as every man of his sense and integrity must be. Perhaps it would not be best to say to him that I had written to you, but of this you can judge. I am anxious that all good influences shall be felt by those who have the honor of the City, and the interests of the bondholders in

charge, before they make a decision upon a matter, which I think, affects the future growth and welfare of the City, if not its stability, as the Capitol of Wisconsin. I feel an intense interest in behalf of my friends, who now own 50 out of the 100 bonds, and have honestly paid the money for them, not suspecting it possible that the most beautiful of state Capitols could ever grace the list of faithless municipal bodies. Attention to this will oblige Yrs truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

30 November 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to David Atwood. “You may recollect, when I had the pleasure of a brief interview with you, at your office, a month ago, that Rev. M. Miller obtained your signature to a paper, expressive of your opinion regarding the Madison City Bonds, issue to aid in constructing the Watertown and Madison R.R. That paper was signed by other prominent citizens of Madison, relying upon it, as a fair expression of the views of your people. I felt justified on my return to Chicago, to offer what bonds I had and to sell them as valuable securities. Several of my neighbors here, are also interested in those bonds, having taken them, relying much upon their confidence in my opinion of their being good. I feel, therefore, as anxious in regard to the Bonds, as if I still held a large interest in them myself. Mr. Van Slyke, Chairman of the Com. of Finance in your City Gouvnt., has written to me, making some enquiries, in regard to who are the present holders of the bonds etc. and making a remark in his letter, indicative of an indisposition on the part of some, (not of himself), to protect the bonds. It seemed by his letter that the question of repudiation had been started by some people. Knowing that you would revolt from such a course, and impelled by my anxiety for the interests of those bond holders, whom I know, (holding 50 out of the \$100,000), and having some interest as a property holder in Madison, I venture to write to you, and solicit your favorable influence in having the bonds honored. I have written my views at some length to Mr. Van Slyke, giving him a copy, among other things, of the paper you signed, and if not too much trouble I would ask you to step into his office and cast your eye over it. I feel an intense interest in this matter, and believing the discredit of the securities of the Capitol of Wisconsin, would produce a new shock in regard to municipal credit, would dishonor the State, and be calamitous, not only to the bondholders but to the City of Madison, and all interested in it. I am anxious that all good influences should operate upon those having the matter in charge.”

“I shall have occasion to spend some time in Madison, the next Spring and Summer, and will then thank you in person for any attention you may give to this subject; -- and should be glad to hear from you. Yrs. very truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

2 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to N.B. Van Slyke. “My neighbors and others in this vicinity, in consequence of the failure of Ex Gov. Farwell, will become, as you know, owners to considerable extent, of real estate in Madison. We want nothing to happen to depreciate the value of that property, nor to prevent our getting men there to occupy and purchase it, and we are satisfied that any delay in paying the interest on your Bonds, will have a strong tendency that way. As agent for these parties, and for myself, (if you find such a proposition will help out your

city finances), I will retire \$500 of the coupons immediately, and forward to you before the 1st of January, provided you will procure an allowance to me of that amount, in scrip or city orders, that will be allowed to pay for the next taxes to be paid. It is possible, that in connection with Mr. Hayes of Boston, I might arrange for \$500 more. Your city would then have only \$2500 to raise for this purpose. How can your people be so blind, as to think of dishonoring the City, and knocking down all your property, and hazarding all your advantages, because of such paltry indebtedness. Many of the Eastern and Western cities are twice as heavily laden, and none that I know of, would flinch for so moderate a sum as your City owes. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

4 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. Nathan Lord, D.D., President, Dartmouth College. “Dear sir: I am in receipt of your favor of the 1st inst., informing me of the action of the Trustees of Dartmouth College, at their late meeting, in electing me a member of their Board. My profound respect for the Trustees of the College, individually, and as a corporate Body, causes me highly to appreciate the honor you have conferred upon me; and having ever cherished my early regard for my Alma Mater, I accept with pleasure the station, to which I have been elected.”

“With many doubts in regard to my ability to be of service to the Board, I shall make it a point to attend the meetings of the Trustees, when notified thereof, unless detained by unavoidable necessity.”

“With grateful recollections in regard to yourself, revived by your kind favor of the 1st instant, I am, very respectfully and truly, your obedt. Sevt. Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

4 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George Hyer. [notation at top: “Not sent”] “Dear sir: Not having received the interest on the Bond and Mortgage to me for \$500, secured upon Lot 16, Block 153 in Madison, which I have been informed has been purchased by you, I would enquire whether it is your purpose to pay the interest or not. If you determine to pay, the semi-annual interest, can be sent, (\$20), in a draft to me, or to W.W. Stickney Esq. of this place, who holds the Bond and Mortgage. The semi-an. int. was due Dec. 2, but will be rec’d now, in a draft on N. York, if you choose to pay it. Yrs. respectfully Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

4 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to James Hopkins. [notation at top: “Not sent”] “Dear sir: Not yet having rec’d the interest on the debt of \$500, secured by mortgage on Lot 7 Block 153 in Madison, I would enquire whether it is your purpose to pay the same, as purchaser from Farwell of the right of redeeming. Yrs. respectfully, Amos Tuck”

“P.S. The Mortgage and Bond are now in the hands of W.W. Stickney Esq. of this town, to whom the int. can be sent, or sent to me, as you please. Semi-an. int. is \$20 and due Dec. 2, 1857, but will be rec’d now, if desired by draft on N. York. A. Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

5 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John L. Dearborn. "If Mr. C.E. Reno pays his note, due about this time, and you cannot buy exchange as low as 4 per ct., (and I suppose you cannot), I desire you to pass the money into the hands of Messrs. Greenebaum Bros., who have a knowledge of my wishes in regard to business, and can use it to advantage, till exchange falls. If Reno does not pay, I wish him to give security for an extension of 4 or 5 mos. from Dec. 20th, and satisfactory interest in advance, and that you will give time. I want great care in taking security, and suppose it best for you, to put the business in charge of Aiken, telling him that I desire that the debt to be secure, more than to receive a large interest, but that at such times, I would like an unusual interest, if he thinks it safe to demand it; -- otherwise not. You had better notify Mr. Tinkham also, and pay much attention to his suggestions, as he is interested in my collecting the money, on all the demands I left in your hands, except the rent of Kline. All money collected may be paid to Greenebaum Bros. till further orders. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

5 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Messrs. Greenebaum Bros., Bankers etc.: "It may be that Mr. John L. Dearborn, (at Aiken & Norton's), may collect other money for me, than I expected, when I wrote you last, and pass over to you. In case he does, it is my wish that you loan it for me, on A.1. security, till exchange falls, -- say 4 or 5 mos. and have it made payable, if practicable, in New York. Security perfect is the thing first desired, and good interest the next. Yrs. resp. and truly Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

5 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rufus Dutton, Dayton, Ohio. "I am informed by the Cashier of the Weare Bank that you notify him that you cannot pay the note, or acceptance, which I discounted at that Bank, and due from you in a short time. It is very much to my inconvenience that you cannot pay it. What do you propose instead of payment? I wish you to pay all that is possible, if you cannot pay the whole. I was assured by Mr. Goodrich it was your design to pay this demand, and your expectation to do so, even if some other demands against you were to be postponed, and I have counted on the payment. A reply will oblige,

Yrs. respectfully, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

5 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.B. Goodrich. "Mr. Dutton has written to the Weare Bank, Hampton Falls, N.H. where I got his acceptance of \$1000 discounted, that he cannot meet it at maturity. What had I better do? Am I at his mercy, destined to wait, without possible remedy, or any method of compelling payment, just as long as his fancy dictates? Are Ohio laws of use, for collecting a debt of such a man as Mr. Rufus Dutton? I wrote him some time ago, but he has not deigned to reply. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

7 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to James Kline, Jr. "Dear sir: Your letter of the 2nd inst. is before me."

"In considering the value of your rent, I hope you will not overlook the merits of the place you occupy. You live in the immediate vicinity of your business, and, in fact, in the heart of the city, where land is high; -- you occupy two building lots, having sufficient room for keeping a horse and cow, and even raising a few vegetables, and I have thought, you were in a healthy place."

"In regard to your request for striking [sp.?] off something from your rent, and paying you for filling up under the house, I refer you to my neighbor Mr. John R. Palmer, who is in Chicago, at the Briggs House, and will remain there some weeks. I will write to him, and give him authority to consider your wishes, and do what is reasonable.

Yrs. respectfully, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

6 December 1857 [sic]: Amos Tuck to John R. Palmer. "I venture to trouble you in regard to an item of business of my own."

"I enclose you a letter from Mr. James Kline, Jr. the occupant of my Rees house. By reading the letter you will see what he wants. I have written to him, that I will give you authority to consider his wishes, and to do what is reasonable. It will be better to reduce the rent, than to lose a good tenant. But I think he likes the place, and that it is so convenient to his business he will not like to leave it. If you think best, reduce it to \$300 a year, getting him to put a certain quantity of filling under the house. Would it not be well to take up the old lease, (in the hands of John L. Dearborn), and give a new one, (you signing as my agent), for a year from May, when that expires, and have him pay monthly, (\$25)? But I will leave the matter to you, to do as you think best. He is in arrears for rent, and ought, if possible, to pay up to Dearborn, who has dunned him. I would not like to let him charge indefinitely for filling up, but allow him a certain sum. If he will agree to fill it all up, and pay \$25 a month rent, and do the ordinary repairs himself, I would be quite satisfied. Ask him, what he will give for the property, with ten years to pay it in, at 6 per ct. int., paying so much every year."

"The deed from Rees to me is at the Recorder's office, and if you happen in there, I wish you would tell the Regr. to send the Deed to me by mail."

"It is a pleasant Monday morning here – perfectly clear, with a bare coloring of snow on the grass, fast disappearing. Mrs. Palmer was at church yesterday looking well."

"Hoping you are doing your business to your own satisfaction, I am,

Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck"

"P.S. I have told Kline to call on you at the Briggs' House."

[Correspondence Book]

6 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Elbridge Gerry Dudley. "I shall not send by Express, but wish you, when the rents on the Kingston Street property are paid, to deposit same in your Bank, and send me your check for same. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck"

“P.S. I await your statement, as to taxes, drawback on insurances, etc.”

[Correspondence Book]

6 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to B.F. Dudley. “Dear sir: When you collect the rent of Mr. Severus [sp.?], and of Mr. Furbish, please to deposit the same in the Bank, at which you do business, and send me your check for the same, which will pass as money at our Bank, and oblige Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

“P.S. I hope they will be prompt in paying.” [Correspondence Book]

6 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to F.B. Hayes. “Dear sir: When last in Boston, a week ago, it was my purpose to call on you, agreeably to your invitation through Mr. Dudley, but was prevented by engagements every moment in town.”

“I have done my best to impress Madison people with the importance to themselves, of meeting the January coupons on the Wat. & Mad. R.R. Bonds. I am glad you have been after them on the same subject. I have strong hopes, but many fears, in regard to them. I have written to Mr. Van Slyke, Chairman of the Finance Com. in the Common Council, and to several other gentlemen. In the first week of Nov., I was there, and the people had not then begun to doubt the Bonds; -- I hope, they have not seriously done so since. I send you a copy of a paper, which was procured for me at that time.”

“If you learn anything of interest from Madison, please communicate. I would make personal sacrifices to have the interest paid.”

“I had a letter from Pres. Lord a few days ago, and highly appreciate the kindness of my friends, by which I have been made a trustee of Dart. Col. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

9 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward J. Tinkham. “I received a letter from Mr. C.E. Reno yesterday, notifying me he could not pay the \$1631.38 due from him the 8th inst. I wrote to Mr. John L. Dearborn, (at Aiken & Norton’s), some days ago, that in case Mr. Reno should not be able to pay, to have the best security obtained, practicable, and the interest in advance paid, and everything done in the manner which Mr. Aiken should consider safest and best, he (Dearborn), availing himself of all the assistance and direction from you, which you could give; -- telling him, you were interested as much as I, in securing the debt. I have a note due at New Market Bk. the 20th inst., (which note arose out of our joint business) and had relied alone on the Reno note to put me in funds to meet it. Can you not prevail on him to pay a part? Yet the exchange is so destructive that I would run the risk of again asking an extension, by a discount of a new note from Reno, on 4 or even 6 mos. if he could give ample security, and make the interest right. Please do the best you can and write me.”

“The Ackley notes are in Dearborn’s hands, and I do trust they may be paid.”

“Money is not in circulation at the east, as a general thing, but piled away in the hands of capitalists; -- consequently times are hard and money very hard to obtain.”

“Are you willing the Weare Bk. shall sell any of the collateral in their hands? Or what are your wishes in that regard?”

“Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

“P.S. If Reno can pay in parcels, or small sums, and gradually dispose of the whole debt, it may be best not to offer longer [sp.?] time. Yet if I could get security, and have the debt paid in N. York, we should save exchange, and I shall hope to make my peace with the Bk. again.”

[Correspondence Book]

9 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Walter Wright. “Dear sir: Your favor of the 4th is just at hand. I feel much annoyed, and somewhat mortified, at my want of success in negotiating the loan of \$6000 which you so much desire; -- for, although I told you, at the time, I could not promise the loan, yet knowing that a friend, (Mr. Gordon), was desirous of turning his stock, in connection with some money, and making a loan, I hoped, and was of the opinion, I could induce him to take your notes. I now think, that had not Galena stock so suddenly fallen from 84 to 72, he would have taken the loan [sp.?] in a few days. But he is now unwilling to sell, and with abundant property, is barren of means to advance you the money. What I can do, I will do, with pleasure. Would it disembarass you, for me to take other security? I am willing to endorse over the notes in Capt. Webster’s hands to any person who will advance the money to you.”

“Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

9 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to C.E. Reno. “Dear sir: I much regret your inability to pay that note at maturity. I hope that before this time, you have arranged the matter with Mr. Aiken, or Dearborn, in connection with Mr. Tinkham. I do not wish to be unreasonable at such times as these, but my own circumstances compel me to ask you to do the very best you can for me. Pay it in smaller sums, as you are able to collect, or comply with the requests of Mr. Norton, and do what you can to damage me as little as possible by your delay. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

9 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Walter P. Flanders [sp.?). “Dear sir: Please let me know what has been done, if anything, with the demand against Tompkins, which I sent you from Chicago.”

“Mr. Hoyt readily consented to the arrangement for extended time as to the interest on your notes.”

“Money is extremely scarce here, and as to my western dues, on which I depended to pay my own debts, they all ask for time. If Tompkins can and will give good security, for 3 to 5, or even 6 mos. till exchange is less frightful than now, I should try to live under the delay. Please do with the demand, what you think is best for me, not losing the claim on the endorsers.”

“Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

12 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Jonathan Tuck. "Dear Brother: I enclose you Dr. Warren's notes, that he may pay the interest on them, which is now due. If he pays, I want to pay the interest on my notes to Mr. Fuller, to whom I think the interest is now due. If you will see Fuller and pay the int. due him, or let me know how much it is, I will send the money at once, -- so much of it as Dr. Warren does not pay."

"I had a letter a few days ago from Effingham, and was glad to hear that mother was in fair health and spirits. Not hearing further from John, I infer his child is about well. I have before known of children reviving after being past hope. I am recovering my equanimity after the monetary experience of the past 3 mos. I believe I can control my debts till my dues lift me out of debt. I have notes enough, and real estate enough, to pay my debts, but shall need patience and time to neutralize my debts with the one or the other, -- that is, with my dues or real estate. I am doing a little law business in settling an important estate, and am engaged all the time. With love to all, I am yours, affectionately Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

15 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Mary A. Mitchell, Box 1563, Chicago, Illinois. "I am sorry to learn of your perplexity in regard to your money, and am desirous of obliging you in any manner in my power. I enclose to you a proposed guaranty to Messrs. Greenbaum, to induce them to advance to you the sum of \$200. On account of their relations with me, I think they will comply with your request to this amount. Hereafter I will have an arrangement with you, to have your coupons taken up here, on a draft rec'd to their amt., and not have them sent to N. York at all. In short, [I] will have it arranged exactly as you wish. Please write immediately, that I may know how you succeed. If you send me the draft, of course I will see that the coupons are not sent to N. York, and if you wish, I will be ready to negotiate with my friends, who hold the Bonds, and without expense to you. Respectfully and truly Yours Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

15 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Messrs. Greenebaum Bros., Bankers, Chicago Illinois). "If you will forward to me, at the charge of Mrs. Mary A. Mitchell, a draft on New York, for two hundred dollars, out of the money in your hands belonging to her, to enable her to pay the coupons due Jan. 1st, on her Bonds, which you negotiated with me, I will guarantee that she shall present you with an order or draft, signed by her husband, as well as herself, authorizing you to pay out the amount of money in your hands, on her account. But if you propose to hold us on this guaranty, you are to notify me, by letter or otherwise, by Feb. 1st, 1857 [1858?]. Yrs. respectfully, Amos Tuck." [Correspondence Book]

15 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Messrs. Greenebaum Bros. "I send to Mrs. Mary A. Mitchell by this mail, a guaranty to be delivered to you, to enable her to raise money enough to pay the coupons on the Bonds of hers, held here. I hope you will find no obstacle to advancing her the \$200."

“Mr. Dearborn has sent me your recpt. for \$117.65. Invest on a few months, safety first, -- profitably [profitability] second. I still hope he will collect other money to deliver [to] you. but learn he has difficulty in realizing. My neighbor Hoyt is a teacher of moderate means, and relies implicitly on you to keep him extra safe. Excuse my anxiety in such times.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

15 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to A.L. Fernald. “Dear sir: You have obliged me very much by sending the set of Massachusetts Records for the use of Mr. Joseph Dow of Hampton, who has need of them in preparing his forth coming History of Hampton. I will deliver them over to Mr. Dow, and be responsible for their return by him. Yrs. very truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

17 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to N.B. Van Slyke, Madison, Wisconsin. “I have your favor of 9th inst., and am glad the information I furnished you was satisfactory.”

“You state your opinion that if an easy method could be devised, the City would pay the next coupons on their Bonds, issued to the W. & Mad. R. Road. My means are very limited just now, but I want you to ascertain if I can be allowed by way of taxes, for four to six hundred dollars, in the January coupons to these Bonds. If I can be thus allowed, I will purchase the coupons of some of the more needy, who hold them, and use them for the next taxes of myself and friends. If your City authorities will take no action till after Jan. 1st, give me your opinion of what hazard I should incur, buying the coupons, without a distinct bargain about them, and oblige Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

17 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Holden Snell [sp.?]. “Dear sir: I wish to know how much longer there will be opportunity to buy city orders at a discount, to use in the payment of taxes; and whether all our taxes can be paid in them.”

“Has the title to S.E. ½ of lot 8, Block 109, yet been settled? It was expected to be settled in November. If not settled, will it not be well to let the present occupant pay the tax?”

“How long can we delay paying our taxes, and not be damaged thereby?”

“Have you sent me an exact list of taxes for the next payment? If not, please do so.”

“I have great interest in the information you give me, of the downward course of the persons you speak of. They have got to sliding, and nothing will stop them but the bottom of the hill.”

“Being obliged by past attention to my matters, I remain, Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

17 December 1857: BBF (Washington) to Henry “...Frank desired me to tell you how much he was interested in special pleading. He is studying it thoroughly, and his head is full of replications, demurrers, rejoinders, rebutters etc. etc. etc.

“We have concluded, now, that he shall return to Cambridge in March and commence the Term at the Law School, where he is to remain one year, when he hopes to have learned enough to be admitted to practice, and then he can begin to study in earnest! One thing I think I foresee, and that is, if he has his health he will become an able Lawyer. He has the right sort of a mind for it, and his play is study!” [FFP Reel 5]

18 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward J. Tinkham. “Being disappointed on all hands, by not receiving money, -- the Reno note, the Tompkins note, and the Sutherland [sp.?] note, neither of them being paid, I must rely on your promise to have the avails of the Ackley notes sent me, at maturity, to enable me to get along with the demands at the New Market and Weare Banks.”

“I enclose the memorandum, made when I gave up the Bigelow acceptance, which you requested me to lay away among my papers. The Ackley notes are with young Dearborn. How is the Reno note – safe?”

“Hoping you are successfully progressing in your business, pertaining to the Portland Block, etc. I am Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck”

[Memorandum is illegible.]

[Correspondence Book]

18 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Messrs. Greenebaum Bros., Bankers etc. “When you have disposed of the money rec’d of Prof. J.G. Hoyt, and the small sum rec’d of Mr. Dearborn for me, please inform Mr. Hoyt and me, what securities we have, or you have for us, for the payment of the same. At such times, you will excuse us for desiring to know the bottom we stand on, in regard to money matters. Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

“P.S. Do not think I distrust your sagacity, as I have great confidence in your capacity and integrity, and shall recommend my friends hereafter, as heretofore, to entrust their business to you.”

[Correspondence Book]

14 December 1857 [sic – Tuck later corrects this to 18 December]: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John L. Dearborn. “I send you a copy of Mr. Reno’s proposition. I authorize the acceptance of it, on the approval of Mr. Tinkham, (to whom, show this letter), or in his absence Mr. Aiken, on the condition that you ascertain there is no controversy about the Marian [sp.?] Hospital Bill, and that the authorities there, will make it certain to pay the same to me soon, -- accepting an order to that effect, or fixing the thing right in some other way. Also on the condition that the note of Wright Medill & Co. shall be found to stand as secure, and hopeful, as the note we now hold against Reno. If Mr. Tinkham thinks it safer not to accept the proposition, then hold off, and not do it. If Reno will give these things as collateral to his own note, there then would be no objection to accept his proposal, but I suppose R. does not expect to do so.”

“In case money is paid in, and exchange is over 5 per ct. I would try to get along, and let Aiken loan the money for me 3 or 4 mos. on the best security, making it payable when due in N. York and sending me the note to hold here. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

[Entire letter illegible] [Correspondence Book]

18 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to C.A. Reno. “Your favor of the 14th inst. is received. I write by this mail to Mr. Dearborn, who has your note in keeping, (at Messrs. Aiken & Norton’s), and have authorized him, with the approval of Mr. Tinkham, in case the dues you propose to assign to me, are as good as you seem to think, to accept your proposition.”

“Yrs. etc. Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

21 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to W.P. Flanders, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. “Dear sir: I feel that I cannot do better than to trust the Tompkins matter entirely to your friendly skill in my behalf. I feel greatly obliged by the attention you are paying to it. If you can get a good note, payable some time hence, secured by mortgage on the Pig Iron, or something as good, and can hold the first note, till the new one is paid, or course it is the best thing that can be done. But I leave all to you. Keep me, or make me safe, if possible. I am not confident in regard to the endorsers, but suppose they are good.”

“I respond to your cheers for Douglas. The ‘future’ punishment of the slave power, seems now less a matter of faith than it did. California is free; Kansas will be free, and the councils of the enemy are confused. God be thanked, and may He save the right.”

“Yours truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

21 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward J. Tinkham. [Notation “not sent”] “Mr. Tompkins of Milwaukee, who owes the \$1500 note endorsed to me, has assigned his property. Mr. Flanders, who has the note in charge thinks, however, that he shall get the debt eventually.”

“I wrote to Mr. Dearborn to take your direction on the proposal of Mr. Reno. I trust if you have not yet closed the business with him, you will take the greatest precaution to hold on upon the endorsers and security you have, if practicable, and yet obtain from Reno, all the money and other security that he will give. It is extremely harassing to me to have delay in obtaining money, but exchange is so ruinously high, that I have proposed delay and a loan for a few months, on money rec’d, as you will see from my letter to Mr. D. which I have directed him to show to you. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck.” [Correspondence Book]

21 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to S.A. Haley. “I have your kind note of Saturday, and fully appreciate your obliging disposition respecting my indebtedness to the Bank. Whilst I am reluctantly compelled to avail myself of your indulgence, I shall spare no moderate sacrifice to avoid taxing you beyond even [sp.?] your endurance. I have overdue paper, which I believe to be good, almost enough to pay my entire indebtedness to your Bank, and notes enough soon to mature, to remove it all. But I am faithless in regard to punctuality, and know not how soon to promise a payment to you. Yet I shall communicate with you frequently – I will give you a new note on 4 mos. if you please, for the bal. due, paying (the balance of) int. in advance, and as

heretofore, pay as fast as I can. You might take into your own hands, to hold as collateral for the Bank, the note you now have, which is secured by mortgage, thus holding all security. If you think best, send me such a note, and I will go and see you. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

23 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rufus Dutton, Dayton, Ohio. “Your favor of 12th inst. is at hand, since receiving which, I have a letter from Mr. Goodrich, fully explaining the arrangement, subdivision etc. etc. I concur in the whole thing, and will get back to your \$1000 note immediately, and send it, with the \$542 note, to Chicago, to be exchanged as desired. I shall be obliged to get all the small notes again discounted. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

23 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John L. Dearborn. “Your course in settling Mr. Reno, I fully approve.”

“In case Mr. Aiken shall loan the money you have received, or shall receive of Mr. Reno, in accordance with my letter of the 14th inst., (which I think should have borne the date of the 18th inst.), let only the best securities be taken, and make the notes payable in N. York, if practicable, and send to me, so that I can re-discount here, where my own notes are maturing.”

“My family reciprocate your kind regards. Ned Conner is here, gallanting all our daughters and helping them about the Upper [sp.?] Parish Fair, tableaux etc. He ‘returns to his Regiment’ in a few days. I went to Boston with your father yesterday, and he spoke favorably of going to Chicago next month. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

24 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. “I have been thinking about our business at Madison, with reference to suggesting something further in regard to your going there next Spring. I am slow to come to any decision to advise you to go there, though your going would almost entirely relieve from anxiety in regard to my interests there. When I think of your leaving home, I think first of your family, and next of your business at Peekskill. If you are now doing a law business that comes near supporting you, it should not be lightly hazarded. Yet it may be that your absence would not seriously disconnect you from office business. The general result of my thinking is, that if you find in your own, and your father’s business, occasion to go to Madison, I will put into your hands, my own matters in Wisconsin, and the business of my friends, who have loaned money at Madison, and thereby become interested in the land there, taken as security, and will do what is right, in regard to compensating you. Yet my friends will not expect to pay out much, but will be willing to give a commission on sales. So of myself: I want to allow a commission for selling my wild lands, and my city property, but cannot offer much inducement beyond this. I have not great confidence in being able to sell, through an agent or otherwise, and consequently do not feel that I ought to press you, or even influence you, to go there, on account of any interests of my own, or of my friends. If your

welfare leads you there, I shall give you entire charge of all business over which I have control, and wish you, out of it, to take full compensation for what you do.”

“I thus speak quite guardedly, because I consider how important to you such a step, as going to Madison, may be, and that I should not overstate the inducements to go, arising out of my interests in Wisconsin. I have not over \$5000 of my own, in Wisconsin, (except \$2500 well invested, on loan, in Milwaukee), and would willingly send that, where other money has gone, rather than, by attempting to save it, hazard the welfare of yourself or family, in the slightest degree. Perhaps this is enough to say at present, as we have time enough to exchange suggestions, and ascertain more clearly what is best for you and for myself, before the time for action arrives.”

“The City Government of Madison have taken action, under the lead of Mr. Van Slyke, to provide payment of the coupons on their Bonds. They may, however, be unable to raise the wind at such time as the present, notwithstanding they have authorized the hiring of money for the purpose. If they pay, it will relieve my anxiety for the bond holders, and will besides profit me \$500, by way of coupons which I hold.”

“On the subject of your going to Madison, I ought further to have said, that in case you go, leaving your family at home, we shall be willing for Ellen to be at Peekskill during your absence.”

“I expect a letter from you or Abby soon, perhaps to-day, rallying me for the soberness of my last letters. You know I value talent high enough, and that I am capable of rejoicing as sincerely, and with as much pride, over Abby’s elevation, as any one can rejoice in it, except perhaps yourself. I think her superior, intellectually, and I am proud of her superiority. I think her good at heart, and am more desirous that she shall keep her heart right, than even her head. I have written to you and her, that you may be guarded against tasting too much of the flatteries, bestowed upon both of you. I feared it might beguile you somewhat, and so wrote plainly. The sanctum of your fireside is as familiar a spot, in my thoughts, almost, as my own home. I daily look at you all, and in seeing Abby with her two children about her, I contemplate one of the sweetest, pleasantest visions, that ever occupy my thoughts. If there were any practicable way of transferring Laura to Exeter, we should put in a petition to have her with us. You know how she drew tears from all when she left, and I can assure you her place in our hearts is still warm. She is a desideration in our household, and we never think of her, except to wish she were here. Her prattle, her pattering feet, her presence at the table, are all needed. Can’t she be got here?”

“We are all in health, peace and comfort, without any uncommon evil to afflict our condition. What more can we expect?”

“With much love to Abby and the children, and regards to your friends, I am yours truly,”

“Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

24 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to ?. “Dear sir: I have entrusted the letting of some money for a few months to Mr. Aiken, and a small sum more [5-6 words illegible] some time ago, to be for hire. Strict instructions to take only the best security given. But knowing what a

motive may exist for letting the funds to some lame duck who may be lying down [out there?], I feel anxious to know what security they have taken and whom they have trusted. Can you find out for me, without offending them? If you can and will tell me you think it all right I shall be satisfied, and greatly obliged. I don't suppose they would turn [word illegible] bad debtor and bad debt upon us. The money (mine), I proposed to let to get rid of exchange. Is it best for me to pay the present exchange or let the money a few months, in the hope of avoiding it? I want the funds here badly. If you think times are to be so bad that it is best to pay even the present exchange I will abide your judgement and will thank you to say to John L. Dearborn that what new money he gets I want him to remit. Things here remain about the same. Dearborn's nerves are quiet for having been to see 'Andrew' [?]. The season is still mild, - wonderfully so. I shall be glad to see you at home and hope you will adjust all your matters to your satisfaction. Mr. Cummings [sp.?] is dead: died at Portland last Friday – disease rheumatism [sp.?].”

“ Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

28 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to D.R. Coit. [Notation 'Not sent'] “Dear sir: Your favor of the 22nd is received. You did right in looking after the interests of my neighbor, Dr. David W. Gorham, in respect to the mortgage he has upon the Steam Mill etc. at Madison. Please to continue your services in this regard, and prevent his being damaged by any lessening of his security, or otherwise. He proposed to Mr. Chapman, before Mr. C. went to Madison, that he would allow his mortgage to stand, by Mr. C.'s agreeing to pay his interest when it should become due. Mr. C. assented to this by letter, and then went to Madison, and was interrupted by you and Mr. Snell, in his attempt to disembowel the mill, for his benefit to the grave injury of Dr. G. With this statement you may feel yourself posted in regard to the character and designs of Mr. Chapman. De uno disce omnes. Watch him, as you would a man who is sharp, and whom it is wholesome [sp.?] to keep under restraint. My impression is, that Dr. G.'s mortgage would cover all there is now in the Mill building. What is the mill without the machinery? It is no mill at all. Can any of the machinery be removed without drawing nails? If not, is it not a fixture attached to, and part of the realty? I speak with reference to the law here, but suppose it is the same in Wisconsin.”

“If Mr. Chapman will carry out his agreement to pay Dr. G.'s interest, and will see that insurance is obtained for Dr. G.'s benefit first, then we shall be satisfied. But we shall refuse to hold the property for the benefit of both mortgages, as Mr. C. has proposed, by letter to Dr. G. since you detected him in trying to sell the machinery.”

“Dr. G. will agree, that the Mill shall remain as it is, till it can be sold, and that he will then submit to the opinion of Judge Orsamus Cole, whether Mr. Chapman has any, and what interest in the proceeds, and will give him his just proposition, according to Judge Cole's opinion.”

“If Mr. Chapman will consent to neither of these proposals, then enjoin him against selling all that you can legally, according to your laws. Perhaps Judge Cole, to oblige me, would

converse with you on this topic to some extent. If you can get possession of the Mill, do it, or get Mr. Snell to do it – and keep off all others. Do what you think Dr. G.’s interests require.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

28 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to D.R. Coit. [Notation: ‘Not sent’] “Dear sir: Please send to me, (in case the Mill is not already insured for Dr. G.’s benefit), such a description of the property, as will enable him to get it insured here.”

“I am very glad you are looking after those bonds, and are ready to speak at the adjourned meeting on the subject of taxes etc., and feel personally obliged by the general course you have pursued.”

“Mr. Snell has offered to render his services in anything pertaining to the interests of my friends at Madison, gratis, on account of his name being on some of the bonds here, which he wishes us to get satisfied out of the property, not calling on him. Dr. G. is one of the trustees of Exeter Academy, which have a bond of Mr. Snell’s. I am therefore disposed to have you and him to control this property together. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck”

[Marginal notation] “I authorize Mr. Coit to act as my Attorney [signed] D.W. Gorham”
[Correspondence Book]

25 December 1857 [sic]: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John L. Dearborn. “I am a little more anxious about what shall be done with the money you collect, than I was. I think I would choose to pay as high as 5 per ct. perhaps 6, to get it here now, rather than let it; -- but in case it is let on a few months, be very careful that no man has my money who will not pay promptly when due, and give perfect security that he will pay. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

28 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John L. Dearborn, Chicago. “In case Mr. Palmer is still in Chicago, please deliver the enclosed letter to him. In case he is absent, please open and comply with my requests, as therein stated. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

28 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John R. Palmer. “I am requested by Mr. Goodrich to send you the enclosed two acceptances of Rufus Dutton, for, \$1542, which I wish you to exchange with him, on receiving the paper, notes of Mr. Dutton as follows:

\$242 due Jan 15/18 ’58, N. York

300 “ Mar 15/18 ’58 N. York

300 “ May 15/ “ “ “

350 “ Jun 15/ “ “ “

350 “ Jul 15/ “ “ “

and int. at 10% paid now, in cash to you, for me. Also, let him pay for the protest, if he is provided with the means by Mr. Dutton to do so. Buy exchange for what money you receive and bring home with you, or send home.”

“Nothing new here. When are you coming home? Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck”
[Correspondence Book]

28 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to F.B. Gardner. “Dear sir: Will you have the goodness to inform me how you are getting along with your matters. Are your Mills going in Wisconsin? Have you made many sales? Is your courage good for seeing the end of your pecuniary perplexities?”

“I am controlling, as well as I can, the debts against me, inducing my creditors to give me time, in the hope that my debtors may soon be able to pay me something.”

“Being desirous of hearing from you, and wishing you prosperity, as well on my account as your own, I am, Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

28 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to R.E. Ayer [sp.?]. “Dear sir: Can you give me any information regarding the prosperity of our mutual friend, F.B. Gardner? Are you still sanguine he will eventually pay, and if so, when? Any information you can give me on this subject, will be gratefully acknowledged.”

“The ‘Little Giant’ is all the go here. The N.H. Democracy is with him, but yet feel a little bothered how to praise him, and still preserve the unity of the party. It was difficult of old to serve two masters, and the difficulty is not quite passed by, though it has been experimented upon so much. I think Douglass [sic] little better than the wicked, (that is, the Republicans), -- what think you of him.”

“Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

28 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John R. Palmer. “As I put in a letter, at the P. Office, to J.L. Dearborn for you, today, (fearing you might be out of the city, and so enclosing it to him), I took out your letter of the 24th inst. I think with you, I better hold on to Mr. Klyne as a tenant. Make such a bargain with him, as you think is for my interests. I will abide entirely by your judgment. See that he does not get paid for filling up, before the filling is done, nor be paid much above the cost, unless you find that hesitation on your part will set him to thinking about another tenement. I think it an object to retain him at \$300 rent, and do not desire to risk him leaving by delay. If I could get him to take a lease now, it would be desirable on my part, as I should then hold him for a year.”

“Your proposition about the minister is very generous. I have ventured to say that I was authorized to go \$25 for you, and will not get you in deeper than that, I think. I will see Mrs. Palmer, and ascertain what she thinks, in case there a need in raising what is necessary. The Minister is a [word illegible], speaking after the manner of men. He has, I believe, a good head, a good heart, and a fine musical voice. Still he is not one of your pretty men, and is not so unlike other people, that one can’t get near to him. He is, probably, subject to like passions with the rest of mankind, but is disposed and seemingly capable of doing us good, far beyond any other man we have had in our pulpit. I would not dun you for a tax, but I was gratified, in this parish,

to have you propose to pay generously, if needed, or in fact in any event. I shall not let out that you will consent, at all, to pay \$50, fearing they may be willing 'to lie down on you.'”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

28 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Walter Wright. “Yours of the 24th inst. is at hand. In compliance with your suggestion, I hereby authorize Capt. Webster to cancel the notes in his hands, signed by you, and endorsed to him by my order, and when he has thus cancelled them, to deliver the same to you.”

“I think the contract, now in Mr. Palmer’s hands, had better go into Mr. Webster’s hands, and a receipt taken therefore, as at first arranged, because in case of mortality on my part, the transaction would be intelligible, and in any event it could not prejudice you to have the contract in the Keeping of Capt. Webster.”

“If any man in this region shall have \$6000 to invest, my exertions shall not be wanted to induce him [to] put it in, as part of this \$20,000 with me.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

30 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to D.R. Coit. “Your several favors, of the 22nd and 23rd inst. are rec’d and contents noted. It is fortunate you considered yourself authorized to interpose, as you did, to prevent the sale of portions of the Steam Mill. Dr. Gorham desires you to save him from every avoidable expense, and to consider yourself engaged, as his legal attorney, to take all such measures as you deem his interests require. I have assured him of your disposition to manage the matter in an economical, expeditious and successful manner. He and I fully approve of what you have done.”

“Dr. Gorham offered, and Mr. Chapman accepted, though informally, before he went to Madison, a few weeks since, that the first mortgage should lie, though the condition had been broken, and that Mr. Chapman should have the property insecured [sp.?] and see that Dr. G.’s interest be punctually paid, till he could make a sale and pay off the first mortgage, saving what he might to protect himself. The next thing Dr. Gorham hears from Mr. Chapman, is, that you and Mr. Snell have detected him in appropriating to himself a very important portion of Dr. Gorham’s Mill!”

“Where the Common Law and common sense have not been discarded, I think there cannot be a shadow of a doubt that the Engine and Boiler are a portion of the Mill, and covered by the first mortgage. By our laws in N.H., I believe the Planing Mill and other machinery would be held also, as fixtures, not to be reserved without the drawing of nails and committing other injuries to the realty, not allowed by holders of chattels in such cases. Dr. Gorham has a letter sent him by Gov. Farwell, at the time the loan was made, assuring him that his mortgage covered the Machinery, which cost some \$7000 or more. On this he relied, and he wishes to hold all his security till he is paid. If the laws of your state will take what he thought was his, and put it under a chattel mortgage, of course, he will submit; but he suggests a full consideration by you, before giving up, or acquiescing in any adverse claims to, any portion of the Machinery.”

“Please to remove at once any hope on the part of Mr. Chapman, that Dr. Gorham will buy his mortgage. It is pretty plain what are Mr. Chapman’s views of his interests, and I am satisfied that he will interpose all the obstacles that will be interposed by any person, to Dr. Gorham’s collecting his debt. I therefore expect no favors from him, and no advantage from any negotiation with him. My view of Dr. Gorham’s interest, in which view he coincides is, that he at once proceed to foreclose against Stevens and against Chapman. When that is done, he will be able to execute a good title to all that his mortgage covers, be the same more or less. If Mr. Chapman owns any of the machinery now, it will not be any the less his, after a foreclosure. Dr. Gorham will sell the Mill at the earliest period he can, for a reasonable price. But if he forecloses, he will make no division of the proceeds of what his mortgage covers, with Mr. Chapman. He will renew his offer to Mr. Chapman, to let his mortgage stand, if Mr. C. will assume its payment, and get the Mill insured for the benefit of the mortgagees, in their order. He will, also, at any time, submit the question to Judge Orsaneus Cole [sp.?], whether he or Mr. C. owns the Machinery, (not including the Engine and Boiler), and will abide Judge Cole’s judgment. At present Dr. Gorham is not inclined to withhold foreclosing, and give Mr. Chapman the benefit of delay. Mr. C. better make up his mind, at once, whether it is for his interest to assume the payment of Mr. G.’s mortgage, or let the Steam Mill out of his hands.”

“Such are my views and Dr. Gorham’s, and we shall only change them, by such considerations as induce you to recommend a different procedure. Mr. C. had written Dr. G. and will receive an answer, referring him to you.”

“Please say to Mr. Snell that we feel obliged to him, and that I shall write him in a day or two. He has kindly offered to do anything he can for the interests of my neighbors at Madison, and I wish you to consult with him in regard to our matters. Would it not be well, if practicable, to get the Key, and possession of the Steam Mill, so that nothing can be taken away, without breaking doors?”

“I trust the coupons will be paid. If they are not, do you recommend a suit upon them, or delay? I feel personally obliged by your purpose of sustaining payment of them, at all events.”

“I intended to speak to you of other matters, but this letter is already so long I will close.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

31 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. S. Armsby [sp.?]. “Dear sir: Seeing your name in the Faribault Herald of Dec. 10, as a Clergyman of the place, I infer you are the same person, who was formerly a minister at Chester, N.H. If so, I feel acquainted with you, by knowing so many of your friends there, as well as by having met you, I think, on one occasion, and trust I shall not tax you too much by asking a favor. Somewhat more than a year ago, I entrusted some money to a Mr. Geo. S. Nichols of Davenport, Iowa, for investment for me. He bought quite a quantity of land, (town lots), at Faribault, and on the sixth May last sold a portion of them to Mr. G.M. Batchelder and Geo. R. Turner [sp.?], taking one third cash, and the rest in 1 and 2 years. Mr. Nichols sent me, last spring a note of \$1915 against Batchelder and Turner, secured, as he said, by mortgage, and payable 6th May 1858. I wish to know if this note is good,

and if the signers are men of property or have such under the revulsions of business. What is the character of Messrs. B. and T. By answering this, you will oblige,”

“Yours very respectfully, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

31 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Mrs. M.A. Mitchell. “Dear madam: I received the draft of Messrs. Greenebaum Bros. for \$200, to pay the coupons on your bonds to that amt., and herein enclose the same, agreeable to your request. Yrs. very respectfully, Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

31 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Holden Snell. “Your several favors of the 22nd inst., in regard to the Steam Mill, and the 23rd inst., in regard to taxes, are at hand. I have written to Mr. Coit, at some length, in regard to the Mill, with whom I wish you would converse and interchange views. Mr. Chapman counts without his host, if he supposes, that, having a mortgage prior to his, on a Mill, we shall allow him to strip it to the walls, leaving no mill, nor anything else but a pile of stones and a little lumber. Why does he not propose to take the doors of the building, which he might as reasonably do, as to do what he has attempted? I have had some little experience in my profession, -- enough to make me anxious to keep my friends out of the law, -- and I would sooner go to Madison myself, and take hold with Mr. Coit, to defend my friend Dr. Gorham, in the Courts of Wisconsin, than to see him so illegally and absurdly deprived of his security, as Mr. Chapman proposes to do. I shall myself sink a little more money in Madison, before I shall allow Mr. Chapman’s views, or his lawyer’s views, to prevail, in reference to his rights to the building, or, in other words, to the Mill, of which Dr. Gorham has a valid mortgage.”

“Before the 1st of February, I shall endeavor to have the taxes paid on the lands, a list of which you have kindly furnished me. Until then I judge from your letter, there will be no further expense. I take it all the talk about resisting the payment of taxes, is mere talk. If it is not, and your people resolve themselves into a mob, your city will lose her claim to any respectability, the Capitol of the State will be justly removed, to some locality not yet dishonored, and the lands will not be worth paying taxes for.”

“Being always glad to hear from you, and desirous that you shall post me, as heretofore, as to what is agreeable and disagreeable, about Madison and her people,”

“I am, Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

31 December 1857: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Elbridge Gerry Dudley. “My dear sir: I have receive your 15 coupons of 35\$ each, of Bonds of Madison, and herein enclose your note for \$400, in part pay for the same. I do not know, certainly, whether the interest, (coupons), will be paid in January. If they are, I will send your other note to you, and the balance in cash.”

“I think it is necessary for me, as you suggest you intend to do, have Furbish immediately dealt with effectually. He ought to pay up arrearages, and give security for future rent; -- or at the least, to give undoubted security to pay arrearages soon, and the future rent when due.”

“I think I will not go to Boston on Saturday, but await your sending to me what rents shall be paid at that time. Yours truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

1858:

2 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to [?]. “Dear sir: “I heard an item of news to-day, which I will communicate to you: -- that I have failed in business, -- gone all to smash. This news was told by Mrs. Abbott, yesterday, to Mrs. Currier, at the house of Mr. James Locke, in Seabrook. Mrs. Abbott said she had the news direct from Mrs. Stacey L. Nudd.”

“Under these circumstances, I want my friends to notify all persons whom I owe, (I don’t think you can find any such in your region), that I have \$15000 worth of real estate unencumbered, in Exeter, on which they have a first rate chance to secure their debts; also \$12000 worth in Boston, \$1000 worth in Biddeford, Maine, \$7000 worth in Chicago, \$8000 worth in Wisconsin, and \$2500 worth in Iowa, and besides have good notes and stocks enough in my pocket to pay all my debts. I shall be happy to see my creditors at a moment’s warning and introduce them to the money, or to means of immediate payment. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

2 January: Frank accompanies BBF on his New Year’s calls. Called on his good friends Interior Secretary Jacob Thompson, Postmaster General Aaron Brown, Senator Seward, Vice President Breckinridge, Secretary of State Cass, Judge Blair, Speaker Orr, Senator Slidell, Senator Dixon, Secretary Toucey. French was clearly trying to get Frank introduced around town among the Democratic leadership. [FFP Reel 1]

5 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to W.H. Estey. “Having failed to receive a call from you, as you promised, I will write in regard to your claim against Farwell, and say, that when at Madison, I had additional security conveyed to me by L.J. Farwell, which he seemed to believe, and which a Mr. Holden Snell represented, to be more than sufficient to secure the debts for which they were conveyed to me. I gave back to Farwell a writing, agreeing to pay him the surplus, which should arise from the sale of these securities, after paying the other debts mentioned, and my own against him. I will agree with you, that in regard to these additional securities, (lands), conveyed to me, after they have been applied for the other person’s debts, so much as reaches me, shall be for your benefit and mine, according to our debts. I make this stipulation, simply because I sympathize with your annoyance from Farwell, and I ask no consideration for it. My losses are worse by Farwell, than all others. But I shall follow him, and will at all times do what I can to pursue him for you, and without compensation.”

“Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

7 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John R. Palmer. “I am anxious about my funds in Greenebaum’s hands, having requested information in regard to the same, and received no answer. I am sorry to trouble you so much about my business, but I will request, as you are soon

to come home, and can learn and tell me all when you come, that you will take the enclosed open letter to them, (G's), and learn what they may have done with my money, (\$434), and Hoyt's, (\$1000), to whom let it, and on what security. Please ascertain enough to form your own judgment of its security. We have given them the strictest instructions, to let only on the best security, and if they have canted a bad customer, or one of their own burdens on either of us, it is a breach of faith I should be unwilling to expect, and no better than robbery. In case of necessity, consider yourself authorized to do anything about my business with Greenebaums you may think necessary, and in such an event, exhibit to them this sentence of my letter, as proof of your authority for me, and for Mr. Hoyt, whose business I have authority to manage with them."

"I went and saw Mrs. Palmer, in reference to your very generous authority given me, in regard to a ministerial tax. She was willing I should exercise my judgment of the extent necessary to subscribe. I put down for you \$25, going no higher, because I thought the rest should be made up by others. I subscribed myself \$40, putting down the last \$5 of it, to make up a deficiency. I thought of putting down another \$5 for you, but concluded to wait and see if it be necessary. Hope to see you at home by the middle of the month, and hear all about your history while gone. A regular snow storm is upon us this Wed. morn. Yrs truly Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

7 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Messrs. Greenebaum. "Not having heard from you, relative to the disposition of funds sent you by Prof. Hoyt, and entrusted to you by me, I wish you to make know to my friend Mr. Palmer, who is about to come to Exeter, everything you would state to me, if I were present, that he might give me and Mr. Hoyt the necessary information when he arrives. I wish to be assured that you have been successful in loaning the money, on that perfect kind of security, and for the terms of time, you were requested. I authorize you to transact any business with Mr. Palmer, which pertains to me."

"Yours truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

7 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John L. Dearborn. "I suppose you understand from my former letters that I do not desire you to put any more money into the hands of the Greenebaums. If exchange is over 5 per ct. when you have any money of mine, let Mr. Norton loan it on 3 or 4 mos., making it payable in N. York, or at Chicago, with exchange on N. York, as he thinks best, providing this can be done on perfect security; otherwise, keep it or send it to me, as seems to you best for my interests. Yrs truly Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

9 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John L. Dearborn. "Mr. Palmer has written me, and I have just rec'd a line from you. Exchange being down, I think it best that my funds come east. Such is Mr. Palmer's advice. Mr. Goodrich will also pay some money to Mr. Palmer for me. Say to Mr. P. I wish it remitted. Mr. Tinkham has agreed to remit the amt. of the two Ackley notes without expense to me. Let him do it, if he will; if not, remit yourself. In all matters of

doubt, you and Mr. Palmer can do what you think best, and your father will be at Chicago, soon after, if not as soon as you receive this letter. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

11 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to William R. Nelson. “My dear sir: I herein enclose Richardson’s letter. I appreciate your father’s kindness, in desiring to regard my interests, in his negotiations, so far as it is proper he should do so. Farwell has been a dispensation, as bitter to me, as he has to Mr. Ilsley. He came on my blind side, and has deceived me more than any other man has ever done. If it be practicable, I wish to avail myself of your father’s relations with Madison, to defend myself from loss. But whether it be practicable, I know not. I leave it to you to determine that question. I suppose your father can say, if he thinks proper, that I made the first application. I have hoped to make some arrangement with your father, by which I could make his abundant security, available not for myself only, but for my friends here, who have bonds and mortgages against Farwell. But perhaps I better not undertake to do more than I have for my friends. I will therefore state my own interests, and let you undertake to fortify them only, in the negotiation of your father with Mr. Richardson or Ilsley.”

“On the 4th Nov. 1857, I gave up a note of \$940 I had against Farwell, and took a warranty deed from Farwell, of lots 13 and 14 in Block 190, in the [word illegible] city plat of Madison, in pay. Farwell assured me these lots were worth the debt, but two judgments were [word illegible] against F. [word illegible] to this conveyance, and I shall not [three words illegible] give other than a quit claim deed.”

“I have a Bond and Mortgage against Farwell, of Date June 2, 1856 on 5 yrs. at 8 per ct. (semi-ann. at 4 per ct.) for \$2000 on lots 6 and 7 in Block 113.”

“I have another Bond and Mortgage of same date and time at 6 per ct. (semi-ann. 3 per ct.), for \$1000, on Lots 1, 2, 17 and 18 in Block 288 Farwell’s Addition.”

“I have another Bond and Mortgage of same date and time, at 6 per ct. (semi-ann. 3), [for \$1000 ?] on lots 3,4,15 and 16 in Block 288 Farwell’s Addition.”

“These are all my interests in Madison, growing out of Farwell. When there last, believing the Bank Stock nearly worthless, I sold it to Farwell for 120 acres of land in Columbia County which Mr. Snell has since sold for me, in connection with 484 acres more (604 a. in all) in Iowa and Dane County, taking in pay, a house in Madison which Snell and Mr. Hill, (an old acquaintance from this vicinity) inform me is worth [amount illegible] to \$1500, and will rent for \$200 a year.”

“F.’s statement about my views of the worthlessness of the Bank stock is to be private.”

“Now, the \$2000 Bond, I was told, (but in fact do not believe), is well secured by the mortgage. The two smaller Bonds, for \$1000 each, are not satisfactorily secured. Lots 13 and 14 in B. 190 are not worth so much to me as \$940. Can you do anything, by which Richardson should [sp.?] assume these, or even the \$5000 in Bonds in consideration of the priority your father may indicate to him to be due to me in the negotiation. If Ilsley is to gain, materially, it would be right that he assume a burden. [One or two sentences illegible] ... can so manage my securities that they will not lose while I might lose considerably. If you think it desirable [sp.?],

you may [eight lines illegible – more discussion of the bonds and the lots] ... judgments will not trouble that property. Do not think that by making this last proposition, I think any stimulus is needed to your zeal to be serviceable to me. There, you have my statements, -- do as you can and think best.”

“I now suppose the coupons to the Madison Bonds are paid. They were sent about the 1st inst. to N. York, and have not come back. Yet I do not feel certain, and have written to-day to Boston to find out. The Watertown coupons have not come back. Can it be possible they are paid? I think it barely possible, some body has found it for their interest to pay them.”

“We are all quite well. Sorry to hear Nellie [sp.?] has a cold. No doubt you are right in thinking Laura to be smart. We talk over her [word illegible] often. We should like so well to have her here. As to senatorial matters, my friends are of opinion, I have more spontaneous friends than Hale, but they and I are apprehensive of outside influence. It is now getting to be understood that I am not to modify my position to oblige Hale, and the old Whigs are tickled. Hale will get mad, if we press him hard. I am not sanguine, but comfortable, being prepared for defeat, as well as for victory.”

“Love to all! Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

11 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Holden Snell. “I approve your negotiation regarding the exchange of my lands in Sauk, Dane and Columbia Counties. Please [do] not run any risk in regard to title to the premises taken in Madison, and their freedom from all incumbrance. You will know what precautions are needed in that regard. Also make your arrangement in regard to taxes. Last year, (Feb. 1857), I paid taxes as follows, on the lands deeded to-day:

<u>Dane County:</u>	S.W. ¼ of Sec. 30. T. 4, R. 7	\$11.60
	W. ½ of S.E. ¼ do.	6.06
	S.W. ¼ ([?]) 18	4.45
<u>Sauk County:</u>	S.E. ¼ of N.W. ¼ Sec. 35 etc.	1.62*
	S. ½ of N.W. ¼ Sec. 22 etc.	<u>3.33</u>
		\$27.07

besides commissions. I suppose I shall have to pay the assessed taxes of this year, and my grantee, the assessed taxes on the House etc. on Madison. If you can bargain to reserve the 40 acre lot marked with a star, I would be glad to do so, as I have engaged to give 40 acres to a Seminary, and I will allow \$40 for it. I think it of small value, compared with the other land. Within find the executed Deeds.”

“A friend of mine, living in Dover N.H., loaned to his Excellency of the Octagon, last summer, \$1000, taking as security Lots 1, 3, 16, 18, in Block 293 in Farwell’s Addition etc. I have agreed to look after this property for my friend Mr. Estey of Dover, and to get the taxes pd. etc. Please tell me if the premises are clear of incumbrance, (except to Estey), what will probably be their value, when good times return, and what is the tax on them, this year. I intend to provide means of paying all our taxes before the 1st Feb. till which time, I understand there is no additional expenses.”

“I was gratified that the action of the people’s meeting was not revolutionary. I expect a better future for Madison. I hope extravagance will find a tomb in the Fall of those who have risen by attempts to humbug the people. Madison has a good basis, which one man has damaged more than he has helped, though he claims to be a universal benefactor. Simple, modest, moderate prosperity is best for communities and individuals. Let us hope that it will attend us in hereafter. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

12 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Holden Snell. “Since writing the enclosed, I have further to say, that when I wrote you, I hoped to have returned to me, before sending away my letter, a Quit Claim Deed, which I had already signed to the 40 acres indicated by a star. It has not yet come to hand, but I hope it will to-day. I conclude to take the risk of sending a deed of the same to you, but prefer that you strike it out of the conveyance, if you can do so, on the terms suggested, and without hazarding the trade, which with your judgment in its favor, I incline not to lose.”

“I understand the coupons to the Bonds I hold, are not paid. If you and Mr. Coit exercise your influence upon the present City Government, through persons not rendered offensive to them, by the late tax investigations, can you not get authority given to the Collector, to receive coupons in payment of the taxes upon our property? Let this enquiry be private, except with Mr. Coit, and please return answer immediately, as I want to pay up before Feb 1st.”

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

12 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Daniel R. Coit. “Understanding the coupons on the Bonds have not been paid, and having some \$700 of them, taken to oblige men who bought the Bonds, I am desirous of making them available to pay 5 to 600\$ in taxes, in Madison, due from me and my friends, and have to-day suggested the same to Mr. Snell, to whom I have written about a trade he has made for me. I suppose neither you nor Mr. Snell could approach the city fathers with as much facility, as some one who has not stirred them up in the late discussions. Will you ascertain by such prudent means as occur to you, whether there will be any obstacle to my obtaining authority to the Collector to receive these coupons for taxes. Dr. Gorham owns two of the Bonds and wants to pay his taxes with the taxes.”

“Should it be advisable to modify [the] proposed action in regard to Chapman, feel at liberty to propose anything.”

“An early answer will oblige Yours truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

12 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to F.B. Gardner & Co. “Your favor of the 2nd inst. is at hand. I regret that any creditors should interpose to prevent the cancelling of your assignment. With such a large balance of assets over liabilities, you have an adequate and controlling motive, for your own sakes, to manage your business in the best possible manner; and your ability to manage your business, without the help, or rather hindrance of an assignee, much better than with him, must be apparent to any man. I therefore should urge every creditor, whom I might

see, to acquiesce in your demand for time, and agree, as I did agree, and am willing again to agree, that the assignment be cancelled.”

“If any new phase takes place in your business, please notify me of it. Would it be practicable for you, without the cancelling of the assignment, to give me security, if I would give you time? Yours truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

13 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to ?. “My dear sir: I was at Concord, at the Convention, and had some private conversations with my friends, in regard to the action of the Legislature in June next. I heard that an outside pressure is to be brought to bear, to silence home competition – that Burlingham and the Kansas delegate, in particular, are already engaged for that service. I think it is safe to let N. Hamp. do as she thinks best in this matter, and I want some body to let those men know, that their service here will be unfavorably regarded, and not help them, nor profit us. With one other man I was instrumental in sending a company of 33 immigrants to Kansas, in the hour of their greatest need, and raised money to support them and others in their darkest distress. I shall not expect the first fruits of victory there, to be bitter to me, unless I am resisted [?] “to love the Country.” I also hear the West is relied upon, to make a demand, at the right time, for the present incumbent. Can you ascertain how E.B. Washburn of Ills. will stand affected? He was once my partial friend. He has influence on the Republican Organs of the West. I am told that Mr. Cragin is not unfriendly to me. Can you find out? Mr. Tappan has thought no change could be made, with safety to the country and the human race. He may have partially recovered from this delusion. I should be sorry to have Mr. Pike institute a correspondence at home, to influence our legislature, but have some apprehensions, on account of the attempt that I am satisfied will be made to induce him to do it.”

“Your friendly purposes toward myself, of long standing, make me write this to you. Excuse the liberty I take, in seeming to tax your friendship further, and writing me soon believe me, as ever, Very truly, your Friend Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

15 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to P. H. Townsend. “Dear Brother: Mrs. Taylor having written us that you have been attending conventions, with ragged pants, we are stirred up to send you some money, lest you suffer, both in person and reputation. We want you, now that Kansas is likely to fall into the hands of the Free States’ men, to be a respectfully dressed citizen, so as to be in the line of promotion. I will make a statement of your affairs, that you may know how you stand.”

“I sold your stock for you on the 4th May 1857 for \$2411.50, as per Broker’s bill sent you herein. (In my letter to you of Ap. 30/57, I spoke of receiving ‘say 2450’ for your stock, but when the bill came, I found it as now sent you.) On the 1st May I sent you \$150 in a draft, requesting a note sent back to me, for enough to cover the \$150 draft and the balance between what your stock bro’t, (2411.50, thought then to be \$2450) and the cost of 3 Watertown Bonds, \$2550, being a supposed [sp.?] balance of \$100. But you sent me a note for \$200 which was too much by $(2550 - 2411.50 = 138.50 + 150 = 288.50)$ \$88.50. On the 2nd July, I wrote you, stating

there was due on your \$200 note a balance of \$126.60. To this add the foregoing error, \$88.50, and it makes the sum of \$215.10, which you owed me July 2, 1857.”

“On my last journey to Chicago I sold the 3 Watertown Bonds, on 4th November, to James J. Rees, taking his note at 10 per ct. int., (semi-an.), giving him ten years to pay in, his note secured by real estate. I have taken his note for \$2000, endorsed it myself, and lodged it with the Academy, as collateral, and to pay your note to them for \$2000. I am to account to you for \$550 besides this \$2000 note, that is for \$850 for each of your 3 bonds, making \$2550 in all. As I have derived no interest from Rees, on the Bonds, and the interest on his note when paid, will got to pay so much of your note to the Academy, I do not reckon int. on what you owe me, or on what is due you on the bonds. The amount due you then, in my hands, all told, is \$550, less \$215.10 which you owe me; -- equal to \$335. I send you \$35, and on receipt of it, I wish you to send me a receipt in full of all demands except \$300, and tell me what I better do with the \$300. If you can certainly keep it safe, at a high rate of interest, I will send it to you. But if you have any doubts, you better let it remain in my hands, as a reserve fund in case of exigency. This is now all your surplus. The Academy will let your note stand at 6 per ct., but they will receive 10 per ct. of Rees, and will endorse the difference from time to time, on your note. This will in the end pay you a sum on your \$2000 debt to the Academy. I suppose you understand that had the Galena & Co. stock you held in May, not been sold, it would now only pay, (24 shares at \$73 ½ = 1780 [sic]), only \$1740 – that is, \$260 less than your note to the Academy!! – thus making you, as to property, a great-deal below par.”

“This has been a business letter. I will say but little. I think the victory is nearly won in Kansas. Buchanan is about broke down. I will write soon again. All well and send love.”

“Yrs. aff. Amos Tuck”

[Marginal additions] “The January coupons on the Bonds have not been paid, and I would not like to buy them back of Rees for \$250 each.”

“I was obliged to give Rees ten yrs. in order to sell to him at all. I sold him 7 Watertown Bonds, and 13 Madison Bonds, all in one batch.”

“I will send the note I hold against you, on your sending me the receipt spoken of.”

[Correspondence Book]

15 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to D.R. Coit. “Your favor of the 10th inst. is at hand. I send you enclosed the two Bonds and Mortgages from Mr. Stevens to Dr. Gorham, and the letter sent me by Ex Gov. Farwell, at the time the loan for \$3000 was made. Your own good judgment must now dictate what is best to be done. The expense of Insurance here, will be quite heavy, and at present no insurance will be obtained. In the progress of foreclosure, if you find you can obtain additional and perfect security for the payment of Dr. G.’s debt, with regular semi-annual interest, and the expenses incurred, he will listen to such terms, but desires undoubted security. If he is forced to foreclose, he will, of course, wish to be profited beyond his debts, if he can be.”

“If the City do not satisfy the coupons I own, they must, of course, be sued. They are the Bonds issued to the Watertown & Madison R.R. I shall await your answer to my last, hoping to hear so as to have time to pay taxes before Feb. 1. Yours truly Amos Tuck”

[Correspondence Book]

20 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward J. Tinkham. “Yours of the 17th inst. came to hand last evening, as I returned home from Maine. I have paid what I could on the debts to the New market and Weare Banks, but am still heavily in debt to both banks, for the debts thrown upon me by your failure. I still owe the N. M. Bank for the \$1000 on the Bigelow note, which I gave up to you. I have relied on your assurance to pay that \$1000, and have given them assurance that the \$1000 shall be paid. I have not relied upon the Ackley notes, but upon you. One of them has been paid, and I see no way to dispense with the other \$500. If it be impossible for you to pay it here, and now, I want you to send me your note, for as short a time, as you find it possible to pay it in. I agreed with the N. Market Bk., when I took the Bigelow note, that I would get the money for it, and use for no purpose but to pay them. You know why I gave it to you, and I can say no more.”

“In regard to the Chicago City Bonds, you must know I cannot obtain one of them, without paying the full value. I am closing my labors, as an officer of the Weare Bank, and there is due on the \$5000 [sp.?] note to them, more than the amt. of collateral. I shall be glad to see you, and if not, to hear immediately. Yrs. truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

20 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John L. Dearborn. “I have just received your favor of the 15th inst. enclosing a draft for \$508.75, paid on one of the Ackley notes. Mr. Tinkham has written me, from Concord, N.H. that he shall not be able to send me the amt. of the other, at maturity. You can retain it, till further requested. In your next, please [sp.?] state what is thought of Ackley’s eventual solvency.”

“Give my respects to your father, if he is in Chicago. I know of no news here, except that we have secured a new minister at our parish, who bids fair to make his mark in Exeter. The weather still remains charming, though it is colder, which makes a great increase of pleasure to the boys by providing abundant ice. Yrs, truly Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

20 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Henry O. Kent. “Dear sir: I hoped to see you again at Concord, and to converse further with you, as I did with my friend Chase.”

“I will make arrangements to leave home, Saturday the 20th February, arriving at Littleton the same evening, prepare to spend the subsequent week in your County, at such points as you may have determined. It would be my desire to be able to leave for home, the next Saturday morning, unless special occasion required me to stay two days longer, which would be the limit of time I could spare. When your arrangements are completed, I shall of course hear from you. In the mean time, I remain, Yours very truly, Amos Tuck” [Correspondence Book]

20 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to H.B. Goodrich. "Your favor of 16th inst. is at hand. When Mr. Palmer arrives home, he will, no doubt, deliver me the draft, explanation, etc. Correct the error in interest, as you propose. Rest entirely secure as to my observing the necessary caution, about embarrassing you with your other friends. Beyond what knowledge Mr. Palmer may have, no person shall know enough of our relations, to say ought to encumber or perplex you. You intend to do right, I know; and your other friends must see you have done what you could to serve them. Besides intending, I believe you will do right, and have done right. I appreciate it, and to say the very least, you shall not be damaged by me. I trust your business progresses to your satisfaction, and that the spring will bring us all out, 'right side up with care [sp.?].' Yours truly, Amos Tuck" [Correspondence Book]

20 January 1858: HFF (Dover) to BBF. "Tell Frank we hope to see him at Exeter before he sets in at Cambridge. He will need a little of my advice about his studies before commencing. Tell him Miss Tuck has evidently forgotten all about him, for I could not get her to ask me a question about him, tho' she seemed quite interested in everybody else!..."

"I suppose Brown will be gone when this arrives. I have not seen him since my return from Europe, and wanted to stay at W. a week with him. People are talking pretty strongly of Tuck for Senator, and I think his chance as good as anybody. The Republicans must carry this State strongly, I think, in March. Hale's friends are numerous, but rotation is against him."

[FFP Reel 11]

20 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to "County Treasurer, Crawford County, Wis." "Sir: I own the following lands in Crawford County, and wish to pay the taxes upon them. Please to inform what is the amount, and whether a draft for the sum, drawn by a New England (Solvent) Bank, on a Bank in Boston, can be used to pay the same, and if a premium on such a draft will pay you for your trouble, and if not what will, and oblige Yrs. respectfully Amos Tuck"

"Description"

E. ½ S.W. ¼ S. 19. T. 9.	N. 3 W.	80 acres
S.E. ¼ of N.W. ¼ S. 19.	do.	40
E. ½ of N.E. ¼ S. 6 T. 9	do.	81 11/100
N. ½ S.E. ¼ S. 3 T. 7	R. 5 W.	80
S.E. ¼ N.E. ¼ do.	do.	40
S.W. ¼ S.W. ¼ S. 6 T. 7	do.	40
E. ½ N.W. ¼ S. 4 do.	do.	80
S.E. ¼ N.E. ¼ do.	do.	40
S.E. ¼ S.W. ¼ S. 3	do.	40
E. ½ S.W. ¼ S. 2	do.	80
S.W. ¼ S.E. ¼ do.	do.	40
N.E. ¼ N.W. ¼ S. 8	do.	40
N.W. ¼ N.E. ¼	do.	<u>40</u>

721 11/100"

[Correspondence Book]

20 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Amos Nudd. "Dear sir: I own the following land in Richland County, on which I want to pay the taxes. Let me know how much the tax is, (last year it was a little above \$3), and how I shall remit it. Also give me some idea of the value of the land, giving long time to pay for it in, with semi-annual interest, at ten per ct. pr. annum."

"A genial winter blesses us, so far, here, and I learn you are equally favored west. I may go into your region in the Spring, and if so, shall try your latch string. Exeter is dull, and no prospect for much change. I suppose money is not a drug even in Rich land Centre. I congratulate you in having entered a business, I should judge you to be well adapted to, and shall rejoice in all success that shall attend you. I will on further thought, send you on another piece of paper a list of some lands I own in Crawford County, in order to enquire, whether you know anything of their value, and can aid me in selling them on a long credit. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck"

"Richland County

W. ½ of S.W. ¼ S. 36 T. 10 N. of R.2.W	80
S.E. ¼ of S.W. ¼ do.	<u>40</u>
	120 a.

Crawford County

E. ½ S.W. ¼ S. 19. T. 9. N.3.W.	80 acres
S.E. ¼ of N.W. ¼ S. 19 do.	40
E. ½ of N.E. ¼ S. 6. T. 9. do.	81 11/100
N. ½ of S.E. ¼ S. 3. T. 7. R.5.W.	80
S.E. ¼ of N.E. ¼ do.	40
S.W. ¼ of S.W. ¼ Sec. 6. T. 7. R.5.W.	40
E. ½ N. ¼ Sec. 4 do.	80
S.E. ¼ N.E. ¼ do.	40
S.E. ¼ of S.W. ¼ Sec. 3 [do.]	40
E. ½ S.W. ¼ Sec. 2 [do.]	80
S.W. ¼ S.E. ¼ do.	40
S.E. ¼ of N.W. ¼ Sec. 8. do.	40
N.W. ¼ N.E. ¼ do.	<u>40</u>
	841 11/100

[Correspondence Book]

28 January 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to L.D. Mason. "Dear sir: Your favor is at hand. The circumstances you relate constitute the crime of forgery, punishable, as you know, on conviction, by confinement in the state's Prison. If you are positive in your recollection, and the appearance of the note tells the same thing you do, I see not how the offender can escape. You can institute

a prosecution. What ought you to do? If he is not an old offender, necessary for good morals and the safety of society, to be dealt with according to the severity of the law, I should recommend an effort to save him; -- to visit him, compel an acknowledgement of the crime, show him its magnitude, the gulph of ruin on which he has ventured, and the desire you have to save him, and his family, (if he have one), from dishonor and infamy, you may 'save a soul,' and merit the blessed reward of so doing. If you have doubts whether to be severe or merciful, err on the side of mercy, if at all. The odor of the State Prison will stick to a man and his posterity, and I would not inflict it, unless plain duty required me to do. Your own good head and heart will dictate, I doubt not, the best course to be pursued [sp.?]."

"I wanted to see you at the State Convention. I wanted to talk to you confidingly, but did not meet you. A future time will perhaps do as well. Should you come this way, come to my house and see me. The latch string will always be out for you. Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck"

[Correspondence Book]

28 February BBF notes: "Frank is preparing to leave for the Law school at Cambridge tomorrow morning. He came home Aug. 1 and has been studying with me ever since, and has made excellent progress. [FFP Reel 1]

March 1858: A printed circular letter from Exeter states:

"Dear Sir: I have determined to resume the general practice of my profession, attend the Courts, and give my attention exclusively to la business."

"It is my purpose particularly, to be present at Probate Courts, holden in Exeter, and assist all who may require my services there."

"I will give especial attention to the drawing of Wills, - the most important, and sometimes the most difficult of legal documents, to be expressed accurately."

"I can be consulted hereafter, at my office, (Rear Room of the late office of Stickney and Tuck,) where shall be glad to see my former clients and others, and assist those who are in the law, to get out of it, and those who are out to keep out."

"Yours Respectfully, Amos Tuck" [Rauner Library, Tuck's alumni file]

March 1858: Amos Tuck elected President of the Weare Bank of Hampton Falls, N.H., upon the death of John B. Brown. Tuck remained President until some time in 1860, when a "new deal" was made and George H. Dodge replaced him. The bank was wound up with considerable loss to the share-holders when Dodge died in 1862. [pp. 332-4, History of the Town of Hampton Falls New Hampshire by Warren Brown (1900)]

3 March 1858: BBF (Washington) to HFF. "Frank left Monday morning for Cambridge...." [FFP Reel 5]

22 March 1858: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “You say Frank ought not to be admitted till he has studied a year with a practicing lawyer. That is exactly my view, and my intention. I told him that he must study a year at the Law School – then go into the office of a lawyer in full business and stay a year, and then he could begin to practice and study. If he lives and has his health he will make a fine lawyer and I am glad he has given the preference to that profession rather than to that of a teacher.” [FFP Reel 5]

23 March 1858: Tuck attended PEA Trustees’ meeting. Peabody reports that he informed the memorialists that there was no prospect of a majority of the trustees in favor of the admission of women. The memorialists preferred not to press the matter. Trustees decide to drop the issue. [pp. 373-4, PEA Trustees’ minutes not to be used without permission of the PEA Librarian]

26 April 1858: Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. “I wish you would write me your interior thoughts about this matter of the Senatorship. I am considerably inclined to think, that if I could defeat Mr. Hale, it would not be well for our cause to do it. I am resolved not to hazard, nor seem to hazard a particle of our strength as a Party, by any ambitions of my own. It is a little thing for me to abandon any half formed hope I ever entertained of becoming a Senator. Most people could not believe how easily I could give up the office even if it were within my reach. But I tell you, I can withdraw my name without lessening, and with a reasonable hope of increasing my cheerfulness and .comfort. But I doubt if I could defeat Hale if I would. If I should try and fail, I should be unjust to myself as well as to our cause, by taking the position I should then be in. If Hale were defeated, again, I don’t know what we should do with him. He is too good a man to be out of employment. Now I have been sometimes caustic on Hale, but never designedly unjust. I wish to judge him kindly and as a friend, and doing so, I do not feel sure we ought not to send him again to the Senate. If your mind inclines in the same direction quite strongly, say so to me plainly, and thus lay me under a new obligation. People have been to me who want to defeat Hale. I have never shown a soft side to any such, and shall not engage in any such enterprise. I have many friends who find it disagreeable to decide betwixt us. I wish to relieve such, if it is the course of duty or prudence to do it. If I withdraw, had you better mention it in your paper? I do not like to be regarded as a Candidate, when I am not, and have done nothing whatever to secure the office.

I write this to you and to you only. I am to answer soon whether I will or will not be a Candidate, and I want to answer emphatically, when I answer at all.

If I withdraw, I want it understood that I do so, without the least hope of any future office being given me. I need so such inducements to do right. Yours truly Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

9 May 1858: John P. Hale (Washington) to George G. Fogg. Hale asks Fogg for his views on whether Hale should run for re-election as Senator, noting that, while he does not wish to put his friends in a false position, he would like to be re-elected. He tells Fogg he has fairly good information on opinion around the state, except for Rockingham and Belknap counties.

Hale informs Fogg that he had just shared a letter with Mason W. Tappan which the latter thought he should share with Fogg. The letter, from John L. Carlton of Bath, related that Carlton had written an article commending Hale's public service, but avoiding explicit mention of Hale's possible re-election. The editor of the Littleton People's Journal had declined to print it, saying he "was under obligation either to remain perfectly silent on the subject of Senator, or to come out openly for Tuck." [NHHS, Hale Papers]

14 May 1858: Thomas L. Tullock (Portsmouth) to John P. Hale. Tullock informs Hale that Captain Goodwin and Mr. Emery would not run for senator, but that Tappan's name had been mentioned and that ex-governor Colby might get a few votes. "Mr. Tuck previous to the election appeared desirous to press his claim, but he is not active now. Many who would support Mr. Tuck, will vote for you. The two prominent candidates will be Mr. Edwards and yourself...."

[Hale Papers, NHHS]

17 May 1858: Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. "Mr. Hoyts letter does not convey the requests I had in mind, when I conversed with him in the hurry of Saturday. I therefore withdraw them, and choose that you write your article, uninfluenced by anything he has said. His letter seem to intimate that I want you to herald forth that I have found it difficult to resist the popular demand to make me a candidate. Such is not the fact, and if it were, I have no vanity to gratify, by promulgating it. What I have resisted, has been a request, that I resort to the usual methods of soliciting and consolidating support and organizing a party to attempt to secure my election. I have done nothing in the way of solicitation, directly or indirectly, and simply no not wish to be misunderstood. I have not entered the ring, and so do not want to appear as going out of the ring. You know my personal preferences between Edwards and Hale, but I do not propose to be placed to the advocacy of the one or the other, as it would damage myself and Mr. Hale too. The cry of bargain would be raised, and hostilities and jealousies engendered beyond a peradventure. Besides I do not intend to decline any voluntary votes that may be given me. But when the voluntary votes leave me, I have an interest in having them go to the right place, and have no doubt most of them will go to the support of Mr. Hale.

I did not like one clause in the Claremont article; but probably it will not be noticed by others. They say I recognize the claims of Chester County. That subject has not to my recollection, had my consideration. I would be glad to see every part of the State fairly dealt by, but I do not think the Rep. Party has succeeded to the debts of the Democracy nor that we should feel compelled to settle their local balances, before undertaking to do business on our own hook. I shall not allow them to rank me as one who chooses Edwards instead of Hale, and I can readily see that if I take public ground for Hale in preference to Edwards, I incur Edward's hostility and that of his zealous friends. I do not choose, therefore, in the Newspapers, to be claimed as a Hale man, or Edwards' man. Personally Hale even, has no claim to marshall me into line for him, and I shall not have a temptation even, with my views of the political plans now forming in the State, to take grounds for Edwards.

Perhaps the reasons of my suggestions to Mr. Hoyt to write you, were about all embraced in this:

I have appreciated highly your personal choice hitherto, and I desired it should peep out in yr. coming editorial. I have felt that I could enjoy self-complacent pleasure, among my friends, and could hold up my head in the State when it was known, as it is to some extent, that Horace Greeley, Mr. George G. Fogg & some others of that character who know me intimately, judged me so kindly, that they prefer me to the Candidates now uppermost. Yet you cannot avow that preference perhaps and if the good of the cause demands it, I am willing not to seem before the public, ever to have had your preference. Yours faithfully, Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

19 May: Tuck makes his last entry into the “Bell & Tuck Account Book” showing a payment of \$50.00 to Tuck “per receipt” from James Bell’s Estate (S.N. Bell, administrator). Tuck appears to have paid this money back to the estate after collecting it from one of Bell’s debtors, going back to 1849 (note pasted in the book, dated 19 May 1858). [Account Book, 1838-1849]

23 May 1858: HFF (Exeter) to Elizabeth French. “We have been hoping to see Frank. He said he should come in his leisure between the 20th and 30th, but has probably gone to Peekskill to see Ellen instead.” [FFP Reel 11]

6 June 1858: Edward Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “Dear Sister: I have broken my promise about writing to you, as usual, but I have been to Boston as I suppose you know, and did not have much chance to write you from there. I had a nice time at Mr. D.’s going over the city, just where I wanted to and got so that I knew the way all around. I met Stuart up there one day, and he and I went around together and saw the elephant generally, over to Bunker Hill Monument, the State House, etc., and in the evening to the theatre. While I was there I saw the Turkish Admiral and another nigger of the same tribe with him.”

“While I am writing, father and mother are in the front doorway and Laura is running on the Bricks. Mr. Lamphear has not got well enough to preach yet, but persists in getting somebody to preach for him. It has been very hot to day, hotter I think than any day before.”

“John Cilley told me to tell you that he wanted you to be sure to come home so as to go to Cambridge on commencement, (spelling) but I told him that 6 weeks = 10 weeks, and one to carry makes 11, in girls arithmetic.”

“I am going to the monthly concert to-night, and ought to write to Sim. Leavitt, but am afraid that I shall not have time.”

“I am at work most of the day hoeing and some thing and another so that the only times I have to write is in the evening, except Sundays, when I want to go down town.”

“I went over to Sam Dow’s house the other day and got a young crow, whose appetite is better than his smell. His meals are as follows: in the morning at 8 o’clock 1 ear of corn 8 angle-worms, 3 dung-hill worms, 1 pint of water turned down his throat, beside extras such as flies, spiders and bumble bees. This is done 4 times per day. He is not troubled with costiveness nor

dyspepsia, swallowing his food whole and sometimes allowing his 'live stock' to crawl down his throat. Sam Dow is a brother to Edna Dow, the dress-maker, and lives over 3 miles out of town."

"But as it is time to go to Church I will 'knock off' with much love to Abby, Nelly and a good share for 'Sim.' Your unconverted brother Ned"

"P.S. I don't have time to copy this." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 June 1858: William E. Chandler (Concord) to F.O.J. Smith. Chandler reported that the bill regarding extension of telegraph lines in NH has gone to the Committee on Railroads. WEC asked for Smith's instructions. [Chandler Papers, NHHS]

13 June 1858: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. "You have Senator Hale again, just as I expected! You need not speak of his being under obligations to me. He worked right into Gov. Metcalf just at the right time, with Mr. Christie and Clark and made him understand the importance of appointing me judge, after Mr. Tuck had given it up and came home! I don't forget that, tho' I could not do anything for him against Tuck. I think the people are better satisfied with Hale's re-election than they would have been with any other man. But let the politics be." [FFP Reel 11]

16 June 1858: BBF (Washington) to HFF. BBF refers to his good long letter regarding his preferences for Senator. "Well, inasmuch as our friend Hale is re-elected, and, so far as I am concerned has behaved very well heretofore, we will obliterate the contents of that letter touching Senator, and set it down in our memories to a small bust of feeling because Russell did not get a place that Hale could have given him! I was vexed."

"Senator [Daniel] Clark and family left previous Monday morning. They had apparently been staying with the French family for the previous two months. Clark "is a man of fine abilities, and if he can have his health, will make his mark in the Senate." [Clark, born in Stratham, attended Hampton Academy and was one class ahead of Tuck at Dartmouth.]

"I intend to take hold of our Republican Association here strong next fall, and see if I cannot earn some place, when that party comes into power, as they must soon. They are perfectly certain, I think of the next House of Representatives." [FFP Reel 5]

12 July: Tuck attended PEA trustees meeting.

3 August 1858: The Vermont Chronicle reported on the Dartmouth Commencement. Salmon Chase presided over the alumni dinner. Those present included John Hale of NH, Emory Washburn of Mass., President White of Wabash College, John Wentworth of Chicago, William Evarts of New York, Amos Tuck of NH. Chase was also on the committee to raise funds for an alumni hall. [Provided by Walter Stahr]

25 August: BBF is visiting Exeter. “Last Tuesday evening ‘The Conversation Club’ met at the Judge’s, and Mr. Cole read the ‘nameless magazine.’ It took about an hour, and was admirably got up by him. There was quite a concourse of people present, and all seemed to be pleased. It took so long to read the magazine, and there was so much discussion on business matters, that no question was discussed. The collation of ice cream and cake was partaken at about 10 p.m. and about 11 all left. Mr. Tuck told me that J.G. Whittier was in town, and had been at his house. I expressed a desire to form his acquaintance, and Mr. Tuck promised to go with me to his Hotel in the morning – so at 8 yesterday morning I walked over to Mr. T’s and he went with me to the Squamscott House, where Mr. W. stopped. He had just left, for Mrs. Chadwick’s to accompany his sister, who was staying there, about town. We went there and saw him and his Sister. I had a talk of perhaps 20 minutes with him, and I found him just what I expected, a plain gentlemanly man with a heart full of the milk of human kindness. We talked of politics – of poetry – of Mr. Giddings, of Doct. Bailey, of the Atlantic Magazine, of trees etc. etc. And we went out and measured the stump of an elm trunk that some vandal had cut down last year, in Mrs. Chadwick’s yard for fear it would fall on the house! [passage on the tree] I enjoyed my call on Mr. W. exceedingly.” [FFP Reel 2]

1 September 1858: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “...Yesterday, Fanny took the horse and carryall and carried Nell Tuck, Jenny James and John Cilley to the beach, and got back at half past nine.” [FFP Reel 11]

10 September 1858: BBF journal item: “Yesterday I finished up an article in rhyme for my friend Hon. A. Tuck for the next Nameless Magazine and made two fair copies of it one for him and one for myself. And this morning I rose early and wrote a letter to Mr. Tuck and one to Judge French before breakfast.” [FFP Reel 2]

10 September 1858: BBF (Lancaster, Mass.) to HFF. “I have written something for the next nameless [magazine], and enclose it, directed to Mr. Tuck. I want you to read it and tell me whether it will do. After reading it please seal the letter and send it to Mr. Tuck – he is probably away. I have no objection to your showing it to your family if you choose to do so, but don’t let any one out of it see it.” [FFP Reels 5 and 9]

13 September 1858: Amos Tuck (Madison, Wisconsin) to Ellen Tuck. “I wrote this morning to Ned and your mother, and will now write a few lines to go by to-morrow’s mail to you. I have been looking over the securities of my friends about Madison, most of the days being in company with Mr. Snell, who has been employed by us to attend to the business. I think, if my friends will be patient every thing will come out right. Though some aspects are discouraging, and there is a great amount of rascality among leading men, I am yet encouraged, on the whole, and disposed to believe things will come more satisfactorily here, as well as at Chicago, than I have been apprehending. Of course I lose money, but I hope less than I fear, and what is about as important for my happiness, my friends have prospects in the end of losing less than I feared, if anything. Don’t speak of what I write out of the family.”

“People call on me quite attentively and treat with satisfactory and even flattering consideration. I speak of people who don’t appear to have any selfish objects in view. The city is delightful, and I find there is substance to things here as at the east. It will be but a short time before eastern men will be sending their money freely to the west.”

“The young people here ride horseback a good deal, and I see often parties of young men and women. Dress is extravagant and private dwellings of the first class, ostentatious and expensive. Many private houses here cost from 12 to \$20,000, and one not less than \$40,000. Monuments [of] folly, all of them that cost over \$7 or 800\$”

“I intend to write your mother to-morrow. I am interested in her letters very much, and glad that she tells you all that occurs. It was horrible that Geo. Noble was bitten by the dog. I should tremble lest hydrophobia be the result.”

“I wish you and your mother would often walk to the farm together.”

“Write to me, dear Ellen, at Chicago, where perhaps my letters had all better go for the future till I go home.”

“With love to you, mother and Ned, I am your affectionate father Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

18 September 1858: Amos Tuck (Faribault, Minnesota) to Catherine P. Tuck: “My Dear Wife: I arrived here last evening, at 6 o’clk and it is now 6 ½ o’clock Saturday morning. The mail will leave at 7, and I can do little but announce my safe arrival, my good health, and my expectations to leave here Monday morning. This place lies 50 miles west of the Mississippi River, leaving the river at Hastings, 25 miles below St. Paul. The country is very beautiful and fertile, and I am charmed with its attractiveness in the vicinity of this place. There is about 1500 people here, I judge, and almost purely eastern people. The Houses are small but comfortable, and I have had a good bed and room, and shall be comfortable, I doubt not, while here.”

“I came here to look after about \$2000 due me on a note against Batchelder and Turner, taken from Geo. S. Nichols of Davenport whom I expected to find here. But he has departed, and is probably at Davenport. Batchelder is a lawyer and has some property, besides what he mortgaged to secure the note, and I rather think I shall get the money in the end. But I may have to go to Davenport, to obtain N.’s assignment of the mortgage to secure me. I am going to do what I can to-day, to manage my business quietly with Batchelder and Turner, so that they will not impede my enforcement of my debt, and then, if necessary go to Davenport. I could easily become impatient under the necessity of bobbing round in this manner, but I am patient, and feel that if I can make my property secure by the sacrifice of being away from home, (where my heart always is – at home, I mean, not away)), I ought to be patient indeed. I will write you to-morrow morning, as they have no Sunday this side of the Mississippi, (in stage routes), and I can send my letter to Hastings. But I will remain till Monday.”

“I had my clothes washed at Madison and am well supplied.”

“The weather is charmingly genial. A late rain has laid the dust, and it is comfortable travelling. Potatos are 25 cts a bushel Oats 40 and corn 80, and these high prices bring money into the state to a moderate amount. But business is dull. Read my letter to Ellen and Ned.”

“Your loving faithful husband Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

18 September 1858: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “...Your poetry for Tuck is excellent. It probably will not come out for three weeks or more. Tuck is still at the West.” [FFP Reel 11]

13 October 1858: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “...Mr. Tuck brings me the pleasing intelligence that there is an adverse tax title to two of the three lots mortgaged to me in Madison to secure \$3000 – and that is all I know about it, tho’ I gave him my papers when he went, and told him I would pay him for looking after the matter. He made the loan for me, and I took his opinion of the security without examination. Do you know anybody in Madison who is reliable, who will look after my matters there. Tuck has a contingent interest in my securities, as he has conveyances from Fenwell of the equities of redemption in all the estate mortgaged to us, and I think it is time I should look to my own interests.” [FFP Reel 11]

21 October 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Governor Salmon P. Chase. “Your cordial letter of the 12th inst. was very welcome, as well to Mrs. Tuck as to myself. Be assured, the renewal of our former acquaintance, and even the brief visit you and your daughter were so kind to give us, afforded us much satisfaction, and will be long remembered by us with pleasure. In regard to our being in Columbus, we cannot indulge in hopes at present, but believe the time may come, when we can take your home into our range of western travels, which we shall not fail to do, when at all practicable.”

“I have been to Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota on business, and returned two weeks ago. I took occasion to feel the pulse of people where I went, regarding the direction our next presidential nomination must take. I believe that at this time there is a manifest tendency, not yet spoke to any considerable extent, to taking any candidate from Ohio. There are mercenary politicians in all parts of the country, who are unwilling any man shall stand out beyond all others as the candidate, till they can make their peace with the candidate, or be persuaded his elevation will help them. Such men restrain an outspoken preference, which is of course unfavorable to immediate prominence, but will not be unfavorable to ultimate success. I think there is but one man among the prominent statesmen of the country, who, on account of location, past history and experience, and general qualifications, is at all likely to present the qualities that will be wanted, and will be demanded for the next Pres. Term. We must have a man whose name will inspire sincere believers, and not repel the cold blooded, speculative politicians of the Republican Party. We shall want a man who is known to be, not wanting in the suaviter in modo, and perfectly prepared to practice, when necessary, the fortiter in re. I believe the fullness of time will soon have come, when Providence will allow us to exhibit to the Southern States, and to the world, what a blessing upon our country, a Republican President, and a Republican

Administration can confer. We have not till now, been prepared by necessary previous experience, but it seems to me, we may now reach forth and possess the blessing, for the next Term of our President.”

“New York cannot come into the ring for the prize. There is no public sentiment, that I can discover, in that direction. The course of things in N. York this Fall will not help them, while Ohio has already shown what she can do, under her present lead. My opinion is very strong, that your cause cannot be working better, than it is now doing. Reasoning upon the subject on different hypotheses, and from different points of view, brings people out to one and the same conclusion. Economy, reform, revenue, freedom, location, all are discussed favorably to a desired conclusion. Character, scholarship, morality, religion, are referred to, by men of power, as likely to help, and important to be looked at. The country cannot be thrown into a phrensy again, by a romantic candidate.”

“N. Hamp. will be all right – at all times. It is not certain who will be our candidate for Congress in this Dist. Mr. Hoyt is thought of for the nomination, but is opposed by Mr. Marston. I will soon send you some of our papers.”

“Mrs. Tuck with Ellen desire to be remembered to yourself and daughter, while with regards to Mrs. Chase, I remain very truly yr. friend, Amos Tuck”

[Salmon P. Chase Papers, LC]

21 November 1858: Tuck (Island Pond, Vermont) writes to Ned (Pointe aux Trembles, Montreal) that he had arrived the night before...”feeling almost sick...now I feel quite free from rheumatism and quite well. I have been to church twice to-day, and taken a long walk, and written to Abby and Ellen, describing my visit to Pointe aux Trembly.” He plans to visit Biddeford on his way home and perhaps to hire a carriage to see your “uncle Jonathan”. He will meet Ned’s mother in Biddeford. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 2]

21 November 1858: Amos Tuck (Island Pond, Vermont) to Abby Nelson and Ellen Tuck. “I have left Ned at Point aux Trembles, and have made progress homeward, as far as this place, which is ½ way from Montreal to Portland, where the trains lie over every night and from Sat. eve. to Monday morning.”

“Ned finds at Mr. Roux’s three other boys, one, Mr. Tyler’s boy, of about same age with himself, another a cousin to the Tyler boy, a son of Prof. Tyler of Amherst College, and the other, a boy from Montreal. The Tyler boy first mentioned, remembered you (Abby) at Pittsfield, and even me. He is as tall, wears a coat, though he is not more than 2/3 as heavy as Ned, and looks dwarfish. He is pretty bright, but too talkative and mature altogether. Ned and I called him box [sp.?]. The son of Prof. Tyler, of same age, I liked better. The Montreal boy I don’t think much of, though he is kindly disposed. He chews tobacco. Mr. Roux is a missionary, and a pure minded Christian, I think. His wife is a Canadian, but a good motherly woman, I think. They have 4 children, from 6 yrs. down to nothing – or say 6 mos.”

“I left Ned in good spirits yesterday morning at 8 o’clock. I bought him all he thought he wanted, for comfort or luxury, and at Montreal yesterday, made a bundle containing French

Bible, French Dictionary, Chapsal's [sp.?] Fr. Grammar, (all French), 3 lbs. of fancy crackers, 1 lb. sultana raisins, 6 lbs. sperm candles, a candlestick, paper etc. and sent him. E has a large room, and he took pride, I saw, in arranging all his things [half a page cut out]...."

"...boots coming above his knees etc. – He is well rigged out. I felt bad at leaving him, and at the bottom of my heart was sorry I had taken him so far away. But I, to-day, think he will be happy there, and it may be best for him to be there. Other boys go away to school - as far. But I was low in spirits, when I left him, because I was not in good health. I was taken with rheumatism before I rose in the morning – in my shoulder and it made me feel sick, till to-day. I am well [other side of cut-out page]...."

"...also your mother, some wristings lined mittens, a pair of white knitted gloves. Ned's address is 'care of Rev. Ch. Roux, Pointe aux Trembles, pres de Montreal, Canada East.'"

"He will write you soon. I may go home to-morrow, or I may stop at Biddeford, and go thence to Effingham, to return the Wed. Eve. to meet your mother then to spend Thanksgiving."

"Don't let Frank, (Ellen), write too many letters, nor involve himself and you in too much courtship – for his and your good."

"I feel assured of your love ardent and true, for me, my dear daughters, and with constant and unchanging affectionate [love], I remain your loving father, Amos Tuck."

[P.S.] "I have Ned's daguerrotype, and will send it to you in the course of a week. I don't wish to trust it from here." [Amos Tuck and Family, FFP, LC]

21 November 1858: HFF (Ossipee) to BBF. "...I have advised Frank to accept the office of Librarian at Cambridge and stay another year."

"Ellen's grandfather, Nudd, recently died, and Tuck's children will inherit nine or ten thousand dollars, which will help Ellen's prospects some. I see by a paper today that the Iowa R.R. has collapsed, and our friend Jones has resigned, and that those rascals to whom he promised about \$700,000 won't get a cent!" [FFP Reel 11]

23 November 1858: Tuck did not attend the PEA Trustees' meeting.

24 November 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tuck writes to Ned in Montreal expressing concern about his situation. "I came home sooner than I intended not stopping, except one night at Biddeford, because of the driving storm, which prevented me going to Effingham, and would prevent our having a good Thanksgiving at B__. We shall go there in a few weeks. I found your mother in good spirits, but worn out by house cleaning. Mrs. Taylor is here....Mrs. Hough died Monday....Examination was yesterday. Wentworth's examination was said to be better than that room has ever before presented." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 2]

28 November 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "My dear Ned, Pointe aux Tremblay, Pres de Montreal – you were to write to me last Wednesday....Yet it is now Sunday and I hear not yet from you. Mr. Melcher says, Montreal letters are often sent, not by Portland, but the other way, when they go to Boston....I have before written you since my return, and so

need not tell you when I returned home....It was disagreeable enough when I was there to be sufficiently cold for all useful purposes, but then there was little ice. There is little snow here, not enough for sleighing, though I took your mother and Mrs. Taylor to Church in a sleigh last Thursday, which was Thanksgiving Day. Hathaway Parker is about home, and his father seems proud of him. His father went to New Market with me yesterday and when talking about college life, I told him to give Hawthorn good advice, about the bad course which some boys took in college, and that a young man must steel his face against every vice, if he would make himself a man....” Parker agreed and told Tuck he had promised his son Hawthorn a share in the rail road if he did not smoke. “I did not intimate to him that he had been so dishonorable to break his promise, because I promised you not to say anything. But I felt bad, that Mr. P., now sick and growing old, should not have one upright, manly boy, to cheer him. I felt thankful that my son, thus far, has given me no pain by vicious tendencies, and that I have every reason to believe his heart, head and habits are all sound.” Tells bad news of the two other Parker boys. “Frank French is at Henry’s, keeping Thanksgiving. He is an amiable fellow, but I don’t approve of spending so much time in idleness. I have not heard from Ellen or Abby this week. Mr. Hoyt has not yet a decided answer from St. Louis. He is now absorbed in Politics. The meeting to choose delegates to attend the Convention which shall nominate a Mem. Cong. is to be held next Wednesday at the Town Hall. Hoyt and Marston will measure strength then. I fear Marston has hired [?] enough to give him the delegates from Exeter. Charles Gill has been at home for the 3 days succeeding Thanksgiving. He has a Raglan, and looks wise, as the travelled monkey in the picture, but lacks the healthy expression which he lost by over study. John Cobbs is wandering about the streets. So Dan Conner, etc. etc. I was at Hampton Friday. John is to lay the will before the Judge of Probate in Jan. and try to prove that his father did not erase his name, and that consequently it is a good will. I see no reason to believe he can prove any such thing, but told him, if he had such suspicions about him, he better try the question, and have it settled as soon as possible.”

“We have our double windows about all on, and the house cleaned and comfortable. The stove being up in the parlor. Barny has banked up the watering trough at the farm, stuffed in corn husks between the vault and our kitchen cellar, closed up the chinks about the cow yard, and fortified for winter. We are now ready for snow. I shall have our sleigh painted, and everything ready for enduring winter.”

“Your mother has enquired the particulars of your success in entering college, and your situation at Pointe, and been pleased at every thing which pleased me, in regard to you. When ten weeks more have passed she as well as I shall be delighted to see you at home. You must be a little dull and homesick I fear; but endure it bravely, my son, and you will be soon away from foreign accent and a strange dwelling and be again with me at home. I think much about you and shall be anxious till I have a letter, and after that, till I have another.”

Tell Mr. Roux that his letter to me came in two days, but that yours do not reach me. Perhaps you should put on “U.States”, or “by way of Grand Trunk R.R.” (in French), or add something, which you have not, to get the letter sent quick.

“If anything should happen, a telegraphic dispatch in few words, could be sent to me from Montreal. I forgot to say this to you, when I was with you.”

“Present my regards to Mr. + Mrs. Roux + family.”

Postscript – “I send your gratifying Bill for last term here.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 2]

28 November 1858: Tuck not present at PEA trustees.

29 November 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Abby Nelson and Ellen Tuck. “I am just about starting for Seabrook and Portsmouth, on business respecting the estate, and shall write you only briefly. John Nudd and Willard have been induced to undertake to prove the Will of their father, of course assuming the task of proving that his name was erased without his own knowledge. They suspect Caroline, as I think without cause. The trial will come off the 2nd Tuesday of January – before Mr. Stickney, as Judge of Probate. From him, either side can appeal to a higher Court, and if such appeal is taken, it will consume years to decide whether the Will shall stand or not. I hope, however, the thing will become so plain in January, that there will be no appeal. But Marston will make all the law out of it, he can, and if Willard is fool enough to follow his advice, the matter will be protracted indefinitely. John’s lawyer is Hackett, and he will act for John’s benefit, or as he thinks for his benefit, and he may control Marston. I will see, my dears, to your interests, and of course, defend them as well as I can.”

“We did not make our visit at Biddeford as expected, and I came directly home to Thanksgiving. We shall go there before long, and I and Laura, go to Eff. at [the] same time.”

“I do not yet obtain a letter from Ned, and have no doubt there is some error of the mails, for my son would not omit to write on Wednesday, as he engaged. I have no reason to think he may not be in good condition, but not hearing, I feel anxious. We are going on quite comfortably here. Frank came here Wednesday. He has been here, (at our house) twice, for some time, but I was not in, and have seen him only for a few minutes and in the streets.”

“I have had a letter from William, who tells me he shall be home in a few days. I hope he will have received a letter from me, on his return, at Chicago, to do for me some business, Mr. Goodrich could not do, on acct. of sickness of his wife.”

“In haste most affect. Yr. Father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

3 December 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. He is concerned that Ed is not being fed properly. If he cannot get Mr. Roux to give him more and better food, “then quit the establishment and come home....I value the start you will get in French in 9 weeks, which is the time I have paid for, but I do not value it so highly, as I do your health and growth....Give Mr. Roux fair notice before you take any decisive step, so that he may have opportunity to change; then understand that you have full liberty from me to do what your judgment dictates.

News about Mrs. Gough’s death and that of one of the Giddings twins.

“The caucus has been held in Exeter, and Marston delegates to the Congressional Convention have been chosen against Mr. Hoyt – 243 to 168. Mr. H. feels much chagrined, and is in a state of mind to accept the offer at St. Louis, if he can obtain it. He has had sent to him \$75 to pay his expenses, and will go to St. Louis to show himself, and to view the place, starting

a week from today. If he goes, he will have a place to fill, by his side, a Professorship, which he will give to some of his former pupils/graduates.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 2]

7 December 1858: Tuck (Exeter) to Fogg. “Confidential - Friend Fogg, I see but little prospect of harmony in the District. Such extreme measures are resorted to by Marston’s friends, it is impossible for any one who did not vote for him, to live at peace with him. He and his hired men attack every opponent, accuse them of lying about Marston, when Marston himself knows, that no stories have yet done justice to his uniform hostility towards all antislavery men. It is of no use to undertake to arrest the fever; it must have its run. His majority of 76 in this Town, was in part obtained by Irish Democratic voters, who went into the Repub. Caucus, and voted, by invitation and procurement of his friends. The rum holes were all in his interest, with free liquor for all. It is of no use to try to elect Gilman Marston. Hoyt cares nothing, comparatively, for his own nomination, but he will die game in an encounter, which he believes involves his principles and his political faith. Hoyt can step out of Exeter Academy, into a higher position than member of Congress, and needs not to beg, and will not beg for office.

I have tried to be out of this fight but it would not be allowed. I shall not pull off my coat in it, but I make no secret of my sympathy with Mr. Hoyt and my opposition to the ascendancy of those men, like Lovering, Marston, etc. whom Knothingism, not merit, has thrown for a while upon the surface. I act with a strong desire to preserve the party, and shall make any honorable sacrifice of feeling. I do not often express myself so plainly as in this letter; but it is right you should know my feelings. I am aware of the view most people would take of my personal interests. But I am antislavery, and I shall do such, and only support men who love our cause. I hate bought up popularity, and I despise the men who seek a position and reputation they do not deserve. Your truly Amos Tuck

[P.S.] Every Hoyt man was excluded being a delegate to any one of the 5 conventions. They purpose [?] not to trust such men as supported Hoyt in any position, however humble. We will see.

[P.P.S.] Excuse this ½ sheet. I did not expect to write 5 lines, when I began.”

[Fogg Papers, NHHS]

8 December 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “I have been anxious about you, but such was the style and spirit of your last two letters, I have been considerably relieved....is your appetite good(1), can you get enough to eat(2), can you eat it(3), do you sleep well(4), are you happy(5), and do you begin to understand spoken French(6)? Answer these six items of enquiry when next you write....I was at Boston, yesterday, at the Dudleys. They enquired particularly after you. So John Hodgdon writes, that they want to know how Ned likes in Canada....”

“I go to Hampton often. Hope the estate will be settled without too much trouble, though John is going to try to prove the will to have been erased by Caroline, and so a good will. He will fail, I am confident.”

“...I can expect only that you make a good beginning this winter, and next winter you can, somewhere in Boston or Canada enter a French family, and get it very well....”

“Mr. Hoyt has gone to St. Louis, to see how he would like the place proposed for him there....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 2]

12 December 1858: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “Is Senator Clark with you this season? And how is his health? We are full of politics. Marston and Hoyt are ‘going it’ pretty strong, especially Marston. He is using money and Democrats and all other means that ‘God and nature have put into his hands.’ He will pack a strong delegation in the Convention which is to be January 5th, but I doubt if he can buy enough, and if not, he is gone. The Freesoilers, I think, will never vote for him, if nominated. I will send a document which will show you why they oppose him. Just as sure as the Republicans nominate Marston here, Goodwin for Governor and Edmonds in No. 3, the Democrats will carry N.H. in 1860. Marston’s men here are just as mercenary as Dearborn and Lamprey and Rufe Dow & Co., who used to govern in this County. They all go for Marston – those I named, except Dearborn, I am told. Senator Hale is doing infinite mischief by allowing Marston to claim his influence, as he does. He ought to go decidedly for a Freesoil man. Hoyt is now in St. Louis, having rec’d an invitation to be Chancellor of the University there. He says he will decline it, if nominated for Congress. I think he probably cannot be nominated.”

[FFP, Reel 11]

14 December 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tells Ned how to address his letters to arrive more quickly. Sent his last, well-written letter to Ellen, knowing she and Abby would like to hear from him. “Your mother sent an invitation to Abby to come home with Ellen and visit us this winter, but Abby is disinclined to undertake the fuss of preparations and of journeying in the winter. I would like to have Ellen return by Christmas, but I do not think Abby will consent to it....”

“Barney is drawing wood, fearing to lose the snow by tomorrow [because of rain].”

“Schoolmaster Gill is at home every Saturday, but looks haggard. I fear he will never recover the tone of his former physical health. Mr. Hathorn Parker has commenced his school under favorable auspices....Ellen Smith is now poorly and cannot hold out long....The term at the Acad. Commences Wednesday. Burnham complains that the boys visit his house too much and Dr. G. and I go to Dr. T’s tonight to institute some new visiting prohibitions. Mr. Hoyt is at St. Louis....”

More advice about getting along with other boys. Asks how his French is progressing in a series of questions. How is the diet now? [TFP, Box 1, Folder 2]

14 December 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French [appears to be a draft]. “Dear sir: I was pleased with your letter declining to consider the professorship. Having the disposition to decline, and the faith in your chosen profession, to do so without hesitation, I justify your decision and read in it an augury of your future success.”

“Let no ordinary obstacle prevent, again, your consultation with me about your interests, in the most free, or even confidential manner. I shall welcome you cordially, and take pleasure in any such interview. I felt, myself, that I had, by ill luck, failed to have more than a glance at you, while you were here last.”

“I judge favorably of your being Librarian, partly, or mostly, by your having accepted it, with the high mark of your qualification which you place before you. It is creditable to you, to have the offer of it. Be careful of your health, neglecting no single law of your being, tending in its observance, to ensure bodily vigor. Yours cordially, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

[undated] Two pages of Ellen Tuck French’s brief memoir

“A few letters found in [a] later package inserted after this date. While my father was serving his last term in Congress, we were at Biddeford. Abby was at Pittsfield, Mass. at the Tyler Institute, but having on the occasion of Kossuth’s visit to that neighborhood eaten too many fruits at a banquet, she was alarmingly ill for months. My father was sent for, and the sequel was her leaving the school to build up her constitution. By that time, the winter of ’52 and ’53, She became engaged to W.R. Nelson, the third son of Hon. Wm. Nelson of Peekskill N.Y., who was a compatriot of my father’s in Washington. – House of Representatives. It was while visiting the Wm. Nelson family in the summer of 1850, en route to New Hampshire from Washington, W.R. met and fell in love with Abby. They were married 14 Sept 1853 in Exeter – there was a large party the night before wh’ was attended by throngs far and near.”

“Wm. Rufus Nelson died of consumption of the bowels induced by drinking the water in the western states where his business affairs called him every year. After months of severe illness, he died on the 24th Feby. 1864.”

“Abby left Peekskill bringing her three daughters to live in Boston and Exeter. In 1866 she married Orrin F. Frye, afterwards living in Milton, Mass. until his death five years later of a brain trouble inherited from his father.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

19 December 1858: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “Yours of the 12th inst. came in due season. I read all you said about Marston to Senator Clark, and he advised me to show it to Hale, which I did. Hale said, ‘I have not lifted a finger in the matter, and what can I do,’ and he kept saying it, and that was all he did say. I also showed it to Pike – he said he was afraid there was too much truth in what you wrote, but added that Marston would undoubtedly get the nomination. Father Giddings was sitting by, and Pike took out Sanborn’s letter, and read some of it. Giddings said that hardly any of the old Whigs who had joined the Republican party were to be trusted, and it was, as a general rule, a mistake to give them any prominence, that the old democrats had shown themselves reliable and we had much rather see them in office – and then he went on and gave the old Whigs such a tanning as I have seldom heard given to any set of men, and wound up by saying that he should have been a member of Congress all his life, had he desired it, but for the old Whigs of his district who joined the Republican party merely to get office, and through their machinations he was defeated! There was where the shoe pinched!”

“As for Edwards, I shall be glad to see him here, as he is one of my old cronies, and a man whose friendship I can rely on. I am almost disgusted with all parties, and should be quite

[happy?] if I had money enough to be independent of everybody – but a man in Washington cannot help being a politician if he means to be anybody!”

“...I sent all my visionary Iowa R.R. stock to my friend Austin Corbin of Davenport, Iowa (a Newport N.H. boy) telling him I regarded it as not worth a Continental d__arn! (I’ve left off swearing) and saying that he might get what he could and have ½ of what he got! Jones has written me that he looked upon it all as lost. Fairy gold again!!”

Senator Clark is staying with the Frenches again in Washington. [FFP Reel 5]

23 December 1858: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “We arrived at Biddeford Friday evening last, passed the night at Jonathan’s as we expected, and Sat. morn. he and I took the stage for Effingham. It was a cold day, but with the aid of a hot stone and two Buffalo overcoats, we journeyed without much discomfort, all alone in the stage. At Limerick we had a good dinner, such as would make a Pointe O’Tremble student’s mouth water and arrived at Effingham at 4 o’clock, finding all well, and expecting us. I do not think my mother has been in better health for 30 yrs. They were all healthy and happy, with a barn full of cattle and hay, a corn house stuffed full, and a cellar with all necessaries, while at the back of the house there was a pile of wood just hauled sufficient for a year’s use....”

“We stuck close by mother till we left Monday morn at 8 o’clock, except that we “teaed” at “Hiram’s” Sunday eve. He and Sarah, with their heir apparent dined at Mappa Hodgdon’s Sunday. When I returned to Biddeford, I took Kate from Jonathan’s, where she had been most of the time and went to John’s where we stayed until after dinner Tuesday, when we left for home....I have a cousin Samuel Tuck at Sherbrooke....”

“Mrs. Taylor has kept everything right side up in our absence, but your mother returned sick and has been in bed since....”

“Last night was the Fair at Town Hall of our Society. Tonight we have tableaux. Tomorrow a Christmas service (at our church) from Mr. Lamphear [sp?]. Chas. Gill had a vacation at his school of 2 days to attend the Fair and recreate, he told us....Henry Hall’s wife died yesterday of typhoid fever. Lizzy Lamphear has the scarlet fever, which is prevalent here and we are anxious about her. I have this morning a letter from Ellen, saying she is to leave P. to-day, expecting to come by Stonington boat to Boston to-night, and home in the morning. Glad of it....”

More advice and questions about his progress in French.

“Prof. Sanborn was here yesterday – had been here Saturday, to take collections for the College. Obtained \$500-600.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 2]

31 December 1858 Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. More fussing about Ned’s health and delay in his letters. Ellen is at home with a cold. Mother is sick. Barney has hauled a large pile of wood and is still at it. “Mr. Hoyt has bargained away his House for \$5000 to Mr. Palmer, and is preparing to leave the 1st of February....” Amos suggests Ned write to him and gives him suggestions for content.

“The will case remains as heretofore. I do not think they can sustain it. I am engaged at the office, but not too heavily.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 2]

1859

8 January 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. More advice to Ned in Montreal, especially about the bad food he is getting. Also, detailed advice about how to travel by train home.

“Mr. Hoyt will come in 4 weeks. Palm [sp?] has bought his house. Marston is nominated for Cong. but can't be elected. We try the will case next week. I think we are safe and can it down....” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

9 January 1859: Tuck attended a special meeting of the PEA trustees. Resignation of Professor J.G. Hoyt to become Chancellor of Washington University in St. Louis received. [p. 377, PEA Trustees; minutes not to be used without permission of the PEA librarian]

11 January 1859: Edward Tuck (Pointe aux Trembles, Quebec) to Amos Tuck. “My dear father: “I have just received your letter of the 3rd with the \$10 enclosed and agreeable to your request will acknowledge its receipt.”

“It is very cold here, 38° below zero, so very cold that this morning before we had gone 300 yds. towards school 2 of us had frozen their noses.”

“So they went home and I thought I would go with them as my nose was not at all comfortable.”

“French is progressing and I am improving. Another boy is coming to-morrow who will room with me. I don't know what sort of a fellow he is.”

“But I must close for the mail.”

“your affectionate son Ned.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

23 January 1859: Edward Tuck (Pointe aux Trembles, Quebec) to Amos Tuck. [In French] My dear father: I received your letter. According to your wish I will try to you a short letter in French.”

“You asked me if I had received the ten dollars that you sent me. I received it and I wrote to you to that effect the same evening as you asked me. Perhaps you have not received the letter, but [word unclear] have received it in the first part of last week.”

“I am able to speak considerable French with the Canadians and much more with Mr. Roux. I have been to the dame de laitre [?] (molasses candy) who doesn't speak English. I sit with her for an hour or an hour and a half every day to speak only French and also to eat molasses candy. I think I will learn a lot of French tomorrow because we are going to have a fight with the Canadian boys of the College who have threatened to tie our hands behind our backs. We have had a snowball fight and the Canadians think that they can beat us in a fist fight. I think they are wrong. If we hit them one or two times they will retreat because they are always great cowards.”

“The weather is very good now here but it is colder than yesterday. Friday was a very nice day and not at all cold. I have not received [a letter] from Abby this week - I hope she is not sick. I received a letter from my cousin A.A. Tuck, of Sherbrooke, C[anada] E[ast] who invited me to stop in Sherbrooke when I return. I wrote to him saying that I will go via N. York, and I will not be able to visit them.”

“If you [word unclear] say to Miss Ellen for me that I do not have the time this week to write to her because I am writing to you in French, with much affection I am etc. Ned.”

[In English] “I can not tell for certain from your letters whether I shall go by N. York or Portland. In your last you said how much the fare would be by Port. as if I were to go that way.”

“I would like to know for certain, and if I shall buy my clothes here or not. I think I had better buy them there because I shall have Abby or somebody to direct me. You know that now I am in College, and that I have need to be well dressed.”

“This is a poor sort of French letter but I have the consolation of knowing that I have no help from anyone. If there is any part which you can not translate, you can send this back and I will translate any phrase which is marked. But you know I will go home in a week from Thursday.”

“With much love from your son, Ned.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

27 January 1859: HFF (Newport, N.H.) to BBF. “Hoyt leaves Exeter next Monday, and there is nobody to take his place with me. I am getting tired of N.H. My luck turned a few years ago, and I have not felt the same courage since.” [FFP Reel 11]

31 January 1859: Edward Tuck (Pointe aux Trembles, Quebec) to Ellen Tuck. “I received father’s letter of the 27th last night, it having come in the quickest time of any letter since I have been at P.A.T.”

“I shall, as he wishes it, stop over at Sherbrooke on my return from Thursday night to Friday night, when I shall go in to Island Pond, and on the next day home if I can. I think I shall not stop at Biddeford, if I can in any way get home on Saturday for they say that the trains do not connect at all regularly on the Grand Trunk in the winter season. It is very pleasant weather here and hardly any frost in the windows.”

“We snow-shoed to church this morning, it being very good for that sort of traveling at the present time. I have learned to snow-shoe very well and only wish that I could buy a pair to carry home with me. I think I should had I not lost my 8 dollars, but shall not under present circumstances. Do not fear about my freezing on my way back, as it is very mild and there is the appearance of its continuing, besides I have warm enough clothes. I have not received a letter from Abby for over a fortnight. I suppose that she is sick. I have written to her regularly, I also wrote her last Friday. I hope that there is no danger of her dying, as she seems to think. I have been trying to learn something definite about her sickness for the last 6 weeks but as yet have been unable so to do. I shall [write] both you and her again before I set out for home, probably.”

“There are 9 of us boys here now, all of whom except myself and 2 others are from Montreal. They are the greatest set for smoking that I ever saw. They all smoke although 2 of them are younger than I am. They do it as naturally as a calf sucks his milk. I have not taken a whiff of tobacco smoke and do not think I shall through college.”

“Box [sp.?] is, as usual, well. We do not play so many tricks on him now as before. He find [sic] a large dead rat (of the wharf species) in his bed the other night, and a few other similar tricks, for instance the pockets and buttons were all out from his clothes the other night and put inside his alarm clock.”

“The anniversary of the French Canadian Missionary Society was held last week Thursday at Montreal. This is an annual festival when all the scholars meet and speeches are made by ministers, colporteurs and other black-legs of a like character. The boys all went excepting myself who thought it best to wait until the present week.”

“We are having some good rows with the Canadiens who do not do anything unless in great numbers. Those at the college are quite saucy but not very spunky.”

“We have not any of us yet been malled although quite near it.”

“But I must write to Sherbrooke as also to some of the boys.”

“So good-bye with love to all, your affectionate brother, Ned.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

6 February 1859: George G. Fogg (Concord) to John P. Hale. “...In the first congressional district things are hard. Marston’s nomination, with the influences which secured it, is unwelcome, and hosts of voters are unwilling to support it. I think most of the Republicans will do it, but only as an unpleasant “choice of evils.” If we had a majority law in force, I am sure M. would not be elected. As it is, there is imminent danger. So it seems to me, and I have been several times into the district since the nomination.”

“I think you had better arrange to spend a week or ten days in the State before election, as many of the dissentients are among our friends. Tuck has given Marston written notice that he shall not support him. He promises, however, that he will do nothing against him. I fear this even is to be taken cum grano salis.”

“In Tappan’s district, I see no reason to doubt our complete success by a handsome majority. Outside of Manchester, I do not hear of any town where there is any serious disaffection....” [Hale Papers, NHHS]

8 March 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Amos sends Ned \$20 and gives news of town meeting: many have voted against Marston but outcome not settled. Chas Bell, Morrill, and N.R. Leavitt are elected reps, “the latter chosen wholly on account of his hostility to the Lovering Party. Young Stickney is here from St. Louis and expresses real anxiety that I should go there to reside. I see no inducement sufficient to justify my leaving N.H. and shall not take a step in the dark, knowingly. I was in Boston yesterday, and bargained with Mr. Dudley to sell

him my Boston houses for \$12000, he (or his nephew), paying interest and a small sum on the principle every six months till the whole is paid." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

13 March 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "Young Stickney thought I was going to live in St. Louis, "a thing I have regarded as possible, it is true, but not likely to occur." Ellen is happy and goes to gymnasium regularly every other day with visible improvement of her health. Marston was elected, with Tuck's vote "because I believe it best, on the whole, that he should be elected."

16 March 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "I was at Portsmouth, to meet John Nudd, to attempt an adjustment about the will. There is some prospect of peace, although an appeal has been entered by him regarding the Probation of the Will." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

22 March 1859: Tuck attended PEA Trustees meeting.

7 April 1859: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. "... Fanny Gilbert, I suppose you know, threw up some blood about two weeks ago, and has been poorly ever since. Young Dr. Gorham has examined her carefully, and says her lungs give no sign of being affected, tho' their action is very feeble. Her throat is inflamed and he thinks the blood came from there. She has undoubtedly a strong tendency towards consumption, but I hope may come out of it, by care. The Doctor says if her lungs are affected, they are both alike, which is very unusual. She is spending a few days at Tuck's now." (FFP Reel 11)

8 April: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "I was a Frater, and am glad you are that. Look over the records, and you will find I was elected Pres. of that Society in Fall Term of 1834, but did not serve, as I was out teaching, a portion of the term. I leave it to you, of course, to join the Library where your judgment dictates—there was no joining when I was in Coll. I think you show brains by not being inveigled by the Society runners, and I wd. not join a secret society at all, till my judgment were convinced. But if you are to join, it may be time to act." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

15 April: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. He returned from Biddeford on 11 April. Uncle John still in bed with a lung infection. I stayed at Jonathan's most of the time. Jonathan and I hired a man to work for him. "Abby has written a short letter to Ellen, and said she was mortified that she had not written to you, and that she had been busy etc. Ellen has made all her arrangements to go through Boston, when she goes to Peekskill." Discusses possible visit by Ned to Peekskill, but timing must depend on Abby's precarious health.

Tuck just planted peas and onions. "I have settled with John Nudd giving him \$3500, and he has bought Abby's and Ellen's share in the lands and houses, (not the money and moveable property), of his father, and paid them \$1611.33 each, and has agreed to buy yours at

same price. They (you) will get about \$150 each, besides, out of the money etc.” Court sitting, and Tuck has some business at it. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

17 April 1859: Samuel B. Dow (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Sam went to the YMCA and they had a very good meeting. “They have started a new paper in Exeter called I believe the Grand Grease Juice [sp.?]...I went to church all day this noon there was a dipping down by the great bridge six were soused members of the advent church...”

“P.S. I suppose you heard that Ellen Smith is dead she was buried yesterday I was up but did not go to the Funeral. I met your father on the street he wanted to know if I had heard from you lately and how you was, I told him that was well and was anxious to have vacation come so you could come home. He smiled and said he guessed you wanted to go a gunning...I received that paper you sent and found your name. I see that you have not joined any of the secret societies.” [TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

22 April 1859: From Exeter, Tuck sent Ned a box Oranges, nuts, figs and dates. Ned boarding at Mrs. Prof. Chase’s. Dan French has scarlet fever (light). TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

22 April 1859: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to George S. Yeaton of Exeter for \$5,000.00. The tract contained 60 acres and was bounded by the Boston & Maine Rail Road, the new cemetery, the Little River and the road running from Exeter Town House to the dwelling of William Wadleigh. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 383, Page 440]

22 April 1859: Tuck gave George S. Yeaton a mortgage for \$4,500.00 so Yeaton could buy from Tuck a tract of land comprising about 60 acres. The tract was bounded by the New Cemetery, the Boston & Maine Railroad and the road running from Exeter Town House to William Wadleigh’s house. A later marginal note states that N.A. Shute, Treasurer of the Exeter Savings Bank, discharged the mortgage on 23 June 1859 after Yeaton paid off the loan.

Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 383, Page 452]

28 April 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Ellen left previous Monday. Tuck going to Manchester via Lawrence. George Batchelder has left on a three-year sea voyage.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

1 May 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “I have sold my farm, discharged the Scotchman on an amiable settlement with him, and hired his son, (Wm. McWhirter)...who will live at the Tuck house. He will work around the house and garden and for other in the vicinity.” Sold the farm to Mr. Yeaton [sp]. Sold Boston houses to Mr. Dudley.

Mr. Parker is dying and Hathorn will be sent for.

Tuck also urges Ned in strong terms to push Frank Hobbs to give up chewing tobacco, “a dirty, filthy vice, more disgusting than using bad liquor....I hope you keep a scorn always ready

for any boy, who uses an obscene word, or tells an obscene story...I want you to grow up with a gentleman's standard...." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

5 May 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "I enclose to you \$50 to pay your college bills with—bring home as much of it as you find consistent with strict economy, for the Bills are quite heavy which have to be met by me at the present time."

"Your mother is just finishing housecleaning—and tired out as usual—I think she will be all rested by the time you come."

"P.S. Take bills and examine them for one night, before paying reckoning and seeing no mistakes are made—then, when all is right pay them and enter them on your cash book."

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

9 May 1859: Tuck assigned the mortgage for \$4,500.00 that he held from George S. Yeaton to the Exeter Savings Bank "for value received." This mortgage was on land bounded by the new cemetery and the Boston & Maine Rail Road and contained 60 acres.

[Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 382, Page 477]

9 May 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. "As I wrote Abby last, I will now write you a few lines, having you both, however, in my heart. Sat. evening, Mrs. Taylor arrived, and was welcome. Yr. mother had become weary, and been peculiarly sick, was dispirited, though not afflictive to me, and I was glad to have some one to be company to her. I am necessarily absent from the house most of the time, as you know, and it would be solitary for any person, not athletic enough to go out when she pleased, to be left so much, as she is. Mrs. Taylor is in good spirits. She will stay till your return, when I doubt not she will, remembering my former declaration of rights, soon withdraw to the valley of the Merrimack. Till then I shall be glad to have her here. Do you know I have William, (David's son), with us, boarding at our house. We like him well, and think his constant presence may add to the aggregate of our comfort, from year to year."

"I have taken up the front hedge, which was so damaged by hard winters, and have set out an arbor vitae hedge, very carefully, - which promises to be a great improvement. Ned is to come home this week - Thursday, - preferring to come hither before going to Pkskll. John Nudd had the gracelessness to ask me the other day, if it would damage me, for him not to take your and Abby's land. I told him at once, that I could not recall the bargain, that the deeds were on record, and the thing fixed. He said Stacy had offered to sell him his share at a discount from the appraised value. John is fickle, but in this, he cannot play fast and loose, but must stand up to the rack. Abby Paul has gone to Hampton, with the boy Moses, to take care of your mother Nudd. They will probably be all by the ears, in a few weeks, and she will kite away to Dover with Moses in her wake, a tail to her kite - or rather she will be a Schooner and Moses a small boat, tie [to] her stern."

“Your uncle John seems to hold better, tho I am still quite anxious about him. The Hampton Falls people took the Weare Bank, quite off my hands, so that I now think I cannot be again troubled about it. Perhaps I have said this to you before. Lucy sd. she had a letter from you Sat. Mrs. Hills (Lucy’s sister) is here, looking quite as handsome as formerly.”

“I hope to hear of no ill turn on Abby’s part. How are you, Ellen? Sick or well? Tell me truly, for I am anxious about you. Wm. wrote a hurried note but sd. nothing of Laura. Is she still unwell? I hope Wm. will not foolishly speak of Laura’s not coming home with you. He knows, as well as I, that it is probably for Laura’s good, Abby’s, ours, and all our happiness. Let him then ‘shut up.’ I want Abby, Nellie, baby and Wm. to come this fall and visit us, without more questions. Why do I have a house or home, if not to have them sometimes in it? Love to all.”

“Your aff. Father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

28 May 1859: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to George S. Yeaton of Exeter for \$2,000.00. The tract contained 40 acres and was bounded the Little River and the Boston & Maine Railroad. Tuck said the land had been recently mortgaged to him by Yeaton and that the purpose of the current deed was to release the land from the mortgage so that Yeaton could convey the tract to George G. Smith and John P.P. Kelly. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 392, Page 194]

29 May 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Mr. Parker near death, Uncle John better. Ellen’s health better. “She and Abby acquiesced in your not going there, and probably thought the self-denial reasonable. Tuck had his photo taken Friday and will send Ned a copy. Tuck planning to go to Concord the next day for a couple of days. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

1 June 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Amos advises Ned not to take French: he will be annoyed by being with beginners. Besides, French is “not disciplinary, but simply an accomplishment, --not fundamental, but elegant superstructure—you can attend to it, by and by. Exercise daily with the dumb bells.”

Nelly has scarlet fever so Laura went to stay with Mr. Nelson, Senior. May delay visit by Abby and Ellen. [Ned apparently stayed at Dartmouth for the summer.] [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

6 June 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. He sent Ned a letter with a photo by hand of Hathorn Parker. [This must be the 1859 photo in the Dartmouth College Library.] Tuck ordered two or three weekly papers to be sent to Ned: Dover Enquirer, NH Statesman, and Laconia Gazette. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

16 June 1859: BBF (Washington) to HFF. Can’t go to the Republican Association that evening because Bess not feeling well. At the last meeting he had been elected President of the Assoc. unanimously. [FFP Reel 5]

19 June 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Little Nell is playing on the library floor with chess pieces and amusing herself and Tuck. Ellen is working upstairs. Prof. Sanborn

offered hospitality at Commencement. Family and neighbor gossip. Tuck has formed a chess club with Dr. Leonard, Mr. Lyford and ten younger persons. Will meet once a week in a room in back of Mr. Shapley's office. More advice to Ned with an emphasis on physical exercise. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

22 June 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Sends \$20 and will settle with Mrs. Chase at Commencement. Satisfied with Ned's handling of money: "I feel that you are a sensible boy." Urges him to join Psi Upsilon society. "I have acquaintances of that society, who will be gratified by your joining them and a person not connected with either society, has spoken highly of it, and recommended to me."

"There was a party at Mrs. Burley's—and all of us were there—Mr. French is 'engaged' to Miss Prentiss of Keene, and Hatty is engaged (privately, but with her father's consent) to your late class-mate Hollis...I hope all the members of that class are not to marry soon." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

26 June 1859: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. "The legislature has done it – passed an act to abolish my court and add one judge to the Sup. Ct. – putting the labor of eight on six, I heard last evening. Tomorrow, I shall privately offer 'The Pines' for sale...Thanks for your trouble about the Farm Drainage notices. They are capital, especially yours. Hoyt has written a review for the October N. American Review. He is a friend worth having, and Exeter has not left in it his peer."

"...The Republican party are beside themselves. Hale, Clark, Tuck, Marston, Tappan – all opposed this Act. The Sup. Ct. told them six could not do the business, and yet they put her through. Bryant, now speaker, in 1855, was a democratic solicitor of Grafton Co., and was addressed off by the K.N.'s, Judge Kittridge & Co., and now puts this bill through to kill Kittridge. Did you ever hear of such a sudden turn? To pass it, they pretend economy, and so reduce the number of judges." (FFP Reel 11)

26 June 1859: BBF (Washington) to HFF. "We received a letter from Frank today announcing his determination not to come home this summer and proposing that we should visit N.E." Neither BBF nor Bess are inclined to leave home...It makes me low spirited and gloomy to think that Frank is not coming, and it hardly seems as if I could go through the Summer without seeing him, but what is to be will be, and I may as well submit."

"I am very much afraid I shall have to let Benny finish his education here. Poverty is hard upon me and where I am to get money to support him at Exeter, I do not now see. I must send Frank some money tomorrow, and must borrow it to send." [FFP Reel 5]

30 June 1859: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. "...The judge is to appointed next week, and whether I am on or off, I have something to do. The new Court will have hard work, and all my leisure will be in July and August if I am a judge. If not, I hope to sell here forthwith and close up...The chance is about even between me and Sargent. This bill was passed against the influence of

Hale, Clark, Tuck, Marston, Gov. Goodwin (and Tappan and Edwards I think!). It ought to ruin the Republican party, and would if there was any other!" [FFP Reel 11]

1 July 1859: Amos Tuck (New York City) to Edward Tuck. Amos was unexpectedly called to New York on business for a client. Returning that night to Exeter. Was in Peekskill previous night. Abby and all are well. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

2 July 1859: BBF (Washington) to HFF. Happy to hear about Henry's engagement to his second wife (Pamela Prentiss). "I felt kind of poor and low spirited when I wrote on Sunday. I shall not take Benj. away from Exeter if he desires to stay. I think I can get along." "Mr. Clark (Senator) wrote me a sort of a letter of condolence on the overthrow of your court – he does not like it at all." BBF thinks Henry would be better off going to Boston and "make a fortune." Even if he gets onto the state supreme court, he will find being one of six judges less attractive than being a judge on the Court of Common Appeals. [FFP Reel 5]

3 July [1859?]: Edward Tuck (Hanover, NH) to Ellen Tuck. "At the present time I suppose you are (and if not, you ought to be) hearing Mr. Lamphear. I got started to hear an 'agent,' wet my pants and shoes through and returned, all in the space of 10 minutes. This morning was very fair and warm but now rains fast. Last eve. we had a thunder shower and the lightening played round utterly regardless of consequences and after many vain endeavors to strike the College buildings (in which it had my good-wishes) it at least struck a tree, within half a mile of Mrs. Chase's, and also somewhere else in the village."

"This morning I went to the 'Plug' which I describe to you I think in one of my letters. The water pours out of the mill-box through 2 or 3 augur holes with great violence and it is very pleasant to let the water pour onto one's breast and back. I go up most every week and it cools me off splendidly, feeling perfectly warm and comfortable through the whole operation."

"To-morrow is the 4th and I wish I were to spend it at home. There will be nothing here except some howling, yelling etc. to-night. I have some idea of going to Lebanon to-morrow as there will be a celebration there and quite a number are going. Last Friday Prof. Sanborn delivered an address before the people on the New Bridge, the first free bridge over the Connecticut! It was quite interesting and full of facts. There was a Cannon on the Common which blazed away for about ½ an hour, and another on the other bank of the river. Does father know that Prof. Sanborn is going to St. Louis at the end of the year? He has handed in his resignation to the Faculty."

"The other night some Seniors whose privilege it is to get tight [light?] as circumstances will allow, a horse in the 3rd story of Dartmouth Hall, in a long entry called 'Bed-Bug Alley' (father will remember it) for amusement's sake. They said he was kept travelling all night nearly. Every now and then some student with his chum could be seen emerging from his den; he would quickly mount the fleeting steed and, as his chum screwed the horse's tail to lend him greater speed, he would ride and re-ride to the appointed goal (the end of the hall). Imagine the

gentle slumbers of the surrounding victims. But towards morning, as all must sometime tire of every thing, so tired they of their revels. But some, more kind hearted than the rest, brought Pegasus' foodbag forthwith, and placed it in front of the door of some unlucky one who, as he related in mournful strain next morn, ever an anon, as he was just giving himself to sweet Morpheus, would be disturbed by a stamp from the foot of the devouring beast. Thus, until the rising of a beautiful, azure-haired Aurora, it continued. But as she peeped forth, the owner of the unfortunate animal discovered the object of his search in this animal-nourishing (bed-bug) place." When taken down the following strange fact was proved true: that if it was true, as had [word illegible] been supposed that 'Descensus Averni facile est' the rule could not prove true in any other case (except that of Avernus). The horse had to be backed down."

"Tell father that, I have concluded to leave this place (Mrs. Chase's) to room I mean. For Example as to prices I will tell him if the price of another room I can get. It has 3 windows, a good carpet, a what-not, a table, a light stand, a fire place, and a stove in Spring and Fall, with a bed in room, and a bureau. The price is only \$26. This room in which I now am, has but one window, a table, with a bed in the room, price \$56. This is better situated but that is very well. I shall continue to board here. With money saved in rent, I could buy me a lounge for 4 or \$5, which are selling cheap among the Seniors. I have bargained for a small writing desk which one of them got made for him, which will cost in the region of 2 dollars."

"I shall be initiated this term to the Psi Upsilon's and the fee will be about \$5.00. Perhaps he (Pa) will think I ought to have more money(?) Tell him to rest assured I shall not spend it foolishly. But I must close."

"With love to our dear pa, and to mother, Abby yourself and the rest."

"I am your ever aff. Brother Ned."

"Exeunt hurry." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

3 July 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "Frank French is here, and Ellen will not, I suppose, write you to-day." Praises him for his decision to break a promise to join a society. "I have been "mixed up in somewhat similar cases, much to my mortification, by consenting to be talked with by friends of this man, and of that, being polite to all and ending in a quarrel with the side I do not go with. The best way is, to refuse to talk with all, or else say to all, 'I am for A.B. and having said this, please change the topic __' or 'I am for A.B. and shall do what I can for him, without under rating C.D. his adversary: now let us see what can be done for him.'"

Frankness with one's friends is the best policy.

"We make no progress in settling the Nudd Estate, because Willard has [backed out of] the case of dividing the estate, claiming the place he lives on as his own, and 1/8 of the estate besides. Frank sends his regards and so does Ellen and your mother..." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 July 1859: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. "Your long letter came this morning, and finds me in quite a state of incertitude. The Judge is to be appointed today. I don't think I shall get it. I heard last night that the Governor said Kittridge's chance was good, or rather said there was a tremendous

pressure for him, and not much for anybody else! I should laugh aloud should he get it. The Court was abolished to get rid of him! My friends could have had me appointed had they tried, but they faded out – Clark, Hale etc. I could not urge them to do anything, because I do not mean to hold the office any longer, if I get it, - then I can make arrangements in Boston. But don't say this, should I be appointed. [FFP Reel 11]

8 July 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Amos asks Ned to prepare an estimate of costs for the coming year, promising to remit the amount set. Tuck wants to avoid any floating debts by Ned. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

12 July 1859: Tuck not present at PEA trustees meeting.

16 July 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Mr. Hoyt and Prof. Sanborn have been in Exeter this week. Abby is visiting and adding much happiness to the family. Plans to go to Effingham to see his mother next Saturday. Will leave for Hanover on Tuesday morning. Prof. Sanborn gives a good account of "Tuck" and of "Tuck's" associates. Mr. Parker still alive, barely. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

20 July 1859: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. "...But, I want to say two or three other things. The plan of having Mrs. Underhill take the Club house has faded out, as most matters do on which our friend Tuck is relied on. The old incumbent is to stay. [FFP Reel 11]

29 July 1859: Amos Tuck (Hanover) to Edward Tuck. "We think of going to the Franconia Notch, (the Flume House), to stay till Monday, returning home Monday or Tuesday. I wish you to go with William to Mr. Getchell and ask him if Mr. Haley of Newmarket has any coal lying on the wharf for me. If he knows nothing about it, see the Boatman, running the Boat from Portsmouth, and ascertain from him, if Mr. Haley's coal has been sent, and where it is, and if you find it, let Wm. be hauling it, - weighing it at Towle's scales. I am to have ten tons."

"I hear nothing from home, tho. I expected a letter, but hope you are well and happy. Love to Abby, Ellen, Nellie, the baby and yourself."

"See Mr. Stickney and Mr. Stevens or Mr. Gordon, saying to them I shall not return till Monday night or Tuesday morning."

"Your aff. Father. Amos Tuck"

[P.S.] "Yr. mother is quite well." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

31 July 1859: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. "On all great occasions I write a letter to you. This is the last day of my judicial life....As to Benny, I am very sorry that he cannot be taken better care of here. I cannot advise you what to do with him. Frank knows the whole of things here. Perhaps his ma Tuck would take Benny under her tender care!" [FFP Reel 11]

21 August 1859: BBF (Washington) to HFF. "Frank goes to the P.O. every evening...."

"We have put Francis Ormond through the Masonic, since he came home, and now he is Sir Francis, Kt. etc.etc."

"By the way, that same young sprig of the law is terribly afraid he shall not succeed in his profession. I am trying to convince him that there is no danger...I want you to cheer the young man up in his start, and if you and Tuck and I cannot wash out that ridiculous idea of failure, I think it is a pity. He shall not fail by the Eternal! I have said it!" [FFP Reel 5]

September 1859: Tuck family welcomed Robert Lincoln as a house guest until he was able to find a boarding house, according to Franklin Brooks. [Franklin Brooks, "The Lincoln Years in the Papers of Amos and Edward Tuck," Dartmouth College Library Bulletin XXI No. 2 (April 1981): 64.]

3 September 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Salmon P. Chase. "My Dear Sir: I owe you many apologies for the seeming neglect of your last kind favor to me, long since received. My only apology is, that appearances only are against me, and that I have received no letter for many a day which I have really prized so high, as your kind epistle. My connection with some matters of business has kept me the victim of involuntary attention to disagreeable concerns, for the past eight months, and disqualified me to do anything but actual routine work. I hoped to see you when you were in Mass. not long ago, but could not hear that you were in any accessible place, till I learned, that you had gravitated back to Ohio. My family would have been pleased to welcome you and Miss Chase, again to our house. My family remain in the same quiet abode, as when you were here, unchanged except by the departure of my son to college."

"On the subject of the future of the Republican Party, and the stand we are to take, at the next Pres. election, my feelings and judgment are the same as when I saw you. My choice then, is my choice now, and has been every day since. I have seen persons occasionally from different states, and have been gratified at the almost unanimous expression of satisfaction with my views. I thought, seriously, a long time since (months) of starting measures for an expression through the papers, but found Mr. Fogg and others who agree with me fearful of any mention now made of distinct desires would tend more to mar than to make. I do not believe that any contingency can prevent the expression of earnest purpose from this State, to put the most eminent son in nomination for the Presidency. E.B. Washburn was at my house last week and he professed an ardent sympathy with me. He said, however, that he was afraid New York would put S[eward] upon the Party, in which case he thought we must be defeated. New England, it seems to me, is more likely to go all right, than not to. Banks has been hopeful, but his light has been put out by the Massachusetts 3 yrs. amendment, and his friends are now 'dying out.' I think, too, that some idea has been indulged respecting Fessenden, though I hear that he will not listen to the mention of his name. But that cannot probably amount to much."

“So far as a business man, tied down mostly to work, can promote any plans for the public good, command my services. Remember me most kindly to Miss Chase, while I remain yours sincerely, Amos Tuck.” [Chase Papers, LC]

8 September 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Amos is fretting about Ned’s illness at Dartmouth. [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

12 September 1859: The Dartmouth College Board of Trustees approved a resolution offered by Tuck to establish a professorship of modern languages. The professorship, providing a provisional salary of \$1,100, was to include the teaching of history. [Rauner, DA-1 “Minutes of the Board of Trustees”]

18 September 1859: Ellen Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “...I think it quite probable father will go to St. Louis. The whole expense will be \$500 or in that region and I guess father thinks he can make enough out there to defray expenses.....”

[P.S.] “...Mr. French is to be married a week from Thursday. Mother is going to have a large party and introduce the bride to the public about three weeks in October.....” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 38]

18 September 1859: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. “I suppose Ellen reached home safely on Thursday night. She left the Junction at 1 ½ o’clock, but I was obliged to wait till nearly 4, the down-train being late. I was very sorry to have her go and felt quite lonely and homesick Thursday and Friday. I don’t know what I should have done if she had gone with you, because I was almost homesick at your going although Ellen stopped. I was very sorry not to have stopped at West Lebanon longer when you went, but you bid us good bye as if you expected us to go off immediately and without considering I started towards Hanover. I felt quite worried afterwards that you should think I didn’t care to wait till you left.”

“I have been to walk to-night on the same road we took to Lebanon and every thing came into my mind just as we saw them, and just what remarks we made on them, all seemed to try to united an make me think of you and home until I finally crossed the crossed the fields into the next road, quite blue.”

“The weather is serene and after threatening a storm this morning it has cleared up warm and pleasant. My overcoat was finished yesterday and I am now provided for winter in all its forms. It is very large and heavy, much heavier than anything I have ever had.”

“I have not as yet receive anything from Abby although I have written her but am now as usual with those expecting things from her of no great importance, in constant expectation of some thing, which I may and perhaps may not get. I suppose you or Ellen are now writing me, which I shall be very glad to receive. What do you think of my going to Portland with you, or has Ellen said nothing about it? We had some talk over it and thought it would be very pleasant, if you were willing. I should like very much to go, if you thought it best.”

“If you conclude to let me go, you had better send a request to the Pres. that he excuse me. But I must close. With love to Ellen and much to yourself, I am your loving son Ned.”

[P.S.] “I feel very dull and stupid or I would write you more to-night. I have been been a long while on this but had not written anything fit to send you.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

19 September 1859: Amos Tuck to Edward Tuck. Tuck alerts Ned that he will go to Biddeford with them the following week or the week after. “If we go to St. Louis, you must come home a week or two before we go, not to return this term.” Amos is concerned that there have been too many breaks in Ned’s studies. “If I go to St. Louis, I think you may spend the winter in Boston, if I can get a place for you to study French or German. (Private.)”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

2 October 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “...I have been busy for 3 days, as one of 3 persons to whom the Sanborn Heir have referred all their difficulties, for settlement – myself, Mr. Stickney and a Mr. Sam Webster of Kingston. It is rather complimentary for me to be thus agreed upon by both parties, when I had been counsel for one of them.”

“...Mr. French is at home with his new wife. All the family are pleased with her – he especially – saying she is the most brilliant woman he ever saw....”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

10 October 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Amos is very busy on the Sanborn Estate. Expects to go to Montpelier next week. “Ellen wrote F___ a long letter last eve. And will not write you, I fear to say.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

17 October 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “...I go to Portsmo. court to-morrow, and am under engagement to go to Montpelier this week, if possible....Ellen has a girls and boys dance Wed. night, and she and Fan are in for it.” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

6 November 1859: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “I arrived in Concord, notwithstanding the detention, in time to connect, and to arrive home at the expected time. I found yr. mother had been laid up with illness, ___the consequence of over-exertion in my absence.” She did not detain Ellen who left on Friday with Fanny. Ellen going to Peekskill via NY. William [Nelson] is to leave tomorrow for the West. She was to speak with Mr. Dudley about your staying with them if you go to Boston. Tuck to leave for Montpelier tomorrow, returning Wednesday or Thursday.

“To-day Hathorn Parker and his mother joined the Church, at our meeting. He looked poorly...” Encouraged by the increase number of academy boys attending Sunday school “and as I saw them learning the facts of our Religion, I thought I would write to you, that I wish you to attend the Sab. Sch. and bring yr. mind under the influences of reverence for that Truth, which is more important to embrace than to become great, or learned....I think, next year, I must let

you take N. York Independent, for Sunday reading. It has a Sermon from H.W. Beecher every week, and I think it would be of importance for you to see what a strong intellect says about Truth, Religion, and the Bible....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

15 November 1859: Amos Tuck (Montpelier) to Edward Tuck. Amos asks Ned to have Prof. Patterson inform Mr. Nesmith, one of the trustees, that he will arrive in Hanover on Thursday morning. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

15 November 1859: Amos Tuck (Montpelier, Vermont) to Abby Nelson and Ellen Tuck. “I am again here, but expect to leave to-morrow night to go home via Hanover, when I shall see Ned etc. etc.”

“Am detained here by a hearing upon a Com. of the Leg. [?]. I feel some how anxious about you, my dearly beloved children, and [it is] unusually important to hear how you are.”

“May God bless you, Dears, give you every excellence, preserve your precious lives, and bring us to one another’s embrace in good time. Love to the dear babies. In haste – at 10 ½ o’clock – Your Father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

16 November 1859: The Dartmouth College Board of Trustees voted to hire William A. Packer as the new Professor of Modern Languages. Tuck did not arrive at the meeting until after the vote. [Rauner, DA- 1 “Minutes of the Board of Trustees]

17 November 1859: Samuel B. Dow (Sanbornton Bridge) to Edward Tuck. “...I arrived here yesterday... and proceeded to the seminary to look up a room....” [TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

20 November 1859: (Exeter) Travel arrangements for Ned’s return home. “I am gratified with what we were able to accomplish at Hanover, and have an interest to know how the students and others received it. Amos warned Ned against profane language and, even worse, obscene language. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 3]

22 November 1859: Tuck attended PEA Trustees’ meeting.

24 November 1859: BBF (Brooklyn) to HFF. “...we have just arisen from our Thanksgiving dinner – The Dr. and Katy and all their children – Mr. Soule and Ariana and all their children – Willis Russell, Frank and Ellen, Mr. Allen, Bess and the Major...I remarked that I would give a dollar if you were here, and Frank said he would add 50 cents....” [FFP Reel 5]

14 December 1859: Samuel B. Dow (Sanbornton Bridge) to Edward Tuck. Sam asks Ned if Charlie Gill has got back yet [to Dartmouth?] [TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

Christmas 1859: Robert Lincoln spent the holiday at the Tucks’ home, according to Brooks. [Brooks, “The Lincoln Years,” Dartmouth College Library Bulletin, XXI No. 2 (April 1981):64.]

1860

11 January 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French. "My dear Frank: I cannot spare from my Library, it is so meager, any more valuable book, than the one herewith sent, to be presented to the Law Library at Harvard. I wish I could enrich it by a magnificent donation. If you think this is too trifling an acquisition, Tuck it away privately, in some corner, where it will be valued, somewhat, for the autograph of the late Geo. Sullivan, known to be one of the brightest stars in the constellation of N. Hampshire Lawyers."

"I suppose you are in a tearful mood, just now, at the prospect of leaving Cambridge next week. I am glad to see you are attached to the place, for it shows you appreciate the literary and legal atmosphere of the most celebrated society in America. I think, allow me to say, you have made most valuable advances at the Law School, and I rejoice in the many reasons you have for encouragement in the race that is before you. I know it to be a hard road to travel, for the first few years, and have therefore not been so sanguine in regard to the success of any new competition in the race; yet my hopes are more than my fears in your case, and I know you have sundry qualifications and accomplishments, or cultivated tastes, which will contribute materially to help you on. I should think of you with great interest, in your future strengths, shall rejoice at your prosperity, and sorrow for your adversity, if any befall you, which I pray may not be the case."

"With much regard, your friend, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

13 February 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Writing in haste, Tuck apologizes for leaving Ned sick. Ned should send a letter to Abby so she will not worry. "On second thought, I will send the dispatch to her, which I expect at Albany. If I go on, it will be a week before your mother gets another letter." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

14 February 1860: William R. Nelson (Peekskill, NY) to Laura Nelson. "I have been wanting to write you a little letter but I have kept putting it off and putting it off, that I am almost ashamed of myself. Well what would you like to hear, shall I tell you about Grand Pa Tuck. Well he came to our house last Saturday and went to Chicago way out West the next day, which was Monday. Oh, how glad we all were to see him. You ought to have seen little Mary Delavan in his arms. Why my dear daughter, she wasn't afraid, at all. Nellie was so glad to see Grandpa."

"Grandpa Tuck told us all about you and how we did laugh at some things he told us. What do you think he said. I will tell you. He told us your little story about 'Hold your tongue' and how you caught Uncle Ned. I laughed till the tears came in my eyes from laughing. Then he told us how you went to the Sunday School concert and how you stood us [up?] and told Mr. Lamphere your piece, 'Pray with-out ceasing and in all things give thanks.' This pleased us very much. He told us though that you didn't keep awake all the evening but got asleep. Well it is

pretty hard to keep awake after the sun goes down and the stars begin to shine out. The birds don't keep awake then, they stop singing when the sun goes down behind the hills, and very soon after go to sleep. God made 'em so as to go to sleep early, and God intends for little girls to go to sleep pretty early, but when you get bigger you can set up later."

"Fanny Clapp had a party last week and she came up to your house to ask you to come down and when she got us there she found that you were way off to Exeter. Wouldn't you like to go to a party to Fanny Clapp's. I guess you would. But your papa don't approve of little girls going to parties at 7 o'clock in the evening and staying out till almost mid-night."

"What do you think I bot for little Mary Delavan. I went to NYork last Friday and brought home as nice a wagon as you ever saw. But how proud the big Mary is of it. But little Mary Delavan didn't like to set in it at first."

"We have got a deers head over our front door. There are horns sticking out and it looks just as if it was alive, and we have got a big snow owl in the front room. It was killed and then skinned and stuffed and there are glass eyes in his head and for all the world, the owl looks just as if he was alive, and we have got two other new birds in the back parlor. They are prairie chickens and they look very pretty."

Nellie went in to see Susie Seabury last Saturday and they gave her so much apple and orange, that she was sick that night and all day Sunday. She had a fever Sunday, but she is now quite well. Momma is quite well and we are all quite well and we want to see you very much. Give my love to Your Ma, and Auntie and Uncle Ned and write me a long letter and tell me all about you. Your affectionate father, W.R. Nelson" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

15 February 1860: Amos Tuck (Chicago) to Edward Tuck. "It gave me great relief at Albany, to learn of your complete recovery, both on your own account, and on account of the family. If you are well, I feel more confidence that the family, (horse + cow + heifer included) will be well attended to, then I can feel, with any other person at the helm. You may have some perplexity with the furnace, but I think none which you will not overcome."

Not much snow on the trip or in Chicago. Tuck travelled straight through, night and day. "I borrowed of Wm. [Nelson] a History of the Puritans, vol. 1, octavo, a new book by Hopkins, and a valuable work to read..." P.S. "I wish you and Ellen would contrive to have your mother go out as often as you can, to ride or walk." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

19 February 1860: Amos Tuck (Milwaukee) to Ellen Tuck. "I am at Mr. Flanders' in Milwaukee and am most kindly and hospitably welcomed into the family. They have cordially enquired after your mother's health, and spoken of her with so much regard, and enquire so earnestly about all the family, that they make me feel happy in spending this Sunday with them. The family consists of Hellen, who is 24, Bill 21 or 2, Jim 15 and Katy who is 10 yrs. old. They are a pattern of good behavior towards one another, being cordial and respectful. I attended Church with them this morning, have taken a luxurious dinner, and talked for 2 hours, and now sit down to send my heart home to you all. My prayers go up daily for the protection and

happiness of my household, and if I could go in and see you all for an hour, and know you are all happy, I should be willing to step back into Wisconsin again, to stay here till I can hurry through my business. I hope and believe you have given Laura the medicine to unburden her stomach, that Ned and you are well, and that you have enticed, or will entice your mother to go out and get strength by breathing the fresh air. It troubles me that I cannot think of her as in good health. I would give anything, and do anything, if I could give her the handy, uniform soundness of body, which God blesses me with. Do all you can, to make her well and happy. My health is perfect, and even the sore back has gone away, I hope forever.”

“Mr. Flanders says here, ‘give your mother our cordial remembrances,’ and Bill says, ‘I would like to be remembered to Mrs. Tuck.’ Bill regretted, as did his father, that they could not visit us last summer. They evidently felt that we went from Hanover to the White mountains, on their account, to be with them, and they now count us among their special friends.”

“Mr. Flanders has come and set down by me, expecting I shall stop writing and go to talking, and I must hurry to a close. I see by the papers you have had a storm at the East. There has been none here, not have I seen anything of disagreeable weather, since I left, except on that day, and then I got out of Boston and on my way in the cars without any discomfort.”

“I think Mr. Flanders is rich, and that what he owes me is safe \$2500 – further than this, I have learnt nothing about my business in Wisconsin since I wrote your mother from Chicago. I expect to go to Madison to-morrow or Tuesday, and to go back to Chicago about Thursday.”

“With love to your mother, to Ned, to Laura and to yourself.”

“I am your aff. Father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

26 February 1860: Amos Tuck (Saint Louis) to Edward Tuck. Arrived Friday and staying with the Hoyt family “and I have been most busy in reconnoitering the city, with which I am much pleased. It seems to me there can be no shame [?] about the prospects of this place and its high destiny as commercial point, and the [unclear word] point of the heart of the continent. My health is perfect, and my examinations of my business relations in different places visited have been satisfactory, as could have been expected. I shall not be able to tear myself away for some days, but intend to be at home 4 weeks from the time I left.” Asks Ned present his regards to Prof. Patterson and family. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

27 February 1860: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen Tuck. :I yesterday wrote your mother. I will to-day take up my thread where I left it off, and write a few lines to you. I found a class-mate here, (Holmes), who had resided here for 11 years, and is a distiller. He called on me yesterday at the Hoyt’s, and stayed all the after-noon, which was too much of a good thing. Nevertheless I got a great deal of information out of him, and at the close of his call took a 3 mile circuit with him and Mr. H., seeing the outside limits of the city. I am engaged to take tea with him to-morrow.”

“To-day, I dine at Prof. Sanborn’s boarding House, at Mr. Dean’s, whose wife I remember at Washington, as the bluestocking niece of Horace Mann. It is now almost 2 o’clock,

and I have spent the fore-noon in talking and walking with Mr. Stickney, in whose office I am now writing. The weather is such that I find an overcoat oppressive, and windows were up yesterday in private dwellings. The atmosphere is full of smoke, so that though one can see where the sun is, he cannot see far in any direction. This is the general ride, and it is disagreeable to most people. Yet it will not be so, where Mr. H. is to build his house, nor is it much smoky where he now lives, - nearly 2 miles from the River. He has luckily selected about the best spot in the City for a dwelling house, being 132 feet above the River, at high water, and the highest point of the grade of the whole city. He wishes me to buy and build upon a portion of his lot, as Dr. (?) Sanborn is to do, upon another portion, and if it were expedient to remove here, I should want to reside upon such a spot. A horse Railroad goes near it, from the heart of the City, and it is high above much of the smoke and dust, and the possible miasma of the flatter country about. I like the city very well in deed, and my age, my position in N.H. and my fine house in Exeter, are my only obstacles to removal now. The possible improvement of your mother's health, the chance that by removal I might hope not to be so far removed hereafter from you and Ned, and the greater field for enterprise and usefulness here, are the chief inducements to come. I shall not determine to come, but we should have friends enough, I see clearly, if we should come. When I return, we will have a family consultation on the subject, and decide once for all."

"I heard Dr. Elliott preach yesterday, and was greatly pleased with him. I think he would suit you and your mother exactly. I have conversed with several lawyers, and all are of opinion that a good business can be obtained here as easily as in any place in the country. My opinion is, it is the very best place for Frank, to undertake a beginning. The lawyers are courteous, and business pleasant. Mr. Branscombe and his partner began here, less than a year ago, without advantages, and earn a living for their two families already."

"I think of going from here this week in time to spend Sunday in Washington, and I shall talk with Frank and his father and mother, and without urgent advice, shall lay before them the inducements for a new man to come hither. I intend to arrive home after an absence of 4 weeks. Tell your mother, Mrs. James Smith remembers her, is very cordial, and I have engaged to visit her family, (her and her husband), before I leave. Only think, that mysterious bundle of stockings, yarn, chesnuts etc. which were sent to our house last fall, were sent for me to bring out to Mr. Hoyt, by old Mrs. Hoyt, (Stevens), and were knit by Mr. Hoyt's aunt!! So don't send them to the niggers in Canada."

"With much love to your mother, and to Laura, I am your affectionate Father, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 March 1860: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen Tuck. "It is now Thursday and I am still at St. Louis with no prospect of leaving for some days. I expect Henry Townsend to-day, and I think I shall stay here till Monday. I doubt whether I shall spend the time for going to Washington, though I need not lose more than two days, by doing so. I cannot get home till a week from

Saturday, and if I go to W. not even then. I will write one or two more letters only. Regularity in rcpt. of my letters must not be expected.”

“It has been wet and very muddy since I arrived, except one day. The sun is now trying to look at us through the smoke, with imperfect success. I have seen the worst side of the city, and am glad I have. No ladies have been seen in the streets, except on Sunday, when it was somewhat dry and very pleasant. There are snobbish parvenus in the City, but the elite discard extravagance. I saw no such capacious hoops at Dr. Elliott’s church, as would be seen in most N. Eng. country villages. They give to the University individual sums of \$10,000, while their furniture and houses are not equal to ours, and the women wear shilling callicos in the forenoon. The Dr. Elliott, University circle, give and attend no parties, but have small, cordial gatherings.

“I am taking all means I can, to understand the attractions and repulsions of the place. Yesterday morning and this, I have staid an hour with Mrs. Hoyt and Miss Eliza both, to extort out of them all I can, of truth, respecting a woman’s views of the city. Miss E. would take wings and fly hence, were it not that she is so attached to the children and to Mrs. H. She does not go out, not even to Church, very often. When it is wet, it is impossible, and she misses her life long companions, and walks. Mrs. H. is contented, because she knows it is best for her family to be here. This is certain, that equal prosperity at the North, would be gladly accepted by all. Still, I could find more kindred spirits here than in Exeter. You and your mother would be a little homesick for ½ a year, I fear, tho. Mrs. Sanborn and Mrs. H. say you would not. If I were to take you and your mother here, I should board for a while, down ¾ of a mile nearer the river, where a springling machine is constantly wetting the streets in dry weather. I learn it is ten times more agreeable there.”

“I am considering the expediency of coming here in October to try an 8 mos. residence here, but I may abandon it before I leave the City, or after I go home. But I do not wish it understood, out of our family, that I am balancing that question. I shall find out the inducements and the objections and try to judge right.”

“Abby writes me that Frank is in Tom Nelson’s office. I shall then see him on my return, and the fact that he is not at Washington, is an inducement to make me forego, taking that Sodom [sp.?] on my way home. Abby says Tom Nelson is particularly pleased with Frank, and she even hints at hopes of his being invited to an interest in Tom’s business. But, he is not encouraged by too ready hopes. I pity any young man, destine to go through the dismal swamp, which lies between professional study, and remunerative professional practice, and I feel that Frank has not yet got to the mile of that swamp. He may not have as much discouragement as many. I trust he will not, and perhaps it will do him good, as it does most men, to endure a great deal of it.”

“I am in good health, and hope that you and your mother are. Yr. mother’s letter rec’d yesterday cheered me much by its cheerful tone respecting home matters. God bless you all, my dear daughter. With love to yr. mother and Laura, I am your aff. Father, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

3 March 1860: Amos Tuck (Saint-Louis) to Edward Tuck. Sends Ned a \$20 draft on the Atlantic Bank. "I expect to leave here next Monday, and to arrive home by Sat. of next week. I have now been here a week, and have seen a great deal of the City, and especially of Washington University. It is a good institution, but the classes are small. The instruction is abundant and the scholarship of the boys is eminent." Tuck liked Ned's last letter and was entirely satisfied with all Ned had done. Tells him how to endorse the draft.

"P.S. Mr. H__ [Hoyt] and others are extremely anxious I shall come here next fall to reside, and am sanguine I can here be more useful to myself and my friends than I can be in N.Hamp. I shall weigh the matter before deciding to leave our pleasant home. I shall keep it private that I for a moment consider the question—but shall tell you what is the result—when I arrive at it after I go home." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

4 March 1860: Lincoln writes a letter from Exeter, N.H. to James A. Briggs. Reports that he has delivered speeches at Providence, Concord, Manchester, Dover, and Exeter. [Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, Vol. 3, p. 555]

14 March 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Salmon P. Chase. "My Dr. Sir: On my return from a journey of some weeks to the west, (as far as the Mississippi River), I find your favor of the 4th inst. awaiting me. I shall see Fogg and some of your other friends in a few days, but I will not wait till then to write to you. I know their first choice, and know that they will seek to have the State speak in your behalf, if such a course should be best."

"I found on my journey a majority of republicans favoring the nomination of Mr. Seward. This was decidedly manifest in Michigan and Wisconsin. Carl Shurts preferred you, but thought it unwise to press your name. He spoke to me of corresponding with you, and he will no doubt speak distinctly his impressions. Seward has the advantage of the Senate to speak from, and he seems to be regarded as the representative man, more than any other, whether such should be the case or not."

"You know my views, and I need not enlarge upon them. Whether our first choice can be achieved now, I know not. I confess to some surprise at the generality of the conviction, that we must take Seward, if we are to run a man representing the principles of the Repub. Party, and if we leave him, we must run a modification, in the person of Bates, Bell or some such. It is not understood that S. is the very 'embodiment,' but that he has been so well abused, that he is the most prominent. Yours very truly, Amos Tuck" [Chase Papers, LC]

[In Team of Rivals, p. 219, Goodwin states that in responding to this letter Chase "rejected an appeal from a New Hampshire supporter who proposed to build a state organization" for Chase.]

18 March 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tuck writes to Ned in Hanover that the family is well, including Abby. "No incidents of importance have occurred in the Town the past week, except town meeting, which passed off, with the usual flourish of patriotism and candy [?]

and the usual triumph of republican candidates, aided of late years, by the rat-hole know-nothingism....Doct. Johnson has undertaken the extermination of Rum selling practices in Exeter, has had two public meetings, been well recd. & bids fair to do some good. We have all (in the family) been playing going to Saint Louis, that is talking over how we will live, after we go to Saint Louis, etc. etc. and have about played out the game. The spirit of emigration does not run so high to-day, as a week ago. Your mother is too particular: She says she shall have objection to drinking from and washing in muddy water, taken from the River, into which all the sewers are emptied: and that she shall have to practice some time before she becomes quite reconciled to being bitten constantly by large sized musquitos during the summer months. The fever and ague with a typhoid acclimation, she does not seem to rebel so much against. Ellen finds some of the above things objectionable, but might like them after years of acquaintance. In [word unclear] no other part of the world is cleaner than N. England and the new parts of the country, however attractive, have many disadvantages and discomforts. We shall think twice before we move once.”

More advice on Ned’s writing and life style, including the need for regular work and regular relaxation. Uncle Jonathan was not made postmaster, but he is mayor of Biddeford. “I was pleased that you took time to post [?] yourself on the current political topics and read Seward’s speech, which is a fundamental document, inasmuch as he is the representative man of his party, perhaps more than any other.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

18 March 1860: Samuel B. Dow (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Sam got Ned’s letter on town meeting morning. “I was glad to hear that you are better and I hope that you will keep growing better....”

“You wished to know if I heard about that fellow when I was at S.B. Yes, I heard about him and the girl too do you know what the girl’s name was the fellow that told me about it said that the fellow told him he wished he had never seen her that was after he used to go up to her room to see her so often....”

Dow reports on some recent chess games he played. “The students almost all leave town this week as the term closes Wednesday. A man by the name of Hanson cut his throat a week last night but did not succeed in killing himself, He tended Blake’s Stable he was removed to Portsmouth where he belonged. Carter the High School Teacher and Hattie Weeks were married last week. He has probably been between her thighs by this time if not before.”

[TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

20 March 1860: Tuck attended PEA Trustees’ meeting.

23 March 1860: (Exeter) Tuck sends \$30 to Ned. Ellen going to parties at Cordelia Gardener’s (Gill’s) and at the Cilley’s.

“I am engaged quite constantly at the office, but take time, evenings, to read the English Reviews, which I take in connection Mr. Burly and 2 or 3 others, and the Atlantic.” Academy

has closed and “Mr. Burnham has been discussed, but will remain as usual, in the Club House. This reminds me that we have a calf, after this long time. Geo. Tilton presides passably well. Laura [Nelson] goes to school.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

24 March 1860: Tuck, Stephen W. Dearborn and Augustus W. Seamans, acting as administrators of the estate of John R. Palmer, sold at public auction a tract of land of land in Exeter to Samuel Palmer of Exeter for \$1,280.00. The tract of land was on the Brentwood Road and contained about ten acres. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 388, Page 27]

24 March 1860: Tuck, Stephen W. Dearborn and Augustus W. Seamans, acting as administrators of the estate of John R. Palmer, sold at public auction a tract of land in Exeter to Joseph T. Porter and Samuel S. Thing of Exeter for \$900.00. The tract of land was on the Brentwood Road and contained about nine acres.

[Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 388, Pages 36-37]

24 March 1860: Tuck, Stephen W. Dearborn and Augustus W. Seamans, acting as administrators of the estate of John R. Palmer, sold at public auction a tract of land in Exeter to Asa B. Lamson of Exeter for \$200.00. The tract of contained about six acres.

[Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 388, Page 42]

27 March 1860: (Exeter) Tuck writes Ned he is going to Concord tomorrow. Will send the watch from there to Ned. Warns him to be careful winding it. “I can understand it is quite credible in a class of 60, for a young fellow like you to be put on a Com. of arrangements for the most important feast of your college term. Whether to go into the Supper or not, I think you are putting on the proper footing. Decide what is best, and then follow your convictions, even if you find them wrong afterwards. To be a man of character, is to form a plan of behavior, or conduct, as discreet and wise as possible, and then to act on with suavity, yet with decision.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

30 March 1860: Tuck, Stephen W. Dearborn and Augustus W. Seamans, acting as administrators of the estate of John R. Palmer, sold at a public auction a tract of land in Exeter owned by the estate of Palmer to Jonathan B. Wadleigh for \$1,942.40. The tract was on Fore Street. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 384, Page 421]

7 April 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Salmon P. Chase (Columbus, Ohio). “My dear sir: It went hard with me that I could not arrange my engagements so as to return by Columbus.”

“With every sentiment of your letter, to me I fully agree. I should consider it happy for the country, if a nomination for the presidency, should be made so as to avoid the objections of an almost fatal laxity, in one of the candidates, and to avail ourselves of the known economy of the other.”

“I see the importance of New Hampshire’s voice and it will be given right, if it be practicable. I have been once to Concord, and intend to go again before the Convention. We may get in, and get through a modest suggestion, that will be just and affirmative, so far as you are concerned, and address our whole purpose, and not provoke discussion.”

“I think Hale’s aspirations are not all lost yet, and that his hopes are not quite gone that he shall be the next President!! If I am right in this, he will not want you suggested, or indeed anybody but himself. But himself we shall not have suggested. N. Hamp. is not in a disposition to do any such thing, with all our good wishes in his behalf.”

“I have been away, and could not write earlier to you, or to your friend. Please excuse me to him, and deliver to him the enclosed letter. Yrs. v. Truly, Amos Tuck”

[Chase Papers, LOC, Images 15-16, General Correspondence, 1810-1898; 1860 April-May]

8 April 1860: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. Mostly college gossip, especially about rags between the freshmen and the sophomores. Ned asks Tuck pointedly about his plans to go to St. Louis: “Have you heard from St. Louis? Mr. Hoyt seems willing to do anything for you in his power. Do you think such an institution would flourish?” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

10 April 1860: Amos Tuck (Concord) to Edward Tuck. “I came here last eve. to see Fogg about going to Chicago as a delegate. He wants me to go (May 26th), and I am inclined to consenting, if they choose me, without my asking for it. I left home at 5 o’clock last eve. Court commences a session at Exeter to-day and for 2 or 3 weeks I shall have to keep an eye on it. Laura has not been very well for a long time. We have to watch her eating constantly.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

20 April 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck “I am busy in court, but will not omit longer to write you.” Family is well and Tuck found the folks at Biddeford as well as usual, although Jonathan has signs of dropsy. Tuck’s mother is failing, John has been to see her, and Tuck will go as soon as court rises. “The Nudd suit is expected to come on next week. You know Willard claims to own the place he occupies, in his own right, while we claim that is the property of all the heirs of D. Nudd. Tuck ends with a postscript warning him not to enter into the clashes with the Freshmen too much: you will meet them in the future and may need their help. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

20 April 1860: HFF (Boston) to BBF “...As to Frank – I don’t know as I should want to put him to prosecuting claims, which is the meanest business in which I ever engaged. He seemed to think well of his New York prospects when I was there.”

“...Pamela is a real existence surely, and I hope one day you will see her. She spoke yesterday of writing to you. I saw Ellen Tuck last evening, and she said Frank would not go to W. till she goes to Peekskill, which is soon. {FFP, Reel 11]

26 April 1860: The Republican state convention chose Tuck to be a delegate-at-large to the national convention, along with Edward H. Rollins, Aaron H. Cragin, and William Haile. Tuck was the fourth largest vote-getter. The report said nothing about whether the delegates were committed to a particular candidate, or policy platform. [Exeter News-Letter, 30 April 1860]

29 April 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Abby Nelson and Ellen Tuck. “I have just closed a letter to Ned and now write a few lines to you. Wm.’s letter, acknowledging the receipt of an ‘Anty’ and a ‘Laura,’ came duly to hand yesterday, though not read by me, till evening because of my employment at Hampton, dividing the aforesaid Nudd estate. To know of your safe arrival (Ellen), and Laura’s, and of your (Abby) being better, gave me satisfaction, and enables me to pass Sunday, with a feeling of more security than could have otherwise been the case. I trust now you (Abby) will continue to improve till you become perfectly well, and that Laura and you (Ellen) and the children will become ‘healthy wealthy and wise.’”

“There was no difficulty in my being elected to go to Chicago, tho a set of surface politicians tried hard to dignify one of their characterless adventurers by the appointment. I can make business there to pay expenses. It is said the sons of N.H. in Chicago have provided for us at the Briggs House. Such an act is in fine contrast with the behavior of the Charleston chivalry in their attempt to place the Delegates to that convention.”

“We have got nearly divided the Nudd house and lands. The present committee do us not appraise [?] the estate so high as the others did, and John [Nudd] did not make a speculation in buying out you and Ned. I should propose a consideration to him, had he not got out of the Estate what money he has paid, and I been the sole instrumentality in keeping and conquering a place, and saving to them all, a comfortable patrimony, against their constant strivings to dissipate it in law, and turmoil. As it is, I shall let him pay, according to contract, to Ned what he had paid to you, and shall favor your keeping what you have got.”

“There is no great news – cold, dusty weather being no novelty. Mrs. Flagg was buried yesterday. Capt. Chadwick is at home enjoying his numerous family with evident satisfaction. I have written a letter to Ned, telling him to come home before I leave. I am not at this moment aware of the day the Convention assembles. It is not unlikely I may fall in with Wm. on his passage thru Chicago, or a day after.”

“We miss Ellen and Laura very much, but with the assistance of ‘Sister McGuire’ we get along very well.”

“With love from wife to Laura and Ellen and to all and with my love to you all, I am your loving father Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 April 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Amos is going to Hampton early tomorrow, but will send the money Ned needs soon. He has no criticism of Ned’s expenditures. “My object is to give you general rules, leaving their application entirely to you. In truth, this is all that I can do for you in anything, money, morality, virtue, religion, or whatsoever it may be.” Tuck believes Ned is good at handling money, and praises his overall character at length.

“We finally drove Willard Nudd to a settlement in regard to dividing the Nudd lands, and Judge French and Unc [?] Lamprey and John Dearborn of Hampton seem agreed on as a Com. to divide the property equally. They and I have been engaged 2 days on the business, and shall be engaged 1 or 2 days more. John is to have your part, giving you what he gave Abby + Ellen. Ellen arrived at Peekskill Thursday with Laura, in good condition, as Wm. [Nelson] wrote me yesterday. Abby is better. I go to Chicago as you see by the papers. The Jim Lovering party tried to defeat me, which was one of the principle motives for consenting to go. It is necessary to be active, to prevent our being ruled by rascals. I do not know the exact day of the meeting. You can ascertain come May. I saw Mr. Dewey at Concord who said he knows you. Mrs. Taylor is here, yet our family is small. I expect to enjoy your visit home, for some time before I leave, tho I am fearful I have supposed the Convention will meet later in May than it actually will. I must start about a week before it assembles and you must come home in time to see me.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

3 May 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Sends \$40 to Ned. “Mr. Fogg has been here and he wants me to go early to Chicago, leaving here on Tuesday next, going by Philadelphia and Washington. If you can come home on Monday, or even Saturday, without material break in your studies, do so.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

6 May 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Abby Nelson and Ellen Tuck. “I rec’d your affectionate letter, (Ellen), and was glad to know of your safety, and that you (Abby) were in so hopeful a condition, respecting health etc. I imagine you to be, both of you, quite happy now, and house-keeping, with all dignity and contentment, talking affectionately of us all, taking counsel together, fortifying each other, in wisdom, goodness and virtue, not limiting the virtue of practical economy, which you know is a necessity with young people, who would wisely commence life. Imagining you thus, I feel happy in having you together, and my blessing goes out to you daily, if not hourly – on you and the children, and all that are dear to you and them.”

“I hope that Ned would come last night, as I wrote him leave. I expect him to-morrow. I wanted him to be here a few days before I leave for Chicago, which will be probably on Thursday. I cannot go by Pkskll, but hope to return that way, though you must not confidently expect it. My ticket may not be good that way, or I may be in haste to get home to the Court. In fact, as I think of it, I do not see how I can expect to return via Pkskll. Yet I will do so, if practicable, but on that we will rest. You can write me at the Briggs House, say, next Sunday, and I shall get it by Wednesday. I shall make my garden before I go, and have everything neatly fixed up. Our garden will be quite as pretty this year as last.”

“I have got a division of the Nudd lands, and an order from the Committee, which will be sanctioned by the Court, for John Nudd to give Ned what he gave each of you. The lands are not prized so highly by this Committee, as by the appraisers, on whose estimates John bought, and \$1000 was gained by you 3 children by the arrangement I made. But John need not be displeased, for he got out of the estate the money he pai you, and I have saved many thousands to

the estate by forcing them to peace, when they were inclined to war. John gets the home place and Landing farm, Willard his place, and some outland, Batchelder his place and outland, Stacy the Island, Woodland etc. and the Upper House (Boar's Head Hotel) goes to Abby, Caroline and Emma Williams, with some woodland. All are middling well satisfied."

"My mother is still quite infirm, and I have been almost inclined to think it my duty to visit her before going to Chicago. Should you feel like writing to her, either of you, it would be thankfully rec'd. If you write, assure her of yr. sympathy and love, and of your thoughts about her, though you are far from her, and have seen her, but few times, compared with what she has seen some of her other grandchildren. Yet her image and memory will ever abide with you, with reverence, as of one who was good, loving etc. etc. Such assurances we owe to her, so that as she sinks to rest, and her mind wanders in its weakness, she may be assured of a loving appreciation from those whom she loves with all her heart."

"With love to the children, I am your affectionate Father, Amos Tuck."

"P.S. I am glad you and Abby read a Prayer every day. I do since you wrote me. We need to baptize our spirits into devotion, daily, or we get far away from God."

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

16-18 May 1860: The Republican national convention held in Chicago. Tuck named to the committee on resolutions. On the first ballot, the NH delegation voted as follows: Lincoln (7); Seward (1), Fremont (1), Chase (1 – Tuck). On the second ballot, Tuck voted for Lincoln with eight others of the NH delegation, with one other voting for Seward. Tuck was one of the delegation that traveled to Springfield to officially inform Lincoln of his nomination. According to the Exeter News-Letter of 21 May 1856, it was Tuck who moved that the President of the Convention, and the chairman of the several delegations be a committee to inform Lincoln and Hamlin of their nominations.

17 May 1860: Amos Tuck (Chicago) to Edward Tuck. "I am in the midst of a most confused convention, and have to write this standing up and leaning on a table, holding on upon my paper and envelopes, to make them secure. I shall sleep at Mr. Lyvrell's [sp.] to get out of the Convention at the night. No light or heat on the nomination."

"Go to Hampton Falls at once and tell Mr. Dodge you will go to College and not to Labrador. It is too doubtful a course, to be wise, to break off Coll. Life. In health, you will be as large as I and as strong, I think. Love to your mother, to whom I cannot write to-day."

[[TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

19 May 1860: Amos Tuck (Briggs House, Chicago) to Abby Nelson and Ellen Tuck. [in a real scrawl] "Your dispatch and letter relieved me and Wm."

"I go to Springfield Ill. to see Mr. Lincoln."

"Hope to go to Pkskll about Thursday next."

"My heart is with you dears – Father A.T." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

20 May 1860: Amos Tuck (Springfield, Illinois) to Abby Nelson and Ellen Tuck. "Ellen's letter, first rec'd at Chicago gave me great sorrow, not to say, apprehensions, on Abby's account. Till Wm. had sent a message and received an answer by Telegraph, I did not feel that he ought to go on to Wis. But Abby's reply relieved our anxiety and he concluded to leave Chicago for Madison, yesterday morning. I rec'd a letter, just as I left Chicago, from Ellen, confirming the good account."

"I am here because of being urged to come on a free ticket and see Mr. Lincoln. I was acquainted with him, as you know, in Cong. and hence consented."

"I am now within 2 or 3 hours ride of St. Louis, and as Mr. Fogg, who is with me, urges me to do, am inclined, if I can get a free pass, to go there with him to-night. The only cause of hesitation I have, is apprehension Abby may possibly have a relapse, and need my presence. Yet on the assurance of your (Ellen's) letter, I am likely to go, and if so, I cannot reach Pkskill till the last of this week. I go home by Chicago, Phila and N. York, and shall go to Pkskill, unless when I call at Mr. Thos. Nelson's office in N. York, I find Abby is quite well, and also find that I cannot arrive at Exeter by Sat. night, (if I go to Pkskill). In that case I may omit calling, as I have arrange with Wm. for Abby to go East, soon after his return. One of you can send a line to Thomas' office for me when he goes down Thursday or Friday next."

"I am in good health, but have not slept half enough in this confused journey, and the excitement in Chicago. Lincoln is a tall, lean, lank fellow, with a broad [word unclear] sort of countenance, which is captivating. He rec'd me cordially. I will give you some account of the conversation, when I see you."

"Let me suggest, Ellen, that you must not let Frank visit you, while Wm. is absent, because he cannot do [so?] without prejudice to Abby, tho she do not see him., and tho she may urge you to invite him."

"With anxious love about you, Abby, and also about Ellen, in her responsible position, and with prayers and embraces for you both, I am your Father Amos Tuck."

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

21 May 1860: Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois responds to letter from Joshua Giddings. Says Tuck had handed him the letter of congratulations from Giddings. Editor's footnote states Tuck filled a speaking engagement in Springfield on 21 May. (Collected Works of Lincoln)

28 May 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "I came home on Sat. week. I was at Peekskill Thursday. Abby is better, but looks haggard. The baby has the measles. Nelly is not well and the scarlet fever is about the house. I saw John Dodge in Boston, who teased me to have you go with him..." Tuck sees a "disaster" if Ned breaks his college tie.

"I have just had a message by Shortwell, that the bees have swarmed, and I must make a short letter. Mr. Mills is better, under mesmeric treatment." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

1 June 1860: Tuck was the principal speaker at a meeting in Exeter Town Hall to ratify the results of the Chicago convention. Charles Bell chaired.

Tuck “gave an interesting account of the cordial reception of the delegates at Chicago by their friends in that city and from the surrounding country, many of whom were natives of New England, but now citizens of the West. The delegates, or a large number of them arrived at Chicago a few days before the time appointed for the meeting of the convention. Mr. Tuck described the assembling of the delegates at their various head quarters. The delegates from Illinois, Indiana, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Connecticut met delegates from other states and state the impossibility as they deemed it, of the success of the Republicans in their states, if the Hon. Wm. H. Seward should be nominated as the candidate of the party. His claims as a patriot and statesman and his services in the cause of Republicanism were fully acknowledged but adverse circumstances had rendered his prospect of succeeding, in the states above named so improbable that his nomination would be impolitic and hazardous. Who, then, it was asked, shall be the nominee? The delegates of Illinois named Abraham Lincoln. His character as an honest, capable an available candidate was so successfully urged that the delegation from New Hampshire, with one exception, cast their first vote for him, and at the third ballot he was nominated and his nomination made unanimous by a motion of the leading delegate of New York. Mr. Tuck spoke of the platform, described the labors of the committee who presented it, its hearty reception by the convention and its value as a true expression of the principles of the Republican party. He spoke of the candidate as fully competent to carry out the principles, should he be elected President. He was well acquainted with him when he first entered Congress, had ever regarded him as a sound, honest and able statesman, and his reputation as such had been substantiated in the remarkable contest which he had in Illinois with Stephen A. Douglas in 1858. The speech of Mr. Tuck was frequently interrupted by the enthusiastic applause of the audience.” (Exeter News-Letter, 4 June 1860)

1 June 1860: BBF (Washington) to HFF. He’s been reading the NY Herald and the Independent Democrat. Received a letter from Tuck which came a few days ago [NFI].

“Frank is in N. York and writes as if he meant to do something, and Tuck has written me a long letter from which I should think that he expected Frank to be considerable by and by. He conjures me not to call him home here to take care of my business, on any account.” BBF doesn’t think it will be necessary anyway – Sherman and Mason W. Tappan “have both come to the solemn conclusion that none but Democrats, and slave holders are capable of performing clerical duties...If I thought Old Abe Lincoln would act just so when he gets in, I’d see him in ____ [word unclear] before I’d spread a whiff of my precious breath in advocating his election! I do think the Republicans are the biggest political fools that ever undertook to carry on a party!” “Tomorrow evening I am to have Senators Clark, Hale, Foote, King, Hamlin, and some members of the House here to play euchre and eat strawberries and cream...” [FFP Reel 5]

2 June 1860: Amos Tuck (Great Falls) to Edward Tuck. Amos is going to Effingham to see his mother, writing while waiting for a train connection. "I wish you would take off a copy of yr. acct. at your leisure and send me. Don't fail to keep up your standing if you can, in your class and your uprightness as a young man—of honor and purity, in thought and deed. Your most loving and hoping father." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

2 June 1860: Amos Tuck (Great Falls, NH) to Abby Nelson and Ellen Tuck. "I am on route to Effingham to see mother, and lest you fail to have a letter from mother, I take occasion to write from here. I can only for want of time, say that I am well – expect to return Monday eve – where I hope to hear from you Tuesday morning."

"Yrs. affectionately Amos Tuck."

[P.S.] "I write to Ned also, and tell him of yr. aff. letter to me, which warmed my heart and filled my eyes." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

3 June 1860: Catherine P. Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "Your father was obliged to go to Eff. yesterday, and requested me to write to you and Ellen as he could not. Your grandmother is no worse, but she relied on his coming to see her as soon as he should return. Your father seems very well and in very good spirits since he returned, notwithstanding the laborious time he had while away. The Republicans had a ratification meeting last Friday eve. at which your father spoke, giving an account of his stewardship and Mr. Pangborn of Boston Ed. of Boston Atlas & B[?]. It was well you went the day you did, as your father did not get home until Sat. Eve. being just ten minutes too late to make the connection in Boston in the morning.

"Mr. Wells appears to be getting well under the mesmeric influence of our Dr. Phillips of Portland. He does not pretend to cure disease, but only to operate upon the nervous system" (more on the treatment of Mr. Wells).

"Young Lincoln took tea with us last Sunday Evening. He appears very modest and sensible under the circumstances. He has a little brother seven or eight years old who corresponds with him regularly, and writes good letters, so your father says who read one of them. " [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

4 June 1860: Mary Lincoln (Springfield, IL) to Amos Tuck. "Dear sir: Whilst writing to our son Robert, to-day, I thought I would enclose you a few lines, expressing our regrets, that during the visit of the Committee to S. we had such a succession of company, excitement etc. as to be unable to see as much of you as we had desired. Knowing that your business, frequently calls you to Chicago, we would consider ourselves particularly favored, if you would extend your trip to our place, & make us a visit. This would be especially gratifying to Mr. L____. It would afford us much pleasure, to have you bring Mrs. Tuck, and make her acquaintance."

"The Republican State Committee, meeting here, two or three days since, we had about twenty of the most prominent Republicans of the State to take supper with us, it would have been most gratifying to have had you with us. Mr. Yates, with whom you are acquainted I believe,

has been with [us] this evening, his friends appear very sanguine of his election. When I commenced writing, I had intended only expressing our desire, that you would sometime this year, pay us a visit, trusting you will excuse the great liberty, I feel that I have taken, I am very respectfully yours Mary Lincoln"

“Mr. Lincoln begs to present his kindest regards –“

[Franklin Brooks, “The Lincoln Years...” Dartmouth College Library Bulletin, April 1981]

4 June 1860: Exeter News-Letter reported that the Exeter “Wide Awakes” had organized with James W. Odlin as Captain. Charles G. Conner was the secretary and treasurer. Amos Tuck was on the executive committee, along with Charles D. Bell, William B. Morrill, N.G. Gilman, S.D. Wingate, and George G. Lougee.

5 June 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “I found your Grandmother in Effingham feeble and can’t last many months.” Long passage of advice and exhortation for Ned, who apparently had apologized for teasing his father about leaving college.

“I did not go to Saint Louis—did not have time—and have no light on the subject of removal. I wrote to Mr. Hoyt the other day that I could get over all the objections except that of having an auction and selling out my goods, my household gods—that I was either too much or too little of a man to contemplate such an even with equanimity and thus far I had not got myself to the sticking point.”

Tuck got one swarm of bees into the hive on the back Piazza (Dining Room). “I shall be glad to receive your Daguerrotype with the cropped hair. Did you see the French Priest when at home? And settle with him?” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

9 June 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Amos tells Ned mostly family gossip. “Mr. French is trying to exchange his farm for a house and three acres in _____, Mass. ten miles from Boston on Old Colony R.R. and will move at once if he can make the trade. The gardener Shortwell is a perfect blockhead. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

10 June 1860: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “...I think Tuck is right about Frank. Let the youth stick to some regular business, and not leave it for speculations, offices or ‘any other creatures,’ and by and by he will make something.”

“...I suppose Clark will be elected Senator without opposition. Tuck came from Concord yesterday, and he thinks so, and [if] he does not know of any opposition, there is not any. Tuck probably expects to be something if ‘Abe’ comes in – Minister to France, say. Well, I had rather have your clerkship than the promise of the Presidency. Hazelton & Ware had to advance that \$25 and sue old Howard for it.” [FFP Reel 11]

12 June 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Mostly advice and gossip for Ned.
[TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

14 June 1860: BBF letter to his wife who is in New England. "Tell Frank that Gov. Grimes was in college with Mr. Tuck, and knew all about the romance of his courtship, and gave me a history of it when went to the Asylum. It was quite funny. How we do always find out the youthful indiscretions – or rather the discretions! – of the aged of the present day! Senator G. said Tuck's children ought to be handsome for their mother was." [BBF's "Journal for Mrs. French's amusement, " Witness to the Young Republic, pp. 328-9]

18 June 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Gives Ned town gossip. Describes new athletic equipment installed on the PEA green. Ellen writes to say Abby is not yet well. Ellen thinks it better for Abby to come home soon.

"It may not be best for you to study law, but as you say we cannot yet tell...I do not expect to remove to Saint Louis. I have too much to leave. It seems probable I shall stay in Exeter and keep the central point secure, while you and the girls circulate about it, coming home occasionally, to make all bright and happy." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

19 June 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Discussion of Ned's room arrangements in Dartmouth. Grandmother is still sick, Uncle Jonathan too sick to visit her. "The Court is sitting here for a few days. I go to Concord to-morrow to remain there at night to act the lawyer before a Committee of the Leg. relative to a contested election case." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

24 June 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tells Ned town gossip, especially about the profusion of strawberries the Tucks have. "I hear from Ellen, who is invited about once a week by Frank, and who will stay some time longer at Peekskill with Abby, who is not well, but is improving, I trust. Mr. French is to sell his farm at auction. I think I told you, yr. mother and I are alone. We go out but little, but I get along quite happily. We were at Burley's at a party a few nights since, and shall go to Sen Bell's to-morrow night. We have invited Mrs. Lincoln to visit us this [three words unclear]. It is quite unclear whether she comes. More gossip, including further complications to the Nudd inheritance. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

24 June 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Abby Nelson. "While your mother is doing her work upstairs, I will write to you. I think a great deal about you and your circumstances, but I do not think about them despondingly. Perhaps it is, that you have arrived at a new development of character, and that you are now passing the crisis. You were married a young girl, you have lived with a craving for the pleasures of a girl, mixed, uncomfortably, with the responsibilities of a mother, until now, in some perplexity, you find yourself at the head of a family, with a sense of heavy responsibility, with necessities greater than your means, and an almost formed conviction, that solid comfort, peace and rest, are so impracticable in this world, that life is not worth the possession. What is the remedy, or is there none? Many before you, and your father among them, have seen such a crisis, such a stage of life. Is there no relief?"

“I think there is, and this. Henceforth live for those you love. Expect nothing for yourself, but live, and think, and plan, and suffer for the good of your children, and for others whom you love. Pray secretly to the God, who unseen governs all, who pities us, as a father, pitieth his child, to give you strength, and henceforth expect only the satisfaction of suffering for the loved ones, even to the giving up of life. The no burden will be unexpected, no sorrow unlooked for. Then will you feel, in the unexpected satisfaction of self-abnegation, the fulfillment of what our Savior meant when he said, ‘he that loseth his life shall save it.’ Then will you be practicing fortitude, magnanimity, Christianity.”

“But it is easier preaching than practicing. How shall my dear daughter illustrate such self-forgetfulness? Turn all thoughts out of your head, except that of being an all-enduring, good mother contriving by your intellectual resources, to live within the means of a husband, not likely ever to have a surplus of means, and now compelled to live in rigid economy. Daily take your children into the dining room, so that you can keep an eye on them, at the same time you can keep a running knowledge of every article of food, that appears and goes, and the fragments of it, using it some way or the other, till it is use to the greatest advantage., looking into every hole and corner, to see that accumulations of dirt do not take place, so that an extra hand is needed to put things to rights. Let no calls of friends, or foes, interrupt this daily, tri-daily hourly attention. Let not even the requests of a husband turn you aside from this. In the devotion of Jesus Christ, say to all, ‘wist ye not that I must be about my Father’s business?’”

“Then, at last, when you can go upstairs, and are compelled to lie down, lie and muse upon the means you have and how you can continue to make over this old article, and to dispense with that new one, and how, in short, you can be a cute, economical and wise mother.”

“You will achieve some hasty reading, but none of it till all your work is thoroughly done, and then only while resting.”

“Do you say you are sufficient for these things? Turn your talents this way, of your own force, and in the individuality, and desperation, which you have sometimes felt, and you may achieve an elevated character, all the more exalted, on account of what you have suffered. Can you not astonish all your friends by new revelations, of how you can view life and duty?”

“Or are you so weak in body now, that you can form no plan, and do little? If so, only do what you can, till you get strength, being careful not to endanger your precious life.”

“Or do you say, that even then, the expenses would be so great, that Wm. could not stand them, or would complain? Now, my daughter, here I will come to the rescue. If you can thus live, and thus save, I will stand in the breach and give you all you need, in addition to what Wm. will supply. I will only require of you to consider, that your father cannot conveniently spare a cent, which you can comfortably save, while it will be his happiness to take old of your hand and lead you, or even to carry you in his arms, over every hard place, where you cannot walk with your own strength. This shall be the fruit of our love, you to do all your talents enable you to achieve to save and economize and I, to supply the deficiencies, out of my loving sympathy, so that you need never be in terrors, such as you have endured. Why cannot his be our prognosis in future? If I were risking money beyond what I shall spend, I might not thus enjoin a ‘new life.’

But you know that I shall not ask saving, if saving were not indispensable. I can not write more now. But hopefully, I sign myself your loving father, and the loving grandfather of your dear children, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “If the \$1000 is gone, let it go. To save it, I would have done much. Now that it is gone, it is unwise to worry over it.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

25 June 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. “You wrote me a very wise and tender letter, as did Abby; and I want you both to know that I appreciate your sense, and your sensibility – your tenderness and your love. I have taken so much time in writing to Abby and Ned, that I shall be obliged to be short in this, as the mail is soon to close. I forebear writing about your stay at Pkskll or about Abby’s coming here, or anything else. For a time, she will stay as you and she now are. I want to learn how you get along with your domestic change. Do not undertake too much. Yet we may as well learn now as hereafter, that what talents we have, must be exemplified first in economies. This is a prospective necessity, for you and for all of us. Yet I look cheerfully on the future, only asking that you may all live, and be good, and be self-sacrificing. This is Christlike.”

“Your loving father Amos Tuck”

[Marginal note] “Is it not too often, to have Frank burden William and Abby – once a week” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 July 1860: HFF (Exeter) to BBF. “I confess to a little feeling of spite or something towards N.H. They rejected Hoyt, and called for Barabbas (Marston) and now they have left me off their Bench, and Massachusetts, rich and generous holds out her hands to me. I have more sympathy with Boston than Exeter. Old Chester we will call our New Hampshire home, and if we live, meet there in summer and take our comfort.” [FFP Reel 11]

2 July 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “Last week, I had the advanced class of the Academy to our house in the evening, to eat strawberries. With them I had Lincoln, Jas. Bell, Scott and Campbell. They stayed 1 1/2 hours, 1/2 hour longer than necessary, they not knowing how easy it is to get up and leave.”

Tells of church decision to expand the church building.

“Ellen is to come home next week. Wm. has sold his house and is to board hereafter. I like this arrangement, on Abby’s account, who is not expert as a housekeeper, and who now has the addition of ill health upon her, to incapacitate her. It seems Abby prefers to stay where she is rather than take the journey home. I have opened the way as heretofore for her coming and should be glad if she would.”

More advice on college. Asks Ned to tell Prof. Patterson that Tuck is still thinking about moving to St. Louis, but there are family health difficulties. The question is still open, but Tuck doesn’t think he will go. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

9 July 1860: US Census shows Tuck living in Exeter with his wife and Ellen and Edward. Mary McEnery, age 23 and born in Ireland, listed as a “domestic.”

9 July 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward. Tuck recd. and examined Ned’s cash accounts point by point and found no problem. “The aggregate of your expenses, for clothes and for other College expenses, is greater by far, than I expended when at Hanover, but I consider that your social standing requires more of you, than mine did of me, and that all expenses are greater now, than they were 25 years ago.”

“Mr. French sold his house, Saturday, for \$3800 to Nath Gordon, including 1 ¼ acres of land adjoining, and the wood house, of course. He could not sell any of the land besides. Yet he is buoyant, and exhilarated with the prospect of going to Cambridge where he intends to live in dignity and comfort with his present children (till they grow up and leave him) and with his new wife, and her most flattering prospects of adding more treasures to his household.”

Ellen is expected home with Laura. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

10 July 1860: Tuck attended PEA Trustees’ meeting.

16 July 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tuck and wife went to Boston previous Saturday. Stayed with the Dudleys. Ellen and Laura arrived Friday in good health and spirits. I expect to go to Commencement but the others will remain in Exeter. Please thank Mr. and Mrs. Patterson for their invitations and tell them I will be happy to stay with them.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

19 July 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tuck sends Ned more money for school bills. “Pay every cent you owe, at once, and then if you are applied to for small loans, you will have no power to loan, and can say truly, that your treasury is empty. I think your sophomore supper expense was enormous, and suppose you could never have incurred such a bill unless your honor was thought to be concerned.”

Tuck plans to be in Hanover on Thursday after dinner. Mr. Hoyt has been visiting but must leave. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

1 August 1860: Mary Lincoln (Springfield, IL) to Catherine P. Tuck. “Dear Mrs. Tuck: Surrounded by circumstances as I have been, is my only apology for my silence and apparent remissness.”

“A little son, about nine years of age, has been very low with scarlet fever. He has entirely recovered, yet we have to be extremely careful of him.”

“Today is our eldest son’s birthday – sweet seventeen. How much happiness it would afford us to have him celebrate it with us! His classmate and particular friend, young Latham and himself, we hope are enjoying themselves in a little excursion they are making in the White Mountains....”

“We have had a very warm summer – not possessing the advantages you enjoy of the sea breeze. Mr. Lincoln presents his kindest regards to yourself and Mr. Tuck. I remain, yours respectfully, Mary Lincoln.” [Franklin Brooks, “The Lincoln Years...,” Dartmouth College Library Bulletin, April 1981)

5 August 1860: Tuck’s mother, Betsey Towle Tuck dies in Parsonsfield, ME. [Dow]

5 August 1860: BBF (Washington) to Henry. Plans for trip to NY and NE. “I recd. a letter from Frank this morning – he mentions several business engagements and goes on to say...” he hopes for more (in a little poem). “He seems to be very popular with all who know him in New York, and I think his prospects are excellent. I wrote to him that I wanted him with me at Cincinnati – Expenses pd. and \$3 per day from the start. He wants to go, but fears the term of the Sup. Court in Westchester Co. may prevent.” (FFP, Reel 5)

24 August 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to David Davis. “Dear sir: A recollection of the interview we had at the convention, and the increasing satisfaction I have in contemplating the work of that convention, induces me to write you a few lines. Although our people had more generally anticipated the nomination of Seward, than that of any other man, they came as readily, and as heartily, into the nomination of Lincoln as our party papers represented. Since the nomination, friends and foes have read and re-read Mr. Lincoln’s speeches, and so far as I know, or believe, there is a general surprise, that they bear scrutiny with such success, and that while there is material on every page, to help make up a reputation for a statesman, there is nothing in any of his speeches, that encumbers us in the canvass, or serves to humble him, in comparison with our best men. It is marvelous to me, that such is the fact, when [word unclear] the multiplicity of exigencies in which he has been placed and how easy it would have been on many occasions to say an un[page break] [page break 4-5 words unclear] unwise thing. The overruling [sp?] providence, of ever present good sense, practical wisdom and genuine nationality, has seemed to save him on all occasions. I congratulate you, on the efficient part you have taken, of bearing our banner in this glorious struggle, and upon the great reason we now have to believe, that he is surely to be elected President. It was but a trifle that I did, in attempting early to carry our entire delegation for Lincoln, but that trifle is enough to give me sincere satisfaction in the belief that the nomination was the only fit and proper nomination, we could have made.”

“Of course you think N. England to be secure. I believe there is no doubt of a single of the six. New York, we think is safe, but shall of course watch the factions opposed to us, with some anxiety. Penn. And N. Jersey are in the most hopeful condition, as we think. I have not heard how Lane is doing in Indiana. If you have a crumb of comfort to send me, respecting that state I shall be thankful for it, and of course, for any information respecting matters in [word unclear]. Besides the presidential victory, I want to see my old friend Yates elected Governor.”

“As I know from Mr. Lincoln your very friendly interest in his family, I will mention that his son Robert, who has been in this place for the year past, has behaved himself as the son of Abraham Lincoln might be expected to do. He stands at the top of the ladder as a scholar, and is

a singularly discrete well behaved brilliant and promising young man. His good sense is severely tested by the attentions he receives from every body, but he stands it all. He is a member of our 'Wide awakes,' and was out in full uniform, a few evenings since with the rest of the 'Boys' to attend the raising of a Lincoln and Hamlin Banner. I addressed the crowd on the occasion and could not help alluding to the pleasant circumstance, and the compliment to our town and our Academy, bestowed upon us by our Candidate, and the way we should reciprocate the compliment. But I have made an unexpectedly long letter and will close."

"With much esteem, Yours truly, Amos Tuck." [Rauner Library, Tuck's alumni file]

2 September 1860: Samuel B. Dow (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Sam is leaving for the seminary the next day. He wanted to know if Ned had a good time at "the Lake"...There has been a great rush to the Camp Meeting. I have not been for I could not spare time. It closes tonight.

"I expect there will be quite a time here on Sunday. There is going to be a number of Bands here and delegations from other Towns all going to form a procession which is to be a large one according to the talk."

"There is a large number of students here this term a great many strangers some of them are troubled to get a boarding place. I cannot stop and write more as I must fix for meeting."

[TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

7 September 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tells Ned, "We had a great meeting here on Tuesday last. [unclear word] at our house at dinner were Senators Wilson and Chase, two Reps. In Congress from N.York, Gov. Goodwin, Mr. Fogg, J.G. Whittier + several others. We had a good time. Yesterday P.M. Ellen + the girls of 'The Circle' were invited by the 'Boys' to go to the Beach, and all hands went, and had a dance and fine time, not returning till nearly 3 o'clock this morning.

"I am engaged moderately at the office. Construction on the church near completion. Long passage of advice, mostly about how to write good letters." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

16 September 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. All gossip and news about Tuck's apple crop. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

18 September 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Mostly gossip and inquiries about Ned's school progress now that he has left the room at the Patterson's. Tuck is sending Ned his gun. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

21 September 1860: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Mostly gossip, but a long analysis of the month's Atlantic which gave Tuck two thoughts he wanted to draw to Ned's attention: 1. New Englanders love two things: a philosophical arrangement and plenty of statistics; and 2. Today is as grand as the centuries before. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

23 September 1860: BBF notes from Cincinnati: “Mrs. French and I spent two or three days [earlier in September] with Hon. Amos Tuck most pleasantly. (FFP Reel 2)

23 September 1860: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. Long tale of a college riot against a boy at Dartmouth who had close ties (a son) of one Judge Fowler. Much scandal, and Ned apparently wanted to give his version to Tuck before he heard it through the Trustees and newspapers. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

24 September 1860: Tuck is shown in ad as a member of a committee selling pews in the Second Parish Church, Exeter. [Exeter News Letter]

1 October 1860: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. Ned tells his father of his plan to study French in the new program at Dartmouth [that Tuck helped get adopted, i.e. modern languages]. But the letter is mostly to convince his father to let him room with an upper classman off campus for the winter term. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

2 October 1860: Samuel B. Dow (Place unclear) to Edward Tuck. Apologizes for not being able to visit because he has “a prospect of going west soon.” Asks Ned to write to him care of the “Shaker Village, New Hampshire.” [TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

7 October 1860: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. More Dartmouth gossip from Ned, with the follow-up to the Fowler scandal. “I did not know till you wrote [Tuck’s letters for the fall of 1860 are not in the file] that Ellen was gone to Rainsford, although she had spoken of it once. She must be enjoying herself highly with Frank, etc. especially, Frank.” [Rainsford is an island in Boston Harbor; one of Frank French’s uncles worked at the quarantine hospital there].

Ned tells Tuck more fully of his involvement in the Fowler affair and of his testimony to the faculty. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 4]

11 October 1860: Benjamin French journal item: “The next morning I went over to N. York – and called on Frank at Nelson’s office, 70 Wall St. then went into Broadway and did errands.” [FFP, Reel 2]

16 October 1860: Tuck (Exeter) to Fogg. “My dear Fogg, Where are you, and when shall you be in reach of me – in N.H., when I can go to see you, or you can come to see me?

“It is of no use for me to attempt to show my joy over the October elections. Suffice to say, the prospect of the future, goes far to repay for all the vexations and humiliating defeats of 15 yrs. Past. After so long a time God has appeared in his American Israel. Halleluiah Amen. Yours, A. Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

14 November 1860: Samuel B. Dow (Francesville, Indiana) to Edward Tuck. “...here I am in the midst of a large prairie...I came for the purpose to hunt principally, but guess I have got into the

wrong place as game is very scarce this year. I think I shall have to leave here soon and go down on the Mississippi about 600 miles from here and try my luck there as there is plenty of geese ducks swan etc. There are some few here but are very wild also prairie hens and quail..."

"Give my regards to George Gill....Tell me all the news direct to Louisville in the care of Chas. L. Dow...." [TFP, Box 4, Folder2]

15 November 1860: Tuck lent \$1,200.00 to Winthrop H. Dudley of Brentwood in exchange for a mortgage on a fifty-acre tract of land on the road between Exeter and John Dudley's in Brentwood. Tuck discharged the mortgage on 13 October 1862.

[Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 389, Page 239]

18 November 1860: BBF (Washington) to Simon and Ann Brown. Tells of Bess's operation and her subsequent progress. Her right breast was removed. "Frank is here, and it is a great comfort to us. He has nerve and fortitude, like his mother." [FFP Reel 5]

27 November 1860: Tuck attended PEA Trustees' meeting.

6 December 1860: Samuel B. Dow (Francesville, Indiana) to Edward Tuck. "...you say you pity me out here, in the wilderness well I don't blame you a bit. I pity anyone who has to live here in the woods...." [TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

19 December 1860: Dartmouth Faculty Members to Abraham Lincoln. "To the Hon. Abraham Lincoln, President-elect of the United States:

"The undersigned members of the Faculty of Dartmouth College having heard the Hon. Amos Tuck a trustee of our institution, mentioned in connection with a Cabinet Office, they have most respectfully to present his name to you as worthy of favorable consideration."

"Mr. Tuck is a man of broad and liberal views, and a generous patron of learning. He possesses eminent abilities as a man of business, and unusual tact in the conduct of affairs. He is a man of great firmness, and yet frank and conciliatory in [several words unclear]. His intelligence is comprehensive and his executive talents universally acknowledged. His integrity is unquestioned and he possesses the confidence of all parties."

"In our judgment, Mr. Tuck's ability, intelligence and habits of industry, admirably qualifies him to take an active and honorable part in an Administration which will come into power under peculiar difficulties, and in the success of which we feel a professional interest."

[Signed] Roswell Shurtleff [sp?] Prof. Emeritus
Dixie Crosby, M.D. Prof Surgery in Dart Coll.
Oliver P. Hubbard Prof.
A.G. Brown Prof
William A. Packard Prof. Mod.. Lang.
Henry Fairbanks Prof. of Nat. Phil.
John N. Putnam Prof.

John B. Turney, Prof. of Math.
 J.M. Patterson Prof Hist etc. Dart. College”
 [Rauner Library, Tuck’s alumni file]

24 December 1860: Lincoln asks Hannibal Hamlin’s opinion about “a suitable man of Democratic antecedents from New England.” He was thinking of Banks, Welles and Tuck. “Which of them do the New England delegation prefer?” (Collected Works of Lincoln)

25 December 1860: Benjamin French journal item, written in Washington “A dull, dark, snowy morning. Frank and Ellen Tuck arrived by this morning’s train. We knew they were coming, and I slept by ‘catnaps’ all night, getting up every now and then to ascertain what time it was and finally rising at 5 to prepare for receiving them. The consequence is that now, at ¼ past 9 A.M. I feel as if I had had no sleep. [Ellen stayed with the Frenches until the wedding in March.]
 [FFP, Reel 2]

30 December: BBF notes: A Sunday. “It is 12 o’clock noon, and the rain is falling as gently as if it were an April shower. Mrs. French, Frank, Ben, and I are in the Library – they all reading while I write. Ellen Tuck is in her chamber dressing.” [FFP Reel 2]

1861

1 January 1861: BBF notes, “My household consists, at the moment, of myself, Mrs. French, Frank, Ben, and Miss Ellen Tuck – and as servants, Michael, Bridget Connolly, and Ellen O’Brien....At 3 p.m. Frank expects to leave for his place of business – New York. On the very day that I commenced the journal preceding this (March 1, 1858), he left to commence his studies at the Law School at Cambridge. Since then he has become an Attorney, and located himself in the City of New York.” [FFP Reel 2]

3 January 1861: Amos Tuck (Chicago) to Ellen Tuck. “I have been to Madison and Milwaukee, and have about arranged my business here, expecting this evening to go towards Saint Louis, lying over one train at Springfield, to see Mr. Lincoln. I have not obtained any new item, regarding his intentions. My business is in tolerable condition out here. I am anxious about the country, and if there is to be an outbreak at Washington, I shall not want you there the 4th March. I cannot return via Washington. I am anxious to arrive at Mr. Hoyt’s to get a letter from you and others. I am anxious to hear about your hand, as well as of your general health.”

“My dear Ellen, I think of you a great deal, and pray for your welfare and happiness, as being one of my chief measures.”

“With the kindest regards for your kind friends at Washington, I remain your ever aff.
 Father, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 January 1861: “In early January 1861 Tuck and Senator Salmon P. Chase of Ohio, New Hampshire-born and Dartmouth 1826, made their pilgrimage to Springfield to plead New England’s interests and to explain their personal ambitions. After a joint interview on 5 January Chase left, apparently assure that he would become secretary of the treasury, and Tuck stayed a few days more. Afterwards he wrote Edward: [see letter of 13 January].

[Franklin Brooks, “The Lincoln Years...,” Dartmouth College Library Bulletin, April 1981]

5 January 1861: Samuel B. Dow (Louisville, Ky.) to Edward Tuck. Sam is with his brother Louisville. “I think of going down south about 460 miles on the Mississippi. If I do I shall see in all probability some serious doings, as things are growing worse and worse, every day and something decisive will be done in a very short time as South Carolina has gone too far to reverse herself even if she desired to, and other Southern states will soon follow her example. I tell you what, Ned, it make me tremble to think of the consequence of a dissolution of the Union. Yesterday all the business houses were closed in this city and meetings held in all the churches praying for the Union and nearly all weighing black crape on their arms.”

“I was not sorry to hear of that fire, and my wishes were the same as yours, it is a pity that that wet snow happened to be on the roof....” [TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

7 January 1861: The New York Times published a report datelined 5 January from Springfield, Illinois that Governor Chase and Amos Tuck had a protracted interview with the President-elect that day. Many contradictory reports were in circulation in reference to Chase’s visit.

7 January 1861: Tuck (Saint Louis) to Fogg. “My dear Fogg, My interview with Mr. Lincoln was perfectly satisfactory. He is true to our principles, as the needle to the pole. He knows he encounters dangers in the path he will tread, but he cheerfully takes the risk, with heroic spirit, shirking no hazards, if duty calls him on. He does not know what he shall do, in his Cabinet appointments yet, excepting Bates, but I have reason to hope Chase will go to at the head. I saw Chase et al. Nothing was decided when I left. Lincoln will do what is right, God bless him. Yet I do not expect he will include your humble servant in those he will take to Abraham’s bosom. I hope to return via Concord, but am not sure. Yrs. Truly Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

8 January 1861: Tuck has a private meeting with Lincoln. [See 13 January letter to Edward Tuck.]

11 January 1861: [Next letter in the series after the 18 November letter.] Bess most afflicted woman I know. “She took Ellen out to see the sights – went to Corcoran’s gallery, shopping, etc.” Caught a cold. “...Ellen was combing her hair when I left.” [FFP Reel 5]

13 January 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tuck thanks God he arrived safely home after travelling 2,000 miles. He was at Concord Friday night. He left Catherine there until he was able to obtain a girl to work in the family. Mrs. Taylor will then come with her.

“I staid at the Lincoln’s house last Tuesday night [8 January] , and came as far as Albany in company with Mrs. Lincoln and her brother-in-law. I had private talks with Mr. L, and he is under promise to give me an appointment worthy my acceptances, in case I do not go into the Cabinet, which is possible, not probable. I guess I shall get just what I want—the Boston Collector shop—but cannot tell certainly. Perhaps this is all I need say about my journey, except that my business affairs are no worse off than I supposed, and better than I feared.”

“There is a rumor that Gen. Scott has been shot in a duel by Tombs. If so, it will set on fire the dry faggots of anti-slavery indignation and do much towards bringing on a civil war. I am a little anxious about Ellen’s situation in Washington, and have written her she better come home, unless B.B. French is sure no violence against Washington is possible.”

Abby wrote a loving letter to Tuck in St. Louis, but he could not visit her in Peekskill on the way home. “Shall go that way to the inauguration, which I think of attending.

Brother Jonathan is very close to a melancholy death from cancer. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

January 1861: Jonathan died later that month in Biddeford, where he had been postmaster. He was mayor when he died. [Tuck 1875]

20 January 1861: BBF notes, “Mrs. French has been confined to her chamber for the past 10 days with pleurisy. She is, we hope, recovering now. I do not feel like writing more, and there is little to write about. Ellen and I attended church. Mr. Haley preached.” [FFP Reel 2]

20 January 1861: Catherine P. Tuck (Concord, NH) to Ellen Tuck. “My dear Ellen: I will write you a few lines while your father is taking one of his ‘short naps.’ I should have written you again before now, after receiving yours, but I have been miserable ever since I have been here, and within the last week have been quite sick, confined to my room for several days an almost to my bed. To day went down to dinner for the first time for nearly a week, but have little or no appetite. Still I am gaining and hope to be well enough to go home by another week. Your uncle Jona. died Friday night, about midnight, not having had his senses at all for some days. He is to be buried to-morrow. Your father goes down to the funeral. The rest of them are as well as usual. I find I cannot write you much after all, as it makes me faint to sit up and make the exertion. Your father will write the rest with much love to Mrs. French I am your affectionate Mother C.P. Tuck”

[in Tuck’s hand] “Sunday eve – Mrs. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Tullock [sp.?] etc. have just left our room and I now undertake to add a few lines to this letter. I have been trying a long case in Court all the week and could not go to Bid. till it was all over with Jona. I went there yesterday and returned here at night and go again to-morrow to be at the funeral. The City Government of Biddeford take the charge of the funeral, and make a great display. Mr. Tenney will preach a funeral discourse in the Baptist Church. Lois Ann is well again, but her husband cannot last long, judging from his consumptive look, though he calls himself well.”

“I am now at ease about you. Tell the Maj. And Mrs. French, I am glad you can at all add to their comfort, and take pleasure in consenting to your being with them, tho. it would

improve our comfort to have you at home. As to Saint Louis write them at once. You have neglected Anna, while they all think constantly of us, and have our sympathy and love. The women there, are all home sick. Tell them your father would consent to your going to Saint Louis, with a good escort, but that Mrs. French's health is such that so long as you can possibly stay away this time, you will have to stay with her; but that going to visit them is a vision of bliss you hope to realized before a long time. Assure them that your infrequency in writing is no index of how often you think of them with interest, and that you pray them not to forget you. They 'hanker' for such affectionate assurance. They love us all."

"Nothing new has transpire of late touching political prospects – (my own – They are satisfactory).

"Tell the Major, the Union will continue, any how, and I don't believe, we are going to have any shooting."

"Assure Mrs. F. of our sympathy and hopes for her speedy recovery, and write us often and fully about yourself as well as her."

"Your aff. Father, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

23 January 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. "Having a leisure few minutes in Court, I sit down at one of the tables while a trial is going on, between other lawyers, and attempt to combine my thoughts amidst the confusion, so as to answer your affectionate letter rec'd this morning. You ask my views politically: - I will give them briefly. I do not believe the Union is about to be broken up, though I do not see, nor can any one tell, how we are to find our way out of present perplexities. Yet we shall get out of them, sooner or later, in one way or another, and then the government will be all the stronger for the vexations through which it has passed. If it so happen, by possibility, that a division is effected, contrary to my present faith, then I shall settle down into the conviction that God has ordained disunion, as a necessary means to rid the Continent of the curse of slavery. The behavior of the South has lately brought often to my mind the proverb, 'Whom the Gods will destroy, they first make mad,' and I know it to be possible that the solution of the problem of slavery may be found in the events now beginning to be transacted in the country. Still I expect no disunion and no abolition of slavery."

"As to the treatment of present troubles, I feel that more is to be apprehended from medicine than from disease. I have no faith in any compromise or any overtures, except that already found in the Constitution; and those patriotic union men of the South, who are so anxious that their hand shall be strengthened by some pacific acts by the North, do not fully understand the strength and utility of this Government. Let madness have its run, till the people see its disastrous termination. Let those men who traitorously lay violent hands on the ark of our Covenant, persist in their course till they know there is a God in Israel who will smite them down. Let southern men, like Gov. Aiken of So. Carolina, who have heretofore been the tools of slavery, now pay the bills incident to their position, and sweat it out under forced loans, till they see how great a blessing is the Government of this Country. I want the South to fry in their own fat, till they have had enough of disunion to last for the next 100 years. Let not the breach be

healed at all, if traitors are to come back with flying colors, unhumbled and undisgraced by the treasons in which they are now engaged.”

“Still I go only for the enforcement of the laws and the protection of the public property. Collect the revenues, and give the South a chance to have members of Congress, judges, postmasters etc. if they like, but not to force either upon them; and then go on administering the Govt. of the U.S. of Am., never recognizing disunion, by word or deed, no matter how vociferously it be alleged that the Union is dissolved. In the mean time, the South will be tired of soldiering and paying the bills, and losing their trade, and general protection, while the North will hardly feel the effect, and the South will in time find their mistake and come back humbled, as she richly deserves to be.”

“You can read the above to the Major if you like. I fear I do not agree with him, yet such is my present view.”

“Your mother will come back, next Monday I think. I am quite comfortable at Mr. Buzell’s. It would be a luxury to have you here, still I am willing you remain where you seem to be so much more necessary. I shall write to Frank to-day. He has sold the stock and done [as] well as he could, and I shall so say to him. He has not written me for a long time, except a note enclosing the money for the stock. I shall speak encouragingly to him, and so as probably to get a letter from him in reply. I feel that Ned is manly and aspiring, and that if he lives, he will, at least bring no disgrace upon any of us, but add to our comfort. He is generous, affectionate and kind every way. Jona. made no will but wished his property (\$400,000) to be divided equally between Lois and his wife.”

“I remain, Your ever aff. Father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

25 January: Mrs. French is still very sick. Mrs. Wells (French’s sister) arrived. BBF notes, “My brother Edmund, Margaret and Mary Ellen came up to see Mrs. Wells after dinner, and we all sat and talked till tea time – then they left, and after tea Mrs. Russell (his other sister) came in and has just gone home and Kate (Mrs. Wells) and Ellen Tuck went with her. Now they have returned and gone up stairs.” [FFP Reel 2]

27 January 1861: Frank French (New York City) to Amos Tuck. “I was naturally very much pleased to learn the prospect of political advancement under the new administration, and shall be very earnest in my congratulations should you be appointed Collector at Boston.”

“That will be a pleasant office I know, from the character of the people with whom it brings you in contact, it is a very honorable position – a wardenship of the cinque ports, as it were, and the emoluments are doubtless liberal.”

“You speak also of your own business, and though not in terms yet by implication seem to invite me to reconsider the decision to which I have arrived in the conflicting inducements of town versus country life. I can only say now, as I did a month ago, that having deliberately taken my position, I shall not feel satisfied (if I satisfy my friends) if I abandon it without making something of an effort to hold it. But as I said before, I am still ready to allow circumstances to control my future – not only my place of residence but even my profession, for though I am

interested in law, and every day feel my success is more certain, yet it is my trade after all, and for a better one I would leave it. But I should no more think of proclaiming the possibility of my leaving the city than of leaving the profession, and for the same reason, that it would disturb the confidence people always have, and the interest they take, in a man who identifies himself with his place of business.”

“Secession is treason, and not to be broached with honor unless success justifies giving it a good name – revolution. In plain words, at the present hour, however, when business is so stagnant that the office barely pays expenses, any plan that secures me independence – no matter how frugal now, would be a temptation. I had come so near the fruition of the hopes of years that I was reaching my hand to clutch it, when this storm came; and it requires all my philosophy to bear the disappointment patiently. I have no home, and the only rest is hoping to be blest.”

“In a previous letter and again now, you seem to intimate the plan which you have before broached in words, (and for which I assure you I am grateful though I decline it,) of going East.”

“The prospect of business which you [word unclear] is probably worth double there what the same number of dollars gives here – but it does not follow [that] because your business is worth so much that mine would, or even half what I gather here. The trouble I that I have learned to hold money as cheap as the people here do and it goes as easy: I must not go for my gains where it comes harder.”

“You speak further, sir, of the advantage which the expected position might be, were I located in Boston.”

“But I am not and I think it would not be proper for me to move there on account of such influence.”

“Government patronage I do not seek for, for I have seen what a dreadful clog of independence it is, and know that the temporary peace of mind is purchased at the price of that, and peace of mind for years to come. I hope I may be able to earn an honest livelihood without bolstering before long, for I am writing to confess to you that I am sick at heart of both my dependence and loneliness.”

“I have written a letter-full about myself which I hope the interest you have kindly manifested in me will excuse. I know it would be pleasant to you if - on the hypothesis that some day in the future I shall be married – Ellen and I would be within hailing distance; an it w’ld certainly be so to me, for I believe in the Union of states and families, and think it ought to be so. But I cannot see the way out of the difficulty.”

“I must not omit to thank you for Ellen’s visit to my mother – and who would fail to esteem it when purchased at the expense of your own comfort, for I hear you are boarding. The accounts from my mother are hardly consoling – she seems beset by a legion of evils in the train of the great suffering. But both she and my father are so happy in Ellen’s presence that I hope you will feel as I do, that she is on a mission of mercy and will spare her for a time.”

“By the time this reaches you Mrs. Tuck will be home again, I suppose. If so please remember me to her.”

“I have said nothing about the history which every day is manufacturing, for at this time the older heads seem quite at a loss what the morning papers will announce, and the babbling of inexperience may well be omitted. From what I have written you will see, sir, that I am - like my class-mate Perkins’s ships – ‘up for a market’ but disposed to be at the N.Y. piers in default of other offers.”

“I cannot hope that you will find time to write me again, but hope that you will continue to use me if any business falls into yr. hands which I can do. Pay is of secondary importance; facility, address, habit of dealing with men of business is of as much value now as the lucre – by some deemed ‘filthy,’ but with which I am willing to be defiled nevertheless.”

“Thanking you finally for your kind letter, very truly yours, F.O. French”

[P.S.] “Monday a.m. I have to day received a genial letter from Storrow [sp.?] who is anxious that I shld never [go?] to Boston – we have always had much in common and we”
[sentence unfinished] [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

27 January 1861: Amos Tuck (Concord, NH) to Ellen Tuck. “Here I am again at Concord. Your mother has not strength enough to undertake the cares of house keeping, and contrary to my expectation, I must leave her here all of another week, probably, and I come here to spend the next Sunday. Yr. mother has pain in her bowels, daily, and besides has a chronic cold in head and lungs.”

“I have rec’d and read with much affectionate interest your letters. You know I would like to have you with me, but feeling it your duty to remain with Mrs. French, I acquiesce in the separation. I see you are important where you are, though under ordinary circumstances, your and Mrs. French’s relations should not be so much consolidated till the marriage knot were [sic] first tied. But her health, and the sympathy with, an esteem for her, which we all entertain, make this a proper exception to a general rule. I do not see any such possibility of an effort to ‘grab’ Washington, as could affect any purpose of mine to be in, or go to Washington. But I would not be willing that my Ellen should be there if Maj. French thinks there is even a possibility that the conspiracy to seize Washington has not been abandoned.”

“I shall write to Bi. to have papers containing accounts of Jonathan’s funeral sent to all my children, as I suppose the accts. must be interesting, if properly written. I think 1000 people she tears at the funeral, and 1500 looked into his coffin. Never has such respect been shown in that place before. He was a noble true hearted man. John is equally worth. He (John) wants me to assure you of his affection. Jona. left his property, by word of mouth to his wife and Lois, equally, except if his wife marry again, she have only 1/3 – Angeline is to have a present of \$50.”

“I do not hear anything more from Lincoln. He will give ‘the place in question,’ or something satisfactory.”

“Your mother joins me in sending aff. regards to Mr. and Mrs. French, while I remain, as ever, Your loving father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 February 1861: Frank French (New York City) to Amos Tuck. "Dear sir: I write to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 30th and promise that its contents shall be duly weighed."

"In a matter of so much import, I cannot be expected to give a definite answer without consulting my friends here and those at home whose comfort may be affected by my removal further E."

"Neither does your letter seem to call for any thing more than a general response, for it gives no suggestion as to the probable chances of business, not the part which I should bear in the labors and profit of a joint engagement."

"I see plainly how difficult it is, especially at a time when people are timid and enterprise and business slackened, to get a footing here. As I wrote before I am impatient to stand alone, but having great confidence that in the broad channels of a city if a hundred houses fail a hundred still remain, I should be slow to leave the position I hold for another equally uncertain."

"If it becomes necessary to close up the matter with Mr. Ayre [sp.?] at once, do not wait to hear further from me. I can only gather from your's that this would be a good opening. I feel that I have that assurance here, and cannot speak more decisively without knowing more."

"Thanking you for your continued manifestations of regard, and happy if some thing could be effected, very truly your's F.O. French." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

February 1861: Samuel B. Dow (Francesville, Indiana) to Edward Tuck. Sam has returned to Francesville. He liked Louisville very much. "You asked me if I saw many darkeys down south. The streets are full of them and some of them dress better than ever I did and drive their Master's horses about just as though they owned them and by their talk you would think they really did own them and they are as polite as politeness itself. They have their churches and some of them cost more than any church in Exeter, for they are built of stone where they hold their meetings every Sunday and those who do not feel like going to meeting take their master's horses and take a ride horseback, or take their girls out to ride or walk. The day I left Louisville there was a nigger hung for committing a rape upon a white girl."

"I think as you do that if they would let the niggers alone there would not be so much fuss and the resent difficulty would have been avoided." [TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

3 February 1861: French mentions in his journal that the "Peace Convention" is to convene the next day, but he has made no mention of Tuck. [FFP Reel 2]

3 February 1861: Tuck, Judge Asa Fowler, and Levi Chamberlain, NH delegates to the Washington Peace Conference appointed by the Governor and council of NH, arrive in New York. (NY Times, 4 February) All three were appointed by NH Governor Goodwin. Tuck offered a peace plan involving three resolves: (a) Constitution gave no power to Congress to interfere with slavery in any of the states, nor did either major party seek such an amendment. (b) When the rights guaranteed to the states under the Constitution are impaired by the people of any other state, redress should be provided. (c) Legislatures are called upon to request Congress to call a constitutional convention to cure such wrongs. Tuck's plan was rejected on a roll call of

the states, 11-9. [Old Gentlemen's Convention: The Washington Peace Conference of 1861, Robert Gray Gunderson.]

3 February 1861: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. "I was quite surprised to hear yesterday of yr. appointment as Commissioner to Washington, by the Boston Paper as well as by yr. letter. I hope that you will have some opportunity to further your interests and show to Lincoln the extreme propriety with which he could call you to his Cabinet. Do you expect that anything will be done of importance by the Convention? I have not before paid much attention to it and don't know exactly what is its object and how many states are represented. But I suppose the Tribune will give an account of its proceedings and intentions. One little point however I should like to be informed on by yourself, and that is whether you are paid for yr. services, and if so, how much."

"Ellen is no doubt delighted to see you....I hope, dear pa that you will be perfectly safe in W. and not endanger yourself among those blood-thirsty rascals who are so thick and ready for any murder. Do you think any plan exists for the capture of Washington? I wish I could be there with you....You have not said anything to me but once about yr. prospects for office and that too rather indefinite so that I fear you are rather doubtful about it.

"I am having a very good time, or rather not a very dull time, up here, am perfectly well in every way and am not at all lonesome. If we could have some skating, I should be in my prime, as, without vanity, I am the best fancy-skater here; but this is because there are so few in Hanover rather than from any great superiority in my own understanding. German progresses very well so that when we have it in the Spring I can go into the advanced class as I did in French. I am reading as much as possible but my studies and the political news take up most of my time. I have finished Charles V, 3 vols. And shall take a general review of it to fix the chief points [as Tuck had earlier advised him]. As I shall write Ellen this week I guess I will now close. The reasons you gave me in yr. letter about slavery in the Territories were very good and I think conclusive. I have endeavored to fix them in my mind. I suppose pa that you will be very busy and will hardly find time to write me. Just drop me a line and let it go that when you are hard pressed, although you know I like very much to hear from." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

6 February 1861: Catherine P. Tuck (Concord) to Amos Tuck. "My dear husband: I was very happy to get a letter from you this morning altho' it did not contain much news, your arrival having been telegraphed Monday. I have not been quite as well for a day or two, but hope to be better tomorrow, as my disease seems sort of intermittent. My girl has gone home to Sanbornton, to get well, and is to write me the last of this week or first of next."

"There have been two letters from Boston enclosing notes against Sandborn to be served [sp?]. I sent them both to Exeter directed to 'Stickney and Wiggin.' Did I do right? I send enclosed the letter from Madison, and in another envelope a long business letter from Stickney St. Louis. I thought perhaps an answer might be required before your return. The other letters are – one from Fogg, one from Frank, and one from John. Also one from Effingham. Nothing

of importance inn either. You did not tell me this time what to do with business letters thinking every body would know you were at Washington.”

“The Republicans have call’d a Union Convention to be holden here on Monday next. Signed by Richard Bradley, Sam. Coffin, Geo. Chandler and most of the solid men of Concord – so Mr. Tullock tells me. This is for a back fire on the Dems. who make a great ado over the Union, and try to have it appear that the Republicans are all for disunion. I am so afraid the north will dishonor herself by yielding to the demands of the South. I think nothing would be so salutary in its effects as a good smart battle with some of those cotton states. They will never behave themselves or find out their utter weakness until they have had an handsome whipping. They are to be treated precisely as you would treat a refractory child.”

“Tell Ellen I shall write to her just as soon as I fell equal to writing a long letter. Give much love to her and to all the French’s. You don’t know what a comfort it is to me that you are there, ad that you have Ellen to see to your wants.”

“Ever your loving faithful wife, C.P. Tuck”

“[P.S.] Mr. Bellows is engaged to aa Miss Warren.”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 81]

10 February 1861: BBF notes, “Treason is progressive! Six states gone out of the Union! Immense amounts of property stolen by the secessionists! They denominate it ‘seized’ just as I might thrust my hand into my neighbors pocket and seize his money! What the end is to be no one knows – but as God orders all things right, I have no doubt this seeming ‘partial evil’ will result in ‘universal good!’ We must wait patiently and prayerfully, do our duty and Trust! The end must come! My past week has been rather a pleasant one notwithstanding the excitement and turmoil of the times. Last Monday morning my excellent friend Hon. Amos Tuck arrived and has made my house his home since....” [FFP Reel 2]

10 February 1861: Catherine P. Tuck (Concord, NH) to Ellen Tuck. “Your long and interesting letter was a real godsend to me, coming just in the right time too, when I was feeling so sick, and your father just gone. I read and reread it with great pleasure. I am glad you are enjoying yourself so well, and I am particularly glad you went to Washington this winter, as things have turned. I should have felt very unhappy to have had your father go at the time he did had it not been that you were there. He writes me he is well now, and I am very thankful. Did you have a good time at the Gallidet’s [sp.?] party? I shall expect an account of it when next you write. I read your description of women and things at the president’s levee to Mrs. Tullock. Who was highly entertained. Do you purpose attending the Inauguration Ball? And if so, what will you wear? About as becoming address (for a young lady) as I saw at the Horse Guard’s ball, as I viewed the scene from the balcony, was a Miss Talbot’s from Portsmouth. It was a blue Tarleton with a lace berth (low neck of course) the skirt ruffled up within a third of a yd. of the waist and the ruffles alternately blue and white hemmed about a half inch wide, and [word unclear] about an eighth of a yd. wide. Flowers on the bosom and on sleeves. The effect of blue and white ruffles was very pretty.”

“I suppose yr. father told you I saw Miss Benton married. The wedding took place in the church and I had promised Mrs. T. that if I was with her, I would go with her and Mr. Tenney, (Mr. T.’s Dep. Sec.) if I was well enough, accordingly we went, expecting to get back in fifteen or twenty minutes but it was over an hour before the bridal party entered the church. The church was literally jammed with spectators and when the bridal party entered, the organ struck up the ‘Wedding March.’ Mr. Benton sat behind the table in front of the pulpit, and the party (ten of them) formed a circle close around the table on the platform, of course were a little elevated, so that all could see. They were all in full dress and looked quite fairy like with their white dresses. As soon as the organ found a convenient place for suspending for a time, it ceased and the ceremony was performed, and at the close of the prayer, they all turned, and left the church in the same order they came in, the organ resuming its march. I was very tired and so sick and dizzy before we reached home that it was with great difficulty that I got up stairs. This is the third day now that I have felt quite well. I don’t know when I have had so long a respite. I really think the phosphates must be helping me.”

“I am making up my blk. silk and like Mrs. T.’s sewing machine very much. How do you progress on Mrs. French’s machine? Do you like it? Wallace has gone to take Lizzie to ride, and has invited me to take a turn when he comes back, which invitation I shall accept. I have felt well enough to go to church to day but did not dare venture, for I can do no such thing with safety, and I cannot ride long enough to get at all chilled without suffering for it. -- Have just returned from the above mentioned ride. The weather is very mild. I was as warm as wool and think the ride will do me good.”

“Rec’d a long letter from Henry last eve. Had rec’d \$25 sent by your father. They have had a foot of snow there, which is an additional misfortune as stock must die. I don’t hear anything from Exeter now. Who is Lizzie Robinson who has lately married? I am aske by those who know her husband. – Mr. Colby, a lawyer. – Concord has grown very much within a few years, and I should judge not nearly so aristocratic as Exeter. Miss Fanny Biddle called to see me one day, but I had to be excused. I afterward saw her one day in Lizzie’s room.”

“Tell your father John Dodge has lost his only boy, Richard. We have not learned the particulars fully, but it seems, some time ago he had a fall, but was well after that, for his father and mother were here visiting and rec’d a letter from Mary written at 11 o’clock at night, saying they were all well and getting along so nicely that they had no need to hurry home at all. The next afternoon, 2 hours before the letter came, they received a telegraphic dispatch from the Dr. saying, ‘Richard is very sick, hurry home.’ There was no way for them to go until the next morning, and as soon as they got home sent word to their friends here that Richard was dead. So we don’t know whether his death was the result of the fall or not.”

“I hope you will write me again soon. With love to your father and all the rest, I am as ever, your affectionate mother.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

12 February 1861: Catherine P. Tuck (Concord) to Amos Tuck. Catherine has just received letters from Amos and Abby. “Abby writes that Frank is not looking well, and seems to be low-

spirited. Do you know anything about it? I rec'd a letter from the sister of my girl today saying that Emily was quite sick a day or two after she returned home, and that Dr. said she had had a fever for a week or more, but she is now able to sit up and thinks she shall be able to work in three or four weeks, and she will then work for me if I wish for her."

"It is ascertained at last that our Ex-President has been a drunk to speak in plain Anglo Saxon ever since last Friday morning. He has not crept out yet. I am glad you get along so harmoniously in your convention, without letting down your standard. Bread pills are very efficacious sometimes, and no doubt the best medicine in this case. I am gratified to think you have a prospect of realizing your wishes in respect to appointment. I shall be delighted to live in Boston. If I should be in good health enough to go out, I should particularly enjoy it, and if I should not, the entire relief from care would be absolutely necessary. I think I am really improving. I have not been so well four days in succession since I have been here, as I have been the last four days. Today I have been sewing all day, and with the exception of a dull headache which lasted on until after tea, I have been well. Mrs. T is an excellent person to keep up one's spirits. She is always so cheerful and bright. I wish we might manage to be together in Boston. About Frank and Ellen going to Ex. and taking the house, I shall leave that entirely with you. Sammy Tullock wrote to his mother that Mr. Ayre talked of buying the Wells place."

As to my writing you every day, dearest, don't think for a moment it will be burdensome to me. I am always glad to, if I think would prefer to have me, but I thought you might be overwhelmed with letters and think it unnecessary for me to write so often. Tomorrow if there is any thing to add to this, before dinner, I shall do so. And now good night and Heaven bless you my dear husband. With love to Ellen, I am"

"Your faithful wife C.P. Tuck" [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 81]

12 February 1861: BBF notes, "Mr. Tuck and I have had a long and interesting talk, yesterday, about our family affairs, and seemed to have an excellent mutual understanding regarding all we talked about. Last evening we played euchre – Mrs. Wells and Mr. Tuck vs. Ellen and I – Mrs. French advising Mrs. Wells. Frank expects to be home tomorrow morning." [FFP Reel 2]

13 February 1861: Catherine P. Tuck (Concord) to Amos Tuck. "Mr. Dearborn has just left my room. No news at Exeter as near as I can learn, except that there have been several cases of diphtheria, and some have proved fatal. He said he had rec'd a letter from you saying you thought it possible your peace congress might rise the end of this week. I should like to know when to expect you if you have any idea when you shall get home, because I must be looking up another girl if we are to go home before Emily gets able to work."

"Ellen has (in her letters) laid before me a plan for the future, that you have all talked over together I suppose, and only await my approval, and as I have before said, I shall leave it . all with you. I don't see any objection to the arrangements and on many accounts it will be very pleasant. I certainly cannot object to being relieved from care and physical labour, and that cannot be separated from housekeeping. I feel very anxious about Frank, and hope the arrangements may restore him. I think it is disappointment and nervous excitement, probably

that ails him, and whenever he can find himself in a condition to marry and support his wife, as he could wish, it will be better for him without doubt than medicine.”

“I am well again today, and feel that I am now surely improving, but I could not by any means endure care and fatigue. Abby writes me that she has formed a plan for coming to Ex. next May and staying until she ‘gets tired of it.’ But she should on no account think of coming to our house in my present state of health, so she wishes me to suggest a boarding place for herself three children and servant girl. I felt when I rec’d her letter, at a great loss what to say or do, but now, it will of course rest upon Ellen. Of course, if we were housekeeping, the question of her going elsewhere, would be inadmissible, but if Ellen and Frank are at the head of the establishment it would be quite another thing.”

“In case of Ellen’s plan succeeding, should you, or shall you not have that alteration in the parlour made the coming spring? But we can talk all that over together. I shall acquiesce in whatever arrangements you and E. make, and hope all will turn out for the best. What do the French’s think of the plan? I am sorry for Mrs. F. Tell her I sympathize with her very sincerely. But I hope she may be well yet. I will finish this tomorrow morning.”

“One of the fatal cases of dyptheria near Ex. was, one Morrill Coffin of Hampton Falls, I believe. M. Dearborn said you knew him. He was taken last Wednesday and died Monday. He was precisely like S.R. Palmer. Mr. Tullock is in high spirits tonight. Says Fogg has written an article in his paper using up Judge Bell most essentially. He says the Republicans will carry the state beyond a doubt. There is to be another Union meeting next Monday night. Judge Cleveland of Conn. is to be here and speak. Mr. Dearborn said that J.M. Lovering wrote to Dana Wingate that you are a candidate for the Boston Custom House. I told Mr. Dearborn that I thought you must have applied to James for assistance, or... [rest of main letter missing]

“[P.S.] Thursday morning. No news today. Rec’d yours of 1112. Mr. Tullock and I took a short walk this beautiful morning and enjoyed the fresh air. Mrs. Rockwell’s death was ‘shocking’. Dinner is ready. With love your wife C.P.Tuck”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 81]

17 February 1861: Joseph G. Hoyt (St. Louis) to Amos Tuck. “My dear Friend: Your letter was duly received and read to the tabular crowd. We were glad to know something of your Peace Congress, though for myself, I have no faith in your ability to do anything for the Country. I cannot see, with my mathematical or metaphysical or patriotic eyes, how loyal States can treat with States which have either taken up arms against the Government or else demand dishonorable concessions as the treasonable price of their fealty. Is it not time for these ‘cussed’ traitors, who are eternally kicking up a disunion row unless somebody is appeasing their absurd wrath by making genuflections to the Dagon of Slavery, - is it not time I say, for these fellows to learn that the Union is of infinitely more consequence to the Border Slave State than it is to the free North? I believe the secession of the fifteen Slave States would be the utter ruin of Missouri, Maryland, Kentucky and Virginia. Why should they be coaxed and hired not to cut

their own throats? If they want to try their bowie knives upon their own jugulars, let them do it. A loss of bad blood will reduce the inflammation.”

“To-morrow is election day with us. We are to choose delegates to the Convention, which, our secession Governor and his confederates hope, is to take Millions out from underneath the old Stars and Stripes. Excitement is high. Men will go to the polls armed to the teeth. I think we, the unconditional Union men, shall lick ‘em out of their boots in the County, but of the State ‘I have my fears.’ Too many men will be elected who are for the Union with an ‘if’ or ‘but.’ Both parties, i.e. Unionists and Secessionists in this city are forming military organizations and drilling nightly. The Republicans will not be caught napping. If Missouri secedes from the Union, St. Louis County will secede from Missouri. We do not intend to be hitched on to the tail of South Carolina – We’ll see her damned [footnote: “pronounce in two syllables”] first! We need in this State, as indeed in the whole Country, the inspiring and strengthening assurance that we have a National Government – a Government that knows what Columbiads are made for and when and where to use them. States are seceding from this Government in mere wantonness simply because they despise it. Weakness and vacillation never yet in the world’s history commanded respect. Show us power and determination, and we, ‘border ruffians,’ will hurrah as loud as any body for the ‘Red, White and Blue.’

“Please remember me kindly to Senator Clarke, from whom I received a Smithsonian Report a few ays ago. I like his uncompromising pluck. Also to Tappan, whose Report is first rate – no twaddle in it. My kindest regards to Mr. French and his suffering wife. I hope she is getting better. Greet Ellen impressively for me, and believe me Yours truly, J.G. Hoyt.”

“P.S. I received a letter more than a month ago from Mr. Flanders, saying that he should like an extension on his notes. His letter was in answer to me from me, asking from him, as you suggested, an assurance that the notes would be paid at maturity. I wrote him at once in reply to his, proposing that he should pay me the small note (\$200) March 19th next, and the larger note (\$1000) March 19th 1862. I supposed that this arrangement would be satisfactory to him, and asked him to write me immediately; but I have not heard from him. I think he must be out of the State, or at best away from home. I hope Mr. Gilman will be willing to discount the Bond. I presume it will be paid at maturity. Will it not? I should like to get the cash in it as early as March 7th so as to meet a liability at one of our city Savings Banks. The Bank would undoubtedly grant me an extension, but I want to pay. I do not, in these times, want to owe any body a dime in this State. I have already made provision, lacking about \$200 for my third installment of \$1960 towards my house lot – due march 19th. Perhaps Mr. Gilman might be willing to discount the Flanders note of \$1000 with my indorsement and the mortgage security which I hold and which I should judge was ample from abstract of title and the tax-supervisor’s certificate that the land was taxed last year at \$1350 and was considered worth about \$2000.”

“If you can find time in your hurry to stop up Mr. Gilman in this matter, you will make me Your obliged and humble servant, J.G. Hoyt.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 8]

23 February 1861: John Greenleaf Whittier to Henry Wilson: Whittier asks Wilson to get an appointment for his brother, M.F. Whittier of Portland, Maine. Either an appointment to a consulate in Canada or in Boston Custom House would be appropriate.

[Phillips Library, John Greenleaf Whittier Papers, Box 1, Folder 2]

24 February 1861: BBF journal entry: “Much, for weal or woe, has transpired since I wrote, 12 days ago, in this book. So far as household and family affairs are concerned, although the usual calm has not been broken great changes have been planned. Frank came home on the morning of the 13th as we expected, and it was very soon arranged that he and Ellen should be married, and that they should go to Exeter and occupy Mr. Tuck’s house, and should Mr. T. leave Exeter, as he expects to do, that Frank should take his business – if he do not leave, they will become partners. We are all delighted with this arrangement, and the wedding is fixed for the 5th of March. In the meantime all is doing by way of preparation that might be expected in view of so important an event. Mrs. French continues miserable in health, and at times I am almost discouraged about her....” Peace Convention still continuing its work. “My family now consists, in addition to its usual number of six, of Mr. Tuck, Ellen, and Mrs. Wells and Frank. Were it not for Mrs. French’s ill health we should be the happiest set of mortals extant. As it is, when she feels at her best, we have very pleasant times.” [FFP Reel 2]

24 February 1861: HFF (Cambridge) to BBF. “You and I have corresponded nearly thirty years, and it is no very good reason why we should stop writing, because great events are transpiring in the Nation, and in the family.”

“Frank’s letter to Hattie a week ago spoke of a proposition for a partnership from Mr. Tuck, which Frank was to accept, and there left it, and we did not know whether it was for law in Exeter or the Custom House in Boston, or whether Tuck was a misprint for Nelson or somebody else. But a letter from Mrs. Barker yesterday gave us more light. Though nobody asks my opinion on a subject in which I feel as much interest as anybody in the world, but Frank’s parents, and of which I am in a position to judge as well as anybody alive. I will interfere enough to give a very small piece, not at present feeling competent ‘to do justice to the subject.’”

“Frank and Ellen can afford to give a few days to their own comfort, and that of their Mother and other friends at Washington. Let them be married and spend the rest of March at Washington. By that time we shall know just how many of us can depend on prince’s favors, just how many of us are Marshalls and Collectors, just what we can do for our children. Bess will need Ellen with her, and perhaps when the excitement of inauguration and wedding has passed, we may take different views. I know all about the April Term of Court at Exeter, and just the necessity there is for haste on that account. If things go right for you, \$100 more or less is no great matter, and you can give Frank what he would lose by this delay.”

“Hattie wants very much to go to Washington, though she has not said so to me. But she cannot consistently go, because it is the worst time that ever was to be there – because she is under engagement to work for the Coast Survey – and because she cannot afford the expense of a

mere personal gratification of this kind, as she cannot be gone many days without losing her position.”

“This is a poor, unsatisfactory letter, but I cannot write more explicitly as you are all situated. I thought of writing to Bess, and to Frank and to Katy, but I could not say to either what I would not say to you. If New York is not satisfactory to Frank, let him open an office in Washington, but not in Exeter. If this advice is unheeded, you will at least, all know that it is well meant, and I shall hope with you all, that I may prove a false prophet.” [FFP Reel 11]

27 February 1861: Edward Tuck (Astor House, New York City) to Ellen Tuck. I arrived at Peekskill yesterday morn, by the first train and came down here this morning, to leave for Washington to-morrow morning. I write this, in a hurry, that you may know I am on my way an when I am to arrive at W. With much love to all, I am your affectionate bro. Ned.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

2 March 1861: Benjamin French journal item as he prepares for the inauguration and meeting with Lincoln, he writes “We are making preparation for Frank and Ellen Tuck’s wedding, which is to take place at 8 o’clock Tuesday evening. The folks are beginning to arrive. Mr. and Mrs. William R. Nelson arrived this evening so did Mr. Starr of Phila. We expect Dr. Wells in the morning. At tea this evening we had besides our own family – Mr. Tuck, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson, Edward Tuck, Mr. Starr, Miss Mary Gordon. Counting Mrs. Wells and Ellen as our own family.” FFP Reel 2]

2 March 1861: John Greenleaf Whittier to Unknown. Whittier asks the addressee to help find an appointment for his brother either in the Boston Custom House or in a consulate in Halifax. (Phillips Library, John Greenleaf Whittier Papers, Box 1, Folder 2)

2 March 1861: Samuel B. Dow (Francesville) to Edward Tuck. “...Lincoln takes his seat Monday and I’ll bet you will see a different order of things and affairs of government he will do what is right I think, don’t you. I hope your Father will get that appointment and I think that he will.... “ [TFP, Box 4, Folder2]

6 March 1861: Benjamin French journal entry: “Yesterday morning I arose early but pretty sore from my days ride. Frank and Ellen Tuck were to be married in the evening, and the entire day was devoted to preparation for that momentous family event. There were, at my house, Doct. and Mrs. Wells, Mr. and Mrs. William R. Nelson, Mr. Edward Tuck, Mr. Starr (a classmate of Frank). And of the family, self and wife, Frank and Ellen, and Mr. Tuck père, and Benjamin. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson were unfortunately, sick. Mr. N. too sick to leave his bed and be present at the ceremony. Mrs. Nelson revived sufficiently in the evening to be present, although she had to retire soon after it took place. We had from 30 to 40 present, and every thing went off well. Doct. Butler performed the marriage service and did it admirably. At 3 o’clock today, Frank, and his wife and Mrs. Nelson (Abby) left for the North, and left Mrs. French, Ben and I and sick

Mr. Nelson and Mr. Tuck as my family. Mr. Starr and Mr. Edward Tuck left at 6 A.M. and Doct. And Mrs. Wells at 7.40' A.M. this morning. Mrs. French has stood all this excitement well, and is now sitting on the sofa talking to Mr. Geo. Nelson and bright as a new dollar."

[FFP Reel 2]

6 March 1861: BBF (Washington) to HFF. Inauguration went well for BBF and his 100 marshals, assistants, etc. "We all like the Inaugural and Old Abe but wish he would leave off making little speeches. He has not the gift of language, though he may have of western gab."

"Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Nelson, Ned Tuck, Starr, and Doct. And Mrs. Wells and Mr. Tuck were all here to attend the wedding, and filled up the house respectably. Yesterday morning Mr. Nelson got up with an attack of inflammatory rheumatism in one of his ankles which kept him in bed all day, and prevented him seeing the wedding ceremony. Mrs. Nelson was sick in bed all day with something like chills and fever. She, however, was well enough to attend the ceremony. Bess had an awful sick head ache Sunday which prostrated her so that up to noon yesterday, she feared she could not leave her chamber, but she revived sufficiently to dress and not only be present, but remained until the last guest left, and she seems quite bright this morning. But, let me tell you, she is a very sick woman, and I much fear will never be well again." "She seems, herself, to be discouraged...."

"Well, the wedding came off at 9 o'clock last evening. There were about 40 people present. Mr. Lincoln intended to be here, but was prevented by business, and sent his Private Secy. Mr. Nicolay, to make his excuse. Mr. Butler (Episcopalian) performed the ceremony, and Frank and Ellen went through it to the admiration of all present. After it was over, iced punch and cakes were carried round. Then we all went to the Library where we had a table magnificently spread, and plenty of wine, confectionary etc. etc. with a wedding cake in the center of the table at least 3 feet high and beautifully ornamented. Bess thought Ellen was the handsomest bride she ever saw. The show was all over before midnight. Mr. Starr and Ned Tuck left at 6 this morning, and Doct. Wells and Katy at 7.40'. The Nelsons and Frank and Ellen had laid their plans to leave at 3 p.m. today, but, in consequence of Mr. Nelson's sickness, I fear they will not do so.

"Frank had made all his arrangements to go to Exeter before your letter was received, so we said nothing to Mr. Tuck about it. He had set his heart upon the arrangements, and it was evident that Frank was wearing himself out with labor in New York, with but small prospect of much profit. He will do well enough at Exeter. Mr. Tuck has expressed himself determined to see Frank safely through, and if need be, I shall lend a hand. My intention now is, if ever this Union question is so far settled as to bring my property up to any decent price, to sell out here and go to some 'boundless contiguity of shade,' where the Chivalrous South cannot break in and steal!" [FFP Reel 5]

7 March 1861: Amos Tuck (Washington, D.C.) to Frank French. "Wm. is somewhat better this morning, and hopes to leave here on Saturday, passing Sunday in N York."

“Your mother has been quite smart since you left.”

“I have got no new light on political matters since you departed.”

“With love to Ellen and Abby, I am, Yours aff., Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

[March 1861?] Charles Sumner in 1861 liked to regale his dinner companions with gossip, e.g.”...and how Mrs. Lincoln had interfered with the selection of a naval officer at the Boston customs house.” [Source not clear – either C.F. Adams, Jr. Autobiography, pp. 102-3 or Adams [?] Diary, March 1861 in the Adams MSS.]

10 March 1861: Amos Tuck (Washington, D.C.) to Ellen French. “Though I gave all the messages in the Major’s letter to Frank to-day, I will not omit to respond to your affectionate letter just rec’d. Be assured of my unchangeable love, my dear daughter. I shall be glad to get home, and to find ourselves well established under the proposed new regime. Mr. Lincoln has promised me the Naval Officer, and I am satisfied it is better for me than the Collectorship. Yet there is such pressure here for office, I deem it unsafe to leave till the apptmnt. is actually made. I do not fall in with the idea of much expenditure for chamber furniture, for you ought to save all you can, with the contingent future before you. We can talk it over at Exeter. Love to Frank.”

“Your loving Father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

10 March 1861: HFF (Cambridge) to BBF. “It seemed as if you never did mean to write again, but yesterday I rec’d a short letter which told us very little, considering how much you had to tell, and your general style of epistolating – not a word about your prospect of being marshal – not a word about Tuck’s prospects of being everything – not a word about Frank’s plans at Exeter – where they are to live and what wonderful inducements are offered him. I hope daily to learn that you are Marshall, and that Tuck is something worth while, and that Ned is safe, and Russell provided for, and John Brown in the Custom House.”

“And poor Bess – I sorrow for her. If Frank and Ellen are there, I hope they will stay. Bess and Ellen can live pleasantly together, and Ellen Tuck could take care of the house and relieve Bess of the care, and Frank can do better there than in Exeter.”

“But, if Ellen and Frank and Mrs. Nelson and you all think this plan of Tuck’s is a good one, I am bound to think I am mistaken. I have never had an idea that Tuck would be collector of Boston. Nobody here has believed it, but perhaps he will be. I am entirely in the dark about all your plans, so I may as well tell you about myself.”

“...I cannot at all reconcile Frank’s movements with what everybody has said about his success in New York. I wonder where Tuck is? I hope to see him on his way home, altho’ he possibly may now be there, as election is next Tuesday.”

“What a fool Judge Bell is to be a candidate for Congress, and be beaten by a poor stick like Rollins, as he will be....” [FFP Reel 11]

10 March 1861: Samuel B. Dow (Francesville) to Edward Tuck. Sam is still hunting as a professional it seems. He has been urged by the local temperance society to give a lecture, and has finally agreed. "...There are some splendid girls out here, some of the genuine. I wish you as out here, in with me, we would have some funny times. The customs and habits of the people are so different here from what it is East and great many things I see, which I seem not to notice, we would have any quantity of fun over...."

"Between you and me, I am sorry for Geo. Gill but it shows that a person cannot act different from their nature and hold out any length of time although they may do so for a short time. [TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

11 March 1861: Amos Tuck (Washington, D.C.) to Frank French. "I want you to call on Mr. Frederick Bronson of New York, and enquire, in my name as assignee if the last instalment and interest, has been paid on the Contract by him with John S. Wright for the sale of Lot 3 Block 3 in the Original Town of Chicago, has been paid [sic]. The instalment was \$345, besides interest, and was payable Nov. 1. 1861 [1860?], but grace of 3 months could be taken. I suppose it has been paid, but I want to know."

"Your mother not quite so well to-day. Wm. still better, and will go home first train at 2-45, and will see you if he can't get through. Love to your wife – my daughter."

"Yrs. aff. Amos Tuck.

[P.S.] "I can't go on to-morrow I fear." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 March 1861: (Congressional Globe - Senate Executive Journal) Lincoln nominates Tuck to be naval officer for the district of Boston and Charlestown. Tuck's nomination referred to the Committee on Commerce.

14 March 1861: 14 March 1861: (Congressional Globe - Senate Executive Journal) Senate gave advice and consent to nomination of Amos Tuck as Naval Officer in Boston Custom House.

14 March 1861: BBF to HFF. "Mr. and Mrs. Nelson came all the way from Peekskill to see the wedding, and were both taken sick the day after they arrived! Mrs. Nelson got well enough to attend the ceremony, and left with the wedded, but poor William R. could not stir out of bed, and did not get well enough to leave until day before yesterday morning. At 10 m. past 3 this afternoon Mr. Tuck left, and Bess, Ben, and I are left...."

"Mr. Tuck is nominated, and I presume confirmed today as Naval Officer of the Port of Boston. A good place – fat salary and no work!"

"Frank and Ellen go to Exeter and take Tuck's house just as it is, and go to keeping it, and Frank is to be heir to all Tuck's business and get as much more as possible, and Mr. T. says if, at the end of the year the young people are behind hand he shall make up all deficiencies. He means to 'put 'em through in good style.' If I should get my \$10,000 a year, I shall not let him

do it alone! Provided always Frank cannot do it without our aid. If his health is good I have great faith in him, for he is one of the workers.”

Mr. Tuck and I have both endeavoured to safen [?] Ned – we have expounded his virtues and his family to Mr. Chase and we hope he may remain untouched. We succeeded in getting a \$1400 Clerkship for Mr. Russell before P.M. Gen. King went out, so he is fixed. We are doing all we can for John P. Brown, but Collector Goodrich must be talked to on his behalf. Tuck promised me, today, that when he got to Boston he would do all he could to get John a place. I recd. a letter from Simon Brown today asking me to go and see Goodrich here with Tuck, but I think he has left for home. At any rate Tuck has.”

French tormented by office-seekers. “Tuck insisted upon it the other day, that he would write a label and put it on the door – ‘Major French is sick in bed and sees no one.’”

“You cannot imagine how much I enjoyed Mr. Tuck’s visit. I have never had a more pleasant visitor in the house, and it really made me feel sad to have him leave. He has been very generous in contributing toward the wedding, and Frank went off with his pocket well filled with ready cash. Mr. T. the Nelsons and I all put our hands in our pockets in his and Ellen’s behalf, and sent them on their way rejoicing.”

“...Old Abe seems to me winning golden opinions, and I confess to a great admiration of his plain, unsophisticated, but gentlemanly and kind manner. I have seen him several times, and I must say he seems to appreciate me considerably more than my dear friend Franklin Pierce did! I think he can rather beat Franklin in every thing but lying! In that Franklin was a match for any one I ever knew.” [FFP Reel 5]

14 March 1861: Ellen French (Brooklyn, NY) to Catherine P. Tuck. “My dear Mother: I promise to write you immediately after our wedding but I didn’t know how time would fly and how much there would be to occupy me after every thing seemed to be done. I have thought every day of writing and now being settled for a least a few days, the first leisure moment is given to you.”

“If we are to be home Saty night as was planned I suppose you think it time to be farther than N.Y. Frank is busy in packing and arranging a case which belongs to him to attend to in May and it does seem possible to get away this week. Probably Monday morning in the early train we shall set out for Boston and be there several days.”

“I heard from father you went home a week ago, but he said nothing about a girl, though I have great confidence you would not open the house, all alone.”

“I am delighted father is so [two words unclear] even if it be not the collectorship. From Mr. R.’s account of its duties and proceeds, I am quite satisfied with appointment.”

“Father has written you how A. and B. reached Washington in a threatening condition having slept in camp beds at the Astor. Their colds developed rapidly, ended in rheumatism for W.’s share and an attack similar to cramp was Abby’s crisis. I was quite alarmed about her Monday but she remained in bed till it was time to dress, then Mary Gordon and I got her up, did up her hair and after dressing she felt much better tho weak. Poor Bill! He lay in bed groaning

while we were down stairs and it cast a shadow quite deer to have him so near and yet unable to be present. Mrs. French bore the excitement well and enjoyed the evening sitting up as long as any [word unclear] and taking a bite with the rest.”

“All things were in readiness in time and I was calmer that evening than I had been for a week. I had felt so tired and grave for days before I felt low spirited and [word unclear] it was fairly over. After Monday however my spirits rose. Though I did not once cease to dread the ceremony which seemed so long and fearful. I was ready with Saylor’s [sp.?] help to go down at 8 p.m. They all left me and I was alone for $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour with a few minutes interruption from Frank. They waited for Mr. Lincoln who did not appear and I [word unclear] in despair for father to come and take me down. About nine he appeared, they assembled themselves in order in the parlor, the parson donned his gown and father took me down. We stood at the end of the room next the street facing the guests. Father took me to the spot where we were to stand, Francis slipped up to my side while Dr. Butler addressed a few words to the witnesses, during which time my feelings were being controlled and my brain was gathering strength to utter my promise. Then he stopped speaking and asked Frank if he would take me and promise to behave himself or words to that effect. Frank’s ‘I will’ came forth so resolutely it gave me new energy an as it came my turn to speak I found it much easier. Then the minister said ‘Who giveth this woman etc,’ and father taking my right hand and placing it in that of Dr. Butler who turned it over to Frank. Then Frank spoke forth his promise and I taking his hand in like manner, promised as well as I knew how. I did say ‘keep’ [sp.?] which I didn’t mean to do. Afterwards the minister made a short prayer, then pronounce us man and wife, and as I had expected the kissing part – a folly. We waited for father and family to congratulate – it was not so awkward as I expected. It seemed very queer to be called Mrs. French and I don’t think I shall ever feel older than I did that morning. We had a large delegation from Exeter. There was so [word unclear] at [word unclear] I didn’t see any and it in fact a pleasant, joyful wedding which only needed yours and Bill’s presence to make complete. Considering all things, it seemed to me a gay wedding. Father did my heart good around the table as congratulations etc. were going on. He seemed happy and to enjoy every thing. As I sat on his knee just before going down stairs we spoke of your absence and wished you were there.”

“The friends staid an hour and a half after the ceremony. The table was very pretty indeed – two large pagodas of confectionary and [word unclear] orange at the end. The bridal pyramidal cake in the centre and the ices, grapes, oranges around the table generally – three kinds of wine and some other articles such as Charlotte russe, etc.”

“Abby left and went to bed as soon as the ceremony was over. I was very sorry she was not able to stay, but she was ready to faint away and I knew she must go.”

“The next day everything of course was confusion – packing had been postponed till Wednesday and [two words unclear] four trunks to be filled. Abby thought she must go home that day and set out at three with us. Father seemed in good spirits when we left.”

“Ned had gone on in the early train but with the crowd, it was afterwards proved that he staid another day, there was so much delay. Our journey to Phila. was 9 hours length. Abby was

nearly dead when we got there, but a nice supper revived her and next morning she shopped before breakfast. She left us at 10. We staid till Saty. Starr was with us several times. We visited and explored thoroughly Girard College and from the roof had a fine view of the city. Starr afterwards went to the Acad. of Fine Arts with us and so time passed. We were at the Continental, the most delightful hotel I was ever at. We had beautiful rooms, which Ham [sp.?] had engaged the week before, and every convenience was supplied us. In the midst of a drizzling which soon became a pouring rain, we set out for N.Y. Saty. a.m. Frank read Rudemann's [sp.?] all the way aloud, else the 4 hour ride would have been uncomfortable. We went to the Albemarle [sp.?] a quiet home like house where we were till yesterday. Sunday we dined with the Nelsons and spent a stupord [?] afternoon, of course. Mary will have a number 10 or 11 next summer and is miserable."

"Monday Mary Wells spent the day with us and we went shopping till I was tired to death and could not go to Brooklyn as I expected to. We had three calls in the evening while Frank was at B. with Mary. Tuesday Mary came in again to help me receive calls which I expected from Frank's friends and we heard the Nelsons were coming to call that day from Peekskill. They did not honor us however, and it was evening before any one came – then Merrill and Miss. Gibbs the lady to whom he is engaged called. Miss. G. is a pleasant very fashionable but unaffected woman, not exactly handsome. She talks much about 'Ned' and seems very proud of him. She proposed to accompany us to the Artists Room on 10th Street to see the pictures this afternoon at 2 o'clock, but it has snowed through the day and been very disagreeable outdoors. Tomorrow or Saty if it is decent walking, I shall go in a make a few calls While the Merrills were there, Bill walked in just from Washington, having only then accomplished his sickness."

[Frank takes up the letter] "He was jolly, as E. was saying. Ellen writes so bad a hand, Mrs. Tuck, that I can't go back and decipher the sentences, and shall probably put you out of patience for interrupting her remarks. But she has leaned back in her chair to rest, and I have snatched up her paper to pay my respects, if in a very informal still just as earnest a manner as if mine stood in a sheet by itself."

"We should have been very happy to have had you present at our wedding, - except as William and Abby who came were both ill, I am afraid you'll not consider this a wish for your good health. But Ned was well and happy and jocose, so even that inhospitable and unfilial thought will not necessarily be attribute to me."

"Mary Wells and Ellen are now looking over autographs, Mary Wells filling up some 'infernal slippers' – I mean it, black devils on a red flame grilling - Tom and Kitty participating in the general jabber and all interrupting my desire to be interesting. But now they all send love, or wish to be remembered, as did Chas. Soule [sp.?] just now before he went out. My god-father, F.O.J. Smith, has sent us a family bible, a very beautiful volume, beautifully bound, to be I suppose, the cornerstone of our household, a sort of moral health-store. But in spite of the big one which is already at Exeter and the many smaller ones distributed among us, we were much pleased with this -----"

[Ellen resumes the letter.] “Now I will resume. William came and breakfasted with us Saturday morning leaving at 11. We packed and came over here during the day. Your ladle is marked beautifully with both our initials, to my entire satisfaction. We shall be obliged to stay till Monday. Frank today accomplished all the packing at 47th St. [sp.?] tomorrow at the office he will be – he has been gone all day, till half past six, returning diminished [sp.?] and tired enough. Our great Bible is a great responsibility – it must be put in a trunk and [word unclear] if no sooner.”

“Last night we were at the Joneses [sp.?] at a little party she gave us. I met Brook [sp.?] Robinson and her husband also, the Bryant lady of Nashua remembrance to you, I believe, still it doesn't seem as if it were Nashua. She married Mr. Elliott – her husband and Miranda were there. Mrs. E. is a fine appearing pretty well speaking lady and was dressed in a handsome brown silk. M. looks the same as ever. Frank R. was is [sic] in a condition, but don't mention it to any one – I don't want it to come from me. She and Sarah Green went to see me at the Claudens [sp.?] yesterday owing to a mistake of Mrs. Jones [sp.?] who said we were there.”

“Saturday we are going to a tri [sp.?] wedding of a friend of Mary's. It is a matter of interesting surprise to Frank's friends that he is married. Shall you be glad I wonder that we are not to be home this week? I should really like to know how you are getting along and if you are well. I feel as if I had been married a lifetime already, and Bill asked with impetuosity why we didn't act like a new couple, by which you may know we are sensible. I think we shall be at home Thursday of next week, but I can't say positively. Father said something about my not getting furniture now but going up again to Boston. I think there will be so much to do I don't dare try to do that and shall stay there a day or so. I wish you would if you have time write to me at Boston and direct to Mr. French. Can you read this. I have written previously. Callers have been in and the whole family are near me. I will tell the rest when I see you.”

“Affectionately, your daughter E.T.F.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

14 March 1861: Frank French (New York City) to [Catherine P. Tuck?]. “This was not properly directed and returned to me today. Sorry but will be more careful in future. I shouldn't send but your daughter's note I do not feel at liberty to destroy.”

“As to Mr. Tuck's business I attended to the same day I rec'd his and found on 25th Jan. '61 W. Wright paid \$370.78 - \$225. interest and \$345 and installment. The next installment is due Nov. 1861 and is \$575.”

“We are safely moved at Dr. Wells's and last night were at Chas. Soule's at a delightful party. Chas. sits by me smoking and sends love (consideration was his word I believe).”

“If Mr. Tuck has not already started when this reaches you, let us know when he will [word unclear].”

“I have been packing all day and am tired to deff. Now for Brooklyn and the amiable society.”

“Thine always affectionately, Frank O. French. [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

17 March 1861: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees' meeting.

17 March 1861: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. "I suppose you must have arrived home by this time, although didn't mention your departure in yr. letter. I have now got settled down and am nearly prepared on all that I lost by my absence." Ned is busy catching up in Greek, Philosophy, and Rhetoric.

"I have been to see Prof. Patterson once or twice, the last time, last evening. He was much pleased with yr. success and has been very cordial to me."

"I was very glad to hear that you were so well satisfied with your appointment at Boston, which is no doubt the best you could desire. What is your pay and what are your duties and when shall you enter on your labours etc. etc. please to tell me. People ask me what are the duties the naval officer and I have to content myself with the answer that they was very small."

"Mrs. Chase heard yesterday from Fred. That he had obtained an appointment, which pleases her very much. It is a very great pity about Langdon Dearborn isn't it? I heard as much from Hobbs [sp] while I was in Washington and I was intending to tell you, as he had requested, of his habits that his father might keep him at home. He told me privately, that he had often got him home dead drunk and put him to bed, where he could lie and relieve himself of his liquor at both extremities and besides that he was very often in fights and he believed he would be killed is he stayed there longer. I enclose you 2 bills, the one receipted (the Tuition etc.) and the other not. The "Gazette" is a fine paper but I have enough more for the use to which it is usually devoted, building fired etc. and could live without it unless you would like to patronize the editor." Discussion of minor money issues. Ned is paying \$23.50 for 8½ weeks of board, washing \$2.25, books \$1.87.

"I am in good order. I received no bad effect from my sojourn into Vermont except a very striking sensation that I was most decidedly sold.

"P.S. Shall you be able to get an appointment for either of Prof. Patterson's brothers?"

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

21 March 1861: Dept. of the Treasury received letter from Tuck announcing he had entered on duty at the Boston Custom House as naval officer. [USNA, RG 56, Register of letters received, 1834-72, vol. 36]

24 March 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "I entered upon my duties on Friday. I have not learned much about the duties yet, for I did not go to Boston yesterday. I shall go tomorrow morning and adhere to the business some days. It seems to me all I have to do is, to keep a set of accounts as a check upon the Collector. There is collected at Boston about \$5,000,000 of revenue annually, and sundry checks must exist upon different officers, to insure fidelity and honesty. The pay is \$5000 a year for me. I shall put Mr. Gill into a \$1200 clerkship, and Geo. S. Shute in as messenger, though I have not announced to them that I shall do so. I do not know certainly whether I can help Prof. Patterson's brother, or his bro-in-law. If I can I shall

help one of them. The press is heavy upon me, to help 150 persons. I have only 3 or 4 places I can fill for some time.”

“Frank takes hold well at the office. I anticipate success on his part, eventually, in the law here....” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

24 March 1861: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. “I rec’d yr. letter of the 21st enclosing \$20.00. I see by the Journal that you have entered upon your duties in Boston and suppose from that you are very busy just at this time and also that you may be in Boston when this letter reaches Exeter.” Ned is caught up in his lessons and life is a bit easier.

“Ellen must be most busily engaged in her matrimonial pursuits or else I should have heard from her before this, I imagine. I have one more question to ask you father, whether, when I left Washington, you gave me more than the draft for \$644.95, and if you did, how much more.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

27 March 1861: Tuck letter to Chase nominating Charles Gill as book-keeper at the Boston Custom House. [USNA, RG 56, Register of letters received, Vol. 36]

28 March 1861: Walker Wright (Chicago) to Amos Tuck. “Enclosed find a draft on the Merchant’s Bank, Boston, for \$622.23, to pay the semi-annual interest due 1st April next, on my several notes to you for the sum of \$13,444.89. “

“I regret to say that I have not yet reached a point in my efforts to raise \$3,000 for you, at which I can assure you of your money. Everything is out of joint financially, and almost impossible to effect what in ordinary times could be done with ease. I keep however at work, and don’t give up hope, though I feel very much discouraged.”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

30 March 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston) to John Tuck. “I come here almost every day. My duties thus far are mostly confined to listening o applicants for office, whom it is impossible for me to aid. I do not get much vexed by it, yet the experience is by no means pleasant. I have every day more and more occasion to be satisfied that I am not the Collector. If I have not yet told you already, I will now say that I was offered a foreign apptmt. instead of this, but declined to accept it. I might have had a mission.” [Rauner, Tuck Family Papers, Box 1, Folder 1]

30 March 1861: Chase-Tuck letter approving appointment of Charles Gill as clerk no. 7, but declines to raise this salary from \$1050 per annum. [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent (“W” series), vol. 4 of 14]

1 April 1861: HFF (Boston) to BBF. “We are very anxious to hear from you now and then to know how Bess is, and how the rest are prospering. I shall go to Exeter tomorrow and see those young Frenches. I have seen Tuck just once since he came from Washington, and then I took

him to the Cornhill coffee house (late Young's) to dine. I also saw his wife at Exeter while he was at Washington. Their calculation was, when he was sure of being collector, to live here, and let Frank and Ellen keep house, as I infer, but now he will be here only part of the time, and Mrs. T. will remain at Exeter. It is rather a risky arrangement, but as it is not by its nature on terms perpetual, there is no harm in trying it. I wish the young folks had my house and trees there, instead of Nat Gordon, I should then feel as if I had not lost my labor and skill." [FFP Reel 11]

1 April 1861: John Z. Goodrich letter to Chase announcing he had entered on duty as Collector at Boston Custom House. [USNA, RG 56, Register of letters received, vol. 36]

11 April 1861: Edward Tuck (Hanover, N.H.) to Ellen French. "I have been unable to find time before to-day, which is a holiday with us, to answer your affectionate missives. I rose this morning at 5 ½ o'clock and went after may-flowers, of which I found quite a number in full bloom and innumerable buds, doing quite well for so early in the season. I wish that you were here to do them into a bouquet for me that I might present them to some fair damsel. But I suppose you are every busy sustaining the dignity of the [word cut off] although you have not yet become the mistress of the house. I shall come home in 4 weeks from to-day and will then see how you get along in your new sphere."

"Time passes off quickly enough here, especially now when it is so pleasant out doors. College life, and Frank will agree with me, passes off more quickly than any other portion of existence, at least so far as I have gone. Perhaps it would be proper for me to except the honeymoon, however, but on that point Frank is better posted than I. One source of amusement for us students is to go across the river into Norwich and 'sugar off.' They make almost an infinite quantity (grammar!) of maple sugar a mile or two from the village and by paying a quarter a piece they will boil own for you and the females will set a table, bring on bread etc. an make quite a pleasant supper of it. The boats have not yet been put into the river but will be, some of them, to-day. A cricket-club has been formed here this term which will be a good thing when well started. We have some of the best players from Andover and are expecting every day our clubs etc. from Boston."

"I have joined also a Dartmutheo-Shaskperio-Dramatic Reading Club-bo [sic]. We have read 2 or 3 comedies and a tragedy and have some very fine readers but such things don't usually live long. This term is quite remarkable for its sobriety and quiet and there has been hardly any disorder. But so much quiet is usually a prelude to an equally remarkable degree of noise."

"We have settled (notice the we) a new minister who is interesting some of the students in their eternal welfare but no great effect is anticipated. The most remarkable conversion is that of a sophomore who was suspended last year for getting drunk. It is rather a suspicious circumstance that he should come out immediately on his return. With love to Mother and to Frank, I am yr. affectionate brother Ned."

[P.S.] "It is perhaps needless to say that I have written this with a dozen fellows talking and bothering about one." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

14 April 1861: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. "This has been a very exciting day here, although Sunday and that too in a place where of all others one would least expect excitement on the Sabbath. This noon the Telegraph confirmed last night's rumor that Fort Sumter had been unconditionally surrendered with other news which you of course know. The most interested of the Professors were on the alert for the dispatch, as well as the students and it seems that the minister was likewise, for this afternoon he very aptly introduced the subject and preached as good and practical a sermon, closing with a most earnest appeal, I ever heard.

"Everybody talks of war, 9 out of 10 profess willingness to 'go down and fight' and I've no doubt a majority of these talkers would really go if things came to the worst. Two or three really think of taking up their standing and joining some volunteer corps. Frank Hobbs positively declared he will but that's not much sign that he will do it. What do you think the prospect is?" [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

18 April 1861: At a session of the Supreme Judicial Court held in Exeter: "On Thursday afternoon, on motion of the Hon. W.W. Stickney, Francis O. French, Esq., a member of the New York Bar, and law partner of Hon. Amos Tuck of this town, was admitted to practice as an Attorney at Law in all the Courts of this State." Later, French and Tuck argued for the defense in a case before the same court. [Exeter News-Letter, 22 April 1861]

18 April 1861: HFF (Boston) to BBF. "This is my first letter from my new office #7 Barrister's Hall, and how I came here is thus: B.F. Butler is Brigadier General and leaves the city today for Washington. He has probably as large a law business as anybody in Mass., with a partner, a young man by name of Green. Yesterday he sent for us to come to the State House, where I found him with his Military Secretaries. He took both my hands and said, 'I am going away, and have left all my business. I want you to take charge of my docket, and try my cases, and do the best you can....'"

"I spent a night at Tuck's Monday, and am to go to Exeter next Monday to try two or three cases, in one of which Frank will help me. I am really glad to see Frank up in the Granite State, so happy and safe from Secession." [FFP Reel 11]

19 April 1861: Tuck-Chase letter recommending G.S. Towle as clerk in the Boston Custom House. [USNA, RG 56, Register of letters received, vol. 36]

21 April 1861: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. "I was very glad to get your letter the past week, containing so much first-rate advice. I think, father, that I have a great advantage over all my companions in that I am so well directed by you in forming every habit which will come into play in future life. I lay all your precepts deep in my heart and don't let one of them get out of my mind, although I don't always write you about them."

Ned details some of the ways he follows Amos's advice in writing, speaking and reading. In addition to reading a little history, he reads newspapers. "I shall prefer the Independent to the Daily Tribune as I can get the Boston Dailies without the bill for postage and can read enough of it to satisfy me, reserving the Ind. for Sunday."

"Yesterday the Democratic and Repub. Flags were raised here simultaneously with the firing of 34 guns by the Norwich Cadets with a large cannon belonging to State of Vermont, after which some students, followed by Prof. Patterson, addressed the assembled multitude. My flag waves over North Building and another just like it over South. A secession flag, emblazoned with a palmetto tree & 7 stars was raised Friday night over one of the buildings but was taken down early and put on the brick building back of the colleges, an appropriate spot, where it staid 3 or 4 hours, when it was stoned." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

22 April 1861: A war meeting convened in Exeter Town Hall, presided by Charles H. Bell with Dr. William Perry, Hon. Amos Tuck, Dr. William D. Vinal, Dr. Samuel B. Swett, William Odlin, and Charles Conner as vice-presidents. After several patriotic speeches, Henry F. French described the enthusiasm of Massachusetts, where he then resided, and expressed confidence that New Hampshire would exhibit a similar spirit.

Then, Amos Tuck was called for and "he offered a resolution that the Selectmen be requested to call a town meeting, to raise not exceeding \$5,000 for the benefit and maintenance of the families of such men as should volunteer to defend the Union and the Constitution. He the spoke in favor of this resolution, and urged upon all, men and women, the importance of aiding and comforting those who should enlist for their defence."

After more speeches, Tuck's resolution was adopted unanimously. Two thousand dollars were subscribed at the meeting for the support of the families of the volunteers, to which another thousand was added after the meeting. [Exeter News-Letter, 29 April 1861]

22 April 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "I was engaged in Court at Exeter every day last week, and did not come to Boston at all. I shall be here half the time or more this week. I left this morning, and not having had time yesterday, or before, I write you now, a hurried letter. The war is all the talk of course. Most young men talk more or less of enlisting, but few in Exeter will carry out their talk by actually enlisting. About 40 have agreed to go to Hampton. Ellen and Abby have some fear, without grounds for it, that you will want to enlist. But I tell them no. If it were necessary that you go as a common soldier into the war, to defend our institutions, I would say go, if you wish, and I would go myself. But the hardships of the common soldier are such, and the amount of mind so moderate, which is necessary in that vocation, that it is positively extravagant and unjustifiable to put one like you in that place, hazarding so much of mental force, when only physical endurance and common bravery are required. So, my dear son, feel patriotic, talk patriotic and continue a brave, good young man; but do not put your foot in, for an enlistment. It is not necessary, or at all events, not now. I wish you too, to exercise so much self-control in this hour and day of excitement as to get all

your lessons, as you have been doing. I have been proud that your course has been upward, from your entrance into College.

“I think the war is to be long and tedious----and you may be out of college long before its close. The South have been allowed by the Almighty to become blind and insane [sp], and the God of nations will cause great good to come out of this attempted revolution. If it fail or do not fail, it will modify our institutions. It is terrific in some of its aspects, but it is refreshing to see how patriotic the people are. God has not allowed the troubles to come, when love of country had ceased, and we had become ready for burial as a nation.

Italy is becoming Republican in her institutions and obtaining free government, though under a monarchy limited by a wise Constitution. Hungary is resuming her rights, and Autocratic Russia [unclear three word] her serfs, while the South is attempting to dissolve our Government because we refuse, at the North, to take Negro slavery under more special protection.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

22 April 1861: Tuck-Chase letter making further nominations for the Boston Custom House. [USNA, RG 56, Register of letters received, vol. 36]

24 April 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “I was at Exeter yesterday and your letter came to me there last evening, bro’t by Mr. Gill, who goes home every night. It gave great satisfaction – no one you ever wrote me before, giving me so much. I believe it very seldom that a young man puts such confidence in the advice of a father, as you do in mine, and very seldom that one avails himself of advice given, so advantageously, as you are doing. Few fathers seem to me to remember what advice would have been good to them, so as to give it in a profitable ways to their children. In this respect I think I can be more profitable than many fathers. I have tried to find out the causes of my own deficiencies, and I easily see how I might have been greatly profited by wise direction; and while I intend not to overwhelm a son with a jumble of everlasting, indiscriminate counsel, I mean to select some main points and continue to be plain.”

“I am delighted with your appreciation, and your honest effort to assimilate into your own mental constitution what of healthy food I can provide for you digestion. That Dictionary habit of yours delights me. It will do you so much good, that you will enjoin it on your sons, (I trust), and will honor me by telling them that your father gave the hint of its importance to you. Try to purify your diction, and render exact all your expressions, particularly in reference to adjectives.”

“Let me suggest also the following. Reflection will satisfy you that the language which touches people, which rouses them and communicates to them the intensity of one’s thoughts, is generally made up of quite pure Anglo-Saxon words. Therefore make full use of such words, using words coming from other tongues, more to enrich and beautify, than to convey the pith and heart of what you say. All national songs are from Anglo-Saxon, and all national catch-words – Fatherland – Mother tongue – Kith & Kin – Star-spangled banner – hearthstone – My father – My mother – My son – My child – My wife – ‘Get out of the way old Dan Tucker, You

are too late to come to supper' etc. etc. There is a charm about all these expressions, and it is owing in a great measure to the fact that the words convey the whole hearty meaning – in the tongue which came direct from God, (I guess), to our ancestors. They sent down to us a good many dirty words, which are disgusting, because they also intensify the meaning; them we can afford to dilute, but no others. If a man has occasion to visit the back building, if he is obliged to tell of it, he can dilute his meaning with advantage. In fact a decently bro't up man will never use the raw Anglo-Saxon. It is quite too raw, - it is bloody. But for the same reason, when his subject is a worthy one, he should use all the hot-shot of his mother tongue, which he can, and words derived from elsewhere, as accompaniments to set off, and make his style as classical a convenient."

"I will only add that you are just at the turn in life, when the efforts you are making, will produce the best effects on your future mind."

"The country is making history very fast. Don't try to remember so much that you will be encumbered, but put down the dates of the gradual development and the connection of thoughts understand. When I see you we will have a general talk on the philosophy of this whole revolution. It will be all right in the end. There is a God in Israel."

"I have ordered the Independent to you and Tribune to me."

"We shall lick 'em, in the end. But I am expecting a tremendous demonstration from the Davis Govt. soon. They are busy and may appear at Washington any day. (You see I use Latin-borrowed words. It must be done. I only speak of Anglo-Saxon, when one wishes to intensify. The latin beautifies and render classic, but the other is the more intense.) Some one is waiting and I must close." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

26 April 1861: HFF (Boston) to BBF. "...I think nobody here expects peace, and few seem to desire it. War is looked upon as necessary and inevitable, and everybody including ministers, women and children are advocating it.. Your circular is the only peaceful message that has been heard of. I saw Frank and Ellen at Exeter last Tuesday well and happy. Frank has opened three or four cases, and does well. He helped me try one successfully." [FFP Reel 11]

27 April 1861: Benjamin B. French (Washington) to Amos Tuck. "My dear friend, In this hour of my affliction, I can only enclose Mr. Case's letter to Mr. Hall, and of Mr. Hall's reply. Mr. case is my friend and I should be glad to have him kept in office."

"Mrs. French is very low and it does not seem to me that she can endure more than a day or two longer. Oh my God, have mercy upon me. I feel that I can trust in no human area."

"Ever your affectionate friend, B.B. French." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

27 April 1861: John Tuck (Biddeford) to Amos Tuck (Boston). Expresses cautious confidence in the Union cause and in Lincoln. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 1]

29 April 1861: Amos Tuck (Custom House, Boston, Naval Officer's Office) to President Lincoln [copy made by Tuck]. To His Excellency Pres. Lincoln, Dear sir: If the undersigned can be of greater service to the Country, in any other place than that which he now occupies, he prays you to employ him. At such a time as this I desire to do the most I can within the sphere of my humble ability and will (with permission), employ a deputy, or if necessary resign my post for one of more usefulness. In this part of the country, the people all feel the magnitude of the struggle now going on. They will not shirk it, are ready for any sacrifices, and thank God the issue is to be reached in their day. They want thorough work made, both of traitors and treason, cost what it will of blood and treasure. We must transmit our institutions and an undivided country to our posterity, subjugating all enemies, and thoroughly subduing all rebels, or be dishonored in the eyes of the whole world as well as in our own estimation. So say the people of the North, - the men, women and even the children. Fear not that you will not have the hearts of the people with you. Their enthusiasm is unbounded and hundreds of thousands are impatient for the Conflict. With great respect, your obdt. Svt. Amos Tuck" [TFP, Box 2, Folder 6]

29 April 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Governor J. A. Andrew (Boston). "Allow me to introduce my son-in-law, the bearer, F.O. French Esq., who goes to Washington, by the quickest route, and who will be most ready to serve the Country, by serving you, in any manner in his power."

"With great respect, your obdt. svt., Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 April 1861: Samuel B. Dow (Francesville) too Edward Tuck. "...I believe your prediction is too true that civil war has actually commenced. I think it is a shame that such an enlightened nation as this should involve this country in one general and bloody war with all the miseries of civil war will produce to the once happy women and children. If they get at it in good earnest I shall not be far from the scene of action. The bloodiest field will be on the banks of the beautiful Ohio and action will commence when Kentucky secedes and that I think she will do, for these reasons. She is full of nasty dirty traitors and secessionists, who are sowing the seeds of corruption as fast as possible, and the position (and she can never hold this position) Kentucky has taken gives them the liberty to carry on their plans, without interruption, which they could not have done if she had come out in support of this government for then they would either [word unclear] to have left he state or have been taken, as traitors to their country and treated as such. The great trouble is that nearly all the leading men of Kentucky are opposed to Lincoln's administration and would rather turn traitor than help to support it."

"They are getting up a company here to be supplied to the Government orders, it will be organized next Thursday and the officers elected. If they give me a commission in it I will join them, but will not go as a private, for New Hampshire is the only state I shall go from as a private, indeed it is the only state I would like to represent, but if pinch comes to pinch [sp.?] it won't make much difference with me as long as I know I am fighting for the stars and stripes." [TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

29 April 1861: H.H. Pearson (Senate Chamber U.S.) to Amos Tuck. "Dear Sir, As you were so kind as to request me to write to you I embrace the first opportunity to improve the valuable privilege. I arrived here Friday evening all soft: stopped at Havre de Grace Wednesday night: sent forward by mail my letters of recommendation lest I might be searched in Baltimore to which town I rode in a wagon Thursday, 36 miles. I saw only one confederate flag in that city but any number of state flags since it is the policy to call this rebellion 'States' rights' at first until the people become 'familiar with its face'. The Confederate flag was of three stripes a red, white and blue with seven stars in a circle on the upper corner. In one place only, (Ft. McHenry) could the American flag be seen. The noble banner never appeared more beautiful to me. After walking for about two hours without being molested I set out on foot for Annapolis Junction where I arrived about 3 o'clock in the morning. None but our troops were permitted to ride so I footed it to Washington. Saturday morning, your note to Mr. Nicolay not coming, I called on him without it. He was unable to give me any information or advice. This morning your note came. With it I obtained a place in the best Company (Com. C) of the 6th Mass. reg. They are all noble hearted good fellows from Lowell. I shall ever remain under the deepest obligation to you for the decided manner in which you vouched for me. Company C. was in the Pratt street fight."

"Maryland is the most wretched country. I travelled 76 miles through the heart of the state most of the way on the State turnpike and in all this distance, outside of Baltimore and Bladensburg, I saw not one decent house. Every where he old rickety broken down fences dilapidated dwellings and squalid outhouses tell of the curse of human slavery. There is neither taste care neatness economy nor any thing else but sluggishness ignorance and want of enterprise. If I were writing to one ignorant of these things I should expect not to be believed."

"Most of the people of Md. know not enough about any thing to be very strong for either Union or Disunion. Left to themselves a large majority would be found in favor of the Union; but under the drill of the Baltimore mob and incendiary newspapers they will fast converted into secessionists. They ought to be encouraged and protected by the government. It does appear to me that our government is too indulgent towards its enemies. The multitude do not consider it a forbearance but as weakness or cowardice. The country people all along the R.R. from Annapolis to Washington are on the best terms with our soldiers who guard the track. They are laboring under the grossest delusions and it only requires the presence of our troops to talk with the people in order to make them good Union loving citizens. I heard several very pleasant stories about the ingenuity of the New England soldiers which has already become celebrated. The inhabitants of the District are generally in favor of the Union, but they are such Union men I fear as Crittenden and some others who do more for the cause of secession by crying 'Compromise' and 'Peace, peace when there is no peace' than any other men. I know that you will oppose every attempt to hatch up any truce until the Stars and Stripes float in triumph from Texas to Maine. They tell me we can never subdue the South. But we can and must crush out this rebellion. Their first army will be their best because it will comprise their lawless

desperadoes otherwise called their 'Chivalry'. The great mass of their population, even if they do not fight on our side, are weak indolent sluggards and can never cope with the hardy intelligent persevering freemen of the North."

"Besides all this there is our Cause which is our strongest ally. Let those who have no principles talk of peace. By my heading you will know that we are quartered in the Senate Chamber. I never expected to have a seat in the U.S. Senate so young. Yours most respectfully, H.H. Pearson." [TFP, Box 2, Folder 6]

1 May 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston on Custom House letterhead) to Edward Tuck. "I with yr. mother left Exeter at ¼ before 6 and came to Parker House, where we shall stay till Sat. night, and possibly over Sunday, except that I must be in Exeter on Friday...."

"I am willing that you shall consult your own ideas of honor and duty, about signing or joining the Co. of College young men. If you can properly and honorably refrain, do so: if not, put down your name with the rest. It may be important hereafter to look back upon, and as the future of your life, it is to be hoped, will extend far beyond my own, I do not think it right to restrain your impulses too much. I have confidence in you, also, and I shall think what you do is for the best. When the actual pinch of going to the war comes, I then want to know beforehand what you are to do, and I shall not consent to your going without new necessities for sending out our choice young men. This last sentence may be confined to you and me.

"You may have seen in the papers that I have tendered my services to the President. That I have done, but I have (inter nos) an idea that he will demand of me the sacrifice of my office. The truth is, I can do all by a Deputy if the public exigency requires me elsewhere. Under these circumstances it was but common duty as a patriot to offer to serve anywhere. Still, my son, I have no expectation of irksome duty anywhere. We shall be here most of the time for weeks. You can come here when you leave Hanover and go to Exeter after, or vice versa as you desire. I am to be in Exeter Monday nights, Tuesdays + Fridays, and when else I choose. When you are here, I will arrange for your board, as we think agreeable. I grieve to say that Mr. Dudley has failed utterly. He damages some of his friends sadly, but not me. He sells his house, takes 2 rooms for himself + wife in one of his new houses, and sends his children into the country. He is satisfied with me, though I had to refuse to become his surety. I considered him a [two unclear words] on his house trades with me and have acted generously towards him [two unclear words]." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

2 May 1861: BBF to HFF. Frank arrived yesterday at 10. "Bess was very happy in his arrival, and talked much with him, and appeared quite like herself all day...." [FFP Reel 5]

3 May 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Sends \$80 to Ned. "I return to Boston tonight and shall pass Sunday there with your mother. She is there still there. I came here last night. I shall be here regularly Fridays + Thursdays and the nights previous. They are getting up a Company here. You better write me at Exeter if you write Sunday—to Boston or to Exeter. Your mother will be at Boston next week + Ellen would prefer that you come here first."

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

5 May 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Benjamin B. French. “My dear friend: I rec’d and highly appreciate your regardful letter, written about a week ago. I have waited anxiously to hear from you or Frank, but have since heard nothing – except a single telegram from F. to Ellen, giving us hope still, in case of Dear Mrs. French. As I have not been at Exeter within a few days, Ellen may have further information. Whatever be the condition of your family, be assured of my sincere sympathy for you all, and Mrs. Tuck, (now here at Boston with me), desires to send her love with my own to you all.”

“I had many painful apprehensions when I left, but contrive to get away with as cheerful a countenance as I could. Mrs. French is fixed in my memory as she stood up to give me her blessing on my departure and I shall never forget [word illegible] her dignified form, made divine by her sufferings, and lovely by her quiet goodness, never for a moment obscured, or the heavenly goodwill which beamed from her countenance, as she commended Frank to my regards, and bade an affectionate farewell. Few women ever deserved, or rec’d from those who had means of knowledge, more universal esteem. Well may you cherish her while she lives, and if you survive her, reverence and love her memory. May God unite your loving hearts, in another and better world.”

“I will not mar this letter by words about the country. Yet I may say, that we live at an epoch more important, if possible, than the revolution. From this point, our country takes a new start. The issue is one country or none. Slavery is to be everything or nothing. God’s hand is in these great events. Slavery risks everything, and it must lose. We cannot succumb to them. We shall rise, like the phoenix, after every defeat, while they are ruined, if defeated once or twice.”

“Present my regards to Mr. and Mrs. Russell, as well as to your own family, and believe yours affectionately, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

6 May 1861: BBF reports that Mrs. French died at 4:15 am that morning. “Yesterday morning she appeared so comfortable that Frank and I went to ride by her advice. We returned about ten – found her in much agony. “Frank and I have been looking over many things preparatory to his leaving for Exeter, for he is to take with him some of her clothing for Ellen, and much of my silver.” [FFP Reel 2]

6 May 1861: Exeter News-Letter reported: “*Aid for Kansas*. Hon. Amos Tuck writes us, acknowledging the receipt of \$18 from Benjamin Wadleigh, Esq., of Sutton, being a contribution of the people of that town, for relieving the wants of Kansas. Mr. Tuck has forwarded the same to S.C. Pomeroy, Atchinson, Kansas, for expenditure.”

6 May 1861: Exeter News-Letter carried the following ad: “Tuck & French, Counsellors at Law, Exeter, N.H. The undersigned will attend carefully to all legal business entrusted to them. They will give advice to Selectmen in respect to town business, to Administrators, Guardians,

etc., concerning the settlement of estates, and will render their services for all who find legal assistance necessary and who choose to employ them.”

“Mr. Tuck will be in Exeter, particularly on Tuesdays and Fridays, and on days on Probate Court, and will be often there at other times. He will give his personal attention to all matters entrusted to the undersigned, and will attend all sessions of the Supreme Judicial Court. Mr. French will be at the Office constantly.”

“Exeter, N.H. May 6, 1861 Amos Tuck [and] F.O. French”

9 May 1861: Tuck-Chase letter nominating William Kent as a clerk. [USNA, RG 56, Register of letters sent, Vol. 37]

13 May 1861: Chase-Tuck letter approved appointment of William Kent as clerk no. 6 at salary of \$1200 per annum. [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent (“W” series), vol. 4 of 14]

14 May 1861: John Tuck (Biddeford) to Amos Tuck (Boston) with news of family and friends. Says he has heard very good things about Ellen’s new husband F.O. French.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 1]

28 May 1861: Benjamin French journal item: “On arriving at Boston I called at the Custom House to see Mr. Tuck, but he was not in.” “Frank met me at the Depot, and we came down in a stage [to Exeter]. Found Ellen, Hattie, and Fannie Gilbert ready to give me a cordial welcome. At 7 Mr. Tuck arrived, and Ben came up. In the evening we had music, and at 10 all retired.”

[FFP, Reel 2]

29 May 1861: Amos Tuck (Naval Office, Boston) to Salmon P. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury. “Dear sir: Allow me to suggest, not officially, some considerations that have been raised here, touching the Tariff and Revenue.”

“It is believed that the Morrill Tariff will prove to be prohibitory upon some articles, - many cotton goods being included – and that the Government cannot, even in time of peace, raise sufficient revenue under it for current expenses.”

“Some people are of opinion, that it would be wise to impose a duty upon tea, sugar and coffee, at the extra session of Congress, when people will put everything down to the account of the war, obtain the passage of a bill, and let it remain, of course, till the people should demand its repeal. Many believe it would never be repealed.”

“I will not presume to give my own opinion, but simply to communicate the impression which exists strongly on the minds of some men of character here, in order if your mind is dwelling upon this topic, you may understand the current of thought in this city. Very respectfully and truly yours, Amos Tuck.” [Chase Papers, LC]

29 May 1861: BBF notes, “I spent nearly all of yesterday forenoon at Frank’s office and going about with him.” “I was dreaming a troublesome dream, and made noise enough to disturb

Frank and Ellen, and Frank came in to see what the matter was. He spoke to me and awoke me.”
[FFP Reel 2]

2 June 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tuck hasn't written sooner partly because he has been sitting up with the very ill S.W. Dearborn, and partly because he had to write to Hoyt, and partly because “B. B. French has been here, and that superlative of the unmeritorious, Dan Wells. Mr. F. is welcome. Dan is not, but we are getting on patiently and even cheerfully....” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

2 June 1861: Samuel B. Dow (Francesville) to Edward Tuck. Sam has been elected 2nd Lt. of a newly recruited company of volunteers but there has been a problem in getting the company registered by the state. He finally gave a lecture to the temperance society a week earlier. “I am sorry that Geo Gill has taken the road of ruin, but depend upon it Ned, a man's true character will sooner or later come out....”

“There are two or three women of the lower order here and the other day a fellow came to me said he had them both engaged for that night and wanted me to go along and take charge of one. I gave him a piece of my mind which led him to think that it would be safe to ask me a second time. It must be fun to George to hold a share in a thing that was open to any one that might come along.” [TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

5 June 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston Custom House) to Edward Tuck. BBF is still in Exeter but will leave that day or the next. Dan Wells is also there and a “nuisance.”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

10 June 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston, Custom House Naval Office letterhead) to Edward Tuck. Tuck's plan to go to Washington is postponed because he senses a crisis is coming and “to say nothing of a possibility that a conflict may rage near Washington, I cannot expect the officers of Govt. will attend to small matters for my employers, when war is flagrant. I shall wait some days at least. Jeff. Davis must strike for a great victory... If he stirs up against the South, all the latent hostility which is capable of being evoked from the North, slavery will be swept away, clear to the Gulf and to Mexico. Jeff. Davis, beware.”

Mother is better, cheerful and happy and Ellen in good spirits. She had been oppressed by illnesses of Hattie French and Dan Wells, “but they are now extinct and she breathes freer. Tuck recently wrote a letter of recommendation for Dr. Hubbard and Tuck urges Ned to call on him again. “I think this acquaintance which you are forming with the best families at Hanover, and the favorable impression you are making, will be profitable to you in future life....Of course you must rest on Sunday and cant read much, but I want you to be known as a Bible man (in College) and not afraid or ashamed to avow that Book to be the Guide of Your Faith and Practice. Treat with manly contempt, shallow-beamed infidels and empty headed scorners.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

14 June 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tuck is heading that day for Peekskill, with an overnight in NYC. "If things look quiet in Washington on Monday, I intend to go from N. York to Washington Tuesday, to return to Exeter by Sat. night following. I go to Washington (if I go) to help friends get office, and to see how the world [word unclear] there. I may be of use in some way. I feel that I ought to see the man at the head of affairs, in such times as these...." [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

19 June 1861: BBF journal item: Previous day, French returned from his work at the Capitol and "I found Mr. Tuck here, and he is still with me. After dinner he and I rode out in the buggy. Saw the troops in various parts of the City – and saw the 4th Pa. Regt. March out for Alexandria. I left Mr. Tuck down in the city and rode down to Edmund's after Mary Ellen, who spent the day there. Mr. Tuck came home about 7, and after tea we talked and read till ½ past 9 and then all went to bed." Today he did his usual business, came home, dined "and soon after dinner Mr. Tuck and I rode over to Arlington in my buggy, and saw the fortifications, troops etc. etc. over the river, Mr. Tuck having procured the passes. We had a very pleasant ride – saw the evening parade of the 8th New York Regiment, stationed at Arlington, which was very handsomely done. We arrived home about 7, took tea, and Mr. Tuck went to the President's, and has just arrived home – 10 o'clock." [FFP Reel 2]

22 June 1861: "Yesterday Mr. Tuck went out in the morning with my horse and buggy, in company with Mrs. Tuck's brother, Mr. Townshend....At a little before 1, Mr. Tuck came home, and I rode down and brought Mary Ellen home. At ½ past 1, we had dinner, and at a little past 2 Mr. Tuck left for N. Hamp. I enjoyed his visit very much, and regretted to have him leave. If I should, by any good luck get the office of Marshal of this District - Col. Lamson having resigned – I shall impute it entirely to Mr. Tuck's influence. He has labored well for me." [FFP Reel 2]

23 June 1861: Amos Tuck (Peekskill) to Edward Tuck. Tuck sends a brief note to say Abby and William are fine and that he is always glad to visit them in Peekskill.

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

25 June 1861: New Hampshire General Court approves and Governor Berry signs a resolution allowing Amos Tuck \$335 for expenses incurred at the Washington Peace Convention. Levi Chamberlain and Asa Fowler are allowed \$300 each. [NH Acts, vol. 53, p. 249]

30 June 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Mrs. Tuck was thrown from her wagon after taking Amos to the depot. She now has a lame back. "...I went to church this fore-noon, but staid at home with yr. mother this afternoon. I read several chapters in the Bible and most of the leading articles in the Independent." Tuck really likes the Independent.

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

30 June 1861: Edward Tuck (Hanover, N.H.) to Amos Tuck. "My dear Father: I have just returned from a jaunt after strawberries, which was a complete success. Out of the village a mile towards Lyme I found just as many as I could eat of large, deliciously sweet, ones – left as many more. I never anywhere saw them, wild, so plenty an sweet and enormous. So don't think I am not enjoying the fruit even if I can't have any from our beds."

"Our term closes, or rather Commencement Day (proper) take place on Thursday the 25th. We have only two weeks more of study but those are not to be remarkably easy, review in Astronomy being our especial stumbling block. I have not yet spoken on the Stage, no notice having been served on our division and there being a chance to put it off till Fall, I was particularly desirous so to do. It is anything but agreeable to address 300 grinning students. I have however put my piece in a condition such that it would require but little alteration to be spoken. I have made large number of changes, all of them not very important perhaps. Professors Fairbanks, Varney and Packard are the special objects of derision through the college. The two former are extremely ignorant, the latter is extremely foppish. I could tell a good many laughable anecdotes about them, did paper allow a just representation. They are not respected in the least and are a disgrace to any College, half the students would say."

"The edifice which was burnt a short time since is being replaced by its exact model about 10 ft. behind the other. A new plan is probably a thing which never occurred to our respected Faculty. There is to be quite a great time on the 4th at Lebanon but I am in doubt whether to spend that famous day at home i.e. in Hanover or in L. or to take a trip to Mt. Ascutney. Prof. Patterson delivers an Oration at Lebanon. Prof. Sanborn has returned from St. Louis but I have not yet seen the gentleman nor shall I until it is absolutely necessary that I should call."

"I hope that Frank's hand is not permanently hurt by the spider bite Ellen wrote me about. Spiders must have a decided proclivity for our house. Tell Frank his venerable relative Prof. 'Sammy' Brown was completely drenched by a pail of water while stepping out of D.H. yesterday. The water was meant for a noisy candy-boy but just as the boy dodged in the Prof. emerged and the above-name consequence followed, as one could imagine would follow at so happy a coincidence of circumstances. The Prof. was consoled with the fact that it was 'clean water.'"

"I received yr. letters from Peekskill and Boston the same day but they were nevertheless very welcome to me. Also a map in a N.Y. Paper. With love to all, I am yr. affectionate son Ned."

[P.S.] Do I do right in directing my Sunday letters to you at Boston?" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 July 1861: Amos Tuck (Naval Office, Boston) to Secretary of the Treasury Salmon P. Chase. "My Dear Sir: I can procure you the Encyclopedia Britannica, (21 vols.), at \$4.40 a vol., being \$1 a vol. less than it costs me; and shall be pleased to buy and send same to you by Express if you desire it."

“Excuse my boring you when at Washington. When next I see you, I am resolved my sympathy for claimants shall not mar my communings with you.”

“I think well of a popular loan to the government, as part of the [word unclear] of relief. Some do not have so much confidence in its success. But, confidence in the Govt. is growing stronger and in a short time I believe the small capitalists would make a rush for 7 pr. cts. [word unclear] the Govt. Treasury notes. The prop [?] which such a loan would be to patriotism when diffused among the millions should not be overlooked.”

“I mark this letter ‘private’ simply that it may reach you, yet I fear that even so that may not be effectual to the desired end inasmuch as you did not receive a letter thus marked, sent before I saw you last. Very respectfully and truly, yours, Amos Tuck.” [Chase Papers, LC]

4 July 1861: HFF (Boston to BBF. “...I saw Tuck at Concord. Mrs. T. was not able to walk from injuries she received by being thrown from the carriage. The Democrats at Concord are disgracing themselves and the State by opposing the appropriation for the war. They were preparing a protest to file, which is as close to treason as can be. Pierce is at the bottom of it. The appropriation of a million, however, passed by all the votes but some 70, who say they shall sign this postal [?].” [FFP Reel 11]

7 July 1861: Samuel B. Dow (Francesville) to Edward Tuck. Sam’s company was not called up officially because there were already enough companies to fill all the state regiments. “...if you think of going we may fix it so I could be in the same company....” [TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

8 July 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston, Custom House letterhead) to Edward Tuck. “I usually stay at Exeter on Tuesdays, and so your letters do not reach me till Tuesday evening,... Address your Sunday letters to Exeter so I can get them Tuesday morning. “Your mother is improving rapidly, as to the injury to her back, but is not much better in her general health... Frank and I have had considerable business, of late, and our prospects are good these hard times. But business men are Head [sp.] Jewett + Co have failed, owing about \$25,000, I think. They will pay all debts at Exeter and vicinity. Still it is well for the country to go through its present baptism willingly, in the hope of ridding the nation of supercilious arrogance effrontery and pretensions of Southern demagogues and proslavery agitators. Slavery has heretofore dictated the legislation and the elections of the country, has put up and put down whom it would; and now it is trying its strength to destroy the Govt. because the free people have at length got the power of numbers and the will to govern the Country, according to right and not according to slavery. Welcome the day that tries their grit, their power and their fate, and may God protect the right. I accept all sacrifices which the war can throw on me, and joy in the hope of living to see the beginning, at least, of the nation’s emancipation from the dishonor, the disasters and the sin of being controlled by ignorant, cruel, envious, hateful tyrants. I would rather have a decent monarchy than such democratic rule as we have had for 20 years and we can better support a war all the time, than such administrations s Pierce’s and Buchanan’s.” Tuck plans on attending his class meeting at the next commencement.

“The President’s message is worth your reading – if you have time look it over twice. He is very happy in his ability to make logical points, in simple language. He has no pathos, no spread eagle

oratory, but has a keen eye to detect the patriotism of the people, to detect the conspirators in their plots against freedom, and to put their noses on the grindstone of sound sense. Study him.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

9 July 1861: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees' meeting.

14 July 1861: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. Junior Year is over, except the Examination next week. Ned will miss Tuck at Commencement the week after, because he will be on the delegation to the annual Psi Upsilon convention at Yale. Professor Patterson is expecting Tuck to stay at his house. “Our Junior troubles have all subsided...”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

22 July 1861: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “Awful-awful-awful. Our Grand Army is licked, cut to pieces – demoralized – run away!” Colonel Keyes arrived in the middle of the night saying all was lost. BBF gives an account of Gilman Marston's wounding. Senator Hale saw Marston.

[FFP, Reel 5]

2 August 1861: Amos Tuck writes to Lincoln requesting West Point appointment for his son Edward. [Franklin Brooks manuscript, chapter 2, quotes Tuck's letter found in [RG 94, Records of the Adjutant General's Office, Engineer Department, Rauner]

6 August 1861: Amos Tuck (North Conway, N.H.) to Ellen French. “I suppose this letter will reach you before you go to Hampton.”

“I gradually improve as I journey North, and when I arrived here at 9 o'clock, felt passably recovered, though still not right. This morning after taking a walk with your mother I took a sudden start with a party going to the top of Kearsarge, - six miles off, - three of which is by a steep ascent, made generally by walking. I returned at 5 ½ P.M., having been tired and rested several times, and feeling all the better for the extreme exercise. My pleurisy is entirely gone, and I feel better than I have for a long time. I shall stay here for a few days, but intend leaving before Saturday. I like the inspiration of this mountain air. Yr. mother is better, I think, than when she left home. The Smith girls are perfectly happy, I judge: Mrs. Gill is better and generally people here are enjoying themselves.”

“Give love to Abby and Ned, the children and Frank. I think of you at home often, if not constantly and I wish I could hear from you daily.”

“Your aff. father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

20 August 1861: Tuck sends letter to Chase requesting to “discontinue” the clerk no. 2 position in order to save money. This proposal is approved by Chase in a 22 August letter, which instructed Tuck to notify the incumbent, William H. Burbeck, that “his services will be discontinued from the 1st of September.” [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent (“W” series), vol. 4 of 14]

29 August 1861: Amos Tuck (Naval Office, Boston) to Secretary of the Treasury Salmon P. Chase. “Private Dear Sir: Mr. Goodrich has ventured to suggest and request me, to express to you my views of the practicability of dispensing with the services of Mr. Hanscomb, Dpty. Collector. He felt a delicacy in speaking to me of a private communication, etc.”

“My view is, that the machinery of the Collector’s Department cannot go on so well without Mr. Hanscomb as with him. His knowledge of all controversies that have arisen in the past 15 yrs. regarding the Collection of duties, his acquaintance with pending suits in which large sums are at issue, his unquestioned integrity, and his excellent judgment upon tariff laws, render him important, and somewhat indispensable.”

Allow me to say, that I think Judge Collamer is entitled, as any man is, to exercise potential influence in favor of a friend, and I am glad it is in the power of the Collector, at all events, to give Mr. Rice a place quite above the average of appointments here.”

“I am with great regard your friend Amos Tuck” [Chase Papers, LC?]

29 August 1861: Edward Tuck (Hanover, N.H.) to Amos Tuck. “I am once more settled down in my old quarters, the same as ever, except with the additional dignity of a senior. I have had some thoughts of moving from where I now am to a vacant room in Reed Hall, as there is only one of my classmates in this building and he goes away in a week and gives up his room to a sophomore. But I have concluded to weather it out even amid such vile wretches as Sophs. and Juniors. The room I tho’t of taking in Reed Hall is one of the best in College but the man who drew it goes to California by the next steamer and consequently will not occupy it. He of course leaves College for good.”

“Ellen said (the truth of which remark I have since discovered) in her letter that I had left a night-shirt in the wash at Exeter and she enquires how it shall be sent to me. As there are no apples in this vicinity this year, the best way I can think of is to send up a small box of night-shirt and apples. It hardly seem worth while to pay the expressage on so small a bundle as a shirt. Such a box as I mentioned would be able to contain quite an assortment. This is only a suggestion made entirely for the shirt’s sake.”

“Prof. Patterson has not yet returned from his fishing trip, but as soon as he does I shall go to him for an account of it.”

“We are having now Prof. Long in Say’s Political Economy, Prof. Brown in Sherman’s Rhetoric, and a lecture from Dr. Peaslee daily on Anatomy etc. I shall write to Ellen early next week. With love to all, I am affectionately, Ned.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 September 1861: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Ellen French. “I rec’d yr. letter quite a while ago but have deferred answering it, as I have already written father. I promised to let him know soon after my return of the safety of myself, property etc.”

“I am prospering as well as ever, and, with my gun shall never be at a loss what to do for exercise. I went shooting yesterday afternoon and was gone 3 or 4 hours. I shot one king-bird, shot at one woodchuck and --- that was all. My fellow-gunner, however, shot at a crow and

missed it. But I had the fun. Last night the Sophs. and Freshes had their first row. A football game was the commencement of it. The rush and crowd lasted half an hour, even more than that. It commenced by the Liberty Pole and travelled toward the fence by Prof. Sanborn's, then over the fence and at length most up to the Prof.'s door. His fence was completely demolished for almost 2 rods. The way these things begin is that a Soph. grabs the football to carry it off, but the Freshmen (aided by the Juniors, as are the Sophs. by the Seniors) make a rush for it and then commences the dragging out and shoving in. The ball is usually held by one or two stout, heavy fellows and they fell down before they let go. Last night a Junior who held it was crowded down and lost a shoe and hat in the scuffle. When the crowd is near a fence men get on the fence and jump headlong into the midst, trying to get a hold on the ball, but usually are pulled out by the legs. It takes half a dozen to get a man out in this way as the man will get someone else in the rush round the shoulders, and so exercises a great deal of strength. Any where but among students half a dozen limbs would be broken and as many fights would come off, but they won't tread on a man when he is down, more than can possibly be helped, and when they get to striking blows a dozen men will jump between them and they can't get at each other till they are cooled off. Usually no one but a Freshman is foolish enough to get mad. Last night one struck a Soph. but he immediately had a peeper stopped up by 'science' and couldn't again get a chance to use his 'brute force.' Of course new material is being continually worked into the jam and in this way they will go by a fence (when it won't go down before them) the ball being the only thing that is lifted over, it being handed across."

"In a genuine home-made row, like that last night, all the citizens collect round it from the lowest day labourers to the minister, while the windows from which it is visible are filled with excited females. In the pathetic words of Miss Katy Sanborn who was calling at the President's at the time and could hear but not see distinctly, 'It seemed as though thousands were being slain.' By the way, Prof. Sanborn and wife and the fair Katy leave to-morrow for St. Louis. Mrs. Webster and Miss Mary are to remain here."

"I suppose you have left the Beach for good before this. From yr. description, the 'happy family' ought no longer to be burdened with visitors, although such near and dear relatives as we pride ourselves on being. My napkin-ring excites admiration wherever seen. From some remarks of Mrs. Chase, I should judge she had shown it to all the old ladies, if not the young, in the town. Tell father I have not yet lost his knife, that I keep my breeches pockets most religiously buttoned up."

"With much love to Abby and you all I am yr. affectionate brother Ned."

[P.S.] "Abbott Locke was mistaken as to the reason of my not going to the Ayr. Quad. [sp.?]. He said he had been and would rather be whipped than go again, so I tho't it would be no more than polite for me to decline going. Father heard him say so."

"I find that not only a new night-shirt but my ol done, the mate to the one that was lost, was left at home. I have to use therefore and shall continue to use until my others are sent up, an old one that, judging from the size, was built some 10 years ago, too small round the neck, the wrists."

“If a box is sent me, tell Father to buy me in Boston a Federalist, a Schlegel’s Dramatic Literature and an Edwards on the will, at Crosby Nichols Lee & Co’s, which we are to use this Fall and which can be bought enough cheaper to pay the expressage to Hanover.”

“Yrs. etc. Ned.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 September 1861: Samuel B. Dow (Francesville) to Edward Tuck. Sam is still hunting professionally. [TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

2 September 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Tuck was in Boston “the three last days of last week.” Took mother to the Beach with the entire Tuck clan. All quite well “except that our dear Ellen is growing more and more uncomfortable.” William and family return next Thursday, while Frank and Ellen think of going to Boston to prepare for housekeeping in the fall “and afterwards in the John Giddings brick house on Pine Street, abandoning, of course, the previous scheme of Ellen’s going to Pkskll. During the accouchement your mother and I shall remain at Exeter till cold weather, and then come to Boston and board at Mr. Dudley’s, shutting the house. Professor Patterson spoke to Tuck of Ned’s relations with a certain unsavory individual, but was glad to hear from him that Ned’s behavior was proper. Tuck urges him to continue to set a good standard of “manly behavior.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

4 September 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. The Nelsons will stop in Exeter on their way home from the Beach. Ellen and Frank have hired the John Giddings house for a few weeks. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

4 September 1861: Tuck sends letter to Chase requesting promotion of Charles Gill to clerk no. 6 at \$1200 per annum in the place of William Kent who is transferred to clerk no. 7 at \$1050 per annum (i.e. switching places). Chase approved the switch, effective 1 October, in a 13 September letter. [USNA, RG 56, Letter sent (“W” series), vol. 4 of 14]

12 September 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston, Custom House Naval Office letterhead) to Edward Tuck. “I hear from St Louis, that Mr. Hoyt is gaining very manifestly, at which I am greatly rejoiced.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

17 September 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Ellen is in another family [i.e. in her own house] in Exeter for the first time. She is doing well, and keeping busy. Frank is fixing up the brick house and they hope to move in next Saturday. “His and my law business is somewhat encouraging.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

18 September 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “I enclose to you twenty dollars...It was not necessary you should send me the items. At a future time, we will examine your books, and comment on the inevitableness of the items.” Tuck was at home the day before working at

law. “We can do a fair business, but not very lucrative. Still enough to be thankful for, and to be gradually breaking Frank into the harness. Cousin Sam Weeks and wife to visit next week from Sherbrook: Ned should remember them from his “hegira from Pointe aux trembles.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

23 September 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “Not having time at Exeter, to write to you or Abby, I make it first employment on arriving at my office here, to send you my usual weekly letter.” Chas. Gill and father came to the city this morning. Gill pressed Tuck for a letter to get his son George into the army, saying that letters from “influential gentlemen” were necessary. Tuck is tired of being “pummeled” for such letters. “I am slightly disgusted with the weary aspirations of Chas. and Geo. Captain Gill has succeeded in getting a place in the Navy for George Kimball.

Ellen is staying in bed – she slipped on the stairs a few days ago, and the “old women being her counsellors” have advised her to remain still for a few days. Mother had a double doorway opened between the two front chambers and they have given the kitchen stove to Ellen and put a new stove in the kitchen. “We shan’t board much at Boston till cold weather.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

23 September 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter?) to Edward Tuck. “Let me contribute to elucidate and to fix a point in your mind, which will be much talked of during this war, and which it is important to comprehend fully.”

“You probably know that Slavery, being contrary to Natural Law, (which gives a man a right to himself), is not recognized, and cannot stand when there are not positive statutes, (municipal law, in distinction from Natural Law), upholding and defending it....Southern men have long been vexed because the civilized world, and anti-slavery people of the North, in particular, refuse to regard slaves, as other property, and persist in ignoring the existence of slavery, outside of the slave states.

The Constitution of the U.S. gives no power to Congress to abolish slavery in the States. The States only gave up a portion of their rights, in forming the General Government and adopting the Federal Constitution and the Slave States did not give the Gen. Govt. the control of slavery in their states.

Hence I always said, and so have said very model statesmen: Keep slavery in your States, and you may have its blessings + curses, all to yourselves. When you seek to extend it elsewhere, for instance into the territories, and by Congressional legislation too, then we fight you and fight slavery, at every step. This is what we have fought about since I took an interest in politics.

Now I come to the point to which I wish to direct your attention. With the foregoing views, how is it, that so many people now demand the abolition of slavery, to be achieved in the course of this war? Look over the extract from John Quincy Adams speech in 1842 and the article upon it, in last week’s Independent, and you will see the explanation. It is in short this:

When we get into a war, martial law abrogates, if need be, the Constitution and all civil law, and the Commanding General can abolish slavery, by the same rule that he can kill, burn, and destroy, for the purpose of defending the nation + protecting civil society”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

28 September 1861: Samuel B. Dow (Francesville) to Edward Tuck. “...I would have liked to have gone in that company as sharpshooter first rate. Ned, do you think of taking any part in this war. I have been holding off until I am almost ashamed of myself and I don’t know whether I can much longer. I know one thing that I cannot stand to be drafted....” [TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

29 September 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tuck tells Ned he may go to Washington in the coming week on Custom House business. “Ellen has moved into her house, and is now quite comfortable in health.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

29 September 1861: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. Hasn’t heard from his father for a while – must be busy. Reading the Journal, Ned thought Tuck must have been in Dover on Thursday, but saw later that he wasn’t. “I wish that I was enlisted in some capacity. I wrote this last sentence without thinking, for I don’t intend to express such sentiments unless there is some chance of fulfilling the wish, which I fear there is not at present. The President’s son Nat. is here to-day. He is Colonel of the Vt. 6th which goes before long...Another son of the Prex. is surgeon of the same regiment. How is Colonel Marston getting along + do you think he will rejoin his regiment? I had a letter from Abby a few days ago urging me not to abandon my West Point scheme + to keep the run of Marston. I wrote early in the term to W.P. to inquire about the present incumbent, from Dover, but have rec’d no reply.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

1 October 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston, Custom House Naval office letterhead) to Edward Tuck. Quick note to say all are well at home and that Tuck is going to Washington on government business later that day and will arrive Wednesday night, returning Monday or Tuesday. Can’t stop in Peekskill.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

[3-6 October: Tuck stays with the French family. Tuck (and B.B. French) visit General Hooker on 4 October. Tuck spends another day with Lincoln in Washington reviewing troops. Has tea at the White House.]

5 October 1861: BBF journal item: “Yesterday we [he and Mary Ellen] drove to the camp near Bladensburg accompanied by Mr. Tuck (who came Thursday evening [3 October]) and three other gentlemen – they were in a hack, M.E. and I in my buggy. I saw all the troops – the 2nd N.H. 12th Pa. and one or two other Regiments, all under the command of Gen Hooker to whom I was introduced by my old friend Doct. L.V. Bell, Brigade surgeon. We staid and saw the afternoon drill, and the sunset dress parade. I was very much pleased with Gen. Hooker and spent the afternoon very pleasantly. We got home about 7 o’clock, and spent the evening in

reading and conversation till ½ past 10 when we all retired.” [Witness to the Young Republic, p. 377]

6 October 1861: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Edward Tuck. Arrived last Wednesday. “My business was to attempt the exposure of a fraud on the Govt., attempted, (successfully so far as the fraud [?] is concerned), by some contractors in N. York + Boston, who have been supplying the Navy with Powder Bag cloth, used in making cannon cartridges, and undertaken to be got through the Custom House, without paying duties, on the false representation that it was the property of the U.S. when in fact, it was to be sold by the importers to the Govt. at an enormous profit, over and above cost duties and all. I have been successful, have the thanks of the Department, and all my expenses paid for the journey. Possibly I may get some further compensation for my special pains in the matter. I spent 3 or 4 hours, on Thursday last in riding with the President, Mrs. Lincoln and Ex Gov. Newell of N. Jersey, who entered Congress with Mr. Lincoln + me. After the ride we teaed at the White House. We had a very pleasant time, talking but little about politics, as I took it for granted the Pres. was weary, when we started from his house. We told stories and had as jubilant a time, as ever Mr. Hoyt + I had. I have been at Maj. French’s, kindly entertained, (except Dinners) from the time of my arrival...I leave this (Sunday) eve. though I may not get to Boston in time to by 5 ¼ train to Exeter.

I have seen the camps of the soldiers about Washington, in numbers immense. I believe there are too many here + too few in Ky. and Mo. I have anxiety about the war, but yet hope strongly for effectual demonstrations by our forces on the seaboard + in the West, before a great while.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

9 October 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Short note: just returned and is due in court. “As to military, I think, (inter nos), that if you aspire to it, it is best to go at it professionally, and that I bring to bear the machinery to induce the Pres, to send you to West Point next summer.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

10 October 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston, Custom House Naval Office letterhead) to Edward Tuck. Mr. Gill said George has left college without permission: it seems he has accepted George’s “patriotic erratics”. “Somebody must be left in civil life, and I still feel it wiser for you to wait till spring, and in the mean time to make the very best use of your time at college....There is so much electricity in the atmosphere just now, that excitable people can hardly stand on their legs.”

“I have my fears that Fremont is extravagant and hasty, but as to him and McClellan and all the rest, we don’t know, and can’t know yet, whether they are adequate to the occasion or not. The country is in travail to produce some man who is the embodiment of what we meant. We are agonizing to find him, and if we find such a man, he will be hailed as the second Washington. No one can tell who it will be, but he will come in God’s own time. I have all along suspected that God will not give us much success, till we have got so sick, that we throw up slavery, as a sick man throws up the burden of a foul stomach. Till then I fear the cold sweat, the deadly

paleness and the distress will continue. Still I have faith, and will trust in Him, though he slay us.”

“I sent you \$20 yesterday – I got paid for going to Washington.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

13 October 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “If you adhere to your wish to go to West Point, (if you can), I intend soon to make my application to the President, and to back it, by proof of your scholarship, standing at the late examination etc. It will be well, I think, to forestall rivals for the appointment, though the places will not be filled till February. You can write me on this subject. You should weigh the matter well, and remember, that whoever enters the army, makes a virtual contract, to face all necessary danger, to obey all superiors, and if need be, to lay down his life for his country. I know, one can resign at any time, but in the coming future I do not think there will be place for honorable resignations, of men educated at the expense of the Govt. Besides one has to agree to remain 8 years, and how much will transpire in that time, of danger and sacrifice? The step you will take is important, but I shall leave it mainly to you.

You see the temper of the Independent is to urge the Govt. to embark upon the enterprise of extinguishing slavery. I do not fully sympathize with the men of these feelings. The war may come to that, but I do not believe it wise, even in antislavery men, to jump at these things, and grab at objects before the world has turned so that we can reach them. As soon as wise men begin to see that events are tending towards a certain finality, another class of men, of equally quick perceptions, of equally good hearts, but less reliable heads, jump to the ‘finality,’ declare it is inevitable, and sometimes prevent it, by the hullabalo they get up about it. So it may be now. People revolt at an immature conclusion, and organize instinctively against it. Hence the danger of the goadings we see now administered to the Administration.

Court sits at Portsmouth this week, and I shall be there much of the time – and not come home every night. I have to try one or two cases. Ellen is now well – so your mother, who does all the work here, except a little assistance from Mrs. Moore....

[P.S.] Having read the Independent since closing my letter I open it to say, that the bias of my mind is very decided, in the direction of emancipation, as the only remedy. If we could whip the parents [sp.?), we could not again cons_____ [unclear word] with them, and the question will soon be, whether the Union or Slavery shall die. To destroy slavery will make a fearful (to the whites and blacks both of the South) change, but one for the great good of the world in the long run. Perhaps it is time to advocate abolition. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

13 October 1861: BBF (Washington) to HFF. Complains of the many people who pester him as commissioner, “...and then the interviews I have with ‘The Republican Queen’ who plagues me half to death with wants with which it is impossible to comply, for she has a keen eye to the dollars! And honest old Abe, who calls me ‘French’ and always tells me a story when I go to talk to him.”

“I enjoyed Mr. Tuck’s visit more than I can express. He was very lively and pleasant, and told me all about Frank, and we were together much of the time. My N.H. friends seem dearer to me than ever now.” [FFP Reel 6]

17 October 1861: Amos Tuck (Portsmouth) to Edward Tuck. Tuck is trying a case in defense of Seabrook, probably until coming Saturday. “I have no time to write, but wish to say, that I approve your drilling.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

17 October 1861: Austin Corbin (Newport, NH) to Amos Tuck. “Friend Tuck: Will you oblige me by sending to the ‘Tremont House’ for a package of letters – one or more – sent there tome by Mr. Dow, and forward them to me at this place. Sorry to trouble you.”

“I don’t know as I shall have time to go again to Boston, but will write you from Davenport, if I do not see you. I expect to get home by the 1st of Novr.”

“Will you do me a favor. The Merchants Bank of Boston hold an encumbrance against LeClaire’s Brick block in D. amounting to \$30,000. LeC. Has recently died and I would like to get the management of it. Dow saw them some weeks ago about it, and they talked favorably, he thought.”

“If they will give it to me, Dow and I will see that the Insurances [sp?] are kept up, rents collected, and the full proceeds applied in payment of the debt. Don’t trouble yourself too much, but a few words to them, and a statement that in your opinion, all would favor good persons to take charge of same, might be of service.”

“Your friend Austin Corbin”

“P.S. A friend of mine, Mr. F.H. Cutting of Chicago, has become involved by signing for his Bro. in law Mr. P. [?] Walker, and fears he may get in to trouble. Mr. Dow is his adviser, and writes me that he has been over to see him, and to make a mortgage on property for the benefit of Amos Tuck for \$8,000. I advised him to do so before I came away, if necessary, and intended to speak to you about it, but forgot to do so.”

“I doubt if Mr. C. ever is obliged to put it on record, but if he should be, will you consent to let it stand in that way. It will, and shall be a source of no trouble to you. I will see to that, if you permit it to stand. I am not disposed to ‘cover up’ for anybody but this is peculiarly a very hard case – will [word unclear] C. of everything, and by taking the course he does, can get out better by compromise if the worst comes.” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

20 October 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston Custom House, Naval Office letterhead) to Edward Tuck. Expresses pleasure that he and Ned had both picked out an article in the “Independent” by Mr. Cuyler [sp]...I always had a prejudice from my youth, against the ministerial profession, arising from the emptiness and fruitlessness of most sermons and most preachers whom I was accustomed to hear, and perhaps somewhat owing to a depraved natural bias against religious employment; but I feel that had I got onto the right track, possibly I might have had some of the peculiar power of Mr. Cuyler, to help young men and maidens preserve their integrity, in thought

word + deed, and that if I had been a good minister, with a measure of his power, and had used it, my life would be more satisfactory.

I regret the interruption to your drilling, but it can't be helped. Don't intermingle in any strife arising with the Norwich boys. Some one will get killed, likely as not."

Tuck discusses where Ned will stay during the winter: Boston or Exeter. The Tucks will probably keep the Exeter house open much of the time.

"We succeeded in our suit. Seabrook was sued for \$6000 in damages suffered by 'Rox' Brown, and the jury gave him \$1.

They are laying Gas Pipe on Front, Elliot, Court, + other streets. They finished putting pipe into our house, Sat. night. Your mother was afflicted somewhat by the workmen. They began a few hours after I left for Portsmouth on Tuesday, and finished one hour before my return Sat. night. We have pipe in all our rooms in the main body of the house, above + below, and in the kitchen + passages.

...Your suggestion to delay action regarding West Point is well.

P.S. I must not omit to say, that some of you have made a hit upon us the Trustees. I am glad of it, and I think it will do good. Whoever wrote the 'Proposals' did it well. It sounds some like Ned Tuck, to me. But keep dark." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

20 October 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. [Same letter as previous?] Amos was in court all last week, trying a case on behalf of a man suing the town of Seabrook for not maintaining a safe bridge. He will be in court again in the week after this one. He goes to Boston to-morrow. Tuck has installed gas in his house but has not yet bought the chandeliers. The gas works are to be completed by December – a \$30-50,000 investment.

"I told her [Ellen] I had some idea of trying to fore-stall the President' selection of you for West Point by an early application to him, providing you adhere to the purpose of entering that Institution if you can. What ever you wish, if you have a decided one, and I will probably take early measures to present your case to Mr. Lincoln."

"...I approve your drilling, but should regret your being jostled from your position in your class, unless you jostle up..." [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

27 October 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tuck and mother spent two days in Boston, staying at the American House rather than Mr. Dudley's.

"The Court still sits at Portsmo., and Judge Nesmith presides with all his native brilliancy. I have business there, when it is reached, but shall not be there any more than is absolutely necessary. Frank will go to Portsmo. tomorrow to keep watch. Ellen is quite well, your mother not so well to-day as usual. Mr. Woodbridge Odlin + wife have been west, and she went to Saint Louis and saw Mr. Hoyt + family. She reports him to be in a hopeless consumption, with no prospect of living over a month or two....He and his wife want me to there to see him, but have not yet sent such an inevitable request that I feel constrained to go. Yet I think I almost can see the coming occasion for me, beyond a contingency, to pay the tribute of

my friendship, in a visit to him, to receive his last messages, to confer with him about his family, and to receive his blessing. No other man, not bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh, ever was so near to me as he, or ever will be, and I can refuse nothing to him in this day of his trial. If I can smooth his way to the tomb, by removing one thorn from his path, it will enable me to feel I have not lived in vain. He will not lay heavy burdens on me, but he cannot dispense, probably, with the satisfaction of again talking of his affairs, and commending his family to my friendship and advisory care, to say the least. I shall, however, await further messages from him, before I go, and have some hope, that some how or other, Mr. Merrick + Mr. Stickney, living with him, may relieve me of the duty of going there. I cannot till Court rises, and then cannot go till Ellen's confinement, as it now seems to me.

Marcia Batchelder goes to Pkskill. soon to see Abby + family....

I see an article in this week's Independent, on the 1st page, by Charles Francis Adams Jr. which I commend to your review, as showing the two sides of the Emancipation Question, now looming into importance, and which it is important for us to get correct opinions upon, as early as practicable. Slavery is at the bottom of our troubles: - how shall we punish it, and dispel the black cloud which it has been casting over our country from the beginning? The impulsive abolitionists say, 'March forward boldly, and knock out its brains at one blow, by an order from the Commander in Chief, (the President), or the General in Command.' 'No no,' say the more conservative, 'for that will destroy the foundations of society, will involve the innocent with the guilty, and will be destructive to the negroes also; but perfect the blockade, and maintain it so long that England + France will necessarily open new sources of supply of their cotton, (and ours), and thus the monopoly of the south in Cotton raising, (which it is assumed is the backbone of slavery) will be broken, and slavery, gradually, without violence, die with the monopoly, which has built it up to such fearful dimensions.' My mind does not yet incline to immediate emancipation, but I know not what I shall come to on that subject. It seems as if all our counsels are turned to foolishness so far, and that we can achieve nothing of importance, while our choice young men are slaughtered by hundreds. I know not but God will refuse us success till we let the people go 'free'."

Tuck closes with news of his garden and the news that the gas pipes are generally laid in the streets as far as the Depot. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

29 October 1861: Amos Tuck (Boston Custom House, Naval Office letterhead) to Edward Tuck. "...Mr. Gill does not often speak of George now. He did have the announcement from George that he had left College, and was going to Rye etc. to enlist soldiers, and his father was frail enough to entertain that enterprise, with some degree of toleration. Yet he soon learned that Geo. had not left, and since then he has not seemed to desire to talk about the military prospects of his student son. I am glad the Seniors are at peace with Norwich. That is the condition of dignity. It will be a good thing for you all to learn the tactics and drill, and how to obey orders promptly etc. etc. I don't see why it is not mental training, (and therefore education), quit as much as many of your studies." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

3 November 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "I have just written a long letter to Wm. [Nelson] on business, as he goes west next Thursday, and I was not confident of getting time to write him, unless I did so to-night. To-morrow I go to Portsmo. the 1st train, to engage at once in a trial, and I may be detained till Wed." TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

4 November 1861: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. Only two more Sundays in Hanover. Examination is in a fortnight, and Ned will get home the next day. Ned draws his father's attention to an article in last week's Independent by Professor Sanborn. It will be a burden to go to St. Louis, but the Hoyts and the Sanborns will be delighted to see him.

"The class voted last Tuesday not to drill any longer, after having taken lessons two weeks. We had time to get an insight into nearly all the company movements + some of them we could go through very well indeed. It will be of great advantage to us if we are ever put where we want to drill recruits." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

10 November 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tuck and Frank went for a walk after Frank attended Unitarian Sabbath School.

"The past week I was three days at Portsmouth Court, leaving my Boston business to my Depty. I argued one jury case, and I obtained a verdict, as my client deserved, and considerably to my gratification. Our thoughts are now mainly on the great Naval Expedition.... I will say, that no disaster, not even the destruction of the whole fleet, can permanently prostrate the friends of the Union. They are going to punish rebellion, by blotting it out, sooner or later.

I think Scott's withdrawal disencumbers affairs, and will enable McClellan and the other leaders of the War, better to prosecute their plans. I am at a loss to conjecture the plan....the rascals must be crowded briskly in other parts of the country, or the people will be terribly impatient with our rulers. As to Fremont, the bias of the people, and my own, was strong towards him, but I am convinced his removal was necessary, rendered so by the plunderers of the Govt. who got possession of him, and by his own inefficiency, which was illustrated by his not reinforcing Lyon, and Mulligan, in time to save them.

I am not sure that it is best for you to aspire to a military education, but inasmuch as an early application to the President is important, if you should seek a place at West Point, I wish you to give the subject some thought before you come home. We shall be at Exeter, not going to Boston till after Ellen's confinement in Dec.

We have a Street Gas Lamp Post in front of our house. The Gas will be lit on about the middle of Dec. it is said. There is a very pious piece in the Independent by Mr. Cuyler....I am glad I provide you a good religious newspaper, and I think I shall do the same for Abby...[more on the need to build character early in life]." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

10 November 1861: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos. "Yesterday afternoon Prof. Patterson invited me to ride down to Lebanon....He showed me the place on the road where you + he were brought up so suddenly last summer by the stopping of the wheel. He talked to me a good deal the way you do, when we go off riding, about matters + things of all sorts, intermingling his

conversation with advice. He spoke quite discouragingly of the chance of getting his brother an office. He thinks that Rollins hasn't done all that he might if he had been so disposed. He said too that Mr. Blaisdell had declared his inability to pay over \$200 apiece, of their salary, to the Faculty...." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

13 November 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Brief note enclosing \$90 for Ned's outfit. "We are all well, and considerably exhilarated by news from Beaufort, and from Kentucky." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 5]

17 November 1861: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "Mrs. Hoyt, through Mrs. Sanborn, who wrote me, without the knowledge of Mr. Hoyt, has requested me to go to Saint Louis. I think it rather likely I shall go next Wednesday. I therefore want you to leave Hanover, so as to arrive at the American House, Tuesday eve, where I will meet you, and see you that night and next morning." [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

19 November 1861: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees' meeting.

28 November 1861: HFF (Cambridge) to BBF. "...Tuck has gone to St. Louis. Poor Hoyt, he will not stay long in this world." [FFP Reel 11]

9 December 1861: Tuck-Chase letter "relative to fraudulent transaction of Milton Cushman & Co." Collector Goodrich sent Chase letters on 7 November and 16 December also referencing the "case" of Milton Cushman & Co. [USNA, RG 56, Register of letters received, vol. 37]

11 December: Tuck writes an official letter from the Boston Custom House to Secretary of the Treasury Chase concerning importations from Buenos Aires. Treasury logged the letter in on 22 December. [USNA, RG 56, Register of letters received, 1834-72, vol. 34]

16 December 1861: Samuel B. Dow (Francesville) to Edward Tuck. Sam wishes Ned was spending his vacation with him. "...we would have such jolly old times. I never enjoyed myself so much in my life before with the females as I have this winter. I can do almost anything with them they have a party here almost every week...." Sam is going to keep school starting the next day. He'll continue to ship game – since 1 November he had shipped \$100 worth of game.
[TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

18 December 1861: BBF notes, "I am a Grandfather! I recd. A Telegraphic dispatch from Frank yesterday, informing me that his wife, Ellen, had given birth to a daughter. I wrote to him immediately, congratulating the young couple upon the happy event and requesting that the child might be named Elizabeth, and called Bess." [FFP Reel 2]

18 December 1861: Austin Corbin (Davenport) to Amos Tuck. Note is on the letterhead of the Exchange and Banking House, Macklot & Corbin. "Friend Tuck: Enclosed find Dbt. Macklot 11.745 on Boston 208.14 plus 1.58 [int?] Cash by [word unclear] @209.75 yesterday. He promises enough to make it \$250 this week. Beside tis I have a note for \$250 due Feby 7/10/72 signed by same parties in 1st Madison, which I do not look upon as being first rate, but I think will be paid nevertheless. I was at 1st Madison a few days since, and was told by parties who know that the makers are in rather a bad way, but that they will probably last till after this note is paid. A friend of mine is keeping watch and will do the best for me he can. I have taken it, to be endorsed on your notes if paid. I hope it will be paid. At any rate I am very glad to see the money part, even if we get no more. It makes the securities part so much better."

"Your friend Austin Corbin"

"[P.S.] 'Old pills' something like Graham's, and that might be permitted to run till after the War, have kept me 'on my taps' since I came home, and I have not had time to think over our county, city etc. operations but will soon be writing you about it."

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

22 December 1861: HFF (Cambridge) to BBF. "I saw Frank at Dover last Wednesday, and heard all about that uncommon daughter of his, and meant to write you at once, but I have had no time before.... Well, how do you feel about that baby? Frank says its hair is brown, but under the circumstances, I think it will turn auburn, at least. Frank is doing very well, making friends and getting a good position. The evil that I feared – a fight with madam – passed by with less harm than I expected, and they, having got out of a house where they ought never have got in, will now have no further trials. I think Frank is looking well, and preparing to be somebody, anywhere he chooses, before many years...." [FFP Reel 11]

23 December 1861: HFF (Boston) to BBF. "I just saw Tuck at dinner. Hoyt wants to be Consul Gen'l at Cuba, and Tuck has written Hale, Clark, and Rollins about it and Geo. J. Abbott at the State Dept."

"T.D. Elliott of Mass. Ho. Reps. U.S. [?] is in to help Hoyt. Hoyt's last letter says he has gained 4 pounds, and thinks he may recover by change of climate. He is now President of Washington University, Missouri, and by position, political, literary and every way, may well claim the place. He is still hearing his classes, but ought not to be. Dr. Elliot, Prest. of the University, is a Mass. man by birth, and doing all he can. Mr. Abbott is posted about it."

"If you can do anything for him, do take hold. Tuck says he has asked so many favors of you, that I must write this. I have no compunctions in asking favors, especially for poor Hoyt. He is one of the elect." [FFP Reel 11]

23 December 1861: Austin Corbin (Davenport) to Amos Tuck. Corbin encloses another note drawn on the Atlantic Bank of Boston for a total of \$40.25. "This makes the bal. of the \$250 cash, and I hope the note of \$250 due Feby 10/62 – as I wrote you – which I hope to get...."

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

25 December 1861: John Tuck (Biddeford) to Amos Tuck. John informs Amos he has written to Nathaniel that he will reduce Nathaniel's payments to him to \$400 annually. Nathaniel wants to get married. "... If Nat. leaves I see only one way to paying off his debts that is very simple – it is just to die and get the insurance on my life." [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 85]

26 December 1861: Austin Corbin (Exchange and Banking House of Macklot & Corbin, Davenport, Iowa) to Amos Tuck. "Friend Tuck: As you know, I am out of all business now – law inclusive – but I never have been so busy since I came west. I have been to St. Paul, Lacrosse and into Illinois to secure Eastern claims that fell into my way while in N.E. in every instance of which I have made a good thing for my principal and out of the trips about \$300 for myself."

"Now, there are a great many 'dead horses' west, owned by Eastern people - I meet hem at every turn and corner – and it has occurred to me that something might be made by you and I in connection, without causing you but little trouble – that is - Establish a western agency for collection of claims at Boston – you procure them and forward to me, and I will attend to them here. Of course, I am a lawyer yet, and consider myself a very good one when I try, and so represent myself, but if I had an important suit in court sh'd employ counsel fresh and posted. I did not leave the practice because I thought I did not know enough to make a respectable appearance, but that I believed I could more money, and enough, without the vexation and bother of holding myself in readiness to try every \$5 sent that might turn up. And I never intend to practice, generally, again, unless I get hard up."

"But in most of the business coming west from the East, it requires management, and a thorough knowledge of Western men and their tricks, and Western business generally. If I do not know pretty much all here is to know in this direction, I have no hope of learning more. Without any boasting, I believe I can take a hard case, and get as much out of it aas anybody. We might let our fees depend upon our success, except in so far as cash out was concerned, which of course would not be large as I am pretty centrally located, I could easily go to any point in Ill. Wis. or Iowa – and Minnesota in the summer without great expense."

"For Boston people, there is a great advantage in having a person in Boston to whom they can entrust the business - from whom they can obtain information, etc. etc. Your position would naturally attract a good deal away from others, every thing else being equal. My idea would be to take charge of any kind of claim – great or small – and if not large enough to warrant a trip – do the best we could by correspondence – and generally to do anything that promised to pay a fee, even if but a small one."

"As times are now, I have no doubt we can make a few hundred dollars a year out of it, and without much trouble, and perhaps it may grow into something, after a time, that would pay as well. My idea would be to divide between us equally anything that might be made - in the work here, and in the work east."

“I write, so much at my house desk, waiting for breakfast. It is a suggestion costing nothing but the paper, and one stamp – if you think enough of it, have the leisure you may sometime answer it.”

“Your friend, A. Corbin”

[P.S.] My anticipations would not be large, but the experiment would cost but little, and might directly or indirectly result in something very good. If we moved, I should think it would pay to insert the proper notice or ad. in the ‘Post’ and perhaps a paper at Concord and one at Hartford. There is a good deal of Conn. money , west.”

[Marginal note by Tuck] “A. Corbin proposing business Dec./61”

[TFP, Box 4, Folder 14]

Sources for the Life of Amos Tuck (Vol. 2)

Abbreviations used:

BBF	Benjamin Brown French
Bell	Charles H. Bell, <u>History of Exeter New Hampshire</u> , Boston, 1888.
Corning	Charles R. Corning, <u>Amos Tuck</u> , Exeter, 1902.
Correspondence Book	Correspondence Book, 1857-58, TFP, Box 9, Folder 10
CPT	Catherine Parker Tuck
Dow	Joseph Dow, <u>Robert Tuck of Hampton. N.H.</u> , Boston, 1877.
EHS	Exeter Historical Society
ENL	<u>Exeter News-Letter</u>
Fogg Papers, NHHS	George G. Fogg Papers, New Hampshire Historical Society
HFf	Henry Flagg French
Hale Papers, NHHS	John P. Hale Papers, New Hampshire Historical Society
HHS	Hampton Historical Society
FFP	French Family Papers (MSS21550), Documents Division, Library of Congress.
RFS	Exeter Historical Society, MSS 23, Papers of the Robinson Female Seminary, Carton 1, Trustees Minutes, 1866-1899
Sewell	Richard H. Sewell, <u>John P. Hale and the Politics of Abolition</u> , Cambridge MA: Harvard University Press, 1965
TFP	Tuck Family Papers (MS 442) Rauner Special Collections Library, Dartmouth College.
Tuck 1848	Tuck's first, unpublished autobiography (Rauner Library)
Tuck 1875	Tuck's second autobiography (Rauner Library). Published in 1902 by his son Edward.
USNA	U.S. National Archives

1862

4 January 1862: Austin Corbin (Davenport, Iowa) to Amos Tuck. "Friend Tuck: I mail you today quite a long-winded letter for the benefit of the 'Merchants Bank,' and you can use it if you think best – have no objection to their reading it."

"The letter will explain itself, and if possible, I want to make it work. I shall not risk anything but my time, and I believe that there is \$15,000 in the project, if it can be got hold of and managed properly. If you will get it set up right with the Bank, you can consider yourself

interested 1/3 if you like. At any rate, please give me a little of your good work and call on me for a similar favor. I think we can get from \$6,000 to \$18,000 a year rent out of it – at least the \$6,000 even now, and if there should be any inflation \$10,000. If we get this started I shall hope to save the whole Block, by good management, without putting in a dollar, and it will pay 10% int., taxes and [word unclear] on \$50,000. It is a ‘big thing,’ beyond question, if it can be ‘shipped up,’ and it won’t hurt to try. I have marked [sp.?] it out in the small engraving I enclose. Our Bank is in the Corner - It includes the ‘St. Claire House,’ the Post Office buildings, and it is the best business block in town, and no store or room or office is empty for one day.”

“I am sound, financially, and good for all my promises and you can so speak of me. I sh’d think it ought to be something in my favor and would incline the Bank to deal with me, in preference to some who would like to collect the rents.”

“Let us try and make something out of this.”

“Your friend Austin Corbin” [TFP, Box 4, Folder 14]

5 January 1862: John Tuck (Biddeford) to Amos Tuck. “I have re-admonished Nathaniel on the point indicated by you, but he does not divulge any transaction between him and me even; much less does he incline to use your name in that connection. Even his father supposes him to be a \$1200 clerk on his own hook.” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 85]

6 January 1862: Austin Corbin (Davenport) to Amos Tuck. “Friend Tuck: When I returned I had several large balances to invest, and plenty of money idle. I have had the best chances for investment I have ever had, and it is mostly out. I could use \$2000 or \$3000 now, more than I have, on the best improved farms I sums of \$200 or \$300. As to security, from five to ten times in value, over rich ground. Interest 10% payable in Boston or N.Y. Can get 10% comm. will divide. Can’t you get it. Your friend Austin Corbin”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

10 January 1862: Austin Corbin (Davenport) to Amos Tuck. “Friend Tuck: Yours of the 6th inst rec’d. I have taxes to pay [word unclear] and will pay yours, and forward receipts in one time. Your friend Austin Corbin”

“[P.S.] How far below gold will Treasury notes go, do you think? Say if the war continues another year.” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

11 January 1862: William E. Chandler (Concord, NH) to Amos Tuck. “My Dear Sir: Now that the Democratic convention has passed the fog has lifted from the political atmosphere and we begin to foresee results.”

“Gov Berry will be elected by a fair majority. The democratic blunders of the 8th although no excuse for the Republican blunders of the 1st, yet save the latter party from the deserved effect of its course. If the democrats had nominated Wm. P. Wheeler upon a war

platform he would have been elected. They have nominated Stark upon a treasonable platform and will be defeated.”

Walter Harriman, J.F. Briggs, Wm. C. and S.G. Clarke, Geo. W. Stevens, Geo. N. Eastman, H.. Rolfe, J.W. Towle, S.N. Wilcox, Wood of Exeter, G.W. Morrison, Stanley and Clarke and others dissent from the proceedings of the democratic convention and swear they will not stand by the nominee. Harriman may change his mind in two or three days, but the others will not. There are three courses before them, (1) To do nothing publicly but to aid us quietly; this will elect Berry by a moderate majority.. (2) To run another candidate that will draw votes from the Republicans; such a man as Paul J. Wheeler, Jno Perley. This course would be dangerous for us as it would prevent Berry’s election by the people. We can prevent this because we can keep from running almost any man that will draw Republican votes. (3) To run a candidate that will draw votes mainly or entirely from the democrats, splitting that party into pieces. This course perhaps is the one for us to encourage. If they should run J.F. Briggs, Wm. C. Clarke, Jonah Quincy, Geo. W. Morrison or some such man it would hopelessly divide the democracy and would not prevent but rather promote Berry’s election by the people.”

“Which of the three course will be pursued I cannot now discover. They are in consultation. Harriman must take some position in his next week’s paper – look for that. They say they will not submit, and do nothing, but possibly they will. I think the chances are that a third candidate will be run. They are extremely desirous of drawing some Republicans into a Union movement but will not succeed. I think however if it had not been for the efforts made to get Berry out of the way which although not successful, satisfied partially many Republicans, there would have been [a] Union movement of considerable strength organized.”

“The whole state of affairs proves most fully the correctness of our views ten days ago. We have lost a most golden opportunity of bringing 10,000 men into our ranks. We should have inevitably have got the whole crowd of men I have mentioned for Paul J. Wheeler. It is too lamentable – but next year the elements will I trust come together satisfactorily.”

“I thought perhaps you would like to know how I felt after looking things over carefully and so have troubled you with this long letter, to which you need not trouble yourself to reply.”

Yours Very Truly W.E. Chandler” [TFP, Box 4, Folder 16]

17 January 1862: Austin Corbin (Davenport) to Amos Tuck. “Friend Tuck: I send you today a paper containing our delinquent tax list, showing the LeClaire Block on which it the mort[gage] of Merch[ants] Bank advertised for taxes due the County. It was paid after the sale commenced, but I do not believe would be now, if I had not threatened to bid it in, thereby adding a penalty cos of over \$300, which some one must have paid to redeem. I told the recorder and treasurer I should buy it, and the Reserve (assessed at over \$1000) unless the taxes were paid immediately. The descriptions were good, and I was determined the Co[unty] should eat the tax. I do not want to abuse my neighbors to get hold of the block, but the fact that the property was permitted to be delinquent ten months, (since Feb. 1/61) and the tax drawing int. at 12%, and then cost added, and then liable to have a penalty of \$300 added, ought to satisfy the Merchants Bk, that it ought

to have some one who took an interest in it on account of their debt. Perhaps it would do no harm if there should be a good opportunity, and you consider that there is a show for getting hold of it, to say that you have some interest here, rec'd a paper containing the delinquent list and found this block advertised. They need not know any of the facts thru you. Let them find out if the tax has been paid in their own way. If they should see the paper it would probably have a tendency to excite their curiosity at least."

"Mr. Haven is supposed to have added considerable to his private 'pile' when he bought these notes, such a thing has been suggested to me. He is a sharp, shrewd man, and, as I understand, 'up to snuff' generally, and perhaps it would be well to let him have some show outside of the interest of the Bank – for instance – He could provide by the way I suggest for the payment of the debt to the Bank, and grab the balance due on the notes, and I will see it put in the way of being collected against the estate, and I think it can be done."

"Now all this I write when I have the leisure. I don't want to have you consider yourself bounds to follow the thing up any further than you please. But bear in mind, that there is certainly \$5000, each, for yourself, Dow and I, if the thing can be worked – as I think."

"If they pass a Bankrupt law, I want to have your influence in favor of a gentleman here as [word unclear], who is all sound as to loyalty, and everything else, and in his appointment as assignee, would take care to select a good business man and a solvent one."

"Your friend Austin Corbin." [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

30 January 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. "I am anxious lest your baby is really sick, as Geo. Shute tells me he was told by Chas. Conner that Frank has gone home because the baby was sick, and that he saw the house lighted as he went to the Depot this morning. I was very sorry he did not call this morning."

"Tell Frank not to be much vexed about the loss of our suit. If the Filch's [sp.?] will stand fire, we will review it. I did not like several on the jury, especially the foreman."

"I enclose letters. Perhaps Abby will be amused by your sending Ned's letter to her, after perusing it, you and Frank."

"I do not think I shall go to Ex. to-morrow, unless I hear that I am specially needed."

"Do not be alarmed if baby is sick, it is not strange to have them sick often."

"Your aff. Father Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 February 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Frank French. "I cannot conveniently go to Exeter to-day."

"State to the Court, that you wish to be allowed to have two actions, (the head and Jewell cases) marked Misentry: - that I was directed not to enter them, and you caused them to be entered, without knowledge of my instruction on the subject. This is the fact, and will save our pay $2 \times 120 = \$2.40$."

"If you have not yet rec'd the specification in the case against Mr. Small, ask him to consent (if the suit is not already disposed of), to let it stand without any order or motion, and

that after Court, we will become nonsuit, or otherwise dispose of the same, according to his satisfaction, or so he shall not be damaged.”

“Beyond this, I know of nothing in the Court, which I am not willing to trust to your judgment. Ask Mr. Stickney what is best, if you get into a ‘fix’ – or in doubt.”

“I enclose to you a letter from your father, which you can reply to, as you feel to be best. I should have spoken of it to you, but did not know how, so well as to show his letter.”

“Love to Ellen and the baby. How glad I am that Bessy was not much sick. Let Ellen Gordon stay with Bessy, when Ellen rides and let Ellen ride every day, when practicable. Shall go to Ex. Monday night. Yr. aff. A Tuck”

[marginal note] “Read and deliver to Mr. Kelly, if you please.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

2 February 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. A heavy snowfall reminds Amos of his days in Maine. When he goes to the King’s Chapel, however, things will change. “...I shall not think, by any means, that I am in the district School House, on rickety benches, where women are using their foot stoves to keep from freezing, and round faced red cheeked country cubs are blubbering to chiding parents that their ‘toes are a cold.’ No country school houses, and I fear, the fishermen of Galilee are little suggested by anything we see in City congregations....”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

2 February 1862: HFF (Cambridge) to BBF. “...I saw Mrs. Tuck yesterday in Boston at her boarding house – she looks and seems far from well. She says Ellen begins to look a little careworn as young Mothers are apt to – the baby cries nearly all the time. I wish she would wean the baby – my Mother was a cow, and I believe they are generally the better nurses of the two.” [FFP Reel 2]

5 February 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. “I send you some oysters, which I wish you to partake fully of. If your baby continues to be so restless, I feel that you must have a responsible, motherly, woman to take care of you and baby both, so that you, by sympathy, anxiety, care and watchfulness, may not break down. I am very anxious for you my darling daughter. I have written to Abby just as you would wish. Things are no worse at Pkskll. Yrs. lovingly Amos Tuck.”

[marginal note] “Send word how you are.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

9 February 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Amos tells of attending a service at the Trinity Church officiated by a real high church Episcopalian. While Amos thought that some of the set prayers could be usefully copied by country parsons, ‘...I am confident I could not get much nutriment out of high Churchism. Others bred to it, may and do, without doubt.’

“...Remember too, the Bible as the 1st and best Classic...”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

16 February 1862: Samuel B. Dow (Francesville) to Edward Tuck. Sam was sorry Ned had been sick, and told him to be careful of his health. It would be good for him to come west and go hunting together and roam the prairie. Sam could show him thousands of ducks “and besides get you acquainted with all the girls...” [TFP, Box 4, Folder 2]

20 February 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “I send you the ‘Ruler,’ and two Books, designed as handbooks, to aid you in the study of the Scriptures. They are by English Authors, and one of them (the Bible Help), came under my notice by some very appreciative remarks by Mr. Mason. They are Episcopalian in origin, but not the worse for that. I have such a disgust towards the free-thinkers, of different shades of infidelity, that I rush back to the simple Bible faith, held by our ancestors, with increasing relish and comfort, the older I grow, and the more I see of the sinful heart, and of the fruits of unbelief..”

“While I want you to be circumspect in all things, and in regard to the affairs of this world, slow to bestow your confidence, yet in religious matters, where we know nothing, except by faith, you can not do well, except by resolving at the outset of your life, to the ‘the Bible as the Rule of your faith and Practice.’”

“Say to all querists, ‘it is sufficient for me to know the Bible teaches so and so, in order to acknowledge my obligation of faith and obedience.’”

Amos continues to exhort Ned to belief in God and the truth of the Bible.

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

24 February 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “I have sent you two small books, and a Ruler, in a bundle to be left at Mr. Gill’s, to be taken to Hanover, when Geo. goes there. Frank learned, enquiry of Chas. Bell, with whom Cummings is supposed to be studying law, that C. is not sure to go to Coll. at any particular time, and is sure not to go at the commencement of the Term. Ellen will remit a momento, of some kind, at same time, but the when is uncertain.

I was at Exeter, Saturday, heard the Farewell read in Town Hall, and made an impromptu address on the occasion, on the call of the Presiding officers of the Meeting. The Hall was full. Ellen was better, as she said, but I thought her thin, and am anxious for warm weather, on her account particularly. Your mother is not so well now, but still is up and about. I am A 1. in health.

We have pleasant times at my boarding house. Mr. Bradford, (I forget whether you saw him), is an accomplished man, speaks German + French, and knows Europe better than any other man I know. I take great pleasure in him and Mr. Mason [sp.?]. I had a letter from [George Gilman] Fogg, who tells me he has nearly mastered French, and is making headway in German [Fogg was minister to Switzerland 1861-1865]. He seems perfectly delighted with his situation, and speaks as though he + I had got about the best places. I think these places come near being the best for modest sensible men. Except for being near my children and attending to private affairs, I should have much preferred being in Fogg’s place, which I might have had, I think.

Still I am content. My affairs will go on pretty well, hereafter, I think, and in time I hope to be entirely free from vexation about money matters. I think much about what you shall do, hereafter, but I think it premature to decide on anything, and only urge that you keep your habits - in thought, word + action - regulated by the Law of God, + you will be right for anything, when the time comes.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

6 March 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston?) to Ellen French. “The enclosed letter is encouraging.”

“I pray Bessie may be well to-day, and that my dear Ellen may be consoled and rest. I will, deo volute, go to Exeter in the morning. Adieu, dear daughter, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

13 March 1862: Tuck attended the PEA trustees meeting in Boston. Investment strategy changed to reflect war conditions. Tuck named to the new standing financial committee. [pp. 394-5, PEA Trustees’ minutes not to be used without permission of the PEA librarian.]

17 March 1862: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. “We are having still more snow and already 6 or 8 inches have been added to what before was a generous supply. George Gill tells me that you still have considerable at home. He came up on Wednesday and is now settled down with Cal Brown. Prof. Patterson was elected Representative to Concord by a very large majority, 138, much larger than has ever been gained by a Republican candidate in H[anover]. He was very much pleased at it, I think. He spoke the other day of the possibility of your being in the Senate + he in the House at the same time as most agreeable prospect and I really think he would be delighted at such an event. He is giving great satisfaction to our class in the Federalist which he has taken as his share of Prof. Long’s department. I wrote to Ellen what our studies are this term, if I mistake no, and supposed you will learn from that letter what they were; else I should have before mentioned them to you. They are the Federalist and Faine’s [sp?] Chemistry, the latter under Prof. Hubbard. He makes it a very interesting study. His lectures too are very fine. I spoke my stage piece on Thursday last. I am very glad it is over. It is the greatest bug-bear of the course, much more fearful than a Commencement piece. I hope dear father, that you are no longer murdered with the tooth-ache.”

“Classmates often ask me what I am to do after I graduate. Of course I can’t tell them positively. I am content not to decide just now but deliberate on the study of law and the possibility of going to Chicago. Most of our men are hoping for something to turn up rather than relying on any sure prospect of employment. After all the talk and bluster, only one of our class has enlisted during the winter. Wheelock Veazey has been promoted or rather appointed Provost-Marshall of Gen. Smith’s brigade. He is bound to succeed I think.”

“What has become of George Kimball? I haven’t heard a word about him since his father went to New York.”

“I trust Ellen is not ill. Give her my love. Remember me affectionately to mother. With love to yourself, I am your affectionate son Ned.”

“[Ps.] I have to study pretty hard but none to excess. I am reading considerably, Motley’s Netherlands being at present my employment in that line. Yrs. truly”
 [TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

22 March 1862: J.W. Patterson (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. Patterson writes a bit about his class on “The Federalist”. “Your advice, in your last, strikes me as very valuable, + I am grateful for it. I trust you will not fail to counsel + caution me whenever you see an occasion , for I see the need of it + am thankful to receive it from a friend.

I think it will become me to be very prudent at Concord. The ball is sufficiently in motion, but I shall not know it. I fear that some of my friends will not be sufficiently prudent.

I trust Judge Sargent will not think of putting off the judicial e_____ [word not clear].

Do you think it would be possible for Edwards to write Benton + [word not clear] on him for another town if there was no prospect for themselves? You know “Every prospect pleases + only (the prospectively successful) man is vile.”

By the way I yielded to a [word unclear] invitation to speak in two or three places in Sullivan County before election. I enjoyed it much + was rather surprised at my success on the stump. Bishop Chase of Claremont was hugely tickled + took occasion to say to me in the presence of Walker that they could not dispense with my services hereafter. Of course I was “feelin on rum” while there, a little, + found that Major Waite (you know him) is very much in favor of making the “Naval Officer” our next Senator. It is well understood this way, however, that a gentleman of Irish extraction at present an itinerant resident of Mount Lebanon scents provender in the same direction. “The ox knoweth his owner etc.”

I am wrong, for he is a good man + a friend of mine, but I cannot see why he should aspire for he was never yet inspired.

The kind-hearted Towle, I think, must have been begotten by the wandering Jew. Do you think there is any fear of his suffering a similar longevity?

But to turn to more congenial matter – you say in one of your late letters that you should be glad to see Prof. Sanborn back in Hanover. I should [word unclear] it not be brought about? I lately received a letter from St-Louis sent from Prof Sanborn – in which it was instructed that if he could be brought back home as professor of history, such a professorship might be endowed? Could it be carried on such terms?

Please remember me to Mrs. Tuck + drop me a line sir relative to this last matter when you find it convenient to do so.

P.S. Suppose I could have my pleasure, what committee had I better be on at Concord next June?

P.P.S My brother has secured a place in Washington. [TFP, Box 4, Folder 18]

23 March 1862: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. “...I imagine that you have by this time returned or are returning from the Old South. Our minister preaches some very good sermons but he is young and is overworked, the effects of which are quite appreciable by an audience...I read the Independent and Bible History when I am out of church. The Independent is harping again on

emancipation and only half-conceals its spleen toward Gen. McClellan. I hope that the movement said to be taking place by his army will be such as to shut up the croakers.”

“I have now been to dinner and feel refreshed. We people up here don't live on smelts or smoked herring but on the more substantial materials of roast beef and mince pie. People on the coast may prefer the fat of the sea, but back in the country the fat of the land is held to be more nutritious. No offence of course to the Boston aristocracy.”

Ned strongly recommends a reference book on geography by Bohn.

“As you spoke about my board-bill, I will write you how many weeks I have been at Mrs. Chase's from my diary (which I still keep up). I find that I went there on Jan. 29th. On the 26th inst. I shall have been there 8 weeks, making at \$3.00 per week, \$24.00. By some mistake, I didn't send for the \$14.00 to pay for my coat with. You will notice it I think in the letter, if you have kept it, at any rate by calling to mind that you sent me \$40.00, of which \$24 was to go for tuition, \$5.75 to the tailor for last fall's bill, which would leave only \$10.00, of which I have 7 or 8 dollars left. When I left home the report was that crying babies met with a change in passing the 3rd month of their lives. So I had hoped that it was with Ellen's baby, but it doesn't bid fair to be so, I fear. I trust you are having no further trouble with rebellious teeth. Mine all are apparently as good as though never operated on by any villainous dentist. With much love, I am your affectionate son Ned” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

24 March 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “I am gratified to see Prof. Patterson is so popular in Hanover. If he prudently keeps people from talking about his going to Congress, and if the officers in our N. Hamp. Regiments at the seat of war, are as careful not to win laurels, as they have been thus far, I think he can easily be nominated and be elected to Congress next year. If some man in the army from the 3rd Cong. District should win fame in the war, and should come home, he might dispute the place with the Prof. Yet I think there is no great danger, judging from the past, that N.H. will be greatly afflicted with military heroes. It is not our vanity, I fear. As to the Senatorship, the next vacancy will not occur till 3 yrs. from now, but it will be provided for in two years from June, and will be the succession to Mr. Hale. If Mr. P. goes to the Ho. Reps. he will be in a place to help me, if I want it, and if I were elected he and I should be there together, at his 2nd term. But I place no reliance on so distant and uncertain things. I make the statement, however, to let you see what there is in it. In the mean time, I shall keep up my hold on the men of N.H. + my residence in Exeter, because what I do not want now, I may consider acceptable at the close of Lincoln's administration.

Geo. Kimball is lopping about Exeter, has grown tall and looks flatulent. Physical and mental direction and compression might have made something of him, but nothing can help his case now.

Gov. Berry has just come in and taken over ½ an hour of my time, part of it agreeably and part of it interfering with my engagements. I had my tooth out, as I wrote you, (I think), and I am now having something done to replace all my vacant teeth. Dr. Rush [sp.?] an old dentist of skill, is doing the job, rather against my will, but partly because of my thinking Dr. Pray [sp.?] might not have all the most approved tools + galvanizing processes, and teeth [?] baking, enameling apparatus, necessary to do my job in the very best manner. Your mother is not so well as usual – Ellen better – baby cross – I well.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

27 March 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "I send you a check for \$36, being the amt. of a semi-annual dividend on my stock at South New Market, with which you can pay your other bills, and so much to Mrs. Chase, as you have left to be spared."

"Walking about yesterday P.M. I thought I would, out of curiosity, seek till I found, a bookstore where I could look at a "Hand Book of Geography." I found one at Campbell's in Cornhill, where Bohn's books are mostly kept. It is not an attractive vol. to one who estimates Books by elegant type and excellent paper, but a valuable handbook to a man who is on the scent of knowledge, and has a knack of picking it up. I commend you for detecting its value, and wish to encourage you in pursuing accurate and general information. Laborious pursuit for years using the best helps, and having the art of selecting those best helps, makes the difference between an ordinary and extraordinary man. We know this, after we get y the time of exertion, but few men find it out early. I flatter myself you are suitably impressed on this subject, and are using your opportunities advantageously. If you could make a better use of an atlas, I could consent to your having one. Yet a genius with a jackknife will do wonders, and perhaps this hand Book may answer even a better purpose than a more showy Aid. Revive in your mind what I said years ago, about the importance of getting accurate knowledge, and exhausting subjects as convenient, never allowing sloth to fetter you at all."

"We are well. Ellen was better and baby. Your aff. Father Amos Tuck"

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

30 March 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "My dear Ned: At ¼ past seven, with your mother before me, reading the Independent, just having left most of our household of boarders below in the Parlor, I sit down to write you my usual Sunday Evening letter. I have just had a conversation with Mr. Mason, who I like in some respects very much. I learn that in his young days he was considered one of the most able men in Boston, notwithstanding his deafness. His heart responds to every generous, honest or religious sentiment, so sincerely, so readily, so warmly that I like him as I have seldom or never liked a man so old. He thinks it a losing affair with him to live much longer, and yet is cheerful always, and often witty and very amusing. He seems ready to live or die, as God decides to be best, and to welcome his departure with smiles, as he smiles and makes all about him smile while he lives."

"As usual I have been to the Old South to-day. Yr. mother was not well enough to allow confinement for 2 hours in church. I have got a new set of upper teeth which I think I shall like very much. I expect also to have a full set of lower, in a week or two. These are expected to last me but a few years, as I have other teeth which in time will disappear; but I thought it best not to defer this set, for the cost or the discomfort of having them fitted. I find already my articulation is manifestly improved when read aloud, and probably when I talk."

"I hear from St, Louis, that Hoyt is failing, and not likely much longer to attend to all his University labors. Mr. Gilman at Exeter is daily losing strength and will not live longer probably than Mr. Hoyt. Sad, indeed, it is to contemplate their cases. They seem to me be dying

prematurely, though they are each near 50 yrs. of age, which to you seems quite old. Yet I am older than either, and I do not feel old myself. Mrs. Geo. Smith, (Senior), died of a cancer a few days since.”

“As to the war, we have had some trepidation in Boston, respecting the Merrimac, but there is little or none now. It is said several large steam ships are at Fortress Monroe, and it is intended to run down the Merrimac as soon as she comes out, or to sink her by the actions of the Monitor, if that can be done. I think there is no doubt it can be done. These steam ships have probably been so protected by cotton bales that the Merrimack cannot damage them seriously before they steam down upon her at the rate of 16 or 17 miles an hour. Many people are now afraid she will be too wary to come out.”

“Mr. Tullock returned from Washington a few days since, and tells me the criticisms upon McClellan are numerous and sever, many thinking he is a timid man, without genius, but all have confidence in Mr. Lincoln, that he will supercede McC. At the proper time, if he finds him incompetent. Still now is the time to push on vigorously. It is just now a little discouraging on our side, as Foote is barricaded on the Mississippi, and our army on the Potomac and elsewhere is making no new impression upon the Rebellion. The rebels hold our desperately, and the end of the war may be far off. The thought keeps running through my mind, that it may be God sees that slavery would get a further lease of life, should the revolt now cease, and that He will make the South blind and allow them to go on till they compel the North to proclaim universal emancipation. Should the Rebels obtain a marked success on any field, this side of Arkansas, f a character to touch the heart of the loyal people, and alarm them still further, but one vault, they would all raise the cry of emancipation and the fate of the south be sealed. We are not to endure much more, before applying our last and surest remedy to them.”

“What time does your term close, -- what day of May? Ellen and baby quite comfortable at last accounts. Your affectionate father Amos Tuck”

“[Ps.] Your mother sends love.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

30 March 1862: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. “It is a very beautiful day. I have been up by the Observatory sitting on the corner of a rock which has succeeded in peeping up through the snow, sunning myself. We have every morning a very solid crust and of course great opportunity for coasting. I rise at 6 and often go out. Our class has been quite busy the past week sitting for their pictures. We are to have card-photographs, full and half-length. I have got a good one I think, in both positions. We have only the samples now and therefore I can’t send you one at present. We are to have them at the rate of \$17.00 per hundred, with one large, nicely finished picture of one’s self and two views of the college. The number ordered is usually 100.”

“I rec’d the draft for \$36.00 – I have pd. of it \$14.00 for my coat and shall to-morrow pay Mrs. Chase \$18.00. I don’t pay as much as is now due, as I must get a couple of new text-books shortly. It is sufficient however. I am glad that you took occasion to look at the ‘Modern Geography’ and liked its appearance so well. I think it will be a very useful work to me.”

“Prof. Patterson has been sick the past week and now Mrs. P. and their little boy are both ill. The child they were afraid yesterday could have the lung fever. If they should lose him they would be almost heart-broken for they have already half spoiled him by extravagant indulgence, which is the result I suppose of excessive love.”

“It is expected that the parts for Commencement will be drawn this week. It will be a very interesting time if it is so. I suppose you would prefer that I should get a part, wouldn't you? I shall be very well resigned to it if my name is not drawn, for then I could enjoy a learned leisure all summer, whereas the rest will be on pins till it is through with. Twenty five will be drawn out of about 40 who are qualified for the privilege.”

“Give my love to Ellen. If she has leisure to drop me a line, even if no more than a page, it would be receive with much pleasure. I hope you are all well. I am as ‘tolerable’ as the times will allow.”

“With much love, I am your affectionate son Ned.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

6 April 1862: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. “My dear Father: We are still in the midst of most discouraging snow-banks and once or twice a week we regularly receive additions to them of 2 or 3 inches. The walking is very bad and hence all exercise is obtained under the most unfavorable circumstances. As I write, though, I can hear birds singing, which is a little more enlivening. Frank Hobbs is sick again, of the pleurisy (or rather, with it) and has been confined to his bed for a week. The symptoms now even are dangerous. He is the most subject to chronic attacks of all sorts of ailments of all the people I know.”

“Prof. Hubbard gave our class a party on Friday eve last. It went off better than such things usually do and every one enjoyed himself. The Faculty are to give a receptions regularly hereafter, I hear, and especially in the Senior Class from its known sobriety and dignity, to be made the object of their honored attentions. Such a move would create better feeling and give greater inducements to students now completely irresponsible, to keep their reputation clear. I had a very fair time at Prof. H.'s and, I think, with perfect safety as regards affections of the heart etc.”

“Our term closes on Thursday, May 15th, 5 weeks from Thursday next. We are having quite a comfortable time as regards recitations. We have a lecture every day from Prof. Hubbard, on subjects connected with chemistry. Prof. Noyes has taken the class, in Reid's Intellectual Powers of Man. Prof. Fairbanks is to wed Miss Anna Noyes (aged 16, the professor, 3334) before the close of the term. He is very intent on buying for himself a house-lot, to build on, and evidently intends to make Dart. Coll. His abode till removed by natural death. It is said and doubtless most truthfully, that the brother of Jn. Milligan, whom you remember, is engaged to Miss Sarah Lord. It is a high notch, isn't it, to court the Prex.'s daughter? It is so considered by his classmates and also it is conjectured that he will be honored with a Phi B. ribbon. She is a very fine girl but form the hardness of heart usual in students, it's more than probable that this would be her last chance; although nothing but broadcloth (sometimes more forcible than brains)

can recommend John Milligan, she has seemingly concluded that beggars shouldn't be choosers. With love to all, I am, yr affectionate son, Ned"

[Ps.] "The ladies often enquire after Ellen, and sometimes after the baby. They made the discovery as to the latter from Katy Sanborn. Of course I shouldn't dare venture on such topics."

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

6 April 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "My dear Ned: Wednesday I was a Exeter, Thursday here, (fast-day in Mass.) where I was compelled to spend most of the time with Mr. French, preparing the trial of some suits, in which the Weare Bk. is a party, and Friday and Saturday, I was engaged with him in trying the cases before Judge Sprague of the U.S. District Court, to whom they were referred for final decision. On the whole, therefore, I have had a busy week yet not devoting much time to my benignant Uncle, who is so kind as to pay me a salary of \$13 and more a day, Sundays included. If he lets me have these respites while in office, I vow to serve him faithfully after I go out of office. To-morrow, I must also absent myself, as there is a meeting of the Insurance directors in the fore-noon at Exeter, and Mr. Jos. T. Gilman will be buried in the after-noon, and next day, (Tuesday), the Court sits at Ex. and I must attend that for some time, while I have another engagement Wed. after-noon before Judge Sprague. You see I am busy, and have to slight my official duties to a degree, and a very [word unclear] degree, I fear."

"We are pretty well, all round. In your next letter, tell me the exact day of the close of your present term. I suppose we shall by that time have our house open, and that you will spend most of the vacation, of course, at Exeter. But I shall be coming to Boston, and of course youuu can come here, for a few days, if you wish."

"I almost forgot to tell you that I was elected on Friday last, a Director of the Manchester & Lawrence Railroad, which is a sine cure office, (except I choose to make it otherwise), and that the office is of importance to me, as it entitles me to a free ride on the Boston & Maine Road from Portland to Boston, and on most of the Railroads in N.H. It is worth an annuity of \$150 to me, while I am Naval Officer, and director. I think the Directorship will be permanent, for my continuance will go along with the rest of the Board, who control much of the stock, and who will not have the slightest notion of going out of office. In anticipation of this even, I omitted at the last quarter day, to buy a 3 months season ticket, choosing rather to pay two or three fares to Exeter, and then, come in for free passes, by virtue of the Directorship."

"My dear Ned, I have not overwhelmed with much advice, of late, and as you pass into manhood, it may grow less and less. Still I think much about the vast importance of your training yourself right at this formative period. Passing through College is, with many, about as decisive of the form and shape they shall have through life, as the burning in a kiln, of earthen vessels of their shape. They cannot be changed much after such a process. I don't, of course, know where your bases are most down. Look at yourself, and recall to mind what I have said, and call up what you have thought on these topics, among other things –

All improvement, is self improvement, accomplished only by hard work – harder than most people will submit to.

Training, is education. Learning to work continuously, in spite of impulses to the contrary, and in spite of the distractions about us, are the things we must learn and practice in College, or we shall not probably ever learn them.

Keep the heart pure. Keep the thoughts away from every taint of lasciviousness, and thus cut out good channels for your thoughts for your whole life. The current will be awfully wrong, and incurably wrong, unless this be attended to.

Never doubt this, that the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom. Resolve now, that you will embark in life with that principle avowed. Take so much for truth, and then pray daily that God will enable you always to act in accordance with conviction of duty, whatever be the consequences.”

“I will add no more on these subjects now. In your arrangements for Commencement, I suggest to you to take into account the fact that a majority of your class are not so able as you, to respond to large expenses, and that it will be considerate in you, to favor modest measures on their account. I think it well too, that old Dartmouth should seem only to value herself for brains, not for display. In this last she can hold no hand with Harvard. One of the first lawyers in Boston said to me on Friday, he should rather have a son educated at Dartmouth than at Cambridge. So had I, notwithstanding the drawbacks at the former place.”

“I hope Prof. Patterson is recovered. Say to him, I regret his and his family’s sickness, and give his family and Mrs. Chase our regards. It would be natural to desire you to have a ‘Piece’ at Commencement, but I am not sure that I wish it, since it would give you so much vexation. Your affectionate Father Amos Tuck” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

13 April 1862: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. “My dear father: I have been looking over your letter this morning and was much impressed with the idea that you must be overworking yourself, from the number of business engagements of all sorts, and in all places, which you wrote me about. I hope, dear father you will not allow yourself to become worn out by such constant attention to the law and such ceaseless car-jolting as you must get in travelling. As for me, though I intend to work pretty steadily, still I am sure to exercise and to sleep enough for all useful purposes. My mornings are occupied with study, always. At noon, I walk half an hour. In the afternoon I read (on the average, often more, sometimes less) 75 pages beside the Journal and attending a lecture. After tea I walk over an hour. I exercise with dumbbells before I retire, to keep the biceps in good trim, which with walking to my meals etc. and perfect regularity keeps me perfectly fresh. Evenings I get my lesson for the morning (an hour’s study, beside what I do in the morning) visit (alias, loaf) some and usually a couple of evenings a week are devoted to sacrifice at the altar of the Penates of what society I have the good fortune to go into. Friday eve. I attend the Psi U meeting. The rest of the time fill up with reading, so that I generally read 90 or 100 common pages per diem. This nearly the correct programme of my

routine. Thursday afternoon, it being Fast – and hence a holi-day, a now of us went over into Vermont to a ‘sugaring off.’ We had a fine time. We went to a farm-house, (we had before made arrangements) had a table set for us, an immense kettle of sp, nearly boiled down, on the stove, and there we ate the syrup, first on bread and then on snow till we were filled to our utmost capacities. All this we did for the small sum of 20 cts. a man. The sugar can be bought in town for 18 cts. the pound, but t can be got in the wilds of Northern Vt. for 10 cts. Cummings has suggested that he and myself send to Exeter a box of it and we have already made arrangements to get some form above, which will be heard from this week, I imagine.”

“This week I have exchanged 2 of my Junior books for Dr. Holland’s Lessons of Life and the new book of the Country Parson, ‘Leisure hours in Town.’ The former contains many valuable suggestions of morality etc. What you wrote me as to diligence, I hope to profit by as I shall surely remember it.”

“Would you like to have me send to Exeter 2 gallons of maple sirup at \$1.00 or less er gal.? I can get a demijohn for the purpose gratis. With love to all, your affectionate son Ned.”

“[Ps.] I write to Uncle John this P.M.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

14 April 1862: Tuck sends letter to Chase requesting appointment of George S. Towle as clerk no. 1 (\$1500 annually) in place of William Burbeck, who had been “discontinued” on 1 September. Also, Charles Gill to replace Towle as clerk no. 5 (\$1200 annually). Chase approved these appointments in a 16 April letter. [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent (“W” series), vol. 4 of 14]

14 April 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “My dear Ned: I had not the leisure yesterday to write you, but I must not omit my usual letter and I have no extraordinary news to communicate. We are tolerably well. The Court is sitting at Exeter, and I expect, the lst off he week to be obliged to engage in some trials of cases. I got them as usual to-night. I should not attempt to do any law business,, except in connection with Frank and o help him, but I do it without much fatigue and expect a profit therefrom, of course.”

“Prof. Brown is here, attending to his Life and writings of Mr. Choate [sp.]. I took a long walk with him yesterday, and shall call on him to-day. He told me of the drawing of speakers for Commencement, and of the character of some of the scholarly representatives which will hold forth on the stage. The infatuation of the president in continuing the practice of drawing by lots, instead of selecting he speakers, according to scholarship and merit, is, like all his ideosyncracies, pernicious to the College. The fact that you are not drawn, I care not much about, though it would be gratifying to those of the family, who may attend your graduation, to her you on the occasion. But the practice of denying to the College, the privilege of exhibiting the best fabrics it can bring out is the sublimated folly of an old lunatic, looking at the subject in the most charitable measures. You will be relieved from the Incubus of a ‘Piece,’ and will ‘enjoy your mind’ better, than to have to been drawn; but this will be a damage to you, unless

you have force of character enough to employ yourself diligently in hard work, during the vacation, or at least summer term. Don't forget, that the ability to work is a great part of your education --

the ability and the habit of putting ones mind, with all its forces, on a given piece of business or study."

"We shall be at Exeter, about the middle of May, the weather becomes warm, and of course, about the time of your return. Before then, I shall make arrangements to take with us a good servant girl, capable of doing all our work easily."

I feel anxious about McClellan's army before Yorktown, and I do not see how he is to show himself a great general, simply by a battle there, when his plans have included the strategy of crowding and driving the rebels in other places, while compelling them to look himself in the face at Y____. McClellan was severe on all who made known his sending of troops from Alexandria, down the Potomac, and now when he gets his army at their destination, he does not seem to have contemplated any advantage from secrecy or celerity. If this is consummate Generalship, 'I don't see it.' The rebels are omnipresent, and do not yet show any signs of discouragement of final overthrow. No one can tell the end. It seems to me that God intends they shall hold out till slavery is abolished, or attempted, by our side, and Black Regiments organized, and the whole south engulfed in the bloodiest sort of a struggle, which will exterminate the whites of that section or in all events, bringing about an entire new construction of society."

"Your mother send her regards. Your affectionate father Amos Tuck"

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

20 April 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "My dear Ned: My history this day has been as usual—to the Old South twice, and the rest of the time at home. It has been growing damp and chilly—a considerable change from the hot weather of most of the past week. Your mother has been to Church once—the Church of the Immaculate Conception, when they had extraordinary performances in musical responses, according to the custom in Catholic and High Church Episcopal societies, on Good Friday. [Look at your Dictionary to see what Good Friday is, if you do not already know.]

I go to Exeter to-morrow morning, to attend the trial of a case in Court, and I now apprehend I may be detained there most of the week. Do not fear that I shall damage myself by too much work. I practice what I teach, and am careful to exercise when out of tune, till I get into tune, and then not to neglect hygiene—even after getting right. Sim [sp?] Leavitt came to see me a few days ago, to talk over his matters and get encouragement and counsel. I endeavoured to give him both. He tries to improve and to elevate himself, and will succeed I trust. He still writes for the Ballot, stays at the old Place, and waits for something better to turn up. The most enterprising merchant in Boston is James Belen [sp?], who has 90 employees in his store, trading at whole sale, and being an Importer. He is between 50 and 60 years old, began with 25 cts. In Boston, never failed and is very rich. He is remarkable for power of working, and for mathematical regularity, and I speak of him to call your attention to his invincible regularity

and invariable habit in business. He goes to his store precisely at 8 o'clock in the morning and leaves precisely at 6 in the evening, and only eats an apple or two in the mean time. He is regular as the clock, and still does not seem overworked. He is not a brilliant, nor apparently a stirring man, but he has consummate common sense, manifest honesty and great courage in all difficult circumstances, and all vicissitudes of fortune. Mr. White, a boarder here, is a clerk of his, and I find through him, that the clerks have to drum up customers, fasten themselves to any merchant who comes to the City, visit the Hotels and hunt them out, and, in short, practice every art, to obtain the trade. I therefore conclude that whoever gets extraordinary success, has to use corresponding exertion and even art, to accomplish it. I rather think the day has passed by, even with Lawyers, Doctors, and possibly with ministers, as well as Merchants, when great success can be experienced, without resorting to all the helps which can well be secured. I shall therefore recommend to you to examine closely, when you enter active life, and see what acts are practiced against you, and avail yourself of such honorable helps, as may be at hand. In N.Eng., at least, competition is awfully severe in most branches. But I don't want to talk to you, on these topics, just now, as I intend to say but a few words. Now, you are to attend to Books, to discipline, to acquisition, -- to education."

"Mr. Hoyt is again failing, and cannot live many weeks. Should you find time and disposition, I think it would be very grateful to him to receive a letter from you. You might begin by saying, that you hear through me that his ill health continues, and that a sense of gratitude impels you to write to him, to assure him of your sorrow on account of his sickness, and of your sympathy with him in whatever he is called to suffer. Tell him, that after having some experience with other teachers, you find abundant and increasing reason to be thankful, that you enjoyed his instruction so long, and that however poorly you may succeed in doing any thing in life, you shall always feel a deep sense of gratitude for his fidelity and success with the classes you were in, and that you are indebted to him for many precepts, rules of action, methods of study, and of general behavior, which ought to be of great advantage. Tell him, then, something about yourself, your class, the College, etc. etc. and ask him to assure Mrs. Hoyt, Miss Chamberlain, Anna, and the rest of your fond remembrances, and cordial respect and regards. Perhaps some such letter is due from you to him, who is about to die, and to whom it will be, at least, a slight and a temporary alleviation."

"Your aff. Father, Amos Tuck"

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

21 April 1862: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. My dear Father: I did not receive your letter from Exeter till yesterday, because, I suppose, of the beaks in the road. The one from New York I rec'd on Friday. I am very much obliged to you, dear father, for your kind words and would much more than recompense for any position Dar. Coll. could give me, even if I were entirely laid on the shelf. But when I tell you that I have been elected Orator for Class Day, I think I have no right to complain of 'unrewarded merit.' This is a position I have never aspired to and not the least of the reasons that I haven't, is that I most honestly doubt my fitness for the position. I refused to stand till our party declared and re-declared and showed by indubitable

evidence that with any other candidate our party couldn't be sufficiently united to ensure his election. As it turned out, we were probably sure of victory on any man run, but it couldn't have been predicted."

"I sent by express (rather Cummings and myself) to Exeter 20 lbs. of sugar last Monday. There were different varieties but all of it quite nice, I think. The very dark has its color from not being stirred, not from impurities. I would advise melting it down by adding just a very little water (very little indeed) if it is likely to become very dry before being eaten. I had ordered the most of it before I got your letter speaking about syrup. If you will tell me whether or no to bring down the syrup at the end of term, I will do as you suggest."

"Prof. Patterson is at Lowell, having rec'd a dispatch saying that his father was very ill. I had a long talk with him on Commencement matters."

"When I go home I shall avail myself of your and Frank's suggestion in the 'Oration. The fact of Frank's being Poet at Harvard has occurred to me several times in connection with matters here. I am obliged to call again for money, and fear that I shall have to pretty steadily till I graduate. Expenses are likely to be large. The 'officers' are expected 'to do the right thing' by the rest, although that isn't the reason I'm out. I have been obliged to postpone this pleasant little recreation because I was already out. \$20.00 will last me till I send for board money etc. With much love to all, your affectionate son Ned." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

23 April 1862: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "My dear Ned: I first give thanks for your preservation from death. I have never been more interested in any letter you have written me, and never been more gratified, than with the one you wrote on Sunday, and which, on account of lost bridges, did not come to hand till this (Wed.) morning. I am detained here at Court, and I write this in the Court House, during a lull in the business, giving me leisure."

"I know well how you must feel, to be left out when you had a right to be included among the speakers at Commencement. You are, by this senseless, absurd, contemptible process of drawing lots, a method discarded with contempt by all other Colleges, but maintained at Hanover, because we have here an insane President (speaking charitably), deprived of our just right, and have inflicted upon you a wrong. You earned a place, by your industry, your talents, your general behavior, and have lost it by the absurd, contemptible working of an absurd, contemptible methods of assigning the parts,"

"So where is my gratification from your letter? From this, that I see you behaving, talking and feeling, as a generous magnanimous and cultivated young man alone could behave, talk and feel. It requires more than ordinary merit for a man to tolerate a misrepresentation of himself, in regard to affairs that touch one's feelings as deeply as the consummation of one's College Course does, and it gives me the greatest of appreciation of your excellent traits of head and heart to see that are all I could desire. I have not a word to say, in reference to what judgment you shall form or what action you shall take, feeling that in your better knowledge of all the circumstances, you can better judge than I what to do. I agree with you, that you better not take any part approaching buffoonery, and that it is quite doubtful whether you better accept

any position but that of Orator for Class Day. You may err in giving too much to Wiggin, you being the better scholar, but I rather you would err on the sign if generous behavior than on the other.”

“Now, let me say, my dear Ned, that this affair will not prejudice you, that is, will not damage you, except in your feelings. It will be manifest to College that you are wronged, and I tell you with confidence, that bearing it manfully, this wrong will benefit you. Every man in College will remember you with more kindness and substantial respect in consequence of it. Being the son of a Trustee, a member of the Psi Us (of whom are The Faculty), and most of all, being an acknowledged good scholar, (the 3rd or 4th as the case is), you cannot be dishonored in the least, and the blockheads will be ashamed to perform in your presence. They will always feel mean, that they were allowed to exhibit, and his universal impression will cause you to be named with esteem by them all, and they will do willing obeisance to your merits. Who can doubt that every nincum who has got a part, when he did not merit it, exhausts by accepting it, all he latent good will that otherwise might have accompanied him, when he left College. Besides, is it not a fact, that had you been drawn and another man of your position been left out, you would have had some feelings quite as uncomfortable as those you now experience? What I write is written in Court, with business going on all about me. I wanted you to know early that I appreciate you more, by your by your manly reception of this wrong, and behavior under it; that I am confident it will not damage, but may aid you, in College and out, and that I cheer you on, in your course of self-control, generous behavior and high honor, and prize these traits infinitely above what College prizes, drawn by lot, can confer.”

[Marginal additions] "Frank and Ellen will hear me read this letter before I send it.”

“After dinner – F. and E. say this letter is right in spirit, and you must not feel [word unclear].”

“I go to Boston this P.M. and to-night too N. York, on Custom House business. Shall be back by Saturday.”

“Written in great haste. Ellen says give my love to Ned, and say I think more of his escaping from a frightful death than by anything else.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

24 April 1862: Amos Tuck (70 Wall St., NYC, Thomas Nelson’s Office) to Edward Tuck. “My dear son: I came here on Custom House business, arriving here at 6 o’clock this morning. The offices do not open till 10 o’clock, and I improve a few vacant moments to work or to myself all safe [Z?] Wm. was here yesterday, so Geo, P. N. says, and in good spirits. I shall write to him o-day, but think I cannot well go there to-night, because of business. Abby and Wm. may choose to come here to see me to-morrow. I think I shall leave here to-morrow Friday for Boston.”

“The letter I wrote you yesterday was unconnected [?], and you can have got from it only the general scope of my tho’ts.”

“In regard to your having a part, feel that I shall be well satisfied any way. In regard to your giving way to Wiggin, if your scholarship entitles you to it, it is doubtful whether you

ought, or rather I think you ought not. Wiggin does not need any lift which he is not entitled to by the usual standards of merit, and ought not to begin life by consenting to receive everything from men's bounty and generosity. Yet you have [two words unclear] so emphatically declined that you cannot now accept, and it is probable, all things considered, you have done right in refusing to stand against him. Magnanimous behavior always pays better, even, than he reception of College or other appointments or allotments. Let me suggest that guard against any, (or much), exhibition of impatience at your bad luck. Curb in your temper, say not much, be cheerful, turn the topic of conversation from the sensitive subject, and in all ways proper, show your superiority to what College allotments can give or take away. Of course, do not affect that you care nothing about them, but let all beholders see that, as it was unavoidable that some good scholars should be wronged, you feel reconciled to be the most manifest victim, and that you can stand it, and 'still live.'" By this means you will show your merit, even more than your scholarship alone could give, if you were the first scholar."

"I hope you did not so publicly speak of what Prof. Brown told us of the drawing, as to make him feel awkward. Your loving father Amos Tuck"

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

27 April 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "My dear Ned: I returned from New York, Sat. morning via Fall River and the Sound. My business there was to consult with the officers of the N. York Custom House, respecting the frauds which were spoken of some months ago. I am satisfied there has been extensive cheating in N.Y. and in Boston, and I think punishment by way of fines and penalties may be inflicted, to an extent to be of some profit to me. Still I count on nothing as certain, while I shall omit nothing to make exposure sure, and penalty inevitable."

"Abby and Wm. came to N.Y. Friday noon, and I spent time I could with them till it was time to go to the Boat. Abby is looking thinner than I have seen her for years, though she looked worse than usual, in consequence of temporary sickness the day before. The children are reported as about passing the climax of their hooping coughs, Laura having it the worst and being very thin in flesh."

"At the Old South to-day, I saw Chas. Gill waiting for some one, at the close of the services, to come out, and waiting myself to see who it was, I discovered it to be Mrs. Gill who came to Boston yesterday, and will stay a week or more. She and Charles came to our Room stayed for a ½ hour. Chas. at once began to speak of the drawing of parts, telling me of George's election and of the subject on which he is expected to produce a learned discourse. I kept my countenance pretty well, but Charles could not. Mrs. Gill told me yesterday what George's subject was, and there I could not avoid laughing. But Mrs. G. and Chas. seemed so sorry you were left out of the list, acknowledging your right to be included. The Stevenses have signified their regret that you did not draw a part, but are aware of your high position as a scholar. I have told them all, that you would have as much aversion as any young man to be discredited by assignment of parts, but when the foolish plan of drawing by lot was practiced, and it was

proclaimed by the authorities College, that being drawn or not drawn, was mere luck, you felt no disposition to complain, and all you or I wanted, was, that it be understood you were not dishonored by being left out. I have said further what is true, that I have never seen any disposition in you to any public exhibition of yourself on any occasion. I have further told the Stevenses and Charly Gill, that you had not sought or been willing to accept any part on Class Day, to displace Wiggin or those whom you had expected had aspired to places on that occasion, and who might need a lift more even than you. Charles told me that Geo. had written on Wednesday that he was going to support you for Orator and Wiggin for Chronicler and I infer from that, that it is possible an arrangement has been made, satisfactory to all concerned. I shall know when next I hear from you. Be assured, however, that whatever may be done, or fail of being done, I shall be content. It is not impossible, if you are a candidate for Orator, you may be defeated. If so, be of good cheer, take the chastening with as big a heart as you can, and know that what can be given, or withheld by the Faculty or the class, or materially affect your status in society, or indicate with any certainty your probable success or failure. I have been being mortified, more or less, all through life, but yet I am accounted, possibly, by many as having been remarkably successful.”

“We propose to go to Exeter near the middle of May. We have hired a good woman, and I shall have the House in comfortable trim and also, the grounds, by the time we come home. The Stevenses leave in about a week, and Lizzie is already dying of anomatic [sp?] pain, at the idea of burying her talents in the earth for 6 mos. at old Kingston.”

“Mr. Hoyt is hoping to be able to come North in June and spend the summer months in his native town in N. Hamp. He would expect probably to go to Exeter, in which case our house would be open to him as long as he would stay. I think it uncertain whether he can stand such a journey. Mrs. Hoyt and Fanny would come with him. Charley would go into Illinois, during the vacation, and the rest of the family would remain at Saint Louis.”

“Your affectionate Father Amos Tuck”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

27 April 1862: Edward Tuck (Hanover). Ned writes to Amos: “I did not receive your letter from Exeter till yesterday, because, I suppose, of the breaks in the road. The one from New York I rec’d on Friday....But when I tell you that I have been elected Orator for Class Day, I think I have no right to complain of ‘unrewarded merit’Sent 20 lbs. of maple sugar to ,Exeter together with Cummings. Tells his father how to use it. “The fact of Frank’s being Poet at Harvard has occurred to me several times in connection with matters here.” Asks for more money since “The officers are expected ‘to do the right thing’ by the rest.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

28 April 1862: Salmon P. Chase to John Z. Goodrich letter. “I have received your letter of the 26th inst., requesting permission to pay Amos Tuck, Naval Officer, \$11.75 and Mr. Hanscomb, Deputy Collector, \$20.00, being their actual expenses incurred during a visit to New York, made by request of the Collector of that port, who desired to confer with them concerning the

exposition of frauds upon the Government, in evading duties upon imports from Buenos Ayres, and the prevention of the recurrence of the same both at New York and Boston.”

“I hereby authorize the payments as requested....” [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent to Customs Collectors (“I” series), Vol. 19 of 52]

30 April 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “My Dear Ned: I think I will trust bills in this letter, and I herein enclose \$25, to meet your present necessities. When you need more, send to me, and I will remit. I am gratified at the turn things took, because it indicates special confidence in you by your class, and because your scholarship and general talents undoubtedly entitled you to the Oratorship, since you were not drawn for Commencement. I feel too it is an honor to me, to have you this honored by your class, and I know it will gratify Ellen and Abby and their families, and your relatives and friends. As to your success, I doubt not you will acquit yourself respectably, and that us all you need care for. As to the making of an impression of remarkable talent, I care not for it. Every man of experience knows that a man at graduation can reasonably be expected only to display hopes of talent, rather than full development of talent. A simpler statement of what you have to say, in a simple, unostentatious manner, will be success. That will show that you propose understanding things and not talking any wiser than you are. You should infuse what of vivacity comes natural, but rely mainly upon sense to make your part acceptable.”

“The sugar came safely. It will make considerable syrup and you better not bring any more.”

“As to outlays of money between now and Commencement, I will say, I shall be anxious, you shall do ‘the right thing.’ The first impulse on your receiving this mark of honor from the Class, is that you respond without strict examination, to the demands made on you. My second impulse it, that you avoid any ground of a change of measures, but that you have an eye to reason in what you pay, and allow no running up of bills, on the expectation that ‘Ned Tuck’ won’t care how much it costs him. The place to protect yourself is at the start, in allowing no bills to be incurred without a fair knowledge of whom the money is to come from to pay them with. It would be exhibiting ‘softness,’ for you to be careless of your payments, as though you had got what you did not deserve, and was willing to pay in money what you fell short in merit. But I have very little anxiety about your course, and with little, if any, further cautions shall ‘pay the fiddler.’”

“Mr. Gill has just come behind my screen at the Custom House, to say Geo. has written him of your election to the first honors of the Class, and that he is gratified at it. I have spoken of your election to the Stevenses, who seem gratified, and you may be assured it gives your friends all, satisfaction. I have said to all that you ever a want of ability, and that you reluctantly consented to run for the honor instead of supporting one of your friends, who might be more in need of encouragement, from the time of his graduating.”

“I have not your letter before me and may have omitted some things.”

“If your clothes are right, you can come here from college, and help us get ready to go home and go with us. Your aff. Father Amos Tuck” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

4 May 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “My dear Ned: The city is excited to-night over dispatches from Washington to the effect that the Rebels have evacuated Yorktown, leaving most of their guns and most of their traps of all descriptions. To-morrow morning’s papers will tell the story at length, if it be true, as I think it is, and I need not state what little I now know, as you will so soon know more by the telegraphs and papers. The queries which arise in my mind are, where do the rebels go? Will they make forced marches against Banks, or McDowell, or both? Will they try still to defend Richmond and Virginia, or will they retire to the Gulf States, and rely on guerilla warfare, to worry us out extort terms of peace? Why did they go? Did they have insurrection in their own camps, regiments refusing to fight? Were they getting short of provisions? Did they see that shells would annihilate them, or that a surrender would be inevitable, if they waited for the bombardment and battle to commence? I cannot answer these queries, but am waiting to draw conclusions, according as events enable us to do so. I do not think the war is to close at once, whatever the causes of the retreat. The traitors will not die easily. They are desperate reckless men, the leaders, and must be crushed by the strong arm of government, till they are completely prostrated.”

“The Stevenses leave to-morrow for Kingston, and we shall not go for 2 or 3 weeks. When at home on Friday, I directed Jim, as needed, about the Garden etc. I intend he shall make every thing look as pleasant as convenient. I want to have our house pleasant while we occupy it in summer.”

The order of Exercises came in due time, and has been passed around. We all have reason to be proud with your position, which is, I suppose, as honorable as any you could have had. Mr. Mason, who knows the effect of such things, congratulated me on your selection [sp?], and said he formed a good opinion of you, and that you were a young man, who would attract people towards you. Manners and attractive appearance go a great way, but besides those, you will strike for the possession of substantial merit, which shall command people’s confidence, because it will be beyond the common average.”

“I am pleased with all your letters, and glad to have all proper details of your life and experiences at College, though I cannot expect you to be so full in your statements in your letters, as you will be by word of mouth. When I meet you – see you – next, I presume you will respond to my suggestion of your coming first to Boston, and will state the day of your arrival.”

“I sent you 25 two days ago. Your affectionate father Amos Tuck”

“Ps.] Your mother says I stated in my last letter what Mr. Mason said, but no matter. Your mother says, get your washing and things done in as good condition as convenient, preparatory to coming home.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

11 May 1862: Joseph G. Hoyt (St. Louis) to Amos Tuck. “My Dear Friend: I have been dreaming for months of a pleasant breezy vacation in N.H. among the old native hills and by the

sea-shore. But a change has come over the spirit of my dream. Last night, Mr. Merrick engaged for me and my wife a passage on the steamboat 'Emily,' plying on the Missouri River twice a year between the City and Fort Benton, which is situated as you know, at the base of the Rocky Mts. on the border of Washn. Territory. The voyage up take 40 days, not 'counting in' the snags, and the distance, I think, is about 3000 miles. It is mostly through plains and forests where no white man ever trod. The Fort is at least 1500 miles beyond the outer rim of civilization. The population is made up chiefly of wild Buffalo and wild Indians. It takes only 10 days to come down the River. If I return by the same Boat, I shall be gone 2 months, but if I stay over one trip, I shall not get home until the middle of September. I shall miss my morning and evening papers sadly. Post offices and Telegraphs do not abound in that distant country. Battles will be fought and victories won, and I none the wiser or happier for them."

"My health is wretchedly poor. The months of March and April nearly made an end of me. I am having just now a partial respite. But my flesh and strength are all gone, and Dr. Johnson told me frankly a few days ago that my lungs were 'undoubtedly incurably diseased.' Since that announcement I have, with my usual obstinacy of character rallied considerably. He, however, encourage me to believe that I might hold the disease in abeyance and put off for some time the 'evil day.' I take this extraordinary trip, at the earnest solicitation of some of my friends and with the misgivings of others, as my last desperate struggle for life. If it should, with its pure and healthful air, do me any good I shall be a thankful man; but if it fails, then"

"Good bye forever, J.G. Hoyt"

[P.S.] 'My kindest regards to Mrs. Tuck and Ellen and all.'

[P.P.S.] "A return by the same Boat will land me in St. Louis about the midle of July, in which case I might, if I felt improve by my long journey, be inclined to spend the month of August in N.E. That, however, is a great ways off."

"The gentleman, Mr. Robert Campbell, who owns the Boat 'Emily,' told my wife last evening, that he would fix me up a State Room and make every thing as comfortable as possible, and further, that my fare (\$300.) was paid. Somebody certainly takes a human interest in my human life. I guess the persons, who have thus put me 'under bonds' are Mr. Campbell, to whom I never spoke, and Mr. Howe [sp.?]."

"For fear I may not have time to write my friends French and Frank Sanborn, I wish you would explain my whereabouts and whitherwards to them and give them my cordial 'good bye.'

"My Life Ins. Policies are in your hands, but I think there is nothing in them to interdict my contemplated trip."

[Marginal note in Amos Tuck's hand] "Judge French: When you have read the enclosed, and shown it to your family, enclose it in an envelope to Mr. Sanborn at Concord, Mass. I wish him to return it to me, sometime. Amos Tuck May 17/62." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 May 1862: Abby Nelson (Peekskill) to Edward Tuck. Abby expresses her pride in Ned's success at Dartmouth. "We shall probably arrive the Saturday beforehand and spend Sunday. You will make whatever arrangements you please. I know you will do well dear Ned, so don't

be nervous or timid. You don't know our dear Father takes in talking of you. He is very much delighted and very very proud of his son. He is not looking well and I think he is working too hard. He complains of his back aching continually. Next Wednesday I AM GOING West with Wm. We shall not take the children...." [Rauner Library, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 47]

12 May 1862: Joseph G. Hoyt (St. Louis) to Amos Tuck. Hoyt sends a long letter detailing the exciting but troublesome actions by the rebels in St. Louis and Missouri.

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

19 May 1862: Letter to Boston Collector John Z. Goodrich from Acting Secretary of the Treasury George Harrington: "I have received your letter of 25th ultimo, upon the subject of collectors and other officers of the customs, compromising inconsiderable forfeitures etc. wherein the costs of prosecution would probably equal the amounts of the penalties; and stating that you, in concurrence with the naval officer and Surveyor, in several cases, wherein you were agreed in opinion that it was proper and for the interests of the Government, have compromised some offences, receiving however, in no case over two hundred dollars."

"I replied to the first branch of your letter on the 13th instant."

"I will thank you to transmit to me, a list of the cases so compromised, with a detailed statement of the facts and circumstances connected with each case." [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent to Customs Collectors ("I" series), Vol. 19 of 52]

15 June 1862: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. "My dear Father: I have not heard from you but once since I returned, but knowing that you have been very busy travelling etc. I have not supposed that you were sick. I had a very good letter from Ellen however. We have had a little excitement here over the war. A company is to be raised of 3 months cavalry and about 30 have enrolled their names already, I think. They are to go from Rhode Island, under the auspices of Gov. Sprague. Gill and Brown have enlisted in it, as you are probably aware. A third man from our class, White, has also signed he documents. He was elected our Class Poet and it leaves us in a disagreeable position as at this late day we can't get a substitute that is desirable. We are trying to persuade him not to go, ut it is thought that he goes just to shirk the poem, and if so we shan't be successful. It can't interfere though with the Oration."

"Prof. Patterson told me that he saw you in Concord. I saw him there when I came up. He joked me a little about my prospects after graduation, and very likely he told you about it. If he did I should like to know his comments. He said tome only a few words, just what you said he told you in Boston. Mrs. P. had a boy-baby on Thursday. All is now well, I understand."

"I called on Miss B. last Friday eve. I met, for the first time, her mother. I stopped an hour, other company coming in and making it necessary to stop rather longer than is usually desirable. I have not seen her otherwise."

"I have ridden horseback a couple of times since I returned and am getting quite delighted with the sport. Some of our class ride nearly every eve. Ingraham has hired a horse

for 3 nights a week during the term and I had thought of doing the same. It is somewhat of an extravagance but it is better than to spend as much for something which gives neither exercise nor other benefit. It costs \$1.25 a week. What do you think of my riding once or twice a week?"

"You have seen George Gill in Ex. I suppose. He was perfectly set on going home and I think that the quicker he is off the better it will be for him. He hasn't the stability to carry him through even this term and I think he had better be put under martial law immediately."

"Has Mr. Mason heard about Phil and his other son yet? He is a fine old gentleman and was quite kind to me while I was there. Wouldn't you enjoy his coming to Exeter to spend a Sabbath some day? And by the way, Mrs. White must be charming you to-day with her delightful society. She is a lady of most extended information, as well as being a pattern of energetic housewives, I judge from what I saw of her. I fear that her domestic concerns will tear her from you early in the week."

"We are studying Geology and Butler's Analogy. Neither of them take much of our time. I shall feel rested sufficiently to sit down to my Oration, when you send it. I hope you haven't bothered yourself with it, out of your desire to hasten. The more I think of it, the less interesting to you it seems it must be to criticise it. Ellen wrote me that she rec'd the Japonica. I didn't pay for it, thinking it impossible that it was sent. It is very cold here to-day and I have a fire this evening. I am afraid we shall have a heavy post. Will you tell me in your next letter what you remember about a vote taken by the Trustees that a vacation be given the Seniors, whether it was week or left undecided? We are beginning to look out for such matters."

"I have got my Commencement suit and shall get my boots this week. If it is perfectly convenient to send me 35 or 40 dollars, I can pay it away and have so much settled. But it will be no inconvenience to wait 2 or 3 weeks, though"

"I have written this letter rather hurriedly, as I have to write our Poet a remonstrance to-night. With love to all, I am your affectionate son Ned."

"[Ps.] Mr Mason spoke often of you in B. and seemed to be expecting to see you. I thought he looked on you as a very good friend. He seemed so anxious I couldn't but pity him and determined to write you that I thought he was very grateful to you for your attention and sympathy."

[Marginal comment] "Have you been to Cambridgeport to sit for your picture yet? Don't let the chance slip, father, for he will give you a fine picture."

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

16 June 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "My dear Ned: I report progress on the work, and in the course of a week, perhaps less, expect to send you the whole, -- or begin to send the whole. I cannot well dispense with a part, as I want to look fore and aft."

"Mr. Gill and Mrs. Gill saluted their hopeful George very coolly on his return. Mrs. G. said she said to him, 'You are a naughty boy,' and Mr. Gill told me he was 'provoked.' George was at church yesterday, and showed in his face less self-satisfaction than I ever before saw in him. He says he is going with the 3 mos. men, in the Rhode Island enterprise."

“We are all in status quo. Bessy fell out of bed yesterday, but had no serious bruise. She could not catch her breath easily.”

“I had a letter from Fogg a few days since, and as it may interest you, I enclose it. It is, or course, as you will see on reading, rather confidential.”

“I think Wm. and Abby must be back to Pkskill o Saturday. Yr. aff. Father, Amos Tuck”

“P.S. Shall be glad when I can see you every day. I am well. Court sits at Exeter tomorrow and for 4 days after. I shall send to Boston for my letters.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

18 June 1862: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “My Dear Ned: I have written as far as I deem necessary, leaving what of yours I thought nearly right, as it is, to be appended to the ground I have gone over, after you have modified or recast my recast, to suit your self.”

“I will send you a few sentences by way of peroration in the course of a week, to use or not, as you see fit. I have followed you, and whatever merit there is in it, or will be in it, is all yours. I think you will have an excellent speech, but you may think I have not improved yours.”

“Write in wide lines [and here Amos double spaces his lines in the letter] (like this) on long paper, and when completed, ask Patterson to be free in criticisms, additions and subtractions.”

“If it were deemed important by you, and Patterson could not be made available, I should be willing to meet you at Concord, during the term, sometime, to listen to its being read. When you deliver it, do not esteem it necessary to commit to memory, unless you have ample time. It will go off just as well to read it.”

“I have sent (by this mail) the whole bundle, yours and mine, in an envelope, directed to “Amos Tuck, Norwich, Vermont” and I enclose an order for you to get it there. Your mother put on the direction in her hand writing. I told her it was your speech, as written by you, with criticisms of my own. Write me, that you receive it, as soon as rec’d.”

“All well. Your letter to me at Boston, will be bro’t to me by Shute to-night.”

“Yr. aff. Amos Tuck” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

23 June 1862: Chase-Goodrich letter: “I send you a letter from Tyler & Co. of Boston dated 16th inst, relating to an importation made by them in the Bark “Archer” from Buenos Ayres. You will report the facts in this case at your earliest convenience....” [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent to Customs Collectors (“I” series), Vol. 19 of 52]

29 June-5 July: Tuck stays with BBF in Washington.

31 June 1862: Edward Tuck (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. “Dear Father: I was somewhat surprised to hear of your sudden start for Washington. I supposed it was in regard to wool matters and I hope the rascals, who are endeavoring to cheat their government in so disastrous times as these, will suffer the full penalty of the law. I hope too that you will have a safe journey and get well paid for it.”

“After two committees had been sent to the President on the subject of our vacation and it had been each time refused, we sent in a petition urging a more careful consideration of the resolution passed by the Trustees, giving as reasons that through the whole year we had had perfect confidence in the belief that such a resolve had been passed as left no doubt on the matter, and that many of the class had laid plans for the week not easily to be given up. The subject was mentioned also personally to 2 or 3 of the faculty. Somewhat to our surprise, the whole week (the present) was granted to us. It seemed that the Prex in both of the first two meetings had shown no resolution to the Faculty but had merely told them that a resolution had been passed authorizing them to do as they deemed expedient; hence they gave us none.”

“At the last meeting, the Faculty called for the reading of the resolution, which was done and which showed matters in so different a light that they immediately overruled 2 former decisions and settled it in our favor. It was evident that the Prex was out of his mind or else intentionally misrepresented. For he read the resolution itself to both committees (myself, once) and afterward with a triumphant chuckle, said “You see there is no ambiguity about it, it is left entirely to the judgment of the Faculty; we have decided that it is not expedient.” But (to borrow a vulgarism from government officials) he couldn’t wool us.”

“I have thought of going home for a few days this week, as I could do so by paying fare only one way. But I have concluded not to, unless something should occur to render it more expedient than it now is. My oration will not trouble me much. I have time now to finish it and am only wanting in inclination. I detest the patch work business of revision.”

“Your loving son Ned”

[Ps.] Regards to the Major.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

4 July 1862: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “Mr. Tuck is here and we are enjoying his visit. He will leave me [for N.E.] on Sunday. Ned [French] lives with me.:

“Awful doings down about Richmond, and things looking a little squally – though they have improved very much since Friday, on which day I have no doubt we were most damnably whipped. Since then we have done better, though I cannot get it through my hair to understand how a retreat of 20 miles is a victory! Richmond seems to be rather a hard shell nut for McClellan, but I guess he will crack it by and by.” [FFP Reel 5]

4 July 1862: Amos Tuck (Washington, D.C.) to Edward Tuck. “My dear Ned: My attention to some railroad business, in connection with Gen. Peaslee [sp.], renders it necessary for me to remain in Washington till Sunday Evening next, when I propose to go to N. York and homewards. I expect to be well paid for my detention.”

“The City is in a very anxious state, about McClellan’s army. I am of opinion that McClellan has not done the best that was possible, even from the outset. I think he might have gone to Richmond, via Manassas, last October, and that the 24,000 who have since died of sickness, would more than have covered the loss of all the battles incident.”

“I have seen the President, but only for a few minutes because of the public anxieties and his many cares. I have seen and dined with Gov. Chase, who is very cordial, and all my relations here seem to be satisfactory. In these sad times, I feel almost too exempt from the common vexations, in occupying so quiet and comfortable a retreat as I have at the Boston Custom House. Still, of my age there are few in the army, except professional soldiers, and as my place must be occupied by some good man, (or ought to be), I will continue to believe it not improper I was chiefly should contentedly remain as I am performing my duties faithfully.”

“My business here was chiefly about the wool question, and without going into detail I will simply say, my interviews with officials have been satisfactory and we shall get along honorably, if not [word unclear], probably with some profit.”

“I do not forget your peroration, but have not yet had time to unfold. I may have, before I leave here, or even to enclose in this letter, and if I do, you must take what I send, not as what I judge to be certainly best to use, but as suggestions – or you may use some of it, bodily.”

“I do not expect to arrive in Exeter till next Wed. night.”

“Yours aff. Amos Tuck”

“[Ps.] Send an order of exercises to P.H. Townsend Esq., Census Bureau.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

7 July 1862: French left Washington for New England about 5 pm on 5 July. “With my friends Hon. Amos Tuck, who had been at my house a week, I took the cars at Washington. We took sleeping berths. While crossing the river at Havre de Grace the sleeping preparations were made and soon after we left the river we went to bed. I never slept as well in the cars before. Indeed, I had a very tolerable night’s sleep. We arrived at Jersey City at about ½ past 4.....” French then stopped to stay with his relatives in New York [Tuck went on to Boston.] [FFP Reel 2]

8 July 1862: Tuck did not attend PEA Trustees’ meeting. Tuck and Gorham again appointed to audit the Treasurer’s report. [p. 395, PEA Trustees’ minutes not to be used without permission of the PEA library]

10 July 1862: E.T. Merrick (Chesterfield) to Amos Tuck. “My dear Mr. Tuck, Your kind note is just rec’d. I shall visit you before returning to St. Louis. I am distressed and grieved at the news from the Chancellor who returned July 3, having ‘lost flesh and strength’ and ‘disgusted with the trip and its results,’ ‘much discouraged and dejected,’ so Stickney writes.”

“Miss Annie writes, when he kissed her on coming into the house he said ‘I have come home to die.’ ‘Most of the day he lies on the sofa in the Library.’ On being asked if he should not go down stairs by and by he replied, tho [word unclear] ‘Never again till you carry me.’”

“Enquiring after my journey and my return about Sept. 1, he said ‘I’m afraid I shan’t see him then.’ Doubtless, this is the darkest side, but it shows ‘too cruelly’ his condition. Almost against hope we had hoped the Journey to the Rocky Mountains would heal his lungs now, but I have no heart to say more.”

“Yours sorrowfully, E.T. Merrick” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

13 July 1862: French journal entry: Previous day in Boston, French went to his brother Henry’s office and “Thence I went to the Custom House to call on Mr. Tuck, and found that he had left for home (here) a few minutes before I called.” Later left with Mary Ellen for Exeter by train. Stayed with Frank and saw the beautiful grand-daughter. Frank is most comfortably and pleasantly situated in a little box of a house on Pine St. As there is only one spare chamber in the House and Mary Ellen occupied that, I sleep over at Mr. Tuck’s.” [FFP Reel 2]

14 July 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “Yesterday we all dined together at our house, Ben. French, with his Mary Ellen and Frank and Ellen. Ben, and Mary Ellen stay only a day or two now....” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

14 July 1862: “I arose at about ½ past 6 at Mr. Tuck’s, dressed and came over here – Frank and Mary Ellen not yet up! I have called them and think they will soon appear. Ellen and her hand-maidens are laboring on the anticipated breakfast. Laura Nelson is singing at my elbow, and little Bessie is sprawling amiably on the floor, essaying to move about after the fashion of ladies who must creep before they can walk. The household, here, all retired, and I left for Mr. Tuck’s at 11 o’clock. After Breakfast. We have eaten a good breakfast – eggs boiled, Brown bread and wheaten bread toasted and elegant coffee, and now we are planning to visit the Beach, either Rye or Hampton, or both...I have made Frank and Ellen a present of a dozen teaspoons marked “R” and a butter knife this morning.... [FFP Reel 2]

15 July 1862: Previous day French, Frank, Ellen, Mary Ellen, Laura Nelson and the baby went to Hampton Beach, then Rye Beach. Frank set up a bed in his library so French could sleep there. “I am going over to take breakfast with Brother Gran’ther Tuck. We consider ourselves highly honored by the advent of the beautiful little woman who has elevated us to that venerable dignity. She is a dear little thing, and if I stay here much longer I shall want to carry her home with me!” [FFP Reel 2]

16 July 1862: Frank rose ½ past 5 to catch the early train to Boston. “At 6 Mr. Tuck came in to accompany Frank, and they left a few minutes after....Ellen and her maiden are up and at work....” French and Ellen are going to Chester around 10 o’clock. [FFP Reel 2]

17 July 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Getting ready for Ned’s Commencement. [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

21 July 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Ellen will probably not go to the Commencement because of the baby, even though she really wants to hear Ned’s address. Amos will bring enough money to pay all Ned’s bills. [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

21 July 1862: "Saturday [19 July] my friend Tuck devoted himself to me. Soon after breakfast I went over to his Mansion (and does it deserve that name for it is a magnificent dwelling) and found him up to his wrists in honey. He keeps numerous hives of bees and had just been taking honey from one of them and was selecting the fine comb for use on the table and straining the honey from the dark comb. That sweet work having been accomplished, under the direction of Mrs. Tuck, we walked all over the village, purchased various articles for Ellen, and then came up here [Frank's house]. Frank had to go to Manchester on business. Mr. and Mrs. Tuck dined with Ellen and we had a dinner fit for a Prince. After dinner I fixed two locks on Ellen's sideboard. One of them was pretty much "stove to bits" and I had to make one new spring for it. As soon as I had finished that job, I walked over to Mr. Tuck's. Ellen and Mary Ellen had gone to ride with Mr. Tuck's horse and carryall, and, at ¼ past 7 they came with Frank, when we partook of a sumptuous tea, and spent the evening at Mr. Tuck's." [FFP Reel 2]

23 July 1862: Writing from Washington. French left Exeter on the morning of 21 July and went to Boston. "At 2 I dined in Boston at Young's with my Brother Henry and Mr. Tuck." Left on the train later. He discusses his growing attachment to Mary Ellen and their plan to marry and notes that all his family, including Frank and Ellen, are pleased with the coming marriage. [FFP Reel 2]

23 July 1862: Amos Tuck (Hanover) to Ellen French. "My thoughts cannot fail of resting upon you very much, while I am now away from you; yet I indulge the hope that all the time that it is well with you. Yesterday I rec'd the first letter from Frank, but to-day I have none. May it still 'be well with them and well with the child.'

"I am busy in the Trustee meetings all the time – and am in good health. You are regardfully spoken of, often by the people here. I now think of going to Waterville next Saturday with Prof. Patterson, and to meet Ned there. Lovingly, your father Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

28 July 1862: Letter from Asst. Secretary of the Treasury George Harrington to Boston Collector Goodrich: "I have received your letter of the 26th inst, requesting authority to pay the expenses of the Naval Officer and Deputy Collector of your port, on the occasion of a recent visit to this City, for the purpose of laying before the Department a correct statement of the proceedings at Boston to ascertain the proper amount of duties to be collected on merchandise recently imported from Buenos Ayres. You will state the amount of the expenses in question." [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent to Customs Collectors ("I" series), Vol. 19 of 52]

28 July 1862: Letter from W.W. Stickney to John T. Gilman asking Gilman to provide 1857 tax receipts for several town lots. These receipts were missing from the file left by Amos Tuck for Stickney's action. [Source of this copy not recorded.]

31 July 1862: Amos Tuck (Hanover, N.H.) to Ellen French. "Ned will not probably get home till Saturday: - He gave a good speech and delivered it well, with credit to himself and to us all."

"In great haste, affectionately yrs. Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

6 August 1862: Tuck-Chase letter about "Francis O. French for Dep. Naval Officer". [USNA, RG 56, Register of letters received, vol. 38]

16 August 1862: Tuck turns over Hampton Academy financial books to Rev. John Colby as new Treasurer. At some time in 1862, Tuck (who had taken over John's note to the Academy) paid it back in full and the \$900 was invested in "US Stock" at 7.3%. An additional note in the "Account of the Treasurer" states that Tuck did not in fact relinquish his position as Treasurer to Colby until 15 November 1864. ["Accounts of the Treasurer of Hampton Academy," 2005.46, Hampton Historical Society]

23 August 1862: Amos Tuck (Custom House Boston, Naval Office) to Navy Secretary Gideon Welles. "My son Edward, just graduated at Dartmouth College, possesses the business and other traits, which qualify him, I think, for an assistant paymaster in the Navy. If after reading the application I have made to the President, you shall think it proper, and find it practicable, to give him such a position, I assure you I shall regard it as one of the greatest favors that could be granted to me." [TFP, Box 2, Folder 9]

26 August 1862: Tuck wrote a letter to Lincoln asking that his son Edward be appointed an assistant paymaster in the Navy. Lincoln writes a quick note on the back of Tuck's letter to Navy Secretary Welles to make Edward Tuck an assistant navy paymaster as requested by Amos Tuck "if not immediately, as soon as possible." [Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, vol. 5. Note that it appears that this letter has disappeared and is only known through a catalog description]

26 August 1862: Chase-Goodrich letter: On the receipt of yours of the 19th inst. advising me that you had seized hides imported into your District per barque 'Emma Cushing' – I referred it to the Solicitor of the Treasury for his views thereon: a copy of his reply is herewith transmitted."

"Your attention is specially called to the statement in this letter of the Solicitor that he has not been able to make his report upon the vexed questions connected with the trade with Buenos Ayres in consequence of the failure, up to the present time, of the Collector of New York and yourself, to send him certain information for which he made written requests when making his personal investigations at New York and Boston into these matters."

"You will send the Solicitor the information he has called for at your earliest convenience; and in compliance with his suggestions you will suspend all seizures of this sort, until the questions at issue shall have been settled by the Department."

[USNA, RG 56, Entry 22, Letters sent to Customs Collectors, "I" Series, Volume 19 of 52, Boston, Aug. 1, 1859 – June 10, 1863]

1 September 1862: BBF (New York City) to Frank French. BBF attending Masonic encampment. "That important event [BBF's marriage to Mary Ellen Brady] is to come off at your Uncle Brown's on Tuesday the 9th inst. At 2 o'clock p.m. You will, of course, be there with Ellen and I hope and trust, little Bessie...."

"I suppose, (by what I have heard but not from you!! and Why?) that you enter, today, on your new duties [in Boston Custom House]. Well, I approve the acceptance of the place by you, and sincerely wish you complete success." [FFP Reel 5]

4 September 1862: Tuck-Chase letter concerning death of William Stevens and the promotion of George O. Davis. [USNA, RG 56, Register of letters received, vol. 38.]

8 September 1862: Chase-Tuck letter approving appointment of George O. Davis as clerk no. 2 (\$1250 annually) and of Nathaniel Gale to replace him as clerk no. 3 (\$1200 annually).

[USNA, RG 56, Entry 51, Volume 4 of 14, Letters sent, W Series, Dec. 1, 1860 – Dec. 31 1863]

13 September: Chase-Goodrich letter: "I have received your letter of the 13th ulto, and hereby authorize you to pay the expenses incurred by the Naval Officer of your port, amounting to \$45, and of your Deputy Collector, amounting to \$47 during a recent visit to Washington at your request, for the purpose of laying before the Department a correct statement of proceedings of your port to ascertain the proper amount of duties to be collected on merchandise imported from Buenos Ayres...." [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent to collectors ("I" series), vol. 19 of 52]

17 September 1862: Abby Tuck Nelson (Peekskill) to Amos Tuck. "I just received your letter containing two pieces of news of domestic nature but still most exciting to William and myself. He sat by my side while I opened and read your letter. You may imagine our surprise and delight at the contents. We were both more pleased than we can [word unclear] of no express on paper. It is such happiness to know that Ned has chosen as his best beloved one in whom you are well pleased, and whom can so heartily welcome as a daughter. I am sure Wm. and myself will delight to call her sister. But it has always been the very dearest wish of Ellen and myself that the woman whom Ned should select as a wife, would be wholly acceptable to our beloved Father, as a daughter. I am so thankful that this dear hope should have been so happily fulfilled. You must give a great deal of love from both William and myself to our dear Ned. Tell him that his happiness is mine, and even dearer to me than mine own...[I am] burning with curiosity this moment to learn all about the young lady, her family, whether her father and mother are still living, how many brothers and sisters she may have...."

“Of course you will appreciate our gratification on Ned’s receiving so fine an appointment from government. Will he accept if he does? I pray that he will be preserved amidst the changes, and that he may come home safely to us all....”

[Rauner Library, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 45]

17 September 1862: William R. Nelson (Peekskill) to Amos Tuck. “My dear sir, Your letter to Abby surprised us both. I am happy over both events, especially that you seemed to be happy in making the announcements. Though Ned has been quick, he has nevertheless been especially successful in having his Father’s entire approbation. You being pleased and Ned suited, we of course shall all be delighted. I am exceedingly curious about Ned’s love affair from beginning to end, want to see her picture. Who is her Father, what is her age, how long has he been so disposed [sp?], etcetera, etcetera.”

When will Ned leave for Exeter to see if he can pass? Where will that be. If he comes to N.Y. by all means let me know, that I may go down to see him, if he can’t come up. Abby and self must keep both of these matters a profound secret, especially his appt. to Asst. Paymaster, until he passes and has his commission. Abby has urged me not to speak of this here to any one. I would prefer that neither you or any body else shall speak of this until it is a fact accomplished.”

“My love to Ned and good wishes in all respects. I suppose he will write ere long to Abby and send her a photograph of his [word unclear]. I will be pleased to hear from you all about Ned in detail. I hope you all succeed in getting Ned [two words unclear] a first class vessel, with tip-top and skillful officers. I am in a terrible state of excitement today, waiting for news this PM of the great battle, having news this AM of Jackson with his 70,000 re-inforcing Lee, re-crossing the Potomac and of heavy re-inforcements going forward to McClellan. God be with us. Major Travis has put me out of my office, he arrived from Baltimore yesterday. He says we have 25000 in Baltimore. He moreover says there is a secret movement of troops every day to Fortress Monroe from Washington.” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

18 September 1862: Chase-Goodrich letter: “I send you herewith for your information and guidance, and for the information and guidance of the Officers of the Customs of your district, a copy of a letter from H.R. Helser [sp.?], U.S. Consul at Buenos Ayres, dated 28 July last, and of my reply to him of this day’s date.” [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent to collectors (“I” series), vol. 19 of 52)]

19 September 1862: Gideon Welles (Navy Department) to Amos Tuck. Short businesslike letter informing Tuck that since Edward is only twenty and the law requires that the office be filled by those twenty-one and older, “I am debarred the pleasure of making the appointment. The Board report that otherwise your son is in every respect qualified to perform the duties of Asst. Paymaster.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 9]

30 September 1862: HFF (Boston) to BBF. "...Frank is a wretch. After all I could do and say he has taken a house in Brookline, as I have learned this morning. I had found him one good enough near us, for \$250, but I think Ellen preferred not to be too near his friends. Generally, that is a good idea, but I think with her disposition to avoid society, Cambridge would have been better, and besides, I wanted Frank for society for myself." [FFP, Container 9]

2 October 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Abby Nelson. "My friend writes this day to N. York to know why that Dryer has not gone forward. He will have a letter by Monday morning, and if it has not been sent, one will leave here by Monday P.M. to go by Express. I want you to have this same dryer. You can't tell how much I rejoice over your new establishment. Work is a great blessing, and while I would lift even the weight of a hair of sorrow from yr. shoulders, I know by experience that busy employment and driving necessity of working, is a real blessing. The rest of a laboring man alone is sweet, and the Devil gives him a wide margin. Ellen is busy and sometimes vexed, but on the whole is doing well. I saw her yesterday and we spoke with all intent and affection of you. Ned is studying, gunning, tending to the horse and house and happy. Yr. mother is in fair health, and we all, she included, anticipate a happy thanksgiving. I am nursing a little business operation, which will detain me in the region for a week. After that [I] must apply myself to the task of finding a space to visit you. Tell Wm. not to over-do his brandy doses for diarrhea. Mrs. 'Kidder' would do me more good than Rum. Yr. aff. Father, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

9 October 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to John Tuck. "My Dear Brother: I was glad to hear from you a few days ago, and I at no time do I remain content for any length of time, not to hear from you, except when I can make myself believe 'it is well with you.' I am happy that, now-a-days, you have so much better enjoyment of health, than you had in former years, and so much less apprehensions of a short life, to the great sorrow of your family, and the neglect of yourself, because of your family, besides the natural unwillingness of a man to depart hence."

"I was glad to hear all the details you gave me, and I shall always be glad to have them given by you, even more fully. I feel as deep an interest in you and yours,, as I ever did, notwithstanding my many cares exhaust my strength so that I do not write you as often as I once did."

"I am using all the money I can spare from my salary in paying up my debts. Of course I work away sensibly every month, making the amount smaller and smaller. But I yet owe largely, that is I owe 6 to 7000\$, besides a liability as surety for \$5000, which I fear I may have to pay, having security in some second mortgages on houses in Boston, to keep me from loss. But I think I shall lose something, nevertheless, on this suretyship. My property at the West is valuable, but I get no income from much of it, and were it not for my salary, I should feel cramped. I expect to pay up all my debts, if I hold this office till the close of Lincoln's administration, and to have my property paying an income by that time."

“Ned is studying law. He is, as you judge of him, a promising boy: nothing marvelous, but a sensibly, unpretending, affectionate, sagacious fellow; without sham or vicious habits, content to take hold patiently to prepare for life, with a purpose of working while he lives. I am glad you liked his oration. It is not a great thing, and he is not fully developed, but I think he will come to something. Your statement of being proud of him, or satisfied with him, is a statement I prize, and he prizes, more than so much said in his praise by any other man living. Do not ever forget that next to my own family, Ned looks to you as his most loving relative,, and respects your judgment and faculties as most reliable. You have been preoccupied, but you have always come to wise conclusions, and it may be tha your manner of life is just as much a success as anybody’s.”

“I sometimes think I should have been just as well or better off to have lived obscurely and contentedly with the narrowest of ambitions and achievements. But we are getting towards the end of life now, and cannot change our course. By and by, I hope to get rid of much work, and o have time for reflection, for visiting you more, and enjoying some things which I cannot now.”

“Being interrupted, I will close – with affection to all yr. aff. Brother Amos Tuck”
[TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

12 October 1862: Austin Corbin (Davenport) to Amos Tuck. “Friend Tuck: Enclosed find my check \$100 on Atlantic Bank, and I want you to do me the favor to get from ‘Powers that be’ an equal am’t in postal currency, and send by mail. Get just as small as you can and if you can send \$200 and will, I will immediately remit the other \$100 and feel under great oblligaiton. F you send me \$200, let it come by express.”

“Frahm [sp.?] will pay something this month. Did you buy that wine for me?”

“Yrs. truly, A. Corbin.” [TFP, Box 4, Folder 14]

1 November 1862: William R. Nelson to Tuck. “Dr. sir: I have no particular reason for wishing Ned to come when I am away. Unless A. you and he should prefer to have him come on now. I would like to see him on my return, but if it shall be convenient not to wait, I shall probably see you all on a flying visit during the winter, for I want to see Nell and her baby much.”

“I am sorry to say the honey arrived in rather a bad plight, the comb was so thin that it could not withstand the jar, or else it has been badly handled, so that it was knocked all to flinders [sp.?] and the honey had oozed out all but about 3 or 5 lbs. but of that which was left we have enjoyed at breakfast and tea. Never mind we both feel bad enough about it, say nothing better luck next time, as Peter Simple was wont to say.”

“You went into your affairs rather fuller than I expected and after reading your answer I feared I had presumed too much. My only apology was an anxiety to know, whether in addition to your severe cold, you were feeling anxious about your pecuniary condition. Your health and life is of more importance to me, than the largest [word unclear] you might be able to leave Abby and her children. May God give you length of days and all of them happy and successful ones.”

“I will look after your affairs West and write you at Chicago and elsewhere. I expect to leave here Thursday morning at 8.45.

“We are all well. Children hale and hearty, but Abby has been temporarily under the weather for a week nearly. Abby is sticking to her resolve not to owe any body, and is doing it better than I feared she would. I am inclined to the opinion she is coming off conqueror in this resolve, if she does, I shall be a rich man, if she cant she will keep us poor. But let us rejoice. Abby has just come in. I read the last above to her. I have been on the jump in business to day, and made a little something. I had no time to go up home to dinner, but went in to Mother’s”

“My commissions [sp?] West are cut off, money being so abundant. My clients have much by me something. But my best days West are gone.”

“I have money to loan here, a number of thousands, have had some on hand for some time, but there are no borrowers. I go to [word unclear, maybe Albany] next Monday and may possibly effect a loan of \$7,500, but what I can make by it remains to be seen. How is Frank doing in his new position? Affctny yours in haste, WRN” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 3]

1 November 1862: Abby Nelson (Peekskill) to Amos Tuck. “...I feel anxious about Ned’s eyes. If they do not get better soon, had he not better consult an oculist? It is very strange that he should be so afflicted and if it does continue, would it not be better for him to drop the study of Law and go into some [word unclear] or other financial business?”

“...We are all in good health and spirits here. William is going West about the tenth of November....” [Rauner Library, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 45]

6 November 1862: BBF to Henry. “I am sorry the Republican party has been so whipped, generally, but it will be better for us in the long run. I have not a doubt it will stir up the ‘powers that be’ to do something before the secessioners can reap the fruits of their political victories. We have got more than a year to go and come upon, and if we do not improve the time we ought to be used up.”

“Write me. Frank – the rascal – doesn’t write at all now-a-days. I suppose his \$2000 a year has so inflated him that he has forgotten the ‘old ‘un’”

[FFP, Reel 6]

21 November 1862: Austin Corbin (Davenport) to Amos Tuck. “Friend Tuck: Frahm [sp.?] expects, daily, some money from St. Paul and as soon as it comes he will pay \$250 and I shall send to you. I am pulling all the strings I can, and shall bring something in due time.”

“You may send my wine to me by Great Western Despatch and I will send you my check for \$25 as soon as I can get my check book out of my safe, which is locked and obstinately refuses to open. It will however open today or tomorrow – peaceably if it will, forcibly if it must. Do the bet you can on the postal. Please say too your Powers that be that I am an applicant – not for an office, but for shinplasters, and that, as a loyal citizen of the U.S. ‘knowing

no East and West, no North and no South,' I ought to have them. In haste, and out of temper till I get into m safe, I am Your friend, Austin Corbin"

[P.S.] "Got my safe open and enclose check \$25." [TFP, Box 4, Folder 14]

23 November 1862: BBF to HFF. Congratulates Henry on his appointment as Assistant District Attorney for Suffolk County. [FFP, Reel 6]

26 November 1862: Tuck not present at PEA trustees.

9 December 1862: Pamela French (Cambridge) to BBF. "...You know Henry's dear friend Hoyt is dead – they took him to Exeter and buried him without kith or kin to cry over him." We know nothing of the future arrangements of the family yet. Henry [is] furnishing some facts about him to the St. Louis gentlemen, Mr. Waterhouse who is appointed to deliver the eulogy." [FFP, Container 9]

12 December 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "My dear Ned: We are all well. Ellen was in yesterday with Bessy, and went out at 3 ¼ o'clock. Ellen is just getting well of a bad cold."

"I called last evening at Mr. Drake's and spent a pleasant 2 hours with him, his wife and Nelley. The latter looked lovely as ever, talked some, and in all things was in status quo ante bellum."

"Come home when you have made a satisfactory visit to yourself, to Abby and Wm. I do not want you to cut it off unsatisfactorily short. You know how I feel on that subject."

"Love to Abby, William and babies. Your aff. Father, Amos Tuck"

[Envelop notation with no postage] "Edward Tuck If Ned is not at N. York it is not necessary to send to him, but it may be given to W.R. Nelson and Mrs. W.R.N. A. Tuck"

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

16 December 1862: BBF to Pamela French. Notes news of the death of Professor Hoyt. "...it made me feel very sad, for Hoyt was the salt of the earth and a great and good man....Henry will feel Hoyt's death much; they were sincere and intimate friends through long years, and they fully appreciated each other. All Exeter will feel deeply and sensitively, that one has gone who was an ornament to their society for many years and a light to the path of their rising generation. His memory will be blessed." (FFP Reel 6)

28 December 1862: Abby Tuck Nelson (Peekskill) to Tuck. "My dearest Father: Of late I have neglected writing to you or to any one. It has been unintentional neglect on my part, for I have never thought more often of you than during the last few weeks. I must again thank you for dear Ned's visit. His presence was to me like the sight of a great rock in an [word unclear] land to a way worn traveler. He did us both a great deal of good. Tell him I enjoyed no part of his visit more than I did the ride down the river in the cars. William and I take so much pleasure in

talking over each little incident of Ned's sojourn with us. I wish you could have been here on Christmas evening: We were all down at Mother Nelson's and they had a Christmas tree for the children - you never saw little folks more delighted than they were. It was then and there that Laura received her presents from her Uncle Ned and her wax doll from ourselves. She wishes one to send word to Uncle Ned that she thanks him a thousand times for the game and would like to kiss him for his kindness in sending it to her. She enjoys playing it exceedingly with me or Anna [sp?]. [five words unclear] when you apologized for not sending any presents at Christmas. I considered that honey and the nice soap both very and some presents and so did William. I am already oppressed with gratitude for your great goodness and generosity towards me and I hope dearest Father, you never will excuse yourself to us again, because you may not have sent presents on any [word unclear] occasion like Christmas or New Year's."

"I hope you do not consider me so devoid of feeling, as to expect you to have sent more than you have done. You send me two of the finest newspapers in the country, free of cost, and load me with rich benefits beside. I don't know how to thank you and it make my heart ache to think I can never return anything for all your goodness. I long to see you and hope it wont be long before business may bring you this way. How is your health now? I hope in your solicitude for others you do not entirely forget yourself. Your health is more precious than untold gold to us who have you. As to Ned, I have not altered my opinion as to his weakness of the eyes being occasioned by general weakness and poverty of the blood. I don't believe an oculist could help him, unless he counselled him to take iron and use restorative means. He needs blood, I am sure. He did not look well while he was here and all the folks remarked it. But I know your wisdom in this matter dear Father, as in all others, is far superior to mine. I know you will but Ned all right."

"I am much pleased with the plan of Ned's going into a French family. It would be something to be [word unclear] of if Ned should become a [word unclear] French scholar. You must have had a pleasant time at Christmas. I wish we might have peeped in upon you all. Was George Nelson [sp.?] there? If not, I hope Frank will invite him to spend New Year's with them. Thomas [sp?] has always paid so much attention to Frank, I think they will expect something of the kind. Cornelia has been quite low-spirited over the absence of her darling boy from the Christmas and New Year's festivities. [name unclear] too is away to she is very lonely. I think I shall spend New Year's Day at Father Nelson's, if nothing untoward happens."

"We are all very well indeed. William sits by me reading the 'Boston Post' and sends much love. Show this letter to Ned and give him a great deal of love. I am your affect Daughter Abby"
[TFP, Box 2, Folder 3]

1863

8 January 1863: Ellen French (Longwood) to Edward Tuck. "...Father went to N.Y. on Friday to consult the expediency of William's moving West. I hope he will [three words unclear]. I have no idea that it will effect more than another flash in the pan. W.'s father and mother will howl and take on terribly is they hear a word of it. W. will imagine his father can't live without him and will stay...Father was well when he left, but I think the little wart on his nose troubles him. I wish you would write him about going to the gymnasium – he must take more exercise or he will die living mostly around Boston. He continues to come out twice a week, but I miss your visits with him...."

"I went in town yesterday and saw mamma who was in excellent spirits, tho' in her usual health. Father has given her some fine gold and shell bracelets, since you left, I believe, which as usual she wants to trade off for another pair...." [Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 38]

17 January 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck (Astor House, NYC).

"I enclose a letter which will explain itself. Yr. 'maternal' says she is a f__l, because she did not send back the anklets, ruffle and gloves, pomatum, etc., anyhow, soiled or not soiled. Dear Ned, do not waste sympathy, or what do you call it, on that [word unclear], as I think you will not. Every development reconciles me to turn away from her. The Lord bless her, but as Abraham said to Lot, so I to her – If she goes to the right, then I to the left. In quantity or quality, one or the other, or both, she is not appropriate for our Ned."

"...We attended the concert this P.M. and heard the wonderful Spanish child."

"P.S. The things sent, we will keep done up till your return [word unclear] – except the two books, out of which I have torn the fly leaf with her name which we shall read. The things, one Postal book with a five cent postal -- a counterfeit \$5, 3 ruffles, scent bag I handkerchief, photographs and wood cut of the Capitol. I think this is all." [Rauner, TFP Box 1 Folder 7]

18 January 1863: Edward Tuck (Peekskill) to Amos Tuck (Exeter). Informs Amos all is well with Abby and family. Ned is leaving the next day by train for the West. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

21 January 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck (Louisville). "I went to Exeter yesterday to Court, and shall go again tomorrow, and be obliged to stay there some days to try several cases. I rec'd the money from Wm. and was paid by Mr. Taylor, or allowed by him, \$282.83 (including Wm's bill) for my services. Mr. Taylor was astounded and delighted, he and his wife, at receiving \$550. Your maternal and I took supper with Ellen Monday night, unexpectedly urged to do so, and acquiescing in consequence of their (E. & Frank) taking their dinner at our tea time....She gave the maternal a smelling bottle for a birthday present, and I gave her a pair of bracelets, cost \$15."

"...I write that you may not be long at Louisville without hearing from me. Give my regards to Samuel Dow...." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

23 January 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Tuck has read a letter from Samuel Dow that must have crossed with Ned's travel to Louisville. "I judge from his letter there is a fair opportunity to do something by trading. If the prospect be so decidedly good that you think it desirable to stay with him longer than you expected when you left, and to use money in connection with him, you can draw on me 'one day after light,' for, say, \$1000 or less, and 'pitch in.'"

"Cases in Court before mine, occupied the time, so that I did not tarry at Exeter so continuously as I expected. I have been there one or two days this week, but returned at night. I shall go there again on Monday, and, off and on, remain during the week."

"I have rec'd a letter from Saint Louis, from which I see they will expect you there early in February. If you are induced to stay some time at L. write to Mrs. J.G. Hoyt, or to Merrick & Stickney, explaining yourself. I was at Ellen's yesterday. She is not well and is taking medicine. Yet she is to come to Boston and go to Museum. There are cases of scarlet fever at Marlboro, and she fears to call there....A letter from Wm. Reports affairs 'all quiet' at Pkskll."

"I am anxious to hear from you, not having heard since you left N. York."

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

27 January 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "Nothing new to-day. I have just rec'd yours from Columbus...I go back to Exeter tomorrow." Amos gives advice about medicine for Ned's eyes. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

29 January 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "I enclose a letter from Mr. Merrick...No change here at home...My cases do not come on at Exeter. I go there to-morrow again. The affairs of the Country look rather ominous. It is best in these times to branch out very broadly into business, yet I think prices will go up rather than down on every thing."

"I rec'd yours from Columbus and Cincinnati, and expect a letter to-morrow from you at Louisville. I pray that no accident may befall you."

"'Newton Street' may have felt hit, on receiving her traps, and have had the experience of some holy wrath. I hope she will come out harder-shelled, than she went into the adventure, if not, she can't be cured. As I look upon the whole thing, I see you could not have stood it long, had you had fair sailing. To have tolerated the thing, you would have felt like a fish with a hook in his nose – no independence, no freedom – How is it, do you feel regrets still?" [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

2 February 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "...Gen. McClellan is here, and being feasted and called on, by most people. I have not yet broke my neck in running after him, but sent my card to him to-day...."

"I was at Longwood at dinner yesterday. All well, and Bessy bright. Pkskll. things go on as usual, Wm. having made a fine weeks work of it. Canada Sam Tuck is here – and will stay till Wed. to hear H. Ward Beecher at Freeman Temple. We are still waiting for the Govt. to do great

things, but don't get them done in a hurry. Wiggin was in town, enquiring for you last week -- so the Office man at the Marlboro told me."

Amos frets at length over Ned's health and eyes. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

2 February 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "I returned home Saturday, and shall not go out again to speak before election. I have stood the exertion well, and am improved in health since I started out."

"...It strikes me that to get many orders, Sam will have to go in person to the buyers and arrange for them. Trade is only got here, by solicitation and by ingenious approaches to the buyers." Advises Ned not to go into business too hurriedly. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

6 February 1863: Edward Tuck (Louisville) to Amos Tuck. Ned is leaning to staying in Louisville rather than go to St. Louis. "I am gaining flesh and 'appy have been quite busy helping Sam put up cider in bottles. He has bought 10 bls, very nice, and can hardly help making something by keeping is a short time."

Ned then lays out Sam's business plan for selling barrels of "Golden Syrup" made in Boston, with precise price details. He asks his father for his views. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

13 February 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "...The arrangement and proportion, as agreed by you and Sam, seem not unreasonable. Enjoy yourselves without impatience for great gains, and as you see inducement invest more deeply by calling on me for more funds."

"...I rec'd your of Sunday last evening. Go to Church regularly, even if you are the only man in town to set an example....I see you are faithful to the Yankee Girls, despite the corn-fed specimens you meet with. I should myself rather have one Yankee wife, than a half-dozen 'Suckers', 'Badgers', or 'BuckEyes.'"

"I go to Concord to-day, and may be absent some days." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

15 February 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "I have been to Longwood, walking back. Had a very pleasant visit. Friday and Sat. was at Concord, arranging the campaign, to whip the Rebels in that State, (N.H.) at the next election. It is as important as it is to whip the bolder, but not less pernicious rebels in front. I think we can do the job for them effectually. I go upon the stump to-morrow, and I think I can not be in Boston a half dozen days for the next three weeks. They demand my assistance, in fact my leadership, and I cannot withhold it, properly. I speak this week in company with Patterson. Hope to be in Boston every Sunday and Monday, and in that way, to keep run of you, to answer all your demands, and know of your doings. I shall arrange with Frank to attend upon you, in my absence, and he will open all my letters. He goes to-morrow on law business, which I cannot attend to, as I go north on the Fitchburg Road, to meet Patterson at Claremont, at 2 o'clock. Abby is expected with Mary next Thursday."

“Dr. Wm. H. Gorham has obtained a place in the Custom House, -- an Inspectorship, -- at \$1000 a year, -- gotten by J.M. Forbes’ (not my) influence. I am, however, very glad of it. They at Exeter were anxious to learn whose influence gave the place to him.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

22 February 1863: Amos Tuck to Edward Tuck. “It is about a week since I wrote you. Since then I have spoken about ten times in Sullivan County, N.H. in company with Prof. Patterson. We have had ‘freedom,’ and have seemed to speak acceptably for our friends. I stood the rack very well, and shall take care of my health in the attentive manner you so affectionately urge. I propose to go into Carroll this week making 4 speeches only, and returning to Boston next Saturday, after which time, I am not aware that I shall be called out any where. Abby is at Longwood with Mary...The interview [NFI] was agreeable to all concerned, I am pleased to find...”

After urging Ned to avoid evil influences, “I yet deem it expedient, my Son, to entreat you to remember afresh of all I have told you about being defiantly moral, reverential, practically religious, wherever you go. Do not relate, or listen approvingly, to profane or obscene narratives, no matter how much wit there is in them...Go to Church, Ned. I wish you would join a Bible Class or Sabbath School. It will require some force of character for you not to swim with the current. Tell me, Ned, whether you are trying, with any success to resist the current of evil. I do not doubt you, but loving you so much, I want reassurance.”

Amos will send Ned more money when he sees how his money holds out. He has also been inquiring into the Golden Syrup business and has sent some to Kentucky. “I think Merrick & Stickney have thought considerably of eventually having some business connection with you, me, or both. You must write them or the Hoyts...”

“I am in good courage about the elections. How are your eyes?”

“I had a good time with Patterson. I slept with him and was kept warm. Don’t worry about my getting roasted, or damaged by too much heat. I am all right and observant of my health. Miss B. has returned to Hanover, as P. told me. Patterson always joys over a certain denouement whenever alluded to. He is very regardful of you. He says Putnam will probably accept the Professorship, offered him at Andover -- \$1800 Salary. Here is an item of news, of interest to you – John Milligan and Miss Lord have dissolved their relations – cause unknown. So saith P.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

23 February 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “Ellen and Abby are here this evening. We are all enjoying ourselves, often speaking of you....Abby is enjoying herself. My visit to Pkskll. did good, and Abby’s coming here does her good.”

“I leave to-morrow to be gone to Carroll Co. for the week. I am not flush now, but will send you some money next week, if I conclude from yr. letters you desire it. I think you better put in as much as Sam.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

24 February 1863: John Tuck (Biddeford) to Amos Tuck. John's daughter Angeline received Amos's letter, which seemed to do her some good. "I doubt if it is for her interest to attend the next term of the school where Geo. Yeoman goes, but shall consent I suppose as she us so crazy to go. Though I have put a final and forcible stop to some follies which gentle means failed too cure."

"I have not heard from Nat. for a long time, not since I sent him his policy, which he said he should put in your hands for security."

"I have no particular news to write as concerning ourselves. The War news you get ahead of my time and find as much pleasure therein as I do."

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 85]

28 February 1863: William E. Chandler (Concord, NH) to Amos Tuck. "Dear sir: We must have a large amount of funds or we shall lose four fifths of all the close towns in the state. Those towns are making the most pressing demand upon us, which we cannot endure without funds."

"Disguise it we may our popular majority in the state is going to be run down to a very small figure and if it were not for the fact that I is very evenly distributed we could not elect all our members of Congress."

"Our only salvation is to elect our moderators in the close towns; and we must have funds."

"Things have changed since you thought that \$1000 from Boston would be sufficient. The fear of the Conscription act is losing us voters, how many we shall never know."

"Mr. Gilmore and Eastman will be in Boston Tuesday morning. If you are there I hope you will help fix things so that they can get all they want. Yrs, truly W.E. Chandler"

[Marginal note] "Ordway [sp.?] [word unclear] New Yk – They say that New Yk is to take care of Conn and Mass of New Hampshire." [TFP, Box 4, Folder 16]

4 March 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "...I have not, before this, seen any letter from you stating you had rec'd your St. Louis interest. By this time you ought to have rec'd another payment. Yet I have not rec'd mine."

"...I think Wm. will come on for Abby next week. She is enjoying herself very well. Your mother and she are on friendly terms, and no grumbling..."

Apparently Ned has decided not to go into business with Sam Dow in Louisville. "in that view, you will guard against Sam's being disappointed at your withdrawal, and bear in mind that you will want to prospect in Saint Louis, before your return, so as to have an opinion, whether we can do business with Merrick & S. safely and profitably, when you shall have returned to New England." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

8 March 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "Your mother has been sick for two days, or more, being barely able to keep about. Her trouble is pain in, and weakness of the bowels.

Everything she eats, seems at such times as the present, to distress her. Still, as heretofore, I trust she will soon be well again.”

“Next Tuesday is Election in N.H. I have done all I could to secure a good result, and I expect a victory. Yet I know there is some doubt, and consequently have some anxiety. I have been in Boston all the past week, though invited to go out and speak.

“I rec’d your last letter to-day, wherein you speak of Sam’s having gone to Nashville...and of your views of the Conscription Law...I consider it an excellent and most potential enactment, and do not know how it could be improved. One provision is, that a man drafted may provide a substitute, go himself, or pay a commutation, not exceeding \$300, as he pleases. I consider it perfectly honorable to pay, if a man is drafted, rather than go. Things have changed since the beginning of the war. The heroism of volunteering is nearly played out, while educated men fighting in the ranks, have been outraged by incompetency, and have felt themselves of so little account, as common soldiers, that none of them will hereafter go again as common soldiers, if they can avoid it. The soldiers who are to be raised under the new law are to go, first to fill up old regiments, and will have no new made officers. As to the 7th N.H., I might get you a Commission, as before, I guess, but I am not certain. However, I feel clear, and I hope you do, that it is not best for you to seek a commission. Stand the draft, and if you are drawn, pay the \$300. I care but little where your name is enrolled, in Exeter, or Louisville – but if drafted we have our of one mind [?], and that is to pay and keep out of the war. Yet if the time comes, as it may, when it is necessary, then I consent to your taking the musket to fight for the country, and I will do the same then, or subsequently, as seems best. Therefore, form your plans without reference to the contingency of the draft.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder7]

12 March 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Amos reconsiders the enterprise “I was considering, and which you broached, though not in a serious manner” and offers further detailed advice pertaining to the method of business of Charles L. Dow. Amos is concerned that Ned might stay in Louisville, with its atmosphere of a “Slave City.”

“If you conclude to go in with Charles, and can buy out the Burkarts, is it Charles’ idea that you buy more than ½ the stock? Has he any money, and if any how much? It is important for you to know whether you are going in with a man who has some money or none. If he has none, he must, of course, live out of the business, and you take your share in the hazards of supporting a family. Still, I suppose from what you have written, there is no doubt of Charles’ having some pecuniary ability and of his being an A.I. man...I do not get an idea how much you and Sam owe, nor how much your assets exceed your liabilities. Perhaps you did not intend to state them. If so, very well – I don’t wish you to feel that I am inquisitive beyond measure. I see by what you write that you are earning your living, and that is enough to be thankful for.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

14 March 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “I suppose I shall get the money back for freight without difficulty.”

“I am not surprised that you have found a want of audacity and rapidity of action, such as you speak of in your letter, by which competitors have outstripped your friend. It is probably an incurable fault, and you better ‘stick a pin there.’ Never allow your feelings of personal kindness to allow you to assume a load of years, by any business connection with him of consequence.”

“...If Charles L. D. has a good retail trade...it would be a good opening for you to buy in, and own ½ of his stock and have ½ of his profits, if you felt a bias toward such an enterprise in such a place....” More advice follows. “It may be that the aspect of the whole thing at L. after the novelty is off, is repulsive to an educated mind, and not worth considering.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

16 March 1863: Edward Tuck (Louisville) to Amos Tuck. A letter of recommendation for the bearer, H.P. Truman of Louisville, formerly of Lebanon, NH. He is an “old acquaintance of mother’s” and had been helpful to Ned. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

16 March 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. More details on buying and shipping syrup from Boston to Louisville. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

16 March 1863: Edward Tuck (Louisville) to Amos Tuck. After reading his father’s two letters on the idea of going in with Charles Dow, Ned assures his father that he was not considering it seriously. But, another idea of selling syrup in Bowling Green has arisen. Ned notes, “Now, undoubtedly, the business that Sam has been in, is running down, for various reasons I cannot here specify.” Ned and Sam are thinking of selling small amounts of syrup down the Louisville & Nashville R.R. and maybe “down the river”. They have \$500 on hand, and no debts. Ned gives more details about the pricing of the syrup and molasses and asks Amos to buy and forward 10 barrels of each, “if you think a profit can be made.” Freight address is E. Tuck, care of Dow & Burkhardt, Louisville. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

18 March 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Amos is working on shipping the syrup and molasses. Urges Ned to go to Saint Louis before deciding on whether to buy out the Burkhardts, and “see your friends, learn all you can of S & Merrick and their affairs, open the whole thing to them, survey the ground from that stand point and then make a final decision.” Amos will support whatever Ned decides.

“We are all quite well now. Ellen has got moved and Abby is with her still....The N.H. election is a triumph, marred only by the possible defeat of Jack Eastman for Congress in the 1st District.”

“Paterson was here a few days ago, jubilant over his election. I have not bled very badly for the elections but a good deal of money has been raised in Boston by our folks.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

18 March 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "...I am yet quite content with your letter of the 13th just rec'd, in which you state your conviction that you better leave at the time spoken of, for Saint Louis."

"Ellen has had a general jail delivery of her 'Abigails,' and is now breaking in a new bevy of servants, with all the incidental discomforts. Miss Saul is there this week, and I take her, Abby and yr. mother to the Museum tonight.

"Mr. Gill has sold most of his furniture, and Cuffer's woods (to Dea. Moses), has rented his house to Ap. Shute [sp?] and is prepared to make Boston his home for the length of my official term. Mrs. Abbot is dead, and is to be buried to-morrow. Chas. Burley is in business in Boston, having a season ticket from Exeter. Henry Wells boards at Marlboro Hotel, and is trying to get into something in Boston. Mary Shaw is to be married in a few weeks, when Chas. Rogers gets ashore from his homeward bound sea-voyage. Exeter is getting solitary. We shall not return there for some months. On the whole I am rather pleased, now that you have investigated Louisville, to anticipate your leaving."

"P.S. I have no doubt of the advantages of seeing 'the other side of things', as you are doing by you experience at [~~'Rebeldom'~~] Louisville – Masquerade, gymnasium, dances, candy pullings and all." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

22 March 1863: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Abby Nelson. [Penciled note on a scrap of another letter] "My dr. Abby: I am certainly convalescing, but my hand is weak. My pain is gone, my tongue getting clean. Your loving Father, Amos Tuck"

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

23 March 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. After analyzing price changes, Amos has bought only syrup and no molasses. It should have left Boston that same day. Amos expects a timely dispatch of the money he had fronted. "You appear to have done remarkably well thus far....While at Saint Louis, you can investigate Merrick & Stickney's business, talk to them of this [the syrup business] which you are and have been doing, investigate the practicality of something of the sort there, at the same time you are attending to the money business, and generally can take a survey of the field of operations and decide to accept or reject some one or more of the enterprises and places which will by that time have been considered. If nothing offers to attract and command your energies, you can always come home, with a certainty of not doing poorly even here."

"Wm. and Abby and Mary left for Pkskll this A.M. in good spirits, and Abby benefitted by the sojourn with Ellen. Her visit and Wm.'s, with your mother was satisfactory all around. Wm. had read your letter of Saturday, and was pleased with the business like statement of affairs and remarked he could send you money, if when you get to Saint Louis, you find you can make a good use of it. Ellen and family are well. [two words unclear] your mother is decidedly unwell, though she can go out a very little." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7])

25 March 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Amos again agrees to support a possible buy-out of the Burkhardts. He again urges Ned to go to St. Louis to see “our friends”. Amos also discusses more aspects of the syrup business. “But I wish to make no remark, which shall propel you into any measures or connections, which otherwise you don’t aspire to. I value your being with me, as highly as any father can, and I intend, go where you may, to be with you a great deal, and I want you to be east with me in the summer, if possible.”

“I think you enjoy yourself better at L. than you will anywhere else, so far as young company is concerned, and I take pleasure in the thought. Take care you do not recreate too much, and feel a too great necessity for cards, etc. etc. But I need say nothing. I do not worry over your habits in any respect. I trust you don’t drink or smoke.”

[P.S.] “Am glad you are iron-clad on the subject of pathetic attachments. All right to be ironclad. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

26 March 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “I have had a long conversation with your friend Mr. Truman, who has given me much valuable information regarding Louisville, yourself and your friends there...I expect to see him several times again. I have cordially thanked him for his kindness to you, and earnestly invited him to call on us frequently at the Marlboro.”

“I feel better acquainted with all your surroundings than I could be, without having seen some man like him, from the locality. He represents Mr. Chas. Dow, in a very favorable light, he same as you have done, and he expressed a decided wish that you should conclude to tarry at Louisville.” Tuck discussed the idea of Ned buying out the Burkhardts with him, and he approved, so Tuck is more convinced. He still advises Ned to go to St. Louis first. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

8 April 1863: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “...Mr. Tuck is with us and has just gone to bed, and Mary Ellen is getting ready to go, and will knock for me in a few minutes.” [It was 9:30 pm.] [Next morning.] “...Mr. Tuck will leave for home this evening – we have had a very pleasant visit from him, and he can tell you all about us.” [FFP Reel 6]

10 April 1863: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Edward Tuck. [He uses B.B. French’s official letterhead.] “I have been waiting here [‘three’ partially erased] to see President Lincoln about Charley Hoyt’s appointment as Naval Cadet. The President went away last week and I have been waiting for his return. I can wait no longer, but I have engaged Mr. Nicolay, Private Secretary of the Pres. to make my appeal for me, and I shall leave to-night for home, expecting really that I have a better prospect in my absence, with Mr. N. and his promise to do all in his power. I am well but weary. I want very much to hear from you, for it is now more than 2 weeks since I hear a word. I get a claim allowance for prize [?] money, which gives me a few hundred dollars.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

12 April 1863: Edward Tuck (Louisville) to Amos Tuck. Ned is leaving that night for St. Louis. "I have written Mr. Merrick of it and therefore suppose Ms. Hoyt will be prepared for me....I have arranged matters here satisfactorily to myself and to all concerned. Ned calculates that there will be a profit of \$85 that he will split with Samuel Dow. "Are you satisfied with this result? I am....I will send you the am't of my expenses since leaving Boston after I am settled in S.L. I meant to do so to-day, but I find that my cash-book is packed at the bottom of my trunk, in my writing desk."

Ned is now considering a trade in maple sugar. What does Amos think? [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

15 April 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck (care of Mess. Merrick & Stickney, Box 3091, St. Louis). "I wish we could send something to you, by George, to indicate how much we love you. But I cannot. You will not, however, doubt the depth of my love, I know."

"...We think we may go to Ex. in a few weeks. The weather begins to be tempting. I shall want you very much to [word unclear] with me. Court is sitting then, but I have given up my business into other hands, concluding I have enough here. I have at last collected something on [name unclear] having received yesterday \$830. This is quite a windfall, and makes me to pay a debt, without hiring, which I did not expect to do."

"Mr. Haines was in to-day, (of Biddeford). He says his son has gone into the hardware business at Portland, and to my remark that you would have to give up law, he said, in substance, that that was no misfortune....On the whole I should not anticipate with any pleasure, your destiny of earning your living exclusively by law practice....When you come home by and by, or even before, you and I can discuss all you know, and all you think of, and decide as is thought best...."

[P.S.] "Chas. Rogers marries Mary Shaw to-morrow." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

17 April 1863: Edward Tuck (St. Louis) to Amos Tuck. Merrick & Stickney would be happy, in return for Amos's past kindness to them, to have Ned invest in their bond-selling operation, but advise a large amount, i.e. \$5000. Ned asks his father to borrow that sum or whatever he thinks best and send it to him to invest with M&S. Meanwhile, he proposes to go on a horseback trip with Stickney to Kansas: "I could leave my cash invested here, to be taken care of by Mr. Merrick with his own, and by that time my maple sugar investments will be closed up and the time will not be valuable to me here." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

20 April 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. All is well. "Mr. Sanborn is about painting our house, Sim was here Saturday, and by my help purchased Mr. Gill's small house near the Cemetery, for \$360, sealing a march on O'Hara the Priest, who had a private plot to get it, in spite of Sim. The latter chuckled over his success against the Padre, and so did I, for I wanted to oblige Sim [Jim?], and had a little malice against O'Hara, who told the Irish at Exeter,

that they could vote what ticket they chose, at the last election, but he should vote the Democratic.”

Amos discusses some of the problems raised by Ned’s proposed maple sugar business – has he thought of these practical difficulties? On Kansas, he does not think it is a good way to spend his time, but leaves it up to Ned.

“I have great respect for Mr. S. and Mr. M as you know, and I know their kindness will lay you under obligation. If I have provoked them to show kind attentions to you, to advise with you, confer with, and have a real fellow feeling for you, by having appreciated them more readily than I might, and by having tried to help them as well as myself, in our past money transactions, I feel glad of it.”

Amos critiques Ned’s letter-writing style and format, including the size of paper he uses. Then, “Keep your finger nails perfectly cut and always clean. Don’t ever wear that ugly coat, the English walking coat – I never liked it. I think, as you know, that your hat was not an imposing one. See to it. With great love, your father, Amos Tuck”

[Note: Amos does not mention Ned’s request for a loan of up to \$5000 to be invested with S&M.] [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

22 April 1863: Tuck buys a pocket watch in Boston for \$228.00. (TFP, Box 3, Folder 6]

22 April 1863: Edward Tuck (St. Louis) to Amos Tuck. George Gill arrived unexpectedly with a note from Amos. “George went with me to Mrs. Hoyt’s last night. To-day he has been located by the Surgeon General at Benton Barracks, the old Fair Ground, in a new and very pleasant hospital, 3 mls. from this city. He is provided for very comfortably for one year at least. It will be very pleasant to have George so near.”

Ned is still planning to join Stickney in Kansas. His maple sugar trade is going well, and he has arranged to buy another ton from Mr. Peck in Lyndon, VT. Could Amos transmit \$250 to W.H. Peck? I would not ask it if I thought you would be incommoded by the request. But knowing that you can most always command that am’t very easily, I do it.”

“Mrs. Hoyt has let her parler (to a Judge and wife) for \$80 monthly, also the room over the study to two gents. for \$60. Only the lady (out of the four) is to dine there, excepting on Sundays. I am to take Mr. Stickney’s place, with Mr. Merrick, in the absence of Mr. S. By the time of his return, some of the rooms will be vacated and I can be quartered elsewhere. Her only remaining vacant room (opp. the room over the study) will be taken May 1st, Mrs. Hoyt and he children going into the ‘ell’, till 1st May. Annie has just appeared at my elbow, had the politeness to notice what I was writing and is irate that I have done such a thing. She is willing you should know it but wishes it to go no further that they are taking boarders for a living.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

23 April 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “...I expect to send you a draft for \$5000 to-morrow, which I have hired of the Granite State Bank at 6 per ct, payable on demand, and

interest quarterly. I preferred it to be on demand, for that means it may run as long as I wish I to. The date of the note is Apr. 23. 1863, of course, you can send me your note for the same sum, and must be careful to send me the interest, in time to pay a few days before it becomes due. Punctuality make a great virtue, and want of it an unpardonable sin, except when it occurs 'by act of God'...I have intended to incur no more debts on any account, but I have so much confidence in the voucher business, in Messrs. M. & S. and in you, that I am willing, and more than that, am quite happy, in hiring this money for you."

"I expect to send you more than this \$5000 – in fact, it is possible I may go up to the \$15000!, though I may fail of getting the other \$10,000."

"Of course before you leave for Kansas, you will straighten everything out; -- that is, arrange for the most careful use of your money, if you do not invest it all. I suggest you give Mr. Merrick a Power of Attorney before you leave, to endorse drafts etc. and that he open your letters, or some of them. A most charming day this, your affectionate father Amos Tuck." [TFP. Box 1, Folder 7]

24 April 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "I do not succeed in getting further funds, as I rather expected I should. I sent my notes by L.W. Dearborn to Nashua, and he reports exhaustion of funds there. On the whole I shall probably not send you any more than the \$5000 I enclosed to you in a letter put in the P. Office a few hours ago, till I have heard from you still further. I can get another \$5000, if it is clearly for the best. This \$5000 is quite a little venture for a young man not 21 – but I am glad to advance it for you, and shall go higher, if you incline strongly toward a larger investment."

"I think a twelve month certificate 6 per ct. is worth par, as money is here, though I suppose it could be bought for less. Your loving father Amos Tuck"

"P.S. Tell Mr. Merrick to send to me at once how many of Mr. Hoyt's books he want sent to Saint Louis. They will be out in a day or two. Tell Mrs. Hoyt I have not yet heard from Mr. Nicolay, and if I do not, I shall write him in a day or two, to get a favorable answer from the President, if any were possible, respecting Charley. Present our very best wishes to all the family."

"Am glad you went to Mrs. Partridge's party. You will not omit the party call afterwards. Etiquette, you know, I consider of great importance." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

May, 1863: The Internal Revenue Service Tax Assessment List for 1863 showed that Tuck had an income of \$1500, a carriage valued at \$100.

1 May 1863: Edward Tuck. (St. Louis) to Amos Tuck. "My dear Father, Yrs. enclosing \$4442.15 has just arrived. The amount rec'd is the correct balance, as you have computed, for the enclosed note. I am glad that you have taken account of the \$203 sent to me at Louisville, as I shall be able to tell at any time just how profitable (or the reverse) my investments have been and shall know that it was done by the sweat of my own brow. I shall open an acc't with the

Exchange Bank to-morrow. I have bought me a Cash Book and now keep both a Cash and a Petty Cash Account, the latter embracing present expenses merely. From it I can tell at any time what it is costing me to live. I have not bought any vouchers to-day, as I have had a slight attack of what the natives call 'Tennessee Quickstep.' Potions of brandy have dried the founts and to-morrow I shall circulate in the city. In consideration of the fact that Peck has ascertained the freight from Lynden to Louisville to be \$13.80 (incl. insurance) (\$13.80 pr. hund) I sent him to-day a draft for \$500 to use with the 250. I will say in regard to it that Mr. M[errick] was confident that \$1000 could be safely invested instead of \$500."

"I enclose draft from him for \$35, interest for April. I hasten to close for the mail. Yr. affectionate son Ned"

"[P.S.] I approve your purchase of a fine watch. You are entitled to the best on every account. Mr. Merrick is out and I cannot get a blank to write the note on & I shall have to wait for another mail. I will enclose it in a letter to-morrow." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

3 May 1863: Edward Tuck (St. Louis) to Amos Tuck. "I enclose to you my note for \$5000, dated 25th April. By some blunder of Mr. M. and myself together I affixed a 50 cts. Stamp to the first note instead of a 25 cts one. It did not occur to me till I looked up the law yesterday in reference to the enclosed, which I am confident is correct. If the other is rendered null by the mistake, return it and I will write a new one."

"Vouchers are very scarce. Yesterday none were quoted, on that account Mr. M. paid ½ off, only, for a lot yesterday. On account of the scarcity, I shall have to look about pretty sharply to invest my funds. Mr. M. had a payment of \$4400, from a check on Washington yesterday and till that is all used up I cannot expect much help from him."

"I cannot take any advantage of my place in his office to under bid him, with propriety; and I am not willing to do the work of the shabby, untrustworthy fellows who stand at the foot of the stairs, by the entrance to the Quartermaster's Office, nabbing the teamsters who come down with vouchers averaging from 10 to 20 dollars. It will be my policy to invest as soon as possible in large packages of vouchers, say of \$1000, at low rates. After I feel secure that my money is paying a moderate profit, I can have enough on deposit to buy smaller and more profitable ones. I judge from Mr. M.'s conduct yesterday that he will deem it the proper course to invest his own money and have mine lie idle rather than the reverse. But he was busy and we had but little conversation. I bought no vouchers, but I shall ascertain just what course he means to pursue and you may depend on it shall not allow my money to lie idle long. Probably, I was mistaken in thinking a little strange of the apparent want of interest he took in my matters yesterday. I will write you again in a day or two, but must close now for church. I drop this in the mail before, that it may go to-day. I also enclose a letter from Mr. S[tickney]. I hardly think I shall go to Kansas, on acct. of expense, business matters and the short time I should spend there." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

3 May 1863: Ellen French (Roxbury) to Edward Tuck. "...I hoped you would not settle down in Louisville for I associate pigs and everything distressed [sp?] with the city, and was glad when you announced your arrival in St. Louis in pleasant home-like quarters. In Stickney and Merrick you have confidence and we all feel quite safe about you. I thought the trip to Kansas might benefit your eyes and father says you must give it up...."

"...father usually comes out two and three times in the week and I am usually in once, so that we are not entirely out of the world tho' our circle of friends in Roxbury is very limited....."

"...Yesterday I was in town and father was out here. He, Mrs. Buzell and I went in town together. Father seems well and in excellent spirits – has this last week been engaged in being attentive to Gov. Chase and daughter and tomorrow he and ma will breakfast with the Goodriches and Chases at the American and then proceed to a [word unclear] and spend a few hours down the harbor if pleasant."

"...Abby wishes very much to come here and board near me this summer with the children and I am to engage a boarding place. I hope for her sake we shall succeed. The children are not well and Abby detests Peekskill you know."

[Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 38]

3 May 1863: John Tuck (Biddeford) to Amos Tuck. "I have not named to you as I intended to in my last letter, the death of Aunt Nabby Tuck who died in March. I did not hear of the death til three weeks afterwards. She was the last of the relatives of the name of whom I felt the least interest above what I would in an old neighbor....John Hodgdon wrote that he had caused mother's body to be removed to Parsonsfield the day after Aunt [Nabby Tuck's] funeral. I will see that the expenses are refunded to J.H. and will employ Jim Tuck to set the stones which ar at his place."

"You spoke of going up that way some time. The place, the land, the Pond and Mountains have their old peculiar attractions because the first we ever looked upon, but the live stock except Mrs. Thompson and her husband have none to me, and probably none to you. I think you would like to visit Daniel and see Otis."

"...The Rebel cause looks a little blue just now. Our Unitarian minister gives the Rebels fits every now and then, the Democratic Party included."

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 85]

4 May 1863: Edward Tuck (St. Louis) to Amos Tuck. "I have to-day taken from Mr. Merrick's hands \$2759.16 worth of vouchers, for \$2711.88, averaging 1 ¾ off. This gives me a start quite encouraging. There is a prospect also of a large lot from Sedalia which, if it comes, will use all my money. Mr. M. also pays me interest for what cash he has used of mine, amounting to \$5.05 at 1 pr. Ct. a month. Our account is now squared, I taking charge of my own money. And when more vouchers are offered than he wants, either he will pay me 12 pr. ct. for my money or give me the vouchers. In either case, I get well paid, and can have my choice which to do. I may

have to wait some time for opportunity for another investment as he gets tomorrow a pay't of \$4000 more or less."

"Yr. very kind letters of 30th April and 1st May [not in folder] are at hand to-day. You speak in a way that encourages me immensely. With much love and many thanks,...." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

13 May 1863: Amos Tuck (Roxbury) to Edward Tuck. "I am out here, came yesterday and stay till to-morrow, thinking the kinks of rheumatism will get out of my left thigh more readily here than at the Marlboro. It is bad weather, and I suspect to be limber by the time it clears off, and then we go to Exeter. I have already passed the climax of this grip, and you need have no fears on my account. I walk about without a cane, get up and down without help and do not 'ache' enough to 'brag off'. Ellen and your mother are well. Mary Delevan is better – I guess she ate too much and took a bad cold."

"Your first letter from Rolla is rec'd this morning. The thing at Rolla opens most encouragingly. If you can have \$2000 in transit[--?] between St. L. and R. at any such profit as you speak of, and Merigold is trustworthy, as he no doubt is, (or if he is not you can suspect it in time to avoid loss), and you can keep all your money out, in the way you hoped to do, when you wrote, it seems to me you have struck a good vein. I should naturally give you suggestions about keeping it as secret as possible that you handle money, how you make your profit, personal exposure etc. etc. but I am aware I can tell you so little of all that you need to direct you, and that in fact you are and must be dependent upon your own sagacity, work and capacity, so fully, that I say nothing further. You have done well in all things, so far, and I only give you my blessings and prayers."

"Ellen and you mother send much love....."

[P.S.] "May 14. I am still at Roxbury. My rheumatism still lames me so much that it being rainy I do not choose to go out. But I feel better than yesterday. (This letter lay over one day, by being brought back and from Boston, to which it was sent to be mailed yesterday). Yr. mother came here last eve. We shall go back to the Calvinistic Marlboro this P.M. if it clears off. It seemed to me that competition in vouchers was too great at St. Louis, till you opened the Rolla enterprise. I hope that mine can be worked profitably. I wish you had the faithful Peck at Rolla instead of Merigold, though you cannot afford to speak of his going out west at present, and perhaps M. has requisite skill and art which P. would not have or ant to exercise. I suppose the men who hold the claims originally are bountifully paid, and can afford to bear the reduction they sustain in selling, and then get more than they ought."

"I have written Mr. M. as I would like to get an expression of his views, at the same time I know you avail yourself of all h can do to benefit you, when you embark in anything."

"You will learn a good many of the ropes of business, before I see you in July, and as you get the facts, I am inclined to think will be as likely as any other young man, to plot new enterprises, not tho't of even by older practitioners."

"Mary is getting well." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

16 May 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "I am still kinked up, and do not go out of my room. I have some pain most of the time, and am very lame. But last night I propped myself up in the bed, and got a fair night's rest. I have called in a prudent, cautious, wise Doctor – Reston [sp?] – this morning, and he is confident he can put all right in a few days. You need have no anxiety about me."

Yours of last Monday, the first written after you return from R. came yesterday – a very neat, excellent letter - with perfect margins etc. – and gave me a clear accounting of your course, and the general reasons of it, all of which I approve. I perceive you are quick to see things, and I trust you will derive benefit from your activity and forecast Fe[--sp?] boys could be 'up to snuff'. I think Mr. M. will gradually conclude that you have talent to see some things which are not pointed out by fond friends – that you have a self-acting power of your own. Still I encourage you to confer with him, as being more experienced. Your grandfather Nudd used to say, that he took most every body's advice, and then did as he pleased. [two words unclear] recommend, however, even to consult many people."

"Peck seems to be sending along the sugar – 3000 lbs. going through Boston to-day. I still again say, that if at any time you find you have more money than you can use profitably, recollect what I have said about sending it home."

"I see it is best for you to be at Rolla, bit I 'kind o'fear' to have you in such a locality. On signs of illness, flee to St. Louis."

It is a little stiff writing and I will close. Mary is getting a little better."

"Geo. Shute says our house looks beautifully with its newly painted blinds, etc. Charlotte Ellis is dead – I send your box by Mrs. Hoyt – news papers, all I can get with names of wounded etc. etc...."

[P.S.] I might have sent more in the box, had I not been laid up for repairs." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

18 May 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "I am still disabled but on the mending order, and intend to go to Exeter, to-morrow or next day, and to recreate and exercise, principally for the next two months. The rest well."

"I am pleased with your activity, but I fear to have so good a son exposed to so many dangers. How often do you taste that whisky? Tell me."

"I recognize your love in saying you wish you could be with me to [word unclear] me etc. I shall now get along very well, I have little doubt, but any way shall have all the care I need."

"I cannot comfortably write much, so, good bye with much love, your loving Father,
Amos Tuck"

[Scrawled at the top of the letter] "I have no doubt I shall be nearly well by the time this reaches you." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

19 May 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. [Scrawled in pencil] “I have opened this box and looked at the clothes - your mother thinks they will suit you. If they do not, buy such as will. There was not time to make linen coats, and none fit could be bought. Buy them in St. Louis.”

“I suppose you are at Rolla. As I have said, I must leave open to your sagacity. Don’t fail of sleeping [?] sufficiently. Don’t think of business in the night. Don’t endanger health. Don’t have any intercourse with doubtful people. Don’t tell any strangers a thing about yourself – nor let any such, or friends know that you handle much money. But I believe in you, and so my hopes are pretty strong.”

“If any body steals hundreds or thousands from you, don’t go crazy – I shan’t.”

“Your convalescent and loving father Amos Tuck”

“[P.S.] Ellen sends you the neckties – Your mother the gloves.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

20 May 1863: Abby Nelson (Peekskill) to Edward Tuck. “...I suppose Pa has written to you dearest, of his illness, which has also filled my mind with anxiety. Ellen and myself, both think Pa’s health to be failing, and I wish he would be induced to go on a voyage, taking yourself as a companion. I think Ma’s company would injure, instead of benefitting him. She is such a nuisance. Pa says he is improving and I hope he is, though he does not always tell us the worst about himself. I hope he will soon be well however. He is delighted at your promise of success, and the energy and knowledge of business you are displaying in whatever you take hold of at the West. We are all exceedingly proud of you, including Wm. Rufus. We are looking forward with the greatest delight to having you stay here a few days, on your return...”

“Do tell me when you write if your eyes are improving....Frank French stooped more than ever when I was in Boston. I fear he is marked for consumption....”

[Rauner Library, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 47]

21 May 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “The rheumatism has got round into my right arm, and I can’t write much. But you need not worry about me, as I am on the upward grade, I think.”

“Is it not going too intensely into business for the sake of money, for you to roast in Rolla, these hot days? Don’t hesitate to send home money that it troubles you to keep afloat at satisfactory rates. \$5000 only would not have bothered you half as much.”

“It will hurt me to write or to think much. So, if you don’t hear from me for some time consider that ‘no news is good news’. Your loving Father A Tuck” (TFP Box 1 Folder 7)

22 May 1863: Frank O. French (Custom House Boston) to Amos Tuck. Frank sends his formal resignation as Deputy Naval Office, as his appointment as Deputy Collector begins that day.

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

24 May 1863: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "I am able to be about the house, and yesterday rode out and was several times in the garden, but I am not yet near being well. I have little appetite, am lame in my legs, but have no pains of any account, and feel that my liver will soon resume its functions and all be right."

"I am in receipt of yours of Sunday the 17th at Rolla, when you were in good health, though alive to the barbarism of the place, and not blind to the effect of lime dust on beggars and horses. God grant you a safe deliverance from perils of all kinds. I trust that bad vouchers will not fall into your hands; if they do, you and I will take it like philosophers. You are very active and remarkably capable, but I never think of [word unclear] you as making any money to speak of. On the contrary I contradict and put a quietus upon some stories I hear. Len. Dow is an abominable liar, when he is drunk, and possibly when he is not. Lizzy Stevens said yesterday that Len told them that you and Sam made \$13000 on butter! I told her there was not a word of truth in it: that you had made your expenses, and perhaps a little and but a little more, but that you were learning business, and that was the greatest benefit expected. You may be sure I shall keep your case sufficiently modest."

"Exeter is leafy and delightful to look on, but there is nobody here."

"Frank is promoted to be a Deputy Collector, salary \$2500 and I am about appointing a Deputy – don't know who."

"When you get in sight of July begin to arrange your money and business to come home. I wish you were here now, on many accounts. but still I hope to move my legs, fairly and squarely, in a week, and therefore do not need you to take care of me."

"Present my thanks to Mr. M. for the good will, which I perceive is perpetual in his heart towards you (also the same to Mr. Stickney). Let him know that if my money is not worth 1 per cent. I will take less, willingly." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

24 May 1863: Abby Nelson (Peekskill) to Edward Tuck. "I enclose E.'s letter that you may read it and judge for yourself, whether you ought not to hold yourself in readiness to return home, with immediately, or before long. I do not wish to alarm you, but I feel more discouraged about Father than Ellen does. If you can [word unclear] your business, so that you can return in a week or two, and remain at home for three months. I have just written Mother to offer to join and help nurse him, but I am very uncertain whether she will accept my offer, and you would be such a comfort to him [word unclear]. I think he is discouraged about his health and he needs his children around him. I feel almost broken hearted. I think he is going to have just such a terrible illness as he had years ago and I fear he cannot [several words unclear]. His last letter to me was scarcely legible...I have written to him to write any more to anybody at present. I think Mother is arbitrary with him and she is more selfish than ever. Wm. says it will ruin him politically to have a son in law and a brother in law both in the Custom House. Henry Townshend will never be of any assistance to Pa and he ought not to be put in the Office. I fear Pa's mind is weakened, for it does not seem like him to do such a thing. Wm. and Frank want you to oppose it for Pa's sake, and you must take a bold stand, Ned. Pa came here soon after you went West and then he

told Wm. and myself that he was the victim of a secret disease; he would not tell what the disease as, but he said it had been coming in him for over a year. I suspect it is a kidney disease. He had consulted Dr. Bigelow of Boston about himself. He also said that he did not think he should ever recover, or live long; that he had made his will and was about having his pictures painted for all of us; that he did not wish us to remove West...He also threatened us with his lasting displeasure if I revealed the secret of his illness to you or to Ellen. I dared not write to you but I did tell Ellen when I was in Boston, and she said she had suspected Father was concealing something from us for a long time. Only his doctor and Ma knew of it. He is very much changed in his looks and appears very feeble. I think it is your duty to come home almost immediately. I think Pa has been failing a very long time. When you write, do tell him you are coming, write carefully, and don't let him know you think he is very ill. Tell him you are coming to stay till he is well again. I feel sorry for Ellen who is a perfect angel and too good for this world...." [Rauner Library, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 47]

25 May 1863: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "I can now say truly I am getting well. My appetite has come, my pains are gone, and I am beginning to feel all right again. Exeter looks nice, I am enjoying your cider, which is A.1. and I shall not let a barrel of it be stirred an inch from where you left it till you return. I shall enjoy myself soon very much here, shall recreate, ride etc. etc., shall not go to Boston for some time but let myself be carried on the sick list, even after I might go, if I was 'a mind to'. I have appointed John N. Fiske Esq. of Boston my Deputy. in place of Frank, promoted to Deputy. Collector by Mr. Goodrich, and I feel I can let the machine run of its own momentum."

"I have just rec'd yours of Tuesday last, in which you say, the voucher business at Rolla is running out, and speak of taking things entirely into your own hands. I perceive the propriety of what you say. I agree with what you say, and would think it better to do half the business with all the profit, than to let any man finger your money besides yourself. You now can see into it, and though you won't lie, you can do something without lying."

"As to striking out to Springfield and Sedalia, I would go or not, and do anything else your judgment dictates, pretty much as you please, without being greatly influenced even by those you expect most from, provided you find them exclusively bent upon their own interest. Let them know, if need be, that you likewise can play at the game of taking care of No. 1. As to the getting of your vouchers audited, when you are away, and selling them at market price, it ought to be done for you by S. & M., at little or no expense, in consideration of my having trusted them without security, when they had little credit, and less money. I they won't do this for you, I shall moderate my estimation of them. At the same time, I recommend you to be reticent of your thoughts. It may be that S. & M. show less disposition to help you because they see you have ability to help yourself. But it is refreshing, in a weary land, to receive acts of disinterested assistance and friendship. But you are learning self-reliance a little too fast for your comfort. How I wish we could be nearer each other."

“If you lose, my dear Need, don’t worry about it. No one could be more cautious than you.”

“With much love, my own dear son, I am your devoted Father Amos Tuck”

“[P.S.] Tuesday Morn. May 27th. I open this letter after a night’s reflection to say, that my judgment inclines to your abandoning this voucher race. It seems to me it is not worth the pursuing, and especially to you, who are neither starving nor afflicted with an insane love of lucre. Is it not now best that you retire to Saint Louis, and make arrangements to come home? If you make arrangements with S. & M. to hire your money, or a portion of it, at something over 6 pr. ct. till the Concord note becomes due, very well. If not, let the money come in, when it will, and send it home. You will have to go by Louisville, and any way will not get home till about July. But I only submit this subject, and do not enjoin anything, as you may have good reasons to act differently. Yet I have no pleasure in contemplating you in the interior of Missouri running a race for these profits, and I am willing you at once [to] abandon it, if you think it best. Peck keeps sending sugar, and it will be some time before you can close up that business. Shute call to take this letter to Boston.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

25 May 1863: Tuck-Chase letter nominating John N. Fiske as deputy naval officer in place of Francis O. French, who resigned [to become deputy collector]. Chase approved the nomination in a 26 May letter to Tuck. [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent (“W” series), vol. 4 of 14]

2 June 1863: HFF (Cambridge) to BBF. Henry says he is looking forward to a visit from Benjamin and Mary Ellen. “You can go and call on Frank occasionally!”

“I think if anything, Frank gets along in the world rather faster and easier than you and I did at his time of life. His present position is very pleasant and satisfactory in every way. I am very glad to have him in Boston. I do not see him very often, but it is pleasant to know he is around, and to meet him occasionally, for he was so long with us at Exeter that I regard him with a sort of paternal interest....”

[Pamela French picks up the letter.] “Frank and Ellen drove over this last week with Bessy, looking so well and happy. I wish always when I see them that they were what they ought to be – our neighbors; but whether or no, we can go to Roxbury to bring that about, I can’t quite decide....” [FFP Reel 11]

5 June 1863: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “I have not heard from you since I last wrote you, but expect a letter by Shute to-night. I now write to say, I continue to improve, am very busy with my tools, am enjoying life at Exeter, very much, and praying always for your welfare. I enclose a letter from Peck, only to say, that he sugar must have gone through Ogdensburg, notwithstanding what he says, for it left Boston two weeks ago.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

7 June 1863: Tuck (Exeter) to Ned. "We have a very welcome storm in Exeter to-day, and have rec'd a good supply of rain since 4 o'clock his morning. It will revive all nature, make doubly green the foliage, invigorate the corn and other crops and put hope into the hearts of all farmers."

"I went into the cellar this morning, and drew off a decanter of your best cider, which after testing (tasting), I placed on the breakfast table, there to remain, morning noon and night, till consumed, in regular course. It is excellent. I shall tap for the next decanter full, near the top of the barrel, for I find that some impurity still exists at the bottom.

"I have been to church once, - to the Unitarian - I will not criticize their minister, because I am a guest at the Unitarian table. If I should criticize, it would be in the direction of feebleness, as being the incurable defect of their minister."

"Ellen is expected to-morrow, with Bessy and servant. I intend to go to Boston in the morning, and back with them at 3 o'clock, not again to go there till the last of the week. My health is still quite satisfactory, though I choose to recreate for some time to come."

"Your letter of the 2nd inst. was bro't to me last evening by Geo. Shute. You undertake in I to reckon up your assets, and you seem to me to make a mistake in the sum total, or else I do not understand myself, or rather you. On the whole I will send you the letter, and my addings, in pencil, in the margin. As you will see, I make your assets, upon your items, greater than you do, by about a \$1000 [?]; but I may misunderstand your items."

"Let me again tell you, my dear Ned, that I don't believe any one could do better than you have done, and that whether you make any profit at all, or not, I shall be entirely content with you; and more than that, if you make a loss, on account of unfaithfulness or incapacity in the people at Louisville, you are not to be blamed in the least, and will not be by me, and that I will cheerfully bear such loss myself."

"It is now about tea-time, and I will close, to look out and see it rain, and to take my tea, (with baked apples, the last, nearly, of what we wintered), and will leave the rest of this page to be filled up, after I arrive in Boston to-morrow morning, and have possibly read another letter from you."

"Monday morn - I have just read yours of Wednesday, stating satisfactory reasons for your employment of Merigold. Mr. Merrick wrote me about Merigold's characteristics, and I doubt not you have acted discreetly, in employing him for this month."

"I make you a present of your clothes, and pay the bill, with one for a very similar suit for myself, today. It gives me pleasure to do this, of course. I sympathize in your purpose o help me recreate when you return. We will plan Sunday excursions, and will execute them, as soon as planned, so as not to be cheated out of them."

"When you get ready to leave Saint Louis, will it be best to try to have your money hired of you by M. & S., so far as it becomes turned into dollars, prior to the time you want to pay it to the Bank, - they to use it in voucher business till you want it. This subject, I suggest, and you can do what you please."

"One word more in regard to Louisville. I have thought it would be desirable for you, before returning, to know exactly the state of your affairs at L.; and if possible to sell out all r.

merchandise there, at cost, and as much above as you can, rather than have an uncertain amount, with uncertain prices to bother you after you get away 1000 miles. But as in all other matters, so in this, you know so much more than I do, about it, that I say, do what seems to you the best, and I shall be content. Your loving father Amos Tuck” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

10 June 1863: Edward Tuck (St. Louis) to Amos Tuck. “The cotton business approaches consummation. I am firm in the belief that I shall make a net profit of \$25, and hope for a much larger. In two days more I shall probably be able to write you that it is settled, with the figures, etc. The right of shipment seems clear and I think the Custom House troubles will be arranged to-day. Though Merigold has acted seemingly with all honor, yet as soon as I get my money all into my own hands, it will not gout again.”

“Gen. Allen has not commenced paying yet and it is rumored that he will not till July. Hence vouchers have depreciated, being worth about 97 in the city. My idea is this: so long as non-payment continues he tendency in price of vouchers will be downward and hence very little opportunity to make by buying and selling. The reason they are down is, as I understand it, that capitalists have most of their money invested, holding for checks and consequently the buyers are few; although there is none the less of faith in them on the part of buyers. It seems to me that for these reasons this is the best time to buy, supposing one holds them for checks. When they commence paying, vouchers will go up again. My idea, above hinted at, is to buy vouchers to extent of my \$1500 which will be free after settlement with Merigold, to hold for checks. And then to back up and set out for N. England. As long as Gen. Allen continues not to pay, I can do nothing here when my capital is all invested, no returns coming to me. The probability is that he will commence paying in ten day[s], Mr. M. thinks; and he may begin any day. Yet, in consideration of everything, at home and here, my present opinion is as above stated. I think I had better make arrangements with M. & S. to take my money after it is freed from the vouchers but before my departure, at 10 pr. cent interest, till I need it.”

“I write you this that you may in reply give me all the advice I should need in case of soon going home; though circumstances may alter the plan. My intention would be, subject of course to yr. approval and our conclusions while at home, to take a long vacation with you, till October, for instance, and then to come out again.”

“Peck has reached Ashland, near Crest Line Ohio, as he writes me. I close for the mail. Hope for a letter from you tomorrow.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

12 June 1863: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “Since receiving yr. letter announcing the day on which you and M. were proposing to leave Saint Louis for Springfield, I have been regretting that I did not, from the first thought of going to Springfield, enter my protest, on the ground that profit by the way of money could not be an adequate compensation for the hardships and the possible dangers from guerrillas, and the real dangers from the heat, toil, and exposure incident to the journey. I saw Mr. Branscomb [sp?] a moment at the Depot last evening, and his few words about the hard road to Springfield, and the dangers sometimes [word unclear] of the

way, were not calculated to remove my uneasiness. This letter must reach you, I suppose, at S. after you know all by experience. I have only to say, my very dear son, that nothing can compensate me for any ill that happens to you, and that till you get back again within the lines of civilization, I shall continue to be anxious about you, and to pray for your welfare and safety.”

“I go to Boston twice a week, but might go oftener if I choose. I am getting on well, and enjoying my shop, grounds, trees etc. very much. The strawberries are just coming. I had the 1st from Boston last evening, and expect our own vines to yield a supply in a week, and to continue for 4 weeks. We have had abundant rain, and nature is wonderfully beautiful. I hope you will be at home by the middle of July.”

“Ellen was here two days, and enjoyed herself, and we enjoyed her and the baby very much. Had we had you and Abby here, I should have been perfectly happy. I write to Mr. Merrick, by this mail, to enquire when you propose to leave Springfield, though I imagine I shall get another letter, telling me how long you intend to stay at S.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

12 June 1863: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “Your letter apprising me of the return of Merigold, of the cotton negotiation and your abandoning the idea of going to Springfield is rec’d. As you may suppose, I am content with anything almost, that keeps you from plunging into the interior of the Southwest at this hot period.”

“As to cotton, my suggestion is that you recall your money, if you cannot effect the delivery of the cotton within a brief period. I trust there can be no slip as to endanger the money. If, now that the voucher harvest is over, you apply yourself to preparations to return, it will seem to me to be well. It will take some time to put your affairs in shape to do the needful as to all your matters. I will not undertake to tell you what to do, for I know not what you ought. You will understand it, I doubt not. I write this, this eve., so that Shute may take it to Boston in the morning, and mail it then. It is the beginning of a N.E. storm here. I am having my office at the Custom House renovated and rearranged. I partition off the room I occupied, having Gill’s end of the room and the greater part of the room made into a new room and the thoroughfare closed up, a new carpet and furniture, and all my clerks put into the front office. I shall have a very handsome room. It will take next week to get the paint dry.”

“I go to Concord to stay 2 days, to see the Legislature and to attend the celebration of the 17th June.”

“I may not writ you again for some days, as I now know you are at Saint Louis. I hope you will enjoy yourself, come what will, in regard to business. Don’t be discouraged, or disheartened by any mistakes, foreseen or unforeseen.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

12 June 1863: Ned (St. Louis) to Tuck. “The Custom House officials, (or rather the Surveyor), have seized the Rolla cotton somewhat to the discomfort of Mr. Waddell the owner. The District Attorney has given as his opinion that it cannot legally be held; still the Cus. House will not yield. Mr. W., on non-arrival of some influential personage expected to-morrow, will go to Washington to consult with Sec. Chase. He is very confident he can get it from the avaricious

clutches of the Surveyor and we think it best to hold on to our claim for it till further developments, perhaps a week longer. Cotton is rising and sell to-day for 4445 to 50 cts. Such as we have. We are safe, excepting for a few dollars expense, and I still think we shall realize a good profit.”

“I am not willing that you should present me with the clothes, dear father, altho’ you are so willing to do so. I shall send you a draft for the money as soon as I can well get it. They are an article that I prefer buying myself; after I return I shall freer to receive such kindnesses form you. The \$15.00 loaned Mrs. Hoyt she has spoken about. I told her to retain it to my credit, for board, and when I send you the other I will include that.”

“You have had a fine visit from Ellen, I suppose. I wish I could have dropped in for a short time. I trust you are still enjoying the quiet of home and casting aside thoughts of Boston and business. The weather is quite warm to-day here, although thus far it has been cold and comfortable, remarkably so they tell me.”

The mistake about the figures sent you are caused by my putting 2516 for 1516 tho not of putting the aggregate. My acc’t stands now about thus:

Bank	198.10
On hand	23.50
Peck	750.00
S.B. Dow	179.27
C.L. Dow	400.55
Voucher	406.75
Voucher	381.42
Voucher	979.12
Voucher	2516.33
Voucher	1516.49
Voucher	62.90
Voucher	1376.00
Voucher	306.06
Cotton	1015.69
<u>Cotton</u>	<u>75.00</u>
	10,187.18

People are looking for the fall of Vicksburg confidently. Reinforcements have been moving towards Grant from all directions for 3 weeks. Part of Burnside’s Corps has passed through Louisville en route for V.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

16 June 1863: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “It is now ½ past 10. I have spent the morning in the garden, hoeing beans, potatos, squashes etc. till a ½ hour ago, when I began my preparations to leave by the 11 ½ o’clock train to go to Concord, where they are to have, tomorrow, (the 17th), a great celebration of the battle of Bunker’s Hill. I was at Boston,

yesterday. My room at the Custom House is being put into a firm condition, and when finished will be altogether more beautiful than any other room in the building. I shall only lack an open fire place. The weather here is cold, or cool, with a northerly wind. I hope the refreshing breeze reaches Saint Louis, but I doubt it. I saw Ellen yesterday. She is in good spirits. Frank is popular at the Custom House, and wants, evidently, to hold this place as long as he can.”

“I have been thinking of your cotton purchase, Mr. Merigold. I shall not be surprised to that the quality is not so good as he expected it to be, and that money will not be made, but lost. If the agent, or the former owner was smart enough to run the gauntlet of previous difficulties, I see not why he could not avail himself of the difference between what he got at Rolla, or was to get, and the higher price at Saint Louis. But nous verrons. Anyhow, keep our soul in patience, come loss or gain. I will.”

“The news of the movement of Lee’s Army causes agitation and fluctuation in everything here. It will affect the voucher business and knock down prices, I should judge. The Govt. will have to spend more money in the vicinity of Washington, and consequently will have less to spend elsewhere. These fluctuations, and the lowering clouds in the political heavens, give me a bias towards having one of your \$5000 notes paid as soon as the money gets free. But still I will not give any new advice, leaving you upon my statement to judge what to do. I must close.”
[TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

16 June 1863: Tuck-Chase letter asking for authority to furnish his office in the Custom House. [USNA, RG 56, Register of letters received, vol. 39]

17 June 1863: Amos Tuck (Concord) to Edward Tuck. “I am here in Concord, amid thousands and thousands of people. The crowd are disappointed that Fremont and several prominent men are not here. I do not join the procession, because I have gone through that folly often enough. I go to Boston this P.M. and to Exeter to-morrow night.”

“I bro’t my last letter to you in my pocket, by mistake, to this city, and only mailed it this A.M. I am not sure that you will not receive this, as soon as that.”

“Brother Patterson is here. He wants you and me to attend the Commencement and to stop with him. He told me of your writing to him, and he put [sp.?] that you stand very high in the estimation of all your acquaintances at Hanover. Nothing has happened to mortify you.”

“Agitations are still upon the public mind and likely to be. No one can tell what the rebels will not be able to do, by their raid into Penn and the loyal states.”

“I am still strongly inclined to the belief that you better use the 1st \$5000, that comes into your hands in paying the Exeter \$5000 note. It seems to me that one \$5000, is enough to have out in these times.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

20 June 1863: Chase-Tuck letter authorized \$345.50 to re-furnish two rooms occupied by Tuck in the custom house. [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent (“W” series), vol. 4 of 14]

20 June 1863: Chase-Goodrich letter authorized the Collector to pay the expense to furnish the two rooms occupied by the Naval Officer.” [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent to collectors (“I” series), vol. 19 of 52]

23 June 1863: Tuck (Boston) to Ned. “If you have lost the 25\$ in vouchers, or as many hundreds, after doing all you have done to keep yourself safe, don’t ‘cry’ about it: you and I will keep it to ourselves and be cheerful yet. I wish you had that \$1500 in hand, and the cotton was off your hands. I fear you will have some difficulty in getting your money back.”

“I appreciate all you say about your journey and your company home. If you cannot shirk, face the evil, though it is as bad as the rheumatism to have a woman tied to a fellow on a journey of 1500 miles. If you choose you may say my business needs you to go to Chicago, but still it is not best to crowd too hard to get rid of this Dispensation of Providence. I suppose you may, if you choose, avoid the necessity of going to Louisville. But if you could sell out the sap [sp.?] sugar investment, before returning, and so be clear of all entanglements, which might hamper your choice of future action, I should prefer it. If you think you could do this, you can consider the expediency of returning via L. If, on the contrary, you think you can as well manage the matter by correspondence etc., come home without going there. I shall be content with your decision of what is best.”

“I wish you were here, my dear Ned, away from that hot valley of Hinnom [sp?]. We are all in fair health. The strawberries are now becoming plenty. I may not write you again, unless notified of your delay at St. L. longer than you seem now to indicate. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

24 June 1863: Chase-Tuck letter approves appointment of James H. Odlin as clerk (\$1200 annually). [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent (“W” series), vol. 4 of 14]

25 June 1863: Edward Tuck (St. Louis) to Amos Tuck. “I am almost ashamed to write you ‘no news from the cotton’. But if you were on the spot and knew everything about the matter, you advise me to hold on patiently, just as Mr. Merrick counsels. The Penn. Troubles account for delay, a reasonable am’t of it, and business of Sec Chase may also interfere with immediate action. I have set no limit as yet as to time of waiting, but think I shall order my money by last of week unless developments are made of an encouraging tendency.”

“I rec’d this morning from Dow and Burkhardt \$60, being account made of 14 boxes of sugar sold. Yr. letters seem quite decided in the notion that I ought to go there before going home. Though I have for some time past been of the opinion that I could avoid it, still if matters can be arranged in season here and in a satisfactory way with Merigold and cotton (for I would like some extra profit to reconcile me to the extra expense), I shall go to L. thence to Chicago. My plan at present is to leave C. with Annie, Friday night (30th June) via Mich. Central and Great Western R.R.s to Niagara, where we would arrive Saturday evening; Sunday night to start via N.Y. Central for Albany, where I should leave her, to go by boat to Peekskill.”

“In writing you about the cotton, I set thee profit (if made) at \$25. I put it low, that you might be surprised rather than disappointed in the final result. But, considering a rise that has taken place, if I make anything, it will be \$100, I have no manner of doubt. So isn't it best to hold on to the chance?”

“I am sorry you think no more letters will reach me. But I guess you will get one or two off.”

“They are not paying vouchers yet. This is not likely to be a very paying month, I fear. But still only the percentage grows less by the delay and there is no danger of anything worse.”

“Mrs. Hoyt wishes me to write her that you had no need to write her that you had acted in the book matter for Mrs. Hoyt's comfort and interest, for she always knew it and never in the least doubted the persistency of yr. action. She seems very grateful for you for all yr. kindness.”

“The war news looks dubious. But all the West believe in the fall of Vicksburg.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

27 June 1863: Edward Tuck (St. Louis) to Amos Tuck. “I have concluded to go to Louisville and to omit the Chicago part of my trip. I shall go to L. Monday night next (29th). Annie will leave this city, via Terre Haute and Indianapolis R.R. Wednesday at 4 P.M. I[am] to leave Louisville at the same time and to meet her at Indianapolis. Thursday A.M. We shall go via Crestline, Cleveland and Buffalo, arriving at the latter place Thursday night at 10. Friday night we shall leave Niagara Falls and Saturday morning I shall take the Albany boat to Peekskill. She will reach Boston at 2-30 Saturday, July 4th. I mean to reach Boston Wednesday morning.”

“I shall leave my cotton business in the hands of Merrick & Stickney. There will be little trouble attending to it, and I am satisfied no risk from lack of honesty, on Merigold's part. I see a great deal of him and am better and better satisfied of his disposition to do nothing dishonorable, except in the little ways of trade which are here accounted ‘sharpness’. He will not attempt that with me.”

“My \$28 vouchers have troubled me considerably but I now have them in a satisfactory condition I think. A certified copy of what was captured by the bushwhackers must be made and then it will be paid.”

“M & S's sheep have arrived safely in Kansas and they are in fine spirit. They will make a fine investment out of that, I am very confident.”

“The chief reason for change in route (giving up of Chicago visit) in my mind was the saving of time.”

“You have not written me much about Ellen. I hope she is well and in good spirits.”

“I will write you all along the route, where I have the opportunity.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

29 June 1863: Edward Tuck (St. Louis) to Amos Tuck. “I go to Louisville to-night. Thursday morning I meet Annie at Indianapolis. Saturday I reach Peekskill.”

“Everything seems in fine condition. The \$28 vouchers are in a convalescent state and will be paid. The cotton does not trouble me in the least, and I am confident of my reward yet. The weather is warm and I am in haste.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

1 July 1863: Edward Tuck (Louisville) to Amos Tuck. “I arrived here at noon yesterday. Leave this noon for Indianapolis, to meet Annie to-morrow morning at 5, when we shall go directly to Niagara Falls, to leave that point Friday night.”

“I find my sugar in satisfactory condition. There are no sales of any sort at present. I shall get a small profit on my Saint Louis sugar, a good one on the Vt. sugar in time. Of this I am confident. C.L. Dow is inclined to do the honorable part and I have no reason to be distrustful of the future.”

“The weather is hot. Green corn and early apples are in the market.”

“I am anxious to get home at the earliest moment.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

3 July 1863: Edward Tuck (Niagara Falls) to Amos Tuck. “We arrived at Buffalo last eve. and came out here this morning. We have taken a drive to the Canada side, across Suspension Bridge, seeing most of the wonders. After dinner I am to walk to Goat Island and the Tower. I won’t attempt to describe the magnificence of the view, as you have probably seen such descriptions before. We leave at 5 to-night for Albany. I shall reach Peekskill to-morrow afternoon, by boat, if it is possible to connect and hope to reach Boston by Wednesday morning at the outside limit.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

7 July 1863: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees’ meeting. Tuck and Gorham again appointed to audit Treasurer’s report.

17 July 1863: Tuck played an active role as trustee in the controversy over President Nathan Lord. The board of trustees empowered Tuck, Rev. Nathaniel Bouton and Ira A. Eastman to consider replacing Lord. Rather than removing him, Tuck and Bouton recommended that the records of the committee be circulated publicly. Lord responded by defending his right of free speech, then resigning.

“Had he not been associated with men of greater executive ability than himself, and had in charge pupils thoroughly in earnest, as a general thing, to acquire thorough knowledge and effectual training, he would have made an early and manifest failure. He beguiled his associates in the Board of Trust for many years with many years with delusive hopes of great things that would soon be accomplished; and after forty years of connection with the college, left it without accomplishing anything....The best act of his official life was the resignation of his position.” [Tuck 1875]

22 July 1863: Frank and Ellen have a son in Roxbury, Mass. Child named Amos Tuck French. [Dow]

4 August 1863: Amos Tuck (Naval Office, Boston) to Edward Tuck. "I laughed at first and then looked solemn [sp?] over your letter just rec'd from the Willey House. You may have got some fun out of that wilderness jaunt, but 'I don't see it'. I have some apprehensions that you have not told all, and that you will appear me, by and by, with sundry wounds, serpent bites, et cetera, which you did not care to describe particularly. However, you avow a good appetite and I conclude you will survive all acknowledged and all hidden griefs and come home safe."

"Ellen and baby are doing majestically. She not much sick, and the baby a perpetual sleeper, and stretcher. He grows like my corn, since the rain."

"Merrick has sent on about \$5400, and your affairs look well. Come home as soon as you feel like it." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

[Tuck had advised Edward in a letter of 8 March 1863 (see above) to stand in the draft and pay for a substitute if drafted.]

10 August 1863: Exeter News-Letter reports on the lottery for the draft for the First Congressional District held in Portsmouth. 224 men were eligible, of whom 67 were drawn to be drafted, of whom Edward Tuck was one.

15 August 1863: Provost Marshal's Office notifies Edward Tuck of Exeter that on 11 August he was drafted in the "service of the United States for the period of three years." He was ordered to report for duty at Portsmouth on 31 August, or be deemed a deserter.

[Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 9, Folder 19]

29 August 1863: Edward pays a draft substitute. A piece of foolscap reads: "Portsmouth N.H. Received of Edward Tuck Four Hundred dollars, in full settlement for a substitute, on account of all parties. Danl. H. Johnson, 36 Washington St., Boston Portsmouth Augt 29 1863"

[TFP, Box 5, Folder 15]

6 September 1863: Pamela French (Cambridge) to BBF. "...I was at Frank's yesterday...Ellen and the baby were both looking well. I don't see yet that the child's name has hurt it any, tho' I shouldn't expect it would grow much under such a burden. Frank is doing – and has been for two or three months – the work of two. From the astonishment and anxiety expressed by the people at the C[ustom].H[ouse]. I infer that an honest, faithful officer is an unknown quantity there." [FFP Reel 11]

15 September 1863: BBF (Washington) to Pamela French. "We were glad to hear from you of the prosperity of Frank and his family. You must always bear in mind that 'Amos' was a renowned Prophet, as well as Naval Officer of the Port Of Boston, and the Lord asked numerous questions, and he answered with great propriety, and then, besides Amos the prophet, and Amos the Naval Officer, there was Amos the Postmaster General, and following all these respectable

Amos's we may reasonably expect that Amos French will turn out to be somebody – especially when we remember who his paternal granddad is! Nothing comes home to my bosom with so much gratification as the knowledge that Frank does his duty. I care little for what he gets, but much for what he does. He always was a good, conscientious, industrious young man, and I feel honored when his is honored. I am proud of him.” [FFP Reel 6]

27 September 1863: HFF and Pamela French (Cambridge) to BBF. “Frank I see occasionally. He is doing all that we could desire – filling a responsible position with honor to himself, and making friends with everybody.”

“Besides that, he sent me a bottle of excellent Sherry a few days ago, which indicates a discriminating judgment, rare in one of his years! Pamela is so much more fluent than I that she does most of the corresponding.”

“...it is now 10 ¼ and church is nearly ready – so much with my new gold pen – amen.”

[Pamela continues the letter.] “I was at Frank's Friday and saw him for a few moments. His ‘chef’ is going to have typhoid fever, and he hopes to remove a few faithless clerks, and so have a little more rest. I think a few, and lots in, an army of that kind, must have an admirable effect. I have procured for Ellen's air and comfort a young lady friend, who is to assist her, and be company in her loneliness – if the arrangement holds, it will help in the right spot....”

[FFP Reel 11]

12 October 1863: James H. Rees (Chicago) to Amos Tuck. [letter is on the letterhead of Rees & Slocum, real estate brokers at 88 Dearborn St., Chicago] “Dear sir: Yours of 7th inst is rec'd. I have today written to John E. Gardner and Phillips Exeter Academy and enclose copies herewith.”

“Hoping for a early and favorable reply from all the parties interested.”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

15 October 1863: John Tuck (Biddeford) to Amos Tuck. “Yours of 13th rec'd. I agree to the proposal to get 8,000 or 10,000 in Boston just as you think best 8 or 10. I engaged \$2,000 at our Bank but can get off from the engagement if you think I had better. I choose to have all of it in one place to save the trouble of looking at the int. in two places, if I can put it right with Mr. Goodwin who promised me the money.”

“I agree to invest profits in new bonds as fast as profits accrue, and authorize you to sign my name as principal to a note for \$10,000 more or less as you deem best, or if you say it is necessary will go to Boston....”

“I hope you will accomplish the R.R. project and guess you will, and then you can afford to rest.”

“[P.S.] Nath. Is at 26 Tremont Row – Dry Goods – should you want to use him he is smart and reliable.” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 85]

7 November 1863: Austin Corbin (First National Bank of Davenport, Iowa) to Amos Tuck. "Friend Tuck: Send me a letter like this: Dear sir: Yours of 30th Oct. rec'd and you may say to Mr. Frahim [sp.?] tha I consent that he pay \$250 as soon as Feby. 1, 64 and the balance of the 1/3 of whole debt April 1st, 1864 and not longer. I must have that debt settled and closed up, and you must not beg me again, in behalf of F. for longer time, which please remember."

Yours Trly, A.C.

[Bank letterhead shows Corbin as president and Frank M. Gifford as cashier.] [TFP, Box 4, Folder 14]

13 November 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Abby Nelson. "Since I write you, I have been to Concord, seen my political, and some personal friends, and given that attention to both, which I have thought it my duty. There can be no certainty who will be elected Senator, as there will be a batch of competitors. I rather think I shall be one of the strong ones, if I pitch in, as I now think I shall do, to please you, Ellen, Ned, Wm., Frank, my brother John, my wife, and myself. Nous verrons."

"I have not been at home for 3 days. Shall go to-night. I staid at Ellen's last night. All quite well. She expects to go to W. next week Friday and Sat., but still she can't tell. She will write you before when she can see the day."

"Ned will write you, if he has not done so, as soon as he gets a little more strength in his eyes, so that he can do anything besides his inevitable preparations. He will go in about 3 weeks, of a little less."

"I shall send you some card photographs by Monday or Tuesday, from which my large ones will be taken. They are it is thought to be excellent."

"I am in good health, and am pleased with Ned's prospect of happy improvement, and anticipate we shall all think of him with very great satisfaction, while he is gone, and also receiving from him many cheering and happy letters."

"If it is pleasant next Sunday, I wish you could take your 3 children to Church in the forenoon, and I will imagine you there, with your treasures at your side. See if I am right. It would be an extinguisher upon all [word unclear], to see you with your little tribe all going to Church. It would be an able thing, as well as a good thing for you to go half the day, each Sunday. It is not harmonious with your father's reputation and status for you not to go, if you can."

"I imagine you working quite hard, but I know it has done me good, and I believe you will be the happier, and the wiser for it. You will gradually get the hang of your work, with increasing facility. I shall not soon forget how perfectly in trim your whole house was, when I visited you. I never saw a whole house, better appearing, in my life."

"God bless you and the babies. Your loving father Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

16 November 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) writes to Dartmouth President Asa Dodge Smith to support Mr. Duncan as professor of mathematics and to regret that he would not attend the upcoming meeting of trustees. [TFP, Box 2, Folder 4]

16 November [? – Smith was inaugurated on 18 November 1863.]: Tuck (Boston) writes to Asa Dodge Smith, “It is with disappointment and much regret, that I find that I shall be deprived of the honor and the pleasure, as one of the trustees of the College, of being present at your inauguration....” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 4]

18 November 1863: John E. Sinclair writes to Ned that he is arranging for their passage to Le Havre, London or Liverpool departing sometime during the first two weeks of December. Hamburg is the fallback destination. Amos has also written a letter of instructions to Sinclair. [TFP, Box 5, Folder 13]

23 November 1863: Edward applies for a passport in Boston. Amos affirms Edward’s signature. [US Passport Applications, Ancestry.com]

24 November 1863: Tuck did not attend the PEA Trustees’ meeting.

28 November 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Frank and Ellen French. “All right here. I called this morning at Roxbury. Bridget was coming from Mr. Dunbar’s as I go in sight, where she was called yesterday to supply place of broken down help, and set things to rights. She will be busy there for some days. I told her you could have no objection. Fiske is allowed a place in the Coll.’s Department – Copeland being appted auditor. Ned will sail 5th to 7th for Liverpool in sailing vessel. My wife has a very sore throat, and probably will be unable to go to N.Y. I got \$1300 of Ex. Bk. on demand – to pay what you please prior to Jan., and then to have it made out to Sav. Bk., with ability on yr. part to pay a little when you can. I shall hang Locke Monday. Goodrich is on the Oats still. In haste. Aff. – A. Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 December 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Frank and Ellen French. “I was very glad, of course, to learn last evening, (at Exeter, where I staid yesterday), that you with the babies, got safely to W. Friday night, and that all was well with you. I hope you will write me often.”

“Ned is by me at my desk, writing ‘good byes’ to some of his friends whom he cannot see. He sends love to you all.” He expects to go to N.Y. Wed. night, to Pkskll. Thursay, and to N.Y. again on Friday, to sail in the Victoria Sailing Packet to Liverpool on Sat. – 1st cabin, fare \$60 in bills. I and wife expect to go to N.Y. Thursday night, and to stay till Sat. night, - of course meeting Abby and Wm. we hope, and seeing the hole Ned will crawl into, and seeing the Ship sail.”

“I have got your house insured at Exeter for \$500. Have set apart 3 bbl of apples to be sent to you, - one to Roxbury. Have got the Deed , paid the money etc. etc., and have given

orders to Mr. Phillips to go ahead on all the improvements. Dea. Edy has sold the house he lover to 'Bro. Shute' and the lawyer is now trying to 'buy' off the aforesaid 'brother.'"

"Locke comes down on the \$3000, and Stevens is with me, waiting to foot the bills, as soon as L. gets the greenbacks, which he is in quest of."

"With my sincerest regards to 'Brother' French, and to 'Sister' Mary Ellen, (speaking a la Deacon Eddy, but with more propriety), I am yrs. aff. Amos Tuck."

"P.S. But I must not omit to say, that Goodrich expects you (Frank) to straighten out his matters at the Department. I know – I am sure he had that in his eye in so readily assenting to your going there. Try to make them 'fix' everything before you return, as I know G. will hope for such a result, and be delighted if it is accomplished."

"We get along quite well at Custom House." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

2 December 1863: Chase-Tuck letter refers to Tuck's letter of 28 November that informed of Tuck's first deputy, John N. Fiske, had resigned to become deputy collector, and that Tuck had nominated William L. Walker to replace him. Appointment suspended until the Collector officially nominates Fiske as his deputy. [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent ("W" series), vol. 4 of 14]

3 December 1863: Nomination of Walker as Deputy Naval Officer approved. [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent ("W" series), vol. 4 of 14]

5 December 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. "We came to Boston, yesterday, (Friday), and to-night go to N.Y., expecting to arrive there to-morrow (Sunday) morning, and that Ned will sail, Monday, on the 'Isaac Webb' for Liverpool. Yr. mother is tolerably well now, tho. she has been laid up most of the time for 3 weeks of a cold caught, going to Waterville. We shall go to J.P. Townsend's direct from the Boat, and stay there till we leave for home, (Boston), Tuesday night. I am delighted this morning by a letter from you, giving an account, at length, of your happiness at 'Father and Mother' French's, and their bountiful affection for you and Frank, and your tribe, and of your loving appreciation of their kindness. The Lord defend you and them, against the Small Pox, and all other calamities, is my constant prayer. Present to them, as well as to the babies and to Frank, assurances of my affectionate regards."

"I expect to see Ned to-morrow in N. York, and Abby and Wm. on Monday. Nothing new from Pkskll. Ned was appreciatively considered, as he left Exeter, and like a man, went abroad, of his own motion, and bade old and young a good bye. They all bestowed on him, an evident 'God bless you,' in look and in language. They had an extra dance, Sat. night before he left Tuesday, regarded as an improvised meeting for Ned's pleasure. I speak of the unexpired dancing term, which was attending."

"I avail myself of the mild weather to send 2 bbls. nice apples to your cellar in Reading to-day, and I bbl. to your cellar in Roxbury. Ned slept there Wed. night, and wrote me that everything was all right, tho. Bridget was still at Mr. D.'s. Tell Frank that Locke paid \$3000, that the same was distributed yesterday, and that \$200 is in Goodrich's hands, a present for him.

I wanted it \$300, but I allowed the mark to be made by G. of course. G. said he would pay it to Frank, else F. would regard it as a present from his Father-in-law. I said, 'Of course, I prefer that.' This will help out a little on the house."

"Tell Frank he better write, if he has not already, to Mr. G. stating the exact day he will be at Custom House. Of course, G. expects him some day next week."

"Your loving father Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 December: BBF notes, "Frank has just said 'good-by' to us all and with Ben has gone to the Depot to leave in the ½ past 8 o'clock train for New York and thence tomorrow night for Boston. His visit has been short but most pleasant, and I feel very sad to have him leave. [Did he see Ned Tuck off in New York?] [FFP Reel 2]

9 December: Edward leaves New York for Liverpool.

14 December 1863: Ellen Tuck French (Washington) to Amos Tuck. Ellen asks about Ned's sailing. The letter is mostly family-related chat. [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 37]

15 December 1863: Tuck (Boston) to Ned. "Though it is only 6 days since you left your Pilot, when you considerately wrote me, by him, stating your experiences thus far on the ship, and closing, by saying the ship was getting to have a 'disgusting motion', I yet write you, because I find it is the opinion you may get across the ocean in twenty days, and I do not wish you, however short your passage, to fail of hearing from me at the London P.O. when you arrive there."

"Nothing of consequence has occurred in the week and more since I saw you. We returned to Boston, Tuesday night, as we expected, and went at once to our rooms, which we find agreeable. Yr. mother has been quite sick some of the time, but is out to-day – though hardly fit. As to myself, I am sure I am to all appearance and to all feeling, in firmer health than I have been before, for a year. The weather has been most of the time too cold, or too wet to ride, though I have commenced negotiations for 50 horseback rides for the winter, and I have resorted to bowling for exercise, thus far."

"Frank returned the next day after I did, looking well."

Abby and Wm. went off in good spirits, and I have not heard from them since my return."

"Charles Dow sent an acct. of the sugar in his hands, and \$79.77 balance from Sam. I acknowledged the recpt. in an appropriate letter."

"The capture of the Chesapeake excited much interest, and a fleet of steamers is in search for her. But she may have changed her name, or done something else, to render her recapture almost impossible."

"I have received a most cordial letter from Mr. Fogg at Berne, inviting you so earnestly, and so heartily, to make your home with him, just as long as you please, that I am free from all doubts whatever of the expediency of your taking him at his word. When you get to Paris, you

will probably very shortly after receive a letter from him, and I advise you to accept his hospitality, to the extent of his generous invitations, so far as you can do so, consistently with your general plans. He and I have so long been associated and under such changes and trials, that I know it will be a pleasure to him to see you, and have you long at his house, and without any expense to you. He will speak of going to Italy this winter, and will be pleased to meet you there, or go with you. There would be advantage in going there with him, for though it might interfere with some plan of study, it would not improbably be of future advantage, in cementing a friendship with Mr. Fogg, and possibly with other officials, who will together have influence in your behalf hereafter, if you should ever need it, and at all events would be an honor to you, and would furnish your mind with many agreeable and valuable things to remember, and to detail to your children and grandchildren, if any you should ever have. You will not overlook the fact, that it is a most unusual fortune to be welcomed, as you will be, by Mr. Fogg, who represents at his Court [sp?], the highest dignity which America can hold out to public view. Make the most of it, in cultivating manners, in studying men, and in understanding the world. If you have your eyes, make free [sp?] notes. Above all things I recommend you to feel you have a right to talk with men, and that your views are as likely to be correct as those with whom you converse. Also with M. Fogg, and in fact with others, while you avoid seeming to try to be witty, yet try to throw yourself into a genial, joyous, somewhat humorous frame of spirit, at all proper times. That is, cultivate the art of vivacity, - at the same time you do not lose your actual deep correctness of character. I know it is in you. Bring it out.”

“And now my most dutiful and affectionate son, with much love from your mother to you, I subscribe myself, Your ever affectionate Father, Amos Tuck.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

15 December 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. “Here we are at our room at the U. States, at 8 ½ o’clock, your mother sewing on a dress, poplin she has bought to-day, - not a French poplin, but an American, I suppose, costing \$1.25 a yard only. Since our return from N.Y. she has been confined to the house, except going out twice, and Sunday no even going to the table. She got a serious cold, going into our new quarters. To-night she seem to be better, but she thinks she is about the same.”

“Last evening I went to the Sanitary fair, saw and heard the Great Organ, was delighted as was respectable, and at 8 o’clock, went to the Club House, to attend the Annual meeting of the members, and choice of the officers. Edward Everett presided, and I had opportunity of seeing some of the cream of Boston Society. At about ten o’clock Gov. Gilman and Staff and Gov. Andrew and Staff came to the Club and we had a supper. I made several new acquaintances, and was pleased with the evening’s enjoyments. I saw at the Fair Dr. and Mrs. Gorham, Harriet Gale, Dora and Ned, Lizzie Stevens, Mr. Burley and Anna Towle, most of them enquiring after you. Frank left the Fair, when I did, and went to see Storrow [sp.?]. This afternoon he has been at our room, some time; he looks much better than before he went to Washington. His house seems to be progressing well and after many days it will be fixed all right.”

“I presume you have rec’d a letter which Ned sent back by the Pilot, which I sent to Abby, to be thence forwarded to you. It is a week to-morrow since he wrote and I learn it is not improbably he may get to England in 20 days. I therefore wrote him, to-day, by agreement, directed to London. I rec’d a letter from Mr. Fogg at Berne, a few days ago, in which he sends the most cordial invitation to Ned to come and see him, and stay with him just as long as he pleases. I have told Ned to take him at his word, feeling sure Fogg means every thing he says, and considering our long fellowship through storm and sunshine.”

“We have enquired all about the doings of Bessy and Amos, noting all that was wonderful, and especially Bessy’s being put upon the dining room table, by her grandfather French, while the dessert was being brought in, and allowed to walk back and forth, for her own and other’s amusement. Wonderful grand child, wonderful grand-father! I should think such behavior would make Grammm French remonstrate.”

“With affectionate regards to the Major and Mrs. French, and love to the babies, in all of which your mother wishes to join, I am your loving Father Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

16 December 1863: J.W. Patterson (U.S. House of Representatives) to Amos Tuck. “My dear sir, The petition which you forwarded I have presented and will see that it is attended to at once.”

“It is all right in relation that matter with the Trustees.”

“Henry is working here. Hale is pushing things ad nauseum. Marston is here looking after his interests and is very anxious.”

“I saw Mrs. French last Sabbath. I never saw her looking better. The little folks are well.” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

16 December 1863: Amos Tuck (Boston?) to Ellen French. “Your very welcome and interesting letter came to hand this morning.”

“Ned’s address will be, ‘Mr. Edward Tuck, Care of Messrs. John C. Munroe & Co., 5 Rue de la Paix, Paris, France.’”

“By agreement, for once, I am to write him to the address of ‘Edward Tuck, London, England.’”

“To remain at the Office till called for by E. Tuck, on order.”

“If you write him within a day or so, after receiving this, it will be safe I think to send to him in London – but if later, send to him at Paris.”

“He went off in good spirits, - he and Sinclair. He would not consent I should get into the small boat that took him two miles down the Bay, to the ship, fearing I should take cold. So I parted with him at the wharf. I waved a handchff. To him for some time nut did not watch him till he got clear out of view. That, you know perhaps, is a bad omen. On the whole I feel well about Ned as we have all done what seemed best.”

“I hope Abby has sent his last letter to you, though it is of no great account.”

“I think I will enclose Mr. Fogg’s letter to you, which you may send to Abby when you have read it.”

“Frank and I are conferring about the House, and I think can make things go on to your satisfaction.”

“As to the Senatorship, I intend to keep my eyes open. I do not believe Hale can make it go, though he will be fanatic in his endeavors. He is liable to pass the point of the sublime matching [sp.?] the ridiculous.”

“I am your affectionate loving father Amos Tuck.”

“P.S. Perhaps my talk of the Senatorship better be between us only. As to Benny, I will do what I can - will talk with him. You know my idea is, that willing men to work like a truckhorse is the test of virtue. Can he stand that test? Nous verrons.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

20 December 1863: J.W. Patterson (Washington) to Amos Tuck. “Most strictly confidential. Dear sir, A word confidentially. Would you like to make some money on coal oil? A heavy increase of tax will be laid on this in a few days I have little doubt. I suppose to know that a proposition of that kind will be recommended to Congress tomorrow or Tuesday by the Treasurer. If I had had money and a confidential friend in Boston I could have made thousands on tobacco and whiskey since I have been here.”

“Money will be made on Coal Oil. Cannot we make some in some way? If I had money or credit in Boston at this moment I should not hesitate to invest thousands. I am certain of what I say about the recommendation.”

“I knew it was to be made on tobacco, which has risen some ten cents per pound in a few days.”

“Mr. Hale’s \$3000 job must kill him, I think. He was not employed as counsel by the \$2000, and if correct at all, why not now at Fortress Monroe where the case is being tried. Information at the war department would throw a different light upon the subject. I hope Stanton is not mixed up with it.”

“The fight over the Provost-Marshal in the 1st district between Hale and Marston is silly.”

“Rollins will get what votes he can but will turn these over to Marston. The Concord Clique is for the Gen. You may rely on that. I see and know here what I could not see and know at home.”

“They expect to rule the state through the U.S. Marston says Gilmore is looking to the Senate.”

“Will you not be here after the Holy-days? I go home on Monday night.”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

22 December 1863: J.W. Patterson (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. “Out of the mud and mire once more on terra firma or terror snow.”

“To explain my last letter, I know the Sec. of Treas. has had a bill drawn which will be presented to the House on re-assembling, and if passed it will tax oil in the crude state much more heavily than now. The tax at present is on the refined. The revenue must be yearly increased to preserve the credit of the government and to prevent a crash by and by. I think the House is disposed to follow the advice of the Sec.”

“Shall you be at home on Monday. I go to Providence and might stop there one way or the other.” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

22 December 1863: Tuck (Boston) to Ned. “It will be two weeks, to-morrow, since you left your Pilot, and according to general impressions, I write under the conviction that you are more than half way across the stormy Atlantic. I find it difficult to imagine where you are, to locate you. A ship sailing on the mighty deep, is to my imagination, much like a planet coursing through the limitless heavens. I’m trying to follow my dear Ned, I never experienced what I have now tried to describe.”

“Since I last wrote, directed to you at London, little of novelty has happened. Ellen is still away, expecting to return the latter half of January. I have written her, giving her your address at Paris, and I suppose she has written you. Frank is here, doing well, and trying to do something with Ben. I have not heard from Abby, since I left her in N. York, and there is, of course, room to imagine they are getting along, to say the least, no worse. Yr. mother is still suffering from a cold, and I am taking my turn at the same amusement, though I have it in a less malignant form than she. We think of leaving our rooms at the U.S. Hotel, and of taking board in Bedford Street, where we can have more space and more pleasant prospects. The society is nothing at all, for women, at the U.S. and it is a sine qua non, with me, that your mother shall be so situated that I shall not feel it a duty to forego my exercise, and my visits to the Club House in order to keep her from being too lonely. Thus far I get on well, but we shall leave or present rooms this week.”

“I need not attempt to describe the Sanitary Fair as you will see all about it in the Boston papers, which I suppose you can read at Munro & Co. Suffice to say, it was a great success, and over \$100,000 have been rec’d.”

“I am thinking of going to Exeter to-morrow, but shall not, if it is as cold as it is to-day, when the thermometer must be at 0 or below. I suppose old Whitey is as well as common, and I am as apt to think of him as of almost any one in Exeter. I learn that Mr. Lamphear has a call from a Parish at Bangor – salary \$1500 – and that the Parish are generally [word unclear] in the prospect of the Bangor Parish taking a turn at the blessings they have so long enjoyed exclusively.”

“I shall receive with great interest your first letter from across the water, which may God preserve you to write in good life, health and spirits. I still think you did what seemed best in going, and that it becomes me not to worry about you, but trust in God to preserve and bless you. I commend you to Him and I enjoin upon you to cultivate a nearness of access to him, by habitual and earnest and child-like prayer, and lean [sp.?] in constant dependence upon Him.”

“While in Mr. Goodrich’s room, last evening, I was impressed by an interview with a Swede, one of the Inspectors, with the correctness of Dr. Denby’s recommendation in regard to isolation from all who speak English. He said he came here 32 yrs. ago unable to speak a word of English, and when there was not a man in Boston, who could speak Swedish, having only \$1 ½ in his pocket. He first learned to say ‘What is that’, and by perfect isolation, without help from grammar books, or schools, in 6 months he learnt to speak English quite well. He said he went to church, to Sabbath Schools, to Temperance Societies and to Engine Companies, everywhere, that he could hear language spoken. He says, if it is possible for a man to shirk speaking a new language, he will do it; that it is uncomfortable but very profitable to shut one’s self out from his native tongue, and into the foreign and, finally, that while he can speak and write English as well or better than Swedish, others who have been here about as long, having a wife only, have learned English quite imperfectly.”

“Gold is at 52 premium, and my confidence is firm that your speculation in ‘5-20s’ will work. As I can imagine that you will not suffer for the necessaries of life, having the ability to borrow, in case of exigency, from Mr. Fogg, to whom I have written in a manner which will, if he were not before all right, will cause him to help you out, under every necessity, I shall not send you any money till I hear from you, stating how much I had better send you. I will then send a draft for 500 or 1000 francs, as you shall request. I send enclosed the ‘Second’ Bill of Exchange, as we arranged before you left. The ‘Third’, I will retain till I hear from you, and of course, if you have got your money, will not send it at all.”

“Lest by possibility you have not rec’d the letter I sent you at London, I will say that in it I spoke of a most cordial letter [from Mr. Fogg].” Tuck repeats his strong recommendation for Ned to accept Fogg’s invitation.

“And now, my dear Ned, with regards to Mr. Sinclair and your friend Munro, I am your ever affectionate Father Amos Tuck.”

“[P.S.] I know your mother would send her love if she were here (at my office), for sshe always speaks lovingly of you.” (TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

25 December 1863: J.W. Patterson (Hanover) to Amos Tuck. “Yours of yesterday is here. I very gladly cast in my lot for better or for worse in the oil business. I will share the hazards and the hopes, the hopes and the gains. There can be little loss and may be a handsome gain. I know the Sec. sent for the Commissioner and had the bill drawn and two at least in that Dep. Have invested.”

“I wrote you yesterday.”

“I cannot talk much about the senatorship this morning for want of time.”

“To be a member of Congress is to be a servant of servants anyhow and I am not sure that Congress is not best for it.”

“One able man, a leader of the House said to me a few days since, ‘it is your duty to push Cragin out of his present place and put into it a man of some ability. He is of no service to you

or the government.' I said he aspires to the Senate. 'O! it is ridiculous' was his reply. He is regarded as a man of no attainments and eminent stupidity.

"Edwards is a laughing-stock in Washington though a man of some ability."

"Nobody likes Hale. He is down."

"Marston is liked - is a man of some ability, but has done nothing in Congress and little in the army. He is too indolent, too much given up to his appetites."

"The people of the 3rd district say it is an unbearable outrage that the next senatorship should not come to this district and my friends here have cautioned me not to work too openly for you lest I set my own district against me. You know and they know what I wish and prudence may be best for you and for me." [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

27 December 1863: Ned (aboard Ship "Isaac Webb") to Tuck. Ned describes position of the ship in St. George's Channel. May arrive in Liverpool in 4 or 5 days. "We discharged our pilot on the afternoon of the 9th inst. off Sandy Hook...the first two days...we had a stiff breeze from the north...Sinclair and myself were in the miseries of sea sickness..." The weather improved and they spent their time on the quarterdeck. "It was about this time that I had recovered sufficiently to take off my overcoat & boots on retiring at night. In the cabin everything was whirling and we got no comfort except in being flat on our backs. To withdraw one's pantaloons was a feat that any artiste of the slack-rope might well be proud of, - one that I did not attempt..." Ned describes a gale, the nationalities of the ship's officers, and their lack of exercise. "Sinclair has been below more than I have and has not felt as well. We have gone over several lessons in Fasquelle and played euchre and high-low jack considerably, but generally have felt no great inclination for either...Otherwise the voyage has been dull and monotonous. [Ned makes no mention of other passengers.]

"Tuesday morning December 29th 9 a.m. Sunday night a southerly wind sprang up and now, by the aid of a steam-tug, we are in the dock. We came in at one o'clock this morning. It is a rainy day and is just light enough for me to write. We shall breakfast soon and after the searcher comes aboard we shall go with our baggage to the Washington Hotel. We intend going to London to-morrow. From London I will write you again. The docks are the most noticeable feature of Liverpool - and surpass anything of the kind I have ever seen in America. They are built of granite and are 4 miles in length. You have doubtless read descriptions of them, with their innumerable gates, more impervious to water than our tin-roof at home ever was. We shall go up to see the Laird rams, which are still in the river, before leaving."

"...On the whole we have had a pleasant voyage and I am entirely satisfied with having crossed the Atlantic in a sailing vessel. To tell the truth I have felt just as I do on shore, except occasionally a little sea-sick; and my eyes are as well as they could be at home after a rest of three weeks, perhaps better. We shall find things more interesting on shore and can take exercise, which has been almost impossible aboard. But the searcher has come and I will close. With love to all, hoping to hear at London that you are all as usual." (TFP, Box 1, Folder 7]

1864

1 January: Ellen and the two babies still visiting the Frenches. [FFP]

1 January 1864: Catherine P. Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “Your father has gone to Tremont Temple this eve. to help celebrate the anniversary of the President’s Emancipation proclamation and although I believe you did not invite me to write, still I think I will venture to wish you a ‘happy new year’ and your father can finish out the letter. We did hope until yesterday that possibly you may have arrived at Liverpool by this time, but some one said an Irish vessel had just arrived at St. John’s from Galway, having made the trip in four days – the shortest passage on record, so we infer you must have encountered adverse winds. We are getting impatient to learn of your welfare, otherwise it is not particularly desirable perhaps hat you should make a short passage. Your father is quite well (I am happy to say) and in good spirits. We have changed our quarters and have nice rooms at 22 Bedford Str. We found our situation at the U.S. unpleasant on account of bad air, and unpleasant rooms. I was sick all of the time, and your father thought the air worse than the Marlboro. We now have delightful rooms – large, airy, and sunny with a pleasant lookout. The people who keep the house seem particularly anxious to please, and altho. it costs us more, we are well satisfied with the change. It has been a very wet disagreeable day, and I have not been as well as usual or I should have gone out as I fully intended immediately after breakfast to buy your father a New Year’s present of a handsome dressing gown. My Christmas present was a \$50 note, (as yr. father had had something which ‘made it bad for him’ a day or two before). I shall buy the dressing gown the first time I go out. My N Year’s present was not so classical as it might be, but better than [word unclear] perhaps. Yr. father came home looking very smiling and made me shut my eyes while he should put a new year’s present into my hands. It proved to be a member of the same family as that article you dropped on the carpet at Dr. Bartlett’s, a few evenings before you left!!! Wm. Nelson is quite sick, and Thomas feels very anxious about him. His disease seems like slow fever, accompanied with a bloody dysentery. He has not been confined to his bed, and is dress’d days, but seems very drowsy and indifferent most of the time. We think his symptoms rather bad still he may get well tho. I don’t know as it is hardly desirable for the poor fellow. Ellen is still in Washington, tho. she spoke in her last of returning this month. They are all well and enjoying their visit highly. But I am spinning out my ‘few lines’ too long. We hope to hear in two or three weeks at farthest that you have arrived in safety and health. With kind regards, and many ‘happy new year’s to Mr. Sinclair; I am your affectionate mother C.P. Tuck”

“Monday Evening Jan. 4, 1864 [remainder of letter is in Tuck’s handwriting]: Dear Ned: Twenty-six days ago at 2 ½ o’clock P.M. you left your Pilot, off Sandy Hook....” Tuck is concerned for his “Poor boy” and repeats at length his uneasiness at being unable to track where Ned is on the ocean. “Present my regards to Mr. Sinclair and to your friend Munro, if you have arrived safely in Paris... Wm. Nelson is better, as Thomas writs me, and I think Abby and he are

getting along more satisfactorily. I have reason to think the talk in N. York, was not without good results.”

“Tomorrow I go to Concord, N.H. to be present at a political gathering. I am rather expecting that J.P. Hale will be there to get an endorsement by the Republicans of N.H. of his good standing, and the propriety of his having taken \$3000 to help get two swindlers out of the clutches of the Navy Department. He cannot justify taking this pay to defeat the action of the Govt. whose agent, while a member of the Senate he was. It is generally thought that Hale cannot be re-elected, and I find that Marston is doing much to get his name favorably regarded. I don’t know but he is the most promising candidate, if I leave the field, and much as I dislike him, I would rather him elected than to see Hale again returned. I am still disinclined to risk breaking my neck, by running a race with the men who aspire to the Senate.”

“Gold still continues high – 50 + above. There is every appearance that your investment in 5.20’s will pay. Not more than 70 millions remain unsold and when they are all taken, the stock will at once be at a premium. It’s generally thought that the Govt. will issue no more gold bearing bonds. I have not heard from St. Louis, since you left, and I conclude Merrick and Stickney think they are to pay 10%, not monthly, but semi-annually. It does not make much difference, and I shall say nothing to them till they write.”

“I have had good success in seizures since you left, so much so, that for December and January, besides what you know of, I shall get much from them as from my salary for these two months. I have also made some sales of ‘Dead Horse’ lands in Minnesota, which together makes me to feel that I can stand without inconvenience [word missing] expenses which are incident to all our enterprises, and besides pay my debts at no distant period.”

“Ellen is still in Washington and I don’t think she will return for some weeks. Her house is progressing. Sanborn is there painting. Frank is getting along well. Your Uncle John is quite unwell of a severe cold. Hiram Davis, by help of friends, got a substitute. Mr. Lamphear is about to leave Exeter, it is said. The Alumni of Dartmouth, residing in Boston and vicinity have a dinner at the Revere on Wed. evening with the object of cheering Dr. Smith and laying the basis for a begging enterprise.”

“Let me repeat what I said to you – Never be ashamed of a blush....” [Tuck ends with more advice on behavior.] [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

3 January 1864: Edward Tuck (London) to Amos Tuck. Tells of his trip from Liverpool to London. Got Tuck’s letter of 15 December. “The good tidings from Mr. Fogg gratified me and I shall to avail myself of his invitation. At present I feel that it would be well for me to get up my French, by practice of a few weeks, before going to Berne.” Ned gives an extended description of all the London sights. He and Sinclair heard two sermons on Sunday.

“Tomorrow morning we set out for Paris....My eyes are better, as you may know from the length of this scribble. But I have done it hastily, with as little labor for my eyes as possible. However, I shall not write as much again....Sinclair and I get along well, though he is a little petulant I think, now and then. Alas! Poor fellow, he is in love, and I excuse him”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

4 January 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Abby and William Nelson. "I heard from Wm., by way of his brother Thomas, who wrote me on business, Saturday, and was glad to learn the diarrhea was relieved, though he still had a wearied feeling, which was affliction. I trust he is still convalescent. I was so anxious Friday, that I had serious thought of going to P. this week. We there has been a terrible snow storm, westerly, and supposed you have felt it. We have had none at all here for a week, but the weather has been cold, almost down to 0 mornings."

"I sent you the Portrait, paid through, which I hope you rec'd in good condition. Ellen's will be the same size as yours, only a change of Position, and Ned's will be still another position. My design was to present different views, so that if any body wants to know, hereafter, how their grandfather looked, they can be gratified. Yours is the only picture yet done. Ned's will be taken to our room to remain while we stay in Boston. I think I wrote you, we had left the U.S. Hotel and gone to Board at 22 Bedford Street. The Halls smell too bad at Public Houses, to be tolerated by me, and much less by your mother."

"Ned has now been out 26 days and ought to be ashore in England. I shall feel relieved when I hear he is safe and sound, though the uncertainty, being one which no skill could guard against, becomes us, as of other inevitable things, to leave it in the hands of God, and be reconciled to his will."

"I think of you both and of your children, often, night and day. Last night I took the photograph of you and the children, and looked on them with deepest interest, and a heart swelling with blessings and benedictions."

"Affectionately, your father Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

6 January 1864: "Copy of a Letter written by Amos Tuck on back of a telegraphic dispatch blank & received by me January 6/64 about 20 minutes before introducing resolution into N.H. State Convention renominating Pres. Lincoln.

'Wednesday morning

My Dear Mr. Chandler:

I have concluded it is not expedient for me to delay my going to Boston till 10 ½ o'clock but to leave by the early train. So I shall not see you.

After reflection I am of the opinion that it is not best to introduce the resolution you were kind enough to submit to my consideration. It is better as I think not to grieve another aspirant to the Presidency by having N. Hamp. Propose Mr. Lincoln; though I believe Mr. L's nomination a foregone conclusion. Mr. Chase thinks a great deal of the support of his native State and is not [it] better to let other states or the progress of the cause indicate to his mind the inevitable result. Yours truly (signed) A Tuck'

The above is [a] correct copy of the original in Mr. Tuck's handwriting.

(signed) W.E. Chandler

(signed) Asa Fowler"

[A second copy of the above in WECs handwriting is next in the folder and signed by WEC and Asa Fowler.] [Chandler Papers, NHHS]

13 January 1864: Edward Tuck (Rues Jacob 12, Paris) to Amos Tuck. "I rec'd yr. affectionate letter of 22nd Dec. from Munroe & Co. on my arrival in Paris [on 7 Jan]...I also found a letter awaiting me from Mr. Fogg....]. Fogg was leaving for Italy on 10 January and invited Ned to join him, understanding that he might prefer to study French first. Ned politely declined.

Despite his previous plan to study German first, he now thinks he should study French first before going to Germany. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

17 January 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Ned's letter from the dock of Liverpool was received, and the Tucks are happy to hear he crossed safely.

"As soon as I found you were safe, and read your allusions to the Coast of Wales, I immediately was impelled to look at the map, to follow you along, and to 'read up' on all the places and topics you stated. I shall more fully see about Liverpool, and all Lancashire, and then the Road to London, (I suppose about 150 miles long), and then the map of London....Already I find an unusual disposition to comprehend the Sleswig-Holstein question, and so far understanding it now, that I think I see what the rub of the difficulty is....[he explains the issue!]"

"...On enquiring for a horse a few days ago, I was referred to the 'Riding School'. On applying there, I was induced to try an hour's exercise in the circus, and on hearing that many gentlemen of the city were accustomed to riding for exercise, in the school, I readily mounted, the space being at that time entirely unoccupied. At the end of an hour I was so agreeably surprised at the amount of pleasure and exercise I had had, that I at once bought 20 tickets for an hour each, at an expense of \$15; perfectly satisfied that it was exactly my desideratum. Instruction is thrown in, and already, with only two lessons taken, I am ashamed of my former riding, with elbows and feet sticking out and arms shaking. You need therefore have no fear that I shall not get exercise enough for me...." Tuck recommends that Ned go to a riding school also, and goes on to explain the right way to hold the reins, etc.

"Ellen is still in Washington. I go to bring her home, leaving here to-morrow night. I go by way of Pkskill. Wm. is sick, poor fellow, having had a sort of slow fever accompanied with a bad diarrhea. He does not gain strength and I feel some anxious about him. I think he was far from well, when we saw him in N. York, and he has not been well for 6 mos. When you write, assure him of your affection. I will also mention what you need not seem to know when you write, that Frank, three days, or nights ago, vomited considerable bloody matter, which alarms him very much. He thinks it is the effect of ulcers, small or big, in the stomach, and is now so frightened he is in fear of dying any time. I think he is alarmed beyond need, but still I myself feel uneasy about him. Ellen dos not know of it, and will not at present. He is weak, but is out every day. I guess he wants to see Ellen dreadfully. I expect to return from Washington in about

a week. The house at Reading is about ready now, and the furniture will be in, and arranged, I think, by the time of Ellen's return."

"Do not imagine I am unhappy, because of the foregoing statements about Wm. and Frank. My mind is so constituted that I apprehend what may happen, so vividly, that when it does happen, I am no so much changed, as many men. I am, as your mother thinks, and as I feel, very happy and very well. I have great pleasure in thinking of you and shall enjoy you in Europe, if you are happy and well, next in amount to enjoying you here...." Tuck observes the rise in gold prices will make his expenses in Europe higher, but also benefit his investment in 5.20 bonds.

"Merrick proposes, and I am to accept his future interest, quarterly, and will pass yours to your credit as we agreed...I have bought a mantel clock, cost \$60, as a birthday present to your mother. We have a full size portrait of myself, in an elegant frame which cost \$25, hung up in our room yesterday. It is yours. I have sent Abby's to her. ½ or cabinet size, and Ellen is to have ours of the same size, of choice. The one for your mother, we are to think of, and possibly o have one of her as well as of me. The whole cost of yours is \$65."

"P.M. We have been to church. Cannon are being fired to welcome home a returning Regiment (12 ½ o'clock). The veterans are enlisting freely. I sometimes query, why you are not in the army, but the reflection, that though you and I have, I doubt not, as much public spirit and power of self-sacrifice as common people, and would face the cannon's mouth as readily, yet have not been inclined to rush into the army, satisfies me it was not the duty of either of us to show our love of country in that way. Other things are to be done for one's country besides fighting or dying for her; and the preparation for manly qualifications and behavior, which you are pursuing may be much more for the good of mankind, and undoubtedly will be, than for you to take a musket, which any Irishman can do as well or better, and shoot, be shot at etc. etc. in the ranks of the army. You could only be located properly as an officer, and of them there is a multitude more offered than can be accepted. So I am content, that you pursue the object of generous and liberal culture, and believe that in this way you may honor God and serve man as efficiently, at least, as in any other way. I enjoin you anew, that you cultivate a tender conscience and regulate your life by the law of God. Your mother sends love...."

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

20 January 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Catherine P. Tuck. "Dear Mother, Last night I rec'd your letter of Jany 1st, with father's of the 4th. While you were wondering whether I had landed at Liverpool or not, I was running around London, surfeiting myself with sightseeing....My rooms on the 'Rue Jacob' [sp.] are not as pleasant [word unclear] as yrs. on the rue Bedford, I fancy....

"Father's letter, dated four days later than yrs. said that the Wm. was getting better. Before this I trust that he was entirely recovered. The poor fellow has had much sickness the past year...."Your affectionate son, Ned." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

22 January 1864 (same letter): Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. "My dear Father, I went to see Dr. McIntock a few days ago (he is the American clergyman) but I found he was in Italy, not to return for 6 weeks. I have the address of a Rev. Mr. Lamson whom I think of calling on for information, though I have half a mind to set out for Geneva without asking any one's advice. At Pau (Mr. Mason's recommendation) I hear that there are very many English. And all, with whom I have spoken, tell me that in the country one does not hear Parisian French. At Geneva I should get the best French and should find students and lectures and a gymnasium, I suppose. I mean, of course, French students.

"At first I tho't of taking a tutor here but afterwards concluded to go to a dancing school – thinking I might learn French from the 'demoiselles'. I pd. 20 fcs. for a month, and found myself (I confess) egregiously sold. The gentlemen are composed of waiters and cooks and that class of people and very few of them are companionable. But I go 4 evenings in the week & make the best of a poor speculation.

"Are you taking proper exercise? How many times did you ride horseback last week? With much love to all, I am yr. affectionate son, Ned." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

27 January 1864: BBF's journal notes: "Mr. Tuck came here last Thursday [21st] noon, and Doct. Wells about 10 that evening....Mr. Tuck remained till this morning when at ½ past 7, with Ellen and her two babies, he left for home. We have had a very pleasant visit of two months from Ellen and the children, and I felt really sad to have them leave." Long section on how much he loves the two children, even if he does not show it externally. [FFP Reel 2]

31 January 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Amos reports they have received three letters from him so far, and that they share them with first Ellen, then Abby, then back to Amos. "...but the must all come back, on pain of my displeasure, and into our file by themselves, to remain till you yourself return, at last."

"Since my last, I have been to Washington, via Pkskll, going and coming. I returned Friday morning having been absent ten days. I still have grave fears for William, a she shows many signs of having consumption of the bowels, with weakness of body and mind. He sits up an hour a day. Some of his family think he will recover, others not, and all are anxious. Abby is well and very attentive kind and patient, satisfactory, I think, to all the relations. I have less apprehensions in regard to her than I had when you left, and returned Friday with new reasons, not necessary to detail, for believing fully that she is more of a woman, and wife than I feared. Her children are taken care of by the different families connected with her, and all goes on as well as could be expected, in case of severe sickness. Ellen with children, in fair state of health, came back, as far as N.Y. with me, where Frank met them and took them home to Reading Thursday night, having the house as near readiness as a husband and Irish girl could 'fix' things."

"At Washington I saw Mr. Lincoln, Mr. Chase etc. etc. all of whom treated me cordially, and with consideration I had a right to expect. I told the President I did not think I should consent to be a candidate for the Senate, whereupon he said, that while he could not properly

take any part in the election of Senators, if I should be elected, he should know he had a friend in the high office. I still think I shall not try for the place, though some people assure me, my chances, if cultivated, would be better than those of any other person. But I crave not the labors of a Senator, unless it be a duty, and the emoluments of my present office, which I guess I could keep are such as to be tempting to any sane man, not already rich. I have not realized any 'seizures' since I wrote, but think we have some on the string."

"I continue my horse-back exercise, and could not be persuaded to give it up. So you need have no further anxiety on that subject. I am all right. I think even old men, as you said you saw in Paris, ought to keep up exercise, and while I do not yet count myself old, I still adhere all the more to the theory of necessary exercise."

"Boston is still so-so, and nothing has happened, that I need speak of. Poor Geo. Robinson died of bleeding at the lungs and was buried the day of Dora Gale's marriage, which was last Thursday, and occasioned, as we hear, a melancholy cast to be spread over the ceremonies. The marriage preparations were grand and expensive. Your uncle John still continues unwell, but improving, and he sends his love to you."

"With these remarks about home affairs, I proceed to your affairs in Europe – No, I must speak also of your business here. Nothing further yet heard or in fact expected from Louisville. 'Five Twenties' have all been taken and now sell at a premium of 2 ½ % besides coupons, and with gold at 158, you can see the result of 7 or 800\$ in profit, should you sell now and pay your notes."

"I approve your modifying your plans, as to learning French first, and German afterwards, and in any other respects which your own judgment shall dictate. With so many more facts known by you, than by myself, I feel you can judge better than I, though I can give you general opinions of some value. In this view, I will assume that you will not fail to bear in mind, that while French, as an accomplishment, is first, German, as a useful language, and as the door to Literature, and as an acquisition which will stick by you, is probably first. I, also, remind you of the advantages of isolation, of which we talked so much, not doubting, however, that you bear it all in mind, and will put it in force, as far as practicable and wise. It seems to me, (as it does not to Mr. Fogg), that one new language at a time, is all a man can well handle, but you will find how it is."

Speaking of Sinclair's desire to go home, Amos notes: "What a bother it is to a young man to be in love? I look upon your experience in that line as a Providential and very valuable portion of your education. Make it, my dear Ned, a means of wisdom, superior to what is common to your years. Keep disencumbered, and cultivate ability to approach lovely women, without being involved in passion. More than half the love affairs between immature persons, are more than half made up of abnormal sexual excitement, induced by no government of the thoughts, and idle vicious meditations on lasciviousness. Again, I repeat, what a happy thing that you have already had, and recovered from a virtuous tender passion, which will probably save you, with your other defences, both from the true and the spurious, till you reach the time and circumstances of life, appropriate for 'action.'"

‘...As for a dress suit, buy it at once as also a trunk, if you think you need them. I will await your order for money, knowing you will call only when needed....’ Tuck keeps closing and adding more advice, including about Ned’s eyes.

“Monday Feb. 1 – President’s proclamation for 500,000 more soldiers! Lincoln means to crush the villains. Before you return, I agree with you you ought to go to London, and stay till you have leisurely seen all you glanced at then, and have [word unclear] Boswell, the English of kings and princes slain, and everything which the locality can vitalize in intense interest. The impressions thus derived will last you a lifetime....”

“Tuesday morning. It now turns out that the President means 200,000, in addition to the 300,000 before called for. He ought to have said 200,000 at first. Wm. reported considerably better yesterday morning and I judge the chances to be in his favor. You need not entertain any great anxiety....Last night went out to Ellen’s. Their new house is quite nice....”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

31 January 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. “....Nearly every one advises me to stay in Paris, if I wish to learn French. One reason given is that elsewhere I should get the provincial and not the Parisian French. Another is that in Paris I could always find places to visit and be at no loss to busy myself.”

“I have heard favorable acct’s of Tours a town of 40 or 50 thousand population distant 125 miles from Paris, to the S.E. as a city where good French is spoken by the upper classes, and as a comfortable and pleasant place to live in....But I still think I should find it to my advantage to spend a few months in a family elsewhere and I shall not be convinced except by experience that it is not....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

31 January 1864: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “Ellen, with her pa Tuck, and the babies, left, as you are doubtless, ere this discovered, on Wednesday morning last, and that is all we, thus far, know about it. We had a very pleasant visit from them, and I missed the children far more than I expected. Bess is a very bright child, and as ‘chockfull’ of mischief as Henry []est’s wife was of religion. Amos is a pretty baby and very still and amiable. They both kinder wound into the affections of Grandsir and Grandma.”

“Mrs. Lincoln has recently fallen to flattering me. I must look out. At the last ‘matinée before yesterday she talked about my elegant wife – her dignity of manner etc. and wound up by saying she looked like a Queen. Yesterday she told me I was growing young and ‘no wonder’ she said, ‘with such a beautiful young wife.’ I think she wants the White House re-furnished. The People intend to repudiate all leaders and put Abraham through again. They cannot do better, he is ‘the Noblest Roman of them all.’ I almost idolize him, he is so honest and so true. I hope you will tell the people that in his hands all their interests are safe. God bless Father Abraham – the se[cond] of that name.” [FFP Reel 6]

7 February 1864: Thomas Nelson (Peekskill, New York) to Amos Tuck. "There is not much change in William. He got through with more ease last night than the night began. The attending physicians still hesitate in nominating his complaint. They agree that heart and lungs are right and that the trouble is in the abdomen. The examinations, yesterday made, do not lead to the conclusion that there is any organic disease in the kidneys. Without having much foundation for saying so, yet I think they do not believe there is a tubercular difficulty in the bowels. They design to make a fresh analysis of the urine, and to pursue their investigations and examinations farther before announcing when or what the disease is."

"In the mean time William is patient, tractable and in fact hopeful of recovery. Yrs. sinc. Thomas Nelson." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

[1 February 1864] 2 October 1929 [note the dates]: Memo of a 6 November 1911 conversation between WEC and his biographer James F. Colby at Peterborough, NH. "...When our convention met Feb. 1 1864 in Phoenix Hall at Concord Hon. Mason W. Tappan was elected chairman and [Amos Tuck] one of the most prominent political leaders in the long anti-slavery campaign was a delegate. Both of these men appeared to favor the nomination of Sec. Chase in the approaching campaign. Mr. Tuck was the naval officer at the Port of Boston. and appointee thereto of Pres. Lincoln's. I had come to the conclusion that it was expedient to re-nominate Pres. Lincoln, and the night before the convention I drafted a resolution which was intended to express the judgment of the Republican party of the State that such a course would be our wise policy. I showed it only to Tappan and Tuck, fearing if it was made known to many persons, a discussion would ensue and that the result would be inaction upon the subject by the Convention.

"The morning of the Convention as I was about to rise on the West side of the Hall to offer the resolution, I received a note scribbled on a telegraphic blank from Mr. Tuck, saying 'I am called to Boston. My judgement is that in the present state of the public mind it would not be prudent to attempt to commit our people to the nomination of any particular person to the presidency, and I hope you will not offer the resolution you have drafted.' This seemed to me dodging for Mr. Tuck favored Chase but did not want to appear to disfavor the Administration to which he was indebted for his office...."

"After the convention I never had anything to do with Mr. Tuck or spoke with him as far as I remember, except upon one occasion. In the interval, when he was seeking reappointment as Naval Officer, he wrote me asking that I send him a letter which could be shown to the President stating that he had always been loyal to the Administration. Feeling as I did that he had dodged at the convention, I made him a savage reply which I would not now think of doing, telling him exactly what I thought of his conduct. Some years later upon getting into a horse-car in New York City in which there were few passengers I found myself seated beside his son-in-law, Mr. French whom I knew. After a brief conversation with him he spoke to a man upon his other side, and then turning to me said, 'Mr. Tuck would like to speak with you if you agree.' I responded certainly I should be very glad to speak with him. Each of us leaning forward clasped hands and saluted in front of Mr. French. This was our last meeting."

[Chandler Papers, Box 3, Folder 5, NHHS]

7 February 1864: William E. Chandler (Concord) to J.A. Gilmore. A draft letter in pencil explaining to an obviously irate Gilmore why WEC had not supported the nomination of a Col. Head for senator at the recent Republican convention. [Chandler Papers, NHHS]

8 February 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "...William has not materially changed, that I am aware of: I have had letters both from Thomas Nelson and from Abby, and both esteem it possible he will get well, but both have as many fears as hopes....I was at Ellen's day before yesterday. She had dismissed her old girl and was breaking in a new cook, with the usual vexations, but she and her children were in good health, and everything going on satisfactorily. She has my portrait in her Parlor, cabinet size, which she says is perfect. I think it is as handsome as will ever be got of the original, but I do not by this intimate that there is much beauty even here."

"No news of interest from Exeter. I presume Jim and Billy are as well as usual, and if so, my chief interest is in the place, just at the present, is secure and J. satisfied....Your mother has a 'bruized' eye, not obtained in the usual way, but in consequence of a cod settled in that locality, but she hopes to be able to read, write, and cypher very soon."

"You see gold is at \$159, and '5.20s' at 102 7/8. Your speculation is working all right. We rc'd your letter of Jan. 22 yesterday...." Tuck urges Ned to continue his detailed letters of life in Paris because both he and mother enjoy them greatly. "When you come back I will present you with all your letters, pasted in a common book for the purpose, where you can, on blank spaces left for the purpose, add mine sent to you, while in Europe. At some time they may be of interest to others who choose to follow your experiences in a foreign land. I mean others of our own family of course...."

"A Bill has passed the U.S. Senate for the appointment of 25 'consular pupils' by the President, to reside at foreign consulates, learn the language and customs of the place they reside in, and the business of consuls, with a view to promotion, and to the more respectable representation of our nation abroad than has heretofore been the case. Salary \$1,000 a year, (I suppose in gold). Now I assume that one of the places, say, at Geneva, Venice, Havre, Paris, Bremen or Hamburg would be just what you would want. Is it so? If I am correct, send to me your impression, as to the most desirable locality, and I will keep an eye on the Bill, and do my best, of course, for you."

Amos tells Ned how his friend Sinclair can get through customs in New York with stereoscopic slides, and to send him a telegram if he runs into trouble. "But he must not try to conceal anything."

"...No further news from Louisville, and none expected immediately...."

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

8 February 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. "I have been to Mr. Dayton's to present my letter. My object was to get credentials from him that might be of service in getting into a family. He gave me a good letter, which I shall have translated into French by some 'savant.' He advised me to go out of Paris, but not to go more than 20 or 30 miles away."

"He did not speak favorably of Paris, on account of the crowds of English who frequent it."

"I advertised a few days ago, as an experiment, to see what opportunities I might find, for a place in the suburbs of Paris and have rec'd 4 replies. One of them seems to be about such a situation as I wish...If I do not find a good place, I shall strike for Orleans and Tours."

"I suppose it would be well to have some funds sent out considering the time taken to get word across and back."

"An arrangement could be made with A.T. Hall at the Tremont Bank (Munroe the banker tells me) for a bill of credit, by means of which I could draw on Munroe for such am't as I needed at any time paying the premiums that gold was worth at that time. But of course there would be some percentage to be pd. which could perhaps be better saved. And I am of the opinion still that it is better to send a draft for 500 francs occasionally, as I need it. But you can decide that as you like."

"I have rec'd your letter of 17 Jan acknowledging mine from Liverpool. I was pleased to hear of your 'circus' ridding. I hope you will continue to enjoy it as much."

"I see that the five-twenties are all sold out and at a premium. That investment serves as a subject for very consolatory contemplation to me at times, when I am a little blue."

"Excuse tis scrawl – I write with a coarse pen as it is easier for my eyes. With love to mother and Ellen, I am yr. loving son Ned." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

12 February 1864: Ned begins taking private French training in Dourdan with M. Lignot. He plans to end this training as of 22 April and go to Paris. [TFP, Box 6, Folder 5]

14 February 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to William Nelson. "Dear William: As you lie on your sick bed, struggling against sickness, night and day, I want you to feel, that night and day, those who love you think of you. The sympathy of loving friends, cannot remove disease, not calm the rapid pulse, or allay the inward or outward fever. But I think it ought, and that it well may afford great consolation to one who has himself been always true, to know, in sickness, that his relations and friends are true to him; - that they remember him in bonds, as bound with him. Do not think, or rather feel yourself alone at any time. Though absent in body, we are present in spirit with you. In the waking hours of the night, as well as by day, my thoughts hover around you, and your watching anxious family, and my fervent prayer, all the time, is for your relief and restoration. I shall go to see you, when I am informed that you can be relieved or comforted, by anything I can say or do. In the mean time, your brother, father or wife, will send me frequent messages of your condition, which I await with intense interest. I saw Ellen, last evening, (she was in the City), and she was anxious that you should know, and be often assured of her love and

sympathy, as well as that of her husband, and my wife, now at my side, bids me assure you of her deep and affectionate sympathy.”

“In thus speaking to you, Dear William, I feel more impressed than ever, of the certain and perhaps early period, when I shall have the same occasion for assurances of the same kind from my relatives and nearest friends. If I have them, as intense and sincere, as I know they are now entertained for you, I shall know that my life thus far, has been a [here Tuck crossed out ‘success’] valuable one to those with whom I am most sacredly connected. May God give you grace and hope and consolation, and in his good time restore you to health.”

“Your affectionate father-in-law Amos Tuck.”

[marginal note by Ellen French] “To his son-in-law Wm. Rufus Nelson, who lived only ten days after receiving this letter. He was a true and adoring husband who was not appreciated by his wife.”

“Died 24 Feby. 1864” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

15 February 1864: Tuck (Custom House Boston Naval Office) to President Lincoln [copy from National Archives, RG 59]. “Hon. Abraham Lincoln, President, Sir: Allow me to submit for your consideration the name of my son, Edward Tuck, in connection with the appointment of a Consular Pupil, (should the Bill now pending become a law), at Frankfort on the Maine in Germany, and to ask his appointment, should you judge the same promotive of the public good.”

He is 21 years and 6 months old, was born at Exeter, New Hampshire, and graduated at Dartmouth College July 1862. In the summer of 1863, he provided a substitute for service in the Army, and in December last, by advice of an oculist, who deemed a sea-voyage and a residence for a time in Europe as the most certain cure for an affliction of the eyes, with which he was afflicted, sailed for Europe, and is now in France, or Germany, with his eyes almost cured.”

“For scholarship, apparent capacity for business, personal manners and character, generally, I beg leave to refer you to Hon. Prof. Patterson, M.C. who knew him intimately in College, and instructed him in some branches, and who kindly offered to present this letter to your attention.”

“My son intended, when he left, to pursue such a course, in respect to study and business, a should qualify him for consular duties, or as a Secretary of Legation, on the continent of Europe, should any opening present itself to him during the year of his proposed absence.”

“I ask that with evidence of his graduation at Dartmouth College, with high rank as a scholar, and with such other evidence as Prof. Patterson shall present, the examination which will no doubt be generally required, may in his case be dispensed with, inasmuch as he is already in Europe, and it is so inconvenient. Very respectfully, Your obdt. svt, Amos Tuck”

[On the outer cover of the letter are the following notations: “Letter of Amos Tuck submitting name of Edward Tuck, now in Europe for apptmnt as a Consular Pupil at Frankfort on the Maine. Age of Applicant, graduation etc. etc. Feb. 15. 1864.”

Then, apparently in Lincoln’s handwriting, “Please file. A. Lincoln May 28 1864.]

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 6]

16 February 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "...First – you will want to hear of William. He is no better, and will probably die in a few weeks. His disease is rather admitted to be tubercles, or ulcers upon the intestines – consumption of the bowels. I apprehend it is a cancer upon the intestines, but this apprehension you need not allude to in your letters. I have, of course, given thought to what shall become of Abby. She will leave Peekskill, soon after Wm's death, (if the poor fellow must die), and will come east, - first to Boston with us, for a time, then to Reading for a time, then to where is tho't to be best, and to do, what is best, possibly to teach. Her future, uncertain as it is, does not give me so much anxiety now as it often has, as you may judge. One or two of her children will probably stay in Pkskll. I hold myself in readiness to go to P. when I can be of use or alleviation. You must not worry about me, my son, I am in god health ride three days in a week, for an hour each day, am often out to gentlemen's parties, and enjoy a great deal."

"Ellen is now well and they have a pretty house. I delighted Ellen by presenting her with a Parlor carpet, cost \$86.88, which Frank and she both expressed the greatest gratitude for, and appreciation of. They are in good health, children and all. Abby's children as well as herself are quite well. Your uncle John is not well, has a cough and raises considerably, and somewhat alarmingly. All the relatives in all the towns and boroughs enquire anxiously for you, whenever I see any of them, or hear from them."

"I was at Exeter to-day. It looks so-so, - not attractive – dead as the Hoosier said of the fish balls. Augustus Scamman, who married 'Harriet's' sister died last week. Dr. Gorham's and the people generally are cordial. Mr. Lamphear's council must today cut his connection with our Parish."

"It is mild weather in Boston, and has been almost ever since you left. My 'forfeits' have been very satisfactory in the last month, - better than before, and more than I expect again, - over \$1000. You could now sell yr. bonds, and pay up your debts upon them and make \$1000 to \$1250. But you will make more to hold on. Our cyphering at the outset will prove to be in the right direction, probably falling short of the actual profit."

"Now, about 'Consular Pupils,' of which I wrote in my last. The Bill will probably pass authorizing the President to appoint 25, to be employed in consul's offices at the larger places, to learn how to do the business, the language and customs of the country, etiquette, good manners etc. with the design of fitting them for consuls etc. to represent the country safely and respectably, which is not now always the case. Salary \$1000 a year. I judged it to be just the position for you to seek for. If you only stand in such a place a year or two, you would get knowledge it would be valuable to the country to bring back with you, and would take the course it is expected will often be taken. Your eyes would not be a [word unclear] now, beyond the ability to use them quite modestly. I have looked over the ground as well as I could and made some enquiries, and till I hear from you shall be of the mind that Frankfort on the Main is the best place for you. Reasons, (1) there is a consul general there, and his recommendation would probably aid you, if desired – (2) the German and French both can there be obtained – (3) There

is business there, and good society enough, and you would not run so much risk of becoming enervated as in places of less activity. I was advised by Mr. Abbott, my friend in the State Department at Washington, to put your credentials on file a once, and shall do so, having them backed by Prof. P. in person, when the time comes for action. I shall designate Frankfurt, but can change it, and shall do so, in case you manifest a bias for another place, with reasons such as I think sufficient. The appointments cannot be made for weeks, perhaps not for a month or two, and in the mean time you better do as you would, if this were not in the wind, except that you will not lease any 'estate' for a long time. I counsel you not to tax your eyes too much. If they serve you quite well, they must be feeble for a long time yet."

"And now my son, I will draw towards a close. I am at the Custom House, at 6 o'clock P.M. writing by a lamp. Your mother has a dressmaker and so it is convenienter to write here than at our Room. The mail leaves to-morrow. I rode last evening, and extorted praises for my horsemanship from your mother, looking on."

Amos then exhorts Ned to follow the law of God in all his actions. "I don't want anything else so much in respect to you, as I do that you shall be a valiant, outspoken friend of piety and disciple of Jesus. I met Gen. Howard a few evenings since at Mr. Lahey's [sp.?], at a gentlemen's party. He is a noble fellow, - speaks right and anywhere he happens to be, on the side of religion, God and piety. I heard that one of his staff was fatally wounded at Antietam. The Gen. visited him in his tent, took a testament from his pocket, read the 14th Chapter of John's Gospel, prayed with him, kissed him, said we shall meet in heaven, if not on earth and rode away to other duties. Read that chapter, Ned, and think it over, (I have), and see if it does not touch your heart..." Amos goes on in this vein.

"I imagine, Dear Ned, you may be at Geneva, by this time. If so, all right, and you can stay there getting what good you can till you learn further about the Consular Pupils. You will take into account, or rather bear in mind to avoid so much lying in bed beyond what is necessary, as to induce any enervation. Time is money, even if a man can't use his eyes. All want always to send their love."

"Your affectionate Father, Amos Tuck."

[P.S.] "If you should be sick send for the American Consul, tell him who you are, and to do everything necessary and that your father will more than compensate him."

[Marginal notation] "John P. Townsend of N. York, at whose house you came for us, will sail for Liverpool in the 'City of Washing[ton?]' next Sat. with his wife. He wants your address and to see you if he can. I shall send it to him. His will be to care of 'Messrs. Wm. H. McAndrew & Sons London'."

[Marginal notation] "Bear in mind, that you have requested me not to send you money till you give me notice of want." [TFP, Box 1, Folder8]

17 February 1864: Edward Tuck (Dourdan, Seine et Oise, France) to Amos Tuck. Ned is living with Ms. Lignot in the town above, paying 150 francs per month – a 'pensionnat de jeunes gens.' He describes in some detail his initial trip out to Dourdan by train.

“The family consists of Mr. and Mrs. L. and 3 daughters, aged 5 - 10 and 15 yrs. respectively. I take my café in the morning with the family, my dejeuner at 12 with the family and school together, and my diner at 5-30, also with school and family. In the evening I have a recitation to Mr. Lignot of half an hour or an hour. The entire evening, till 10 ½ o’clock, is spent with the family, and as much of the day as I wish. Mr. and Mrs. L. are incessant talkers and there is no lack of conversation. There are 2 masters in the school - very good-natured and very dirty....” Ned gives more details of the school. “...I pay 150 francs, including wood lights and washing, which is in gold, \$28 the month....”

“I can imagine how sad a caste the death of George Robinson would throw over the wedding of Dora Gale. I remember speaking with George about the wedding and his remarking that I should not be present....”

“I have used my eyes considerably of late and I feel their weakness a little. But after this letter I shall allow them to rest some days. My health was never better....”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

19 February 1864: New York Times reports arrival of Tuck in New York. Staying at the Astor House.

22 February 1864: Thomas Nelson (Evening Post Buildings, 55 Liberty St., NYC) to Tuck. “Dear sir: William is sinking rapidly. For the last two days, he has taken no nourishment of any consequence. The disease has evidently got the mastery of him, and its ravages are daily perceptible. These has been a great change since yesterday morning when I left him after sitting up much with him. Last evening when I went in, I discovered in looks, speech, and movement, a change for the worse, and this morning his condition was much worse than last night. The physicians think (or rather last night expressed the opinion) that he might last a week. I think he will not survive three days, and am prepared to hear of his death within 48 hours.”

“I shall go up at an early hour to-day, and shall remain with him until he falls asleep.”

“Abby desires me to acquaint you with his condition.”

Very truly Yrs, Thomas Nelson” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 3)

23 February 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “I enclose a letter from Abby. She says, as you will see, that Wm. will recover. My conviction is, that the chances are decidedly against him. You will also see evidence of Abby’s peculiar mental constitution, and of her radical, incurable errors on the subject of the proper sphere and ambition of a wife and mother. In her remarks about Ellen’s subsiding into a humdrum way of life, when she only subsides into the proper sphere and employments and ambition of a faithful, worthy, loving, devoted mother indicates insanity or dementia, I know not which. Whichever it is, and whether William dies or lives, I shall feel better able to treat her disease, from having a knowledge of its existence, and its dimensions. In your reply to this letter, it may be well to infuse some corrective sentiments, to her error of thinking it beneath a woman to become a painstaking patient, all devoted wife,

mother and housekeeper. What sort of a wife will you want, when you get ready to support a family, and to welcome the ingress of children, the usual consequences of marriage? Not one formed after Abby's unfortunate notions of character. But enough of this: - She does not give me any new vexation by writing down her errors, as they crop out in all her productions, and in fact, I have lately been more hopeful of my ability, with assistance, to manage her."

"Since I wrote you, little of novelty has occurred to invite comment. Much talk is now had about N.H. election, and I have sundry invitations to make public addresses. I shirk them all, or have done so, giving as a reason, and probably the true one, though I dislike speaking, that Wm. is in so critical a condition...."

Amos says how glad he is that Ned understands how fortunate he is to have the opportunity to travel in Europe. While claiming not to be able to advise Ned on where to go, and how long to spend in a given spot, he urges Ned to think of his plans broadly.

"Now let me say that I want to warn you against dilution of moral force, or laxity of moral vigor. Don't let an obscene act be performed in your presence. The 'bals de nuit,' I have heard, present a spectacle of female lasciviousness, in behavior, which I am not willing my dear Ned should see. The sight will recur to a young man's vision, and the thoughts spring up, which it is the work of life to try to keep down. My son, hold fast to the Puritan's faith of your loving father and do not consent to any letting down of the standard. Had I not great confidence in you, I should not be willing to have you where you are. But I feel, that for my sake, and for your own, you will keep yourself pure and unspotted from the world. I wish you to get acquainted with evangelical, christian men and women, in Paris, who go to church, go to prayer meetings, and who will be glad to give you advice and cautions, necessary to be had by a young man in Paris. You cannot allow yourself to float on the wave without damage, and you must find some Christian, believing, really pious people."

"At some time, both at Paris and London, and elsewhere, you must make the acquaintance of our Foreign Ministers. It will be of great advantage to get the entrée of their receptions. You will make acquaintances there, which will be of great advantage in after life; and in fact, it would actually discredit to come back, and when you go into good society here, have it become known that you did not have the 'Entrée' while abroad. At present, however, you may be right, in postponing these matters, till you can make your ingress, with a knowledge of the diplomatic tongue, and with other advantages."

"...Now, as to the 'Consular Pupil.' Will you not be better pleased and more profited, to try for the place at Paris? If so, say the word, and I can turn the application to that point. The papers are filed at Washington, though I don't understand the Bill is yet a Law. It will be I think, I believe, that to be a 'Pupil,' you will not be tied down, not be a beneficiary of the Govt., as you will earn your pay, and that the position will tally with your elevation...."

"I enclose you Tom Nelson's letter, just rec'd. I must go to Pkskill to-morrow. Of course poor William must die. God bless him in this hour of his need. God bless you my well beloved, my only son - Your Father Amos Tuck." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

24 February 1864: William Rufus Nelson, first husband of Abigail Tuck, dies. He had practiced law in his father's office from 1842 until his death. (Findagrave.com and Robert Tuck)

24 February 1864: Edward Tuck (Dourdan) to Amos Tuck. "I rec'd yr. letter of 8th instant yesterday. Wm. is much sicker than I supposed....When you write Abby, assure her of my sympathy for the care and anxiety she must be subject to in nursing and watching with William...."

More details on the Lignot family. Ned also recounts a country fair he attended and gives his observations on the French army draft system [note elsewhere in more detail].

"With regard to the appointment of consular pupils, it certainly seems that such a place would suit my case exactly. A question rose in my mind, whether or no duties would be required of the appointees, either of studying laws or writing for the consuls, which would be too much for my eyes. As to the nature of the position, do you understand that in taking it one enters the 'consular service' (just as in going to West Point one enters the Army), with a certainty of retaining the place during good conduct, in spite of political changes at home! And if promotion depended upon political chances, should one expect afterwards to study a profession at home and to take the place mainly as a pecuniary reward. Also, could one leave the service when he choose, honorably to himself. As the plan is a novel one, perhaps no one can say what would be the subsequent condition of retaining the place or of promotion to a better. And if my age and circumstances are of the kind required, I should be most happy to serve my country in that capacity, for the compensation allowed. I cannot speak very decidedly as to the referable locality - just now I am of opinion that Germany would have the advantage of giving me opportunities of learning 2 languages - French and German - and would be preferable on that account, and the interior would be better than along the coast, for better German is spoken there. Italy has attractions, however, that are not easily resisted. Would not appointments be made to those cities in which reside both a consul and a minister, as to Paris for instance? If so I should think favorably of Berlin. But if there was a of promotion, I should prefer to go first to Italy with a view of going afterwards to Germany: as that would be a more natural course than to go to G. and afterwards I. But I will say no more, as in all probability I may never have the chance to go to either." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

1 March 1864: [this date doesn't seem to track with that of the previous letter] Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "Poor William is gone, and I suppose you may have before heard, through Ellen. He died on Wednesday last, and was buried on Friday. I was with him for an hour before his death, arriving at 9 o'clock, and he dying at 10 o'clock A.M. But he was unconscious, and I was, of course, of no comfort to him, as indeed nobody could be, but his Maker, to whom his spirit was returning....Abby has done well for him during his sickness, and has suffered all the affliction of a woman who has lost or rather who loses a loving, worthy, faithful husband. She is in fair health. The children are not old enough to realize the affliction to a great extent. The Nelson family are in deep distress, of course. Nobody here could attend the

funeral but myself, Ellen being prevent by the baby, your mother by her frailty of health and Frank by the absence of Mr. Goodrich. I arrived in Pkskll. Wed., the funeral was on Friday, and I left Sat. morn., arriving at Boston Sunday morning. Arrangements are already made for the future of Abby and children. She is now at Pkskll., but will come here next week, with Laura, leaving the other two children with Mrs. Nelson, Sen., who with all the relatives, desire to have two or all the children permanently. They were, however, willing that we should have one, and Laura was their choice to be sent here. Abby and Laura will board with us a while, then go to Reading, and when we go to Exeter, she will go there, will furnish your chamber with furniture from Pkskll., and henceforth will be a member of our family, as of yore. Your mother accepts this arrangement as proper, and hopes it may not diminish, but rather increase her comforts. I think Wm. left no property, beyond sufficient to pay his debts. His father assumes all pecuniary burdens, as to paying his debts. I and Thomas are his Executors, and by his will, he gave his gold headed cne to Thomas, and his History of the Geological Survey of the State of New York to me – to mementos of his special love, I know. His other property he divides 1/3 to his wife and 2/3 to his children. But he will have none, unless his western lands come out better than we have feared. It matters little, however, as both Abby and the children are now well enough off, and their prospects are such from the Grandfather Nelson's Estate, as to insure them about as much money, as it is worth while for young girls to have. As to myself, though my heart is sorely touched for Wm., whom I loved and honored, I have less discomfort in the prospect of her living with me, than I had, in the former one of her living at P. Thus, have I, my dear Ned, taken up about all of this letter, in speaking of Wm. and his family. Your kind good letter to him arrived on Friday of his burial, Abby tried to read it, but could not, and Thomas Nelson read it first, to Abby to me and one or two others.”

“I send you, herein, a draft for 500 fcs. on 60 days. You can get it discounted, if you need, (by the Drawer), or can borrow as you please. I note your call on Mr. Dayton, your plan for isolation, in Paris, and your reasons, and cannot doubt your correctness. I cannot direct you. You must judge for yourself. Still I have the intensest interest in all you say or do. I hope you will have selected a religious family. I wish you to keep New England Sabbaths in Paris – to have a permanent seat at church, to attend religious lectures, a Sabbath School, or Bible Class and Prayer Meeting. The truth is, Ned, we float so inevitably into irreligion, if we get outside of religious society, an observances, that I am afraid to have my only son, my well-beloved Ned, in Paris....”

“C.S. Dow writes that he is selling your sugar at 15 cts, and thinks he can sell it al very soon. I have written Peck, that if there is a profit on his he shall have it, and it a loss I will take it. I can afford it and he cannot.”

“March 2/64. The ‘Consular Pupil’ Bill still hangs, in Congress, I suppose. I have posted Patterson and Abbott will watch, and I am confident you will not be overlooked....” Amos goes on at length about the benefits of such a position. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

3 March 1864: Edward Tuck (Dourdan) to Amos Tuck. Ned has just received Amos' letter of 16 February and in regard to the consular pupil idea writes: "...from all that I have heard of Frankfort-on-the-Maine, my impression is strong that a better place could not be selected. My eyes would not permit me to read, write or study with any degree of regularity or method, I am sure. If I were to locate myself with a consul, I should insist on an express understanding of that fact. Whether that would be a sufficient cause to debar me from the appointment you can judge, perhaps better than I..."

"Though my eyes permit me to write considerably and to study a little, I think they are fully as sensitive to light and heat as ever. My general health was never better..." Ned tells of his daily routine at some length.

"Your report on 'forfeitures and Five-Twenties' is very satisfactory and I am always glad to hear about them."

"I wrote to Peck some weeks ago, asking him in return to send his letter to you to be forwarded to me. In case you shall not have heard from him on receipt of this, will you please drop him a line (I left his address with you on the back of the 'Louisville statement') telling him my whereabouts etc..."

"You have probably rec'd mine suggesting that you send me a draft for 500 francs. I have on hand and on deposit 280 francs, besides having pd. my board in advance up to 12th March..."

"Poor William. I did not realize when I bade him good-bye in New York, that I might never see him again..."

"Please remember me to Mr. and Mrs. Gill, and to the Stevens. When you write to Biddeford, give my love to all..."

[P.S.] "All that you wrote me in regard to Gen. Howard I shall endeavor to remember and to regard." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

6 March 1864: Edward Tuck (Dourdan) to Amos Tuck. Edward writes that he has just learned of William's death from a letter from Ellen. "...I feel it perhaps thee more in realizing the isolation or desolation that separates me from loved ones at home. But when I think that by th time this letter is rec'd you will have become a little accustomed to the vacant place that his departure has left in the hearts of all. I do not wish to call up afresh your sad thoughts by recounting my own. I am sorry that I wrote him the frivolous letter that I did in Paris. At the time of writing, I merely knew he had been confined to the house for a short time. I little thought it would arrive only to profane the sad occasion of his burial, to break the sorrowful stillness of the chamber of mourning."

"I acknowledge with thanks the draft for fcs 500 which you have sent me. Unless unforeseen expenses recur, I shall not have to call on you again for a long time."

"I do not think I could be better situated, as far as learning French is concerned, than I am at Dourdan. The family is catholic, and have all the piety that their faith requires of them. I believe that their idea of the observation of the Sabbath is a wrong and a wicked one, and I never

allow myself to be understood as concurring in it. I show my respect for the day by opening none of my books, though I see no wrong in keeping out of doors, walking and conversing on that day as on others. I cannot go to church here, it is true, but I read a chapter in the bible and discuss somewhat on religious topics with M. Lignot. I thought of making inquiries at Paris for a Protestant family, and with that intent did call on Dr. McIntock, but he was in Italy and did not return before I left the city. And I found that everyone with whom I conversed had ideas in regard to price which I could not adopt. For a young man in Paris to find just such a place as is best suited to the object he has in view, of learning the language, and with the suitable conditions as to economy, and to do this without aid from friends and without being able to converse with Frenchmen, I have found to be a problem of no easy solution without the additional condition that the family be of the Protestant persuasion. I have seen a great many families at home, firm in the protestant faith, where I should not be as contented and not receive as much attention as here. My conviction as to the correctness and necessity to man, of the religion of my fathers, I can truly say, has been strengthened rather than weakened within the last few months. Though I am debarred from the privilege of many Christian influences, I can look upon this as I do when my deprivation from many of the comforts of home, not of a religious character. I already consider myself as a missionary to teach my friends at Dourdan that English is the spoken language of the U.S. and that the people are not the descendants of the native Indians, but are veritable white men, and not entirely ignorant of the application of steam-power to the various uses to which it has been applied in so civilized a part of the world as France.”

“I am gratified to know that you have heard from Louisville and also that you have written Peck.”

“In regard to the consular pupil affair, I am satisfied with the prospect of going to Frankfort. At the same time, if you should in yr. own judgment see sufficient reason to change the application, from F. to Paris, I should not be disappointed....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

6 March 1864: Catherine P. Tuck and Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Amos writes that he will keep the letter open until the mail goes on Tuesday and add as necessary. “...Our N.H. election takes place on Tuesday and I shall go to Exeter to vote. I have not spoken anywhere during the canvass, because of Wm.’s sickness and death, but have been of service in procuring speakers from Boston. The Democrats, as usual, have laid out their strength, hoping to carry the state, but the Republicans feel confident every thing will go right. It may be that the result will go to Europe by the next mail, but it is doubtful.”

“Monday Eve. March 7. Your first letter from Dourdan arrived here to-day per steamer Canada, and its perusal has given me and your mother great satisfaction. It is a situation more exactly what my ideal of your wants was, than could reasonably be expected to be realized....You do not say what the religion of your Landlord (?) is, and I only feel that I wish he were only a pious, believing, obeying Protestant, but if he is not, or indeed if he is, I enjoin upon you daily and often to seek wisdom of God, to make confession of sin, and to read your bible often....”

“In the mean time I will keep an eye on the Consular Pupil Bill and report progress. Abby has not yet come on. I shall go for her in a few days. I had hoped she would have two of the children in Pskill. but I doubt now if she consents to do that. Ellen and Frank offer to take any of Abby’s family, and your mother is willing to do anything in her power which will promote my happiness, and the general good.”

“Five-Twenties still continue buoyant, with ability to sell out with a profit of \$1300 to \$1400. But you will make more than that I think. My pecuniary affairs are quite gratifying tho’ no great seizures have lately been made. Geo. K. Paul & Co. are doing a good business, and so is the S. M. Co. and I have no uncomfortable apprehension, respecting supplies. The Campaigns of the armies have not yet opened, but people rather expect we can throttle the Rebellion this summer. I am not sanguine of it. Lincoln will be nominated for president and elected, and will in the end be president of all the U. States. A rain storm carried off three bridges between here and Exeter and on that account I don’t go to Exeter to vote before to-morrow morning, the morning of voting, and hope to return by the next train, at 11 o’clock. All of us are in usually good health. Your loving father Amos Tuck.”

[Catherine P. Tuck picks up the letter.] “Thursday 10th. You will see that I have copied the forgoing letter for your father. He did not return from Exeter so soon as he hoped on account of detention in the trains, and was so hurried in getting off to N.Y. the same eve. that this letter was forgotten until too late for the mail....I am expecting your father with Abby and Laura tomorrow morning having rec’d a telegram to that effect....I hope and pray and trust you will always be as much comfort to your father as you now are. Very affectionately, Yr. mother.”

[Amos resumes the letter in scribbled marginal passages.] “Friday P.M. March 11th. Abby and Laura came with me this A.M. and have gone to Reading this P.M. It was intended they shall board there till we go to Ex., then to go to Exeter as their permanent home. Our hopes now are that the future will be more agreeable than the past has been. Yr. mother accepts the arrangement quite cheerfully, and I am sure that with the possible uncertainties, I yet feel less apprehension than I have had for years. Abby sends her love and says she will write in a week. She is ashamed of her last letter, as she well may be, and wishes you to excuse her, because she had been watching for weeks, and at the time had no thought Wm. would die. A Post Mortem examination showed that he had had a fatal disease on the bowels for months.”

“Your 2nd letter from Dourdan came last eve. I reciprocate M. Lignot’s regards. I am still delighted with your situation....”

“Five-Twenties go like hotcakes, and you could now sell out for nearly \$2000 profit!! But I don’t sell, as I am afraid I should do so well as to hold on. The next Gov’t bonds will be ‘5 per cents’ and are not to be offered for less than par. If you feel well over this investment, remember that I ‘laugh in my sleeve’ quite as heartily as you do.”

“The N.H. Democrats have been ‘licked to death’ in the late election, the Republicans carrying the state by 5 to 6000. I intend to look twice at the Consular Bill, (if it pass), before putting your foot in. I am confident the chief purpose is to build up a respectable consular system, and to advance pupils, though they will not be obliged to serve. It seems to me a year in

such position would be the thing for you. But I must look at it. Your affectionate father Amos Tuck.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

11 March 1864: Edward Tuck (Dourdan) to Amos Tuck. Ned relates how he has become acquainted with the local policeman and visited neighboring villages with him. “I visited with him and M. Lignot, some days ago, the chateau, or country villa, of a French count. Everything was very magnificent, especially the grounds and hothouses, the latter contained some of the immense ferns which are native in South America....”

Ned discusses the difficulty of learning a foreign language. “...If I had my eyesight unimpaired, I could do many things that would be beneficial to me and occupy my time also, such as write French and read it, to keep a diary, to write letters to my college friends, to study, etc. If I could do all those things I would never give the blues the opportunity to approach me, and I should make better progress in the language. I cannot but feel some misgivings as to being able to perform the duties of a ‘consular pupil.’ You say that I should not be a beneficiary on the gov’t, for I should earn my pay. How I should be able to earn it, is as yet a little obscure to me. As it is a new creation of the gov’t, perhaps amid the universal ignorance of the incumbent. People t’s duties, I should be as good authority as ‘my superior officer,’ to what I ought to do and could retain the position without doing much of anything. That being the case, the appointment would be a very comfortable one. As to the location, I think that Frankfort-on-the-Maine is as good as any, so far as my vision can see reasons pro or con.”

“I was surprised to learn of yr. opinion of the ‘bals de nuit’ in Paris. There are balls in Paris of the character that you mention, which I know by hearsay only. The most magnificent ‘bal de nuit’ of Paris is the ‘Opera-ball,’ which I did not attend for the reason that I was not respectable enough. No gentleman is admitted unless he be arrayed in a dress-coat. I, not having one, could not see what is said to be the most imposing affair of the kind in the world. People (respectable people) do not attend to dance, but to see the masks and dresses. If I was weak enough to attend exhibitions of indecencies, I should not write home about it, I fancy. Paris is not as Christian a city as Boston and the virtuous traveler is sometimes taken aback by the sights that meet his eye. As for myself, the most indecent exposure that I saw in P. were in the statuary gallery of the Louvre. But he who gave you your ideas as to the ‘bals de nuit’ of Paris, was not content with the more respectable but searched out the bawdy. However, I would not recommend a frequent attendance, of even the best, and for myself should never think of going more than once. Your advice tome I always value and endeavor to bear in mind.”

“With much love to all, I am your affectionate son, Ned.”

[P.S.] “I await with anxiety your next.”

[Marginal note] “I wrote Mr. Fogg a few days ago.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

21 March 1862 [1864]: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Ned is in Dourdan. Amos writes at more length of William Nelson’s death on 3 March. Abby and Laura have been at Ellen’s for

ten days. Abby is 'deeply smitten.' "She thinks a great deal of her two children, now in hands which bear her little favor, and her mind is evidently full of reflections of a painful character,..."

Amos is sending Ned three drafts, each for 500 francs [NFI]. "The Consular Bill has not yet become a law, and I shall not give it and propose that till you can do so much reading and much thought, though I shall keep my eye on it. If your eyes do not serve you, by the time you get the appointment, If you get it at all, the affair can be arranged in this way: - you can go to the Consulate, where you are appointed, state the case, and propose that till you can do so much reading and writing as develops upon the place, you will employ a scrivener at your own expense, out of your salary, while you learn the routines of duty, as best you can...."

"Peck is attending to affairs at Louisville, Charles Dow reports 'a prospect of selling, and everything looks fair. 'Five Twenties' still hold up pretty well, looking decidedly hopeful. The first of May, I shall draw \$750 in gold, on which it is probable I can get 60% premium - \$450, with which I shall pay the Harris note - \$300 and int. - and endorse the balance on your note to me. On the 1st of April, I am to receive 3 mos. int. from M. and S. on your \$1300 debt against them. Pecuniarily you are 'all right.'" [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 68]

24 March 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. "I have been intending for some time, to buy the accompanying book, to read leisurely myself, and to-day I bought it. I shall not get time immediately to look at it, and I have concluded to send it to you, thinking it would be an interesting book for you or Abby to take up, two or three times a day, and read aloud to the other, just to break the monotony, and to give topics for part of your conversation. I do not know what is in the book, but it is sufficient to know that the subject of the Book is the founder of the Beecher tribe to make the same of interest to every person of mind."

"Perhaps it may have Calvinism in it, which you can't take in - Never mind, you will both get good out of it."

"I may say I grow more Calvinistic, as I grow older, if it be Calvinism to believe, that man is to be reconciled to God, not by works and good deeds, but by believing on Jesus Christ, and trusting in his mysterious brotherly love to present us as faultless through him. It is all a mystery, and we must have faith."

"But I don't intend to preach to you."

"Your aff. Father Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

26 March 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "I fear I have wearied your eyes with fine writing, so I will write this upon thicker paper, and with heavier letters, 'regardless of expense.' I shall not send away this letter till some days hence....It is now 5 ¼ o'clock. I have been to 'the Store,' since dinner, and to the Depot. The store (Geo. K. Paul & Co.), have been doing finely ever since you left. I think it has in that time earned enough for me, to pay current ordinary expenses of myself and your mother, and you. I go there every day or two, and take pleasure in keeping the run of their business, and they are pleased to have me go there often. I sometimes almost wish you might on your return take my interest, go into the store and get such

knowledge of the business as would make you necessary to it, and in the end lead you to sufficient wealth. But I don't dwell on such a view, although you might have my interest if you desired such an enterprise."

"I and your mother were at Reading yesterday. All pretty well there, and Abby no more miserable than is inevitable with one newly widowed, and separated from two out of three children. We are all hoping that she will get along pretty well. I think she may write you by the teamer which takes this letter."

"Your last letter spoke of your acquaintance with the 'Commissionaire de police,' of your visiting a beautiful chateau...and of my misconception about the 'bals de nuit' in Paris. I am ashamed of myself for being credulous enough to believe for a moment, the [word unclear] of some Cambridge blockhead, to Frank on this subject, and I am deeply impressed with the wrong I thereby did you in supposing you capable of looking at such things, as a curiosity even...."

"As to the Consular Pupil Bill, think not of it to any perplexity. If your eyes 'bother' you, slack up on brain work...."

"It is spring here, in feeling, and soon farmers will be seen plowing. I have not been to Exeter for some time. Lincoln will again be President. The war is still in statu quo....Peck is managing the Sugar, I suppose, in connection with Charles Dow, who has sent some to Peck at Chicago, and Madison. I expect soon to hear of their sales. There is nothing about it, which need render you at all anxious."

"Monday Mar. 2 P.M. I go to church to hear Dr. Nehemiah Adams, who is said to be pro-slavery. Am generally disappointed in finding him the most satisfactory preacher I ever heard. He preaches on religion all the time, and no politics whatever...."

[Marginal comment] "'5-20s' are selling at 7 ¼ advance, with int. since Nov 1. Gold was 170 last week. You and I both could sell out our Govt. Bonds to-day, and pocket over \$2000. But we will make more."

[Marginal comment] "Hale and Marston have done their best to forestall the Senatorial question by getting committed men, (to them) elected Reps. to the Legislature. I may be a candidate for the [word illegible] of trying to break down such proceedings. Many want me to be. But I don't care for the office." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

3 April 1864: HFF (Cambridge) to BBF. "...I received yours yesterday about Frank, but had no time to see Mr. Goodrich, which I will do very soon. I hope some plan may be devised to send Frank abroad. Your plan of a splendid business in W. I do not like, altho' I thought it better for Frank at the time he was married than going to Exeter and keeping house with his Pa Tuck."

"I trust you will outgrow your trouble with the Secretary of the Interior and remain in office, which is your normal condition, and besides, an office life in W. is no better for Frank than an office life in N.Y., which was killing him so fast that he was obliged to get married! This Custom house life is too much for him, and the settlement at Reading is no help to him, except economically, by saving rent and the expense of company. I will go down to the custom

house and raise the old boy within a day or two. Frank looked better than usual the last time I saw him....”

“Wm. is evidently prospecting for war when he graduates. He told me Capt. Gordon had written him that Col. Hartwell thought he could give him a lieutenancy in the 55th (colored). I wrote General Butler to see what he had to suggest, and he replied that he would give Wm. a lieutenancy in one of his Regiments, if he wanted it.”

“I cannot say a one word against Will going, if he chooses to go. I was and am sorry that Frank did not take a commission as Major, which he said he could have, when he came to Boston. It is no more dangerous than the custom house, and his health might have been good had he lived through it. But we cannot advise boys to go – let them do as they decide. My boys are no better than other mens’ boys, that they should be spared.” [FFP Reel 11]

15 April 1864: Edward Tuck (Dourdan) to Amos Tuck. “...I went last Sunday evening to Paris to see Sinclair off, spending a couple of days with him, - a day longer than I expected as he waited that time for a tardy letter. The money which he sent for in the month of Feby. and with which he was to get home, did not come and he ‘fell back’ on his friends. I lent him 160 fcs, not a large sum but sufficient with what he got from others.....”

Ned relates a story of how M. Lignot had deceived him and some acquaintances about the expenses of a visit to Versailles. As a consequence, “the place has lost its charms. Therefore you may hereafter send all letters to me to Munroe & Co., as of old...I shall probably pay a half-month’s board, possibly a month’s, as, on account of Mr. Fogg and J.P. Townsend, who are to be in Paris this month, I do not care to be further from P. than am at present. Yet it is possible that I shall go immediately to Paris and take a room for 2 or 3 weeks and await them there. I shall if M. L. declines to reduce his price to \$120 fcs. pr. month. It is not on account of the disposition to swindle (which is as natural to the French as their politeness, indeed the two characteristics always go hand in hand) alone that I have concluded to go, for I could protect myself from that, but I am not treated with as much consideration as at first and am not ‘talked to’ as much as at first, have not as much intercourse with the family, and consequently have not as good opportunities for learning the language. Perhaps, as you suggest, I have pumped them dry.”

Ned raises the possibility of traveling around France and maybe going to Geneva or Berne, and asks his father’s opinion. “...I shall have to ask you to send me another draft of 500 fcs. I have loaned Sinclair 160 fcs., I have at Munroe’s fcs. 110 and in my pocket 130 fcs. But under present uncertainties I think it would be wise to have another supply on the way. Perhaps the payment of interest on the 5-20s may be a convenient way of getting the gold.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

15 April 1864: HFF (Boston) to BBF. “I have not been ready to write you satisfactorily about Frank, for the reason that I wanted to see him, as well as the Collector and Mr. Tuck.”

“Frank was sick enough to stay at Reading for several days after I rec’d your letter, and I missed the collector the first time I called. Frank is now at his post, about as usual, to all appearances, and according to his own account.”

“Mr. Goodrich speaks highly of Frank and desires to make his position comfortable and easy. He says he has no means to send F. abroad as I suggested his doing, but said perhaps Sec’y Chase might do so. You know how easy it is to manage secretaries! Mr. G. and Tuck both say that Frank’s place is now not a hard one, and that any well man could easily perform the duties, and I have no doubt it is true. Indeed, Frank says the same. He is at the custom house but six hours, and often less, and there is nothing worse about it than confinement to any business in an office anywhere. I do not see how change into a law practice at W. would help the matters. What Frank wants is outdoor life. He says he cannot make any change at present, and I am sure I do not know what to advise. I have the apprehension that I have always had about him. He is constitutionally feeble, and nothing but a radical change to active outdoor life will ever set him up, in my opinion, and this you know I have always believed. I see no reason what he may not go on where he is, as well as anywhere, in any such employment. Tuck thinks it much easier than practicing law. If he could go to Europe for a year it would be well for him, but where is the money coming from, and what are his wife and children to do?”

“I think he will stay right where he is. If now he could get a good position in the army, it would be better than the custom house, but I never advise men’s boys to go to war. My own may go as fast as they are old enough. Your letter for Mrs. F. is on my desk unopened. We are hoping to have Hattie at home before a great while. I wish I could arrange something for Frank, but this is all I can do or say. Let us hope he will get well.” [FFP Reel 11]

18 April 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Milan Harris. “Dear sir: Gov. Gilman said to me, not long ago, ‘write to Mr. Harris’. I told him I would do so, and I now fulfill my promise. But what shall I write to a gentleman, with whom I do not feel much, if any acquaintance, when the topic is a delicate one, which I have not mentioned to a large portion of my neighbors and intimate friends? I have now concluded to be a Candidate for the U.S. Senate, at the meeting of the Legislature in June. It is the first time I have been a candidate for any office, since I left Congress in 1853, and the first time, and I believe the last, when my name has been, or will be, before the whole state for any office. The office I hold under the general government, was tendered me by Pres. Lincoln, my personal friend, after he, through Secretary Chase, had offered me, (prior to Mr. Fogg’s appointment), a position abroad, which I could not accept. This office in Boston, I offered to the President to resign for more active duty, in subjugating rebels, within 40 days of my appointment, and in the same spirit, I propose now to give it up, if the people of my state, incline to call me into more influential service in the Senate.”

“I aver to you, that I have concluded to be a candidate, out of a sense of duty to my friends in different counties and to the government. I know I should be welcomed to the counsels of the nation by some of the men on whom we most rely, in this solemn crisis, and with a modest estimate, I trust, of my abilities. I yet shrink not from the ordeal of probable

usefulness, when compared with the prominent names which will come up in June. Of course the judgment of the House and Senate will determine the matter, and with that I shall accord, as readily as others, seemingly less interested. I believe the election will be the pivot on which will turn the ruling influences of the State for some years, and if I am defeated by the cliques who will oppose me, and whom I shall by no means court, for any station they can give me, I can and shall submit to it as comfortably as the friends with whom I shall be identified.”

“I do not write to you to ask your vote and influence, for that would be improper. I can only notify you of my being in the field, invite your conscientious judgment in the premises [sp.?], and assure you, that should your judgment be favorable to me, I could not divest myself from a feeling of personal obligation, which I should feel to cancel by reciprocated consideration. With much respect, Your obdt svt, Amos Tuck” [TFP Box 2 Folder 6]

20 April 1864: Edward Tuck (Dourdan) to Amos Tuck. “I rec’d this morning from you an Independent – which was very acceptable, I assure you...I shall leave Dourdan the day after tomorrow (Friday the 22nd). I hope to see Mr. Fogg in Paris, adman expecting to receive a letter from him every day.” He is still planning a trip around France before it gets too hot. He informs Amos that Sinclair had repaid the loan of 160 francs and was probably on his way across the Atlantic.

“I did not think to tell you in my last that I should prefer a bill of exchange on Munroe & Co., as they will receive all my letters and will expect it. My last, you remember, was upon another house....When are you coming to France, my dear father? Of course you still are strong in the resolutions of coming before I return....I cannot regard with favor your consenting to be a candidate for the Senatorship. Of care and anxiety you certainly have had yr. share and why consign yourself to 6 yrs. of political wracking – of hauling and geeing, as you sometimes say, - when you can be so independent and so pleasantly situated in N. England....”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

21 April 1864: Edward Tuck (Dourdan) to Abby Nelson and Ellen French. Informs his sisters that his forwarding address will be care of John Munroe & Co. One of his difficulties is dislike of being thought to be an Englishman, whom the French hate. Ned says he has been drinking wine for three months and would hate having to go back to plain water. He says his eyes still bother him and that he bathes them in lettuce water, which seems to help. He likes Ellen’s suggestion that Frank join him in France in two months or so.”

“And there is a revival along the B. & M. R.R.! I wonder if it will gather force enough before it reaches Reading to break over a house that contains such inveterate sinners, such an unchurch-going family as lived in Roxbury last year.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

25 April 1864: Pamela French (Cambridge) to BBF. “We were at Reading Friday to see Frank and Ellen, and another farm, which we did not like. Frank is looking better, Ellen splendidly, and the children perfectly well. I think Bessie has grown pretty very rapidly since I saw her last.

Frank's house is 'natty' extremely; he has a great deal of taste, and I was agreeably disappointed with everything about the place; his friend Storrow and a Mr. and Mrs. Hale board in R. this summer, and that will make a wonderful difference with the social hue...." [FFP Reel 11]

28 April 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned arrived in Paris a week ago and took a room in Rue St. Denis, not far from the 'grands boulevards. "I found Mr. Fogg in the city and was with him more or less till he left, on Tuesday last. He invited me cordially to go to Berne and to stay with him as long as I found it agreeable. My plan now is to take the trip of the South of France and to come round to Berne at las, after which I can plan for the fall. He desired to be remembered to you and said he hoped you would be the successful candidate for the Senate."

"Mr. and Mrs. Jno. P. Townsend arrived here the day after I did and remained till Wednesday, when they started for Holland....I saw them every day and rode with them to the Bois de Boulogne twice. The last time we had a fine opportunity to see the royal family and had an interesting ride. You will hear from them on their return. Mr. Townsend loaned me 150 fcs., as I supposed I should leave Paris before I could get a draft from you."

"I am having a dress coat and a vest made, which are to be finished to-day and in which I am going to Mrs. Dayton's reception to-night. A dress coat is indispensable there and I had concluded that I had better get one immediately – 100 fcs. for the coat, 25 for a vest and something more for having a pr. of black pants altered over.

Ned plans to leave Paris at the end of the next week. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

May, 1864: US IRS Tax Assessment List showed Amos Tuck's income to be \$6,920 and a carriage valued at \$125. He was assessed \$207.52 in income tax.

2 May 1864: Ned records, "Tuesday I went with Mr. Fogg to the Dayton's, but saw only the son, who seems to be a sensible fellow. I was also introduced to the Consul, Mr. Bigelow of N.York." His diary is almost entirely about the touristic trips Ned took around France and Switzerland in this period. [TFP, Box 6, Folder 5]

3 May 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Sinclair has not yet called on the Tucks. "I was just at Exeter yesterday. We go there Thursday the 12th, at which time I expect the Peach trees will be in blossom, the peas up, and the apple blossoms begun to be unfolded, the old house is inviting in appearance and he people very cordial in their enquiries about all of us...."

"Abby is at Reading, but comes in, occasionally to the city, and is getting along quite well. Ellen and babies all nicely. Laura has now been in Boston with us over two weeks, and is a very nice girl, but needs training."

"I send you enclosed a draft for 500 fcs – cost \$177. It is for 60 days, but if you need the gold for use you can get it discounted...."

"At the present time American society in this country is in an anomalous condition, which cannot be permanent. If you were at home you could hardly see anything to do, even if

you had your eyes, except to go a soldiering, or into mercantile pursuits or into the study of aw, without a prospect of doing enough in law business to support yourself. I think there are enough people in the war, and that it is not best to go there. As to merchandizing, it is rather stooping for an educated man. My conclusion is this: for you to get all the benefit possible, from foreign travel, as to language, the study of art, politics, history, biography, etc. and to live in the faith that whatever you learn, of persons or things, or ideas, is certain to come into play, and to advantage at some time....” Amos goes on at some length with more career advice, and encourages him to make the trip he mentioned. “I will try to pay the bills, though gold is very high. Mr. Fogg will give you good suggestions....”

[P.S.] “Tell Mr. Fogg when you see him I shall write him in a few days. Give our regards to him and to our dear friends J.P. Townsend and wife.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

5 May 1864: Tuck (Boston) to WEC. “My dear Mr. Chandler: If any movements, as you suppose, are being made in N.H. against Mr. Lincoln, I think it the duty of all of us to fight them down. As a personal friend of Mr. Chase, I was willing, in January, to forego the pleasure of then nominating Mr. Lincoln and wait till it should become apparent, as I knew it would, that the other states were mainly for him. I never have thought it best to nominate Mr. Chase, as Mr. L’s successor, and have never given Mr. C. to so understand me. I have hoped to see Chase President, some day, but I begin to think he is using himself up, or is being used up. I now oppose every other man than Lincoln. He has not yet been President, de facto of the United States and he must be, before we let him go.

“We are now in the crucible. Great events transpire before the middle of this month. I think Richmond will be ours next week. If it be important to turn the Journal about, Goodrich and I will do it, or break their necks. It is rather a one-horse concern anyhow.

“You speak of I.P.H. I have impressions in the same direction with yours. I have no fear of the action at Baltimore, but we must take the pains you suggest and send strong men there.

“Let me urge you, Mr. Chandler, to exercise your influence for somebody for Senator, who will not too heavily burden our Party. I do not mean, by this, to ask you to go for me. But for the sake of the Country and the perpetuity of our party, the men of respectable character, and of brains, must see that men of respectable character and brains are put into the highest offices. Are nor men now aspiring to the Senatorship, who have never been able to state a position in writing, as a basis for party action, since our party was organized? If so, does any body expect one of them to dignify the state, or serve the country, by sitting down with statesmen at Washington, to help solve the problems that will be on our hands for the next few years? Where is the guaranty which some of the most prominent aspirants furnish, of appreciation, in social, educational, literary or religious circles in their own towns, by which the action of politicians in making one of them Senator is to be sustained by the sober endorsement of the people? Now, Mr. Chandler, there are several good men any one of whom would be respectable, and not unhealthy for the party. But I pray you whom I have always believed to be conscientious and capable, to consider the influence you may exert in your high position, and to exert it. If you go

into the field yourself, I will not say a word, and if you could be chosen, I should feel that though you had gone into the place too early now, you had only reached the spot to which your talents fairly entitled you to aspire, at some time. But I say the truth, when I declare, that I have fears you may perhaps unintentionally allow aspirants to pretend you are for them, without your sufficiently considering the weight of the influence they may quote; and, moreover, that you may actually damage your own usefulness and prospects thereby.

“Having said so much more than I intended, please allow this to be strictly confidential.

Yrs. truly, Amos Tuck” [Chandler Papers, NHHS]

5 May 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned reminds his father of his logistic arrangements. Letters to be sent to Fogg in Berne. His current planned itinerary is Orleans, Blois, Tours, Rochefort, Bordeaux, Toulouse, Pyrenees, Montpellier, Nimes, Marseilles, Lyon, Geneva, arriving at Berne in the first half of June. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

11 May 1864: Edward (Hotel d'Angleterre, Tours) to Amos Tuck. Travelled by train to Tours, skipping Orleans “as there remains there very little of its ancient renown.” He describes the rich farmland and the chateau at Blois in some detail. Ned thinks he will head for Bordeaux next and Pau. “I accidentally earned in Paris that Mr. and Mrs. Cheney were at the Hotel de Louvre. I had a very pleasant call there and I am sorry not to see more of them. Mr. C. has been very sick.”

“We are expecting stirring news from Grant every day. If he should be defeated and a need of men should be the result, I shall be ready at any moment to about-face and go home. In any event I should never think I had done wrong to enter the army, whereas I have sometimes tho't I have done wrong to keep out of it.”

“All success in the Senatorial campaign, though it would be no misfortune if you were not chosen....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

11 May 1864: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French. “Please remember to say to Laura and Abby, that my wife wishes Laura to be at [the] Depot at Reading at 3 ½ o'clock Friday and go to Exeter with Mr. Odlin, or under direction of a Conductor. Laura is anxious.”

“It is possible I may not return from Exeter till this evening. I hope Judge French will not say much to the Emigrant people. He is so apt to indulge in complacent satisfaction, I fear he will encumber you, by praising you indiscreetly to them. They now think well enough of you to employ you. That is all the good opinion you want, till you earn more by acts and display of capacity in the new office; - especially when dealing with such men as Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Brooks and Mr. Forbes, who see through men very keenly, and with whom extravagant praise goes for nothing. If Judge French should make them think you to be a wonderful genius, their expectations of you would be a perfect bother, and occasion real damage to you hereafter. The Judge may not know it, but while he, and Pamela [sic] and the children, on account of what the Judge told them, fully believed he was the most popular and successful Judge in New

Hampshire, the cart tipped was tipped up, all the judges turned out, and notwithstanding all that Stickney and I and a few others who liked Henry, could do, we could not get him picked up again put in the cart and made a judge of.”

“I think well enough of my son-in-law, but yet I have anxiety about the new office, and how you will succeed in it. I know it is best for me to make no pronouncements in advance of what you can do. I have too many fears. Yet I say to you, I rather think you can meet expectations and achieve success. I rather think you better take the office. If you take it, whatever I can do, to help you, by way of suggestion, in course of your labors, I will do. Still I have so little knowledge of what will have to be done, that I put my own power of aiding you in any measure, on as modest a basis, as I think wise for your discreet friends, at the outset to put yours.”

“Affectionately yrs. Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

18 May 1864: Edward Tuck (Pau) to Amos Tuck. More descriptions of the sights Ned is seeing in Poitiers, Bordeaux, Bayonne, Biarritz, and Pau. He tells Amos he is tarrying in Pau in the hopes a letter will arrive with a draft: he is getting a bit short of money. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

20 May 1864: James W. Patterson (House of Representatives) to Amos Tuck. “I have been very busy of late. I do not know whether I shall be able to carry the Provision for Consular Pupils or not. I shall do my best.

The Senatorial question seems to me very mixed. My impression is that newspaper articles which attempt to create public opinion by misrepresenting or damning with faint praise actual or possible candidates is not very well calculated to propitiate said possible candidates. I think Hale + Marston do not hold so good a position in the public of N.H. as they did some time since. Cragin looks more hopeful but he will never be Senator I think. I will write more fully soon on this.

I fear our friends are keeping their oil too long. But I will not pretend to dictate in this matter.

We are having terrible slaughter in front. Meade and Grant are very hopeful I understand from Dana who came up from headquarters this morning.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 9]

26 May 1864: Edward Tuck (Grand Hotel de Lyon) to Amos Tuck. “My dear Father, We have rec’d detailed news of the great battle in Virginia up to the 11th inst., and telegraphic up to the 14th, the later stating that we have captured 30 cannon and 4000 prisoners on the 13th and had cut several lines of telegraphic and railway communication of importance to the rebels. On the whole, judging from the accounts as rec’d through English channels we have had the advantage throughout and are likely to make still more decisive moves, if nothing unforeseen (mud or thunder, for hitherto in Virginia one or the other has always come to the aid of Lee) should put an inglorious end to so hard-won a commencement on the track to Richmond. Am in the same state of excited suspense, that you were in a fortnight ago, and must wait 2 or 3 days for anything further. At this hotel one sees all the Paris papers and the London Times, in which I have found more than I have been able to read.”

“Yrs. of the 3rd May, enclosing draft on 60 days, for 500 fcs I rec’d at Pau, the day after sending my last letter. I disposed of it at Pau to an agent of Munroe & Co., who shaved pretty dearly, charging 10 fcs. for interest and commission. He is the U.S. vice-consul, but an Englishman. For the latter reason alone I would advocate his removal. When I get settled down at Berne I shall send you a financial report of the last few months expenditures which you may be surprised at not having already rec’d...” Ned lays out briefly a new plan for living in Switzerland and studying German as well as French.

“The cost of the draft for 500 fcs startled me. I can hardly enjoy myself when I think of how much these little francs cost. And when I read of the Virginia battles, I feel misgivings as to the propriety of my being here, helping to send away from our country the coin which is so much needed, instead of helping my little share to bring down the premium and restoring the credit of the old flag, by serving in the army. Though I feel the benefit of my life in France, yet it may be that it costs too dearly. If I should go home, there is nothing to do but to enter the army. But it may be that gold will still go up and all plans of more French and the German will have to be thrown aside.”

Ned details his visit to Toulouse, Montpellier, and Nimes. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

5 June 1864: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “I regale you at this time by sending you with this two letters, one from Mary Sanborn, which came addressed to you here, and which I thought proper to open and read, and the other from Ellen to Abby, written a few days ago, in her racy style, which will give you quite a picture of domestic affairs at Reading, and a hint of the pleasant relations and circumstances now subsisting here at home. Abby is very happy here, and very useful and comforting to your mother and to myself, while Laura is a ray of sunshine, which scarcely has a shade. Your mother is in fair health, though yet far from well. Abby is in fair health, and I am quite well.”

“I write to-day, though the steamer does not sail till the 8th, fearing that as I go to Concord, to-morrow (Monday) night to watch the Senatorial warfare, I may not have time to write, unless I do to-day. I cannot tell the future result of the battle, but while I have a sort of conviction that I shall not be elected, I yet am doing what I can, and many of my supporters are sanguine that I may succeed. It will come off in about a week, probably, and it may be that your next week’s letter will convey to you the finality.”

“...Notwithstanding gold is 190, I am content that you pursue your course, in Europe, according to such plan as you may deem best...”

“I will not dwell on the war. Things have gone on well for a long time, and we expect to take Richmond in this campaign, and to wring the necks of the Rebels pretty essentially. But it must not be expected at once.”

“Your mother and Abby say Mary Sanborn wrote you, for no other reason than to pave the way to a restoration of ‘happy relations’ between you and her. My suggestion is, that if you reply to Mary’s letter, you either make no allusion to Nellie, or say you are sorry she is unhappy, and sorry that she has found any one, not to be all he fancy painted him, for such experience is

very painful, as you yourself have known. If you think best, you might further say, that you have long since pardoned her behavior to you, as you long ago discovered, as your friends always had felt, that a particular friendship, though pleasant and fascinating, was quite certain to be calamitous to your permanent welfare, however desirable it might seem on some accounts. But I dictate not.”

Amos suggests that Ned discuss with Fogg whether becoming a journalist might be a good way to use his writing skills, evident from his letters. Amos says he will send another draft for 500 francs next week. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

12 June 1864: New York Times reports that Tuck received 32 votes in the first round of balloting for NH Senator (102 votes were necessary to win). He started in third place and received no votes in the third and fourth ballots. Aaron H. Cragin elected on the fifth ballot. Gilman Marston came in second.

7 July 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Amos reports on his efforts to have the sugar that Ned had bought and sent to Louisville away from his former colleagues Dow and Burghardt and sent to Peck, Tuck’s partner [?] in Chicago. He says that D and B may be honest men, but their lack of “smartness” made them as harmful as dishonest men. Tuck says that they had given Charles Dow the benefit of the doubt because of their acquaintance with Sam Dow and his sister. “The sugar is out of his hands, is mostly sold, I think wholly sold, at fair prices, by Peck, and I have most of the pay for it. I save Peck from any loss, and my loss will not be great.”

“As you go about the world, you see more and more of the emptiness of mankind. I have had but few unselfish friends, outside of my own family. Your uncle John, Jonathan and Mr. Hoyt, Mr. Stickney, and James Bell, nearly fill out the list. I coincide in view with yourself respecting Mr. Fogg....I want to say again to you, among other things, that you can expect little sympathy or interest in you, from anybody. I credulously thought that as I had done so much for him, Mr. Fogg would give you considerable help. It was the last method or opportunity he is likely ever to have, of obliging me, and it seems he has failed. I did not, nor did you ask him for a shelter and for food, but for [word unclear], kindness, and sincere sympathy. I suppose these [word unclear] you have failed of receiving. Now I should say, go to Geneva, go on your travels, form your own plans, and carry them out, without expecting or wishing even for an opinion from him....”

“I am certainly content with your account of expenses for 6 months....I have made \$2000 in an oil speculation, this summer, and my affairs, generally, are very prosperous. You and I, together, can do just as we please, about your stay in Europe, and I do not intend to have you hurried, or worried out of your past or future plans, by the condition of the money market. So feel perfectly free to do what you think will be substantially beneficial. I think Fogg may not be able to judge half as well as you, as to what is best for you. Be not content with his estimate of

what you may aim at, in life. Form your own estimate of desirable achievements, and pursue it independently, not in a hurry, not in a worry.”

“I hear no more of the Consular Pupil business, and recommend not to take it into account, though you may yet have the offer of it....”

“Your letter about the sugar, no one will see but myself, and your dealings in ‘Five Twenties’ is known only to a few, and not to any whom you wish to be ignorant of your affairs. Respect your delicacy in this regard.”

“We are all just now rejoicing over the destruction of the Alabama. It was well done, only I wish our folks had fired shell and shot into the English who picked up Semmes.”

“Grant is still pegging away at Petersburg and Richmond. People are hopeful, though the price of gold, (260-270) indicates some serious derangement or inflation, or else want of perfect confidence in our finances, and in govt. stability. I have good courage, believing we are only going through with what other nations have experienced before us, and that we shall come out bright and strong. It was lucky you were drafted last year. Young men are now afraid of their liability, and not a man goes willingly. The romance is played out. Substitutes are obtained with difficulty, at a price not less than 575 to 700\$.”

“I was at Eff. With your uncle John this week. All well, and enquiring with much interest about you. We caught trout in the brook and ate them with good appetite. Some time since, John T. caught a whale of a trout, 1 ½ foot long, weighing a pound and a half – a wonderful fish for that brook....John T. Hodgdon is a good fellow. I am to give them my horse at the close of my using him this Fall, and next Spring I intend to have a horse to my mind – though it may cost 3 to \$400. I have taken Henry Townsend’s watch, at 125\$, the same which I carried for so long a time, and by the wish of your mother as well as of myself and others, it is to be yours, instead of the less valuable one which you now carry....”

“Your mother is better, Abby is not well. Ellen, Frank and the rest are all right. Hatty French has laid violent hands on Hollis and is to marry him next Sat. and then let him go to the army, from which he has been detained by a wound and by Hatty for 2 mos. past.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

9 July 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “Your mother has been with me in Boston for a few days. Last Sat. (to-day is Tuesday) we dined luxuriously at Ellen’s and have since been going here and there about Boston, - to Nahant, etc. We go to-night at 5 to Hampton to spend two days at Boar’s Head Hotel. Abby and Laura are at ‘Uncle Alfred’s’ who is said to be doing fairly, and to be on good terms with Martha. We are all in good health.”

“Sherman is about taking Atlanta, Grant is holding a bull dog grip upon Lee, and there is a general feeling that the Confederacy is getting no better quite fast, and that the Fall Campaign will come pretty near leaving hem no whar. Though gold is 259 to-day, the public courage is good. Chase made an ass of himself, by running for President and his going out of the Cabinet is acquiesced in with general satisfaction.”

“...the new application to your eyes [is] regarded as very hopeful. I am glad you went to see thee oculist, and had such a satisfactory interview. Your eyes are of the first importance.”

“As to the Pupilsip, pay no attention to it, till it reaches you. I need not have troubled you about it, as it is of course uncertain, but have supposed we could think it over, without damage, hit or miss. But I count nothing certain, with such politicians as Seward at the helm. To-morrow is Commencement at Hanover and at Cambridge, and the Custom will be shut. I shirk going to Hanover because I don’t like them there very much any how.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

10 July 1864: Abby Nelson (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “...One day, week before last, I rode with Laura over to Hampton. The Boar’s Head House has been nicely fitted up by Warren Dow and they are going to keep a nice house, it is said. Uncle Batchelder and Aunt Martha have patched up and [word illegible] of reconciliation, and his home is to be kept open too: he looked and appeared more respectable than usual, and Warren and George looked and behaved well...”

“Time does not reconcile me to William’s death, or to the separation from my children. No one need try to console me, for God himself does not know the bitterness of my soul. But I will not venture further upon this subject. The Fourth of July I spent at Reading, returning home in the evening. I do not enjoy being at Ellen’s the house is always in such a state of confusion, and she does not govern her children in the least. Frank has no force either, and never exhibits any energy about the house. But they are perfectly happy, and that is enough for this world. They are coming here the last of this month to stay two weeks and after that Mother has invited the Nelsons to come and bring Dolly and Nelly, but they have not noticed the invitation in any way, as yet. I hear from the children at long intervals, and I would not have believed a year ago, I could have lived so isolated from them.”

“Last Thursday I received a letter from you. I can say that Mr. Fogg has shown himself so little of a gentleman. He always looked like a pig with his dirty teeth and nails. I hope you are away from his swiniship [unclear] ere this. No doubt, you will find plenty of friends who will appreciate you and show you polite attention gladly, for own sake as well as for father’s. But no doubt you often have lonely moment, when your heart yearns for the dear ones at home. We are sorry that your eyes are not feeling stronger. I wish you would next time you are in Paris consult the best oculist there. I shall always believe that sunstroke was the cause of your weak eyes. I believe the optic nerve received an injury which did not develop itself at once.”

“Laura is very well and happy. Father is looking well, and mother looks, and is better. Father has been at Parsonsfield and Effingham with Uncle John. Uncle John received a letter from you a sort time since. Gold is up very high and the war prospects are looking decidedly gloomy. I reckon Gen. Grant will have to leave off smoking cigars pretty soon. Gen. Sigel and the whole crew have been removed for incompetence. Chase has gone out in the [word illegible] and Mr. Fessenden takes his place in the Cabinet. Our bees swarmed [sp.?] a while ago and we are having fine honey. Caroline Kelly is engaged to be married to a Mr. Davis, a young man only twenty three years old [rest of sentence is illegible].”

“Father has given our horse away to John Hodgdon sen. on condition he will find father a good one some where. Bill is getting rather broken down. In addition to our handsome store fronts, we will have a fine well cut stepping stone in front of the house, also one in the back yard with a nice stone, matching front. I will now close, and let father add a few lines, with love your sister, Abby T. Nelson. P.S. We have got a beautiful Brussels carpet on father’s library, the one I had on my parlor in Peekskill. Also a nice rocking chair tat would just suit you. The library looks beautiful. I am going to the Beach with Laura to stay a week.”

[Amos takes up the letter] “Tuesday July 12/64. My Dear Ned: Patterson is at my office in Boston, talking to Mr. Goodrich about the Raid into Maryland and Pennsylvania. P. has seen Grant at his Headquarters at the Front. G. has perfect confidence that Lee is taken in a corner and must eventually abandon Richmond, and that the Rebellion will go down before Winter. Here in Boston, people are much scared, but not at all in a panic”

“Abby is in Boston to-day to consult a physician. She has some female difficulty requiring attention. She is going to the beach with Laura for a few days. Your mother will recreate in Boston during the time.”

“Pat. says you will probably have the apptmt. of Consular Pupil, to reject or to keep as you think best. He says two tutors at Cambridge have applied, that the law provides that the pupils shall not be removed except for cause, and by permission obtained of Congress, and are therefore permanents – that the examination of candidates will b severe, requiring what is tantamount to a liberal education, and the power to speak one foreign language, and that the apptmts. will be valued highly, and that of course his brother cannot pass etc. etc. It is of course to be included in the consideration of accepting, whether a man is ready to contemplate expatriation. I [Phrase illegible] not to say to anybody that you won’t take it, but I am not at all clear that it is best to attempt to hold or accept such a place. We will see whether it is offered to you first....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

12 July 1864: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees’ meeting..

16 July 1864: Amos Tuck (Custom House Boston) to President A.D. Smith. “On very many accounts I regret the present prospect of my inability to attend the next meeting of the Trustees of the College. My principal Deputy is now necessarily absent from his post, and I fear may not return till too late for my attendance at Hanover next week.”

“With great respect your obdt. svt. Amos Tuck” [Rauner Library, Tuck’s alumni file]

26 July 1864: Edward Tuck (Geneva) to Amos Tuck. Ned tells Amos of his consultation with an oculist and that he speaks French frequently. Taking his father’s advice, Ned is taking riding lessons three times a week.

“Gold by last advices (July 16th) had fallen to 253. As you remarked in yr. last, except for the 5-20s investment I should have good reason to turn my face homewards....” Ned insists that the interest from the bonds should pay Amos back for the money he has been sending.

“...I think that the brain fever I once had is the prime cause of their weakness, and, with all due deference to my douche and footbath be it said I believe that they never will be fit for any continuous study. If I thought there was any place in the store of G.K. Paul & Co. where I could be of any use to anybody, I should think seriously of accepting yr. offer to ‘use yr. name’ in my behalf in that establishment. Do you think that I could make my services appreciated there?”

Responding to Amos’ letter of 12th, Ned writes; “My impression still is that I had better not accept it [appointment as Consular Pupil], should I have the offer. At any rate, not if there is anything I could forward o in America. I am almost sure that my eyes alone would incapacitate me for the position. The consul here, whose advice I asked, advises me not to take it, unless I could get ‘a very good place, for instance in China.’ His idea is that the provisions of the law which makes the practice [word illegible] would be nullified by a new Congress if ruled by a different party. China he thinks a good place, because the salaries of consuls there are high and because a fellow might learn the language and make himself indispensable. In the latter case he might be fortunate enough to spend his life there, on good pay, and possibly marry a rich Chinese heiress....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

26 July 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Amos tells Ned he doesn’t have to write every week, but three week intervals might be a bit too long. “It is sort of habit, on my part, to write to you every Tuesday....”

“As yet, I hear no more of the Consul business, and shall give it no thought, till it comes, if it never comes. I feel that you and I are both independent, or getting so, of official patronage.”

“...Our family are as when I wrote. Your mother at Exeter, Abby and Laura at the Beach. Ellen comes in to Boston today. Abby is still out of health, and not gaining. I shall go to see her to-night, and possible take her to Exeter. She and your mother are now always quite happy when together, and not a ripple of discomfort has occurred since Abby came home....”

“About my reduced salary - I think we shall obtain a repeal of the late Circular. It is ungracious to publish this new construction of an old law (cutting down salaries) acted on for 23 years, at a time when gold is 250. It has never given me an uneasiness, and it will not be alter any of my plans, touching myself or my son. It is estimated that my share of the profits in G.K. Paul & Co. for the year last past, has been \$5000 (Private). My other affairs have prospered, and I shall not lower my colors for any new circulars, from Official personages.”

“Sher man is upon Atlanta, if not in it, Grant has a bull-dog grasp upon Lee, the people are in good courage, and my faith is strong, that we shall outide the storm, as a nation....”
[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

27 July 1864: William H. Seward (Washington) to Amos Tuck. “I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 25th ult. and to acquaint you that a communication has been addressed to your son, Mr. Edward Tuck, in which he was requested to

report himself for examination in the studies required for appointment to the office of Consular Clerk, to Mr. Dayton the Minister of the U.S. at Paris.”

“You will perceive from the accompanying extracts of the despatches to Mr. Dayton and to Mr. Bigelow, the Consul of the U.S. at Paris, that your son will have, like the young men who are preparing themselves for a similar examination in this country, an opportunity of making himself acquainted with the requisite studies.”

“It will give me pleasure to learn that he passes a successful examination.”

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

2 August 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to “My Dear Friend.” [Probably George Fogg in Berne] “I yesterday wrote to Ned, directing my letter to him at Geneva, without particular designation: in my letter enclosing to Ned, extracts from despatches sent by the State Department to Mr. Dayton, respecting Ned’s appointment for examination as a ‘Consular Clerk’ under a late act of Congress. If you have any doubt that my letter of yesterday will reach him, I shall be obliged if you will write him, as soon as you receive this, and enclose this letter to him, so that he may know I am anxious he should receive my letter, and know of his selection. I feel the thing opens to him a desirable course, and if you think so too, I would be glad to have you give him your views. I think the temporary weakness of his eyes should not prevent his acceptance, as he could use an amanuensis, to write, and to read to him.”

“I feel the public sorrow over the late repulse at Petersburg. We have got to get a better hold of this Rebellion, and make a new draft on our resources for strangling it. I mean to put in a recruit for myself, and another for my wife, and if there is occasion do anything else, which I can do. I pray God to save this nation.”

“Your obliged friend, Amos Tuck” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

4 August 1864: W.H. Peck to Amos Tuck: “I am happy to say the sugar business is settled, not satisfactorily however, but as well as I could settle it. The sugar, most of it has been sold sometime, but I had not seen the purchases until recently in order to collect the money.” Peck gives details of his difficulties and an accounting of the money. He encloses \$262 coming to Ned. He asks for Ned’s address. [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 8, Folder 30]

6 August 1864: Edward Tuck (Geneva) to Frank French. Ned has just received a tattered two-month old letter from Ellen.

“I have been disappointed in Geneva and were it not for a strong conviction of the utter impossibility of finding anything completely to one’s taste, my dissatisfaction with the climate and with the character of the town and people, would be a sufficient motive to induce me to quit in disgust.” He now plans to stay 3 months in Geneva, then travel, and return home in the Spring.

“You mustn’t entirely cease to dream of coming some day to Europe, understanding the unhappy fate that consigned you too early to matrimonial cares and blasted yr. first hopes of

travel....So don't fail to look forward to taking at least a 6 months' vacation some day, when greenbacks shall be better in the market and the babies shall be weaned, for a hasty run over Europe...." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

7 August 1864: Abby T. Nelson (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "This is Laura's tenth birthday and she is very happy for Nelly and Dolly as both here on a visit. Father went to New York City and me the little darlings and brought them home. Ellen is also here with her two children....Father is delighted with your appointment as consular pupil, and it is so fortunate you should be placed at Paris, is it not?....Ellen received a letter from you yesterday, in which you give a very entertaining account of your journey to St. Bernard, and of the pleasant society of the Stowells. We are all half inclined to believe you have lost your heart, to the young lady. Father is perfectly resigned to it, provided she is amiable and rich....Father says you will be able to visit us and we shall all visit you. He is looking forward with great pleasure to crossing the Atlantic next year. How glad you will be to see him! He is so good devoted to us all! Pa looks just as young and handsome as ever. He is in excellent spirits notwithstanding everything looks so dark on the political horizon. Grant has been repulsed and our army is still before Petersburg. The enemy, it is generally conceded, are about to assume active offensive operations and they now occupy Hagerstown, Penn. If you have not already read the account of the blowing up of the fort by a mine, and the dreadful slaughter which ensued: it was the most terrible event of the whole war."

Abby describes how pretty and well-behaved Nelly and Dolly are. "We have been spending two weeks at Batchelders....Father and all of us have unanimously come to the conclusion that Batchelder is a scoundrel, and his family is much to be pitied. He treated father shamefully, cheating him about my board, etc. Ann and Martha spoke of you with great interest and George and the girls asked many questions concerning you....The house on Boar's Head is being well kept this year, but there is very little company...."

Ellen adds her own part of the letter, mostly chatty gossip. She too expresses pleasure at Ned's appointment, and mild concern that Ned may have lost his hear again.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

7 August 1864: Edward Tuck (Geneva) to Amos Tuck. "I received yr. short letter of the 19th July yesterday, in which you speak of going to Hampton Beach for a couple of days. I wish that I had been there to go with you, as it is a dissipation which I have always recommended but which you never before indulged in."

"...I am to dine to-day at the consul's (Mr. Upton's). He is an agreeable man and has an agreeable family: my only objective in going to his house often is that I speak English there...."

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

9 August 1864: BBF (Washington) to HFF. "You want to know why 'our bank?' Did I never tell you that Jay Cook and Co. and I set the First National Bank in this City going? One day last Fall, H.D. Cook wrote me a very polite note inviting me to call at his Banking House. I did so,

and he told me that they were about to establish the 1st National Bank of Washington, and wanted me to go in and be a Director. I told him I had no money. He said that was no matter, that Jay Cook and Co. would advance all the money I wanted and carry it on for me at 6 per cent just as long as I wanted it. So I went \$2500 – and was a goose that I did not go \$10000, which I could just as well have done. It will pay a very large interest. We divided 4 per ct. on our first semi annual dividend-day, and – what the world does not know – paid it in gold, leaving a very large surplus of profit on hand. I have paid \$1500, and still owe Cook and Co. \$1000. I have \$3,500 invested in Govt. stocks - \$3000 of it in 5-20s, and I always keep Mary Ellen supplied with all the funds she wants to keep up the household expenses, and never a dollar of debt to stand over one month against us.” BBF also claims he has other income from his old clients. [FFP Reel 6]

10 August 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Apparently Amos has enclosed letters from Abby and Ellen. “You will see that the girls are chuck full of anticipation believing that you will be ready to jump at the Clerkship, and that you will pass the ordeal, notwithstanding your eyes. Reflection increases my bias toward your accepting it if you can get it....I now think I should wish you to make a dead set on Mr. Dayton and on Mr. Bigelow, to get yourself accepted any how, trusting to a clerk and to others for eyes till you get yours. It is a position which money could not buy, and unless your views are adverse entirely to mine, I recommend you use all the arts and appliances known to you, to cause Mr. D. and B and especially the latter, to take an interest in your getting the place....”

Amos recently met “young Stowell” and his sister and was very impressed by both. “Our Ned’, (Ellen and Abby say), is ‘a great catch,’ any way, and I, (believing what they say), am of course averse to any hurried bargain or proposal. I told them, but have told no one else of your offer of this ‘Clerkship.’” She immediately said you had spoken to her about it, and she looked pleased. She said it was just the thing. Soon after she said she wanted to go to Europe again, next year. She looked rather conscious when talking of you. Both of them avowed their perfect confidence in your ability to live in Paris, without becoming debased. She played the piano for me most skillfully. No doubt she is a little vain, possibly, but she is so smart she has a right to be. She says she [would] rather live in Europe than in America....”

“Nellie Batch [Batchelder?] has been voted a ninny, several times, by your mother, Ellen and Abby since news of your appointment arrived....”

[Marginal comment] “I shall write a short line to Mr. Dayton and one to Mr. Bigelow, respecting the Clerkship.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

16 August 1864: Amos Tuck (Concord) to Edward Tuck. “I am here to attend a meeting of the Trustees of Dart. Coll. We have reconsidered some foolish votes at last meeting when I was not present, appointed E.T. Quimby of N. Ipswich, Prof. of Math., and Mr. Ruggles of class ’59 or ’60, as tutor in Mod. Languages. Abby, Ellen and children are still at Exeter, and all of us are enjoying ourselves, only needing you to perfect our family comforts. Of course we converse much about your selection a Consular Clerk, wanting you to have it, if you can get, eyes

considered. I told them I could not be sanguine, that Mr. Dayton and the Consul would wink at the eye-difficulty. Yet I have a strong desire that they shall do so. I consider it an important opening for you, for a time at least. Mr. Abbott, who has favored me and you in the State department writes me that you better take ample time at the Consulate for preparation, before submitting to an examination, and I counsel the same thing. You can employ a man to read to you, and can learn the routine. But I will not burden you by too many suggestions. I commend you to call, as often as proper, upon the Consul and his family, and exert yourself to the utmost in the way of pleasing attentions, in the hope that he may help your acceptance. You can thus show talent, as well as in other things, and vindicate your worthiness of the appmt. Yet I say, if after doing all you can, you find you cannot make the thing a success, be not disheartened, my beloved son, but have faith that success on some other line will attend you.”

“Do not put your foot in, in heart affairs, without all that knowledge respecting religious character, physical health, amiable, domestic qualities which you and I have talked over together. I feel that you have much to confer upon the one you choose. I would not speak on this topic, only that I know the proper time to speak is before, not after the interesting point.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

17 August 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “I am just in receipt. of yours of the 26th and 27th of July, in which you speak of your probable inability to accept the office of Consular Clerk, even if you should get the appointment, and of the advice of the Consul at Geneva, that it would not be desirable even if your eyes would serve you. Now I write you to-day, (I wrote yesterday), in order that no time may be lost, my dear son, in your knowing that if your dear eyes are in such discouraging condition that you fear to undertake the duties of Clerk, about which I have written you so much, and so favorably, I shall be entirely content with your course in not attempting the same....” Amos will support Ned’s plan to travel in Europe instead.

“I would not consent to your going to China, for the sake of all which our Govt. could give you in that country. If you had eyes, I should think a Consular Clerkship at Paris, a nice thing for a few years at least....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

24 August 1864: Edward Tuck (Geneva) to Amos Tuck. After an excursion to Zermatt, Ned returned to Geneva Monday night to find “a notification from the State Department requesting me to report to Mr. Dayton at Paris for examination for consular pupilship and a letter from you, of Aug 1st giving yr. views on the subject.”

“I have concluded to go to Paris (probably to-morrow) and to pass the preparatory month recommended by Mr. Seward, with a view not only to my own preparation for th examination but also to ascertain if the duties which Mr. Bigelow shall see fit to impose on me and the exactions he will require, for on him depends the ‘assignment of such clerical and other duties’ as he, the principal consular officer, shall see fit to assign, - are of a nature to render my acceptance of the place possible....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

31 August 1864: Edward Tuck (Geneva) to Amos Tuck. Ned's trip to Paris was postponed by Dayton because Bigelow was in Germany. They would inform Ned when Bigelow returned. "...Mr. Upton has done everything he could to assist me and has offered to examine me in the Manual, when I shall finished my preparation...."

"After a week's consideration I am more strongly impressed with the value of the position as affording aa means for completing an education, under the best advantages and without expense, and with the especial distinction of having the first appointment and choice of consulates; for I regard Paris as most decidedly the best location...."

"Do you hear from Peck? I wish you could do something for him, in helping him to a place. He writes me that he is engaged to a schoolmistress who is 'neither good looking nor rich.' Poor fellow! I would do anything in the world to help him, though he is bound to get into such scrapes as that even I would cast him off."

[Marginal note] "I shall probably go to Paris in 4 or 5 days." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

8 September 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "I and wife staid at Ellen's last night, having left Abby and Laura to keep house for two days...."

"Public affairs are much improved – the success at Mobile and Atlanta having inspired the public heart and faith. Lincoln will, I think, whip Mc Clellan or any other man, and all other men for the Presidency...."

"In regard to your journeyings, I respond to your wish that you could travel over Switzerland with me, that few things would give me so much pleasure and if you are successful at Paris, it is my purpose, in office or out, myself to go abroad next spring, and take the tour with you...."

"I think Mr. Lincoln will be re-elected, and that your chances for appointment as Consul at some place, within a period not remote, will be good, if your eyes enable you to accomplish your wishes with Mr. Bigelow....But if you are still at Paris, trying, make yourself agreeable to the ladies of Mr. B's household, be careful to attend church, and to do all other things which make good people respect those who am themselves good."

"I have your gold (\$750) coll'd in advance, (by order of my Department), and think I shall sell it at present notes about 240. Will write more about it in my next letter."

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

9 September 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. "On Sunday last 4th Sept I rec'd word at Geneva to report on Wednesday 7th at the bureau of the U.S. Legation at Paris for examination as 'Consular Clerk.' Monday night I left Geneva and on Wednesday I 'appeared' as directed, finding the committee of examination in session. Mr. Dayton, Mr. Bigelow and a Mr. Gibbs, one of the U.S. Revenue Agents abroad. Mr. Violliers was ready to be examined and for three successive days has been screwed by the gentlemen of the committee until to-day, when I have heard nothing about him. Questions are prepared in writing and the candidate is required to reply to them in writing on the spot and without reference to any book. I find that I am to

prepare myself on the 1st vol. of Kent, on Wheaton's Inter. Law, on Story's and on some history (the U.S.)."

"Mr. Bigelow is a thorough scholar, a man that writes books, but withal, from all appearances and all that I can learn, a congenial, whole-[word illegible] man. He is very attentive at his office, a [word unclear] man who does a large am't of writing, and who has ideas as to the duties of men in his office natural to a person of his character and habits."

"He has published a history of the U.S. in French and hence is exacting in his requirements on that subject. I shall read his history (it is not a voluminous one) before submitting to the trial."

"The office consists of 4 rooms in the front of which is the office-man (for opening the doors, letters, etc. and a clerk, an American, who receives all visitors. If they require anything out of the range of this clerk, i.e. if they have no invoices to authenticate or something connected with the general office routine, they are turned over to the vice-consul, who is in the 2nd room. He sifts them out again, in questions of law, being himself a lawyer which the clerk is not."

"The number of visitors who reach Mr. Bigelow is small. In the 3rd room is a library, in the 4th the veritable consular personage."

"I have arranged a standing desk by which I read or write as occasion requires. Mr. B has made me master of my own time, seems favorably disposed, says I must not submit to an examination till I am sure of passing, and all is going on finely. All my work I do standing and I do considerable."

"I found at Paris letters from you, Abby and Ellen at Munroe's. Also I rec'd to-day yrs. of the 26th Aug. You will excuse me for not attempting to reply to them. I read at present as much as I can digest. After 4 o'clock I walk 'hard' for an hour or more and rest as best as I can till morning. I don't bother myself with talking whether the position is as fine a one as might be imagined, waiting for breathing time for that. I will write by Wednesday's steamer again, yr. official son Ned" [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

13 September 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. "All is going well. I study even more constantly than I hoped. I have become accustomed to a standing position and maintain it without the discomfort which I at first experienced. I take systematically a long walk both night and morning, and take every care to keep up a proper bodily training. As for study, I haven't done as much for two years past, and am confident that I can continue to do nearly as well as I have commenced."

"I have read 450 pages in Kent's 1st vol. and shall commence to-morrow Mr. Bigelow's history of the U.S. in French, which will be easily and rapidly finished in 3 or 4 days."

"Violliers has finished his examination and has got for himself much credit. But he is 40 yrs. old and I think it an injustice to naïve-born Americans to allow him to present himself."

"It is claimed for him that the restrictions as to age does not contemplate the case of those already in the service (consular)."

“I have been endeavoring with Mr. Bigelow’s assistance to locate myself in a suitable school or family, where I should hear only French, but have not yet succeeded. It is a more difficult matter than one would imagine in Paris, and I have had the same experience as last winter.”

“A 3rd candidate has presented himself, but I have as yet learned nothing as to his character or qualifications.

“Paris is beyond all question the best location for a clerk and the one most sought after. I feel as though I had the ‘inside track’ on all others on that question.” The copies of letters sent by the Dep’t too Mr. Bigelow, which you forwarded to me, I show to no one, but believe they will assist me.”

“Yr. letters I have not presented, having perhaps too much unwillingness to hand either to Mr. Bigelow or to Mr. Dayton anything that might be construed as an interested declaration of my own mint.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder8]

15 September 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Waiting to hear about Bigelow and Paris. “I spent yesterday in Exeter. Our peaches are getting ripe. We have already gathered four bushels of very nice ones. – have given away to Ellen, of course, abundantly, and to our neighbors freely, and shall sell about 1 bushel of them already gathered. We shall have 1 ½ bu. More, to be ripe next week. We had nearly a bushel of Flemish Beauty Pears, all safely gathered, and have all the varieties we had last year, say 4 bushels....”

“Chas. H. Bell has been trying to raise a Regmt. with Ned Conner, to be his Lieut. Col. Bell has not probably intended to go to the war, but wants to appear to be ready to go. But he has been drunk at Concord and will probably be obliged to resign. Conner was dropped from a Commission in the Regular Army, and has been obliged to resign his Lieut. Colonelcy in the 18th Regmt. under Bell – on a charge of drunkenness. He says he was ‘not guilty’. Danl. Conner, New York Broker Dan has been at home, in full moustache, and seem to be a little too much swelled up to be doing much. A bag of wind seldom weighs much, and I don’t think Dan is a weighty individual.”

“I have drawn upon your Nov. coupons, sold the gold (except \$300 of it), and cast up your affairs with me. The sugar business has been closed upon in full, Peck is let off without a loss, to his entire satisfaction, my loss las not been serious. I cannot tell exactly, not having figured it up, as I never shall, and as you need never do, and your result is this: (I bearing, and insisting upon bearing what loss there was in the sugar transaction). On the profits of the ‘FiveTwenty’ speculation and interest on dues from Merrick and Stickney you have cleared and paid the debt to Mr. Harris, =\$300, and int.; On my note of \$2050 you have paid, besides int. \$718=\$1018, and I have on hand \$300 in gold, to send you when you want it. That is, you now owe me \$1332 on the original note of \$2050 (given as you recollect for five \$1000 bonds sold you by me). I am content with this result to you, and will consent to your using the \$300 in gold which I have on hand, as you insist upon bearing a portion of your expenses. Since my ast accounting to you, my memorandum reads thus: [basically restates the above accounting.]”

“This is a gratifying exhibit in your behalf. I am much pleased with it, and have no doubt you are. The profits on the investment would pay in god all your expenses. Shall keep an eye to your interests hereafter, as heretofore. You are worth more than twice what you were when you left, and your property will, I think, continue to increase I believe. It will all be gold eventually, b keeping it wisely invested. You owe, say \$24,000; you have, in Saint Louis say, \$1,200. You have, in \$25,000 in bonds, worth a premium coupon of 4%, [i.e.] par – 25,000, premium 1,000 [equals] \$27,300. Difference \$3300.”

“You were worth only \$100 when you left. Of course this premium will vacillate, but I think you will make more to hold on than to sell gold-bearing bonds at \$104.”

“Maine Election has gone strong Union, and with fair military success, there will be little chance for McClellan in November.....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

20 September 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. “For two days past the clerk has been absent and on me has devolved the labor of certifying and entering the invoices. It was not imposed on me, as indeed it could not be, for I am reading in the office only for my convenience and am not spending my preparatory month, but yet I offered to do it to relieve the vice-consul and to accustom myself to the proceedings. Hence I have been very busy, and especially to-day, it being what would be called at the Custom House ‘steamer day,’ by us, mail day.”

“I have located myself in a French family, of whom Mr. Bigelow learned, where there are 2 Egyptians and a German. I pay fcs 250 pr. month (3 months in advance) terms that are sufficiently hard, but the best to be made. It is 2 miles from the office (79 Rue Richelieu in the rear of the Luxemburg.”

Ned tells of his studies. “Mr. Dayton wishes that Morse and I be examined together, and I shall have 3 weeks more of time.....”

“My eyes serve me well. They are very fantastic in their various symptoms of strength and feebleness, sometimes manifesting a weakness in the morning which wears off after an hour’s reading, sometimes requiring a simple hour of quick walking to be set right.”

“They are not yet as well as I hope they are to be, as I am troubled more or less with a pain in the forehead. But there is every reason to hope.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

5 October: BBF journal entry: French and Mary Ellen arrive in Boston. “Breakfasted at the Parker House, then walked to the Custom House and found Frank who returned to Parker’s with me....” French and Mary Ellen leave Boston at noon for Reading, “Frank’s domicile”, accompanied by Frank. “We found Ellen and the babies well...” [FFP Reel 2]

7 October 1864: BBF journal entry: “Yesterday at ½ past 8 went into Boston with Frank. Met Mr. Tuck in the cars. We all walked to the Judge’s office, he had not arrived....” French splits off on his own program. “I went from the wharf to the Custom House, and thence with Frank and Deputy Naval Store Keeper Walker (a son of William Walker formerly of Portsmouth, N.H. and well-known to me in my boyhood) on board the Cutter Kewanee, Capt. Pease, whom I knew

and who left word with Frank that he wanted me to visit him....” Later French and Frank met the ladies. [FFP Reel 2]

9 October 1864: BBF journal. Yesterday, went in to Boston with Frank, did some errands, and then went to “the Judge’s office where the ladies were to come and meet me. Mr. Tuck came about 12. The Judge left for Cambridge....Mr. Tuck and I went to our dinner at Young’s, and, on returning to the office at 10 m. past, found the ladies who had been shopping. I took them to Parker’s where they dined, Mr. Tuck insisting on paying for the dinner which I had the meanness to suffer him to do. After dinner we all sallied out to buy a lady’s hat for M.E.....” [FFP Reel 2]

10 October 1864: Thomas Nelson (New York) to Amos Tuck. Nelson runs through the options for Laura’s custody now that her father, William Nelson, has died. “In reply to yours of the 1st inst. I have to say that, neither of us can have any other wish with respect to Laura than that course shall be pursued which shall be most for her interest.” Nelson argues that a permanent solution should be found now. If the “friends” at Exeter are not happy with her staying with the Nelson family, then she should return to Exeter “with the understanding that for the future she is to have her lot with yourself and friends.” TFP, Box 2, Folder 9]

11 October 1864: Edwards Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned is impatient for the exam to take place so his uncertainty will end. It will probably take place in the next week. His eyes are better with rest and the douche he applies. Ned asks Amos to send \$100 of the \$300 in gold, if it is at hand, and to endorse the balance.

“The news from Va. is delighting all the Americans whom I see at the consulate...to-day a doubtful looking character, evidently of southern sympathies came in and enquired in a low tone for information on the subject of taking the oath of allegiance. Such circumstances show which way the wind is blowing.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

11 October 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “The bearer of this is Mr. Chas. G. Way of Boston, son of one of the strong men of this city, whom I would like to oblige. On some proper occasion, I wish you would introduce Mr. Way to Mr. Dayton and in such other manner oblige him, as you find practical.” (Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 70)

21 October 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “....A day or two ago I met in the cars your classmate Taylor, of Andover, who informed me he had been an officer in a colored company, had been in the Red River Expedition, got sick, and discharged and now is studying law in Boston....The same day I saw Katy Sanborn, who is spending some weeks at Andover, Mass. She told [me] Mary had written you....” Amos relates some further gossip about Ned’s friends.

“I made a mistake in selling the \$300 in gold at 194, because in a week it went up to 219, though it is now down again to 206....”

Tuck is impatient to hear of the exam.

“Elizabeth J. Gardner is in Paris, and her address is, to care of Munroe & Co. Call at once, of course, and give her my kindest regards.”

“Our national affairs look very hopeful. Sheridan has had three big battles in the Shenandoah, the last one two days ago, and been victorious in each. Lincoln ought to be elected by a large majority, and the war ought to be near its close before spring.”

“Most branches of business are now dull but the price of Steam & Gas Pipe is still high and we are doing as well as ever at Geo. K. Paul & Co. Forfeits [at customs] also are not infrequent.”

“Abby is visiting Ellen, and will return to Exeter tomorrow....”

“If you want to write some letters for a newspaper, I have no doubt of your success, and I will make a confidential arrangement with the Advertiser, so that no one but myself and the Editor shall know who you are. But this should not be done till you have some leisure.”

“Mrs. Stevens has written an affectionate letter to your mother, urging her to visit them at Concord, and a postscript from Lizzy.”

“Your aff. Father, with respectful regards to Mr. Bigelow.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

24 October 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned reports he has been ordered to take his exam the next day.

“...I called upon Mrs. Bigelow 10 days ago and last week was invited to a little soirée at their house, which I attended. My evenings lately have all been occupied in calling upon acquaintances or at the theatres. The latter is a more laudable occupation of one’s time in Parris than in Boston. With my dismal spectacles, the light doesn’t affect my eyes....”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

25 October 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Tuck is sending Ned \$100 in gold francs, and informs him of further trading in Ned’s gold. He applied the balance to Ned’s note and now he owes Amos only \$956.25! Tuck also tells him that he has refurbished his old watch to give to Ned. Also, that Ned will inherit the watch Amos now carries, if Ned outlives Amos. Ned’s mother has approved this plan. Amos will bring the watch when he visits the following spring.

“Prof. Patterson gave a political address at Exeter, Sat. eve. the 21st inst., at which I presided. It went off well, and he passed Sunday at our house. He enquired all about you, as do all our acquaintances. Mr. Wentworth (of the Acad.) was in, with his new wife, last evening, and spoke very kindly of you, remarking that you had a manner which attracted people towards you....”

“A Brass Iron Foundry C. has been formed in Exeter, (I am not in it), and the Steam Sawmill and land at Depot, has been purchased for its use....”

“Do you call any where? Upon the Dodge’s, or at Mr. Bigelow’s house, or upon thee Dayton’s, or upon any American families?....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

28 October 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned has spent the past three days at Dayton's house being examined. He's pretty confident, "though I do not know how much I may rely upon the favorable consideration of Mr. Bigelow; he is exceedingly exacting in what he considers to be the requisite qualifications of candidates." Ned describes some of the test questions. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

30 October 1864: Abby Nelson (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Major French and wife had been visiting Boston. "I should think from what Ellen said, that the Major is tedious and rather piggyish and Mary Ellen very commonplace and set in her ways. Young Ben is in Washington, wasting his father's substance and going to mischief generally. He is so lazy that he is not yet ready to live, and laziness, by the way is the bane of that whole family: Frank is saved by being placed under Father's influence, and is going to make something, I think...." [Both Amos Tuck and Catherine Tuck add short notes that suggest they had read Abby's letter.]

[Rauner Library, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 47]

31 October 1864: J.D. Lyman (Farmington, NH, Farmington Bank letterhead) to Amos Tuck. Lyman (cashier of the bank) strongly responds to a Tuck letter that "L.M.W" was a "fast friend" of General M___ [Marston?]. Lyman is obviously angry with Tuck's letter.

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 9]

1 November 1864: Lincoln signs Edward Tuck's commission as a consular pupil, after Minister Dayton and Consul Bigelow recommend his appointment in October. (Franklin Brooks, Dartmouth College Library Bulletin, April 1981)

November 1864 [no day given]: Gideon Welles (Washington) to William E. Chandler. Offers him a job as counsel to investigate and prepare for trial "the cases of depredation on public property" which have occurred at the Navy Yard in Philadelphia. [Chandler Papers, NHHS]

4 November 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Test papers are finished and on their way to Washington. "Mr. Bigelow told me on Wednesday that it was the opinion of the Board of Examiners that I had passed my examination in a manner very creditable to myself."

"I am assigned informally to this Consulate, though Mr. Dayton, from a misunderstanding of the instructions I think, considers himself bound to await orders from the Government, before giving me written assignment. But there is no doubt but that the report is favorable and that everything is promising...."

Bigelow advised Ned to have his father to ascertain the several questions relating to Ned's pay. In any case, Ned expects to receive \$250 in gold every quarter. Ned gives Amos the facts of his appointment, and leaves the question to Amos. "I do not expect that my salary will commence earlier than the 25th Oct., and I do not wish you to trouble yourself with anything more than a simple letter to Mr. Abbott or to some other friend at W."

Ned gives considerable detail on the test questions and how he answered them.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

11 November 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. "I have rec'd yr. letter of 22nd and also the enclosed letter from Mr. Rollins. The present week I hope to hear from Washington. It is quite gratifying to know that my salary will commence from the time I left Geneva. I had hardly hoped it would be so, yet it is no more than just."

"Mr. Brooks goes to America this week with the body of Mr. Dayton. It is two months earlier than he had intended, and I believe he has a special motive in doing it. Perhaps he means to strike for the Secretaryship of Legation under Mr. Dayton's successor. The present Secretary is a son of late Speaker Pennington, whose only accomplishments are profanity and love of brandy."

"Whether Mr. Bigelow will put me immediately into Mr. Brooks place or will give me Mr. Gould's desk, to take charge of the invoices, remains to be seen."

"Mr. Dayton's funeral services took place at the American chapel. Dr. Sunderland preached the sermon, after which Mr. Bigelow made some remarks and called upon Prof. Laboulaye, a member of the Institute of France and great friend of America, who spoke in French. The ministers of foreign nations were present, as also M. Drouyn de l'Huys and representatives send by the Emperor and the Prince Napoleon. The usual things said on like occasions were pronounced by the various speakers...."

"I called on Lizzie Gardner last eve. She wished to be remembered to you."

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

13 November 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned thanks Amos for sending the draft for 500 francs. "...I was getting decidedly poor, in consequence of payments to rascally tailors and bootmakers, who are no less ravenous here than in America...." Ned describes other bill issues.

"As regards the sale of the 5-20 gold, I think we have been remarkably lucky heretofore and see no reason to be dissatisfied with the sale at 194...."

Ned is not sure how much it will cost to live in Paris. Bigelow says \$800 a year would suffice "But he made that computation impracticable by putting me in a house where I should pay \$600 for my lodgings and board, having only \$200 for clothing and whistles, the latter term including the theatre, and innumerable small expenses which count up in a year's time to a considerable sum. To enjoy Paris one must spend money...." Ned estimates \$900 per year would be more realistic, and he will show Amos why when he visits next spring.

"This week I am to take charge of the cashier's desk, to learn the business. It is not hard. I shall have opportunity to speak considerable French, as usually 20 or 30 different parties come in to ask questions more or less important, and to certify their invoices. Have heard Coquerell père preach, but not the son. The son has been expelled from the consistory of the faithful for his extremely Unitarian notions and is not allowed to preach in the ordinary Protestant churches. The old man's views are nearly the same as the son's, but on acct. of this age it was considered

impolitic to excommunicate him. I shall hear him again to-day. I understand a sermon as well as I do English”

“In a letter written just after Uncle Henry’s death, you did speak of mother’s wish that his watch might be carried by me and if yr. intention [is] to buy it, I should of course be very much gratified to receive it and thank you both very much for your kindness....”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

14 November 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to William E. Chandler. “My Dear Sir: If you have no use for a note which I sent you in January last, written on a Telegraphic scrap of paper, on the expediency of nominating a candidate for the Presidency at our State Convention, I wish you would send it to me; or, if you have any wish to retain it, I shall be glad if you will send me a copy of it;

And thus oblige, yours very truly, Amos Tuck

Hon. W.E. Chandler

P.S. What thanksgivings we should feel, over the late Election Event. It is a great Era in History, and God be praised for it.”

[WEC has annotated at the top of the letter: “Original letter mentioned returned to Mr Tuck Nov 15/64 – I had personally promised him I would give him the original if he wanted it. W E C” [Chandler Papers, NHHS]

15 November 1864: Tuck finally gives up position as Hampton Academy Treasurer. John Dearborn takes over the position. [Hampton Academy records, Hampton Historical Society]

17 November 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “...Evidently the examination was no sham, and that whosoever falls into the hands of Mr. Bigelow, will only escape, to his satisfaction, by demonstration of ability....To pass such as ordeal, you had to avail yourself of all your manly and scholarly resources....”

“We are at the U.S. Hotel, well situated, and Ellen is to spend this evening with us.”

Amos opined that Ned’s salary should start as of his departure from Geneva. Mr. Abbott is posted abroad, but Amos will write to some other person at Washington as suggested by Mr. Bigelow.

“I was at Hampton Acad. Examination on Wednesday. Mr. Marston [sp?], a Dart. Graduate of this year, - a vivacious smart teacher at the Academy, who is having decided success, told me at the dinner table that Ned Tuck would pass the examination if any body could, and that you were very popular in College, and deserved to be. It is generally known, that you have your position, and it is universally regarded as the very best for an aspiring young educated man. The position is eminently advantageous for development and accomplishments, and consequently for getting into the best grade of society. Yet you will have to cull carefully among the people with whom you meet, to keep right. As I said once before, substantially, I hope that the men and especially by the women whom you meet much in society, will early find out that

while you have no religion to brag of, you yet are a punctilious, conscientious protestant, who does not lose his religious and New England habits, by the exhilaration and novelty of Parisian society.”

“The Republicans are behaving with great magnanimity towards the Democracy since elections, and the Democrats are exhibiting unlooked for, and most gratifying disposition to support the Govt. and lick the Rebels....The war, in fact, was necessary, and without it, we could not, as things were, ever become a truly great people. We shall be purified, of course, as by fire, and the sacrifice of precious blood is great, but it hath not yet entered into the heart of man to conceive all the glorious results of the purification and the expiation for sin, which is taking place. How much better you must all feel, since election! Sherman is ‘loose’ in the South, like a lost bullet in a wounded rebel, certain to kill somewhere or somehow, but no one yet knows the circumstances.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

19 November 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “First of all ought we to give thanks to Almighty God for the victory He has vouchsafed to us, in this country, by which the People have endorsed and guaranteed Right, re-elected Abraham Lincoln President, and, as I believe, saved the Nation, and the cause of Freedom, throughout the world.”

“John Gardner has returned. Three weeks after he saw you, he was in the old store, selling snuff by the quarter, and wishing, as he said to me, that he could change places with you. I could not wish it, much as I am John’s friend....”

Amos and Abby spent the previous Sunday in Biddeford. “Angeline is a bright, hearty girl of 17 yrs. I give her money to pay clothing, etc. and the dear child pays me in loving gratitude and her dear mother looks down from heaven and blesses her child and me for the good I do her. I have sent Amos Otis to school this Fall, but only at an expense of \$23. Lois Ann and Polly, as well as John and family, are well and happy.”

“We come to Boston next Sat., Abby with us, to the U.S. Hotel, to stay for the winter, which is the best disposition for us....”

“P.S. John Gardner wished to be remembered to you. Present my respects to Mr. Bigelow, with my thanks for his kindness to you, (if you think best). Also particularly to Lizzie Gardner, and to Miss Robinson. Lizzie has always seemed neat to me.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

21 November 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Frank French. Ned and others are impatient to hear the election result from the U.S. Work is slow – Ned’s chief job is to be in the office for 4-5 hours each day. Bigelow has given him an odd job now and then. Ned is reading with unexpected pleasure Macauley’s essays, including one on Frederick the Great.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

23 November 1864: Edward A Rollins (Washington) to Amos Tuck. Rollins’ letter is on letterhead of the Internal Revenue Service. Tuck forwarded it to Ned because it reported that

Ned would be paid as of his departure from Geneva. Tuck had written to Rollins asking him to call on the State Department. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

22 November 1864: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees' meeting.

2 December 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Expressed his happiness and pride at Ned's success in the exam. "Mr. Sumner carried the Consular measure through the Senate, and partly on this account, I thought it expedient to call on him, and give him an account of the operation of his enactment in Europe, and the standard fixed, of required qualifications, and, of course, of your success. He took great interest in all I had to tell him, and expressed a surprise that you could successfully undergo so rigid a requisition upon your resources."

After several pieces of advice from Amos, he adds, "I once wrote you, and I will repeat, that while I value the minor gratifications of riding, dancing, and facility in the usual recreations of good society, I yet counsel, that you seek to be understood, as a rock hewed out of New England granite, and that you retain your habit of attending upon Evangelical preaching, and that you embrace among your friends, religious and earnest men and women, with whom you should feel it a duty to co-operate in doing good in all ways which commend themselves to your judgment...." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

4 December 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned is sending some gifts home for Christmas by hand of a Mr. Truman. Ned asks Tuck to help him clear customs. "I have sent to Mother an album, photographic, in which may be kept without dishonor the 'picters' of the different branches of the Tuck family...." Ned reports some minor social calls, as well as Dayton's death. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

7 December 1864: Amos (Boston) to Ned. Tuck is working to get a re-appointment to the Custom House. But, "I shall, nevertheless, be in aa fair condition to dispense with offices, if need be on 22nd of March next. I will say further, for your eyes only, that I can see that in all likelihood I shall have gained in property \$40,000 in the last years...."

(Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 70)

12 December 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to William E. Chandler. "Dear sir: The letter which I wrote you in January, last, suggesting as a matter of taste, or delicacy, considering the aspirations of Mr. Chase, that it would be well to allow some other state than Mr. Chase's native state, first to name Mr. Lincoln for President, has caused me to be misrepresented. I have no belief that you have intentionally allowed it thus to injure me, for you knew my first, last and only choice, was then, and had been, Mr. Lincoln; and I do not believe you capable of a permissive wrong, even, of such a character, as some one has done me. Now, so far as future patronage to myself, is concerned, this misrepresentation is immaterial; for the President is not the man, who considers his enemy one or any one whose first choice was another man for President. It is material to me,

in this view: that I feel under personal obligations to the President, and having never doubted that he was sent from God, to lead this nation out of Egypt, figuratively speaking, and having ever supported and defended him, I cannot consent to be supposed to have lost faith in our cause or in him, during even the darkest days of the War. I have not been faithless, or an ingrate, and I should be glad to face, any interested, or malicious traducer, in any presence, on that issue.”

“Now, my dear Mr. Chandler, I should be glad if you will say, whether you ever heard a word of doubt expressed by me, in regard to the President; whether I did not, on the other hand, defend him against Mr. Hale, in the darkest period, at Concord, and whether I did not avow my support of Mr. Lincoln, as my first choice, when you showed me your resolution.”

“I don’t know that I shall ever have occasion to show your letter to any one, but I have had no doubt of your understanding of me, and should be glad to feel fortified anyhow.”

“Perhaps my letter will seem to presume upon your good will; - if so, my apology is, that the state of my mind towards you, justifies the presumption, and I should be glad for the occasion to arise, when I might show it, to your advantage.”

“As I may not ever show your letter, and on reflection may consider the whole matter too trifling to pursue further than I have done, it will please me if this letter be entirely private.

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck”

“P.S. Your clerk, Mr. Fowler, was in my office a few days since, and told me you were to be in Washington; - hence my addressing you there.” [Chandler Papers, NHHS]

12 December 1864: J.D. Lyman (Farmington, NH, Farmington Bank letterhead) to Amos Tuck. Lyman assures Tuck that he supports Tuck (and Hale) politically and hopes he will continue to occupy office in and for New Hampshire. He wrote his 31 October letter because he thought Tuck’s letter “a little cold.” “I have not been fairly treated and have but little faith in L.M.W. – I have been used and am now to be turned off unrewarded, unthanked...I believe Wheeler a short time since was upon the point of declining or rather giving up and going for Marston. I have it from our County Com. Laurence M. Lee on of Wheeler’s particular friends.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 9]

15 December 1864: William E. Chandler (Philadelphia) to Amos Tuck (Draft?). “Hon Amos Tuck Boston Mass. Dear sir Yours of the 12th reached me here this morning. You ask me certain specific questions which I will answer first. At a meeting of the Republican State Committee two or three years ago when Mr Hale advised against an unequivocal endorsement, in the State Convention, of Mr. Lincoln’s administration you controverted Mr. Hale’s position. I believe all of us disagreed with Mr. Hale. I do not know that I ever heard you ‘express a doubt in regard to the President’ – I have had very little conversation with you relative to this matter except what is allowed to in this letter. I do not remember that when I showed you on the 5th of January last the resolution renominating Mr Lincoln, you avowed your support of Mr. Lincoln as your first choice. You assented to my introduction of the resolution, with very little comment, but said you must go to Boston at 10 ¼ the next day.”

“The next morning I received from you the note stating that it was ‘expedient’ for you to go to Boston at 5 ½ and advising against the introduction of the resolution. The subject of the resolution and the effect of its passage I have frequently spoken of and I have mentioned the fact of your advising against its introduction; and as this fact may have occasioned your letter to me, I will further state frankly the impression that I have entertained in relation to your position, and substantially what I may have said on the subject.”

“I obtained from your letters and otherwise the impression that after Mr. Lincoln’s inauguration and your appointment as Naval Officer, you professed to Mr. Chase to be in favor of his nomination for the Presidency for the next succeeding term, that Mr. Chase understood this to be your position at least up to the time of our Convention of January 6th last; that when it became evident that Mr. Lincoln would be a candidate for renomination you found yourself in an unpleasant position having given Mr. Chase to understand you were for his nomination and feeling obliged or desirous to again support Mr. Lincoln, and that this embarrassment led you to run away from our state convention on the 5 ½ train, writing me at the depot the note which I lately returned to you.”

“I formed these conclusions from your absence from the convention, from your assent to the resolution in the evening and your dissent the next morning; and from expressing in your letter to me of May 5/64 indicating that you had given Mr. Chase to understand that you desired to see him elected President. If my conclusions are erroneous as to the complications of your position I shall be glad to be corrected; although the point is not of much consequence, except that if I have incidentally made statements that were not just, however insignificant they may be I desire to correct them.”

“I differ entirely from your conclusion that New Hampshire should have withheld her endorsement from Mr. Lincoln in January last. I believe a corrupt money ring has been formed, to break down Abraham Lincoln and nominate Salmon P. Chase; and although I will not say that the action of the New Hampshire Convention followed by our election, turned aside the blow that would otherwise have defeated Mr. Lincoln, yet I am credibly informed that Mr. Chase so thinks and has so said and regards with great animosity those who were instrumental in Mr. renomination in the New Hampshire Convention. Whether or not he blames you for that action I am not informed.”

“My personal relations with yourself have always been of the most agreeable character and I trust will never be otherwise. You do not admire some of my friends so much as I do, and could not be required to do so.”

“I am engaged here for many weeks trying some cases of naval fraud. I fear I shall not be at home to help the work that ought to be done in New Hampshire. I have neglected however long enough to provide for my family and must put them before politics. It would however be a disgrace to us all to lose N.H. now.”

“Yours truly, W E Chandler” [Chandler Paper, NHHS]

15 December 1864: J.D. Lyman (Farmington, NH, Farmington Bank) to Amos Tuck. "I fear all is lost. Pull the last string. I have forgotten all ill usage. The persistent statements by Marston friends and not much less by some unwise ones of Wheelers has made it impossible for me to hold my towns against the Past Masters [sp.?]. The ten thousand times repeated assertions that there was no shadow of a chance for me has discouraged my friends and in quite a no. of instances enabled Marstons P.M. to get part or all of the delegations. [post script] Since writing the above I have received yours. I think all is lost. I have lost half of Alton. Sure for me with the least prospect of success on my part – ¾ of Gilmanton ditto – All of Wakefield where my friends are most numerous – ¾ of Ossipee. All I lose in these cases Marston gets. They wont go for Wheeler – I even fear Barnstead where it is said that I am the first choice of every man. Wheelers friends are as much or nearly as much to blame for this as Marston's. I mean they have done nearly as much to bring it about. I think every one of our party here prefer Marston to Wheeler yet I can control them if there be the least hope. I am sad. What shall I do? Don't think me down or fainting – yet I am sad. I stand [?] in a few minutes for Milton to see if my native town is not fugged as to second choice" [TFP, Box 2, Folder 9]

16 December 1864: Abraham Lincoln (Washington DC) to Amos Tuck: "My dear sir. I desire not to interfere with things not belonging to me; but I am so far impressed in favor of Charles C. Woodstock as to say that if there shall be a change in the office of Deputy Naval Officer, I would be pleased with his appointment provided always it would be agreeable to the Sec. of the Treasury and to you. Yours truly A Lincoln" [Franklin Brooks, Dartmouth College Library Bulletin, April 1981. Brooks notes that Woodhouse did not become Tuck's deputy.]

16 December 1864: J.M. Patterson (Washington, DC) to Amos Tuck. "We shall adjourn on Thursday the 22nd till Jan 5th. I shall go home perhaps on Wednesday next. I shall be very glad to see you here or at home. About all New Hampshire is in town just now. The Gov. Judge Upham, the council and staff in part here. Gen. Marston is also here. He has just returned from N.H. and thinks his "calling and election sure."

I shall receive with due appreciation the said \$200 even [sp.] + though oily will endeavor not to suffer it to slip through my hands.

Ned's examination I should know a priori would be good + acceptable. I am very glad to know that his eyes are so far recovered.

The most unscrupulous men I have ever known in politics are to be found in N.H. when they are at home.

Chandler is in Philadelphia. He is at work for the Navy Department. He has been here to secure it. The Powers that be will give to Rollins, Ordway and Chandler the entire credit + all the rewards of the victory in N.H. It makes me feel some mad in view of what I did for five or six weeks in our state + others. How much did Rollins do in that direction? Durkee [Durkin?] is here. I might say much more but will stop where I am. Keep a collar on your milk [?]."

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 9]

17 December 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to William E. Chandler. “Sir: I have not before received such a letter, as yours of the 15th inst., and I have lived long enough to have children as old as you are.”

“I might make a long letter in reply, but I decline to do so. Be it known, however, to you, and ‘to whom it may concern’, that it would not be difficult for me to show, that my course on the Presidential Question, with all men, at all times, has been such as the most upright, plain-hearted, honest-minded man, might well feel satisfied with, and enable him, readily and with comfort, to lay the same before Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Chase, at the same time.”

“I am so appalled at the quality of your judgment, that all I can say, is that you have no knowledge of my reputation, except as it is held among those who have an interest to destroy my good name. I have heard many things said against you, both by your father-in-law, and by others, but I have ever attempted to allay passion and prejudice, have considered the difference in our ages, and other circumstances, and, I think, no man has ever known me to take the part of an enemy toward you, or to speak uncharitably of you. If I have been right in my course towards you, you have been wrong, in your course towards me.”

“Yours respectfully, Amos Tuck” [Chandler Papers, NHHS]

21 December 1864: William E. Chandler (Philadelphia) to Amos Tuck. [Draft] “My dear sir: Your note is received. I do not understand the meaning of some expressions in your letter. You wrote me your former note, asking me to reply to certain inquiries which I answered accurately and truthfully. As you had evidently written an account of what you had heard that I had said; and as I had no excuse and certainly no desire to conceal from you what I may have said I, frankly, and as I supposed respectfully, even if your age is as superior to mine as you have stated, took the occasion to state exactly my impressions and the reasons for them. If I were mistaken in my conclusions from your letters and conduct nothing would have been easier than for you to sit and to give me the opportunity which I requested of correcting my opinions; which in the absence of such denial after my frank and explicit statement would of course be confirmed. This you ‘decline’ to do; and I am willing to; and I am willing any person interested in so insignificant a matter should judge whether you refrain from such denial because my statements are correct, or because as you seem to assert your character itself sufficiently refutes any such conclusions.”

“And if by your reference to statements made to you about me by ‘my father-in-law and others’ you intend any threat, I desire to say that I shall not be in the least affected by anything of the kind. Neither you nor others by any such suggestions or any insinuations whatever will affect my action or intimidate me nor am I conscious of any reason why you should show the disposition towards me manifest in your last letter.” [Chandler Papers, NHHS]

22 December 1864: J.D. Lyman (Farmington, NH) to Amos Tuck. “You know all – “the shortest darkest day” is over – Marston is nominated. I remained + died with those who deceived and deserted. Stormy time in and out of Convention. Two yrs. ago I received (almost

entirely without effort) 46 votes. Wheeler now with great effort receives 72 – 26 more than my spontaneous vote from 26 take the 14 of his town + you have 12. With about 10,000 times the effort for him as for me two years since and field free from Eastman. Truly I don't see wherein Wheeler was so much the stronger man. My small vote this year was no test as it was well known that I had no chance weeks ago, + that I was virtually out of the field.....I stuck to false friends and am where I am. Let all of my old letters be private + yours are sacredly the same.”

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 9]

23 December 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to William E. Chandler. “Dear sir: Yours of the 21st inst. is received. Peruse again my letter of the 17th inst., and if it does not dispel all idea of enmity towards you, and of any intended threat, consider this an express disavowal of both. Your letter of the 15th inst. confessed a wrong, cruelly wrong state of mind, and course of action towards me. It gave me more pain for a time, than any other event in my political experience, and my reply of the 17th, was conceived and written in grief, not in passion or hostility. The cordiality of your greetings, and the benedictions in your face, on all occasions, prepared the way for such sensations.”

“If you will send me my letter to you of May 5/64, or a copy of it, you will confer a favor which I suppose the writer of a confiding letter has a right to ask of the one who receives it. I perceive, by your reference to it, in yours of the 15th, that you have it with you in Philadelphia. If that letter can recall me to a state of mind which I have forgotten, I wish the advantage of it.”

“Feeling that you have misjudged me and misrepresented me, I propose not to disturb the character of your reflections on the subject, by acts of hostility which would be specially unbecoming, in an old man towards a young man. Go on and prosper, according to your merit and ability, and may God lead you in ways of ambition and success, which can leave no cause of remorse behind.”

“Yours respectfully, Amos Tuck” [Chandler papers, NHHS]

24 December 1864: William E. Chandler (Philadelphia) to Amos Tuck. “I enclose you a copy of your letter to me of May 5/64; the original of which as you correctly infer I now have with me in this city.

I realize that in your case as in many others I am a loser by acting frankly and without hypocrisy. I might have refrained from answering your letter of Dec. 12/64 at all, or I might have qualified my expressions, or given you false impressions as to my belief. I did not however; but stated exactly what I believed, my reasons for believing it, and expressed a willingness if satisfied that I was mistaken to correct my position. In reply I got only indignation, and certain suggestions relative to what my father-in-law and others have said about me that were only pertinent as threats of hostility.

I think upon reflection you may conclude that if the subject is of any importance at all, explanation and indignation was required. I have certainly in my own belief done nothing knowingly unjust to any living man; and have not intended to do injustice to you.”

[Chandler papers, NHHS]

24 December 1864: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen Tuck. "I am greatly pleased with your tasteful token of affection, sent me this morning, and I shall put a great value upon it."

"I send you a very slight token of very great love. I think you will be pleased to read it, even if you read it more than once already."

"Had we not taken it for granted that Bessy would be well, after we left you, even this late cold weather would not have prevented any going to see you, ere this. I learn that Frank has returned, and hope soon to see you as well as him in Boston. Had you not better both come in, on Monday, when F. and I could confer together about his affairs?"

"Your loving Father, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

27 December 1864: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned reported that he and other from the mission had gone skating at the Bois de Boulogne, that he had Christmas dinner with the Bigelow family, and that he had moved to No. 1112 Boulevard Malesherbes.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 8]

1865

9 January 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. "My dear father: The telegraph announces that Mr. Bigelow has been appointed Charge d'affaires ad interim but no official despatches confirmatory of it have as yet been received. It will be interesting to know whether it is intended that shall retain he Consulate, and if so extended, who will be vice-consul, or if not, who will be appointed full Consul an sent out from America. No better appointment than that of Mr. Bigelow could be made to Mr. Dayton's place but the number of applicants who are older in political service than Mr. B. will perhaps be too large to allow his claiming to hold the position for any length of time to be regarded."

"Mr. Gould has been in this office for two years or more and, though aa fine fellow, is a little inclined to be jealous of my advancement into a higher sphere of duties than his Mr. Bigelow has regard for his feelings, and so have I, but as he is only an employee of the Consul, not of the government, and of a Consul who is not to remain here much longer, he will have to make way for me as Consular Clerk and, if a new man comes out, may have to resign altogether. What course Mr. Bigelow will pursue when he assumes the duties of Charge remains to be seen as I cannot yet tell what his plans are, for he always keeps them to himself. I will make no conjecture as to the futures but will write you as anything new may happen."

Gives Tuck a synopsis of his daily routine, arriving at the office around 9 or 9:30. Gives a summary of trade data he has collected. Mr. Bigelow was the first to inaugurate the compilation of these statistics and without doubt a sturdy companion of them for different months would be interesting and advantageous...." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

10 January 1865: Ned interrupted his letter because Bigelow had just received his letters of credence. More details on office politics. "Sherman's movements and success elicit compliments even from the London Times. The news is certainly very encouraging. How is Mr. Dudley getting long at Beaufort? I have heard nothing in regard to him since I left home. And where are Chas. And George Gill? Please mention to them or their parents my regard as also to Mr. and Mrs. G...." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

10 January 1865: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "My dear Ned: I returned from Washington last evening. I saw the President, in a long interview, of a satisfactory character, and have no doubt of his good will towards me, and of my being retained in my office, if I desire it, as I shall. I had business, on detail, with the Treasury Department, touching the Custom House, which was adjusted to my wishes."

"At the State Department I was allowed the privilege of reading at length your answers, and the interrogatories submitted to you. I desire to make some allowance for my great willingness to think well of you, so that I shall not speak in too great praise. With all due allowance for pre-judgment, I say, that any father would have cause to be proud of a son who should acquit himself in such an ordeal, with the honor which you achieved. I was surprised and delighted, from beginning to end. No man could have answered the questions with such a breadth and depth of knowledge, and such accuracy, and in such simple and beautiful language....[Tuck's praise goes on for pages.]...Mr. Hunter, Chief Clerk, Mr. Seward and other who have read your answers were unqualified in their commendation...."

"I attempted at Washington, to hasten forward your Commission, and got a promise it should go on by the mail. Yet it may be delayed till I send the Bond which I rec'd on my return, and which I shall start, executed, for Washington, to-day."

Tuck writes of his fears for Ned, especially in the night watches of Paris, and rays with 'new fervor' for his protection.

"You see I am quick to the hint you gave, on postage. I, too, think it important to the country that I correspond with you frequently, and I shall let my Uncle Sam pay the postage. I recommended Mr.. Bigelow to be Minister. Mr. Seward told me, he was for Mr. B. I also spoke to the President on the subject. I hope and have measure of hope he will be appointed. I hope this, on account of the country, for I believe Mr. B. will do the most good."

"Brown (Cal) and Geo. Gill have just come in to enquire after you. The wish cordially to be remembered...." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

13 January 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. "My dear father: Mr. Bigelow has received his despatches from Washington and taken charge of the legation."

"He is to abandon the consulate altogether as soon as the necessary formalities of preparing an inventory and notifying the Department can be accomplished. He is to appoint me Vice-Consul, to act as consul, which vantage to me of this appointment, it will doubtless give me

the permanent vice-consulship after Mr. Bigelow's successor is appointed, which will be very rapid promotion."

"The other advantages are too obvious to need enumeration."

"Providence could not have concocted a more fortunate and apropos continuation of accidents and events, than that which has taken place since my first nomination to the Consular Clerkship. Your affectionate son Ned:

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

16 January 1865: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "My Dear Ned: Mr. Endicott to-day informed me that Dr. Brown Leguard of Paris, lately a Professor at Cambridge, for whom he had done Sunday services, would, he had no doubt, take the watch to you for us....[the watch was an inheritance from C.P. Tuck's brother Henry Townsend (and thus Ned's step-uncle)]....Mr. Endicott is of the firm f 'Hovey & Co., Boson, and his partner living in Paris must often visit the Consulate. Mr. Endicott is one of my valued friends here, whom I greatly esteem. He said to me, to-day, that when Mr. Brooks came home, he bro't a letter from his, (Endicott's) partner, stating hat Mr. Bigelow would soon resign his position, and solicensing Mr. Endicott's services, towards securing Brooks' appointment, as Mr. Bigelow's successor....[Tuck gives lengthy advice to Ned on how to handle this information.]

"Abby is at Reading to-day, Frank having gone to Washington...[Ellen and Abby are bot writing and Amos will leaved the family news to them]."

"When in Washington I saw Mrs. E.A. Rollins, Hobbs' sister, who spoke of you very kindly. Frank Hobbs is in the army and at City Point sick of typhoid fever, his brother being with him to nurse him. I think he is Major. Ingraham, Mrs. R. said, has had miserable health since he left the army, and is thinking to enter the service again. She drew comparisons between you and Ingraham, when you were at her mother's in Wakefield, although in your favor. Peck wrote me not too long ago, from Wisconsin that he had married, was teaching at \$680 a year and paying at rate of \$600 for board of himself and Mrs. Peck. Poor fellow, he is doomed....'Cal' Brown and Geo. Gill came in to see me last week. 'Cal' looked grave and venerable. He was at Eastport, [unclear state] at the time of the great fire there, but was not burnt up. Mr. Gill says he does not use tobacco or drink, and is behaving finely. He looked well, and I treated him cordially. 'Barrell' Goodwin's father lives in Boston, being agent for paper collar manufacturers, and such like staple articles, and professes to be doing so well, as to be about to move his family here. Barrell is caged on the farm in Maine, indignant, I judge, both at fate and at his father, for allowing him thus to waste his fragrance on the country air of such humble life...."

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

17 January 1865: John Tuck (Biddeford) to Amos Tuck. "I will try to have your kindness work upon me no ill effects by causing me to grow insensible to the goodness that prompts it by being often repeated."

“At this time your enclosure (safely rec’d) comes in hand to fill a vacuum in my pocket produced by high prices and hearty young ones, with two feet each. I will confess however that I do not deny myself of some little comforts that I should feel impelled or compelled to do if all my relatives were as poor as I am, or as ungenerous as most people’s are. But am not in danger of falling into extravagance I trust for present.”

“Today, before the receipt of your letter Angeline had purchased a dress costing 5 or 6 dollars, taking just about the last of her money. The \$5 you sent her will keep her flush some time to come. She is driving her studies just now and preparing for a High School Exhibition at the City Hall where she has several parts to perform, one in a French dialogue and is one of the 4 who each read an original theme. The teacher puts her along as far ahead as any one in the school.”

“Without your aid I should have been a little out of pocket for the last month or two but in the Spring the machinery bill will probably be more self supporting. I get a little money occasionally on my own hook however. My horse earns me something (\$45 since last spring). I am now helping take acc’t of a stock of goods belonging to a man who died suddenly last week. I was at work all the afternoon and felt no inconvenience from it. I will heed your counsel to refrain from hurtful exposure....” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 85]

24 January 1865: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “My dear Ned: “...Frank has returned from is second trip to Washington, where he as summoned as a witness. The obstacles to his going in with Mr. Way seem to be removed, and so he is not expected to remain in the Custom Hose after April 1st. I think his prospects good. Ellen and babies well.”

“The affairs of the Government go on prosperously. The taking of Fort Fisher was one of the most astonishing feats of war, not equaled in audacity and bang-on courage, by any former achievement of any nation. You notice that Lewis Bell (Col. of N.H. 4th) was killed. He had previously resigned, but it had not been accepted. Collins was killed after he had proposed to withdraw. It looks a little as if those officers who proposed abandoning the army were picked out for service. It may not be. It is now a most interesting time in this country. The brag of the rebels is giving out, with their ability to resist, and it is evident the whole fabric will fall in a few months, at farthest.

Tuck emphasizes at length the reasons for Ned’s continuing his French studies.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

24 January 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. “My dear Father: I have received this morning your letter first written after your return from Washington. It is pleasing to know that you have been so authoritatively assured by Mr. Lincoln of his good intentions in regard to the Naval Officership. That, with Frank’s prospects in the spring and he comfortable chances that I may reasonably count on, seem to plan out for us all a very agreeable programme for the immediate future. In regard to my examination papers which you found opportunity to examine, the greatest reward for me of the few weeks I spent in careful preparation and study, is that I

have bought of Mr. Bigelow, a great deal of time has been taken up [passage is a bit unclear]. I have now the command of our money drawer and can pay all my debts, or rather shift them, as fast as I choose. Mr. Bigelow has a great deal to do, but comes down to the consulate out of office hours occasionally, to arrange his affairs here. I have purchased of him Kent's Commentaries and two large vols. Of a French and English Dictionary, in addition to 3 or 400 francs worth of furniture. The latter I shall turn over to the new Consul. Until my commission comes (Consular Clerk) I shall be unable to draw regularly on the Government...."

Ned asks his father for more information on Brown and Gill. "Mother's letter mentioned that George had charge of the Small Pox room in some hospital, but where I do not know." Ned has moved to 83 bis rue de Clichy, à Batignolles. "Last evening I was at the Misses Upton's, to meet a M. Lacerdas, son of the Brazilian consul at Geneva. He was very sharp in his remarks on the Bahia and Florida affair. I go to Mr. Bigelow about once a week. Some evenings ago 'Box and Box' was represented in private theatricals at his house. He is to give some large receptions later, I believe as Mr. Chassement's. I visit occasionally. Usually there is dancing at his house, though the rooms are small and the company stupid."

"Thursday I am to go with Mr. Way and the Misses Gardner and Robinson to the Opera-Comique to see Capitaine Herriot. I have invited Lizzie Gardner out of regard to the family. Way, who is a very good fellow though an 'ingenue puer' rooms in the same house with them.

"Mother's letter was exceedingly interesting. The small news I rarely get and it is as pleasant as larger matters. I was amused at the account of Annie Hoyt's last exhibits in her special line of accomplishment."

"I enclose the last two of a half dozen photographs that I was amused at and bought some little time ago. With love to all your affectionate son Ned"

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

29 January 1865: Ellen French (Reading, MA) to Edward Tuck. "...Ma's astonishment and delight receiving that magnificent album kept her in perfect health for as much as a week...."

"...I have been in town today to make a call on Mrs. Gill and Helen [name unclear]. Mr. and Mrs. Gill as Santa Claus presented Amos Tuck French with a very pretty napkin ring. Father has raised Mr. G.'s salary \$100 and I think the ring had something to do with it undoubtedly."

"...John and Brad called to see Abby and father about the Nudds and 'our uncle Batchelder' as is that was not one way of making oneself agreeable to split forever!"

"...Our dear papa, bless his name, came out to spend the night with me last night because Frank is still in Washington since last Sat'y and he knew I was lonesome. He drank a little whiskey in the evening and we sat and talked about his property and every thing...."

"Father was a little scared at your dancing Sunday night but he looks upon you without the slightest fear of your wandering from the path of virtue...."

[Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 38]

21 January 1862: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Thomas Nelson [?]. “My Dear Sir: Your kind recommendation of Ned to Mr. Bigelow, as well as other things, induces me to believe you will be pleased to peruse the enclosed letter just received from him. The boy has made his own way into favor, to a great extent, since he left the country, and his welfare of course, gives me great satisfaction. I cannot but feel, how dear Williams generous heart would rejoice over Ned’s advantageous situation. The office of vice consul is not very lucrative, (about \$2000 salary, in gold), but it is very honorable to so young an incumbent, (Ned is 22 ½ yrs. old), and for educational purposes, even if he do not continue in the service, will be a fine situation for two or three years. I have great confidence that Ned will behave like a Christian gentleman even in Paris, and try to use all his privileges to the best advantages.”

“Your father has given us great delight in sending us some pictures of the children, one of each which is to be sent in a package tomorrow, with others for Ned. We are surprised to see how he dear girls have changed even in the short time since we saw them, and how Nelly and Laura have improved.”

“With assurances of my regard to your family and all friends, I am, yrs. very truly, Amos Tuck,”

“P.S. I will trouble you to enclose me Ned’s letter to me in a few days.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

31 January 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned describes his French lessons (Including translating Horace from Latin to French). “I went to the Opera-Comique some evenings since, as I wrote you I was to do, with Lizzie Gardner, Miss Robinson and Way. The music and acting was fine and I am sure the ladies were pleased.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

1 February 1865: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Tuck sends a letter of introduction for Mr. and Ms. Valentine who had boarded with the Tucks at the U.S. Hotel. “...though we have not known them till lately,...They are people much esteemed in Boston....”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

2 February 1865: John Tuck (Biddeford) to Amos Tuck. John tells Amos that Angeline is almost finished with High School, but he would like her to take some time off. She is getting too excited apparently because of the attentions of a smart but “green” son of a Free Will minister.

“...I am glad Amos Otis gives evidence to you of sense and appreciation, and that you are disposed, being able, to give him a chance to start in the world....I have not heard from Nathaniel for a long time....” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 85]

6 February 1865: Amos Tuck (Custom House Boston) to John Bigelow. Tuck sends thanks for Bigelow’s action in appointing Ned as vice-consul and of his letter to Tuck informing him. “He

resides in a gay and frivolous city, as generally understood, but he has been taught to believe that the mission of every man, is that of hard work in some useful calling, wherever he may be....”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

17 February 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Mr. Woods, partner in Hovey & Co., delivered Uncle Henry’s watch in perfect order.

“Mr. Gibbs, a shrewd man of the world, wonders, he says, that you ever consented to have me enter the consular service. By so doing, he thinks, a young man cuts himself off from all those opportunities which are sure to present themselves to a man of enterprise and intelligence in America. He thinks too that Brooks wasted the best years of his life in a worse than useless dawdling at the Paris Consulate. Mr. Gibbs is very wrong in his ideas as to the benefits which make any position a valuable one....But for me at 26 I think it would be far less desirable. And if I were consul at Marseilles or Havre or Boulogne-sur-mer, or no matter where, what is such a position worth? The Paris Consulate will always be regarded as the legitimate spoils of political victory...Mr. Bigelow has refused to stay here longer, as Consul. His predecessor made himself rich and infamous, by his over-charges for fees....” In a PS Ned asks his father what he would think of Ned taking leave for 6-8 months to study law.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

22 February 1865: Ellen French (158 Concord St., Boston) to Edward Tuck. “...Father went to Biddeford last week and we hope he will be down within a few days. He is in excellent spirits and talks of going to Charlestown this winter to [word unclear] a while....”

“Abby has moved her boarding place and now lives where there are printed rules on the door and her lamp must be out at 10:30. She feels as if she were at a boarding school for misses but will stay....” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 38]

22 February 1865: Daniel Clark (Washington) to William E. Chandler. “....Entre nous – Marston does not seem much inclined to help himself. I hear continually of his scolding and fretting – of his rudeness to his friends – and of his complaint of others. He will not even try to procure furloughs for soldiers in his own district – sends to me – and says he is not agoing to be a ‘Chore boy’ – poor Marston has got his ardor for him sensibly cooled.”

“I wish the Gen. could be more conciliatory. He makes the work of his friends hard....”

[Chandler Papers, NHHS]

24 February 1865: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Tuck will work with the chief clerk of the State Department to correct the date of Ned’s commission and to ensure that his pay begins as of his departure from Geneva.

“Rejoice with us over the late Union successes. They are indeed glorious.”

Amos asks Ned’s advice as to the best time for him to travel to France. He also notifies him that some of the Paris invoices are arriving in Boston without the proper information filled out. Amos also lectures Ned on how to sign his name.

“...It is one year ago to-day, that poor, dear William died. Peace to his ashes, and blessings upon his memory. Abby is getting on better. She is attended to sufficiently, and goes to spectacles quite often. Ellen is all right, and is quite happy with her children. Frank, as agent of the Loan [?] is making 5 to \$20 a day. He may not go in with Way, but yet may.”

“I have lately taken a venture in a silver mine in Nevada, and without hazarding much, if any, money, am hoping it will turn out to be of considerable value. We send out a man to examine, before putting any money of account into it, and have strong hopes it will be quite a treasure.”

“Mr. Locke was in, yesterday, and enquired particularly and regardfully after you. His health is poor.”

“I enclose for your mother a letter to Mrs. Valentine, which you will probably be able to deliver....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

2 [?] February 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned advises Amos to write on thinner paper, so as to save the government the 15 cents in gold double postage costs.

“In regard to the pay of Vice-Consul, that depends entirely upon the Consul, as the government does not employ vice-consuls. But as my being here will save the new Consul a 1000 dols. a year for clerical labor, I should strike for half of the fees. Mr. Brooks rec'd, I think \$1000 and half the perquisites, which benefitted him to the amount of \$500 or more per annum.”

“I shall write soon to Uncle John. Do not think that because I do not mention him and my other relations in Biddeford and Effingham, that I do not think often of them....”

“Mr. Bigelow's letter to you I consider quite complimentary, coming from so honest a man and one who, to borrow your expression, is usually so costive in giving flattering testimonials.”

“Your suggestion in regard to taking a pew has already occurred to me and I will write you later in regard to it.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

25 February 1865: William E. Chandler (Concord, NH) to Gideon Welles (Draft). Chandler explains that the prospect of Lincoln's re-election has frustrated those who want jobs and made complacent those who already are in political jobs. “...the actual incumbents feeling secure in their places do not make and cannot be aroused to make the necessary exertions to compensate for the lukewarmedness or opposition of the disappointed. “In our first Congressional district there is quite a formidable bolt against Genl. Marston. The district has been the seat of the various controversies between Marston's friends and Senator Hale's friends, and between Marston and Tuck. Some quite influential men who are persons form these causes [sic] have united with those who are willing to bolt because they cannot control the offices, have made quite a dangerous third party movement. We shall, however, I have great confidence, elect Genl. Marston by a handsome plurality.” [Chandler Papers, NHHS]

27 February 1865: Ellen French to Edward Tuck. "...For your sake, I hope Mr. Lincoln will take his time in appoint[ing] a consul, and then appoint an agreeable one. Your apt as 'Vice Consul/acting consul at Paris' has been noticed by most of the papers in N.Y., Boston, Washington and even to the Dover Enquirer – and those who have spoken to me of it, have expressed themselves of the opinion no young man was ever so fortunate before – they do not know how hard you studied to be proved worth of it, or rather fit for it." [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 38]

March 1865: Lincoln re-appoints Tuck to be naval officer at the port of Boston. Joseph Dow states that he retained the position "till removed by Mr. Johnson, when the latter began commenced his proscription of Mr. Lincoln's friends in the fall of 1865." (Robert Tuck)

March 1865? [Undated. 1860s according to a penciled note]: Amos Tuck (No place) to Ellen Tuck. "Your gratifying note is at hand. You nor Abby need have no solicitation about my not understanding both of you, as being the most loving of daughters. I know Abby's heart of tenderness toward me well enough, though it does seem comforting sometimes to be re-assured of what we already know, in these respects as you have re-assured me, as she does often. Abby can hardly be expected to have a connected remembrance of the occurrences of the last month, though she remembers what you referred to, just as I do. The report to me from your mother was not materially different and was not unkind, but I was anxious that neither you nor Abby should think me ever in a vexed state of mind when Abby signed the papers."

"I want to see you and Abby both in town – If she is not wanted at home to look after babies. I hope she will come when you do. If she feels like staying here a few days, I want her to."

"Am glad you and Abby and the little ones, of all sizes, liked (licked) the sugar. I told the grocer I wanted it right out of the middle, and he gave me apiece that looked sweet."

"With a soft heart to you, Abby, and children of you both, Your Father lovingly Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

7 March 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Informs Amos of his official appointment as vice-consul and enclose a blank bond form for Amos to execute. It's larger than his earlier bond. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

17 March 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Catherine P. Tuck. "Dear Mother: Mr. Valentine has communicated this morning the following, as the result of Mrs. V [sp.?] researches in your behalf: a very handsome Chantilly lace shawl is worth from 400 to 500 francs, say 420....The 'new watch' goes à merveille, considering that it was regulated for so cold a climate as Boston.... The old one I hold, till I receive instructions from home. It never was a good time-keeper, but is valuable for many reasons. Would you prefer that I keep it for father to carry home?"

“I have received through the dispatch agent at London a parcel of papers from Frank, which I think are all that the stout-hearted Kennard gave to Mr. Blake....Father has written for my advice as to the time of his coming to Europe. The middle of July is early enough to go to Switzerland or Germany. April and May are delightful months in Paris and June is not unpleasant. Father has never mentioned the plan of travel he intends, nor the time he shall be willing remain abroad. From 4 to 6 months will repay him for the passage, but he must not limit himself to any set time, for it is impossible to lay out in advance the duration of a campaign that unforeseen circumstances are sure to prolong. I shall have much more time when a Consul is installed at Paris. It would be impossible for me to leave the city under present circumstances. But I shall expect to see that dignitary in a month or 6 weeks at most. He, being a new man, ought not to be desirous of traveling this summer, but there is no accounting for tastes. I shall not feel as free, as I wish I might, but shall spend a few weeks in ‘piloting’ father about – as many as possible you may be sure. I would like to meet him in England and take a trip of a fortnight in that country, then return to Paris, spend a little time and afterward visit Switzerland. But I am in great haste and must close. Your affectionate son, Ned.” [TFP, Box 3, Folder 8]

20 March 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. “Your letter of 6th March reached me today. I trust you are no longer ill and that the speedy cure which you anticipated of your trouble, has been by this time effected.”

“The Union victories are none the less appreciated here than in America. The liberals are more generous than ever in their praise of our country and its people, the conservatives have had the veil lifted from their eyes, and the opposition acknowledge the hopelessness of the rebel cause. We are waiting for news from Sherman with impatience and a little anxiety.”

“...Last week Friday I dined at Mr. Wood’s (on an old invitation) with Mr. Putnam, consul at Havre. In the evening several people came in, among them the family of Mr. Reed, of Tiffany Reed & Co. The family includes a daughter of 18, pretty and accomplished. I have been two or three times to the Sunderlands, (the chaplain) on Monday evenings, when they are always at home. Among the people I meet are Dr. Evans, the famous imperial dentist and Mr. Hoe of printing press celebrity....” Ned describes other social activities with the Dodges and the Misses Upton.

Ned asks Amos to arrange a subscription to the semi-weekly Advertiser. He wouldn’t mind the Independent also.

Ned is looking forward to Amos visiting. He daydreams about walking around the city together like they used to do in Exeter and Boston. But he understands that Tuck’s mining venture may preclude the trip.

“The news of Grandmother Nudd’s death took me by surprise. It is a pity she hadn’t been among Christians, but I suppose she wanted for nothing during her illness.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

28 March 1865: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "...I shall not go to California – cause – important business at C.H., and a general incapability of making myself think it best. Mr. Farwell is here, and in consequence of his information we shall stir up the virtuous liquor dealers of Boston. Already we have caused payment in penalties of \$25,000. While these liquor matters are unadjusted I cannot fix a time to go to Europe. In fact, as it seems to me, you will not at present be in condition to desire me to be with you, so much as you will, later in the season. Abby and Ellen are both not well just now, but will be quite well in a few days...."

"I had a letter from Mr. Fogg yesterday of the most cordial character. He evidently counts on a month of enjoyment with me. He says Mr. Bigelow spoke in a late letter to him, 'very handsomely' of you, and said you would without doubt be 'permanent Vice Consul at Paris....'" [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

28 March 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned is disappointed with the news from Abby that Amos is about to leave for California, but consoles himself with the idea that the three months will pass quickly. "The glorious news from America continues to gladden our hearts. The Canada's [?] despatches have been announced, stating that Sheridan is within 30 miles of Richmond and Sherman at Fayetteville, and gold at 165. I saw some time ago that the payment of the May coupons had been ordered, but believe it to have been prematurely announced as I have heard nothing of it since."

Ned thinks he will be able to send back \$1000 to be endorsed on his note as soon as the quarterly accounts are drawn up. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

April 1865: Exeter tax records show Tuck was assessed for his house (\$4400) and for "Doomage" [i.e. undeclared assets?] worth \$4000. [Exeter Town Clerk]

4 April 1865: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "...Rejoice with exceeding joy over the fall of Richmond, and give God the praise. It is an event, that will enable an American in Europe to hold up his head again. I will not enlarge on this glorious consummation, as I have but a few moments to write, before going into Fanueil Hall to hear some patriotic speeches...."

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

9 April 1865: CPT (Exeter?) to Ned (Paris). "Dear Ned, I am very much obliged for the patterns of silk and velvet you sent me, and have concluded that it will not be worth my while to send for any, as the premium on gold, and the duties, will make it cost nearly, if not quite as much as to buy here...."

The watch you may send whenever you have a perfectly good opportunity, as it is uncertain when your father goes to Europe. He has decided not to go to California, much to my relief I confess, altho' I consented if he thought best. I should prefer for him not to go to Europe in midsummer, as there is really more danger then than in early spring or autumn. I think he will not probably go before Sept. but he may. The rebellion is killed. Not breathed its last quite, but

past all hope of life, and must die absolutely before many weeks. Richmond is ours, and we are daily, almost hourly expecting the surrender of Lee. He cannot escape with his army, and probably will not abandon it for his own personal safety.”

“We are all about as usual and your father needs only recreation (I think) to make him as hale and hearty as ever. As it is, he weighs 180 lbs. Yr. affectionate mother, C.P.Tuck”

[TFP, Box 3, Folder 8]

9 April 1865: John Tuck (Biddeford) to Amos Tuck. John refers positively to his recent visit to Boston. “...I have been thinking over the incidents of ours, of my visit, more particularly of how you are progressing with the smugglers and in your other business....”

“I think when you get through with your extra business, it will be necessary for your health to depart for a season from the turmoil of Boston, and go, if not to Europe in the early part of the summer, to some quiet retreat by the seashore for a while. Why not come to Biddeford to recuperate?” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 85]

[undated]: CPT to Ned. “Dear Ned, While your father is writing I will put in a line for my own personal benefit. I am in need of a handsome brooch, and your father suggested that possibly you might by the assistance of Mr. Reed get a handsome one for much less money than can be obtained here. I can find very beautiful pins here, but for such a one as I need, should have to pay 50 or 75 dollars, double what they used to be. What I want is a handsome and fashionable brooch, (I have ordinary ones) with pendants. Amethyst is fashionable here, tho’ I am not set on amethyst particularly. I like coral, or malachite or anything probably that Mr. Reed would consider in good taste for a lady of my age. Those I name are rather favorites with me. But whatever the stone may be, I want the style with pendants. They are always pretty and graceful, even after the fashion changes. Perhaps you might consult Mr. Reed, and let me now, previous to your coming home, so that, if you could not do better for me there than I can do here, I will get one here and not trouble you.”

“Your father writes you all the news and keeps you so well posted, that I will add nothing more except that we all look forward with great pleasure to seeing you home again. Oh – there is one thing more. I wish you to buy me a fine handkerchief trimmed with valenciennes lace. They are six or seven dollars here, probably not half as much in Paris. Affectionately, yr. mother”

[TFP, Box 3, Folder 8]

11 April 1865: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck: My dear Edward: “‘Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory.’ Let this be the utterance of every tongue and pious hear. The joy has been greater over Lee’s surrender than over the fall of Richmond. Probably the remaining rebel forces will surrender, or be disbanded, and that little or no more fighting will take place....”

I have rec’d out of the 26,200\$ recovered for violation of Revenue Laws, \$4200 for my share, less about \$333 1/3 given to Farwell (\$1000 in all) by the head officers here. This is better

than a kick, a posteriori, and I have bought \$4000 in New '7.3' U.S. Bonds. We expect to punish more transgressors...."

Amos plans to talk to Mr. Nicolay to arrange a lengthy leave for Ned, before Nicolay arrives in Paris. Amos is thinking of going in July

"I go to N. York this after-noon to send off Mr. Gordon and Mr. Ayer to California. I am President of the Company, and shall keep the inside track, if it comes to anything."

"Frank's prospects are bright in the Bank and he is retained as a lawyer here, at \$2500, the fee [word unclear] by the Govt!!...."

"Your most loving father Amos Tuck"

[Rauner, TFP, Box 1, Folder 6]

14 April 1865: Amos Tuck (Boston?) to Edward Tuck. Amos writes in a note on the official State Department acceptance of Ned's bond: "...I returned safely from N.Y. as you see. 'Nat' and B.F. Ayer sailed yesterday from [?] California. I intend to pay such attention to this mining operation as to be 'inside' if it comes to anything, and not involved, pecuniarily, if it comes to nothing. It looks promising...."

"The coupons are not yet payable. You will probably receive at rate of 140-150 in Greenbacks when they are pd. But no matter – they have fallen, (i.e. gold), because the country has risen, and the Lord be raised. You can authorize me to draw on you, when you send your gold, or take such other course, as is best for your interests...." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

15 April 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned is glad the California trip has been called off, and strongly urges Tuck to come to Europe soon. "I want you here when Nicolay arrives. Gibbs will be here with his wily cunning and I shall need your good judgment to keep even with him....Yes, I will be bitterly disappointed if you do not come."

Ned's concern over Amos' trip has almost made him forget the news of the fall of Richmond. The French papers are full of it and praise Lincoln, Seward, Grant and Sherman.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

17 April 1865: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "My dear Ned: Saturday morning last, Abby obtained entrance to our room before we were fairly out of bed, to announce that she had overheard statements in the hall, that Mr. Lincoln had been assassinated. She burst into tears as she uttered the words, and you need not doubt that her example was soon followed by us. Words cannot adequately characterize the enormity of the deed. The best, most exalted, most loved, most loving, most merciful, most forgiving, most Christ-like man in the nation has been murdered, in the most cruel, cowardly manner, by the spirit of Rebellion. It matters not whether one, or forty, or a thousand, were, or were not, confederates with the scoundrel who committed the act, the rebellion is answerable for the deed, and will be held so, to the end of time. It was an act in harmony with the whole animus of the rebels from the beginning. They are barbarians, and their character is barbarism, at Washington, at Belle Isle, at Libby Prison, Salisbury and

where else they had acted out their true character. The assassination and almost murder at Mr. Seward's, is scarcely less horrible in any of its features, and in some respects is more revolting. Now let the sword of Justice descend. Now let vengeance do its work, and if the leaders ask for mercy, let them be referred to the tomb of the president, and let hemp be no longer spared from its best use. I believe Andrew Johnson will prove himself adequate for the occasion, and with the added murder of the President upon their heads, the leading rebels will be made to drink to the dregs, the cup of punishment, so appropriate to their crimes. Let the populace and the unofficial be spared, but less condign, immediate vengeance be dealt out to the leaders. Such is the feeling of all good people at the present time."

Amos attended the memorial event at Fanueil Hall later on the 17th.

"I retain my Presidency of the Silver Mining Co. so that if it comes to anything, I shall be in a position to 'catch quails'...." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

28 April 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned reports on reactions in France to Lincoln's murder. "The death of no man in the world could have produced so melancholy an effect. His martyrdom casts the last and greatest dishonor on the southern cause, as even its friends admit, glorifies his own name and the principles he died for...."

"Mr. Fogg is in Paris for a few days. He looks well and hearty and carries the same quantity of dandruff on his coat and shoulders as he used to in N.H. He has planned a trip with you into Northern Italy, and you must not fail to be on hand...."

"Mr. Gibbs will go soon to America. Mr. Fogg believes him to be an empty-headed, dishonest, double-faced, impudent, contemptible bubbly. I hope this opinion will not shock any favorable notions Mr. Farwell has given you of him...."

Ned has been out almost every night recently at the Bigelows, the Sunderlands, the Woods, the Reeds and the Dodges.

1 May 1865: US IRS Tax Assessment List for 1865 shows that Tuck had an income of \$12,209 (the first \$4,400 taxed at 5% and the next \$7,809 taxed at 10%). He was also taxed for a gold watch, two carriages, a piano and 40 oz. of silver plate.

2 May 1865: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Abby Nelson and Ellen French. "I would go out to-day, had I time to do it, and see you both."

"Let there be an end now of all experiments with strength for both of you. A jaunt to Boston is a trying job for each of you, and this last for you, Ellen, has come nigh to being serious, if it be not so. But God bless you and give you strength. I will see you to-morrow."

"I send a letter from Ned. I think I must try to sail in [the] Steamer of 27th inst., and can do so, if you two daughters do not break your necks in the mean time."

"Ned is needlessly alarmed about adverse influences. You mother has never opposed my going to Europe."

"I write this in greatest haste, but remain,"

“Yr. most affectionate father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 May 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned continues to press Tuck to come to Europe.

“I hope Ellen and Abby are now well. I have been worried about Ellen, as she writes me she has not been downstairs for three weeks....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

10 May 1865: Tuck applies for a US passport in Washington, DC. Passport agent described him as having grey hair, grey eyes and being 5’ 11” tall. [U.S. Passport Applications, Ancestry.com]

12 May 1865: Amos Tuck (New York City) to Edward Tuck. “I have been to Washington, and am now on my return home. I have arranged my leave of absence, seen the President and made everything satisfactory.” He hopes to arrive in Liverpool on 24 May. He is writing the letter in Mr. Townsend’s office (letterhead reads Dutton & Townsend). [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

12 May 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned sends a letter of credit, drawn on Munroe & Co., for 6000 francs.

“I received a long letter yesterday from Mary Sanborn, in reply to one I wrote after learning of Mrs. Sanborn’s death. She writes in a most cordial spirit but throws cold water on any flattering hopes I might form from her kind professions by telling me that she is engaged and that I shall probably find her in a snug little home of her own when I return to America....She has concluded that Nelly Balch hasn’t as much heart as most women.”

Ned welcomes the idea that Abby will spend the coming winter in Paris.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

14 May 1865: HFF (Cambridge) to BBF. Henry has accepted the presidency of the ag. College at a salary of \$3000. Plans to leave Boston at the end of May.

“We expect Wm home tomorrow. Dr. Wells writes that he thinks Wm entirely well and Wm is so anxious to come home that I have told him to come on....”

“I saw Frank yesterday at his bank in good condition. Mr. May says Frank is working into business very well and seems much pleased. He says, as business is now going on, Frank would make \$10,000 this year, but he does not expect it. He says their deposits are a million.” [FFP, Container 9]

20 May 1865: John Bigelow [On black-outlined note paper] to Edward Tuck. “My dear Tuck
Please grant no more visas to passports to passengers sailing to the U.S. from Liverpool. I will give you my reasons when I see you.” [TFP]

21 May 1865: BBF (Washington) to Pamela French. “On Monday April 3d, we were all thrown into such a state of joyous excitement by the news of the fall of Richmond, that we hardly knew what to do to demonstrate our happiness, and so all Washington went mad for a season, and we

ran about the streets, and every body shook hands with every body else; and we hoisted flags, and illuminated, and, to sum up, illustrated Burns's individual idea on an immense scale –

‘Kings may be blest, but Tam was glorious...etc.’

For Washington was drunk and no mistake.”

“We went to bed at 10, to be awakened on Saturday morning by the awful annunciation that the President was assassinated and Secy. Seward's throat ‘cut from ear to ear.’ Perhaps you can imagine how we felt. I thought I should suffocate, it had such an effect on me. I think I sent you a printed account of the week's events, which I wrote for the Republican....” [FFP Reel 6] 1 June 1865: Amos Tuck (at sea) to Frank French. His voyage so far has been uneventful, other than two days of seasickness. Rebel officers are on board, and Tuck has changed his mind about the treatment of the South. “Magnanimity becomes us, and expatriation will do better than enforcement of the death penalty.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

2 June 1865: Amos Tuck (At sea) to John Tuck. “My Dear Brother: We are expecting to be in sight of land, when we come on deck to-morrow morning. It will be the southern coast of Ireland. We shall stop for a half hour at Queenstown, which is at the harbor of Cork, but not put down on maps. A tug boat comes out and takes off the passengers for that part of Ireland, and I shall send letters by the tug, as others do, to be mailed for America, and taken upon the mail ship which we shall meet between Queenstown and Liverpool, touching at [the] same place. So my friends will hear from me sooner than they expect.”

“We have a remarkably smooth and expeditious passage. To Halifax which took us 42 hours, the sea was somewhat rough, and I was quite sick, though I did not suffer much when lying in my berth. After we left H. I was uncomfortable for two days more, though not enough to vomit more than once. For the last four days I have felt natural, and got so that I feel quite content on ship-board. The sea has been smooth, as it now is, and you may judge by my handwriting that there is little motion to the ship.”

“There are about 164 passengers, and not more than 3 or 4 continue to be sick. After a time the motion of the ship does not nauseate, except in a very few cases.”

“There are men women and children, of all ages, and of both sexes, and of several nationalities. A Spaniard of Cuba is at my left at the table, next a French merchant, and near me a rebel colonel, who goes away because he ‘can't stay in:’ leaving his country for his country's good. He says the rebellion is forever killed and that there is no hope of resurrection. He thinks it unwise for us to hang Jeff Davis, and says if we let him alone a few months he will die anyhow. For reasons I cannot specify, I find my own view veering towards the policy of banishment rather than hanging. ‘The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church’ is a proverb holding good of a bad cause, as well as of a good cause.”

“Our time has been spent, mostly in the day time, upon the upper deck, talking walking and warming ourselves near a smokestack. The weather was very cold for the first half [of] the way, thence much warmer, but not so comfortable as in N. England. There is much drinking and some drunkenness. At Halifax we took on some soldiers, and on the 3rd night out, a wife of a

corporal had a daughter, for whom the passengers made up a purse to-ay of 45\$. The Captain is soon to be married, and a purse of 250\$ was made up for purchase of a Piano to present to his American intended. You may thus see that contributions are not escaped by going to sea.”

“I have two Frenchmen talking in my ears, and others all about me, making all sorts of confusion, so that I shall be compelled to close, without giving you information enough, beyond accounts of my progress to pay you for the 15 cts. postage you will have to pay. It is about 200 miles from Queenstown to Liverpool, and I hope to land at the latter place on Sunday, in time to attend church there, or possibly to go to London by cars that evening.”

“With affectionate regards to all my relatives, I am your aff. brother Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

7 June 1865: William E. Chandler (Washington) to C. Eames. Chandler informs Eames that he will begin work as Assistant of the Treasury the following week. “They have however managed to get Fogg recalled and to have given Harrington the Swiss mission. Seward has manipulated the arrangement, and Mr. Johnson assented, not fully understanding the matter....I felt mortified that I should be apparently connected with such an intrigue, but McCulloch and Seward say that I shall be absolved form all knowledge or connection with the matter....”

[Chandler Papers, NHHS]

[12?] June 1865: Amos Tuck (79 Rue Richelieu, Paris) to Abby Nelson. I do not expect to write home oftener than once a week, but I conclude to write you an intermediate letter, since I find myself sitting by Ned’s table, in his office, after having taken as much exercise as I desire for the present, and am having the leisure to address some of the dear ones in America.”

“I am abundantly charmed with Paris. It is incomparably more interesting than London. A long time ago, it was a proverb, ‘See Paris and die.’ Yet the improvements of the City, under the present Emperor, have been so extensive as to render the City twice as beautiful as it was before. Ned’s Hotel is on the opposite side of the Rue Rivoli to the palace of the Tuileries, and the window of my room commands a fine view to the part occupied by L.N. Esq. (the Emperor).”

“We arrived in Paris yesterday morning at 8 ½ o’clock, having enjoyed 3 or 4 hours view of the country between Calais and Paris. The 2 hours passage across the Channel Wednesday night was rough, and in a small steamer that danced like an egg shell on the top of the waves. Ned had had a smooth passage to England, on Saturday night previous, and he, as well as myself, lay down in the Cabin upon some lounges with the expectation of being conveyed to France without sea-sickness. In about an hour, however, while I lay near to Ned, deliberating whether or not I was nauseated, Ned suddenly rolled off his lounge and ‘put’ for the door, saying he had business on deck. I waited 15 minutes, when I felt that I also had business in the same direction and he and I ‘cast up Jonah,’ ‘paid tribute to Neptune,’ or as the classic Boachelor [sic] of Boar’s Head would say, ‘hove bait for fish,’ in succession, or in company, as occasion required, till we arrived at Calais, at 1 ½ o’clock in the night. However, neither of us was so sick as to interrupt

rallying jokes on the other, as would have been the case, had we not known that the nausea could only be for an hour.”

“I left London sooner than I expected when I left home, because I found the City, as did all others in our company, very uncomfortable. Ned and I called on Mr. Adams, who received us very cordially, and I have agreed to see him more at leisure on my return there, when Mrs. Adams will be at home and as he said, they could contribute more to my comfort than now. Ned and I visited the leading points of interest in London, and I was quite willing to postpone the remaining view of it till August.”

“The public buildings of Paris are beautiful, grand, sublime. ‘The Madeleine,’ a church built in reproduction, in style, finish and proportion of the Parthenon at Athens, the Palace of the Tuilleries, the Triumphal Arch, (160feet high), the ‘Column Vendome,’ and the ‘Column of July,’ on the site of the old Bastille, are the most interesting. I have seen but little yet, and know it must take months for a man to see the whole, even imperfectly.”

“Ned is a fluent speak of French and is at home in the language. He sculls me around like a boat, and I am becoming enervated by want of exercise of my power of getting along. I was at Mrs. Dodge’s last evening for 2 hours, and cordially welcome. We called on Mr. Bigelow, at his request this morning, and go to the theatre with him this evening. Ned and I think you better spend the next winter in Paris, and if you are in fair health you can count upon it. One thing I will tell you, with Ned’s consent, to be known on no account by any besides you, Ellen, Frank and your mother. Ned rec’d a letter penitential from Nellie Balch. She does not ask anything but forgiveness, but evidently hopes faintly for a reproduction of former relations. Ned was made sad as he said he hate to see a woman on her knees, when there could be no relief. Yet he will pardon her fully, blessing the Lord that she committed the mistake. He has generous regard for her, but the utmost of his tenderness is the ardent hope that she will soon find a sincere lover and good husband.”

“But I am pressed for time, and will postpone enlargement.”

“Ned sent 6000 francs in gold, in a raft payable to my order, which arrived a week after I left. It is expected that your mother or Frank will have signed my name ot it, and that Frank will have sold the gold, and applied the proceeds towards payment of Ned’s debt to the Savings Bank in Boston. When read, send this to your mother, of course. With much love from Ned and me to you all, I am your affectionate father Amos Tuck.”

[Marginal note by Amos] “We are both well.”

[Erroneous marginal note by Ellen French] “Winter of 1864 and 1865”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

18 June 1865: BBF notes, “...at midnight Tuesday night, Frank and Ellen came, and are now with us. Wednesday Frank and I visited the Bank and Jay Cooke & Co’s office. We got home a little past 3. Thursday, I was very much engaged all day. After dinner Frank and I rode over to Georgetown and spent several hours at H.D. Cooke’s house, where we had a very pleasant call. Fannie Gilbert, who has an office in the Treasury arrived that evening. She boards at Mrs.

Russell's, and we see her often." Friday French dined and played cribbage with Frank and after a nap played euchre with Frank, Ellen and Fannie in the summer house." [I think Fannie Gilbert is a friend of Ellen's from Exeter.] [FFP Reel 2]

June 19, 1865 – Diary entry written in Lausanne, Switzerland

"Came from Vevey to this place in company with Mr. Fogg, Mr. Smythe Mr. and Mrs. & Miss Franklin & M. and Miss Woodward of N. York. Mr F. & S. left us, to go on to Berne.

"Walked and rode about the town, saw the Cathedral, celebrated for being the scene of an important discussion in which Calvin & others participated, which resulted in the removal of the Romish power, and in the establishment of the Protestant religion. The city is built on the side of hills called Mt. Jirat and several new huches [sp?] were in the process of construction. The Cathedral was erected in 1235-1275 by Pope Gregory 10th."

"We dined at 3 o'clock at the Hotel Beau Rivage at Lausanne, and left at 4 for the Castle of Chillon where we arrived at 5 1/2, and lay over for 2 hours to view the Castle."

"After visiting the different rooms and vaults, seeing the pillars with rings in them, to which prisoners had long ago been chained, and the marks in the stone floor, worn by their walking, the pole of torture, the beam on which some were hung, the well-hole, into which some were thrown, we came out, and Mr. Walker M. Franklin read aloud to us Byron's 'Prisoner of Chillon. Present, R.T. Woodward, Camilla Woodward, Eunice L. Franklin & Amos Tuck Selma [sp?] L. Franklin, Mrs. Franklin. We were sitting during the time on a bench in front of the entrance to the Castle. There was formerly a moat, now dry, and a bridge over it. The Castle was formerly occupied by the Dukes of Savoy. Walked to the Station and waited an hour for a slow train."

"The air of the region is so transparent that objects surely appear twice as neat the the same distance as they do in America. At Vevay, the Castle of Chillon did not appear more than 2 miles distant, & I should have started to walk to it in ¾ of an hour with confidence. Yet I found it to be over 7 miles distant, and 4 railroad stations intervening. I found my French a great deal better than no knowledge at all, - and now that I am more thrown on my own resources than when with Ned, am improving in facility of speaking it."

"My companions are very much vexed lest they have lost their baggage, with the loss also of their courier, who was sent to Geneva this morning with it, and to obtain their letters. Yet he appears at a station, as you go towards Martigny, to their delight with many letters. He had no shown himself in the cars."

"The Swiss R.R. voitures, as they are called, are built in compartments of two seats facing, with the entrance at the side, accommodating 3 to 10 persons. They are fastened when the cars move, but not so that one cannot reach out of the window and down the length of the arm and unlatch the fastening of the door. The 2nd Class cars are taken by most people. My companions are rich & free with money, but I found them travelling in the 2nd Class cars."

"We arrived at Martigny at ten o'clock at night. All the route is among the mountains, along the valley of the Rhone, a small river and through localities, [word unclear] & somewhat celebrated in Roman History – See Guide book – I bought 'Baeddiker's Switzerland' at

Lausanne and a Killin's [sp?] large map, and am sorry I did not have them from the start. They are far superior to others. Here at Martigny, I take bread and milk (rich) for supper and retire at 11 o'clock. I find travelling to be fatiguing, but hope to derive benefit, when I have opportunity to rest. Some violence is required to break up usual habits, without doing which, one cannot reap great good from journeyings."

"Chamounix (-y-), June 21, 1865

The valley of Chamouny lies about 50 miles, I judge, East of Geneva, is 15 miles in length by $\frac{3}{4}$ m in width lying between Mt. Blanc & its range on the S.E. side and the Aiguilles Ranges and the Breveu on the N.W. and running, of course, in aa N.E. and S.W. direction. There is one village only of much size in the valley, & is called C. We arrived here at 6 o'clock last eve. And most of the company were more weary than I. They all agreed to lie abed as late as possible his morning, and not to do anything in the way of climbing mountains to-day. I rose at 7, after a good night's rest, and on looking about, was too much tempted to take some one of the numerous trips on foot, which may be made to resist. Accordingly, breakfasting at once and leaving a card on Mr. Woodward's boots at his door, to acquaint him with my intentions, I left at 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ o'clock to ascend Montarment [sp?], on the S.E. side of the valley 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours distant, to see the Mer de Glace, & other sights there to be observed. (Rest)"

"The language is exclusively French, and even at the Hotels, it is sometimes difficult to find any one who speaks English even imperfectly. My own imperfect French serves me a good turn, so good that it is often of service to others as well as myself. I was told at the Hotel to take a guide, but I had learnt from my Baedeker, (Guide Book), that it was not necessary. (Rest)"

"I write these notes as I stop to rest on my ascending way, which is a sizable bridle path up the mountain side. The weather is hot, and the sky has been nearly cloudless for the past week, with prospect of continuance. As I have the day before me, and besides am cautioned by the people whom I pass, aller doucement, très doucement, monsieur, I shall walk slowly. I am now nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ way up, all alone, though people have passed me. The mountain side is grassy though the ascent is at least 45°. Scattering trees, birches and spruce [word unclear] the mountain and cows and goats are feeding not far from me. Three little black kids ae close by my side smelling curiously about me, and seeming to be studying the mineralogy of the rocks more than to gather grass. The little mountain river, which runs through the valley, roars in its rocky bed 1000 feet below me, while a cool breeze in this piny shade [word unclear] my face, and I write these lines thousands of miles from home, but with thoughts all the time of every one of the dear ones I have left far away. Trusting in God they are all happy, I enjoy my own solitude, in this mountain path, more than I could the most vivacious company. It is indeed a luxury to enjoy it all alone, (unless I could have some one of my own family with me), as I have no constraint, can look at different objects as long or as short as I please, & can utter my thoughts aloud if I choose, and can rest and write, when I have a mind for it. (Rest)"

"The bells on the cows grow indistinct, as I ascend, tho grass is still considerable. I now look down from a height of 2000 feet upon the still roaring Arne. The smaller village, near the Hotels, is below, and a new refreshment hut is just above me. Little girls have run across my

path far below, with little bunches of flowers to sell me, which I could pick myself as well, and sometimes with a few sprigs having small alpine strawberries. I can seldom resist giving 10 or 20 centimes, and if I cannot prize their little merchandise, I take it, so as not to seem [to] despise their enterprise. Women sell beer and wine at two or three huts by the wayside, but not to me. My stomach serves me best on cold water. Yet if I sit to rest in their chairs, I pay tribute. (Rest)”

“A decided tax on one’s breathing apparatus. I am getting upper I know, else why this huffing. On the opposite side of the valley, as if on a map hanging before me, I see the zig-zag path leading up to Mount Légère, a fine look out to Mt. Blanc, but of more difficult ascent than this to Montarvent [sp?]. My coat and stock I now carry, and my vest and pants are made loose as possible. Let no delicate woman try to ascend on foot, though many young girls can go up easily – more easily than I, no doubt.”

“Excelsior. I now come into full view of the Glacier des Bois, lying between a notch in the Mont Blanc Range on this side of the valley, and towards which I am progressing. It is an immense body of eternal ice, or ice slowly changing, like one’s body, but ever retaining nearly the same form. A stream of water always flows from the bottom of it, into the Arne. The upper part of this glacier widens into the Mer de Gace, a sight of which is one of the chief objects of this ascent.”

“At Montarvent 12 o’clock June 21/65. Height 5866 feet. ‘Hills peep o’er hills and alps on alps arise.’ I see about me mountains, or peaks immensely higher than the mountain side on which I now stand. The Mer de Glace is a frozen sea, with all its billows fastened in eternal ice. Glaciers higher up are seen from each of which a noisy cascade flows continually to the margin of the Mer and of the Glacier des Bois. I am invited by guides to cross the Mer, but I decline the honor, that is, the labor and the danger. ‘No danger’ say all, ‘if you have a good guide.’ I don’t run any risk and don’t go. If one chooses to cross, he is advised to have long nails put in the heels of his shoes. There is a stone house at this place, where bread and wine are sold, and trinkets and curiosities of various kinds. I bought a case for two pocket candlesticks for 5 francs, which will be of service in Europe, where every candle lighted costs a franc, and you can take it en route if you choose.”

“From the house I descend, beyond it, near to the Mer, where is a hut occupied in summer by two guides. They tell me the snow covers up the hut and all the gulch in Winter. They have for sale various mineral specimens.”

“This is one of the pleasant views of the marvelous natural curiosities of the Alpine region. I enjoy it, and have enjoyed the ascending hither all alone. I have seemed to visit all my family and friends at home, and have almost conversed with them. The clear mountain air, and the good health I feel to-day, has enabled me to enjoy my thoughts of home, as I have not done before.”

“And here I will say, that a week’s fatiguing travel in Switzerland gives me strong hope of great advantage to health by this experience. I must have more of it. I have been hurried on against my will, by my companions, but think it has probably done me more good, than to have

been [word unclear] from to rest when I chose. When a man of naturally vigorous muscle gets into a morbid condition, he needs treatment to travelling which shall do violence to his habits and really shock his deranged functions. This I have experienced, and in my ability to walk twice as far as at first, with less fatigue and to eat and to sleep with more success, I feel the advantage of it. I recommend to all men of sedentary life, who can afford it, to take an annual vacation from their employments, and to spend it in mountain excursions, which will be quite sure to take mind and body out of unhealthful habits. Let them not fear exhausting excursions day after day. This I write on Montanvert, and putting my book in my pocket prepare to descend; remarking only that while I write, the Mer has saluted me with sundry detonations, produced by the cracking ice, a thousand feet deep.”

[Tuck has pressed a flower sprig, perhaps edelweiss, with this note opposite]: “Gathered on Montavert June 21/65. This flower grows in all the alps, and is much worn by the men and women on Sundays and holidays, the hats of the men being sometimes nearly covered with them.”

“2/3 the way down Montanvert, 3 o’clock P.M. Have spent a ½ hour with a middle aged Englishman, whom I met ascending, in advance of his father, wife & sister (I suppose). I explained, just for the amusement of it, the state of affairs in America. Like all Englishmen, he was specially anxious to learn whether we hated them, and would go to war with them. I put on the amiable, but explained our grief, chagrin and wrath, when we first learnt that they wished us evil, and did not give us a God speed, when we fought against slavery. He felt bad manifestly.”

“I have just taken a glass of beer, paying for the whole bottle, which it was expected I should drink, as guzzling Englishmen do, 5 francs, - an abominable price. However, I am content to pay double price to any poor diable who lives on the side of a barren mountain and brings her supplies up this tremendous ascent.”

“I am now writing, where I can look down 2000 feet upon Chamouny. The valley is narrow, well-cultivated and pleasant to look at, but it does not appear the Elysium. I had imagined it to be [word unclear] be pleasanter further along.”

“On the road from Martigny here, traversed yesterday, the dwellings are not numerous. The inhabitants are poor, and miserable. I saw women everywhere doing drudgery, and sometimes carrying the long baskets used throughout Switzerland, confined to their backs, with shoulder straps, - the baskets full of refuse collected for manure – and knitting while carrying their burdens. I saw some mowing with men, and in no case saw a woman or a girl possess attraction. May the Lord have mercy upon this poor population. All along, I saw occasional stone structures, twice the size of a well-curb, with a roof over them, and the side towards the street open, with images of the virgin and our savior, set up in them, behind a vine or other screen. Also many crosses by the way sides all devices of the priests o impose a superstition upon the people. Who is sufficient to emancipate and elevate such a population, under such spiritual guidance!”

“I met on my way down Mr. Woodward, Miss W. & Miss F. on horses, having concluded against their first intention, not to spend the day idly looking from the balcony of the Hotel.

There were signs of rain, and as I had heard of the suddenness of showers I hurried down. The rain was abundant above, but slight where I was. The Hotel is a large stone house, and there are others near it. The company was more than half English and American.”

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 10]

22 June 1865: Tuck’s diary entry written at Geneva: “Thursday June 22/65. We rose at 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ o’clock and with difficulty got our bills pd. O start at 7 o’clock to go to Geneva, 57 miles distant. It will cost us 25 fcs each (\$5 in gold). Our bills here, for 2 nights and 4 meals 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ fcs. We follow down the Arve, in its rapid decent, first S.W. then N.W., and soon realize that the village of Chamouny is very elevated. The valley is narrow and the inhabitants in evident poverty. Women are all along seen doing men’s work, sometimes mowing alone, sometimes with men. The scythes used are heavy, short and broad, like a bush scythe of N. England. I ride in one carriage, with Mr. Woodward and daughter. She is a good bright homely girl of 22 yrs. Her father is worth his \$500,000 and gave her \$5000 in gold when she left home 3 months ago with Mr. F. and his family. (Mr. W. came over with me, unexpectedly to her). She was told to spend 1000 in presents, and as much of the remainder as she needed. She spends money freely, but is a sensible girl, and leads the party, when she has only the F.’s with her. I make these memoranda at our stopping place to change voitures at Shaleuche, at 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ o’clock. We have all the forenoon been in good view of Mont Blanc, ever covered with a changeless white far down from its aerial height. It is really 16000 feet high and more, as the former mentioned measurement was by French standard which makes 13 inches to a foot.”

“Mr. Woodward wishes me to go with him after tomorrow to Germany, but I have agreed to visit Mr. Fogg on Tuesday or Wednesday next and cannot break my engagement, especially as I have some of my wardrobe at Berne.”

“The people all through here speak a low French patois.”

“From Shalarch to Geneva we ride in a first class Diligence at a speed of 9 or 10 miles an hour over a road smoother and better than any road in America, descending, with occasional short rises, and ever at the same speed. The valley becomes wider and the land better, the people more comfortable in appearance, the images less frequent by the way side, and increasing signs of approaching a city and better civilization – on the whole a pleasant ride. [Tuck here draws crude pencil sketch of a “voiture or diligence”.]”

“At Geneva 22 June – Arrived at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ o’clock. I rode in the Calesh most of the way with Mr. W. and Mr. F., the ladies in the coupée, - the forward part, directly under the Calesh, with windows at sides and in front. The best seats, for which 5 fcs more pd. per head, more than either in the Calesh or in the Darrière (I think it is called). We were dusty and the rest of the party tired. I had been in the Darrière, for an hour and slept a $\frac{1}{2}$ hour. No body was in the D. with me but Henry the [blank left] hired by Mr. F. and a blouse man, and I could stretch myself out quite comfortably, though it was more dusty than in the Calesh. The sun was hot as July in America, and I pulled my old brown umbrella quite down over my face and slept.”

“We had a great deal of amusement out of Franklin, one way and another, his wife joining. He was her slave and his daughter’s, and like other men who are too attentive to their wives, was slightly despised by her. He had symptoms of illness, occasionally, when he would be rallied by his wife, whom he would accuse of never having any sympathy with him. She even made fun of his falling from his horse on the Faulhoven [sp?], and told him what a vexation it would have been to have had him killed in so inconvenient a place: which, I thought, was a little too cool and trifling.”

“There is little to interest one in Geneva, except its association with the great men who have made it celebrated. The Hotel de Ville is an old castle, of unknown antiquity, having an inclined plain paved stair case, of great dimensions, without steps, on which the grand Seigneurs, as the guide told us, could ride to the Council Chamber on horseback. The Cathedral, where Calvin preached is very old and out of repair.”

“I bought a watch for my wife at Patek, Phillipe & Co. watch makers, and was shown throughout their manufactory, and learnt from that most watches supposed to be of English manufacture are made in Switzerland. They sell 22,000 watches annually in England, and manufacture only 2000 and can manufacture no more for want of skilled workers there. They make a G. styles for all nations, and they are marked or not marked as the purchasers by wholesale wish.”

“The Rhone rushes out of the Lake at G. with great force and volume, having any amount of water power by the current only. Long and wide anchored flat, gondola looking boats with poops, contained large numbers of washerwomen, pursuing their vocation on boards like a currier’s scraping boards, over the water at the sides.”

“The Hotel de Bergues is a fine home for strangers – more than half the patrons speaking English. I staid here with comfort till Saturday morning, when I left my travelling companions and went to Berne.”

23 June 1865: Amos Tuck (Geneva, Switzerland) to Ellen French. “Yours is the only letter from home, I have yet had, though it is a month to-morrow since I left Boston harbor. I know your mother at least, has written, and am only bothered and vexed to know by what mischief it has failed to reach me. However, I have confident expectation of to-day receiving a package of pleasure in reading several letters from the loved ones at home. I have read, and re-read your letter, in the defiles of the Alps, and will only say, in reference to it, and to your loving anxiety to so to state the condition of your health, as not to render me anxious about you, that it had a strong, irresistible inference, to produce difficulty in reading it, without doctoring the eyes, more or less during the process. However, a handchf. or even a fore-finger, after the manner of whispering boys at school, was effective for temporary restoration of sight. Blessings upon you all, dear Ellen, upon you, your children, upon Abby and her children, upon Frank and all within the circle of our love and confidence.”

“I shall write to your mother by this same mail. I was glad, as I wrote her, that you were to go to Exeter, to spend so many days, and trust nothing prevented it.”

“I note with great interest what you wrote of Abby. Her decision was the only wise one. She will remember that I cautioned her that Mr. Holland might misunderstand her benignity, and feel emboldened to make a proposition, and that she assured me they both understood each other, and nothing of the sort could happen. Ned anticipates much happiness with Abby in Paris, yet I as well as he see, that she will be somewhat thrown upon herself for employment and enjoyment, while he is engaged in his business, though we think she will be much interested in acquiring the great accomplishment of the use of the French language, notwithstanding the difficulties she will encounter in the achievement. She can acquire it. I read French myself without translating, and with quite a satisfactory appreciation. She will soon be able to converse quite satisfactorily.”

“Ned would be glad indeed to go home this Fall, but according to the present look, he does not think he can do so., but says he will visit us when Abby returns in the Spring. We can never look far ahead, and till more light, we must not assume that he will go to America till that time.”

“Our company arrived here yesterday P.M. from Chamouny, a valley close by Mr. Blanc on the N.W. side of the Mr. Blanc range. The Hotel d’Angleterre, where we stopped, is at the extreme north end of the valley of the River Arve, about say 15 miles west of Mt. Blanc. I ascended Montanvert, and had the finest possible views of the glaciers, the Mer de Glace, the Alps generally, and of Mt. Blanc. We left the Railroad at Martigny, N. of Chamouny, and went on horse back 24 miles, nearly south to Chamouny, over a notch in the mountains, and through defiles of striking grandeur and sublimity. In some places, on one side of us there was a descent of thousands of feet, and on the other an ascent equally great and precipitous. In ordinary parlance we say there is no danger in such paths. But when folly, a runaway horse or mule, or any misadventure may send one into a fathomless abyss, there is some danger, and I habitually dismount and hug the upper side of the way. As I wrote last week, when on the Faulhorn, I was afraid the top of the mountain would fall off while I was on it, and was really relieved when I got safely off the pinnacle. I vote unanimously that I am cowardly, when on high, and I feel less, a thousand times less danger when sailing over a fathomless ocean.”

“The ruins interest me not less than the mountains. We see miserable patches of land in the ravines and gulches, for which the Romans fought, where they erected structures, still existing, upon ledgy heights almost inaccessible. How people swarmed and fought in those ancient times! Long before Columbus discovered America, even ages before the mariner’s compass, before gunpowder, and before the art of printed [sic], armies and chieftains traversed these valleys, and many of the mountains, with objects of conquest, defence or punishment of foes, displaying skill in engineering, road-building, etc., scarcely less than what is now possessed. It seems a pity they could not have had boundless prairies to spread upon. However, it was all right, for they would have fastened upon them, as they have done upon all this region, a condition of society hostile to popular elevation. All along, from Martigny to here, say 75 miles, we have seen a miserable population, and Catholic symbols in proportion to the misery and

degradation of the people – crosses and images by the wayside, with sleek, devilishly comfortable looking priests, the only hale and hearty looking people in the whole region. When we got into good land, the people improved, and the images and priests decreased in frequency.”

“Since beginning this letter, I have your mother’s second letter, (first, lost), and Abby’s first. So you go to Washington instead of Exeter. I fear the journey will damage you. I think Exeter better, and so should counsel, if at home. You need rest as well as novelty; and at Exeter you would have both, and those beautiful rides. Still it may be all for the best that you go to W.”

“I must postpone writing of Geneva, or write of it to your mother. And with love to Abby, to the children and to Frank. Your loving father Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 June 1865: Tuck’s diary entry written at Berne. “Arrived at Berne Sat. P.M. 4 o’clock. Was asleep in my seat, when cars arrived. Took my 4 articles, umbrella, valise, shawl, and knapsack and sallied forth to find a coachman to take me to Mr. Fogg’s. I said to no less than 4 persons coachmen successively, ‘parlez-vous Francais, monsieur, and received a sort of ‘naw’ which I supposed was German. I then asked the same of [word unclear] English, in English, and rec’d the same answer. Thinking they must understand a little French, I said Je veuz aller chez M. Fogg, Ministre des Etats Unis d’Amerique, which they understood as little of, as the Drivers of Coaches in Boston would, though they live in a city where 1/3 of the inhabitants speak French. One of them, however, said oui, oui, Monsieur Fogler est chez Hotel d’ something. I replied non, non, and motioned to a boy to carry a portion of my traps and follow me, and I started off to hunt for Fogg’s office or house, which I knew I could find in time. However, good luck caused me to meet Fogg in the Street, and I thus had no farther trouble. He had just been to another R.R. station to part with N.B. Bryant.”

“I had learnt that Mr. F. had been recalled, that he felt indignant at the manner, as he had reason for, and I regret the change which is to cause the exchange of a good man for one who has no particular merits for the place.”

25 June 1865: Diary entry written at Berne. “Sunday June 25th I rise at 8, go to church at 10 ½ - to the Eng. Episcopal – to hear Mr. Dillon, a young unmarried clergyman, who enjoys cigars, brandy and water, & religion. After church, between service, he came up in a cab to see Fogg, smoke his cigar, and rest from his divine labors. He is florid in countenance and presents, out of the pulpit, the strongest contrast to a gaunt dyspeptic from Andover.”

“I believe the climate of this country different from America. It is less exciting to muscle and nerve. A long residence here would, I think, result in toning down essentially the morbidly nervous people of our country, and consequently would [add] to comfort and life.”

“Mr. Fogg’s house, the same occupied by his predecessor, is to a height the most desirable, overlooking the whole city, at a great elevation, & commanding a delightful view of the Alps. It is a small cottage.”

[pencil sketch of the ground plan of Fogg's house]

“The above is a plan of the whole, - all on one floor. There are fine trees and shrubbery about it.”

“Louis is Mr. F's man of all work, and I have engaged him to procure my washing to be done, and I have written to Ned, that I shall go to Paris Thursday or Wednesday night. F. invites me to another trip to this region, & I incline to indulge in it, if I do not take an early start home. I am confident the last two weeks jaunts has added to my strength. Here I receive a line from Ned, that he has gone to Rheims to take charge of the effects of the U.S. Consular agent, dying at that place.”

“Sunday June 25th at Berne Rose at 8 o'clock breakfasted at 9. Had beef steak, eggs, bread, butter, (unsalted), & coffee, - also blueberries were offered – also honey - The latter is always on the breakfast table in Switzerland, and I am agreeably surprised that I can eat it. Louis, the body servant of Mr. Fogg is his factotum, waits on the table, brings in the dinner and does all the visible work. A woman is cook, and is seldom seen, while Louis is always in call. He is 30 yrs. old, has a wife and child living elsewhere, I suppose.”

“To Mr. Dillon's church at 11 o'clock. He is an Irish clergymen it I am advised an of the Ch. Of England, and the eucharists [sp?] were long. The sermon fair. He is 31 years old, unmarried, and a jolly friar indeed. He is much at Mr. Fogg's, and in the Evening, F. and I called on him. He bro't out various liquors which had to be taken nolens, volens, and he was as jolly as Friar Tuck of Ivanhoe memory. We are to dine with him to-day at 5 o'clock, after a ride on horseback for 3 or 4 hours previous. The wine of the country I find does me no injury, & to use it I am advised by every body.”

25 June 1865: BBF (Washington) to Pamela French. Frank and Ellen are due to go home tomorrow. “We have been, and are, enjoying beyond the power of description, Frank and Ellen's visit. Ellen was not quite as well as we could have wished, for the first two or three days after their arrival, but, since then she has been in perfect health, and we have all been making merry. Frank and Ellen and Mary Ellen, go riding and walking, and shopping and marketing just as much as they desire, and when I can find time to devote to them – afternoons and evenings, we play cribbage, and euchre and sit out in the shade in the garden, and talk, and the Russells and Fannie Gilbert, and Edmund's family drop in and, upon the whole we live as human beings ought to live, and enjoy life as we go along.” [FFP Reel 6]

26 June 1865: Amos Tuck (Berne, Switzerland) to Frank French. “Ned has forwarded to me your letter to him, with its enclosure, - a check, - which I herewith return to you, signed and endorsed as requested. I have written to Mr. Way a letter by this mail, which will assure him of our appreciation of his kindness, respecting the raising of the \$20,130.00, which he borrowed to oblige us. I wish you and Mr. W. to feel that it will be entirely satisfactory, to sell the bonds, - so

many of them as may be necessary, when it becomes inconvenient longer to hold them, and out of proceeds, to pay the money raised. In case the Bonds reach a market figure which Mr. Way and you think it best to sell at, let them slide at once and cancel our debt.”

“It is not convenient, going from one place to another, to provide myself with postage stamps, hence all my letters go unpaid at this end. Let all letters going to Ned be unpaid at your end and to me too, to his care.”

“I propose to go to Paris to-morrow or next day. Having been in Switzerland two weeks out of the time that I have been on the Continent, I want to see Ned a week or two, and besides I am specially engaged to be in Paris on the 4th proximo, when Americans in and near Paris, are to have a jubilee in the Bois de Cologne [sic], for which imperial permission has been granted.”

“My labors in Switzerland, for travelling over these mountains is labor, have been very delightful and very beneficial. I am stronger than two weeks ago, and able to climb mountains and to walk long distances with far greater facility than when I arrived. I have been to Berne, Interlaken, Thun, Grindelwald, up the Faul Horn, across the Simmenthal Pass, to Vevey, Chalons, Lausanne, Martigny, Tete Noir, Chamouny, Geneva and thence back to Berne. All has been new to me, of course, and chiefly new and interesting because so marvelously old. I see Roman ruins, on almost all the routes, and the chief places visited, were walled towns or note colonies in the time of classic Rome. To visit the land of the Allobroges, and of others mentioned in Roman History, is intensely interesting, to any thoughtful man. All this country was crowded with population, before America was known to the civilized world.”

“Mr. Fogg is indignant at his invitation to resign, but is reconciled to the agreeable prospect of going again to America and his friends.”

“Ned wrote me yesterday that he was about going to Rheims, to take charge of the effects of the U.S. Consular agent at that place, who was lying in extremis, not expected to live from one hour to another; - and to return to P. to-day or to-morrow. I shall go to P. on Wednesday the 28th inst. Ned is liked wherever he goes, and enquiring friends speak of him where he has dwelt, with affectionate interest. He repays, in kind, the friendship which is shown him, is careful in etiquette, and is behaving as we all would have him. You would be amused to hear him urge his father to indulge in strong drink, and enlarge upon the advantages of not taking so much care as I have done, to guard my stomach, against stimulants. I think I shall have to hold him over the cellar stairs, to correct his errors, in case I am able to maintain my own integrity, of which I have some fears, having already, under his and Mr. Fogg’s, and in fact, every body else’s advice, become a wine bibbler, without the disadvantages which I experienced at home. He looks much as he did when he left home, but is taller and broader, and when dressed for a dinner party, is a good looking fellow, with a winning countenance.”

“I am greatly interested to see every dispatch written about Ellen, and particularly to learn what is the result of her journey south. I trust to hear soon all about it. Give her my love, and also to Abby and all the children, - Abby’s and yours.”

“I wish Ellen to write me at once what she will most pleased with, as a present from me. I think she spoke of a set of jewelry, but am no certain. Also what Abby would like, though it

may be well that Abby shall mostly select for herself in Paris. Send the numbers of gloves worn by the family, you included.”

“Affectionately yours Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

26 June 1865: Diary entry written at Berne. “June 26 Rose at 8. Breakfasted on beef steak, eggs, honey and coffee, and went to Fogg’s office, (called the Am. Legation) to write letters. Wrote to wife about purchase of watch etc., to Frank about money matters of Ned’s, and to Mr. Why [sp?] to thank him for his raising to prevent selling Ned’s bonds to a disadvantage.”

“Lunched at R.R. restaurant at 1 o’clock, and at 2 went to ride with Mr. F. and Mr. Dillon. Called on Dr. _____ a retired English surgeon, living in a fine house, which with Garden and furniture he hires for \$200 rent, drank some cherry brandy, saw his wife and daughter, and rode on ½ hour longer and called upon Mrs. _____ a Greek woman, the wife of an Englishman, a planter of Cotton near Alexandria & Egypt. She is about 40, tolerably handsome, but peculiar in manner, fulfilling my idea of a Greek – She speaks good English, perfect French, perfect modern Greek, and good Italian. She served us with coffee made on the table of her receiving room, in little Turkish cups, (no cream), and while we sipped the coffee she smoked a paper cigarette, made for her by Mr. Dillon, while she was making the coffee. Afterwards we rose through extensive, beautiful woodland, owned by the people of Berne, each citizen of which has a right to cut a quantity of, to be selected by the Standing Commission, new tree being planted as old ones are cut away. Switzerland has been a Republic since 1307, and it has some things which America would do well to possess, but have not. Yet on the whole S. is far behind America. They have universal education, I learn, to a moderate extent, & schools. But poverty is the abiding affliction of the masses.”

“Dined with Mr. Dillon at 5 ½ o’clock. Had corn beef and cabbage, figs, raisins and cherries for dessert, and red and white wine. I have eaten, drunk, and smoked freely to-day, but feel no ill effects. Mr. D. keeps a manservant, who does all his attendance, cooking and all. He is not only a clergyman, but an accomplished surgeon, as I learn, and he is quite tempted to go to America.”

“June 27th. Paris. Last night retired at 10 ½ and slept well. Spent an hour or two with Mr. Fogg, in reminiscences before going to bed.”

“Spent the day, to-day, mostly at the legation having taken cold in my legs, by sitting exposed before dressing and not feeling well.

“Dr. Rich and Mr. Dillon dined with Mr. Fogg at 5, remained till nearly 9, and I went to bed at 9 ½.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 10]

27 June 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Frank French. “Dear Frank, I am in receipt of two favors from you; the first announcing the sale of my remittance of 6000 francs and investment of proceeds in 7/30 Bonds to amount of \$1600; with a small balance remaining passed to father’s credit, and your letter notifying me that you have taken up my note at the Barings Bank, holding

my 5/20 Bonds as security for the \$20,000 raised through kindness of Mr. Way, [word unclear] Balance paid Savings Bank.”

“Many thanks for your kind attention to my interests. Father will be here to-morrow when we will talk over any new arrangement that may be deemed practicable in regard to payment of some of my responsibilities.”

“I returned from Rheims last (Monday) evening, where I went on Sunday to take charge of the Archive and other property of the U.S. Consular Agency at that place, - said agency being about to become vacant by the death of the present Consular Agent. He is very ill – beyond hope – and I had to take charge of the interests of Uncle Sam as best I could. I brought everything back to Paris, where it will be retained till the vacancy is filled.”

“I saw one of the finest cathedrals in France at Rheims – dating from the 13th century – visited the wine vaults of Mr. Charles Heidsick, where were stored upward of 50 thousand bottles of Champagne – ate and drank so well that another day – had I accepted the invitation offered - would have sufficed to put me under the table, and had a very agreeable and instructive trip. Rheims is at the centre of the Champagne district and the seat of the two houses of Heidsick and Mad. Cliquot. The people are hospitable and have that worthy appreciation of the high dignity of all Consular officers which all Consular officers like to see.”

“I hope the journey to and sojourn at Washington have improved our dear Ellen’s health for which I have been for some time quite anxious.”

“Affectionately Ned.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

28 June 1865: Diary entry written at Paris. “June 28. Paris. Rose at 8 ½ breakfasted and packed my things for Paris. Went to the Legation wrote a letter to Mr. Goodrich, and one [to] Pres. Smith of Dart. Coll. And left in cars at 2 – 10 min. for Paris. Mr. Fogg and Mr. Dillon lunching with me at the station and bidding me farewell. To Neuchatel I rode alone in the compartment for 8, which I occupied. At N. a consumptive with wife and child, and 2 gentlemen and 2 ladies filled up the car. However, I had had a nap, had had a delightful ride, with a fine view of the Alps, the Jungfrau etc. etc & even of Mt. Blanc, of Lake Brienne and Lake Neuchatel, it was becoming lonesome, and I hailed the ingress of company. The 2 gentlemen without ladies only were able to speak English, - they were Englishmen of 35 yrs. and under, - Quakers and agreeable. They could not speak a word of French – the women could not speak a word of English.”

“The English gentlemen queries to whom the Swiss tenants paid rent for the land. I told them that in Switzerland and France, the occupants generally owned a fee in the land they tilled. They looked bewildered, and said they must pay rent to the town. They could not comprehend the idea of a common man’s owning the land he tilled. It was not of much account and I tried no further to correct the error.”

“The R.R. is far above the lake N. on the side of the hills, constituting the spur of the Jura mountains, and afterwards ascends higher and higher till a flat tract of limited amount was

reached at the summit of the pass. The finest specimens of R.R. engineering were presented in tunnels, bridges and skirting racks, by which ascent was gained.”

“Near Verrières, the highest point is reached, which is near the line between S. and F. The notch or defile in the highest peak is called la Cluse, and on one side is a new fortification by which with that on the left the passage can be defended.”

“On the right is one of the most interesting fortifications I have anywhere seen. It is an old Chateau and castle, called Fort de Joux, and is where Bonaparte imprisoned the negro chieftain of St. Domingo, Toussaint L’Ouverture, and kept him till his death. It is also where Mirabeau’s father imprisoned him for a time in 1775.”

“At this village (V.) our carpet bags were examined, and Passports were demanded. I had none, and on saying ‘Je n’en ai pas’, the gens d’armes said ‘bien’, and I went on.”

“The night to Paris, was the most uncomfortable since I left home. I had to sit upright, in a close car, not able to sleep, except to find myself soon awake, doubled up, and neck half broken, in a perspiration, and in a dust almost suffocating. Arriving at P. at 5 ¼ o’clock, I rode to Hotel, found Ned, talked an hour, dressed a half hour, partook of café au lait, and felt better.”

“June 29 – Paris. After lunch, went to Consulate – talked over home matters, read the papers, rested, saw Ned do business of Consulate, and breakfasted at 12 ½ o’clock. Then went to Grand Hotel, and called on my late Swiss voyageurs, and went to my room and slept 1 ½ hours most successfully, and profitably. Now at 5 o’clock, I am awaiting Ned’s return from his office.”

“Took a long walk by the River, on a broad street with a wide, beautiful sidewalk of cement surface, (asphaltum) as smooth as a floor. There is no apparent end to the renovation and re-creation of buildings and improvements in P. under the patronage of the Emperor. He is supposed to believe that connecting his name, as the 1st Napoleon did, with the greatness of the City will render it impossible for posterity to dispense with a Napoleon. Yet he is doing much more than the 1st Emperor. This device seems a peculiarly Napoleonic conception and I think it a philosophic and great one. If Paris was proverbially beautiful in 1800, & previous, it is now fast becoming a miracle of magnificence such as the world never before presented and will never exhibit again.”

“Dined at 6, called on our friends at the Grand Hotel, rode to Bigelow’s, who was not in, spent an hour at Mrs. Dodge’s and walked home, 3 long miles, taking a renovating glass of beer to retire above at 10 ¾ o’clock.”

March 1864? [Undated. 1860s according to a penciled note]: Amos Tuck (No place) to Ellen Tuck. “Your gratifying note is at hand. You nor Abby need have no solicitation about my not understanding both of you, as being the most loving of daughters. I know Abby’s heart of tenderness toward me well enough, though it does seem comforting sometimes to be re-assured of what we already know, in these respects as you have re-assured me, as she does often. Abby can hardly be expected to have a connected remembrance of the occurrences of the last month, though she remembers what you referred to, just as I do. The report to me from your mother was

not materially different and was not unkind, but I was anxious that neither you nor Abby should think me ever in a vexed state of mind when Abby signed the papers.”

“I want to see you and Abby both in town – If she is not wanted at home to look after babies. I hope she will come when you do. If she feels like staying here a few days, I want her to.”

“Am glad you and Abby and the little ones, of all sizes, liked (licked) the sugar. I told the grocer I wanted it right out of the middle, and he gave me apiece that looked sweet.”

“With a soft heart to you, Abby, and children of you both, Your Father lovingly Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

4 July 1865: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Abby Tuck. “I have written a long letter to your mother, which she will send to Reading, soon after reading, in which I have stated at length, what I have had to say, so that in this to you, I shall be quite brief, and the more so, as it is the 4th, and we are to go to the Bois de Boulogne, to celebrate, expecting there to meet 500 Americans, and to see the gayest turnout which the Americans in a body ever probably had on the Continent. There will be feasting, music and dancing to a late hour, and the...” [copy interrupted]

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

7 July 1865: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Ellen French. “We are anxious to hear what are the consequences to yr. health, of your journey to Washington. We hope for the best.”

“On the 4th, after I had written to your mother and Abby, and the mail had gone off on that day, and after Ned and I had gone to the ‘4th of July Celebration’ at the Pré Catalan, in the Bois de Boulogne, ‘David’, Ned’s colored man Friday, brought to us on the field, three letters, one from you, written, the close of it, at Washington, on your arrival there, with an interscript from Frank, one from Abby and one from your mother. All the letters gave good accounts, mentioning the disputation [sp?] of Abby’s, of the arrival of her children, and the good condition of yours, and your mother’s letter of her condition at Exeter. Ned and I at once withdrew from the crowd, and read the letters aloud to each other, and everything being hopeful at home, we went back to the multitude, with a new power of enjoyment.”

“It was a happy reunion, you may all be assured, to get 7 to 800 Americans together, all loyal, and all jubilant over the conclusion of the war, and all joyous over the opportunity to collect from the scattered localities, in which they were residing in this foreign capital, isolated from each other, and to take each other by the hand and rejoice over our rich inheritance of freedom, and our possession of a united, secure and peaceful country, saved out of all her dangers. It was a charming day, and every body called it a glorious and happy meeting. You will see an account of the meeting in the newspapers, and I will spend no more paper in speaking of it. I could not avoid taking a hand in the impromptu speeches, of which three were made, and a poem recited by Mr. Hume the spiritist. Ned pronounced my speech a good one, -as good as the others, - and I had abundance of bouquets and flowers thrown at me, just as though others thought so too.”

“I am visiting the galleries of paintings, and statuary, and studying my guide books and my history of the French Revolution, and visiting the spots and buildings of historical interest. It is too hot to travel, except in Switzerland, and there I have been. I am invited out among Ned’s friends, and have no loss for means to spend my time agreeably. My health is good, and I find signs of favorable change in my general condition, though I do not allow that I was sick when I left. I shall preserve my guide books and maps, and I keep a pretty full journal, which the family can peruse after my return.”

“I note with interest, the report that Mr. Goodrich is to be removed. I shall not be surprised if Mr. Hamlin is thus to be provided for.”

“Ned did not intend it to be private, that he suggested in his letters to Abby, written before my arrival, that she should come to Paris next Fall, and he regrets that Abby did not send his letters to your mother, as he desires to preserve no privacies in this regard. He thinks the proposition will meet with universal approval, and any way should be understood by all. I suppose Abby had a little hesitation and doubt, and so retained the letters. But it is no great matter, and I trust the situation has been forgotten.”

“Your mother has sent me suggestions, as to the things I should consider, or select from in my thoughts about her. So I wish you and Abby to be explicit as to what would be gratifying to you and her, although as I have before said, she will be likely to postpone action, chiefly, till she arrives here. Write at once if you have not, on this subject.”

“Mr. Nicolay will not be here for some time. Young Way goes home next week. He is a pleasant and reliable young man: he knows how to take care of himself and of his money.”

“I think, if you are all in good condition, I shall not embark for home till Sept. 2nd.”

“God bless you all – with love to all from me and Ned. Your loving Father Amos Tuck.”

[PS] I shall not write to your mother by this mail. I shall send her watch to her by Way.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 July 1865: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Abby Nelson. “I rec’d a letter yesterday from you, written just before Ellen returned – the day before – giving an account of your getting along in her absence, of the good condition of your children and of hers, and of your being in improved health, an determination not to die yet, notwithstanding the periods of depression which you suffer. This letter gave me great satisfaction, for when we are spread out into 5 or 10 lives, and all of us suffer, when either is afflicted, it is a thing to be thankful for that at any time so good an account of all can be given, as you sent me. I can in reply say, that both Ned and myself are in good health, although I think he needs a respite from the labors and responsibility which have been upon him for 6 months past. He will enjoy this, soon, as Mr. Nicolay has arrived, and in a few days, will enter upon his duties. Probably it will take one or two weeks for Ned to get ready to go away into Holland etc. with me.”

“I have dined out, every evening for some days past, and have got nearly sick of it; or rather I should like now to enjoy a few days of respite from ceremony, and go to a seashore

watering place, if one was at hand, but it is not. I shall remain therefore in Paris, or in its vicinity, till Ned is relieved.”

“We think you will enjoy yourself in Paris. After I leave for home Ned will leave this Hotel, and go to Chasseveut’s to board, for the sake of improving his French – though he speaks it considerably, every day, yet he wishes to keep himself in contact with the spoken language, as much as possible, so that his vocabulary may be extended, and his facility in catching at once, without any hesitation, the French idioms and terms, may be increased. He will from that standpoint, take observations for the best place to locate himself and you, for the winter, and will exercise all his good sense, as well as all his loving disposition, to make arrangements of the best character.”

“We have talked about Laura considerably, and we are both of opinion, it is by no means best for her to come with you. She would infallibly lose all she would acquire in the language, while the expense would be quite heavy. However, I shall make inquiries about schools, and see whether it is possible to get any other view than that which Ned and I now entertain.”

“As to your depression, I believe it will in time wear off, if you keep yourself engaged and have an object ahead to look forward to. You now have more than most people ever enjoy, to anticipate in the next 8 to 10 months, and I advise you to forget what is unpleasant in the past, strive to get as near ready as possible to understand French, and ready to get your ear, after you arrive, habituated to the sounds in a short time, so that you may be able to go out with Ned, and enjoy what you hear.”

“You write that your Mother has invited the Nelsons, that they will visit her, and that they will all have a good time, no doubt, in picking you to pieces. These three suppositions of yours, are all imaginary, I believe, and show the liability of your mind to create causes for your own uneasiness. If the first were true, the second would not be, (the Nelsons would not come); if the two first were true, the third would not be, for the business of berating you would not be indulged in, I know. Just make the best of the conditions which surround you. Believe all things, hope all things, but do not back yourself into discomfort, by any imaginings of hostility from anybody.”

“Ned sends love to all, as do I. Your loving Father, Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “I think you better not plan to leave for Paris till November, or latter half of October. The later you go, the later you will stay in the spring. Ned cannot go home this Fall, but will, with you, in the spring.”

“Write only on one side of that thin paper. It is difficult to read when written on both sides.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 July 1865: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Ellen French. “Your affectionate letters from Washington came duly to hand, and measurably relieved our anxiety, regarding that hazardous journey. Yet with all you say, we do not even now feel sure, that the thoughtless woman, who could climb near the top of the Capitol, has even with the oversight of her kind husband, succeeded in getting back to Reading without serious damage. However, we will hope for the best.”

“We dined last eve., with Mr. and Mrs. Cowden, a N. York merchant, and with a company of over twenty people, whom they entertained at a dining establishment in the near portion of the buildings, called the Palais Royal, formerly occupied by Royal families. The whole near portion is now given up to common uses, stores, etc. etc. Our dining room windows gave us the best view of the great Courtyard, in which the multitude assemble on all occasions of public agitation, and where there have always been fights in case of coups d’etats. Bigelow, Burlingham, the Reeds, Dr. Evans and wife, and some of the nicest Americans in Paris were present. The ladies were dressed richly, but not gaudily, and their dresses were not very long. I see some long trains, but they are laughed at here, as they ought to be everywhere. It is quite novel to dine with these Parisians. The servants are always French, and though one will not starve, if he cannot speak their language, yet it is a very good thing, to understand even a little of their lingo. You can call on a neighbor at table to help you out, but I have not thus far, been driven to that exigency. A gentleman at my left, asked last evening at the table, if I spoke French. I replied no, not before you people who speak it perfectly, but I do speak it some, when I am driven into a corner. It is not unfrequent that your company will run from one language to another, laughing and jabbering in the most amusing manner. Yet this is not done when there is not a Frenchman or Frenchwoman present to provoke it. In telling an incident, I notice that they will sometimes report what has been said on occasion, in French without seeming to notice, as I think they do not, the change. The other Sunday Ned, being engaged, recommended me to attend the French Protestant Church, saying I should hear better preaching than at Sunderland. On my remarking that I might not understand a tenth part of it, he replied that it did not enter his thought, that I should not understand it, as well as he. Ned speaks well, and never has to ask a repetition, and is never requested to repeat, in order to be understood. I shall have many things to recount to you, of our experiences, in the restaurants, at the Consulate, in our walks, and talks, etc. etc. which I cannot write in a letter. My time is taken up, and the days pass away, without giving me much opportunity to examine localities, pictures, etc. as I desire to do. The truth is, I find so many Americans here, that I am involved in attentions that eat up all my time. To-night Ned gives a dinner to Bigelow, Nicolay, Brooks, Huntington, young Dodge and myself. After to-night, making 5 dinners in a week, we see no engagement. But we must make the etiquette calls.”

“Young Way returns by this Boat. He will tell all about Ned and me. If you invite him to dinner, you will hear all about us. He is a clever fellow, and has a nack at paintings. I hope Frank’s bank goes on prosperously, and that he has been refreshed by the journey to Washington. Both he and you ought to go to Exeter, if you are in good condition. I hope to hear that you have been there, when you have rested a week.”

“Ned sends love to you as do I, your loving father Amos Tuck”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 July 1865: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees’ meeting.

18 July 1865: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Ellen French. "I am just in receipt of letters announcing your great improvement, in consequence of your journey to Washington, and of the general good health of Abby and of her and your children, and your mother too, and therefore have every reason to be at ease respecting the comfort of you all. I have not allowed myself to be the victim of imaginary fears, resolved not to believe any of you dead, or afflicted, till compelled to believe it. Yet I confess that good assurances do me good."

"I am still in Paris, remaining here longer than I should wish, except for two things: first, that Ned cannot be spared, second, that the weather has been so hot, that I have been advised not to travel till a change. It is now our purpose, Ned's and mine, to leave here in about a week, go to Fogg's and stay one night, then take him along with us to the cool mountain country, and travel for a week in the rough places of the earth. Tell your mother to dismiss all fear as to my exposing myself to precipices, cruel serpents or malaria. I am very careful myself, and besides have Ned always near me, who by his many cautions, and holdings on to my coat tail, is determined that no unwary coachman shall run over me, nor any other misadventure happen, which shall prevent my safer return to the place from which I came - to wit - America. We intend to return to Paris by way of the Rhine after perhaps a two week's absence, where I shall stay here and rest till I can have only about two weeks for England and Scotland, before embarking on the 2nd Sept. for home. Ned will not go to England with me - he does not wish to do so, and besides he could not be spared, and the expenses would be considerable."

"Our course of life is monotonous within certain limits. We rise at 8 o'clock, take our café au lait at 8 1/2, go to Consulate at 9, read till 10, (I do, Ned goes to work at once), and at 10 1/2 or 11, I go out to reconnoiter. At 4 1/2 to 5, Ned is at leisure, and after that, we visit, go to dine, etc. etc., and get to bed at 10 to 12. We see all sorts of curious things, which cannot be mentioned in a letter, and I am glad to spend even three long weeks in Paris. I went to Versailles the other day, ten miles out, and was overwhelmed in [one line cut off] acres, so to speak, of beautiful paintings. One could not examine them with care in many weeks. Ned wants me to excuse him to you all for not writing. He has all the work of the office to do, even now that Mr. Nicolay has arrived. He, (N.) expects to make his position quite a sinecure, and having a new wife to nurse and humor, he will not be worth much to the Govt., except ornamentally, for some time. Besides, he cannot understand French at all, and cannot even read french letters on account of their chirography, although he thought himself pretty well acquainted with the french language, when he arrived. Yet Ned does not complain. There is some fun in running the machine, and Ned knows every detail, as no man can know it, who does not begin as he did, at the bottom and as chief. N. will never know it, without beginning at the bottom, which he won't do. When Ned leaves next week there will be some commotion in the camp, and the Negro man David will have to be mainly depended upon. But he has no accuracy, and very little reliability of any kind. Ned and I are pleased with the course taken by Frank in regard to the funds sent to him (6000 fcs), and in regard to the sale of the 5-20 Bonds, and payment of the 20,000\$ note. Let the surplus go into 7-30 bonds, and if Frank thinks as I do, we wish him to sell the \$5000 in 5-20 Bonds which he still has, (of those rec'd from Sav. Bank), and to invest proceeds, after

paying \$3000, (Ned's note to Exeter Sav. Bank), in 7-30 Bonds to Ned's acct. The Collateral lodged in Ex. Sav. Banks, (\$4000 in 7-30s) is mine and Frank can keep them in an envelope with [few words missing]."

"Ned has been supplying himself with good clothes – a light fall overcoat, a black frock coat, pants, new hat, vest, etc. – and he dresses well and very neat. Tell Abby, in using that thin paper, not to write on the back of the sheet on the same line she writes at first, but between the lines on the first side (she can write on both sides, but between lines) Thus :- Tell your Mother all her letters come right now, and that till I return, I wish all letters sent to Ned at 79 Rue Richelieu, Paris. The postage need not be paid by any of you, but care must be taken not to load down a letter by scraps put in, as it doubles the postage, and Ned don't think it well to burden the Govt. I have your numbers for gloves and can select. As to Capt. Gill he can't be made a good clerk and I know it. Mr. Walker is a little liable, possibly, to get into temper. Good advice was given by your mother to Capt. G. and by Frank to Mr. W. So all will go well, I trust."

[Miscellaneous marginal additions:]

"With love to you all, I am your loving Father, Amos Tuck"

"Ned sends thanks and love to Frank, and infinite love to all."

"Private – I am glad Gordon has rejected the mine."

"I think I have stated distinctly in a previous letter that I embark for home Sept. 2, 1865"

"The Treasury order respecting fines and penalties, which your mother was anxious about does not affect me."

"Your mother wrote me that the note of \$60 against John N. Woodruff which I at [word missing] have had been [?] protested at N. York. Tell Frank it ought to have been sent to Greenebaum [word missing] at Chicago for [word missing]."

[Words missing] Woodruff note has not yet been paid, send it to Greenebaum & Forman, Chicago [few words missing] –tion. It ought not to have gone to N. York.

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

21 July 1865: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Catherine Tuck. "My Dear Wife: Here I am still in Paris. It has been so warm that every body has told me that I should not enjoy travelling, and I have a good room, and have so much time with Ned, and have opportunity to make excursions about Paris, to such advantage, that I am content with remaining, or having remained so long. But next week, Wednesday, I shall leave. I shall write to you once more, before leaving, and tell you particularly my route. If Fogg goes with me, I shall again go to Berne. But that is not certain. The Hales have arrived here with Mrs. Cheever, (Anna Dow), and I see they intend for Fogg to tote them about. If so, I shall not go – I cannot go a band box gait, after I once more leave Paris. I much regret to find that now Ned cannot be spared to go with me, though he hopes to join me in a week after I leave. He is indispensable to Mr. Nicolay, who does not know the details of business at the Consulate, nor is able to speak French, and the work of the office is very hard. Ned works hard, every day, making long days of it, but seldom going to the office after his 6

o'clock dinner. He says he is perfectly well, and neither he nor I doubt that if his health serves him, the pressure of work and responsibility will do him good."

"I will carry home with me a good many stereoscopic views, as you request, and will reproduce to myself, as well as explain to you, as well as I can what I have seen. I am not beside myself with exstacy [sic] over any sights I behold, but my resolution is strong to bring you across the Atlantic, and leisurely to enjoy the new views, objects and comforts, and discomforts, of the old world. It is well to do it, I feel sure, where it is practicable, and I know not why we may not reasonably count upon it. I should want to sit down for weeks, if not months, in several of the great centres of this continent, and to take our observations entirely at leisure. I can easily improve my French sufficiently to be quite independent."

"Ned's acquaintances are of the best character here. Mrs. Dodge's and Mrs. Reed's families, and Mr. Lockwood's are his most intimate friends. I was with him at Saint Germain, last evening, and we were most cordially rec'd. Mrs. Reed and Mrs. Lockwood and probably Miss Reed will go with us on Tuesday, on a shopping excursion for an hour or more, as they are coming into the city, and I saw last evening they would be glad to serve me. Mr. Reed is to procure me an Opera Glass, such as he would buy for himself, and charge me, of course, what he will pay for its being made. He has a great many made. Ned has a good [one] and I believe Frank has a good one, else I would buy more than one. It will cost me \$4.40 only and worth in America not less than 15 to \$25 (Private – I think my purpose of taking home anything had better be private, (that is, not go beyond you and the Reading children), as it would be likely to occasion comment and anxiety, among the patriotic, that I should pay unreasonable duties."

"Anna Dow looks all worn out, but she professes to feel better than when she left America. Mrs. Hale and daughters are in clover, happy as clams at high water. I have seen them but once but shall call again this P.M."

"Tell the Dr. and Mrs. Gorham that I receive their assurances of remembrance with pleasure, and reciprocate all their good will. So to others who have sent messages. Am glad you have not been alone, and that your friends, visitors, have seemed to enjoy themselves. Ned sends love. Your loving husband Amos Tuck"

[Miscellaneous marginal comments:]

"I am rejoiced to learn the general aspects of affairs in America. At this distance all looks well."

"Ned and I go to Fontainebleau, 20 miles out of Paris tomorrow, to remain till Monday morning. As you know, it is an old royal residence, and you will possibly have pleasure in looking out this place, as well as Versailles, Saint Germain, Saint Cloud and other places which I visit, in the Encyclopedia Britannica." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 July 1865: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Abby Nelson. "I expect to leave Paris on Wednesday next, on a tour on the Rhine, but wish my letters to come to the same direction as heretofore. Ned and I are enjoying ourselves quite well, but I think it is time for me to be moving. I shall be gone for two weeks, and then return here for a few days, to leave about the 15th August for England, with

Ned, who will be confined here till that date, thus changing his cherished plan of going with me on the Rhine, etc. I shall spend my time after the 16th August, till my embarkation for home on the 2nd Sept. in England, Scotland, Ireland and possibly I may go to Wales. As I wrote you, I think, last week I will not go into particulars at this time, but at once speak of your letter to Ned, respecting Laura, the other two children, the Nelsons, etc., which letter was received, with Ellen's endorsing it, two days ago."

"First in regard to Laura's coming here with you. Her fare will be the same as yours, say \$125 in gold each way, making \$250 in gold. Her board here would be at best \$50 a month in gold, say \$300 for her whole time here, making \$550 [besides?] incidentals, and the whole...."
[Remainder of the letter missing.] [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

26 July 1865: E.H. Rollins (Concord) to William E. Chandler. "I went to Hanover Thursday to Commencement. Genl. Marston was there several days and was upon the platform when I arrived. He was and is as ugly as a bear. From what I learn, he must have insulted the whole Cong. Delegation – he certainly insulted me. He came to Concord yesterday afternoon, and is in town this morning. I have not seen him...." [Chandler Papers, NHHS]

26 July 1865: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Ellen French. "I wrote yesterday to your mother, and day before to Abby, and both letters will go in the same mail as this, I suppose."

"My plan is now perfected, to leave here tomorrow morning at 8 ½ o'clock, to take a ten days or two weeks circuit on the Rhine. I have bought what is called a billet circulaire, or circular ticket, for 130 fcs. (\$26) which takes me from here to Strasburg on the Rhine, and thence down the River, with leave to stop at any and all places, - month in all – bringing me back by way of Brussels. I leave alone, as Ned cannot journey with me till my return, when he will go to England. I want three weeks in Europe, after I leave the Continent, as I think I shall relish the father-land of old England, where I hear less of this outlandish lingo, which now buzzes in my ear continually. When again I come here I shall at once commence heroic practice in studying the language, with a teacher. It is a necessary of life to know it quite well."

"I have re-read your letter in respect to Abby and Laura. I shall be ready to negotiate for her having Laura, if she remains of the conviction that she needs her for her comfort, and if I were at home, would have her stay this Summer and Fall. Perhaps she has retained her, and if she has, I hope it is for the best. You, of course, as well as Abby can count upon my doing anything in my power to comfort her. She says she would even give up Paris for enjoyment of the children – that is motherly and worthy of her. I am not sure, however, that she would not, anyhow, get sick of Paris, in a few weeks. Ned enjoys it because he is busy. I have got tire of staying here doing nothing. Cathedrals and old pictures have ceased to excite me much."

"If I had been bred a Banker, and had not already reached the age, when men withdraw from business, I would establish, or try to establish a Banking House here. Munroe & Co. have no competition, make all the money they desire, and are not over obliging. It would be easy to compete with them. However, it is too late for me, and Frank has his hands full at home. I am

gratified that Mr. Way is pleased with the working of the Bank, as it indicates Frank's success. I note with interest what you write of the Forbes girl and young Way – who better be married and educate his wife after. Otherwise she may slip through his fingers. Ned is not engaged or in love. He knows favorably some fine girls – Miss Reed among them, - but will not fall in love or propose to any body, as I think. He will go home free, next Spring, and after that do what seems best in Boston. There will be time enough for him to fall in love. Your loving father, with love to your fat and fighting children, husband, Abby and all. Your father Amos Tuck.”

[Miscellaneous marginal notes.]

“It is possible Miss Robinson will marry a millionaire, but it would be a strange thing to happen. For Sissy's sake I hope it is true.”

“I have bought you and Abby each a dress, yours in sky blue silk, but fit to wear in afternoon as well as eve. Abby's a mourning silk. Both to be chiefly made and trimmed here. Also gloves for you, Abby and your mother. Mrs. Reed and Mrs. Lockwood helped me select an get trimmed.”

“Ned sends love, but is so busy he cannot write.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 August 1865: Aaron H. Cragin (Lebanon, NH) to William E. Chandler. I see by the Boston Journal of yesterday that the Boston Custom House officers have not been reappointed, and I infer that there may be some doubt in relation to Tuck's case. I supposed he was reappointed and confirmed by Lincoln. He is now abroad on leave, and I cannot presume he will be removed during his stay in Europe. I know how you have felt in relation to Tuck and I presume you are not very anxious for his continuance in office. I am satisfied that it is better for him to remain, than for a Mass. man to take his place. Several New Hampshire men are provided for under him, and some of them my friends. I trust he will be retained at least, till such time as change becomes the policy of the Administration. From my acquaintance with the affairs of the Boston Custom House, I am satisfied that Tuck is a good officer, and acceptable to the Merchants. There is considerable feeling against Goodrich, but I have understood that the Mass. Delegation were opposed to any change at present. It should be remembered that the interests of the Government, and of the Importers are opposed.”

“I write you privately for information in relation to this matter. Will you be kind enough to write me what is being done, if anything, and what your impressions are to?” [Chandler Papers, NHHS]

8 August 1865: Amos Tuck (Brussels) to Frank French. “I have rec'd (Ned being with me), within the last hour, your letter of the 25th July, giving me an account of the state of affairs, touching the Collector and the Custom House. I am of your opinion, that spiteful opposition to Mr. G. [Goodrich], is the chiefly impelling cause of the dangers which surround my office, aggravated, probably, by the utter worthlessness of Dr. P., as a public officer, (or as anything else, I think). I do not regard it as improbable that we all may go by the board together, though it is not certain. Were I at home, all I would say to Mr. McCulloch, or to the Senators, would be

this: can you afford, with safety to the Revenue, to make an entire change; and if not, I am sure my office commands more acceptableness to the public, than either of the others. I should not beg, at this late day, for official favor, and should not whine at any official result. My house is set in order. I am ready to give up the office cheerfully. I have fared well in it, and shall not complain, though I should always feel that I had fallen a victim to Mr. G.'s impracticableness. I shall never be discomforted by any result, and I wish you to assure all my intimate friends, - more particularly the family - that I have anticipated in my thinking, such an event, and am entirely prepared for it. I am not sure, either, that the late division of the spoils, there is any valid answer to the argument, that such offices ought to be passed round. Yet I do not think an entire change ought, on the govt.'s account, to be made at one time. I would hurry home, if I thought I could get home in time, and do good. But you see I cannot argue the matter, and besides I cannot probably get home in time to arrest the stroke. I doubt also I could get a berth for an earlier period than Sept. 2."

"I must defer writing much of our journey. Ned and I have made happy progress from Baden, via Wiesbaden, etc. etc. including Cologne, of course, and have every moment very much [?]. We go to Antwerp to-day and to-morrow shall go to Paris, or to Compiègne, which is near to it. I am in good health, and Ned is gaining flesh every day. I was interested about the christening, and think you did right, in doing what you thought right. Was glad to have your statement of Abby's enjoyment of her children etc. etc. Love to all. Tell Mr. Walker I wish I had time to write to him, but have not. Ned sends love. Aff - A Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 August 1865: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Ellen French. "I am just in receipt of your letter of July 27th, written at Exeter, giving me a most interesting account of your visit at Exeter, and of the state of affairs at the Homestead, as well as your views upon matters and things in general. First of all, let me say, that I approve your judgment, that one of the children ought to remain with Abby, and that I shall insist upon recasting the plan which was made with Thomas Nelson, so far as there is need of doing, in order to allow her that satisfaction; and in all things I shall have no object more at heart, than to give Abby the consolations which her motherly feelings crave, and which are due to her. We must consider, and she must consider the impracticability of her enduring [?] the care of them all for all the time. She will consider also, that we cannot expect the Nelsons to give up entirely. But thought there are difficulties in this matter, as in all others, yet I hope for a solution favorable to Abby's happiness, and to the best good of all the children. Would not Nelly's remaining with Abby be better than Laura's? Talk with Abby about it. Laura and Mary are self-protecting institutions, but Nelly needs nursing and is more like some of the best specimens of the Tucks, in her sensibilities. As to Abby's coming to Paris, with one of the children, I will postpone further talk, till I see you all. In the above, say to Abby I talk to her as well as to you."

"I returned with Ned from the Rhine the 9th instant, after a most agreeable journey for two weeks, in the pleasantest part of Europe, with Ned with me for ten days. I rec'd at Brussels,

and replied to, a letter from Frank, of an alarming character, respecting my office. Know ye all, that while I do not like to become a sacrifice to other people's unpopularity, my house is set in order, and I am ready to depart so far as my office is concerned. Some things will render dismissal from office agreeable. I shall then be cut away forever from politicians, and the 'wicked' will cease to 'trouble', while I can say, in the classic language of Stephen Dearborn – 'They can't get back what I have made, out of the old jail.'"

"I note what you say about your 'vanities', - that you choose a purple dress – you said a month or two ago 'heavenly blue'. But I bought you, two weeks ago, a purple, I think. So you see I accidentally was right. I have made most of my purchases for you all, and think you all will be pleased to a moderate extent, at least."

"On Frank's letter, I might have hastened my return, had it been practicable, but it was not, as I could not probably secure an earlier passage than Sept. 2nd and besides should have to go home without seeing much of Great Britain. It is my purpose to leave here Wednesday next (the 16th instant) being here on the day (the 15th), of the great Fête. I go to London, and Ned will probably follow me, in a few days, to spend the last ten days with me. I rather expect to see Mr. Way at Liverpool, as I shall write him when I will be there. Love to all, in which Ned joins, your loving father Amos Tuck"

[Marginal note.]

"Atlantic Cable gone to smash. Sorry." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

16 August 1865: Daniel Clark (Manchester) to William E. Chandler. Clark has been traveling for a week. "Pray, do not let Mr. Tuck be removed; especially while he is away, and while Fogg is away, if you can prevent it."

"I feel it would be a bad move just now – if it is made at all."

It would inevitably lose this office to N.H."

"If Tuck must be removed, I would desire Fogg might have it, if practicable."

"I fear he cannot, if this removal is made while he is absent, or rather before his return.

"I will write the Secy tomorrow – and in the mean time, show him this, or better, ask him to hold on until he hears from me."

"I fear we cannot carry such a load of removals, and should look for nothing but mischief from it."

I know you are not personally attached to Mr. Tuck, but I cannot but feel that his removal without some compensatory appointment will be very detrimental."

"You will bear in mind that the 'Ancient Mariner' has shoved Mr. Tullock out of office, and turned the duties over to a paymaster who owe his appointment to Franklin Pierce."

"Your truly, Danl. Clark" [Chandler Papers, NHHS]

18 August 1865: Tuck replaced as Boston Naval Officer by Congressman D.W. Gooch.

[NY Times, 19 August 1865)

18 August 1865: Amos Tuck (London) to Ellen French. "Here I am in London. I left Paris Wednesday, it is now Friday. Ned is to follow me to-day, and we are to travel together for a week. Mr. Abbot, at Sheffield, has written me here, and we shall visit him for a day or two a week hence. I am at the Golden Cross Hotel. Yesterday, I saw the Collector of this Port, who was very polite, and went with me to the London Docks, to the wine vaults, etc. and showed and told me many interesting things. To-day I am to visit the American Consulate, and to map out a route for myself and Ned when he arrives. Mr. Adams is out of town, as are all the grandees of the realm. I enjoy London, and feel at home, comparatively, understanding the language and the ways of the people. Ned prefers Paris, and especially the food of that City. They have no dessert at an English Hotel, but cheese with bread and butter."

"I wrote to your mother on leaving Paris, and do not write to her by this mail. When Abby has seen this send it at once to your mother, as she will desire to be assured of my health, which is still good."

"My trunk, closely packed, I left at Paris to go by express to Liverpool, per Steamer's agents, and have with me valise and travelling suit only. That is the style for this country. Love to all. Your loving father Amos Tuck." [LOC/FFP/Tuck]

19 August 1865: Daniel Clark (Manchester) to William E. Chandler. "I recd. your telegram last evening."

"I hope, for you own sake, Mr. Tuck will not be removed; and especially, if it must be done while he is in Europe."

"If it is done, I fear they will charge:

1st. That either I have been remiss as in Fogg's case, or that I have no influence with the administration, or,

2nd. That it has been done through your hostility."

"Both these charges, however groundless, must be avoided."

"At all events let me know, if it is determined when, and let the delegation have an opportunity to act."

"It may not do any good, but it will at least be satisfactory to make the effort. We might, perhaps, secure another appointee for New Hampshire in Mr. Tuck's place."

"To Mr. Hamlin I have no objection. He is my friend. I am pleased at his success, for he seemed left out 'in the cold'"

"I have written the Secy, and have stated the reasons why Mr. T. should not in my judgment be removed."

"I recd. a letter from Mr. Fogg two days since."

"He will be home in Oct. He wrote in good temper, but is sore at his removal."

"Can anything be done for him?" [Chandler Papers, NHHS]

21 August 1865: Daniel Clark (Manchester) to William E. Chandler. "I have just recd. your of the 18th inst."

“I do not now suppose, and never have supposed you had any control over the Boston appointments.”

“Still the first aspect of the case will be such as to need, or rather require explanation with those interested.”

“I have no doubt something, felt to be a necessity, compelled the removal of Mr. Tuck”
I learn that he went to Europe with a full understanding with President Johnson – so Mr. Cragin informs me. I did not see Mr. T. before he left.”

“I am much gratified at Mr. Hamlin’s appointment. He is my sincere friend and I suppose his appointment made it desirable for the President to give Mr. Gooch Mr. T’s place, because Mr. Gooch had been strongly recommended for the Collectorship.”

“Mr. Tuck will be sorely disappointed and troubled when he comes to learn, that he is ‘no longer steward.’”

“I had a letter from Mr. Fogg a few days ago. He wrote in good temper, tho’ he frankly says, he thinks I could have prevented his recall by a more energetic movement at an earlier day.”

“In this I think he is mistaken, but I am sorry he should have any such feeling.”

“He would like the mission to Denmark, and I have written to the President enquiring if that place has been filled, but I have not much hope any thing can be accomplished. Do you know an thing about it?”

I should be glad to ease Fogg’s case in some way for while there is a feeling that both he and Mr. Tuck have enjoyed good office for four years, they are both too valuable men to be lightly set aside. Indeed, they cannot be. They will be felt in a wide circle.”

“Mr. Fogg writes me that e thinks he shall return in October.”

“If you can give me any aid in this matter, I wish you would do so.”

[Chandler Papers, NHHS]

21 August 1865: B.F. Prescott (Concord) to William E. Chandler. “I see the slate is determined upon for the Boston Custom House, and the selection for the successors to the present incumbent is an admirable one. The gentlemen who have hither to filled those places were always pleasant to me and treated me with all the courtesy I could ask.”

“The removal of Mr. Tuck especially in his absence will place you in rather an embarrassing situation as you have had a personal altercation by letter with him. Yet I do not see how he can blame you, for your superiors will shield you from any accusation of the kind. I have labored for you the best I was able to satisfy Fogg that you had nothing to do with his recall, and that Mr. Harrington would have received appointment, even if you had remained in the Navy Department. The tone of his letters are changed as he more fully understands the matter. I wish the mission to Denmark could be secured for him....”

[Chandler Papers, NHHS]

24 August 1865: BBF (Washington) to HFF. "Yesterday I saw the President and he assured me there was no truth whatever [in rumors that BBF was to be removed]. That he had no idea of removing me and had never intimated such an one to any one. Then we had a cosy talk of about an hour together about all sorts of things and I was delighted. I think His Excellency has confidence in me, and is my warm friend.

"I am sorry he removed Tuck while he was absent, but he probably thought he had good reasons, though I think he will find that he missed it as Tuck can do much more for, or against him than Gooch can. But it is none of my bread and butter, and so I do not intend to let it have any effect on me either one way of the other." [FFP Reel 6]

26 August 1865: Amos Tuck (Sheffield) to Abby Nelson and Ellen French. "My dear Ellen and Abby: We have been here two days before to-day, (Saturday), and leave to-day at 12 ½ for Manchester and Chester, expecting to stay at the latter place over Sunday, and on Tuesday next, go to Liverpool, to meet Mr. Way, who will probably arrive on Monday. Ned will stay there a day or two, then leave for Paris, while I am hoping to go by Rail, via Dublin, to Queenstown, there to take the steamer on Sunday, as she comes along from Liverpool, which place she leaves on Saturday the 2nd. Mr. Abbot the Consul here has been very attentive, and he and his daughters have made our stay here very pleasant. Since leaving London last Sunday, we have visited Windsor, Oxford, Stratford-on-Avon, Kenilworth, Warwick, Chatsworth, and Haddon Hall, and have seen and enjoyed a great deal. We like England much, and hope to see more of it, at a future time. We are both in good health."

"I am now anxious to be at home. I want to see you all, and begin to feel that I am important for Abby's comfort, and re-adjustment in respect to her anxieties, and uncertainties respecting herself and children. I have confidence that matters can be arranged, so as to meet her and our approval and also to satisfy the reasonable cravings of a mother's of fiction. Her weakness of body disqualifies her too great endurance, and the care of the children and the hot weather have again, I am sorry to see, have reduced her. I fear the enjoyment of the children with her, will have caused her serious trouble in their leaving her, - two of them, - for Pkskll. I want to be at home, to see and know all, and to bestow upon her my love and sympathy in all her vexations. I had a letter from you both two days ago. I had left Paris and, of course, could not re-cast my plan of purchases. I may therefore not have all that you write about, but yet hope that my mementos of Europe may be gratifying. The amt. and number of articles cannot [be] great, for space for transportation is limited, and gold is limited also. Yet I know you do not wish me to do anything inconvenient, and am glad you, (Ellen), have written so definitely."

"I shall not write home after to-day, and in about 8 or 9 days, (the Asia is a slow ship), after receiving this, you may hope to see me. I am obliged to Frank for seeing Cragin, and for what he and Mr. Walker have done to fortify my position official [sic]. Yet I think the evil is not superficial, or curable, and that G.'s obstinacy and unpopularity and Phelps's nothingness, (Lincoln dying), render an executive change inevitable. My House is in order, and I shall go out of office, (if need be), with equanimity. Your loving father Amos Tuck"

[Marginal note.] “Ned says, ‘give them my love and tell them that you do the literary and I wash the dishes.’ He is packing.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 August 1865: Daniel Clark (Manchester) to William E. Chandler. “I have just received yours of the 27th inst.”

“You know so well how I feel in regard to the removal of Mr. Fogg and Mr. Tuck that I will not further dwell upon the subject. I agree with you, that it was utterly impossible to prevent that of Mr. Fogg, and I did all that I could to save the later.” Clark discusses Fogg’s case.

“...Mr. Tuck must feel egregiously disappointed. I learn he saw Mr. Johnson before he left, and went with the assurance ‘all was right.’”

“...Gen. Marston has threatened, since he finds he cannot control the appointments, to abolish the places; but since Fogg and Tuck and Tullock are gone, I trust no further reduction will be made in the small amount of patronage left.” [Chandler papers, NHHS]

29 August 1865: Amos Tuck (Liverpool) to Frank French. “Your letter (and Mrs. Tuck’s) sent to me at London, wherein you state that Mr. Goodrich had returned from Washington, reporting that not for official misdeeds, but for the good of the party, he, (and I suppose, I,) were to be removed, has been received to-day. In writing to Mr. Clark, after you had already seen Mr. Cragin, you did all that I could desire you to do, and if I am removed, I shall feel that the event could not have been otherwise by anything you could have done. The catastrophe to the Custom House officials has happened, as I have before said, on account of the accumulated hostilities against Mr. Goodrich, and accumulated contempt towards Phelps, and I am not astonished at the result. Had I been at home, it is possible I might have pushed my little skiff at a distance, and not gone down with the rest of the craft, to which I had been attached; yet I could have scarcely done so, without offending Mr. Goodrich, whom I value for his honesty, and for his real friendship toward me and mine, much as I deplore his impracticable obstinacy, and so I am entirely content with having been away. Yet I am not sure that G. and P. may not go by the board alone, even now, for if the Secretary knows what the Govt. requires, he will retain my Deptmt. intact, for a time at least, so that the traditions of business may be delivered over to the incoming powers. However, I shall be disappointed, if I am saved. If I am not removed before arriving at Boston, I shall want at once what Clark and others have done, and whether a visit to Washington would be of use. I wrote to Jordan, a month ago, and I think he has advised the Secretary against my removal, but I don’t know (Private).”

“Ned and I came here yesterday. Mr. Way is in Ireland, but I hope he will be here tomorrow. This is a dull place, and we deplore the loss of time and waiting for Way.”

“I shall be slow to involve myself in any complicated Banking Business. It is better that I henceforth run no anxious hazards. Yet I shall listen attentively and considerately to Mr. W.’s propositions.”

“I leave on Sat. (it is now Tuesday). I may go to Ireland and take the Boat on Sunday at Queenstown. Ned sends love to all. He will go back to Paris from here.”

“Mr. Abbot, at Sheffield, treated us bountifully, and his daughters were very agreeable.
Love to all – Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “I fear many of my letters have miscarried. My wife had not rec’d any for several weeks, whereas I have scarcely missed writing her every week since I left America. Send this to her, or give it to her in Boston, when I trust she will come to meet me.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

2 September 1865: Secretary of the Treasury McCulloch writes to F.O. French at the Boston Custom House: “I will thank you to report to me as briefly as the nature of the business to which you have been devoting your attention will admit, the results of examinations since you were appointed Deputy Collector to investigate funds, in May last. It is suggested that the public interest would be subserved by your frequently and freely advising the District Attorney as to the matters under examination by you.” [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent (“W” series), vol. 5 of 14]

15 September 1865: Amos Tuck (At Sea in Massachusetts Bay) to John Tuck. “Dear Brother: I have at length arrived on the coast, and am hoping to step upon the land at East Boston at 8 o’clock this P.M. I expect to meet the members of my family at Boston, and as I may be very busy for a few days, I embrace the opportunity of writing you a short letter, while at sea, that I may send it at once, and notify you that I am safe again in America. I have written you three or four letters in my absence, and am sorry if you have not received them all. I learnt from my wife that you had not heard from me directly, and thought very strange of it. Yet you should not have supposed for a moment that it was possible I should designedly neglect you.”

“I have had a rough and long passage, the roughest, the Captain says, which he has made since last December. We have had, with the exception of one day, head wind all the way from the channel between Ireland and England, and several days the wind almost blew a gale. We shipped many seas, and the decks were flooded half the time for days. I have been sick, (sea-sick), perhaps five days in all, but am now hardened to the sea, and not affected by its motion. I left Ned at Liverpool in good health, a few days before I embarked. I took the ship in Queenstown, close to Cork in Ireland, at which the ship made a stop, on Sunday the 3rd instant. I was three days in Ireland, and travelled 200 miles or more in it, from Dublin to Cork and Queenstown. I have enjoyed my journeyings very well, and am glad I have been to Europe. Still I am delighted at the prospect of being again in my own house, in my own country. The loss of my office gives me no uneasiness or even regret. It is better I should not be tied down to routine, and it will no doubt be well for me to leave official position forever. Thank the Lord, I do not need the pay. I shall write again soon, and see you and our friends at B. I hope.”

“Love to all. Your aff. Brother Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

16 September 1865: John Tuck (Biddeford) to Amos Tuck. “...I have been sorry about the change of officers but am greatly gratified to know what I thought before, probable that you don’t care. Thank Providence you are not dependent on the rascals for bread and comfort.....”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 1]

16 September 1865: On September 15, French and Mary Ellen left Albany for Boston after visiting the Midwest and Niagara Falls. “We arrived at the Depot here at 5.15’ and found Frank, Ellen and Nathan waiting for us. Mr. Tuck arrived from Europe about the same time and with his wife were to stay with Frank, so we went to Parker’s and spent the night, and came out here [Concord] this morning.” [FFP Reel 2]

27 September 1865: Frenches arrive back in Boston on the 26th, and French paid calls around the city including on Hannibal Hamlin, Collector at the Custom House. He and his party ate dinner at Parker’s. “After dinner the ladies again went shopping, and I went toward Frank’s Bank, and met him on his way home, so I joined him and we got here [158 Concord Street] about 3 p.m. Mary Ellen came at ¼ past 4. Frank, Ellen, Abbie Nelson, Mary Ellen and I went to the Theatre in the evening and saw Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean in Macbeth....Mr. Tuck spent the night here, and very much amused us with some of his experiences in Europe, and with anecdotes, this morning. I went into the city with Frank, between 8 and 9, did a few errands....” [FFP Reel 2]

28 September 1865: McCulloch letter to US District Attorney R.H. Dana, Jr., recommends that Dana contact New York City Deputy Collector Albert Hanscom who “is in possession of very important facts relating to the Williams Compromise matter. I will thank you to signify to Mr. Hanscom at once that you desire to take his testimony, and you may leave it to him to elect whether it shall be done in Boston or in New York. If Mr. Hanscom prefers the latter, please proceed in person or direct Mr. Field to go to New York for that purpose. I am also informed that some important facts can be revealed by Mr. F.O. French of your city. You are therefore requested to take his testimony upon the same subject and report to me at your earliest convenience.” [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent to judiciary (“F” series), vol. 4 of 8]

30 September 1865: U.S. Register of Civil, Military, and Naval Service reported that Edward Tuck of New Hampshire was a consular clerk in Paris with a salary of \$1,000.

1 October 1865: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Amos congratulates Ned for standing up to the threats made by Nicolay to reduce his position in the consulate, and hopes Ned insisted on keeping half of the unofficial fees as a matter of principle. If Ned continues to find Nicolay disagreeable, he should consider leaving Paris before the following spring.

Amos doesn’t think staying in Europe for business is a good idea: why stay in a country where the interest rate is only 5%, while in America it is 10%.

“I had to present you with about \$93 only, in order to salt down for you \$6000 in ‘7-30s’, which I have done, and will send you the particulars of, when more at leisure. Next int. on them will commence to run Dec. 15/65”

Tuck's return voyage took more than 13 days and it was rough. He was met on the wharf by Catherine, Ellen, Abby Laura and Frank, and went immediately to 156 Concord Street. Amos will visit Biddeford and Effingham in a week.

"Should you have occasion to come home, without having money enough, borrow of Mr. Reed, or Mr. Wood, or sell my bonds and take [the] surplus beyond the 4500 fcs. owed to Munroe, or what would be better, borrow of Mr. Way."

Mrs. Taylor is visiting. He is putting a new furnace in.

"Everybody enquires for you, business of all kinds is brisk, incl. the Porter papers and will report on them in future, and will write Mr. Porter myself. I may as well say about the mine, that we have formed a company with a capital of \$300,000 to buy and develop a mine at Austin, Nevada, - that Mr. Gordon is there now, but that he is to return and Mr. Ayer to go out to relieve him."

[P.S.] "Send me the coupons to the Bonds in Munroe's hands, unless you want to sell them for your own use. They are being paid now."

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

5 October 1865: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "...I suppose you know that Abby boards, (with Laura), close by Ellen. She is getting along with less difficulty than usual, although she is a costly luxury, in spite of all that she, with Ellen to help her, can do to limit expenses....My 'G.K. Paul & Co. property is now the most gratifying income I have. It paid me \$2000 last year, and is paying as well now, while my other investments are doing well."

Amos expects the new furnace will make the house more comfortable. "...Exeter is as dull as a place can be, and except for my Library and a half dozen families, it is of no account to me. Yet I cannot expect it to afford me much interest, unless I have some business in it, which I desire not to have, without prospect of higher pay than they can give me."

The mine company should be incorporated with Tuck as president after 1 November. "I see that 'Five twenties' are not quite as high. I would prefer to owe Munroe & Co., at a fair rate of interest, till gold goes down, but had rather pay it at once what I owe them than to have trouble about it. Ascertain if it can lie and advise me what to do."

Amos leans against Ned's idea of doing banking in Europe. He also advises Ned to continue to stand up to Nicolay's demands and unwillingness to split unofficial (or extra) fees.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

17 October 1865: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. "I came to Boston yesterday to attend court as a witness in one of Mr. Goodrich's law suits, and also to execute some writings respecting the Silver Mine. We have raised \$100,000, and are commencing to open a mine at Austin, Nevada, but it will take a year to get any returns from it, even if it proves a good one....."

Amos intends to go to Biddeford, Parsonsfield and Effingham with brother John.

"...I see no reason to suppose I shall suffer for want of Gov. Patronage. Mr. Dudley is in Boston, and I saw him last evening. I am thinking quite seriously of going South in December,

and seeing what I can of the debris of southern society. I think I shall go to Charleston by land, stopping at interesting points, taking your mother with me, and being gone 2 to 3 months. I believe I shall be profited by what I see, and be better able to regulate my own course in future, touching business, and to advise you. Mr. D. says you better complete your law studies, whatever you do. There is a good opening for lawyers south, and he is ready (I am not) in his advice for you to go to Beaufort. I saw Stickney of St. Louis at Exeter a few days ago. He and Ch. have prospered, having made in 1864 3300\$ each above expenses, and done better since....”

Tuck again supports how Ned handled his disagreement with Nicolay.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

19 October 1865: McCulloch letter to Asst. US District Attorney in Boston William A. Field referring to Field’s letters of 31 August and 16 October, and stating: “On the 2nd of September the Department addressed a letter to F.O. French – a copy of which is herewith transmitted. Under date of the 6th September Mr. French submitted a report – of which a copy is enclosed. On the 2nd inst. Mr. French’s report was transmitted to the Solicitor of the Treasury, who replied on the 7th inst. as per copy hereby transmitted. If after you shall have perused these papers, you desire any instructions, you will please communicate your wishes in distinct terms.”

[USNA, RG 56, Letters sent to judiciary (“F” series), vol. 4 of 8]

26 October 1865: Letter to Asst. US District Attorney in Boston William A. Field from Asst. Secretary of the Treasury J.F. Hartley: Your letter of the 24th inst. is received. I will thank you to transmit a copy of your letter dated 31st August referred to therein, relating to the seizure of arms and ammunition made by John Z. Goodrich, Esq. Collector, April 12th 1865.”

[USNA, RG 56, Letters sent to judiciary (“F” series), vol. 4 of 8]

26 October 1865: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Samuel [?] A. Way, Esq. (“now at Paris”). Tuck wrote on a non-descript piece of notepaper without letterhead: “Please state to me in writing whether in your negotiations last spring with the Revenue Officers at the port of Boston for the settlement of certain penalties demanded by them of Messrs. J.D. and M. Williams, you had any secret understandings or arrangements with me, whereby in any event I was to be benefitted, by procuring a settlement and payment of money by said firm. Also whether I was benefitted, to your knowledge, by said settlement, in any way other than by my portion of the sum paid to Mr. Goodrich, the Collector.”

“As an officer of the Government I had no secrets to be presumed, and you will please make your reply as full as you deem necessary to state the facts fully, without any reservations whatever.”

“Yrs. respectfully, late Naval officer Bos Amos Tuck” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

27 October 1865: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. “I have spoken with Mr. Munroe in regard to your note and find that he expects its payment without any very long delay. I think that

gold will go up during the next few months, as the shipments to America are immense and the merchants all say they will increase; and my opinion is that it will be for your interest to pay immediately....”

“Private fees are not abounding, though they must average 100 francs a week, I think, during the winter....”

Ned reassures Amos about the overblown accounts of a cholera outbreak in Paris. He was dining that night at the Reeds. He again urges that Abby and Laura spend the winter in Paris with him. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

28 October 1865: Letter to W.A. Field, Asst. District Atty. in Boston from Asst. Secretary of the Treasury J.F. Hartley: “Your letter of 26th inst. covering bill for mileage from Boston to New York, and returning is received....” .” [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent to judiciary (“F” series), vol. 4 of 8]

16 November 1865: Tuck (Exeter) to Fogg. “My dear friend: I have recd. an invitation to go to Concord on the 22nd inst., to attend a meeting of the State Central Committee. I shall not attend. For some years the moral power of the Committee has been used, undesignedly by most men connected with it, to prop up and to further the aspirations, of unscrupulous demagogues, whose natural specific gravity gave them constant occasion to lay hold of something, to keep them out of the low place in society, which was their appropriate place. By this committee men have come to govern the State and raise themselves to positions of eminence, who had no better claims to consideration, than those founded upon Know Nothingism, upon their ability to levy contributions upon legislation and engineer log-rolling schemes for their own emolument, and upon their want of principles, generally, in all their political conduct. You know how Rollins began, by seeking to betray our party, and only joining us when he saw that we could survive his treason, and being a majority. He, Ordway and Chandler never exhibited any talent at useful callings, except as experts in the practice of manipulating legislatures for the money they could make thereby, and in managing the State Committees, to prop up, and exaggerate their consequence. They have been successful. They are in places, of which they are utterly unworthy, and I am alarmed at the extent of iniquity which will be introduced through them into the Congress and Govt. at Washington. Marston is now receiving visits from men in different parts of the State, who have been hunted up by his lackies, to be serviceable to aid him to the Senatorship, and are being properly flattered and charged to do execution in their several localities when the time comes. Clark is feebly trying to hold a hand with these fellows, while he and Cragin and Patterson etc. have all given Chandler the benefit of their combined influence to get into a place, and to cut your throat and mine, and have raised and will sustain Ordway in his position, while they all know he is a villain of the first water, and a natural and deadly enemy to me, and to every other man who despises iniquity.

Now, my dear friend, I am incapable of any longer co-operating, even generally, with these men. The Machinery of our party cannot be operated, except for their benefit, and to sustain their iniquities. I can leave politics, I cannot hold terms with them. Unless some new turn in the kaleidoscope takes place, I am henceforth out of politics for life. I know the people of the State

are sick of these fellows, and if we could cut them aloof from the rest of the party, they would drop into general contempt. But I have little faith that it can be done. I have a consciousness of integrity, which has governed us, I know, and I am not going to allow myself to be a bed-fellow, with these scamps, even so much as once again to attend a Convention, or caucus with them for active and influential managers.

I saw Judge Upham in Boston last week, and he is anxious to see you, confidentially, in regard to a scheme of resurrecting good things. But he is backward about opening the matter to you.

I shall be absent next week in N. York. Why not come down and spend next Sunday with me. Yours truly Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

18 November 1865: Tuck (Exeter) writes to Asa Dodge Smith recommending that he personally meet with E.J.M. Hale of Haverhill to seek a donation. [Hale and Tuck were in the 1835 graduating class at Dartmouth.] [TFP, Box 2, Folder 4]

28 November 1865: Tuck attended PEA Trustees’ meeting. Trustees agree, with conditions, to allow the Second Parish to build a chapel on the east side of the existing church. [pp. 411-412, PEA Trustees’ minutes to be used only with the permission of the PEA librarian]

19 December 1865: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tuck details what Ned and Mrs. Porter must do to settle the estate of her husband George N. Porter, apparently in New Haven. No will existed, so Mrs. Porter will get 1/3 and her daughter 2/3 of the estate, after payment of the notes against (her son?) John B. Porter. Tuck asks Ned whether it would not be better for the Porters to liquidate the estate into USG 5-20 bonds to be held by Amos, who would pay them the interest.

“Your wine will be taken care of, and I am glad you sent it. We will divide it among us. We have arranged for duty and for forwarding.”

“...We go to Boston, Christmas Day, and shall stay for some weeks, at least. I have had no uncomfortable leisure on my hands, as yet, and am quite content to be out of office. My health is perfect, better than for years before I went to Europe.”

“Give my regards to the Reeds and the Lockwoods....An old acquaintance of yours, a Miss Balch, was seen by Abby and Ellen, in Boston, a few days ago, with a tasteful bonnet on. No recognition – or very good chance for it.”

“I saw Mr. Dodge yesterday....”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

19 December 1865: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John G. Nicolay, Esq., Consul. Tuck encloses a power of attorney relating to the Porter estate. He also outlines how he should be paid as administrator of the estate. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

1866

11 January 1866: Amos Tuck (Boston) to George G. Fogg. “My dear Fogg, I and my wife are here at the United States Hotel for a few weeks, or months. We were sorry you did not accept my last invitation to go to Exeter. We expected you, and my wife had her pies and cakes all ready.

I learn that Ordway, on his journey back to Washington, represented that he had accomplished, through much tribulation, the object of his visit to Concord, -- a vindication of Pres. Johnson in spite of Geo. G. Fogg. Ere this, Johnson has had a glowing account from Ordway of his prowess. John B. Clark told me of this, (he went to N.Y. with Ordway), and said it was manifestly the same game over again, as that played by Chandler, two year ago, when I was represented to Mr. Lincoln as the ingrate diabolist, who opposed his nomination.

War on these fellows, and on all their arts and practices, both at Washington, in lobbying for money about Congress, in trading off the offices, and impudent assumption of authority to act for the people, as well as war upon their demagogic arts at home to control and misrepresent the people is the only relation I crave with them. I defy and despise them, however much power they may exercise, at home or abroad. I do not ask you to fight them, and I do not think I myself shall fight them. But if I have any relations at all with them, they must be those of active, flagrant war. I could tell you, if we were together, more reasons than I have patience to write, why I thus feel.

When you come to Boston, you will find me here, and I need not tell you I shall be glad to see you. Yours truly, Amos Tuck.” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

30 January 1866: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. “I enclose the statement of Munroe & Co.’s account. You will notice that they charge a commission of 1 ½ per cent, besides 6% interest on the amount. I asked Mr. Richards why it was so large, to which he replied that it was the only profit they made, adding that they rarely let money in that way, as thy preferred keeping it on the other side, and that you made much more by the transaction than they, in the fall of gold. I drew the balance – F. 844.50 – and have placed it to your credit against the 1000 I advanced you here.”

Ned relates how he was removed from the guest list to be presented to the Emperor. New protocol rules exclude consular officials from such receptions.

Mr. Way gave Ned a highly sought ticket to the Prefect’s Ball. Way got the tickets through “private friends – Verily he is a man of resources.”

Ned writes at length on the Porter case. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

2 February 1866: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Mr. Way broached an idea to Ned – would he be interested in joining Way’s bank with special charge of foreign exchange? Ned seems excited at the idea and asks his father’s views.

“In your last you speak of several courses that are open to me – some desirable some not. On the list of ‘excluded’ we may as well set down government employ in any line. I shall not think of accepting any official place, unless everything else fails.”

“Mr. Taylor of Andover called upon me the other day. He spoke of having often met you on the R.R. and desired to be remembered.”

“I went last night to the Préfet’s ball at the Hotel de Ville, with Mr. and Mrs. Way and a Miss Ware, stopping with her mama at the Gd. Hotel. Ned describes the grand affair.

“Mr. and Mrs. Way and the Smiths leave for Italy on Monday. Mr. Way will not return to Paris before August and I shall not see him again before I leave. I invited him and Mrs. Way, with the Smiths, to dine with me some days ago, and I think they enjoyed themselves. Mr. Way invited me to the Opera afterward, where we saw Patti in Lucia di Lammermoor”

[TFP, Box Folder 9]

13 February 1866: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “We recd. a letter from Frank yesterday morning in which he informed us that Ellen was better but not out of danger, and that, if any change occurred he would Telegraph, so yesterday afternoon a dispatch came from that rascal in the following words ‘All quiet on the Potomac’, which seemed to disgust all his relatives but me. Mary Ellen said ‘What does that mean?’ I replied ‘he means that Ellen is a great deal better.’ ‘Then why not write it?’ said she, ‘because,’ said I ‘it is not his way.’”

“...To day we recd. a letter from Mr. Tuck, announcing that Ellen was out of danger, and we are very happy.” [FFP Reel 6]

16 February 1866: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. “Your letter of 30th Jan. in which you speak at length of the Williams affair, has been received. I wrote immediately to Mr. Way all that I thought would be of interest to him. He is probably in Rome before this. In consideration of what he once suggested to me concerning my entering the Boston house, I also told him what you said about the same thing. You remark in your letter that this may in my view be a sufficient consideration for not jumping at any offer in Paris.”

“Mr. Way, for a month before leaving Paris, said less about business matters than while Rhodes was in Paris – to me at least. His plan is, I am almost sure, to wait some months or a year, for certain other developments in other quarters that may influence his final plan. He introduced me the Sunday before he left to a Mr. Piquet, formerly of New Orleans, who has been a leading secessionist and rebel agent here during the war. Piquet (or rather Picquet) whose loyal professions are not wanting now, is about starting with a Frenchman, a franco-american agency in Paris, to do all kinds of commission and ultimately Banking business with America....”

Ned doesn’t think much of Way’s judgment about people. For example, Way thinks very highly of Gibbs and Bigelow.

“No, Mr. Way, having never made any definite proposition to me about entering business in Paris, I have had no reason to think of varying my plans about going to America....The most tangible and satisfactory remark that Mr. Way ever made to me was that in reference to my entering the Boston house, which I have already reported to you....”

Ned says he ready to come home and make a trip across the plains to Nevada with Amos....

[P.S.] “Remember me affectionately to the Biddeford people, also to the Batchelders, especially Marcia, when you see them. Likewise to Aunt Abby if you are fortunate enough ever to see her – where is Mrs. Taylor now?” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

20 February 1866: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. “I have to-day received your letter of Feb. 9th telling me of our dear Ellen’s illness....” No details given, but it seems to have been serious. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

21 February 1866: BBF (Washington) to HFF. “As for Frank – darn him – Gov. Smith would say. Not a word from him for a week. Pa Tuck wrote us a week ago offering up a thanksgiving, in which we heartily joined, that Ellen was out of danger. Since then, not a scrawl from any one.” [FFP Reel 6]

27 February 1866: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned is happy to receive word in Amos’ letter of 13 February saying Ellen was well. “Kiss the dear girl a hundred times for me....”

“Pres. Johnson’s remarks, to which you allude, have caused some sharp criticism in the liberal papers of England and France. But I cannot think we need fear any serious mistake on his part that will injure the cause....”

“I have written Mr. Way a few lines to-day, giving him your message. He will probably come back to Paris in 5 weeks....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

28 February 1866: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Asa Dodge Smith. Tuck expresses his discomfort at the role played in the trustees’ meetings by the Chandler School visitors. He hints that Mr. Hayes has a bad reputation that has hurt donations, and that the college treasurer should take charge of the Chandler funds. [TFP, Box 2, Folder 4]

5 March 1866: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned reports the death of Frank Way in Naples. Mr. Way has written to Ned that the people “back home” are inclined to take a partner of Mr. Warren’s age, experience and capital in case Warren leaves the firm. Ned doesn’t think he would like to enter Way’s bank, but gives no reasons.

“A few days ago Mr. Richards (whom you probably remember), of Munroe & Cie took occasion to call me into his cabinet and to say to me that it would be very agreeable to himself and to Mr. Munroe to have me ‘go in and help them, with the view of my ultimately assuming a responsible position in the house.’ He said they needed more force both in Paris and New York, that they had thought of a young man in America as a proper person for the Paris house, but that if I would remain with them, they would keep him in America; and that perhaps we might change places temporarily with a view to the better learning of the entire business. I told him that I could not under any circumstances give up going to America and must keep myself free from any engagements until I had been home to see what the chances are there. I left him with the understanding that we should have a further conversation in a few days.”

“I shall then be able to understand just what kind of a proposition they are willing to make to me. They are both (M. and R.) elderly men (55 to 60, at least) and possibly they will make an offer worth considering. I saw that Mr. R. put a value on my knowledge of French and ‘respectable acquaintance’ in Paris, which would count in my favor here much more than at home....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

12 March 1866: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “...I go to Exeter, to-morrow morning to vote. The Senatorial question causes the candidates to be anxious who shall be chosen Reps. to the Legislature. Fogg is lying back, but yet is hoping that he may be chosen, in the strife which will arise between Clark, Marston, Rollins, and Patterson. I hope Clark may be chosen, but I don’t think there is differences enough in the men who aspire to the place, to make it worth my while to break my neck. The state will not be served at all, unless Fogg, or Clark is chosen.” [Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 70]

18 March 1866: Abby Nelson (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Abby looks forward to Ned’s return from France, and tells him not to bring presents for her and Ellen. “I would rather you would keep your money, darling, and as Pa is going to take the cost of my getting ready to be married out of the money left me by grandfather I shall be able to pay for what I need myself. I told Pa I rather he would do so. I don’t think, if you will accept a suggestion, that I should buy expensive gifts for mother either – She has always had the lion’s share, and is now possessed of more clothing than she can possibly wear....” Abby then goes on at some length describing the things she might like or not like. [Rauner Library, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 47]

20 March 1866: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Ellen is better and “...Abby is amusing herself with an attack of medicine and neuralgia, which is temporary (the neuralgia, I mean – for medicine is a chronic complaint with her). Ellen and Frank will go to board in April or May as Ellen is not likely to be able to keep house, and be steward, as well as housekeeper, which she is obliged to be, Frank having no knack in providing the wherewithal for domestic economy....

“Abby rec’d yesterday your amusing letter in regard to the engagement. I let Abby float along just as she chooses. If she can make Mr. Frye a good wife I shall be glad. She is very dependent and often despondent, but she has no extra-ordinary reason for it. The truth is, there is opportunity enough to be miserable, to every one in love with that condition, and if we have health and a good conscience, there is opportunity to catch a good many snatches of happiness. I go in for these ‘snatches,’ notwithstanding the inevitable draw-backs, which I believe every body encounters in one way or another.”

“I am surprised that Mr. Nicolay tries to keep you in Paris after May 1st when he knows that so far as the pay is concerned you have been with him all along at a loss. He must be a one-sided ‘cuss,’ to wish you to work for him for a bare living, while he does little and lays up 5000\$ a year....I should much choose that you should not resign till you arrive in America, and perhaps visit the Secretary....”

“Look at the Boston Daily Advertiser of this date, and you will see a communication from me which will explain itself. Mr. Goodrich and others think I have cut off the ear of the high priest’s servant, somewhat artificially....” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

20 March 1866: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. A lengthy, detailed and technical discussion of Mrs. Porter’s case. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

27 March 1866: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Amos sends the things that Catherine, Ellen and Abby want from Paris, and explains how they will be paid for.

“Ellen is convalescent still, Abby well, and all the rest of us in good health.....” Tuck is reading a lot, and writes a few business letters every day. “I visit Ellen almost every day.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

30 March 1866: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. Ned informs Tuck of his travel plans back to America, landing at New York, where customs is less stringent. He tells Amos that a businessman named Cross may call on him. Ned was quite impressed with him.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

30 March 1866: Dudley S. Locke and his wife Carolyn W. Locke (of Seabrook); Moses A. Paul and his wife Abby E. Paul (of Boston), and Emma E. Chapin (of San Francisco) sold a tract of land in Hampton to Stebbins H. Dumas for \$10,000.00. Amos Tuck signed the deed as the attorney for Emma E. Chapin in Boston on 31 March.

The tract contained all the property owned by Carolyn, Abby and Emma at Boar’s Head in Hampton that they received from the estate of David Nudd, including the Boar’s Head Hotel and seven acres of land. [Apparently Carolyn, Abby and Emma were three daughters of David Nudd. A fourth daughter was Sarah A. Nudd, Amos Tuck’s first wife who died in 1847 leaving three children who also benefitted from David Nudd’s will.]

[Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 411, Page 265]

April [?], 1866: Edward Tuck resigns as vice-consul and acting consul at the American Mission in Paris in order to accept a position with the banking house of Munroe & Co. [NH biographies book held by Hampton Historical Society]

9 April 1866: Abby Nelson (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Abby discusses Ned’s imminent return and her wedding plans. “I am going to be married the 23rd of June. Madame la mère does not write upon me or offer to open her house so I shall be married here in Boston in some church. She professes to like Mr. Frye, however, as they all do. Father is perfectly delighted with the match, I know.”

“...Ellen wishes me to tell you not, on any account, to waste money in presents on Madame la mère, as she is as great a [word unclear] as ever and you will get no shadow of

thanks for what you give her. She is perfectly diabolical and holds father under the harrow all the time. I think she is killing him by inches. He is as patient as a lamb.”

[Rauner Library, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 47]

10 April 1866: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Tuck asks Ned to pass on condolences to the Way family for the death of Frank Way. The next day Ellen and Frank are moving into a boarding house in Tremont St., opposite the Common. Abby will remain in Concord St. but at the Badger Boarding house, where she will remain until the wedding in June. “Ellen is not able to move about much, and is taxed a little too much in getting ready to move.” Amos and Catherine are moving to Exeter on 21 April.

“You will notice that that we have been in stew about the veto of the Civil Rights Bill, and Congress have passed it over the veto. Andrew Johnson has been trying to play the usurper, being elected for one government, and having striven to establish another. But we will find his match in his late colleagues in the Senate, who with others made him President, and he will have to succumb. All will go right eventually.”

“Boars Head is sold,(I may have told you), to Mr. Dumas of Concord for \$10,000 and is to be made a great place of.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

17 April 1866: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Amos Tuck. “I have spent all the morning in company with a Mr. Wiley, a promising young artist from Philadelphia at the Luxembourg picture gallery. Lizzie Gardner and Miss Robinson were there and walked with us through some of the rooms. Lizzie has made a very good copy of a Psyche and is at present copying ‘The Two Princes in the Tower,’ that promises to be excellent. Miss Robinson has an immense canvas her and is copying perhaps the most artistic picture in the whole gallery. It is a task worthy of a very superior artist. She deserves great credit for her perseverance and care, but can hardly do justice to so great an undertaking....”

I had a short conversation with Mr. Munroe a few days ago on the same matter as with Mr. Richards and to the same effect. I shall have some more definite talk before leaving.

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

18 April 1866: Asst. Secretary of the Treasury William E. Chandler to US District Atty. in Boston Richard H. Dana: “In reference to the question now under consideration by you, whether or not it is expedient for the Government to commence a suit to recover any portion of the money paid by Messrs. J.D. and M. Williams in compromise of the claim of the government against them which was not paid into the Treasury, will you please inform the Secretary whether any further investigation will or will not develop the fact that money was paid to any officer connected with the Treasury Department on account of his connection with said compromise. Please, also, inform the Department whether you intend to make any further report in the premises. [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent to the judiciary (“F” series), vol. 4 of 8]

19 April 1866: Amos Tuck (U.S. Hotel [Boston] to John Z. Goodrich. "Hon. J.Z. Goodrich: Dear sir, I notice in reading my letter of the 19th of March, that my using the words, 'by Mr. Goodrich or any one else,' in that clause where I disclaim any knowledge of the payment of an amount above a certain sum named, a casual reader might infer that I thought it possible a larger sum was received by you. I should accuse myself more severely for using language capable of such a construction, if the possible inference from the words used had not escaped your notice as well as my own, when I read my letter to you before publication. I had two objects in view in that clause of my letter, -- one to make my denial entirely comprehensive; and the other to avoid trespassing upon your defence, officiously vindicating you, in Massachusetts, on your own ground, among your own friends, when I knew you were about attending to that matter yourself. Had I not known your means of defence and your purpose to use them, I should have made my assertions so broad as to have covered your acts as well as my own, touching the Williams settlement. I should have thought it proper, also, to have stated my own knowledge of your faithful course toward the Government on all occasions, and your incapability of any act unworthy of a more generous, patriotic, and honored citizen."

"I am, with the greatest esteem, Yours, Amos Tuck."

[John Z. Goodrich, "Exposition of the J.D. & M. Williams Fraud, of its Settlement; etc.," Boston: Rockwell and Rollins, 1866, pp. 15-16. In quoting Tuck's letter in his defense against allegations of fraud in the Boston Custom House, Goodrich wrote, "At the request of Mr. Tuck, to place him right before the public, upon a matter which, between us, was always right, I have consented to insert the following note from him...]

1 May 1866: US IRS Tax Assessment List for 1866 shows that Tuck had an income of \$19,874 (\$4,400 taxed at 5% and \$15,474 at 10%). He also was assessed for 2 carriages, 2 gold watches, a piano, and 40 oz. of plate silver.

2 May 1866: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Asa Dodge Smith. Acknowledges Smith's letter of 30 April in response to Tuck's 28 February letter. States that he is willing to accept the appointment of Mr. Parker as trustee in the place of Professor Aikens, if the trustees so wish. Tuck regretted Parker's support of Pierce for president, and suggests that the trustees carefully consider how the "center of the State" would respond to Parker's appointment. [TFP, Box 2, Folder 4.

6 May 1866: BBF notes in his journal, "Frank, Ellen and Bessie arrived at ¼ past 6 last evening, and were received with all the honors and all the joys. Ellen came for her health, she having been very sick last winter, and now troubled with a cold." [FFP Reel 3]

7 May 1866: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank and Ellen French. "I was very glad yesterday to receive from your father the telegram, announcing your safe arrival with Bessy, and your good condition, Sat. night. Express to him my thanks for his making so good a use of the 'D.H.' privilege, though I should have been glad to pay for so pleasant an item."

“I was in Boston Sat., and at the Bank and at 168. Everything looked well. Amos was perfectly well and perfectly angelic and happy. Abby was engaged marking, and Mary Ann sweeping, dusting or something of the sort. I shall again go there on Wednesday, if not tomorrow, and shall be arranged not to be out of call, if I am at any time needed. I cannot be free from anxiety as to how Ellen is affected by so much locomotion, and trust to have several letters.”

“I wrote to Nelsons about your and Ellen’s going to W., and the probability that I should not, just now, go to N. York; and that you would notify them when and where to bring the children, to N. York, - giving them a day or two’s notice in advance. Keep the Convent [sp?] in the background so far as Laura is concerned. With much love to Ellen and Bessy and Mary, and many regards for Mr. and Mrs. French, Sen., in which Mrs. Tuck joins, I am yours aff. Amos Tuck”

[Marginal note] “Nothing from Ned. If anything comes worth telegraphing, I will then send to you - and write also - A.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 May 1866: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “I go to Boston in the morning, and shall send you this letter from there, adding anything which I may then learn of interest. The principal object of writing is to say that no further news is rec’d of Ned. I think a letter must come in the Liverpool Steamer due at Boston Wednesday eve. I now think you will be home in time to greet him, and I do not feel sure, whether he will arrive at N. York or Boston, probably the former place. John P. Townshend has written to offer his assistance and hospitality to Ned, and I shall write him that he will probably arrive in the French Steamer of this week or next week. I have also written to Mr. Hanscom [sp?], and to the Collector, Mr. Smyth, whom Ned knows. He will be well cared for, even if none of us meet him at NY.”

“Your mother and Angeline [sp?] are in at the Minister’s, where I have been at a Parish tea, but whence I escaped by a back door to write this and other letters.”

“Hoping that you are improved by the journey, that Bess is also improved, and that Frank and all your friends, (to whom remember us kindly), are in health and happiness, I am your aff. Father Amos Tuck”

“P.S. Wed. morning – Nothing from Ned by China’s mails or otherwise.. Have seen Abby and Amos – all well, and Amos as good as a kitten, giving no one, Abby says, the least trouble. He told me, ‘Mmama gone Washton, to get well’ – ‘Papa gone Washton tooo’ – the dear.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 May 1866: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “I suppose Ned arrived in N. York last eve., as the Napoleon III arrived at that time, and I am just in recpt. of a letter from him of Ap. 24th, that he should come in her. I wrote to him, at N. York, to Mr. Hanscom’s care, and the letter announced to him your being in Washington. Do not be impatient, darling, that he comes in your absence, for the result is renovated health to you and to Frank. I know it was well for you to go, and I shall assure him of your regret and your swelling heart to meet him. He will

probably arrive in Boston to-night, not in time to come here, and as I must be in Boston to-morrow, I shall go there to-night, and he will probably come home with me to-morrow at 3.”

“I have rec’d yours, and am pleased to hear such grand accts.”

“With many regards to Mr. and Mrs. French, and much love to Bess and Frank Your loving father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

16 June 1866: Abigail Tuck marries Orrin F. Frye, Jr. According to Dow, Frye was a printer by trade and become a partner in the Boston printing firm of Rand, Avery & Frye. Residence in Milton, MA. [Dow]

3 July 1866: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Asa Dodge Smith. Regrets he will be unable to attend the Examining Committee since he is engaged until 11 July, when he hopes to arrive in Hanover.

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 4]

9 July 1866: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Asa Dodge Smith. Tuck again postpones his arrival again until the following Tuesday. He will stay to attend the commencement and the trustees’ meeting.

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 4]

10 July 1866: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees’ meeting. “Voted, that the question whether any, and if any, what measures are necessary to vindicate our title to the ground in the Academy Yard, on which the church of the Second Parish stands, be referred to a committee to report at our next meeting, and it was also voted, that Samuel Hale, Amos Tuck and David W. Gorham constitute the committee. [p. 413, PEA Trustees’ minutes to be used only with the permission of the PEA librarian]

7 August 1866: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French. “I appreciate the tenor of your kind favor of yesterday. I could not achieve what your partiality in judgment suggests, even if I had a longer time in the Senate. I shall not decline having my name considered, but I do not think Smyth can soar high enough, (pardon the vanity), to appoint me. I think he cannot disentrall from Concord plots, and Concord politicians.”

“Some day, I cannot tell what. This week, I expect to go to Boston. It depends upon a letter in answer to one I write to-day. Give Ellen my thanks for ‘Ecce Homo’ – just what I was suffering for. Love to both families – yrs. aff. Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 August 1866: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. Ned was just back from a trip to Peekskill, where he met old Mr. Nelson and Thomas Nelson. The three children (Laura, Nellie and Mary) were all a bit sick of different things. He visited William Nelson’s grave with Thomas. The three children came down to the city to see Abby and Mrs. Frye.

“I have not heard from my letter of resignation....”

“Nothing new at the office. I am not very busy, but keep close by in case of need. I am principally occupied in drawing bills on Paris”

[P.S.] “J.P. Townsend has gone west for a week or 10 days.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

17 August 1866: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Abby Nelson and Ellen French. “We shall go to Hampton Beach to-morrow morning to spend the day, as I have occasion to meet some friends there, to confer with them upon Railroad matters. Yesterday I attended a meeting of the Stockholders at N. Market, and had a pleasant time, as well as my regular quarterly dividend of \$108, from my stock there. This morning I have written to Ned, as it is my purpose to do, once a week. He seems to be enjoying himself well enough, and to be getting on, I hope, in learning his trade. What with a few calls of business, I find no time hanging heavily on my hands, and every day I get considerable enjoyment from reading French and English. Angie is reading *Dombey* and Son to yr. mother, a part of days and evenings, while I have all my time to myself, which I choose. As I become familiar with my library, I find more and more at my hands things I should take pleasure in doing, and an increasing disgust for political employment. I can’t relieve myself from a sense of being lowered, in seeming to take a hand with men who are engaged in public affairs in this State, who all seem to me actuated simply by love of notoriety and love of self. I have no wish for notoriety, and no desire for money, which is to be gained out of politics. I have a love to make it otherwise for the uses it can be put to.”

“I have an engagement in Boston next Thursday, but we may go sooner, in which case I will write you in advance.”

“I send some wine to Ellen, as she was not well, and needed some, when I was in Boston. With love to yr. husbands, collectively, and respectively, and to your children...” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

18 August 1866: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. Abby wrote to say she and Mr. Frye would visit New York in the next week. They will stay at the Brevoort House, next to door to Ned. Abby wants Ned to have the children sent down from Peekskill. Ned is going that night to Peekskill with Thomas Nelson.

Ned starts work at Munroe & Co. at 8:30 or 9:00 and leaves about 4:30 or 5:00. Ned walks (weather permitting) two miles to work and back each day. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

1 September 1866: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. Ned’s boss, Mr. Chandler, has finally told him how to draw his pay: “weekly or monthly.” Ned is going out to the country with J.P. Townsend on the weekend.

“I notice in the Times this morning an extract from the Boston Journal announcing G.G. Fogg’s app’t as Senator. Bad luck take him and Smyth and all the present tribe of N.H. politicians.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

12 September 1866: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. Ned is going with Mr. Babcock to dine in Jersey City at “she-that-was Mary Sanborn’s house.”

“I hope and suppose you arrived home safely. After leaving you at the boat I went home.....Give my love to Uncle John if he is in Exeter.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

19 September 1866: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. “...I note what you say in reference to the division of \$2300 to each of your children, for which I am sure we are all very grateful. For myself it is pleasant to estimate my worldly possessions at \$2300 more than before, at the same time I shall not touch either principal or interest, and as long as the total amount in possession of the family remains the same, I cannot distinguish between myself and either father or sister....”

“Mr. Fogg has called on me this morning. He seemed as cordial as possible for him and enquired after you. I observe he has purchased a new black wig, that looks very neat and clean. I dined last night with John P. Townsend at Charles T.’s. In the evening we played basique. John’s wife moves in to-day from the country.”

[P.S.] “With Abby and Angie and Laura you and mother must have quite a family. My love to all.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

1 October 1866: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Asa Dodge Smith. Thanks him for his kind letter of 25 September. Tuck is sorry to leave Smith to labor on without his support, but found it necessary to resign. When I entered the Board, the condition of affairs was discouraging in the extreme, and the Trustees were aroused from the lethargic condition of millenarian, pro-slavery viciousness and inactivity, only by a course of remonstrance, urgency and appeals, which rendered me uncomfortable to the even then venerable gentlemen, whom I found in a sort of stupor, under the influence of the smooth rhetoric and agreeable brilliance of your predecessor’s unusefulness. It gave me constant pain to be regarded as, and actually to be, an uncomfortable member of the board, but my instincts so furiously warred against the worse than stock-still, the retrograde character of the College, that I was incapable of concealing my convictions, and unable to refrain from plain talk in regard to the penny-wise, pound foolish policy, which was always advocated....” Tuck ends his letter by again warning against the danger of allowing the Chandler School visitors too much leeway. Mr. Frank Hayes [Francis Brown Hayes, a Boston lawyer who was a director of a number of railroads, including the Atlantic & Pacific.] particularly is not to be trusted. “I consider Mr. Hayes morally incapable of managing other people’s money to the best advantage, even if he had the legal title to its management.” Others share his distrust.

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 4]

8 October 1866: Benjamin B. French runs into Tuck on the street in Boston. [FFP Reel 3]

19 October 1866: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. “I have rec’d one letter from you since I returned from Boston....Everything goes on smoothly at the office. I am getting into

a better position all the time and am rapidly working into a kind of employment that suits me, such as talking with customers and attending to duties formerly performed by Mr. Chandler only.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

26 October 1866: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. Business at Munroe & Co. is booming. Ned spends an evening or two each week with the Chandler family.
[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

12 November 1866: Amos Tuck (Portsmouth) to Ellen French. “I came here to-day to do a favor for Joe Staples, one of my friends, who is to be sentenced to the State Prison, and desired me to get as mitigated a sentence as possible. Joe, and his wife and children, put all together, succeeded in enlisting my compassion, though his ugly boys did steal my apples, and accordingly I have done what I could.”

“I expect to go to Salem on Thursday with Angie, to establish her at school, and intend to go to Boston that night to remain till Friday P.M. I wrote to Ned yesterday, and a short line to Mr. Frye this morning, on business (about Rockaway). I shall hope to find you all well on Thursday eve.”

“The town meeting on Saturday was quite exciting, and much feeling was manifested about locating the school on east side of the River. I took a hand in the business, and made a speech which satisfied the majority of the town. We have another meeting the 24th instant. I will tell you and Frank all about the meeting when I see you.”

“We are getting quite ready to leave Exeter, except dress-making, which I mistook about when I told you they were all made, and the house cleaned. We shall not leave till the 24th. I doubt the expediency of going to Milton the 29th inst., but will talk it over with you and Abby.”

“I am in court, hearing a poor trial, - assault and battery, - and thinking what mean business it is, now-a-days to be a country lawyer. Several young, misled men, are sitting around the bar, students of the profession, as I am told. Poor fellows, what a pity that some intelligent man would not tell them how much more honor and success they might aspire to, in some useful calling. In fact, I think it is actually dishonorable to a man’s moral sense, to rear a son to the profession, as it is here presented, as I see Mr. Hatch is educating his son. But I must go to hit the cars, as they leave, and with love to all...” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

15 November 1866: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. Ned is too busy to write at length. “I rec’d the Robinson report and think it does you great credit. It is highly sensible and well written.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

17 November 1866: Edward Tuck (Office of John Munroe & Co., No. 8 Wall St., N.Y.C.) to Ellen French. “I have been too busy this week to reply to yr. letter. I would like to know how you learned the price of the satin. Women are knowing creatures, as I am getting more and more convinced every day. But you didn’t understand Mlle’s criticism. She said you might have had

for the same money double the am't of satin of the same shade and appearance, but poorer quality, and that when it was soiled (which would be before it was worn out) you could renew it and be as gay as ever. I told it to you for sport, for of course I didn't esteem her judgment higher than that of my sister French."

"But please tell me where you found that price marker, for I opened the package to admire the satin, but noticed no memo. of the price."

"I had a note from Mrs. Lockwood this A.M. She wished me to thank Frank for his kindness in going to the steamer and regretted not meeting him. I hope you will both go to see her as soon as convenient. Don't be at all ceremonious for she doesn't like it. Go entirely sans cérémonie when you have the time. I shall try to see Mr. Lockwood this afternoon."

"I saw Ristori last night in Pia de Tolomei but didn't stay thru. I respect her talent but tragedy in an unknown tongue is an intellectual entertainment that I am not educated up to."

"I went the evening before to the Opera Comique and met the Amors. They have not yet found a house. I shall wait for them a few weeks longer. It isn't cheerful to go home after a hard day's work to dine alone, but I have been forced to that only three times and plan to do so no more, if I have to go into the hedges and by-paths. I am fortunate in having friends who are always willing to accept an invitation to dine."

"Tell Frank I haven't seen him here yet, but hope to, with his wife if possible. I am going to write Abby a line."

"Yr. aff. Brother Ned" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

18 November 1866: Amos Tuck (New York) to Ellen French. "We arrived at N.Y. at 5th Avenue Hotel. at 8 o'clock, and soon after Ned rushed in upon us, in full health and comfort. We have a pleasant room and shall probably stay where we are till we leave. At all events we shall not make effort to cousin [sp?] ourselves off upon any of our friends. Ned stayed with us till 11 o'clock, and at 10 ½ this morning your mother to attend to some shopping for her. She bought at Tiffany's, of Mr. Lockwood, a pretty pin and ear-rings, for \$60, and then, not feeling well, she went to her room, and I came down to write some letters – to you among others. I have nothing yet to write, only that we are here safely. Mrs. Nelson, Sen., is in town, and we may see her. I hope the children are well."

"I feel anxious about your children and about Abby, and hope to hear good news from all in a day or two."

"Send this to Abby as I wish her to take it as also written to her."

"And with love to you both in which Ned heartily coincides, and to all, yr. aff. Father Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

27 November 1866: Tuck attended PEA Trustees' meeting.

18 December 1866: Treasury Secretary Hugh McCulloch to Richard H. Dana, late US District Attorney in Boston: "I have received information that you are acquainted with the circumstances

attending the payment of the sum of \$5000 by Mess. Stedman, Thayer & Co. of Boston, to the late Collector J.Z. Goodrich, some time around the 29th of September 1865. In view of the above I respectfully request you to furnish me with a statement embracing all your knowledge of the facts in the case, at your earliest convenience.” [USNA, RG 56, Letters sent to the judiciary (“F” series), vol. 4 of 8]

20 December 1866: First meeting of the Robinson Female Seminary trustees. Tuck not present. [RFS]

22 December 1866: RFS Trustees meeting. Tuck present. Charles H. Bell secretary, Nathaniel Gordon president. [RFS]

29 December 1866: Amos Tuck (5th Avenue Hotel, NYC) to Abby Nelson and Ellen French. “You may think us delinquent in writing, but days pass off so quickly and nights are so busy, and writing is so inconvenient, when out of one’s own kingdom, that we have thus far written to no one since my return from the East. We intend to stay here till Wednesday next, - after New Year’s, - as we should feel, going away before then we had not seen as much as we ought either of Ned, or of N. York. We left J.P. Townshend’s, yesterday, and are now at pleasant rooms at this Hotel, but in the 5th story, on the sunny side with two rooms, and pretty much all the comforts. Having an elevator, constantly at work, it matters little whether we are in one story or another. The abominable weather has confined your mother indoors. Although we have had no snow of any account in the City, and not been ourselves inconvenienced by the tempest which has afflicted others so much, destroying ships, etc. We see Ned every day, or evening. He is very busy, and works hard, and is progressing satisfactorily. They had a family gathering at Townshend’s on Christmas and Ned was there, - twenty odd people at the table – a Christmas tree and distribution of presents, gave great pleasure to the assembled children and grand children, although the festivities had the drawback of the death within ten days of the wife of Mrs. T.’s brothers, who had bought some presents for this occasion, and presents had been bought for her. The widowed husband was at the dinner, but could not bear the spectacle of the tree.”

“I saw Mr. Warren here, last eve., promenading with a beautiful cousin, (as he told me), whom he had been up to Yonkers with, to take to Boston with him. He is here as a witness in Court.”

“I have been in to Mr. Nelson’s office, several times, but have not been able to see him till to-day, when I had a good talk with him. He says the children are well and happy, - except that Nellie’s throat is not perfectly well. He explicitly stated, that she does not suffer with it, plays indoors and out, without inconvenience, and that it is improving. He said it had been so long sore that they had some time ago (when it grew [word unclear] better) had another doctor than the first one, (I forget who he was), but that both agreed as to it, and that now there is no

anxiety, or cause of anxiety. In truth, he did not say they had had any at any time. I am there particular, in order that you, Abby, may have no uneasiness.”

“Your mother has not been very well, and she wishes me to say she will write to you Abby, in a day or two, and will tell you all the things that I do not. I have just said to her that I should leave to her to describe all the wisdom and folly of the people of the 5th Av. Hotel....”

“P.S. Sunday – Ned is in as I seal this letter. He says did you send my love. So I open to do it, and then he and I shall take a walk.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

30 December 1866: Catherine P. Tuck (New York City) to Abby Nelson and Ellen French.

“Your father and Ned have just gone out for a walk before ‘lunch,’ and I will employ the time in writing a few uninteresting pages. I say uninteresting because not having been out in the world since I wrote last, and being half an invalid, I cannot hope to be very brilliant in my productions. We are at the hotel again as you can see, having staid at J.P.’s just one week. When we went there, we did not expect to remain in the city so long as this, but yr. father having determined to prolong his stay at least until after New Year, we thought it proper to return again to the Hotel. We have no doubt as to John’s cordiality and desire to have us remain at his house while we should stay in the City, but no one could fail of seeing that Lizzie had no ability to entertain heartily any but her own blood relations. They were up here last eve. to see us, and John thinks it not impossible but that he may take a turn south before Spring and call upon us at Beaufort or wherever we may chance to be. We are very comfortable fixed here, and I hope to feel well enough to go out tomorrow somewhere. I have a cold, and the different hours of meals or something have so disarranged my digestive organs as to give me almost constant headache. I have exchanged calls with Mrs. Chandler and been down Broadway once which is nearly all the dissipation I have indulged in, quite all, except we dined the Townshends and Ned one night, at Delmonico’s. I spend my mornings usually until after lunch (1 o’clock) in the parlor, pretending to read, but really to enjoy the luxury of the pleasant rooms, and ‘see the Lions.’ One has a fine opportunity during the day and evening of seeing all sorts of animals from the Elephant down to the Ape; or up - as one chooses. After lunch I step into the ‘vertical rail car’, and for two minutes am manifestly rising in the world until I reach my level, which I find is the topmost round of the ladder or in other words – the 5th floor. Our room has an unlimited view over the tops of the buildings, and we have a perfect flood of sunshine until 4 P.M. The elevator is a great institution and is constantly going up and down with the exception of ½ hour at noon and a ¼ at a quarter before six eve. Of course I have not walked up stairs once, for at any time, if you are a trifle too late you have only to wait about 3 minutes. There is a great deal of dress here of course, but there is such a variety that no one has the occasion to feel sensitive if they are decently clad. I will say (for Ellen’s benefit) that I see more black alpaccas in the morning than any other one thing. It is very rarely one see an elegant wrapper. I suppose it is to be accounted for from the fact that they dress to go out. In the eve. there is every variety from the heavy moire antique to the lace over skirt. One thing I have not seen (which is noticeable) and that is a velvet dress. It is refreshing to know there may be a limit to the extravagance of shoddy even. Well, I

will not prolong this nonsense, for yr. father has a letter to send with this, which was too late for the mail last eve. and which probably contains as much sense as this does of nonsense. Yr. father has returned from his walk; and since writing the foregoing we have been down to lunch, and he is now calmly snoozing on the sofa. I think the lunches the most exquisite meals we have. Cold meats of every kind, with every variety of sauce, sardines, pickled oysters, salads etc. with every variety of bread and cake. Coffee, chocolate, cocoa, tea and hot water. Room, a 'dim religious light', waiters noiseless, etc. etc. Our Christmas I have no room to tell you about. It was a grand 'Baldwin' affair, however, which I can tell you about better when I see you. I shall plant myself in the parlor early on New Year's day to witness the calls that are received by others and perhaps receive one or two myself. J.P. has invited yr. father and Ned to take a seat in his carriage on the occasion. So they are intending to 'do the thing up brown.' More anon – with love to all Mother"

[P.S.] 'Wish you all a happy new year.'" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1867

8 January 1867: New Hampshire Republican State Convention convened at Concord to choose a candidate for governor. Major General S.G. Griffin of Keene was named as president of the convention. The main contest was between General Walter Harriman and Onslow Stearns. Harriman won the nomination with 349 votes to Stearns's 318. No mention of Amos Tuck.

[Exeter News-Letter, 14 January 1867]

19 January 1867: Amos Tuck (Beaufort, SC) to Frank French. "I have sent to Angie Wiggin at Salem, a sort of order upon you, as Cashier, to pay Mrs. Strout's bill, which will be receipted and annexed when it is presented to you; which I wish paid as a Bank Check, out of my deposit balance. I assume you will have received the Dividend of \$1000, (as stated in the Advertiser), made by the Ophir [sp?] Company. You have an order for the Dividend. Do not allow Mrs. Strout to have any difficulty in collecting her board bill etc."

"It is pretty cold, down here, and ice an 1 ¼ thick formed last night. Yet we escape all snow, as none has been seen here in 4 years, and the cold is not to be compared with the suffering now enjoyed by Bostonians. I trust you will all survive, however, and without even the inconvenience, incident to abodes here, in shattered houses and dismantled possessions generally. Wood is abundant at Beaufort, and Mr. Dudley seems never satisfied with piling it into his large fire places. He is abundant in all his attentions to us, and his table is furnished with a variety not often found in N. Eng., and not needed anywhere. He rather burdens us with his abundance."

"The South is in ruins, and Congress cannot do much for her, as to make her of much account, politically, and therefore I feel it is unwise and wrong to make quite so much fuss in Congress about what the South will do if she is not guarded against. The truth is, her legs and her ribs are already broken and cannot be mended, and the most she can ever achieve, will be

what she can do on crutches, and with an aching back, supported by the roughest spirits. You see, I pity the South. No one can fail to do it, who sees the people, and has a heart. Yrs. aff. Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

21 January 1867: Amos Tuck (Beaufort, SC) to Edward Tuck. “You may receive more than one letter by to-day’s mail, for I am not certain my letters written last week have yet left here. The mails are irregular and unreliable.”

“This is a one horse place. It is difficult to get a N. York paper oftener than once a week, and so far as I can learn, not a single newspaper from the Hub of the Universe, Boston, is taken here. Of course, if they can’t get enlightenment from Boston, they must still be the ‘salvages’ spoken of by early writers.”

“Beaufort is getting no better, in my estimation, very fast. Mr. Dudley is infatuate about it, and he set his heart upon my becoming as insane as he, as soon as I arrived. So much did he count on it, that he actually bargained for \$1600 of land for me before my arrival. But I shall not invest one dollar here. It is a sandy, barren country, unhealthy often, repulsive on account of negros, always, and fit only renovation by the lapse of centuries, during which much of the country must be idle, and get heart, which has been taken out of it, by slave culture. Back in the country and in the mountains it is better. Here the sandy plain is and must be unproductive.”

“I am no worse, though my cold continues. If I do not get entirely well this week, I shall move elsewhere.”

“I am anxious to hear from you and the girls. I shall not write to them to-day, and little as there is this letter, you may pass it along to them. With love to all, yr. aff. Father Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

28 January 1867: Amos Tuck (Beaufort, S.C.) to George G. Fogg. “Hon. G.G. Fogg, Dear sir: We have been here, domiciled with Mr. Dudley, about two weeks, and during all the time I have been disabled by a severe cold, with rheumatism, while Mrs. Tuck has been also ill, but less seriously than myself. We are of the opinion that we should have come here in Nov., before becoming adapted to a northern winter, or should not have come at all.

Affairs in the South are in the worst possible condition, as I see them from this stand point. The whites, generally, have no ability or property, are not to be better but to be worse off. The penalty of the institution is seen in incapacity, which will end an extensive [word unclear]. The negroes will die off, numerously, but death is better to them than slavery, and a ‘remnant’ will be saved. In my opinion, an alliance between southern politicians and northern democrats, will never afflict the Country very disastrously. The South in the future will be feeble, and intent on bread more than on national distinction and political maneuvering. Whites and blacks are now starving about here, and will be worse off, by and by, (those who survive). I don’t feel able to write much to-day, but I wish you would as a favor to your old friend E.G. Dudley Esq., who has now been here 4 years, and is altogether the most respected citizen in the place, accomplish these two objects:

1st. Get him appointed by the Treasury Department, (perhaps it is the Commr. Of

Pensions), Commissioner to administer oaths to soldiers, applying for bounties, pay, back pay and pensions. There is no court within 25 miles, and no conveniences at all, to accommodate applicants in this respect, although all the black soldiers of the Atlantic Southern States, were enrolled in this Beaufort District. A.M. Thompson was appointed, but could not take the oath. Mr. Dudley is just the man, and being a Commissioner of the State of Massachusetts to administer oaths in South Carolina, he is qualified to be appted. It would be a great favor to him.

2nd. Mr. Dudley wishes to be appointed by the Commr. Of Pensions, (Mr. Barrett), Pension Agent for this District. A good many pensioners will be found among the colored troops in this vicinity. Yours very truly, Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

29 January 1867: CPT (Beaufort, S.C.) to Ned. “My dear Ned: I believe I will take advantage of your father’s being asleep, and write you myself, without saying anything to him about it. I am so perplexed as to what is best to do, that I think it best to lay the case before you, for your judgement. Yesterday, I thought him nearly well of his rheumatism, and felt greatly encouraged, but to day he feels that it is increasing, and fears that his right arm is becoming helpless. He is very nervous of course – that is not to be wondered at, but that does not help him or me. I will give you the whole history of his sickness form the time it commenced nearly three weeks ago. At Wilmington, he was taken (the morning after our arrival) with a diarrhea which increased while we stayed (one day) and the night before we left and in the morning, it had increased so much as to make me feel very much alarmed, and almost afraid to go on – although it seemed death to stay, but we did go on – being roused up at 4 in the morning, and getting off at 5. Eating of course poor food on the way etc. and to my great joy he was no worse but rather better. However, it continued, and Sunday morning, the day being very warm and genial, he was tempted to go to church, which he ought not to have done, but you know it is impossible to prevent his doing what he thinks he must sometimes. Well, the consequence was, he increased his malady (of course) and did not feel able to go down to dinner. I wished we could have a doctor on whom we could rely, but such a thing (of course) could not be found, and in my desperation, when I went down to dinner, I sent my table waiter to a gentleman (who I had been told by Capt. C___[sp?] was a Mr. Trott, P.M. appointed by Mr. Lincoln and a northern man) asking him to allow me to speak to him. He immediately came to me and after introducing myself and apologizing, told him how we were situated, and asked him if he would call up to our room. He seemed very much delighted to do so, went up at once, and when I went up, found him and yr. Father chatting as cordially as old friends. He gave yr. father some homeopathic medicine, and raised the spirits of us both, and we found him and his family, wife and daughter, a great acquisition during our stay. Yr. father very soon improved, and when we left for this place the following Wednesday, he was quite well.”

“The weather was charming, we had a pleasant trip, and arrived here at about one o’clock. The next day we both felt miserable, but thought it merely a slight cold perhaps, as we both had a stricture across the lungs. The day following, I was very sick (nervous, sick headache) and did not leave my room, but was better next morning. Yr. father went to ride on

horseback, and added to his cold. The next day rode again (it being so warm and pleasant) again added to his cold and cough. And so on, his cold got better till all of a sudden rheumatism attacked him in his left shoulder. I rubbed it in red pepper and camphor, and found a northern woman who prescribed some homeopathic medicine again, and after becoming unable to turn himself in bed, or to dress himself, he got better; it moved round in front in to his other shoulder, until yesterday it had quite disappeared, and I felt quite relieved.”

“This morning he gets up feeling miserable again, and said he felt that his right arm was becoming helpless. He is now lying asleep on the bed, and has been sleeping for more than half an hour I should think. He sleeps considerably, and I should think it might refresh him, but it does not seem to. His cough tho’ not troublesome, still hangs about him. I don’t quite understand why. They all tell him it is acclimation, and that he is sure to get well soon, and feel better than he did before – and I don’ know but that is so, still I wish we were at home, or in N.E.

“They all say too that it would be hazardous in the extreme to go north now, and I am sure I dare not go south. We are at least among friends here, and that is worth more than we can afford to lose. We should go to Savannah, but cholera is there: now the question is, what shall we do? What do you think – do you think it would be safe to go north when yr. father gets well enough. I have been well as usual ever since that one day’s headache. I think, considering all I have been through, I have been quite as well here, and better than at the north.”

“You can send this letter to the girls or not as you think best. I shall not mail it until yr. father wakes, so that I may report how he feels after his nap. Yr. affectionate Mother.”

“- after the nap – We have been down to lunch and I left your father in the parlour. He slept an hour and feels brighter. Says his arm is about the same. I feel somewhat encouraged again. This letter will not go before tomorrow, will add a line then.” [TFP, Box 3, Folder 8]

31 January 1867: [same letter as above] “I did not send my letter yesterday, as your father wrote you a short note himself and I thought perhaps you would prefer that I should report ‘one day later’. I am happy to say that your father is still better, and in better courage than he has been at all. We walked out yesterday morning an hour and a half in the warm sun, and after coming home and lying down awhile, and taking some rice and a cup of tea after his nap, we went out again, to hear Gen. Scott address the colored people, (out of doors). Were introduced to the Gen. heard him a short time and came home again. After which he lay down, so at dinner (we dine at 6) he was quite fresh again, and after dinner played whist. I was afraid he did too much, and expected he would be down again today, but to my great joy he is as well, if not better than yesterday morning, and he is now out walking. He thinks himself, he shall now get well and strong. I wish you could drop down here for a day, and enjoy this delicious atmosphere. It is just like one of our balmiest days in April: and our coldest day has been no more than our pleasantest days in Nov. at home and that is unusual cold for this climate.

“I have hesitated somewhat about sending this letter to you, as it has turned out yr. father is so much improved, but it may be some satisfaction to you to know just how he has been, and it

is a pity to waste so much time and paper. So here it is. I think it not improbable we may go to Florida yet. Affectionately, Mother” [TFP, Box 3, Folder 8]

1 February 1867: [same letter] “-One day later- No mail went out yesterday, so could not send this. It is now nearly a week since we have had any letters. It is a rainy day. Except for the effect of a rainy day upon a rheumatic man, your father is about the same as yesterday.

“I did not intend to let your father know of this letter, but it has been so long in the process that, murder has out, and at first he told me not to send it, but on the whole has consented, tho’ I have misgivings myself on account of its length. You may henceforth understand, that if anything really serious happens we shall send a letter to our friend Mr. Trott P.M. at Charleston, who will telegraph you anything we may desire. But we are now in good courage, and last night played Euchre. You may send this letter to the girls. Yr. father will not write either to you or them to day, tho’ he is able to do so, but has nothing in particular to say he will write next mail which not until next Monday. This time goodbye. With love from your father as well as from myself to you all, Mother.”

[In Tuck’s bold scrawl] “The compliments of Amos Tuck Rheumetician for the Carolinas.” [TFP, Box 3, Folder 8]

18 February 1867: Letter from Collector of Boston D.W. Couch to Amos Tuck in Beaufort, South Carolina: “I have been instructed by the Department under date of the 15th inst to call upon you for the re-payment of your distributive share of \$5000 exacted from Messrs Stedman Thayer & Co. said distribution being wholly unauthorized by law.” [USNA Waltham, RG 36, Letters sent to the Department of the Treasury, Collectors, Deputies & Others, Vol. 4 - October 1, 1864 – August 1, 1868, p. 425]

18 February 1867: Exeter News-Letter reported: “The J.D. & M. Williams case. “It is again the subject of discussion in many circles. It is a noticeable fact that the late report of the Congressional Committee which was appointed to investigate the frauds of the Boston Custom House places many men who have heretofore stood well, in no favorable light. It is understood that Mr. Jordan of the Treasury Department is quite dissatisfied with this report. Mr. Samuel A. Way, who is occasionally mentioned in connexion with the Williams case, is a remarkable man. He was born in a small town in New Hampshire, and came to Boston penniless. He began business at the lowest round of the ladder, and is now very wealthy. Your correspondent saw him a few years since drive his own coach and four splendid horses into the village which he left in his youth without a dollar, and where he now is a large landed proprietor. Mr. Way is a man of great energy, and of much natural shrewdness of character. Opinions differ in regard to his style of doing business, and some do not hesitate to declare that he is far from being a model for the rising generation.”

22 February 1867: Catherine P. Tuck (Beaufort, S.C.) to Ned. "Your father is able to go up stairs and down, without a cane and in general health is as well or better than he has been, but, as happened years ago, so it happens now, that he has local attacks of rheumatism while he is getting up."

"To day his thumb on his right hand is affected, and sore and painful, so he cannot write. These local attacks do not usually last over 24 hours, and he still hopes to leave here on Monday next. Yet if the weather should not be favorable, or we have doubts as to his ability to endure the journey, we shall not leave until the Friday after, March 1st – as the boat of that day will be the first one – after Monday, which is comfortable."

"We were very glad you did not come to Beaufort, as it was not necessary; we know your affection and willingness to come, had it been expedient. We think all of your letters have been received, and they have given us much comfort. We do not now intend stopping at Wilmington. We shall go by the Delaware route, not going to Washington or Baltimore. We may stop to rest at Norfolk a day or two, before taking the boat from that place to the shores of Delaware."

"Your father dictates this letter, as you will doubtless recognize."

"Very affectionately, Yr. Mother."

"P.S. Your father says – forward this to Abby or Ellen. Yesterday and the day before were extremely uncomfortable days, the thermometer ranging from 77 to 80 deg. Today is a clear, cool, autumnal day and much more comfortable, but the change may have been conducive to your father's rheumatism." [TFP, Box 3, Folder 8]

4 March 1867: BBF (Washington) to HFF. BBF expects his office to be abolished in one hour. He is to be replaced by General Humphries, Chief Engineer of the Army.

"Barring the animus and the manner in which I have been disposed of, it is no trouble to me. I feel as chipper as a black bird, and not the least like surrendering anything to this low, miserable, contemptible, mean raid of Schenk (Skunk) Sloan, Boutelle, Sumner, etc. They are all beneath my contempt, and disgrace the places they hold, and Massachusetts ought to be sunk, for tolerating her share of the meanness." [FFP Reel 6]

6 March 1867: Edward Tuck (John Munroe & Co., NYC) to Ellen French. "I expect now to leave here Friday night for a couple of days visit to Boston. Later we shall be busier and I might not be able to go at all."

"I have various matters to speak about, but it is not necessary to broach them in this letter. If anything would make my coming this week less propitious than next, write or telegraph, and I will spare you for the present."

"I write Abby by this mail."

"Can you get me a bed in your house? Yr. aff. Brother Ned"

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 March 1867: Amos Tuck (Beaufort, SC) to Ellen French and Abby Frye (No. 1 Allston Place, Boston). "It is cold and stormy here to-day, and though I have got so far along that damp weather affects me slightly if any, yet I should not leave on Monday next, if it should be either cold or stormy."

"We have made some agreeable acquaintances here, and a few nights since took tea, (roast turkey, etc.), at Judge [William E.] Wording's [sp?], (a U.S. officer [commissioner] in the [Direct] Tax department) and had an agreeable time. Yesterday I took with James Bell a horse-back ride of 4 miles out, and 4 miles back, on a hard-going horse with no damage, no stiffened joints to-day. On the whole then, I am quite recovered. A Mr. and Mrs. Woodman are very attractive, and we find it difficult to make any payments for horse hire, having offers made more than we can accept. I am using the lemon juice, recommended by Abby, and either that or the cider which I use constantly, perhaps both, are doing me manifest good. I hope to hear from you to-day, but fear you have suspended writing, expecting my departure, as I wrote you. Hoping Amos is well and all of yours, I am, with love from yr. mother, Your aff. Father, Amos Tuck"

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 March 1867: Amos Tuck (Beaufort, SC) to Edward Tuck. "It is our purpose now, (Monday), to take the Boat from here on Wednesday next, for Savannah, to be gone a week, or more, visiting Jacksonville and St. Augustine, Florida, while away. The weather is so unpropitious at the North, that it makes us doubt the safety of going there at once. I am steadily improving, yet slowly or I should have been well before now. A heaviness in my limbs, an inability to walk far without fatigue are now my chief draw backs. The climate is rather moist and is not so favorable as Florida is said to be, to rheumatic complaints."

"I am to speak 8 minutes today, (written), at a school inauguration."

"Keep writing me, from time to time, directing to me here."

"I think I may have over-estimated trifles, in my nervous state. But I have now got over my vexation on the Boston Custom House and other matters. I think that Cong. Committee criminals before the Country, in having struck hands with swindlers, and done their utmost to break down all attempts to guard the revenues. Officers will be afraid hereafter to do their duty in the Custom Houses, or be liable to be afraid."

"Smythe is a clever fellow, (yankee clever), but is a simpleton. He should never have contemplated for a moment, the selling out of jobs at the C. House. He might have known, at his age, that there is no safety in doing wrong, under any pressure of custom, party, or individual exigency. But I believe him to be no thief, or rogue, or substantially dishonest. In my judgment, he is a thousand fold better man than Hubbard or Rollins, - weak, upstart pharisaical hypocrites as they are."

"If Hay is as dexterous in business as his literary qualifications and accomplishments indicate, he is just the man for the Firm to put in training for future use. You are a better judge than I, what he will prove himself. On the whole, I think Munroe & Co. have shown decided talent in the selection of yourself and Hay. You are young and have both possessed the best

advantages for making yourselves just what they will soon find indispensable. I am glad Mr. M. put the thing right at the start, in saying to H., that you are to have the first vacancy.”

“As I have not time to write another letter, I should have you send this to Boston, only that you may not have opened the Hay matter there.”

“Your loving father, Amos Tuck”

[Note in pencil on facing page, apparently by Ellen French] “Col John Hay appointed by President McKinley ambassador to England in March 1897. April 14th 1897 – This letter re-read by E.T.F.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

16 March 1867: HFF (Boston) to BBF. “How are you now? The papers say you have left your office, but not a word do any of us hear from you. I see Frank daily. He is talking of visiting you with all his tribe, but knows nothing of your goings on. I hope you will not have cause to mourn the loss of your office, and that something better will befall you.”

“We are as unsettled as ever – talking of going to see another farm house to receive my friends next summer, but I hardly expect to get an older one than that at Amherst....”

“Frank has arranged to pass the summer at Milton with Taylor and three other families at one boarding house – about nine small children included. I am glad you and I have not got to board with them! I have lost my fondness for small children since mine grew so large!”

“...Tuck has had a rheumatic fever at Beaufort, S.C. and is there yet. I had rather lose my office than have one of them fevers, hadn’t you? [FFP Reel 11]

22 March 1867: Amos Tuck (On the boat from Savannah to Charleston) to Edward Tuck. “We return to Beaufort to stay about a week, when I intend to visit Gen. Abbott at Wilmington, N.C. a few days before going to N. York. The weather is quite cool and I feel better in consequence. I hate a sweltering heat in winter.”

“I have not read any letters from home for ten days, but expect to find several at Beaufort, where we arrive in a few minutes. In a juggling boat, Your loving father, Amos Tuck”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 March 1867: Amos Tuck (Beaufort, SC) to Edward Tuck. “It is quite cold here this morning, the thermometer being 44°, which is lower than it has been here for nearly or quite two months. I hear there was frost on the Island opposite, a mile to the eastward across Beauport River. There is sign too, of another storm brewing, and if it come, and it be rainy or unpleasant, we shall not leave on Monday, (Apr. 1st), as I have written you. I have no doubt you and the Daughters would counsel staying here longer, as you feel so keenly the rough weather of the north, and have apprehensions of the effect upon my health of returning too early. I do not wish to hurry, but I feel quite confident that if I remain here till the back of winter is broken and till the snow is chiefly gone, I can employ myself, with advantages to my body and mind, in the cares and small plans, which spring up around one’s home. I am not altogether sure of leaving on Monday, and a small thing will cause me to postpone.”

“I continue to keep myself quite busy. On Tuesday last we spent ½ the day at ‘the Old Fort,’ a plantation 4 miles off, where we had dined once before, with Miss Bethune and Miss Lankford, teachers, two young women, (one 35 and the other 22), (aunt and niece), both superior in education, mind and heart. They are of liberal faith in religion, but hold to good works, and they are instructors, friends and guardians of the negros. They are happy, hold to fun, croquet and good works, and I like them very much. They with a Mr. Reid, who ‘runs’ the plantation, will dine with us to-morrow, Saturday. They will come at 11 ½, we shall dine at 3 ½, having a wild turkey gobbler – weight 18 pounds – and some excellent cider in ½ bottles to help make up the repast. Your Mother is going to counsel Keziah to keep her nose clean and to use a handkerchief, which she does not often do, when busy cooking, and will also help Sam make the gravy, so as to leave out the grease. So you see, that with Dudley’s cranberry sweet potatoes, grits, (homony), good bread, etc. we hope for a good dinner, and with a good croquet ground, (I played yesterday the entire after-noon), and ‘intellectual conversation,’ we hope for a pleasant ½ day with these apostles. By the way, I have spoken once at a public meeting, and to-night Dudley has got me committed to speak again. But I speak easy own here, having more ideas lying around loose, than are required to feed one of these audiences.”

“I shall hardly have time to write to Boston, and I wish you would send this letter to one of the girls, that they may read it, and consider it for them as well as for you.”

“I shall cash the draft to-day of \$425, which you let me have, and it will be sent next week to N. York, I suppose.”

“Retain any drafts rec’d for western interest till I see you, and I remain, as ever, your affectionate Father, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

April 1867: Exeter property records show Tuck assessed for his house (\$4700), the “Gill Land” (\$200), and Doomage (\$4000). [Exeter Town Clerk]

4 April 1867: Amos Tuck (Beaufort, SC) to Ellen French. “My dear Ellen: Twenty nine years ago to-day, when I was then a young man, not twenty eight years of age, God gave me a daughter, who has ever been one of the richest blessings that Heaven could bestow. As the needle always points towards the pole, so has her loving heart, and ready sympathy, always turned towards her father, and her other relatives, and no hand or tongue has been exercised against any of them, without her counting it was exercised against her, and raising her own hand and tongue to make defence. She has consequently been always remarkably beloved by her immediate connections, and not by these only, but by all on whom she has bestowed her friendship and esteem; so that now a multitude would grieve at any calamity which might befall Ellen Tuck French.”

“I congratulate you, my daughter, on this return of another birth day, and I bestow upon you, upon your children, and upon your husband, all the blessings which it is possible for a father to invoke from Kind Heaven, upon a dearly beloved child. May many years yet be given to you, in which to enjoy life, and to bless your immediate family, and us all. And may you live to see, with every satisfaction, your own children arrive, at least, to the mature year which it has been

allowed to me to see my own children to arrive at. Your mother joins me in benedictions on this occasion.”

“We think favorably of leaving here next week, but shall fix no day, as we have made so many miscalculations heretofore. It is probably not best for any of you to write us here again, as we have little doubt of leaving soon. Yesterday I made in the saddle 21 miles out and in, with no damage whatever, but advantage, and played three games of croquet on my return before coming into the house. It is a pleasant thing to visit a distant plantation, and I know not how many I could count in a circuit of 10 miles, whose proprietors, northern men, with families, would welcome us to a lunch or dinner, giving us the best they have. There are many rides, through avenues of live oak, beautified by hanging moss, and the isolation of the plantations, with the excitement of long rides, renders the whole quite a fascination. Were it not for the abundance of lazy, lying negros, full also of theft and deception, who afflict this village of Beaufort, (not the interior, so much), and the many relations I sustain at the north, I feel at times, I might think seriously of a southern home. But there are my daughters, and Laura, and Angeline, and my brothers, and sisters, and Polly, and my neighbors and friends, and my 50 odd years; - all these hold me back from making any plan to change my home from the cold, yet rich, cultivated, reliable and, on the whole, happy north.”

“I send this to you, to the care of our well-beloved Ned, expecting that he will deliver it to you, on your return to N. York from Washington. The weather is perfectly charming here, and we hope you have had pleasant weather at Washington. I do not think we can stay many days at Milton, as we shall be naturally anxious to see to our affairs at Exeter, which will require attention by the time we arrive at Boston. With love to all, in which your mother joins, I am your aff. Father, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

12 April 1867: Amos Tuck (New York City) to Ellen and Frank French. “I can’t tell you how sorry I have been and am, to learn of Amos’ illness, and of the distress you must have had on his account. Kiss the dear boy on my account and tell him his Gr. Pa Tuck loves him dearly. I hope and trust he is not to have a recurrence. [I] should think, if you, (Ellen), concluded to stay in W. for some time longer, it might be a favorable thing, but I cannot tell.”

“We arrived here last eve at 6 o’clock, via Annamesic Route (from Portsmouth to Crisfield, on southern side of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, by water), having left Charleston at 10 o’clock Tuesday night. We both stood it well, though we entered no house after leaving C. till we arrived at N. York. The climate tightens my muscles, so I feel as I should suppose an overstrained fiddle would feel; but I expect to get acclimated in a few days. We propose to go to Pkskill, about Monday, and by Tuesday or Wednesday to go to Boston. Had I known you were in W., we would have come by that route. I hope it will not be necessary for Frank to stay in W., even if it is for you, (Ellen), as the times are critical and it is important for him to be at the hub, if he can. We shall go to Exeter in a few days, after arriving in Boston. With regards to the Maj. and family, and with a kiss for Bessy, I am your aff. Father, Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “Ned is in good case. Let me hear by early mail how Amos now is.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

22 April 1867: Catherine P. Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "Dear Ned: Your father rested more naturally last night than he has done before, and I am encouraged about him. Rest and quiet are the only medicines for him at present, and the Dr. and myself both agree, that he had best not see people at all. He thinks so himself too, but Saturday while I was up stairs, he himself let Mr. Stickney in, and talked with him a half an hour, consequence of which he had a violent fever all the afternoon. Yesterday he saw no one except the Dr. and Jim, and he was much improved. He is up and dressed every day, and he is very much afraid people will think he is sick, and that I shall alarm you and the girls about him. But I feel it my duty Ned not to deceive you or them, though I don't wish you to write as if I had represented his case in alarming light. I do think he is improving, but he is very weak, weaker in mind than in body, and you will bear in mind that I am easily discouraged if anything. Friday and Saturday, I was nearly distracted at the thought that his brain was affected, but the Dr. says he will come all right, when he gets rested, and gets a little strength. He saw to many people in Boston, and in his weak condition, after the fatigue of the week it is a wonder it did not cause a brain fever. I came home a train before him. Jim had not rec'd my letters, consequently the house was not opened. I worked every moment until 5 o'clock in getting the house perfectly comfortable and cheerful, and have his gruel ready. He went to bed at 7, but could not seem to understand that it was not midwinter, and told me to tell the girl how to let the pump run down so it would not freeze. But I cannot write any more. I shall not write the girls so particularly, and I would not recommend your coming on, unless I send for you. It would excite him perhaps, and it will do him more good when he gets stronger. I will write every day, and telegraph if necessary."

"Laura is coming today. I am nearly worn out with fatigue and anxiety, but hope to have Lucy Ann Robinson this week."

Affectionately, Mother" [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 82]

24 April 1867: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck and Ellen French. "I suppose I could write an epic poem if there were need of it; but as I got very tired in the last week of my absence from home, I suppose it is best not to write anything of account for a week."

"So believe me, as I am daily gaining, and your ever aff. Father, Amos Tuck"

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

27 April 1867: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to Henry C. Moses of Exeter for \$625.00. The tract contained five acres of land and was bounded on the west by the road running past the Exeter Cemetery and on the south by land owned by Henry C. Moses.

[Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 415, Page 471]

4 May 1867: Amos (Exeter) to Ned and Ellen. I am decidedly convalescent, eat the richest beef twice a day, drink wine at noon, and of course must gain strength all the time...."

[Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 70]

6 May 1867: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "My darling Ellen: I am pretty well progressing, and daily – in recovering health. Eat beef steak twice a day and drink wine at least once a day."

"I have just had to write something of a letter to Ned partly, mostly on business and must be brief."

"We speak often of the pleasure of having you here. Our household matters never went so well. I shall always have to keep a 'Miss Robinson' to help your mother. Your ever loving father Amos Tuck."

[Marginal note] "The Lord bless Amos and Bessy. Weather not good in N. Eng."
[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 May 1867: RFS Trustees meeting. Bell to draft bill for legislature's action to begin action on building project. Bell also described as counsel for the trustees. Tuck present.

[Exeter Historical Society, MSS 23, Carton 1, Trustee Minutes, 1866-1899]

17 May 1867: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen and Frank French. "I was glad to learn of Ellen's safe arrival, which, of course, included that of the children. I had a letter from Ned, chronicling her departure from N. York."

"I suppose, by this time, you are at your new abode at Milton. In the course of a week or two, I intend to go to Boston, spend the day in the city, go to Mr. Frye's at night, and spend the next day in vibrating between Abby and Ellen, with possibly a second night at Milton, then a day in Boston and back to Exeter. In the mean time, the catch string, will always be pullable by Ellen, or you or both, if you feel inspired to visit us. I am out most of the day, drink a little Beaujolais three times a day, and having a good appetite and sleeping well, I feel stronger from week to week, and sometimes from day to day. But I had a long hill to rise, and consequently not in possession of surplus strength."

"Affectionately, Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

20 May 1867: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. "Lest what I wrote you last in respect to my purpose in going to Milton etc. in the course of a week, may impede you I in coming here as soon as you might, I will say, that I think now it will not be the best for me to trust myself away from home, to the fatigues of riding, talking and walking, till the weather is much more settled, and till I get more power of endurance, than I have yet acquired. At home I can talk with, see and enjoy my friends, without inconvenience, and with much enjoyment. Away, I feel not so confident. Come down then, dear Ellen, and see me, just as soon, just when, and with just such accompaniments, as best suits you comfort, and your husband and children's convenience. I believe, as I have written, that I gain, for I have a good appetite, enjoy myself, feel happy and contented; but I know I have little power to exert my muscles, compared with what I have

possessed, and that much exercise does not benefit me, as it did ten years or more ago, when convalescent after sickness.”

“Mrs. Taylor has been here a week, but goes away to-morrow, or Tuesday, being the end of the visit, at which time she was told you would be expected. But come when you find it your pleasure, and stay as long as you can, when you do come.”

“As you will see Abby soon, since she will be likely to ride often to see you, show her this letter, and ask her to considerate as cordially hers and yours, only that I have not had a glance at you, as I have at her, since I went South.”

“Laura is well, happy and pleased with her school. Your affectionate father Amos Tuck”

“P.S. Your mother will be glad to see you and any of my children or grandchildren, as you could desire. She speaks of you all, always cordially and affectionately.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

21 May 1867: RFS Trustees’ meeting. Tuck present. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees’ minutes, 1866-1899]

22 May 1867: Edward Tuck (New York City to Orrin Frye. Ned apologizes for not being able to visit Milton on the upcoming trip. “Abby will understand that it is only father’s illness that prevents....” [Rauner, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 48]

17 June 1867: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. “Yours of Saturday is at hand. I called on Mr. Way yesterday at the 5th Ave. hotel. He is very busy with his affairs and intends opening a house here. You must see him soon. They will be in Boston in a week.”

“I breakfasted with Mr. Chandler who is now entertaining Mr. John Chandler of Boston and wife. Mr. J.C. is a fossil of the antediluvian school, and doesn’t understand life as his brother does.”

Chandler is going to hire an assistant for Ned.

“I see your B & M purchase was a good one; also that Opir [Ophir?] sells at 195 indicating that your sale of that was also opportune. A few hundred dollars more now and then by prudent investments in stocks helps out wonderfully in new [word illegible] etc.”

{TFP, Box 1, Folder9]

17 June 1867: RFS Trustees’ meeting. Tuck present. Tuck and Noah Hooper delegated to go to Concord to procure passage of the bill in accordance with the vote of the town. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees’ minutes, 1866-1899]

29 June 1867: New Hampshire legislature authorizes town of Exeter to receive and manage William Robinson’s bequest to establish the Robinson Female Seminary. [EHS/MSS 23/Box 1/Folder 2]

2 July 1867: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees' meeting.

20 July 1867: TFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck present. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

22 July 1867: TFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck present. Trustees agree to buy a strip of Gill land to provide access to the Thing lot (now the RFS lot). [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

12 August 1867: TFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck not present.

24 August 1867: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Rev. A.D. Smith D.D. "My dear sir: I am requested to write you in behalf of young Folsom, a Sophomore in the College, from N. Market in this state, who has, I suppose, made application to you to be allowed to remain out and teach, to raise the means to go on with his College class. Mr. Sewall, a friend of the family, a lawyer formerly acquainted with Dr. Folsom, deceased, (father of young F.), has written me, and speaks in the highest terms of the young man's merits. I can only say that it is no doubt a case in which it will be safe to adopt your most liberal practice in such cases, and that I shall be glad if you are able to allow him to remain out of College, as he desires, without losing his place."

"Congratulating you on the growing prosperity of the institution, under your direction, and with much esteem, I remain"

"Yours truly, Amos Tuck" [Rauner Library, Tuck's alumni file]

27 August 1867: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck present. Trustees agree to seek control of the bequest money held by the town committee. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

29 August 1867: Special town meeting in Exeter authorizes Selectmen to appropriate and spend Robinson bequest to establish the Robinson Female Seminary. [EHS/MSS 23/Box 1/ Folder 2]

3 September 1867: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck present. Tuck moves successfully to transfer money to begin action "at once towards providing accommodations for several hundred pupils." Also, Tuck moved successfully to form a building committee to start construction. Tuck voted onto the new financial committee and is added to the existing school committee (which oversees the operations of the already begun girls' school). Tuck is voted onto the building committee. [EHS/ MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

30 September 1867: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "Let us change the arrangement partially made the other day. Ned writes that he expects to come, on Friday night, to Boston, and Sat. morning, (next), by first train to Exeter. Your mother and I both think it better for you to

come with him, (1st train Sat. Morn. – 7 ½ out of Boston -), or come the day before and await him, staying over Sunday, of course, if children are well. If the children shall not be in condition to entirely relieve you from anxiety, you could come on Friday at 12 o'clock (out of Boston), and stay till Sat. at 6 o'clock P.M., then going to Boston, and home by 10 o'clock. Frank could come Friday night, or Sat. morning, as suited his convenience. I have written Mr. Frye, and I think he and Abby will meet Ned in Boston Sat. morn., and come to Exeter with him, arriving here at 9 ½ o'clock. Any plan that suits you and Frank will suit us. I shall be in Boston by Wed. or Thursday, I think, and then shall want to know your purposes. Yr. aff. Father, Amos Tuck”
[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 October 1867: BBF (Washington) to Pamela French. “We – that is, U.S. Grant[?], H.D. Cooke, Wm. H. Seward, Gen. Dent, B.B. French, and enough others, whose names I do not now remember, to make 10, have formed a company within the past week, called ‘the Seneca Quarry Co.’ and have put in \$10,000 cash each. Cooke and others, purchased the quarry last year and began to work it. It stood them as Cooke told me, about \$150,000, the other two could not afford to keep it all, and Cooke did not want more than 1/3d so he, reluctantly, consented to make a joint stock concern of it, at \$200,000 making the stockholders who are to pay \$10,000 each and receive certificates of stock for \$20,000. And we do not doubt that our stock will at once be worth par. The stone is the best building stone in the world. The Smithsonian is built of it. Cooke’s new house in Georgetown, the Christian Association Building, and several others that we now know of, are built of it. They tell me that there are now more orders on hand than can possibly be filled with their present force. If this does not turn out better than Vedder or Petroleum, I shall be very much disappointed.” [FFP Reels 5 and 6]

7 November 1867: Tuck paid \$2,300.00 to Edmund James and his wife Annie M. James of Exeter for a tract of land and the buildings thereon. The tract comprised ¼ of an acre and was situated between Court Street and land of School District No. 1.

[Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 418, Page 323]

26 November 1867: Tuck attended PEA Trustees’ meeting.

7 December 1867: RFS Trustees’ meeting. Tuck present. Building Committee reports on a building plan. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees’ minutes, 1866-1899]

14 December 1867: RFS Trustees’ meeting. Tuck present. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees’ minutes, 1866-1899]

21 December 1867: RFS Trustees’ meeting. Tuck not present. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees’ minutes, 1866-1899]

26 December 1867: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck present. Architect to be invited to meet trustees. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

30 December 1867: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck present. Tuck, Wood and Hooper authorized to find another architect to review architect Sargent's plan. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

1867: Tuck was one of the original trustees of the Robinson Female Seminary. "He drew up, introduced, and advocated the adoption, by the town, of the organization of that Seminary, finally established, especially interesting himself in that feature of the plan, which provided for the election of one Trustee annually, and for the long service of seven years for each Trustee. He was also the most prominent opponent of the location of the Seminary on Prospect Hill, and one of the most earnest advocate of its location upon its present site. As President of the Board of Trustees he superintended the building of the Seminary, and served on the Board for one year after the same was occupied, when he resigned his position to devote himself for a time to business connected with the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad at St. Louis, Mo."

1868

1 January 1868: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French. "A happy new [year] to you and your tribe, and to Mr. Frye and his tribe, is the cordial wish of me, and all my tribe."

"Merrick and Stickney, or one of them will draw upon you for about \$500, (not exactly), about this time, and I want to honor the sum out of my Bank Balance. It is some money I pay them out of Miss Warren's Estate for Miss Chamberlin."

"I like this old fashioned snowstorm, although I can't help associating it unpleasantly with encumbrances to travel, to you, Mr. Frye, and Ned, as well as to the rest of the moving world."

"Yrs. aff., Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 January 1868: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck present. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

13 January 1868: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck present. Tuck moves successfully to invest \$4000 in 5-20 US Bonds. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

2 February 1868: Catherine P. Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "Do not think we despised your invitation for us to spend Sunday with you: I had supposed until this morning that your father had let you know in some way, that we could not, tho. we should have been most happy to. Or rather I could not, for altho. I now have a girl – who as she told us – had been living for a year

past at Amesbury, and only returned from there one week previous to applying to us: we are informed by Appleton Shute that she has been living with them since Oct. last, and was discharged from there at the before named time, on account of her unconquerable desire to possess other people's property: such as collars, cuffs, pocket handkerchiefs – diapers for her sister's baby, not to say anything about sugar, tea and coffee, apples and even cider!!”

“A comforting piece of information to a woman already harassed out of her senses, is it not?...so you see of course I feel no safety in leaving the house while she is in it, at least until Angie returns from Biddeford. I shall try to get up to Boston for a day or so, not so much to ‘look at spring goods’ – inasmuch as I have finished my winter dress within the last two days – but to do some little errands, and breathe a different atmosphere, for I feel very much as tho. I had for months and months past, been undergoing penance for some awful crime or other. At any rate, I feel that it would be an outrageous piece of injustice even to punish me more.”

“Nell gives glowing accounts of her visits with you and with Abby. I think of asking her up Tuesday eve. to keep me in countenance while I give your father a gentlemen's tea-party. He will tell you about it. I am happy to report your father is in quite perfect health and spirits. He is even quite good natured again and seems quite like his old self. Refer you to him for the truth of my statements. ‘The rug continues’ a thing of [word unclear] and C. Only it is not on very good terms with my carpet. The latter is evidently jealous, consequently sulky and getting disagreeable. I should not wonder if – at no distant day – it should signify its intention to ‘leave’ – but at present I take no notice of its grumblings. It will no doubt be willing to stay thru. the winter on account of its intimacy and good understanding with the fire place especially as the latter snubs the rug, and insists upon snapping at it so that in pity I have placed it (the new one) out in a corner in front of the sofa. Affectionately, Mother.” [TFP, Box 3, Folder 8]

11 February 1868: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck present. Tuck moves successfully to pay the rent owed to the town for the use of rooms in the Town Hall being used by already started RFS classes. Tuck moves successfully to halt class at the end of the current session, so students can prepare for public examinations. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

12 February 1868: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck present. Trustees discuss two different plans for the new building. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

13 February 1868: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck present. Tuck's motion to leave the choice of a final plan to Arthur Gilman of New York is voted down, 4-2. Tuck again moves to provide for an independent review of Sargent's plan. Also, Tuck and Getchell are appointed to audit the treasurer's report. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

15 February 1868: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck present. Tuck name to a committee to work with the school superintendent and the Town School Committee on the question of admission of students for the next year. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

21 February 1868: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck present. Architects Ropes and Sargent review their respective plans. [EHS/MSS 23/Carlton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

29 February 1868: Tuck paid \$1,600.00 to Lucinda Robinson of Exeter [who appears to have been the widow of Jeremiah Robinson] for a two-acre tract of land located between Front Street, land owned by the Robinson Female Seminary and the new street leading to the depot. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 419, Page 188]

29 February 1868: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck present. Trustees decide to have Sargent prepare the plans to solicit bids for the construction of the new building. [EHS/MSS 23/Carlton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

12 March 1868: Tuck attended a meeting of the RFS trustees and is elected president. Nathaniel Gordon elected to be secretary by a 4-2 vote. Charles Bell failed to be elected in three ballots. Abner Merrill, Amos Tuck and Nathaniel Gordon elected to the Finance Committee. Bell dropped out after losing in the first three ballots. Getchell elected on the fifth ballot. Noah Hooper, Nathaniel Gordon, Alver Wood and Amos Tuck elected to the School Committee on the first ballot – Bell again failed to be elected.

[EHS, MSS 23/Carlton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

19 March 1868: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French. "Dear Frank: On thinking it over, I am disinclined to spend much thought upon the proposal of Foot and Walker. The proposal on the other side is so substantial, and accompanied with such magnificent possibilities, that I don't think that you could receive any offer from F. & W. that would be inducement enough to change yr. plan before Apr. 1st. Mr. F. is a sharp, good man, and the talk with him will be of value, even if nothing of action comes of it. Does he impress you with being a man of first-class dimensions? I won't undertake to say."

"I enclose Ned's letter for re-perusal [sp?], as it defines his bias as to operations."

"I think I stated to you that I am not inclined to go out of 10-40s on a slight rise, unless we go in by the same jerk into Govt. Sixes of some kind. To take 5-20s (those you mentioned), at present prices, (say \$100,000), and hold them right along, would be, I have little doubt, a good transaction."

"Yr. aff., Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

April 1868: Exeter property tax records show Tuck assessed for his house (\$4700), and the "Robinson Land" (\$1200). [Exeter Town Clerk]

1 April 1868: Tuck presided over a RFS trustees meeting. [EHS, MSS 23]

4 April 1868: Tuck presided over a RFS trustees meeting. [EHS, MSS 23]

6 April 1868: Tuck presided over a RFS trustees meeting. [EHS, MSS 23]

17 April 1868: Tuck presided over a RFS trustees meeting. [EHS, MSS 23]

27 April 1868: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. Brief letter to assure Amos that he is fully recovered. Business is very busy.

“How stand our 50 Bonds? At 9 ¼ I suppose, but am not sure. They are firm and advancing, as you see. We must hold for the present and not be tempted to sell prematurely.”

[TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

28 April 1868: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. Ned will call on Thomas Nelson soon, as Amos asked..

“I am glad you believe in holding Bonds. We had better buy rather than sell, I think, though perhaps we can get along as we are.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

6 May 1868: Tuck presided over a RFS trustee meeting at which they decided to send Tuck and others to New York City to attend the 12 May meeting of the Delaware & Hudson Canal Co. The purpose was to assess whether to invest in the company’s bonds. [EHS, MSS 23]

16 May 1868: Tuck presided over a RFS trustees meeting. [EHS, MSS 23]

19 May 1868: Tuck presided over a RFS trustees meeting. [EHS, MSS 23]

26 May 1868: Tuck presided over a RFS trustees meeting. [EHS, MSS 23]

29 May 1868: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. Ned ribs Tuck a bit for getting sick from eating veal, and advises him to never eat either veal or pig.

Ned and his friend Randolph are trying to find a French family with which to board, but seem to be having trouble finding a suitable situation.

“Old ‘67s’ are 111 and 7/8 @112. Sell when you and Frank think best. I don’t wish to hold back any longer, though I think we shall see them higher, with of course occasional reactions in price during the coming month. Money is very easy and other stocks are higher in proportion than govts. But of course no one knows the future....I am satisfied bonds are to go higher in Europe on receipt of the Chicago platform in detail by mail, but the rise will very likely put down gold instead of putting up bonds here. We send \$100,000 gold by tomorrow’s steamer.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

15 June 1868: Tuck presided over a RFS trustees meeting. [EHS, MSS 23]

22 June 1868: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Frank French. Ned is going to Boston the next day to meet and escort Miss Nellie Chandler, the young daughter of his boss. He hopes to see Ellen and Abby while there, as well as old Mr. Frye. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 9]

26 June 1868: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French. "Yours of yesterday is at hand. I find as you do, the prospect to be higher than we guessed at, when together. I vary only a few dollars from you. As of June 6th, I made up on that day, making all due allowances for interest etc. as I thought, a statement in substance as follows:

- Cr.	Paid by me to Jay Cooke & Co. (Apr. 29 th)	\$4375.00	
	Expenses telegrams	1.20	
	Paid by me [to] State Bk. int. (May 4 th)	597.92	
	Paid by [me] Bond exchange (May 18 th)	1040.00	
	Balance of interest due, say,	<u>30.00</u>	
			\$6004.12
-Dt.	Rec by me gold coupons \$1500		
	Premium	<u>588.50</u>	<u>2008.50</u>
June 6 th	Due to Amos Tuck, bal		\$3915.62
	On same day (June 6 th) we owed		
	Foote & Walker	\$5000.00	
Int. at 7%	from May 1 st , say	<u>35.97</u>	<u>5035.97</u>
	Total debit June 6 th		\$8951.59
June 6 th ,	Rec'd from Jay Cooke & Co.		<u>5945.44</u>
			\$3006.15
Int. from June 6 th	to June 24 th (18 days) at 8%		<u>12.02</u>
			\$3018.17
June 24 1868	Rec'd from Brewster & Sweet	\$7000	
	" " Bank, rebate	<u>395.67</u>	<u>\$7395.67</u>
Profit			\$4377.50

1/3 of which is the \$1459.17, for which I send you a check."

"This is a few dollars more favorable to me than your account shows, and it may be that your account is accurate and mine is not. Still, as I lost on my bonds sold to make up the margin, I think you and Ned will be satisfied as I state it."

"Send me the papers, and a receipt for the money, that I can put them together, as proof of final settlement, in case of mortality of any, or all of us interested."

"It gives me great satisfaction that you, Ellen and Ned participate in so handsome a profit, to which we have attained, by joint labors and advice."

“Yours affectionately, Amos Tuck”

[Postscript, crossed out, but still legible] “P.S. Your balance of profits, as stated in yr. letter, is \$4393.27 of which you say ‘\$1464.42’ is the proportion. You will observe an error in dividing \$4393.27 by 3 –

1/3 4393.27

1448 [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

27 June 1868: Tuck presided over a RFS trustees meeting. [EHS, MSS 23]

1 July 1868: Tuck presided over a RFS trustees meeting. [EHS, MSS 23]

2 July 1868: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees’ meeting.

4 July 1868: An informal note in the ledger containing the RFS Trustees’ minutes reports that the local Masonic lodge laid the cornerstone of the new RFS building. . [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees’ minutes, 1866-1899]

20 July 1868: RFS Trustees meeting. Tuck presides. Decision to put in roads and culverts. Tuck on the committee to consider building a boarding house. . [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees’ minutes, 1866-1899]

5 August 1868: Amos Tuck (Truro, Nova Scotia) to “The daughters and families.” “My dear children: I am all right – and progressing rapidly in my survey of this province.”

“Hope to be back as I proposed, when I left and will then post. Aff. A. Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

19 August 1868: BFF journal entry: Frank went with French to the depot on Monday [the 17th], and French went directly to Judge Henry’s [HHF’s] office in Boston. The two of the then paid a call on Judge William Richardson at his office. “Then I went to Frank’s Bank....Then I returned to Henry’s office, Frank with me, where I remained till it was time for me to go to the Fitchburg Depot...” He went to Concord and spent the night at Henry’s. French returned to Boston yesterday around 2:20 and called on Frank at his bank. At 4:15 pm “we took the train for this place [Milton] and arrived here (at the house) about 5, where we found Mr. Tuck, whom I was glad to see. In the evening he and Frank went to Mr. Fry’s where Mr. Tuck spent the night. Frank returned and he and I played cribbage till bed time. The next morning, “...we played croquet – Ellen, Frank, Bess and I. We had just finished our first game when Mr. Tuck came with Mrs. Fry, in a carriage, so we played no more. Besides it was growing quite hot. At a few minutes before 9 Mr. Tuck, Frank and I started for the depot, and, at 9:20 for Boston.”

[FFP Reel 3]

22 August 1868: RFA Trustees meeting. Tuck presides. . [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

26 August: BFF and HFF go to Exeter via Newmarket on the 24th. They went to Major Blake's Hotel for lunch, visit Henry's old house on Pine St. "From there we walked to Mr. Tuck's and I made a call on Mrs. Tuck, Mr. T. being absent at Portsmouth. Mrs. Tuck was exceedingly agreeable." Then on to Hampton Beach and the Boar's Head Hotel. Next morning, Henry and Potter [?] returned to Boston. "I hired a horse and buggy and Frank and I rode over to Little Boar's Head and made a call on ex-President Pierce, at his home there." After a most pleasant ½ hour chat, French and Frank went to visit Senator Grimes. Then they caught the train from Hampton depot to Boston, from where French travelled on to Concord. [FFP Reel 3]

29 August: In Milton, Mass. French arrived yesterday (Friday) afternoon with Frank and Mr. Tuck. On Thursday, French went to Boston from Concord. After lunch and returning to the Bank he found a telegram from Mr. Tuck saying his wife was in Exeter and inviting him to spend the night with them. "On arriving at Mr. Tuck's I found that Mary Ellen, Sarita, Fannie, Mr. and Mrs. Tuck and Mary Gordon had all gone to Hampton Beach to be back at 8. So I amused myself till tea was announced playing croquet with Miss Angelina Wiggen – a sweet little niece of Mr. Tuck's who resides with him, and whom I found to be an accomplished lady, and an excellent croquet player.....and Mr. and Mrs. Tuck with Mary Ellen and Miss Gordon arrived at 8.50', and if a mortal rejoiced in once more meeting his dear ones, it was I.....while Mrs. French and I spent the night at Mr. Tuck's. Louise Russell, who staid at Portland with Luly Whitman, came up to Exeter yesterday morning, and at ½ past 11 we – Mrs. French, Sarita, Louise and myself came to Boston (Mr. Tuck came in the 9 o'clock train). We left Lou. at Mr. Underhill's, and with Mr. Tuck and Frank, came here.... We dined at ½ past 4, and at 5 Mr. Tuck, Ellen, Frank and I rode over to Dorchester (about two miles) and saw the place Frank has just purchased. It is a beautiful place The house is large, and well built, airy and pleasant, and the grounds, 3 acres, handsome, and beautifully laid out. I shall be rejoiced to see him settle down with his family – as he never yet has been." [FFP Reel 3]

11 September 1868: RDF Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. . [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

12 October 1868: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck not present. . [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

28 October 1868: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. . [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

19 November 1868: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Abby Frye and Ellen French. "Ned writes that he will come to Boston, by the night train of Wednesday next, and will return to N.Y. by the night train Sunday following: - and that we may locate him as we please."

"I propose, and I will write him, that Thursday morning he go to Ellen's, and stay there till Friday forenoon, and come to Exeter by the 12 o'clock train Friday, dine at Exeter etc., and return to Boston Sat. by 11 ½ o'clock train from Exeter, and visit Abby as you may arrange. If you suggest a change, do it soon to me."

"We propose to go to Boston Thursday by 9 ½ train from Exeter, and by one o'clock train go to Ellen's leaving cars at Harrison Square; and to come back to Exeter by 12 o'clock train on Friday. All well. Yr. aff. father, Amos Tuck"

"P.S. I suppose Angie will go with us to Ellen, and if you desire it, she may protract her visit a few days."

[on the opposite page from Tuck's ending above is this letter to Orrin Frye.]

19 November 1868: Amos Tuck to Orrin Frye. "Mr. Frye: Laura says, in answer to your kin letter to her, that she thinks she better not go to Milton till Monday next, and that then she will go to Boston on the 11 ½ train through this town, arriving at ¼ before 2, and will go to Milton from Boston by the 3 o'clock train out of Boston, if you please."

"Affectionately to all, yrs. Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 November 1868: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees meeting.

25 November 1868: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. . [EHS/MSS 23/Carlton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

3 November 1868: Special town meeting in Exeter authorizes selectmen to work with the trustees to complete construction of the Robinson Female Seminary. [EHS/MSS 23/Box 1/Folder 2]

1 December 1868: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carlton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

28 December 1868: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French. "Dear Frank: I send to you the enclosed, by mistake sent to me by Ned."

"We have not rec'd anything here in the way of mementos, from Ned, and I have written him the state of the case. Of course, if the things reach you, Ned will at once be notified."

"Mr. Way's pitcher, the handsomest one I ever saw, came on Sat. and Mrs. Tuck acknowledges by to-night's mail."

"Your acct. of payments is right, no doubt. Yrs. aff. and all are well, Amos Tuck"

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

28 December 1868: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "I enclose a letter from Beverley Nelson's sister, which Laura replies to, this eve., inviting her to visit us before she returns. I hear that you will call on her, and as the directions cannot be well given to her how to find Abby's home, and as Abby would like some notice in advance, Laura writes to her that you will call on her to-morrow or next day, and at that time will give her directions how to find Abby. She will have to go out with Mr. Frye, I should think."

"We are all in good health. The presents from Ned are rec'd. Also the pitcher from Mr. Way, which is the handsomest we have ever seen. Yr. mother has properly acknowledged both mementos to her, - Mr. Way's and Ned's."

"I expect to go to Boston Wednesday, - second train arriving in Boston at 11:25. If you go in then, I will try to see you, of course, but shall not go out to Dorchester. Hoping you are all well, and Abby, by this time. I am yr. aff. father, with love from your mother also, and from Laura, Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

31 December 1868: Edward Tuck received 6,000 francs in salary and 12,000 francs in bonus from John Munroe & Co. in Paris. [TFP. Box 2, Folder 7]

1869:

30 January 1869: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Asa Dodge Smith. He acknowledges the latter's letter of 27 January, and discussing at length the need to help young men obtain an education, but ending by declining to give a donation as requested. "...I regret that I have met with serious pecuniary losses within a year which renders it inconvenient at present to give money out of my own means." [TFP, Box 2, Folder 4]

8 February 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. He is appointed to a committee to set the number of "seats" to be procured and the rooms to be occupied by them. [EHS/MSS 23/Carlton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

5 March 1869: "For value received," Tuck assigned a mortgage and the debt it was to secure to Henry W. Carter of Lebanon, N.H. The mortgage referred to the deed of sale of the Boar's Head Hotel in Hampton to Stebbins H. Dumas by the heirs of David Nudd in March 1866. No further details given. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 425, Page 157]

11 March 1869: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to Ellen S. Yeaton of Stratham for \$4,500.00. The land was on the west side of Lincoln Street and contained a newly built house called New House number four. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 432, Page 414]

11 March 1869: Tuck lent \$3,000.00 to William H. Yeaton and his wife Ellen S. Yeaton of Stratham so they could buy a tract of land with a house on it that Tuck had just built. The house was on the westerly side of Lincoln Street. Tuck sold the mortgage on 1 September 1870 to John H. Brown and Charles E. Warren. Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 421, Page 478]

13 March 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. Tuck re-elected as President (5-0). Noah Hooper elected Secretary, 5-0. Tuck is also elected to the committees on finance, on the school, and on the grounds and furnishings. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

17 March 1869: BBF notes in his journal, "Found a telegram from Frank informing me that Judge William A. Richardson, who is offered the First Assistant Secretaryship of the Treasury, would arrive in this evening's train. He being an intimate friend and kinsman of mine, at 5 o'clock I walked down to the depot and met him when the train arrived at 5.20', and invited him to our house. He came up with me; dressed and supped and then went out to visit his friends, and will not, probably return much before midnight. He is in a perfect quandary whether, or not, to accept the proffered office. Left entirely to himself I have no doubt he would decline; but his friends are urging him very strongly to accept. I, governed as we all are, more or less by selfish motives, should be delighted to have him accept. But were I in his exact position, I do not believe I would do it. And, from his conversation, I think the chances are that he will decline." [FFP Reel 3]

April 1869: Exeter property tax records show Tuck assessed for his house (\$5000), and for land – "House No. 3" (\$3000) and the "Robinson Lot" (\$50). [Exeter Town Clerk]

2 April 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

13 April 1869: Trustees enter into a contract to finish building and furnishing Robinson Female Seminary building. [EHS/MSS 23/Box 1/Folder 2]

19 April 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. Tuck moves to instruct the Treasurer to prepare papers to loan \$25,000 to the Town to complete the Seminary buildings, grounds, and furniture. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

24 April 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

1 May 1869: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Abby Nelson Frye. "For a week past my eyes have not been overstrong and I have been careful not to tax them more than absolutely necessary...." [Rauner Library, Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 17]

21 May 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

30 May 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. The Secretary is instructed to interview Prof. Stearns of Albany. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

3 June 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. Report on Stearns. Latter invited to come to Exeter for a meeting with the Trustees. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

8 June 1869: RFS meeting. Tuck presides. Stearns hired as Principal of RFS. Tuck is name to the committee to purchase a furnace for the dwelling house. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

17 June 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. School is to start its session in September 1869. To be advertised regionally, e.g. Boston, Portsmouth, Dover, and Concord, NH. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

22 June 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. Women teachers to be paid \$1,000/year. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

19 June: BBF journal entry: French goes into Boston yesterday with Frank. Later French visits Henry in his office: "...I found him engaged in settling up his partnership affairs with Secretary Boutwell. They settled all up in a brief space, and reduced their settlement to writing, and signed duplicates, all in a single hour! Then Henry and I went to the Jubilee." [FFP Reel3]

22 June 1869: Tuck attended PEA Trustees' meeting.

22 June 1869: French journal entry: Yesterday, called on Mrs. Richardson [wife of Assistant Treasury Secretary Richardson] in Cambridge. [FFP Reel 3]

29 June 1869: BBF writing in his journal in Dorchester: On the 22nd, French went to Cambridge with Frank and saw many of his old friends. Frank voted for Harvard overseers, then "...we lunched with Judge Richardson at his splendid residence on Kirkland Street, with others of the Alumni of Harvard. Mrs. George Richardson came in while we were at the table..." On the 25th, French went to Concord, joined by Ellen, Frank, Bess and Amos. "I have journalized the foregoing in a mere memorandum and hasty manner, that I might be ready to devote my afternoon to Mr. Tuck, who is expected in 10 minutes, and to the Frye's whom we are to visit at 5." [FFP Reel 3]

1 July 1869: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "I enclose \$30, which I forgot to leave with Frank yesterday."

“I fell in with Mr. Walker, and rode with him to Exeter yesterday. I see he going to your house Saturday with Mrs. Walker. No doubt you will have a pleasant time.”

“I enjoyed my visit at your house, and with you all at Mr. Frye’s very much. The only single draw back was the not having more time with the Major, he knows so much about Washington and the South ‘before the Revolution.’ I enjoy pitying the South, now, much more than I should if I had not known them in the days of their flagrant sins and effrontery. It rained pitchforks in Exeter yesterday, wetting all my hay.”

“Affectionately, A. Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

4 July 1869: BBF journal entry: On afternoon of 29 June, “Mr. Tuck, Frank, Ellen, and I rode to Mr. Frye’s Tuesday afternoon, where we had a nice game of croquet, and partook of an elegant supper....Wednesday morning opened clear and hot. Mr. Tuck worked in the garden, and I put in two pieces of flooring to the piazza platform, and mended Amos’s wheelbarrow....” Frank returned from Boston at 3 ½, we dined and at 4 he, Ellen, and the children accompanied me to the cars....” French returned to Washington. [FFP Reel 3]

12 July 1869: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to Edmund Pearson of Boston for \$6,100.00. The tract contained ½ acre of land near the intersection of Front and Lincoln Streets and abutting the new house that Tuck had recently built on the corner of those two streets. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 429, Page 109]

15 July 1869: RFS Trustees’ meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees’ minutes, 1866-1899]

28 July 1869: RFS Trustees’ meeting. Tuck presides. Tuck, Gordon and Moulton are named to a committee to arrange the dedication ceremony for the new building. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees’ minutes, 1866-1899]

30 August 1869: Tuck paid \$400.00 to Henry C. Moses of Exeter for a tract of land lying on the east side of the new street running north from Front Street. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 426, Page 261]

6 September 1869: RFS Trustee’ meeting. Tuck presides. Tuck and Merrill to identify and sell \$5,000 in stocks. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees’ minutes, 1866-1899]

7 September 1869: RFS Trustees’ meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees’ minutes, 1866-1899]

15 September 1869: RFS Trustees’ meeting. Tuck presides. Decisions on details of the dedication ceremony. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees’ minutes, 1866-1899]

21 September 1869: Tuck attends dedication of main building of new Robinson Female Seminary.

2 October 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

9 October 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

15 October 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

20 October 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

22 October 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

2 November 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. Tuck named to a committee to prepare a financial report for the town meeting scheduled for 9 November. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

13 November 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. Trustees accept the comprehensive financial report of the committee. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

23 November 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

30 November 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

15 December 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

20 December 1869: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

21 December 1869: PEA trustees.

31 December 1869: Edward Tuck received 6,000 francs in salary and a 3% bonus of 16,500 francs from John Munroe & Co. in Paris. (TFP Box 7, Folder 2)

1870-73

Tuck lived in St. Louis periodically as land commissioner for the Atlantic & Pacific Rail Road (later the St. Louis and San Francisco Rail Road).

1870:

1 January 1870: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Benjamin Brown French. "This is the first letter of the New Year that I write, and I first present to you the Congratulations of the Season, wishing you, Mrs. French, and your household, a Happy New Year."

"I was happy to receive your letter, written in your round, open, generous hand, so harmonious with the qualities of your well known character. May that hand have no shake or weakness in it for many years to come."

"Frank told me yesterday he was about writing to you, to announce an important change in his business relations. He has dissolved his connection with Mr. Way, with good feelings upon both sides, and has plans for a new connection in Boston, which will, I think, at least give him a good support. I forbear to speak further as he has the right, and would claim the privilege, of speaking first to his own father about his affairs."

"I have no hesitation in giving my opinion, that Frank cannot afford to interrupt his course in his chosen profession, by accepting any political office whatever. I think he could not be induced to do so, even if the head of a bureau were offered him, with a guarantee of its permanency. He has had a valuable training in his various positions in Boston, beginning as my Deputy in the Naval Office, and now ending with Mr. Way, and few young men of his age in life are his superiors in his line. The business world needs him, and he needs business, and will get it, if he do not allow anything to break the thread of his connection with current affairs. To step aside, even in a high office, would stamp him as semi-political, and he would lose his prestige. At least so I look at it."

"I am, respectfully and truly, Yours Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 January 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

7 January 1870: Robinson Female Seminary advertises in the Exeter News-Letter: "This institute has now been organized in the new and elegant building recently erected for it, and will commence a Second Term, on Wednesday, January 5, 1870....Eben S. Stearns, Principal, Noah Hooper, Sec'y Board of Trustees."

Below this advertisement is a 5 August 1869 advertisement about tuition at the Robinson Female Seminary signed by Amos Tuck, President.

7 January 1870: Republican state convention held in Concord, called to order by Edward H. Rollins, chairman of the State Central Committee. (Exeter News-Letter, 14 January 1870)

11 January 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carlton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

7 February 1870: BBF to HFF. "...We had a letter from Frank today announcing, officially, and a nice one from Ellen telling us all about the household. Saying that soon, Frank intended to write you and Pamela to visit them." [FFP]

12 February 1870: A new iron bridge over the Exeter River for the Boston & Maine Railroad was tested. Among the VIPs present was Hon. Amos Tuck. [Exeter News-Letter, 18 February 1870]

15 February 1870: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. "My Dear Friend, I was very sorry not to be at home when you called at my house a few days ago. Had I known in advance of your coming, I should have been sure to postpone my business in Boston. To my question to my wife, why did you not make him stay all night, she replied that you said at the outset that you should leave at 5, and reminded me that I spoke of possibly staying away overnight. I did return at 7, missing you of course by two hours. Come again, and let me know before you come when you will come.

Several times in the last year I have taken my pen to write something for your paper, indicative of my convictions on the subject of your conflict with the thieves, traducers and assassins, who have tried to take your life. But my disgust at being again at close hugs [?], even in a fight, with such slimy fellows, has kept me back and hedged me out of the arena. I perceived all the time that you were steadily gaining on them, driving them to the wall, and nailing on their foreheads the lies with which they tried to break you down. You came out triumphant, and are entitled to more thanks than a man ever gets for doing good, for scotching the scoundrels and taking away their facility for future mischief. Had I gone in, it might have diverted public attention from the issue you had, and on which you triumphed.

I feel alienated and embittered, politically, I confess. But it is not that I make complaint for being overlooked at any time by the party, which began to form as early as anybody. The impeachment of my integrity or pretense that I had been unconsciousable [?], got up, -- queried about -- set going, -- by Chandler, Ordway and Rollins, ruthlessly, without the slightest cause, simply to damage my political prospects and general influence, has given me, (I own it), inexpressive pain. I have all along lived with a purpose of rigid honor and honesty, and know that I have practiced both in all my dealings. To feel that any body doubts about my life being a

standing protest against dishonor whenever found, is a painful reflection, which Chandler, Ordway and Rollins alone have caused to rest upon me as a dark shadow. The pain does not arise from mere vanity offended, but chiefly from the damage done to virtue, when any man once respected is brought into a doubtful position as to character, by which his influence on the side of morals and religion is destroyed. It would be easier to die than willingly to add one's own example to the already appalling number of false pretenders seeking notoriety before the public. There, Fogg, you have a pretty frank confession, hardly made before to any other. Truly yours, Amos Tuck.

P.S. Enclosed \$5 for general acct. Ind. Demo." (Fogg Papers, NHHS)

10 March 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. Tuck unanimously re-elected as President of the Trustees. Tuck also named to the finance, school, and grounds committees. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

14 March 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

21 March 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

April 1870: Exeter property tax records show Tuck was assessed for his house (\$5000), for land – "House No. 3" and the Yeaton, Robinson & Moses Lot" (\$300). [Exeter Town Clerk]

3 April 1870: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "I do not forget that to-morrow will be your birth-day. I remember that day more distinctly than the birth-day of either of my other children. I was away from home when Abby and Ned were born, and so my memory does not hover over the first moments of their existence as it does over yours. It was a pleasant day, that 4th of April, and I recall it with the utmost ease, always thankful for the blessed event which it celebrates. It was genial spring day, nearly free from clouds, with dry roads, except as here and there moistened by proximity to rapidly vanishing snow drifts, discolored remains of a hard winter. I had not appeared at the Old Meeting House, now the Town House at Hampton, at eleven o'clock in the morning, to witness the ceremonies preliminary to settling Father Eldredge, then a young man, over the old church at Hampton, as was expected of me, being one of the active men of the Congregational Society. At one or two o'clock, however, I was in the street, and in answer to an anxious enquiry from Mr. Eldredge, as to the health of my family, replied that I had the happiness of an additional daughter in my house, and that all the parties were as well as could be expected. That day was one of great distress to your mother, so much so as to impress me very much as the day of Bessy's birth has impressed Frank. But the newborn babe soon made her own place in our hearts, and made mother as well as father, measurably forget the hours of gloom, anxiety and suffering. Abby was two and [a] half years older than you, and between her and you, was an angel boy, whose death four years after, first pierce my heart clear through with

grief. One month before your birth I had abandoned my occupation of teaching, and was pursuing my law studies with Mr. Bell in Exeter, rather rashly depending upon possible admission to practice at an early day and possible acquisition of business soon after, for the means of supporting a wife and three children. I was then within three weeks of Ned's age at the present time. I doubt if he would think it wise to act thus under similar circumstances, and I doubt if any other person would think it wise or prudent. Yet I was not entirely faithless as to the future, and when I advanced into it, fortunately found it more propitious than I had reason to expect. Before the year had ended I had been admitted to practice and was well established in my profession, earning twice as much money as I had ever earned by my teaching. Your birth, dear Ellen, therefore marks the commencement of an important era in my life, not on your own account alone, but in regard to the prosperity and advancement of my family. I then formed acquaintances which led to my removal to Exeter, and to my acquisition of whatever has been desirable in my life. After your birth, I measurably dropped the humbler associates of my youthful days, who sought for little or no progress or improvement, and connected myself gradually with the most educated, active and enterprising people in the region of my new home, and to this day have counted such, and such only with few exceptions, as my intimate and confidential friends."

"So, my beloved and very dear Ellen, I count you a blessing, a great blessing, from your birth, a harbinger of joy, a delight in yourself, and a sure companion of other joys. My prayer is for your life, health, happiness, prosperity in all things, and for the welfare in all these respects of all the ear members of your household and family. With much love to them all, and to Abby, and Mr. Frye and Nellie and Mary, I am your loving father, Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and Family, FFP, LC]

27 April 1870: Tuck apparently borrows a total of \$3,500 from Hampton Academy funds at 7% interest. [Hampton Academy records, Hampton Historical Society]

28 April 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

29 April 1870: In an article about the political fight over the appointment of a sheriff, the Exeter News-Letter commented that: "If Mr. Gilman Marston proposes anything, Mr. Amos Tuck opposes it: if Mr. Tuck proposes anything, Mr. Marston opposes it."

6 May 1870: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. [At the top of the page] "Twenty five years ago." "My Dear Sir: Your editorial upon the completion of twenty five years since the establishment of the Independent Democrat, was especially interesting to me. Without being reminded of it, I should have allowed the interesting epoch to pass without particular thought. Being reminded of it, my mind is full of reminiscences and crowded with reflections. A quarter of a century is a long period for a young person to look forward to, but how soon is it gone, with

multitudes of men and with institutions and long established usages with it. How soon has the end of this period come, bringing with it new men, new institutions, a new country. Slowly dragged along the days and weeks and months, when sorrow was upon us, and slowly, or not all, seemed the evils of slavery and slave aggression to yield to the ever multiplying blows which good men in redoubling numbers bestowed upon the great curse and dishonor of the country. But only twenty five years have been needed to cover the whole period of earnest conflict, and to finish the tragedy of slavery's existence in America. The closest scrutiny cannot detect the motion of the hand upon the dial which notes the days of the month, but one year shows an entire revolution. Many of the months, and some of the years of the past twenty five, seemed to mark a retrograde, when our hearts were aching for advance. Cast down but not forsaken was all we could utter at sundry times, when legislated against in Congress, an outvoted at home, we have been compelled to wait and wait, and still longer to wait, for the fullness of time, and for the great salvation. But now is the day of our rejoicing fully come. Though sensible of great drawbacks, on account of human infirmity in which all partake, let us not fail to observe the accomplishment in our day of what transcends expectation and even hope. Refusing to limit our vision to the wrangling men, now belaboring one another on all sides, over the spoils [end of what appears to be a draft letter to the editor, i.e. Fogg.] [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

9 May 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carlton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

12 May 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carlton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

30 May 1870: C.R. Hurlburt [sp.?] and Edward H. Rollins (New York City) to Amos Tuck.

“It has been represented to us, that in the report we submitted to the House of Representatives February 1867, as members of the Committee on Public Expenditures, respecting frauds alleged to have been committed upon the Revenue, in connexion with the Boston Custom House – you feel somewhat aggrieved, in that, in your opinion, we did not so explicitly follow the testimony taken as to relieve you from any suspicion of implication in any improprieties in the case we investigated under Mr. Goodrich's administration of the Boston Custom House.”

“Without discussing the point, whether your opinion is well founded, we have not intended any injustice to any one, but lest unintentionally we may have done you as Naval Officer any wrong in such connexion, we have at your request reviewed so much of the evidence contained in that report as apparently shall affect you prejudicially, and we feel free to say, that in our judgment you were not necessarily at all inculpated thereby, or made to appear guilty of dishonorable conduct in that connexion. Mr. Goodrich as Collector was the official chiefly concerned in the transactions investigated by us. While it did not appear that he consulted you, in more than one of the cases examined, it did appear that in another case you had decidedly

differed with him. The testimony throughout appears to show that you acted openly and on consultation with other public officers, and in accordance with your convictions of personal and official duty.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 9]

30 May 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck absent. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

1 June 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck absent. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

9 June 1870: Amos Tuck (Ozark House, North Springfield, MO) to Abby Frye. “My dear Abby: Though I have time but to write a few lines, I will write them, to assure you of my affectionate thoughts of you, Ellen and your families, at this grave distance of 16 or 1700 miles from you. It is but a day's journey from here to Arkansas, and less than that to the Cherokee Country, where I nearly went to yesterday. I am the guest here of Mr. Andrew Peirce Jr. late of Boston, on whose passes from St. Louis, (241 miles distant), I came here, and at a Hotel just built by the So. Pacific R.R. which he is constructing thru this country. It is a pleasant country about here, and has been partially settled for about 50 years. Slavery cursed till the war, and the tobacco chewing women and the pale faced, cadaverous men, all prove that the blight of Heaven rested upon the shirking lazy population whom negroes took care of till 1863. Now everything is changing, though slowly, and the R. Road and freedom will in time make a revolution.”

“I work hard in seeing and moving about having yesterday went nearly to the Indian Country on an Engine with Mr. P., and back, and then rode till eve. about this town. Wilson's Creek, where Gen. Lyon was killed, is near this town, and a battle was fought at the very village where I am.”

“I return to St. Louis to-day, and leave for home about Monday morning. With love to Ellen, to Mr. Frye and all your several families, I am your aff. father, Amos Tuck”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

10 June 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck absent. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

18 June 1870: US Census shows Tuck residing in Exeter with his wife, grand-daughter Laura Nelson, Margaret Noonan (a domestic servant born in Ireland), and James Earley (a laborer born in Massachusetts).

20 June 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

21 June 1870: Tuck attended PEA Trustees' meeting.

27 June 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck presides. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

10 July 1870: Edward Tuck receives 6,000 francs in salary and 9,000 as a 3% bonus from John Munroe & Co. in Paris. [TFP Box 7, Folder 2]

12 August 1870: Frank O. French (Washington D.C.) to Simon Brown (Concord, MA). "My dear uncle, Our good Major, you have heard, is at rest. [French papers Reel 6]

1 September 1870: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to Adoniram J. Marsh of San Francisco for \$5,650.00. The land contained buildings and was on the west side of Lincoln Street. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 430, Page 364]

1 September 1870: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to the Town of Exeter for \$100.00. The land was "situate in said Exeter, that now lies in common with the Robinson Female Seminary grounds and that was formerly enclosed with my garden and now lies Northerly of and adjoining to the same..." Tuck stated that the sale included his rights under a state law that exempted homesteads from attachment and buy or sale on execution passed July 4, 1851. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 431, Page 142]

16 September 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck absent. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

24 September 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck absent. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

11 October 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck absent. Trustees accept gift from Tuck of a piece of land adjoining the RFS grounds. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

14 October 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck absent. [EHS/MSS 23/Carton 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

2 November: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck (St. Louis?). Ned reports that Frank French had arrived, and will meet Mr. McCulloch. Then, he will go to Washington. Ellen and Amos Tuck French are well. Encloses a letter from Dr. Randolph, and asks his father to consider giving him a job. Randolph will have to give up his job in the customhouse by Spring.

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

4 November 1870: Amos Tuck (Atlantic & Pacific & South Pacific R.R. Co., 6th and Walnut St., St. Louis, MO) to Ellen French. "I am going with the Mayor and two other gentlemen, in 15

minutes from now, (3 o'clock), to the St. Louis Water Works, to spend the afternoon, in looking over the same. It is the first recreation, in the day time, I have taken since my arrival. It is a warm day, - rather too warm, - (I wonder how it is at Dorchester?), - but not expecting to return till 6, I shall of course take my overcoat. Your mother will write you of our taking board, of John Dearborn's arrival etc. etc."

"I have now only time to say how I miss not being able to run in and see you at your Palace, and enjoy one more of those interviews we shall both remember. However it is all apparently for the best, and those enjoyments, like all others, were transitory. We can make them joys forever, by sweet remembrance. Then we went often to Abby's, and had our happiness doubled by seeing her. I can now know nothing of you, scarcely, and am sometimes worried, by imagining you in want of my counsel. I know I need not worry, and I will not – too much."

"I have had one letter from you, two from Ned, none from anyone else."

"In haste, most [sp?] aff. to all, yr. father Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

4 November 1870: Advertisement in the Exeter News-Letter: "Atlantic & Pacific – (Embracing late South Pacific) Railroad land in southwest Missouri – 1,500,000 acres, best quality, for sale on long credits, cheap."

"For particulars, in pamphlets, apply to Amos Tuck, Land Commissioner, 521 Walnut Street, St. Louis, Mo." [This ad also appeared on 25 November and 2 December]

5 November 1870: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. "I send a letter enclosed to Frank that he may see it on his return from Washington."

"By a letter from Mr. Dearborn, I perceive there is no prospect of selling the house to George. If he or anybody else expects you to sell the place for \$15,000, he is mistaken. I will give much more than that before seeing it leave our family, and trust to the future. Ned writes that you may continue some time to live in it. All right, don't hurry. It is too grand a place to give up in haste., or to sell for a song, at a sacrifice. Remember that, though 1400 hundred miles away, I am with you in spirit, in any perplexity, and that fortune has been too friendly to us in the aggregate to have us now without means of successful defense against sharpers."

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 November: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck (St. Louis). Received Tuck's letters of 1 and 2 November. Randolph is writing that day to accept Tuck's job offer, will resign immediately, and report for duty on the 15th. Frank French still in NYC looking for a house. Abby's husband Frye is thinking of taking a house in the city also. Ned discusses issues relating to Abby's inheritance from her first husband William Nelson. [TFP, Box 2, Folder 10]

6 November 1870: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to "My Dears, Abby, Ellen and Ned" [Letter is headed "Circular Letter"]. "Sitting down in our parlor, on the 3rd floor of the Southern Hotel, I

deliberate for a moment, to whom of my three children I shall indite a few lines, on this cloudy Sunday morning. I could never decide with any comfort which of the three I should favor, if it involved the privation of the other two, and knowing that your affection always make you regard a letter from me as a favor, I easily act upon the thought of writing you a letter that shall go the rounds to each, and hence the words at the top, which are familiar in business matters, to Ned and Frank, and hence my writing to you all in a bunch.”

“In half an hour we go to church, - to Dr. Elliott’s, - I concluding for a time, at least, I will go with your mother to a church of her choice, since she has gone for so long to a church of my choice at Exeter. I am inclined myself to my own choice, too, to try Dr. Elliott for a time, whom I have long known as a most eminently practical Christian, what ever may be his belief. I shall as regularly attend some place of Sunday worship here, as I did in Exeter, for I find that, with me, it is necessary. Such is my purpose, anyhow, and I trust my children will take note.”

“I have not yet seen the way open to go to Springfield, so many things have demanded attention here. I have had occasion in my own affairs to desire to remain here, and business for the Road has allowed me to indulge myself, though Mr. Peirce has planned a week in the Southwest. In two or three days we leave here for board on Washington Avenue, nearly opposite Mr. Peirce’s residence, and when settled there, I must go out on the Road to remain a week at least. Your mother will not go now, nor do I know when. I have written Otis and Jimmy to start from Boston to-morrow, and by Thursday, probably Wednesday night, they will both be here. I shall send Otis along to Springfield, and probably go with him, while I shall place Jimmy in a shop, or at work in some depot, as he most wishes. Next Sunday it is probably I shall be at Springfield and your Mother on Washington Avenue in St. Louis.”

“Friday I went in the after-noon, on invitation of Mr. Crozier, one of the Water Commissioners, with the Mayor Mr. Cole and Mr. Scott, an iron manufacturer, to look at the New Water Works, and had an agreeable half-day. The works were truly of magnificent dimensions, and when some good beer had been taken up by us, we all told our stories, and voted ourselves, by tacit understanding of quid pro quo, a set of most agreeable young men. I came home, as usual, and repented of being too hilarious among strangers, but notwithstanding the next morning, received congratulations for the high esteem which the demoralized Mayor had conceived in my behalf, with an invitation from Mr. Crozier to go with him on Saturday, (yesterday), as he had as much more he wished to show, but I could not accept. So you see I am getting acquainted, but not rapidly, as I do not desire it, not having the time to do the agreeable extensively.”

“Your mother is making acquaintances, gradually, and by the time we leave here, will have upon her list several agreeable ladies and gentlemen. We have no fear that we shall not soon have as many calling friends, as at Exeter, though loyalty to a few abiding friends there, forbids us, as it seems, ever to allow others here to fully supply their place in our regard and affection.”

“Sunday at 1 o’clock. Since writing, proof of life and action all around me. Even this cloudy day has nothing repulsive in it. I might feel different if I were tied here, or deprived of

the feeling I have that in the summer I shall go east, and have the pleasure of reunion in a clean country with those I love. But I think people grow friendly to St. Louis, and have more and more faith in it, the longer they stay. I leave it to your mother to pronounce some imprecations, which I think are deserved, but which one can't utter with the heartfelt malice usual to a Yankee when he swears."

"John Dearborn and Sarah arrived safely, and as I wrote, have their Head Quarters for an indefinite time at Alton. John smokes himself into stupidity, and I am bound to give him a caution. Tobacco is about as bad as Rum in stultifying power, tho not so wholly demoralizing."

"It being after two o'clock, and the mailing of letters being restricted on Sunday, I will draw to a close, albeit I do not feel that my 'Circular Letter' will have in it the substantial value usual in such documents. However, you must draw on me for more coin than I now send you, and hope for better things hereafter. If Frank or Ned say that I have mixed my metaphors, or seemed not to understand Commercial 'Circular Letters,' tell them they are mistaken, and that it has been decided by us Theologians, that parables can never be safely crowded too far."

"Most affectionately, yr. father Amos Tuck"

[P.S.] "Your mother says, have you sent them my love, by which she clearly indicates her wish to be most affectionately commended to you."

[Four notations in other hands.] "Red Nov 9/70 E. Tuck" and "Not 'condensed' enough F.O.F." "Pass it around" "Read E.T.F. Nov 10 1870" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

7 November 1870: RFS Trustees' meeting. Tuck absent. Trustees' take note of Tuck's resignation as President of the Trustees. Charles H. Bell elected in his place. [EHS/MSS 23/Cartron 1/Trustees' minutes, 1866-1899]

10 November 1870: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck (St. Louis). He had shared Tuck's latest letter with Frank (at [Jay] Cooke's) and with Ellen. Glad to hear Tuck has met with the Mayor and other "respectable people." Randolph leaves that day and will see Tuck in St. Louis, if the latter is there. Frank's job with Cooke's bank started 1 Nov. He and Frank dined at the Fahnestock's last Sunday. "They asked us both to meet on Tuesday eve last the Jay birds, including Jay Cooke, wife and daughter (about 20 but unfortunately already out of the market) the Mooreheads of Phila. who have a daughter still open, McCulloch + wife + a few other choice spirits, who were to meet, eat chicken salad + drink champagne in honor of the morrow's departure of McCulloch + aides for London." Frank and Ned are sharing an apartment. "The Cookes have taken him into their intimacy at once, are evidently very liberal, and are well impressed by him." [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

20 December 1870: Tuck did not attend the PEA Trustees' meeting.

30 November 1870: Ellen French (Corner of Ashworth St., Dorchester) to Amos Tuck. "My dear father, I sit here in my little library, all alone, for Frank is in New York and I am sole

guardian of the children. Amos just now is having a sickness, not asthmatic [sp?], but singular, and I called in Dr. Fifield, who promises to watch him and who appears to be anxious to do some thing besides tell me we must move away.”

“Amos now has a blister of the size of an old cent, on the back of his neck, and one at the top of the breast bone which he intends shall draw off the inflammation of some nerve that is near and from the bronchial tubes.”

“Amos is cheery tonight and I hope there is to be some change in his symptoms. He is taking arsenic besides for his breathing.”

“Frank went to N.Y. by the 3 P.M. train yesterday. I went in to see him off. He was unwilling to leave me alone out here, but there is no remedy for it. Tomorrow I shall have a seamstress and my hands will be busy.”

“Mary Ellen may come on and stay a month with me and after that it is possible I may go to Washington with her, taking the children, where I shall hope you will be – if not perhaps you can’t help coming to see me, considering I am extra forlorn.”

“I have sent Ned a peremptory invitation to come here by Sat’y providing [sp?] he stay a few days.”

“Abby is on the height of confusion in moving. She hopes to be in peace by Sunday. They will have a comfortable home when they are settled, and no doubt will be happier, because they can look out on moving objects.”

“Abby, thru the kindness of her heart and the superabundance of pig, sent me a spare rib after the annual slaughter, and today it was on the table. I eat only the gravy thereof and tonight I am so nauseated and sick all over, that as I write my feet stand in hot mustard water. I shall never again eat of the flesh of swine, not even from Economy.”

“Frank did considerable picking up when he was at home and seemed light hearted – he dreaded to leave me alone, but I could see, was uneasy with nothing to do.”

“He promises to come home once before Christmas. Blackwell has said he is not ready to trade at present, and Frank thinks now he has no funds available to invest in real estate. Lucy Stone is in Ohio and will not be near here before 10th Dec. Frank tells me if B. shows a disposition towards further dickering to snub [sp?] him, which I now feel disposed to do.”

“Nell Gordon has written me she can come only for a visit and perhaps she is wise, so long as her mother lives. Angie was married in the school-room, the day after its close, before most of her pupils and looked very pretty I heard from all eye-witnesses – don’t you feel relieved that she now has a natural and unnatural protector whichever Mr. E. may prove himself. He has appeared sensible through out.”

“And now dear father, considering I feel [word unclear] and the hot water is getting cold, I will slip off to bed and ‘condense’ my letter. I am glad and relieved that you are safe in St. Louis – being out running across those red barbarians is no place for a gentleman and I felt more uneasy at that share in your business than I expected to, in that I did not realize would be your mission. Your long delightful letter I rec’d this morning. I am sorry you must leave St. Louis again and that long pleasant room, for uncertain quarters in Springfield. If mother has

accomplished her acclimation, I congratulate her – tell her I want to know, how many lbs. of [two words unclear] she has been carrying in that region of no shops, or if she has [word unclear] trying a hair tonic which has really produced the miraculous growth, to be seen on hair restoration bottles. – if she [word unclear] let me know the name.”

“I wrote you each Thursday – that is to-morrow. With love to her from your ever loving daughter, Ellen” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

[undated, c. 1870] Amos Tuck to Ellen French? “Be sure, daughter, to take ever so much love to yourself, remembering always how much solid comfort I have in you, how thankful I am for you, and how precious your dear love and tenderness are to me. May the good Lord ever have you in his keeping, and crown your life with every blessing and all happiness. Your loving father, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 December 1870: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Ellen French. “My dear Ellen: I have a moment to say I cannot go on this week though I hope to soon an often during your widowhood to do my share to cheer you up in your isolation.”

“Frank was a good man, bristling with virtue and intelligence, and could have spent many more years on earth a comfort to his family, a grace to his native town, and a profitable customer to his butcher.”

“But, alas! alas! ____ I find I am on the wrong track. Frank has only left town for a short time and is still alive. You must bear up as well as you can, for the winter will soon be over and Providence will soon do for us what she has often done before, that is, offer some unexpected relief, I am sure.”

“I am going to the Dartmouth Alumni dinner to-night. Frank will perhaps go to Brooklyn to call.”

“Will write again soon – your loving brother Ned”

[Marginal note in another hand, perhaps Amos Tuck French] “E.T. and F.O.F. lived together in bachelor quarters in N.Y. during the winter of 1870-1”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

4 December 1870: Amos Tuck (Letterhead: South Pacific Railroad Company, Land Department, N.E Corner Sixth and Walnut Streets. Letter superscript: North Springfield Mo) to “My dear children: We have just returned from religious services in a schoolhouse in this town, built up, (the town), within a year. The services, including at first a Sunday school of 75 pupils, was conducted by a Mr. Harwood, one of three brothers from Vermont who are the leading men in the new place. He is a Minister of the orthodox Congregational stripe, but not distinguishable in his preaching from Dr. Elliott, or any good worker, intent upon doing good work. I feel like preaching a sermon to you, whom I love so well, whenever I hear a good sermon, and his to-day was a good practical discourse. But you regard sermons, so called, as dull affairs, and so do I, and most other people, and therefore I must not give you ‘one of father’s sermons.’ I know, as

well as you, some very doubtful practitioners of piety, when their lives get deranged, or their consciences get bilious, fall to preaching sentimental religion, as an opiate to their own consciousness of sin. But you will allow me to say, that I am never in a state of mind when I do not prefer that each of you, and all of you should secure a good heart, in the sight of God, - that is, a good character, which is religion, - to any other possession. The object of life, other than that of necessary subsistence, is to perfect character, - to root out evil in thought, word and deed, and to engraft into our character the qualities of heart and mind, set forth and required in the teachings of our Lord and master Jesus Christ. I was greatly interested in an essay lately published by Dr. Elliott, upon the Bible in schools, wherein he states his willingness, for the sake of union and peace, to dispense with the use of the scriptures in public schools. He thinks religious teaching of the first importance, but he says it must necessarily be found in the family and Sabbath school, - mostly in the family. He said, incidentally, that the character and true quality of a person, is usually fixed at a very early period by the parents, - mostly by the mother. That afterwards instruction is of value, in proportion to the good or ill condition of the mind, as formed in the early period. Hence children not only are not dependent upon the imperfect, and generally repulsive bible instruction in common schools, but are full as well without it. Not to enlarge, I want to say, that if my children, who are so good and tender to me, should fail of gradually developing a satisfactory character, religiously, as well as in other respects, I could not satisfy myself that I had done all my duty, when you were young and tractable. So on my account, dear children, strive to ripen into good fruit, and to bring forth into abundant harvest, all the little good seed that was sowed in your dear hearts by your father or mother in your earliest days. I don't believe any body can dispense with the moral aid of at least one good sermon a week, nor can any one safely trust himself to a prayerless life, not invoking the spirit of God upon his own frail spirit every day of his life."

"We came here yesterday morning after a night upon the cars 241 miles long. We had a section, each, in a sleeping car, and consequently all the possible helps. It lasted from 4 P.M. to 8 A.M. I spent yesterday with our land agents here, in their office, and out examining lands on foot. I had healthy exercise and in consequence slept like a top last night. The hotel and food are satisfactory to your mother, and of course to me. The weather is agreeable, enabling us to have a window up, occasionally, though we have a fire in our room. My acquaintance here will lead to a few calls on your mother while I am in one place and another on the Road this coming week, I hope she will find her stay agreeable. To-morrow I go to Peirce City, and may be gone two days, when I shall return here for a day. I shall then go where I am called, and she may go out with me to some other town on the line. The Road will be open to-morrow to Neosho 316 miles from St. Louis, being 25 miles farther than when I came to Missouri. It will stop then for some time. The travel, or rather the transportation over the Road is heavy, consisting of cattle sent to St. Louis from the grazing regions west, in Missouri, Arkansas, and Texas. Hogs are also sent in great numbers. Charles Tuck is here doing very well. Otis was sick, as I wrote you, when I left St. Louis, not able to go out of his room much. I rather expect my brother John to come here this with his family. It is no doubt healthy, for such as he, with weak lungs, though a

man at his age should not usually emigrate for any cause less than the hope of better health for himself or family. It is a clean, good, fruitful country, n and about Springfield. Land, however, is as high hereabout, as at Biddeford, and I doubt whether he can do on some other place on the Road, equally healthy.”

“Since I began this letter, we have taken a ride with Dr. Robinson and seen many fine residences, and much fine land. Your mother got tired and is now recumbent on the bed, while I close my letter as twilight closes in upon me. – My letters from the east are forwarded to me daily, and at 7 ½ each evening while we stay here, letters from our loved ones will be hoped for. I look out upon golden clouds above sunset, and taking them for signs of blessings from you, I close with assurance of love in which your mother joins, in looking again towards the beautiful western sky, ever remaining, your most affectionate father, Amos Tuck”

[At the end of the letter is drawn a circle with the following, in what appears to Edward Tuck’s handwriting: “This has started on ‘his’ rounds deux suissesses [?] Here endeth the first lesson. F.O.F. E.T.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 December 1870: Amos Tuck (North Springfield, MO) [Letterhead: South Pacific Railroad Company, Land Department, N.E. Corner Sixth and Walnut Streets) to Ellen French. “A short letter sometimes will be acceptable to you, when time does not allow a long one. So I will now write you. We are still here, not to return to St. Louis till about Sat. 17th inst., I think. Your mother survives very well here, while I radiate in different directions. I perfectly well, but your mother’s health has not been as well as it has been. The weather is pleasant and warm, except the nights, when it infuses [sp?] some. Mr. Peirce has just opened the Road 24 miles further on, and he has come back here to do some business with me and others here. To-night he goes to St. Louis.”

“I was sorry to learn that Amos was sick, and that you had to write me, with your feet in hot water. I shall not feel quite easy till I know you are both well. I should perhaps try to advise you, of sundry of your affairs, but at this distance, I so imperfectly understand the situation that I cannot I think I ought to form even an opinion. So, as to Blackmer, going to Washington, having Company etc. I show myself incompetent to say a word. However, believe I am interested in every item of your life, and was never more anxious for you happiness, or more your loving father Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “With love to Amos and Bessy, in all which your mother setting by joins.”
[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]]

12 December 1870: Amos Tuck (North Springfield, MO) to Charles H. Chapin, 223 Chestnut St., St. Louis. “Dear sir: Accept my thanks for your cordial invitation to attend the 2nd annual reunion in St. Louis of the Alumni of Dartmouth College. Until today I have hoped to enjoy the pleasure of being present on the occasion, but now apprehend being deprived of that pleasure.”

I graduated from Dartmouth thirty five years ago, and shall be obliged to acquiesce in the inference that I must be at least fifty five years of age. I shall deny, however, the logic of any

inference that I am too old to emigrate if I please to the third largest city of the Union. Or too old to do it, mainly from love of activity, quickened by the pleasure of seeing things go ahead, and by the conviction that no man, capable of useful action, has the right to sit down and do nothing. I hardly know whether to count myself a resident of your city or not, having yet one home at the east, while tempting others to take new homes in Southwest Missouri, persuading myself in the meantime that this is too good a state to go away from; however, if you will allow me, I will for the evening count myself one of you, a citizen of St. Louis, entitled to all the privileges incident thereto.”

“I enjoy, with you, the pleasure of looking back at our Alma Mater, and seeing her in a high state of prosperity. She has a capable and highly esteemed faculty, always the chief and indispensable requisite of a successful literary institution, and a Board of Trustees somewhat impressed with that important duty of Trustees, not always observed, of letting the Faculty alone sufficiently to allow them to build up their own reputation, and the reputation of the institution with which they are connected. The Trustees of Dartmouth College, I believe, have been changed within a year, by substituting younger men for some of the older men lately on the Board. I remember some of the Trustees of last year were Trustees when I entered college, of venerable age even then, were trustees during many years after, while I was associated with them, and that with ability still to do and dare for the College, or rather to dignify the College, they held their places in 1869, with a good show for immortal life. While I am prepared to combat any man, who says he can organize a better board of gentlemen, than the late Trustees of the College, I refuse to take issue against that large majority of graduates who favored the introduction a long time ago of younger blood; and on the whole I congratulate the friends of the College upon the present organization of the institution.”

“You perceive I write under a bias in favor of old gentlemen, and I confess a growing interest in their behalf. May it not be well for their encouragement, since we are all young and vigorous, to adopt for their encouragement a sentiment something like the following: Health and long life to old men with young hearts.”

“Respectfully and fraternally yours, Amos Tuck”

[Marginal note on the back, perhaps for Ned Tuck] “This is nearly a copy of a letter I sent to the Alumni people in St. Louis. I only send it for fun, not thinking it amounts to much. A. Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

15 December 1870: Tuck advertises in the Edwardsville Intelligencer (Edwardsville, IL) the sale of land in southwest Missouri by the Atlantic & Pacific Rail Road. Gives his address as 523 Walnut St., St. Louis, MO.

18 December 1870: Amos Tuck (South Pacific Railroad letterhead, St. Louis, MO) to Ellen French. As you are mostly separate from the members of the old family, I will give you a portion of this Sunday eve., while your mother sits on the opposite side of the table, reading the Atlantic, which Dr. Randolph just bro’t in for her perusal. You know that Dr. R. is Ned’s friend

whom he recommended as a clerk in my office, who boards at this house and whom I find very agreeable in the office and out. We have a good blazing fire of soft coal, and I think you would consider us a cozy 'group', if you could look in and down upon us at this moment. On cross-examination, however, I should be obliged to confess, I had heard this day unsaintly imprecations sound out from a female's mouth, not far from my bed and board, upon the soot and mud and filth, and sick, of this city of St. Louis. She said she adored Exeter, in comparison, it was so clean. I laughed and grew fat till the climax was reached, and then was subdued, penitent, sympathizing etc. etc., which has resulted in the re-instatement of St. Louis, (and myself), in good and regular standing."

"It has been disagreeable weather for some days, and nothing but business has kept me entirely free from bad effects from it. Your mother has suffered some, is not as well as usual, and cannot be expected to be, without a little medicine, with a little improvement in the weather. This morning I left her, to go to church, under conviction of mind, that St.-Louis was not heaven. I returned about one o'clock, with beaming face, as she said, and announced I had five pleasant communications to make. 1st that Nat. Gordon, the corrupter of morals, had been defeated in N.H.; 2nd that I had bought her a box of Mandrake Pills; 3rd that I had a letter from Mr. Chickering in Washington; 4th that I had bo't her a bottle of bay rum, to make her hands just what she would like in spite of St. Louis's water and 5th that I had a letter for her from Mrs. Long. All of these things were too much for her blues, and she has since been content with herself and the rest of mankind. Mr. Chickering is in high tide of prosperity, having to work 4 hours a day only, for 5 days in the week, preaching on Sundays in satisfactory pulpits as satisfactory prices, and enjoying friends and acquaintances, and lectures and society, as he probably never before had any idea of. I rejoice in his wonderful good luck, in getting out of Exeter into so excellent a situation, so well adapted to him. Mrs. Long's letter to your mother was very cordial, and convincing on the point that some people in Exeter have less resources and satisfaction with the town since we left than they had before. She says Mrs. Gorham is really getting to be herself again, under the nursing and tenderness of Mrs. Hersey [sp?]."

"I am getting along in every respect excellently well in my office, having every reason to be content with the apparent appreciation of my services. My health is as good as it ever was, and I feel that I have on all sides occasion for thankfulness, such as few others have. Look at my children – are they not good, loving and lovely? Is not their merit, including my sons-in-law, well rewarded, in comparison with any other family? May I not reasonably hope for their continue welfare, and a line of behavior from them that will ensure future well being? I think so, and therefore I thank God and take courage. Be assured how much I think about you, and what a comfort you are to me. Your letters are a delight to me and your mother, and so are Ned's and Abby's. I shall think of you as together next week, 24th, and 25th, and shall imagine you to be very happy. Believe me to be present in spirit, and to be a rejoicing observer of all your enjoyments. Present Mrs. B.B. French with our kind regards, and assurances of pleasure in knowing she is with you. I hope you will be able to accept her kin invitation to return with her to Washington."

“Just before tea, we called on Sarah Dearborn, finding her, her husband, Sam and Mr. Gill busy moving books and setting things up. They are pretty well agoing, in a fine little house, in a pleasant part of the city, with rent at \$85 a month. They are happy, and glad of their coming here. They spent last evening at our rooms. I have been out of the city so much our acquaintances have not multiplied, yet they are steadily on the increase, and soon we shall have all we can attend to. I think you know I have been designated by the Railroad Company, and recognized at Washington, as authorized to negotiate with some Indian tribes on the west border of Missouri, for a right of way for the Road through their reservation. I shall meet them in Council, as soon as the government agent can get them together for the purpose, and shall then visit them for a week or two, and smoke with them the Pipe of Peace. They are the Chickasaws and Shawnees, are controlled by smart men, entirely harmless and get their living mainly by agriculture. They eat puppy soup, but I shall confine myself to other diet, and shall go in company, and be well protected in clothing. By the way, my overcoat from Boston is a perfect fit. Hoping and praying for you all, I am with love, in which your mother joins in assurances,
 “Your affectionate father, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

20 December 1870: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees’ meeting.

22 December 1870: Ellen French (Dorchester) to Amos Tuck. “My dear Papa, A merry Christmas to you. I hope some Yankee [word unclear] will ask you to sit down at a jolly Christmas dinner. Though so far apart, we can still be happy over the prosperity, which for a while we had thought had departed, and above all, we shall be thankful, that none is missing since a year ago. Wherever we are, let us all send up a prayer, that before the next Anniversary, we may some of us be taken away. I always dread a New Year, and this one, to our small flock promises changes.”

“I have been in buying a few small things for the children’s stockings. Mary Ellen went with me. We called on Judge Richardson, who is very urgent for Mary to sell her place and settle down at Edmund’s. This will be settled after Frank has come home and has talked it over. She is great company for me and so moderate in her tax upon larder and sociability, I hardly realize she is here, excepting for the companion she constantly is.”

“We met Henry French at Shreve’s buying a silver butter knife which I had no doubt was for Gail Hamilton to whom he had paid visit, spending the night, so he said, ‘only She, myself, and the kitchen girl in the house.’ Gail has just gone to housekeeping. Ask Ma to imagine herself left – alone a night that you might dally around [sp?] a literary lady –love and spend good money in butter knives for crafty maiden ladies who are capable of writing books on all subjects.”

“M. E. and I commented on Pamela’s state of mind when he should arrive tonight. This is confidential, not because H.F. wishes it to be, but because it looks scandalous, though no doubt in reality a kind of Paul and Virginia innocent friendship. ----- Frank and Ned are

expected Sat'y morning. Laura with them. Abby is happy – Frye will then possess \$650 for the last year, given in a surly[sp?] kind of way.”

“I enclose the scrip concerning the Academy, cut from the Ev'g Post. I hoped it would bring you on to settle the rebuilding, but afterwards thought you said you had resigned the Trusteeship - it came into my mind that you might be with no Christmas. They appeal to the Alumni for aid in the rebuilding. It must leave a melancholy gap in Front St.”

“Ned sent me a paper, having an account of the County Aids [sp?]. and a tribute to your eloquence which pleases us all. It is so great a comfort to feel that your efforts are applauded instead of being snarled at as in New England. Weren't you delighted that Mr. Small is ahead of N.Y.?”

“Mr. Blackwell has bought the Carter house for his Lucy to live in and I can have the luxury of calling upon her as a neighbor – they will enter the 1st of Jany.”

“The Hinkleys are on their way to Washington and we shall be almost alone in our neighborhood.”

“Frank is in excellent spirits – has been dining at [word unclear] Cookes, the Fahnestocks and Chandlers. Mrs. C. sent me her photograph a week ago. Frank will enjoy living in New York if we can get there – he doesn't seem to get hardened to living away from his family, unlike some of the rest of the Frenchs.”

“You will think of us all on Christmas day, my dear father, and be merry, for we are well and happy.”

“Write me when you have time. I am glad to see little scraps in your writing. When you are hurried, never feel that we are doubtful of your constant thoughtfulness. I have written Mother a long account of us within a week. All her letters are delightful. Don't eat any more apples for the sake of your loving daughter, Ellen” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

26 December 1870: Amos Tuck (South Pacific Railroad Company, St. Louis, MO) to Edward Tuck, Abby Frye and Ellen French [The letter is clearly written to Ned, with Abby and Ellen added later, in different ink.]. “At this present writing, 4 ½ o'clock in St. Louis, 6 o'clock in Boston, - I imagine you in Boston, sitting with Abby, Ellen, Frank and Mr. Frye, at the festal board of the latter in Temple Place, enjoying yourself with them, as you are wont to enjoy yourself, when in such company, that is in the company of the rest of your father's children, who love you so much, and are so proud of you, and in company of the husbands of your sisters, who have so many agreeable traits and estimable traits to attach you to them, on such an occasion. Now this manner of stating the case is not a fling at your and their festive tendencies, but is purely accidental, and I now see I ought to have put in the words, on such an occasion, farther forward in that long sentence. However I think of you as all together in one place, hale and hearty, with the children, more or less of them about you, as garnishers of the occasion. The Lord bless you all, and grant that whether you decided to pass the day with Abby and family in Boston, or made some other arrangement for Monday, wherever you and they all may be, you

may all be in peace, happiness and in the line of duty, and that to-night you may, with Frank, be safely conveyed, by land or water, (the former I hope), back to New York.”

“It has been a desperate cold week, for the six or seven days past, and to-day the thermometer is not much above zero. It is undesirable to travel much in such intense cold, as all machinery is more brittle and fire and water more frightful than at any other time. I think you all ought to have been happy at this Christmas gathering. Mr. Frye, as I understand, is free from some alarming symptoms he had a year or two ago, has lately made a gratifying change in his residence, and brought Tom Nelson to him [sp?] on an allowance to the children, while his own business is decidedly prosperous; Frank has got installed in a position gratifying to his pride and dignity, and promising, to a high degree, in future prospects, as well as satisfactory in present pay, - a position worth more than his losses the past year, to secure, and in fact, worth all the years since he left College, to become qualified to fill, and to obtain; and you [Ned] are on the eve of a partnership, which, notwithstanding draw backs, marks a degree of success, take it all in all, greater than has been achieved by any of your co-evals, with whom you have been thrown since you have been a small boy. And you deserve it so richly, as do Mr. Frye and French, what has occurred to them. How happy, and how thankful, ought three such fellows, and their wives, (alas for one of them, for having no wife), to have been at this Christmas gathering. I have thought of you all with pride, and of course the greatest pleasure. The girls have written of your promotion to a partnership with great exultation. It was not such a surprise to me as to them, for I saw it must come, and was coming, with full consent of all concerned. They estimate the material results pretty large, possibly larger than will be realized, till some time after the war is over. But taking a long view of affairs they do not over-estimate the movement in your affairs. It is not success in money only, but in development, acquisition of position, development of reliable qualities, and honor, upon which the world may rely, for which I so much rejoice, and am so thankful in your case. I look over the list of the most promising men you met in College, - tutor Duncan and tutor Field, and all, - and I would not give my Ned’s success, with his accomplishments, for that of any of them. In truth what a humble product is illustrated in case of most of your acquaintances! I will not omit, before letting go of this protracted subject, one occasion of pleasure to you at your late meeting, not yet mentioned. I know you look upon me, in my late movements, as having begun to be young again, and to have become almost a brother in years, no less than the old father I have always been, and that this feeling on your part has probably relieved you all from unpleasant thoughts of my growing old, or uncomfortably inactive, and given you new pleasure in thinking of me. I seem to you to be setting out in the world, and setting out well, receiving for my services that round sum, which is getting to be the minimum ‘received in our family,’ large as that may appear to most other people. Well, I am willing that you should be happy over this, for occupation and the pay for occupation give me pleasure too. On the whole, let us rejoice and be thankful for all our blessings and let us show our gratitude by efforts to be more careful to avoid all disobedience of our Heavenly Father’s will, who is the father, surely, of all our blessings.”

“Yesterday, Sunday, I did not go to church, it was so cold, and besides I had, what Geo Gad [sp?] called a little touch of the swamp disease, so I lounged upon the sofa, read the Nation, called on Otis, and recuperated; on account of which I am to-day about well. The truth is, Missouri water is not clean, and Nature has occasionally to throw off the dirt, by special effort, until one gets acclimated, which I am doing with benefit. Your mother is not apt to worship, when I do not, and so she staid at home likewise. Our fellow boarders are agreeable people, and we are on the best of terms with them all. In this respect, we have been fortunate, and shall have no loneliness for want of companionship, when we hanker after society. Our living (table) is abundantly good, turkeys, prairie chickens et cetera we have in almost tedious abundance.”

“I have no expectation that my Indians will be got together, till the weather is milder. There is now a depth of 8 inches of snow, and they will not assemble till it disappears. Then, D.V. [God willing?], I shall repair to their council and make the acquaintance [of] the ‘noble’ and the ignoble Indian – more the latter than the former, no doubt. But I know Col. Mitchell, their agent, and I have faith in success. My occupation continues equally satisfactory as heretofore, and my labors less continuous, since the snow came. It is growing milder, and people expect the snow to disappear. It has already been good sleighing for a week or more.”

“John Dearborn is getting along very well. I wrote Stephen a day or two since that John Hatch George better not think of buying Frank’s place, for no man could get it for less than \$18,000, it being worth \$20,000, to which the price might soon be raised; especially as I was not sure it was not the best place in the world for the Tucks to own together, - as common pasturage for the crowd. Your most affectionate father, and your mother sending much love also, Amos Tuck”

[Marginal notes] “Your mother says, ask him if he got the Box in Boston and if he likes it.”

“Let this letter go the rounds, for I shall not be able to write to the girls in a few days to come. I shall expect to hear from Frank, whether the coupons at Foote’s and at the other Bank have been got and sent to where I requested them.”

“With love to you all, your loving father A. Tuck”

“[P.S.] Otis is gradually wasting away. He may last till spring. I do all I can, and his brother is very kind to him. He is in the best place possible for him, and he thinks so. He has not yet given up hope, but says nothing about his prospects.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1871

2 January 1871: Edward Tuck appointed as partner in Paris, London and New York branches of the John Munroe & Co. after John Munroe, Sr. dies. [TFP Box 7, Folder 2]

5 January 1871: Ellen Tuck (Dorchester) to Catherine P. Tuck. “My Dear Ma, Christmas and New Year’s are days of the past, and we are safely begun on ’71. At this end of the long miles between us, we are doing well. Mary Ellen returned from Concord yesterday, cheerful in mind.

Today I have been to the dentists and to make some preparation for going back to Washington with M.E. on the 16th. The children are well and every thing seems favorable to our going. [Word unclear] gained the opinion of my distant papa, 'who hopes I can go,' and of Ned also. Frank is talking of taking a trip for the Cookes to Montreal, and wants me to go too, which I cannot do if I go to Washington. If I should go, it would be irresistible and I would certainly come home with some seal skin. As the nearer one can get towards being completely enveloped in seal, the more satisfactory to the fashionable requirement [sp?], that is, up here. Laura has been here and to Exeter. She visited Nellie Stickney from Saty to Monday last, and was treated with great consideration by William and Frances – Nice tea, Saty, a lunch of oranges, buns, cake and cider for Sunday noon, and a late dinner. Laura called on all you would have wished her to and was received warmly. She sat in the family pew Sunday morning, sharing with a family of Titcombes and in the afternoon with Mrs. Long. The Academy is laid low. Laura was presented by Nell S. with a photograph of the building in a rustic frame made from scorched wood which all the girls secured in large or small bits, the day after the fire.”

“Laura thinks Annie Chadwick is getting fast and too experienced, but she longs for Exeter again, and hasn't so much ambition for Vassar now that she is located there. The fact is, Laura makes friends slowly and has not been in Vassar long enough to establish those long intimacies that are inevitable with school girls. Last night Laura took the 9 p.m.train with another of the scholars and is now at her studies again.”

“Abby is well, seems to enjoy her house, her mother Frye, and all about her. Now that T.N. [Tom Nelson?] untied the purse-strings, things look brighter.”

“Frank is happy and only laments he cannot have his family. He and Ned enjoy each other's society, but Ned, it seems since he became a partner, has decided to live on a larger scale of dignity, and has taken an elegant sky parlor [?] and bedroom, with another bachelor in the Hotel Brunswick – so Frank is left at 24th St.”

“New Year's Day in N.Y. was a busy one. Frank and Ned, arrayed in black, commence their list of calls at 12, met at every point with an elegant lunch. John Townsend's wife was dressed in light silk, a heavy gold necklace, diamond pin and ear-rings – quite imposing Frank writes, and surrounded by an indefinite number of [word unclear]. Frank was occupied a part of the day in directing the carpenter, who was at work, on his apartment in the basement of J.C. & Co.”

“I sent father the earliest Advertiser of the year – did he get it? Father's note came enclosing \$200 for medicine, which Tuesday I bought, and sent on its way. It or something else has helped Amos very much. He has been better the last ten days, than I can remember him in cold weather. We have had some snow, but no sleighing. The weather has not been very cold more than a day or two at a time, and the two furnaces have resisted that. My girls and John have all been marvels of angelic sweetness. Bruno is alone my domestic trial and he refuses to guard the place and deserves an effectual shooting.”

“Mr. Dearborn has not been to see me lately. Mr. Blackwell is ensconced on the hill and came out on the train behind me this afternoon. The house they bought is entirely old-fashioned

and out of repair – only a magnificent view to reconcile one to old paint and break neck stairways. You are very dainty in your contribution of news to us – it seems to me you write about once in three weeks – isn't it so? I had a delightful long letter from father via Ned. It was passed on to Abby. Last Sunday I spent half the day in filing all my correspondence for the past year. It made back and eyes ache, but was satisfactorily concluded.”

“So you are getting acquainted with the table-folk and enjoying them. I am glad you have nice game even in a surfeit and I wish you could have either our well or our cider barrel at your disposal. When will you get used to drinking muddy water – haven't you been trying long enough now to learn to love it, and still poor father of suffering from it one Sunday. I am sorry for this if there really is no hope for him. Laura went into the house and found every thing as it should be. The papers state that scarlet fever is carrying all before it in Exeter. I had intended to send for Nell Gordon, but have decided to wait till the pestilence is past. I can run no risks in scarlet fever.”

“Dr. Soule jumped with [word unclear] and hid his head from the sight of his beloved Academy in flames and is hardly over the shock to his senses. Laura said Mrs. Gorham looked very old and haggard, but was taking a hand at whist as of old. Now good bye and write me another long letter of details. Kiss my dear papa and tell him not to worry over our possible ailments. We seem all flourishing both physically and financially. When is father going to W. I would like to know by next mail and I feel relieved that the Chicks and Pawnees are snowed up. Give my love to Sarah D. if called for to Annie M. Mrs. Stearns said she had rec'd some delightful letters from you, and I believe you write more to her than to us. I want to hear if that medicine went safely by mail and its effect. I hope you are both well now and perfectly happy. Do you have much call to [two words unclear]? With much love to father, your affectionate daughter Ellen.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 January 1871: Edward Tuck (New York) to Ellen French. “My dear sister, Your congratulatory letter of Jan 2nd I receive yesterday and was as welcome as your letters always are. Thank you for the exaggerated but affectionate pride you take in seeing my name elsewhere than (as in the past) in the Police Gazette. It has actually been quite gratifying to me to receive congratulations from acquaintances in whom I had no claim for sympathy, as well as from friends and indulgent relatives.”

“John Gardner wrote me, even he, from the snow banks and desolation of Exeter ‘where spiteful Squamsquot bear nips the neighbor unaware.’”

“Frank wrote you yesterday of my ‘folly.’ I have taken in connection with one Dunning, a Cambridge man, now in exchange business, a suite of rooms at the mast head of the ‘Hotel Brunswick’ n.e. corner 5th Av. and 26th st., a new place built on the European plan, in flats (not for flats) with a steam elevator, restaurant in la carte below, with a view of the heights of Hoboken on one side and the East river on the other, the tops of the houses on both sides with air and light enough to make a man pureminded and long lived. The sketch of the rooms is about thus: [floor plan of the 25th story with his suite at one end of the corridor.] From which you see

that at the end of the passage we open into our private vestibule, connecting with private bath room, parlor and separate bed rooms, for each of which latter there is a large closet and hot and cold water.”

“How I wish you were here to help me buy my furniture. Would you enjoy it? We shall have to move in next week and so are forced to begin buying at once. The carpets we have selected - \$1.75 pr. yard body [sp?] brussels. Dunning has a piano and [word unclear] furniture of his own, but I shall finish my own bedroom.”

“The rooms were in demand, hence our sudden and unexpected decision to take them, before the chance was lost. The occasion was a rare one, though the price is not cheap. I am sorry to lose sight of Frank as I shall, in a measure, though after he gets into the Club, probably next week, we shall be almost as much together as before. My new rooms are nearer by half to the Club than the old.”

“Take care of your back. You must resist your natural inclination to be imprudent and lie in bed as much as you can.”

“As you are to be here soon, had I not better expect to see you here before I go there? Show this letter to Abby to whom many messages of love, Your brother Ned”

[Marginal comment at head of the letter.] “I am glad Mrs. French has by this time returned to you my kind regards.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

6 January 1871: Tuck advertises in the Wyoming (Iowa) *Journal* that he is selling land in southwestern Missouri on behalf of the Atlantic & Pacific Rail Road. Gives his address as 523 Walnut St., St. Louis, MO.

9 January 1871: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Ellen French. “My Dear Sister, Frank tells me your back is troubling you and I am afraid you are not taking proper rest and care of yourself.”

“I am very sorry you have had this contre-temps for I fear its effects may be of a lasting kind and deprive you for the present at least of the blessing of blooming health and strength that you have been enjoying for so many years.”

“I wish I could do something to relieve you or give you comfort beyond your present supplies. Do take rest and lie back on your back if need be.”

“It seems to me you will not at once be in a condition to come to NY and trot about for 2 or 3 days, though I want you to as soon as you have necessary strength.”

“I have ordered ‘lambrekins’ (a new name for me) of green reps with gold trimmings, matching our carpet, for my windows. Also a bedstead and ‘chiffonier’, which last is a gentleman’s bureau, high and without mirror. John Townsend has given me a handsome shaving stand (\$35). These things I have got toward my furnishing. There remains chair and sofa. Bookcase and piano (neither of us play, thank heaven) are furnished by Dunning. I hope to move in this week, and when you come will be ready with the elevator to hoist you aloft and show you the rising and setting sun.”

“I had a good letter from Abby on Saturday which was doubly welcome, being a rare as well as precious favor. Thank Bessy for love contained in her letter to her papa and give her much from me as well as to her cadet and protégé Amos.”

“Take care of yourself as you ought, be lazy and eschew work, are the prayer of your affectionate Brother Ned” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

19 January 1871: Ellen French (Washington) to Amos Tuck. “My dear father, We are here safely, with no outbreak from Amos, who was transported as easily as Bess. We attempted to get started Monday, by the 8.30 from Boston – John laid in bed to begin with, and a combination of accidents, compelled us to go back to Dorchester, where we had beds and food, but no clothing excepting ‘duds’ to sleep in at night. We went back in a pouring rain and such fog as I have heard of, never before seen.”

“Sunday at 7.19, we left Harrison Square in good order, the children happy and well. We had a compartment and a good lunch to refresh us by the way. The day was bright, the children occupied all the compartments in succession before reaching N.Y.”

“Frank and Ned, with Mary Wells, to take Mary Ellen to Brooklyn, were there to meet us. We separated parties at once, the two M’s getting into a car, while the rest of us walked over to Hotel Brunswick. The elevator being out of order, we ascended by degrees 110 steps to Ned’s celestial abode.”

“At the end of a corridor, Ned unlocked a door, and we went in to a small hall, on one side the two sleeping rooms, thrown [sp?] open and illuminated, and opposite with folding-doors opened, was the drawing room, where a home-like coal fire burned, elegant gilt chandeliers, a handsome broad library table in the center, ornamented by the marble nik-stand [sp?], [which] his sister Ellen gave him, and the costly book rack from Mrs. Chandler. At one end of the room opposite the fire were two low book-cases of expensive make and on these many pictures. The chairs are easy and upholstered in green – on the mantel are the candle sticks Mrs. C. gave him, Abby’s cologne bottles and some little carving as a centre piece. I wished I could give him as handsome a clock as he did me but the fact is, that son and brother is becoming so opulent, and his surroundings so elegant, that nothing but love seems valuable enough. The windows were trimmed with green lambrequins, likewise the mantel and the small shelf over the steam radiator.”

“Then we looked into the bathroom, opening from the hall, and opposite the corridor door. Ned’s bedroom is the larger of the two, about as wide as my library but some longer. In it was a half-single, half double bed with high, square head board, a chiffonier, nearly as tall as myself, comprising a set of drawers in elegant wood. The shaving –stand which John Townsend presented, stood in the recess of the deep window and is very handsome. Outside the window is a fire escape, where one who had lost his reason over a close fire and thick smoke might feel willing to try and save himself.”

“The two stair-cases would be a better way and I cannot imagine how they, Ned and Dunning, could be entirely cut off from the fire. There is also a fireplace in the bedroom. The

washstand is in the closet, which is ample and the shelves had been curtained and covered with linen napkins as daintily as if he had married an old maid and she had superintended the whole process. The glove box mother sent was on the chiffonier, put to its natural use.”

“Ned was so proud to show his rooms and so please at the suggestions we made, I would not have missed the opportunity to be there. We hovered around the fire a while then leaving Ned to join us in a half hour, went over to the Albemarle to prepare for our supper.”

“We invited Ned of course, the children after eating moderately went up to our room quietly and left us to finish. Frank wants me to go back in a fortnight to be at the Albemarle four or five days and be introduced to the Cookes and other people he is picking up every day.”

“Ned left us at ten o’clk and I bade him good bye. We had to be up at 6 o’clk and after a good breakfast we started at ¼ of 8 for Jersey City where Mary Ellen was. There we found Mrs. Underhill’s son Arthur, his wife and some friends from Buffalo, and taking us altogether we occupied a large portion of the drawing-room car. Our journey was not as pleasant as the day before – we had a headache apiece and were glad to get here.”

“All the relatives came in last night and I had only time to write Frank a note before going to bed.”

“Why doesn’t Mother write? It was early in the winter that she wrote to any of us. Perhaps Abby has a letter by this time, while it is [word unclear] than doubtful if I can see. [?]”

“I read by the papers that Chicago is buried in snow. I hope you escaped it – the ground here is [word unclear], the sun bright, and all the way on, it seemed very little like midwinter. Saturday and Sunday were warm enough to sit by the open windows. I left the house resolved not to worry. Johnny has been overworked and was not well – still not sick enough to be anxious about. I gave orders for him not to go out but a few times while I am gone. Salters [?] was bewitching but could neither be packed nor carried and I left him to Julia’s tender mercies.”

“Amos has not been sick for six weeks and shows no signs of weakness. He has been out all day with Margaret’s boys. I have had a second invitation to visit the Fahnestocks, Frank is in love with New York and bound up in his work. I still think I cannot live in the city for a few years and shall beg Frank to look up a place in the country on the Hudson in some accessible spot if it can be found. Write me another long letter and ask Mother to give me some gossip. I shall hope suddenly to see you [word unclear]. Mary Ellen says you must come right here – she shall be only too happy to have you. Mr. Patterson was the first man I met when we came here from the depot. We hope Ned will come on while I am here.”

“With much love to yourself and Mother, your loving daughter Ellen” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

21 January 1871: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. Ned thanks Amos for the gift of a \$75 chiffonier. Acknowledges Amos’ thanks for the wine and notes that Amos has probably already discovered that western water “loosens the bowels.” Jokes about drinking. Ned is making more social calls than usual. Called on Richard D. Kimball and family and asked Amos’ opinion of them. Also, a reception at Mrs. Whitehead’s. [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

23 January 1871: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Ellen French. "I was very glad to get your letter of Saturday which seems to indicate contentment and moderate happiness. The milder climate and greater freedom from responsibility in Washington will I hope be a pleasant relief to you after your lonely and unwholesome winter in Dorchester – or beginning of winter."

"Father has written me of an attack of diarrhea. And I hear through outside sources that the Ind. Terr. Party was made up to a start last Wednesday, but father and Randolph remained behind on father's account. They were to start later."

"I do not know that we need to be worried about this, yet I am very sorry that father has these recurring attacks, and am doubtful about its being well for him to stay West late in the spring. He is so forgetful of restraint that he does not govern his appetites in the least when once in good order. Randolph writes back that he does not drink the water at all, not proposing to make an hour-glass of himself, which is philosophical and correct."

"Father writes that he wishes to present me with the chiffonière I am having made. This is very generous on his part and is quite an important addition to my room, which with the shaving stand also gratis relieve my furnishing expenses materially."

"Mrs. Townsend gave me last night a shoe-bag which I have nailed inside my closet-door and find a great economizer of room. The elevator now works and I am getting comfortable."

"Frank remains late at the office, but I hope will soon get out of that habit, as it is well that he should keep up his social acquaintance evenings with the Jaybirds families [i.e. the Cookes] and others. We breakfasted and lunched together yesterday and he started for Brooklyn in the P.M., I for the Townsends."

"It has begun to snow with apparent intention of giving us a foot of the raw material for consumption and manufacture into unclean ice according to the approved NY methods."

"Thank you for the project of making me something to hang over my basin, which I need and shall be grateful for. I suspect Mrs. Townsend is making me some pillow-spreads. Those good people take great interest in my domestic matters and are really meriting my everlasting gratitude. John is a whole-some man, and his wife is generous and cordial always to me, your step-mother to the contrary notwithstanding."

"Perhaps Frank will find business for the Jaybirds Washingtonward and thus be able to fetch you to NY soon. I want to see you here and will go on if you desire it and think it expedient."

"Your affectionate brother Ned"

[P.S.] "Though I would rather go toward Boston after you return East." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

28 January 1871: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Ellen French. "Your letter containing kind invitation of Mrs. French to visit Washington I received late yesterday afternoon. I had promised to go with a little party (*partie carrée*) to a Hebrew service at 5:30 last night and to dine out afterward, and had arranged for the H.C.'s [the Chandlers] to dine with me today – so that my going this week was pretty well cut off. Frank now expects (2:30 P.M.) to go himself to-night

and I have urged him to do so, thinking it practicable for him as well as pleasurable for both him and you.”

“Please thank Mrs. French for her cordial invitation which I should be glad to avail myself of if I was at liberty to do so. In addition to the reasons above for not going this week, I might add that our European mails did not arrive this week till last night and this morning, and they are the most important of our business at present.”

“Paris too is on the point of capitulation and I feel less inclined to absent myself than usual, and I could not well be away over 2 days, of which one a Sunday. Shall you not come on next week?”

“By all means I think you had better spend February in Washington (aside from your little visit here). It would be a horrid month in Dorchester, Amos would probably be sick, and you homesick.”

“You can in that way break up the monotony of your winter, and it will not seem long till spring comes and with it a buyer of your house.”

“Frank will tell you that he and I have dissipated in different directions all this week. I wanted him to dine with the Chandlers to-night, but he is too uncertain of his time to please himself to do so. And as I had a R.S.V.P. attachment to my verbal invitation he has said no. He must soon get sufficient control of his business to be able to dispatch it and be off, like other men who don’t consent to be drudges, else he will find a bad habit formed that will cut him off from the privileges of society which his present bachelor condition gives as the only recompense of its other disadvantages. You remember father’s illustration, ‘Why does a dog wag his tail?’ Because he is stronger than the tail, otherwise the tail would wag him. This is equally true of a man and his business.”

“I have a letter from father at North Spring. in which he says he is writing you. I hope he is well before this.”

“I had a good time at the U.L. [Union League?] Club ladies Reception on Thursday night but am now too hurried to tell you about it.”

“Your affectionate brother Ned” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 February 1871: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck (St. Louis?). He is glad Tuck is feeling better and advises him to boil the water before drinking it.

“Dunning some time ago invited the young ladies members of Mr. W[illiam] C[ullen] Bryant’s family, 4 in number, to come to our rooms to pass the evening, and last night they came. We showed them our parlor, bed-rooms, water closet etc. gave them some salad + oysters + champagne and had an agreeable evening.”

“To-night Frank and I expect Ellen from Washington. She will go to the Albemarle for 1 or 2 days, then to the Fahnestocks.”

Postscript: “We get no cable advice from our houses abroad. There are indications of a renewal of business but we are still doing but little. I have written Dr. Gorham business was too dull for me to contribute toward the P.E.A. fund.” [This refers to the impact of the Franco-Prussian War on international banking sector.] [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

2 February 1871: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees' meeting.

6 February 1871: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. Ned writes on fancy "T" letterhead. Ned and Ellen have received letters as late as 2 July. Glad to hear Amos is better. "It is impossible for you to restrain sufficiently your physical activity, and you must be content to follow without question mother + the doctor's directives about keeping quiet."

"Yesterday we [Ellen] dined at T.P.T's [NFI]. In the evening I called on Lizzie Gardner who is visiting here. She sent her regards to you + mother. She wishes to return soon and see her friend Mrs. Morrell who has been under fire during the siege."

"Your good wishes regarding Paris business I appreciate. My expenses are quite large + I should take in sail if I thought there was to be no improvement this year."

Ned is glad to hear that Amos finds Randolph acceptable.

"I have been to see Tom Nelson to-day in regard to the quarterly payment for the children. He talks well enough + will I think allow reasonable extra expenses."

"Ellen is having a royal time. She is desirous to look at a house, but Frank feels (properly) that he can tell better in 8 months than now what sort of a house he can carry. Ellen could spend without exerting herself a presidential salary, and it seems as though Providence meant for her to be rich." [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

8 February 1871: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. He received Tuck's letter of 3 February (from St. Louis?) and is glad he is feeling better, but advises him against eating heavy food. "I hope you will be able to do all your business satisfactorily to yourself at Springfield without going often to St. Louis. But I wouldn't sacrifice comfort in any way – for it would be better to resign + return to the East preparatory to a European trip with mother."

"I think you could be of service to Munroe & Co. in Paris though at present we could not offer you \$6000 a year. Your suggestions to them would be of value." [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

9 February 1871: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. Ned received Amos's of the 5th. Glad he improves. "Otis's death I suppose you were quite prepared for."

"In regard to the Exeter Academy, I am in doubt what to say. As you wish to retain the Trusteeship, which is the most honorable place in the town, and this payment would relieve you of all future qualms of conscience, I am inclined to think you will always be glad of having given \$500 at the present moment when you will get some credit for it. Perhaps I had better give \$100 at the same time, in fact I will do so or \$50 if you think that will answer. In proportion to my means that amount would be fair, unless anything under \$100 would seem too small. I wrote the Doctor some time ago that our business had been so cut off that I could not give anything for the present."

"Since beginning this I have consulted Frank on this subject and he thinks you would feel better to make the donation availing yourself of the opportunity for writing a good letter."

Ned saw Ellen in Wall Street on her way to Washington.

“In regard to Randolph – You must weigh him in your own scales + not put him anywhere that he does not seem qualified to go.” He was reliable, but prefers books to business. “The war hurt many young men, and among them Randolph. He went to Paris, lived economically, as he has always done, but had no opportunity there or here to lay up money. I never could hear much about his father, but I think he may have lost money within a few years. No man should be trusted with the handling of a great deal of money, until he has been long tried. No man knows whether he is honest until he has tried. So that I think Randolph ought to have earned the confidence of everybody before he is put in a place as responsible as a cashier’s.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

20 February 1871: Edward Tuck (New York) to Amos Tuck. “Yours of 16th is at hand and it seems good to see your handwriting again with regularity. In so delightful a climate with horses and society I don’t see that you need anything to get up & well again soon. You must not work too hard. I think you have been working at the rate of \$25.00 a year. You could comfortably keep up a pressure of \$10 or \$12,000 (not however on \$6000) but what you have been doing was evidently too much....”

“Your gift to the Academy is generous, and I think you will never regret it, though the calls for money come in from all sides and are somewhat discouraging....”

“I would be glad to send you some whiskey but you are in the country where they make it and ought to get better than I can do here. Randolph is an excellent judge of the article.”

“I don’t intend to give the Academy anything at present – business is too bad – expenses too great....”

“I have spent for furniture a little over \$500. I have \$300 in bank. I have a large dentist’s bill impending. Education can’t count on me for the present. And any time you are flush and are suffering from a congested bank account I would be glad to have you anticipate the \$125 coming to me for interest April 1st from Merrick [Herrick?]....We have had quite a number of ladies up evenings entertaining them with ices and gateaux, so that the fame of our bachelor quarters has spread right and left. The girls are all delighted to visit us – under the charge of proper chaperones and dragons.”

“Frank and I dined yesterday at the Club and passed the evening at John Townshend’s. The Chandlers have the measles and I have had a good excuse to keep away till I get an answer from mother as to whether I have had them.”

“‘A german’ at the Bryants was a dance as mother could have told you. You say mother sends her love in the same breath that you ask ‘what is a german.’ As she knows so well what a German is I am persuaded you invented her affectionate message without consultation with her. Haven’t I caught you this time? Your affectionate son, Ned”

[Ps.] “Business feeble and weak still – I went to Church yesterday and week before – in fact I always do.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

21 February 1871: Ellen French (Washington) to Amos Tuck. "I write in some hurry to tell you Amos has been taken with scarlet fever, in a mild form – some sore throat. I have often thought of your prediction that this disorder might rid him of asthma. Coming in his seventh year, when his system is supposed to change, I am hopeful of its being a farewell to further trouble. He is cheerful, has a good appetite and I have left him by Mary Ellen's persuasion for two hours to go to the national hotel and see the tournament. So you may know he is not very sick. He was some confused and wild during the night and his throat is very sore. The Dr. is close by, Mary Ellen is devoted and we are all more comfortable than I should be at home where I should be shunned as pestilent, by all my friends for a month."

"Poor Amos was dreadfully disappointed that he couldn't see the Carnival – Bessy is enjoying it. It is mostly a show for children and nursery maids. I was at the National with Dr. and Mr. Chickering, the new choice of Mr. Sweet [sp?], they tell me is calculated to build up Church and Sewing Circle, Mrs. Sweet being particularly elect. I was glad to have a note from you yesterday written in as firm a hand as if you had forever signed off from water and diarrhea. I thought you seemed troubled about our spending our money. It would do you good to talk with Judge Richardson, who has firm faith in Jay Cooke, and urges Frank to prepare himself and by his ability to take the place of J.C. when he shall be either retired by choice or compulsion by death. Mr. Thomas in Philadelphia is the one Jay Cooke looks to, after his own demise, but before that time, Frank may have become conspicuous."

"Don't worry about Amos. I shall write every day or two. Scarlet fever has taken a mild form here this winter and with good care I have faith he will come out sound."

"I am sincerely thankful you are almost sure of being well. The pleasant weather, which has no doubt settled upon you, will take you out and grace your weak spots in a little time. This I shall pray for."

"I miss mother's frequent letters. Give my love to her and with a hug to you I am your affectionate daughter Ellen." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

23 February 1871: Ellen French (Washington) to Amos Tuck. "Amos' fever is still upon him, will all its phases, chills, itching and thirst. He eats very little. I think he is progressing safely. I hardly leave him an instant, as he is miserable the moment I leave the house. Of course his throat is very sore."

"Abby wrote me Sunday that the Fries are demoralized with colds and Delia is to leave some time in the future – nothing more tragical however, is good news [?]. I believe they are getting on well at Dorchester. I shall hardly be able to leave here before the 10th, not then, if the weather is anything but mild."

"Frank may come Saturday – it is never certain till he starts as the others take flight without warning and Frank unfortunately doesn't attend to domestic errands and can't be sent to Washington. The house is quite full but an exit is expected tomorrow of three."

"Judge Richardson is here with a promise from Gen Grant of a Court of Claims Judgeship – this is confidential."

“Have you heard from Angie since T.’s [sp?] death? Write me if she is particularly interested in the details of his sickness and how she is situated.”

“I have rec’d two letters from you and mother. No Laura.”

“Bessy is well, happy and good.”

Have you any pictures of your region by which my imagination may be aided in locating you? Do send any there may be on the top of a letter or such.”

I hope you are well now and enjoying a mild climate. We have yet a month of terrors before us. Mary Ellen sends her love to both of you. She often does and I omit to include it – in great hurry and with love to Ma, your affectionate daughter Ellen.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

23 February 1871: Amos Tuck (Atlantic and Pacific Railroad letterhead, Ozark House, North Springfield, MO) to Frank French. “I am greatly pleased with your letter just rec’d, especially where it dwells upon your relations and experiences with the Cooks. Please repeat, and tell me all, - your prospects, hopes etc.”

“You must not sell that house too quick. I feel that it will be in demand – it is such a paradise. How we all did enjoy it! My cautions about outgoings is of a piece with my fatherly anxieties generally. Yours aff – Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

4 March 1871: Amos Tuck (Ozark House, North Springfield, MO) to Ellen French. “Yesterday, Friday, I returned from Rolla, 128 miles from here, where I had gone Thursday, in company with yr. mother who in the same train came from St. Louis, where she went on Tuesday. She was necessarily weary, having been ‘tied up in a Riot’, in undue worriment about me, and with some, and with some business meeting at St. Louis, and would not believe till she saw me, that I was alive, much less that to all appearances I was well, which was the fact of my case. We were both weary on arrival, but now we are as good as new, and our most affectionate children need entertain no anxiety on our account. She will give you account of Sarah Dearborn and all she saw, heard and did in St. Louis. Yr. mother is perfectly content here, now that she has had another experience of the smoke and dirtiness of that city of muddy waters. Springfield has cleanliness to perfection, almost, and we are really, nicely situated at this House. I manage my business without affliction, and have as much reason to be pleased with my situation as I can be, while absent so far from those I love best. (Here take a kiss on your right cheek).”

“But I feel I am in the right place, if I would work, instead of idling away my life, and so I am content, thinking every day most tenderly of my dear ones at the east. (Here take another kiss on the other cheek). Salute the children most lovingly. Tell Amos that he never saw so many thousands of crows as there are here. They don’t do any damage and people don’t harm them. I rode close to many to-day, and they seemed almost as tame as hens. Get well Amos, and don’t be any crosser than you can help, for I have already formed the plan that you shall grow up to be one of the best boys to be found. Shall you write your name Amos Tuck French, or A. Tuck French, or Amos T. French. If you become the boy I expect you to be, I shall like to see it

written Amos Tuck French, but if you drink and smoke and chew, and spend your money foolishly, and won't work, and thus grieve your mother and father, which I don't have any idea you will do, then you can write it A.T. French. But I am persuaded you will be all right – Master Amos Tuck French.”

“Hulloa, Bessy, where are you, while I am talking to Amos? I can see you holding on to your mother, with your sandy (mild) locks and ruddy cheeks. Allow me to give you a salutation, (that means a kiss), and then you may run to your play. But stop a minute. When I go east, it seems to me I shall enjoy taking you by the hand, or as you are growing larger, on my arm, an going on a walk as we have sometimes one at Dorchester, and having one of our old fashioned, jolly talks. Now good bye, Bessy and Amos. To the mother I now turn, and with one kiss more, halfway between the other two, I subscribe myself her loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “Yr. mother sends love and with me cordial salutations to F. and family and the Chickerings.”

“P.S. Sunday P.M. I have just listened to your mother's letter, and you better read it before reading this.”

“P.S. I had no idea of going beyond Rolla, and your mother's fears about me were wholly groundless. When I met her at Rolla, she was the sick one and I was the stay and the staff, [as] a husband ought to be. In an hour, she became half recovered, and when she had ridden 128 miles further to Springfield, though very weary, was not half as bad as when I met her at 1 ½ o'clock at Rolla.”

“It is uncomfortably warm this P.M., and the roads are becoming entirely dry, while the green grass and flowers are starting up and out all around. Ned's letters are very cheering, and he seems going rapidly into the social whirlpool, from which he seemed to revolt until he became a partner in business. I hope and trust his business will again soon become profitable. Poor fellow, he has led all sorts of experiences in his day, and I pray that he may in the end triumph, as he so richly deserves, yr. Father.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

15 March 1871: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck (137 East Capitol St., Washington, DC). Telegram: “I sail Saturday bring Ellen.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

25 March 1871: Tuck attended PEA Trustees' meeting. Trustees agree on plans to rebuild academy building (burned down the previous year) and approved an architect. Building committee to supervise (Tuck was not on the committee). (pp. 428, PEA Trustees' minutes not to be used without permission of the PEA librarian)

1 April 1871: Edward Tuck (London) to Frank French. “I intend starting for Paris to-night @ 8:45 and ought to be there in 11 hours or so. The mails are stopped but Mr. Richards is there and I anticipate no trouble. I want to see him and may be of service. I take a passport duly viséd and shall turn back if I find myself in bad company. Several Americans start this evening with me. I shall probably go to Mr. Richards house at once.”

“You may not hear from me for some time but that will be natural enough and you will not wonder.”

“With affectionate remembrances to Ellen – in Temple St. – Yours, Edward Tuck”
[TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

11 April 1871: Catharine P. Tuck (North Springfield, MO) to Ellen French. “My Dear Nell, We rec’d two letters from you this morning, and as your father has gone to Neosho for the day, I will try and write you a few lines, altho’ it is too cold really to sit in my room long, having had my stove carried away during our hot spell last week. I think that was the cause of this cold snap! Last night seemed to me as cold as Jan. and ice formed quite thick I hear, but it cannot last cold.”

“I know by my own experience that you must feel very anxious to know just how your father is, and I am able to say that he is as well now as when he first returned, altho’ his confinement to office work while in St. Louis, and too much brain work since his return, was a damage to him. I use all the influence I have, (which I am sorry to say is not as much as it ought to be) to prevent such taxation, but nothing but experience and hardy that, will affect much. His bowels are improving much but his nerves are weak, and he might not write much or use his brain, and he is getting to see it himself, which is encouraging. He was feeling quite well yesterday, and this morning when he left. We have had John Gardner here, and he left feeling quite well satisfied with his trip we think. I am expecting your father back this P.M. and he will add a few lines to this hasty scroll. Mary, Mrs. Crane and I are passing the day in the parlour where there is a nice fire and a piano.”

“My shoes - or boots - are far too large. I sent to you, because your boots always fit me perfectly, and I thought you would fit them to your own foot, but no matter, I shall keep them until I go east, and then can exchange them at the same place. Unless your father comes and adds to this letter, I shall write more after tea. Affectionately, Mother.”

“Apr. 12, 1871. My very dear Ellen: I returned in good condition last night, and this morning I am writing to you at 7, to send by train at ½ past. I am willing to keep the house, but would rather sell at \$17000 than keep it. Yet say not so to outsiders. I shall ask \$20000 except of Mr. Taylor. If he does not take it, I shall want you to remain there without moving furniture as long as your convenience permits, as I shall try to sell or let, and the place will not look inviting when it is abandoned. But I shall not expect you to be tied down longer than you can comfortably arrange.”

“I wish Mr. Lewis would buy it even at \$17000 – or even Hatch George, though I believe it will bring more another year. I shall not allow it to annoy me. I saw Frank could not handle it, and of course the cause of me buying it was to be of service to you and him. I can handle it easier than he. I hope Mr. Taylor may hire or buy it.”

“We got to St. Louis to-morrow to stay a few days – at Mr. Peirce’s house; - I to meet a Committee of Directors, - your mother to do spring shopping.”

“As to my health you may conclude I am surely getting back all the strength I lost. I see improvement every week, and I know I feel better than I did in Boston. You and dear Abby too

may feel sure that I shall watch myself carefully and give up work, if I see that I am not certainly recovering my former vigor.”

“With love to Abby and her and your children, I am your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

14 April 1871: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. “I came here this morning by night train, and your mother comes to-night by day train, to go to Peirce’s to visit till Monday or Tuesday next. It is now 6 o’clock P.M. I have dined at P’s, taken a nap since and so well as to be able to report myself 50 per cent better than when I returned from the East. I am feeling altogether better than 2 days ago even. I had a good letter from Abby to-day. The arrangement about the House is satisfactory. Let the squirrel let. I was very glad you could and would accommodate the Taylors with the use of the furniture. Sarah Dearborn was [at] P’s at dinner, expecting to meet your mother to-day, as she thought of coming with me, but decided to come by day with the wife of the Asst. Superintendent. I do not hear from the dear boy Ned. How abominably the Paris rebels behave. I expect them to collapse within a week. In the meantime Ned cannot be busy in London, and will, I hope, be enjoying himself and getting new views of a new life there. What opportunities he has, and what occasion we have to be proud of him! Mary Rogers and Charles are pretty happy. (Peirce now comes in, and says let us go home). P. is as kind as a brother, as now, even coming to my bed to see that my clothes are all right, and offering all help, even when I don’t need any. To-morrow, I will write to dear Abby. In haste yr. loving father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 April 1871: *New York Times* reports a statement by the Atlantic & Pacific Rail Road countering an attack in the *New York World*, aimed at re-assuring holders of the rail road’s stock. Amos Tuck quoted on the current price of an acre. Principal investors in the company are F.B. Hayes, Isaac Rich, Uriel Crocker, Benjamin E. Bates [Johnson & Supple identify him as President of the National Bank of Commerce in Boston and Credit Mobilier investor in March 1865], Oliver Ames [partner with Oakes Ames in a North Easton, Mass. shovel and tool company who invested in Union Pacific shares: J & S has a lot on them], Jacob Sleeper (all of Boston); and Andrew V. Stout, Frederick Billings, Levi Parson, J. Seligman [who may have been a banker for the New York investors in the Frisco railroad] (of New York).

2 May 1871: Amos Tuck (Neosho, MO) to Ellen French. “I have been two days riding over the country in the Southwest, and have been into the Indian Territory. I have been perfectly well and almost wholly unfatigued. Eating sparingly seems to be the only condition, necessary to be observed to enjoy perfect health. I return to Spfld to-night. It is very agreeable to be in the saddle, and the thunder is first class. I do not hear that any body is ever killed, but it thunders as though every body was to be smashed.”

“I don’t think Ned could have sailed on Saturday last, judging from the tone of his last letter to me. He seemed to be in clover, but your mother thinks his pleasures are in business, not in love. How glad we shall be again to see the dear boy.”

“Yours in love to all, yr. father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

12 May 1871: Orin F. Frye (Office of Rand, Avery, & Frye, Printers, No. 3 Cornhill, Boston) to Edward Tuck. “Dear Ned: Your telegram is at hand, and I congratulate you, most heartily, on your safe return. We are all well here, and hope soon to have the pleasure of seeing you. I have been expecting to go to New York some time this month, but it is impossible for me now to name any particular time.”

“Tom’ has been seized with an unprecedented and unaccountable fit of decency, and wrote me a short note yesterday, promising to send the money due May 1, on the receipt of my acknowledgement to that effect, which of course I made quick. I expect to hear from him tomorrow or Monday. I am glad that you are thus relieved of the unpleasant ceremony of calling upon him. I suppose you will see Ellen in the course of a week or so. Please give my love to her and kin regards to Frank and all the family. Again expressing the hope that we may see you soon, I remain very truly yours O.F. Frye”

[Marginal note, probably by Amos Tuck French.] “he died within a month of this – on May 29th, 1871.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

22 May 1871: Ned (New York) to Tuck [Munroe NY letterhead]. “My dear father, I have yours from Springfield, and am glad that at last my letters begin to arrive.”

“We have news this morning by letter in regard to Mr. Richard’s death. He was taken Sat. P.M. as he and his family was on the point of leaving for Boulogne with a colic – a recurrence of the attack he had while I was there. He insisted on his family leaving, though the doctor said he must stay behind a day or two. He grew worse and died Monday night at 10:15. Mrs. Richards was sent for on is growing worse, but only arrived Wednesday morning. The family were still at Boulogne. It is hinted that it was perhaps the gout, that had attacked him internally.”

“I thought I wrote you that Mr. Hall sailed from here shortly (8 days) before my arrival to spend 2 or 3 weeks with Mrs. Munroe.”

“Thank you for your offer to come on, but I am glad you did not undertake the journey as nothing can be done at present. I think Mr. Chandler will go out by 1st July. I think I can do more for the business here than there, at least for a while.”

“As I sent on the little things by Randolph, shall I send the leather valise by express or hold on? I am sorry I telegraphed you C.O.D. on my arrival, as it must have been a rather heavy expense. I thought you might get it free.”

“I dined at Ellen’s last night. She is hearty, well, and cheerful and I haven’t heard her say a word of fatigue or over-exertion. She appears very happy and contented.”

“We shall not take in a new man with any less than \$100,000. Walker or Andrews have not the calibre. How would Corbin do for Paris? He has money and likes to receive and entertain. I think you would enjoy Paris and being about our office, but would you like the responsibility of business? I can foresee that in the future I am likely to be there off and on nearly every year.”

“Stone is not a liar, but his morals are bad. Dignified people don’t like him. But he may perhaps remain a year or so longer. I think with a good organization the house can soon do better than ever before, and has before it a grand future. Your affectionate son, Ned”

[Ps.] “I have written Uncle John. Mr. Washburne was present at Mr. R’s death. Mr. W. as also Mr. R. and Mrs. Munroe wished to be particularly remembered to you by me. I called on Mr. Washburne twice. Mr. Hall will arrive here about June 12th we think. Shall you be about here at that time. I close as I must write Miss Stell by this steamer.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

24 May 1871: Amos Tuck (North Springfield, MO) to Ellen French. “How shall I frame a letter so as to interest my dear daughter Ellen, and my dear boy Ned, and Frank and even Bessy and Amos? I know not, but here goes for telling a plain unvarnished tale.”

“I am well, emphatically well. I enjoy the snuffing of the fresh breeze, which comes freely to us over the thick foliage, and the wavering fields, green with wheat, oats and rye, as fully as I ever enjoyed it in my life. As I walk out with one and another, I cannot help exclaiming frequently, what a delightful, heavenly climate! No east wind, or the fragment of one is felt. No chilly sensation is ever experienced, even when we occasionally need an overcoat. I have always felt confidence in this climate and am sure it has had a good effect upon your mother as it has had on thousands besides. Yet disease and death come here, as elsewhere, though not as frequently, I believe. I saw yesterday, as I rode out with my excellent friend Dr. Robbenson, a little child very sick of pneumonia. This doctor is a noble, sensible, faithful, bright man. I have met but few men in my life I think more of. He has a hospitable house, a large house, with a large garden a large hearted wife and a full sized family of children. We were invited with a small company to his house a few nights since, where strawberries and the best of cream, and most genial friends made it extremely agreeable. Really it was a fine time. Strawberries as big as half of Amos’ fist, almost, made a full mouthful, or more, of nectar. How Bessy and Amos Tuck French would have enjoyed them, with the Doctor’s wide awake little girls. By the way, tell your children, that having seen considerably, of other people’s children, since I left N. England, I am of opinion that I would rather have Bessy French and A.T.F. to be very grand-children, than any other little boy and girl I have met with. Present them my love, and tell them Grandpa Tuck expects to have a gay old time with them in N. York, in a month or more hence.”

“S.W. Dearborn is here and inclined to stay, much to my satisfaction and hisen, as many people here say. He is inspired with the hope of gunning, and hears on all sides that when fall comes, there will be game enough. It is not lawful now to kill quails, and they are almost as tame as barn yard fowl. It seems wicked to kill them ever, when I see them in twos running

across the road, as I ride out. They mate early in spring and go off by couples, and raise from 12 to 18 each. Hundreds and thousands will be about this town very soon, but not large enough to take for 2 to 4 months. I [word unclear] D. by making him an agent to sell land, giving him a commission on sales. I am selling pretty largely.”

“At this house we have sufficient good people to render it agreeable – Charles Rogers’ brother, and Mr. Blanchard, his friend, treasurer of the Boston & Maine R.R. were here some days and were pleased, I think, with the greeting given them, and with the country. They were to call on Ned in N. York, on their return. I hope he saw them. We have had a new church built here, and having taken hold to help them some – yr. mother and I experience a great show of appreciation from the people.”

“I see the Mob in Paris are about exterminated. I shall be content to hear that the leaders have been shot or hung. Never have men with less cause, it seems to me, for their rebellion. I trust Ned has written feeling letters to Mrs. Richards. She is knocked on the head by her calamity, and no doubt feels, with Mr. Munroe, as well as her husband gone, that she can hardly bear up. I almost wish it had been so that Ned had delayed his visit so as to have helped the distressed family. I see no signs that Ned is deeply interested in any particular member of that family, but I know he is indebted to Mr. R. for something of his good reputation years ago in Paris, and I know he is not the man to forget a favor. Jog him, Ellen, if you think he needs it, in demonstrative expression of his sympathy. Some how or other, I can’t help apprehending that Ned will be sent for, to go to Europe, either by Mr. Hale, Mrs. Munroe, or Mrs. Richards. Who can counsel Mrs. R.? I know not, and of course I can not be expected to know.”

“Did you know that your Aunt Harriet is probably near her end of consumption? John so wrote me a letter a little while since. Write her a loving letter, - you and Ned. She has been a faithful, almost faultless person, and as she steps down into the River, we should assure her of our love. Do not recognize her hopeless state. She is not afraid to die, and John says she, and even he, is cheerful. John’s health is very precarious. He does little or no work.”

“My house has been painted, and is beautiful, I hear. I hope Jim will soon have Johnny there, as it will seem more like home for us to have our old equipment. May the Lord bless us, that we be allowed to enjoy much there this summer. Can we all be there much? I hope so, but have fears.”

“While I write I hear the Piano below, where is yr. mother, Mrs. Woodward and daughter – the latter a faultless girl of 21, (just the age for Ned), of the best breed of woman in the western country. But Ned is a floating character, and is never to be in love till after marriage. Then he will be a pattern lover and husband.”

“Let Frank write of his business, as does Ned of his – I have lost none of my interest in the consarns of either. With love to all, yr. most aff. father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 May: Orrin F. Frye, second husband of Abigail Tuck, dies in Boston. [Dow]

29 May 1871: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. “Dear father: I spent yesterday Sunday at Roslyn, Mr. Bryant’s home on Long Island. I hear by telegram from Boston that Mr. Frye is dying. I go to-day at 12 with Ellen....” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

3 June 1871: Amos Tuck to Willis Drummond (Office of Railroad Right of Way and Reclamation Office, General Land Office, Washington, D.C.). In answer to complaints by pre-existing squatters along the Atlantic & Pacific RR, Tuck asserted that the company was cancelling abandoned homestead claims or those with imperfect title in order to make up for deficiencies within the grant due to bonafide prior settlement. “The intent of the 1866 act, he said, was clearly that lands should be taken within the ten-mile limit of the primary grant when possible, rather than from the indemnity lands which were farther from the line and thus less valuable.” [Quote from p. 76 of The St. Louis – San Francisco Transcontinental Railroad: The Thirty-fifth Parallel Project, 1853 – 1890 by H. Craig Miner]

4 June 1871: Catharine P. Tuck (North Springfield, MO) to Edward Tuck and Ellen French. “Your father sent me this morning a truly comforting letter, written by you both, on Tuesday the 30th, the day after poor Mr. Frye’s death. It will indeed be a great consolation to Abby, in her sore bereavement, to know and feel – as she must – that she has always been a devoted, loving wife to him. I am very very glad that she felt able to acquiesce in her father’s remaining here until we shall go in for the summer, and I cannot thank you too much for being so considerate as to telegraph to that effect. I could not say a word, and did not, but I felt that such a journey at this time – thermometer 89 in the shade – together with the excitement to follow, would have been hazardous in the extreme, and it was a great relief [to] me when I rec’d his telegram from St. L. saying he should not go in immediately. He also telegraphed me to pack up all our things, and join him in St. L. not to return again to Springfield until our return in the Fall. Consequently, I went to work in great haste to get ready to leave, and until I rec’d word from him yesterday that I had better remain quiet here while it is so hot. I gave myself no time even to write to any of you. Now I shall probably wait until the middle or last of the week. I cannot at all realize that poor Mr. Frye is gone, and yet, I have thought for a long time that his life would be short.”

“You did not mention whether he had any realizing sense of his condition – probably not, as he was so constantly under the effects of ether. Poor Abby – her heart aches as it never ached before and with the constant strain on her nerves all thro’ that trying sickness. I am constantly fearing we may hear she has broken own herself. It is a comfort to know she has so many kind and sympathizing friends about her.”

“Jacob Rogers drew the picture rather strong when he spoke of your father as ‘healthy and robust looking’ – that could hardly be said, altho’ he is improving, or was before he went to St. L. last Monday: he always comes from there looking haggard and thin, and the heat is so intense since he went away, that I dare not believe him altho’ he writes me he is well. I want to join him as soon as I can, so as to keep him from the constant labour at his desk, and shall hasten him

home as soon as he can arrange affairs so as to be able to stay when he gets there. Mr. Peirce goes East with his family, leaving next Tuesday. Mrs. Peirce is quite miserable.”

“Mrs. Stearns writes me they think [of] closing their house for the summer [as] she is so worn out, and finds it so impossible to obtain good servants. I fear I shall have trouble too. I have written to Cousin Sarah but have no reply as yet.”

“I have been obliged to do my own dress-making this spring, so far as I have had any done, as there are no dressmakers to be trusted here; and at Saint Louis their prices are fearful. My silk is not made yet, but I shall have it done when I go there, I suppose – but I must close now, for I am to write to your father, and to Abby – poor child – tho’ I hardly know what to say to her – words are so cold at such a time – but as he says – she has much to live for yet, and I trust may have much happiness before her still. How does Mary take Mr. Frye’s death?”

“With love to children – I am most affectionate, Mother”

[Marginal note.] If Charles [word missing] should call upon you (for he pretends he is going east.) doubt him – for he has proved himself a contemptible fellow. Tho’ retaining an infinite amt. of assurance he speaks of you as Ed. Calls your father ‘Amos’ and addresses him as ‘Cousin.’” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

[Undated, June 1871?] Abby Tuck Nelson to Tuck. “Dear Father: I have been out and got everything that Laura needs according to Ellen’s own estimate and the list made out by her this morning. With the strictest economy I have only three dollars left. But she will not need another thing, except perhaps shoes till next winter, so I think, and Ellen thinks, we have done very well. I paid 67 cents for her stockings a pair, and 3.75 for her shoes and will give you a full list when I get [word unclear].”

“You will observe what Mr. F. says regarding my return to [word unclear] and Amy’s [sp.?]. I think all along he has been unwilling I should return, but has refrained from delicacy. If you think I had best do as he says, please send word to Mr. Bent tomorrow to that effect and thank him for waiting so long for me. They owe me one day’s pay, but if they think of it and offer you the money as they have waited so long for me, I think it would be dignified for you not to take it, but they may forget it.”

“Mr. Frye, I know, is in deep grief. I shall probably feel obliged to attend the funeral and hope you will go with me, as it would be very unpleasant for me to go alone. If you can see Mr. F. on Friday, and offer to do anything, I know he would appreciate it, though of course he would not consent to trouble you in any way. Keep the [two words unclear], dear father. Ellen is very comfortable. Doctor G. has been here. Did mother get the napkins [sp.?]? Your Daughter, Abby” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 3]

4 June 1871: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Edward Tuck. “I am still at St. Louis, and think I shall remain here most of the time till I leave for the east. Your mother is at Springfield and will remain there till she is nearly ready to go with Mr. Spaulding only a few days hence. She is in good health and so am I, notwithstanding the weather is so hot it is difficult to exist, unstrapped

of most of one's ordinary clothing. Few men at their business wear coat, vest or cravat. S.W. Dearborn came here from Springfield, where he is employed considerably, in one way and another, for the R. Road Company, and where he is content, if he has a profit in prospect, which he generally does. I am at his (John's) house, where I find myself comfortably established, making in some way those considerations appropriate for young men commencing, to receive their guests. I am busy all the time, but am master of the situation, and hence don't get worn out and shall not. I have concluded not to die of one's work. I shall avoid all provocations as [sp.?] fatal, or other diseases for I grow more and more aware how much better we can stand together, than after one and another had stepped out, for the broken circle to meet the labors and trials of life."

"I intend to go east in the course of a fortnight – I cannot tell the day of my leaving – and to go via N. York City, stopping a day or two only there, hurrying on to Boston, to give aid counsel and comfort, to Abby. I am afraid she will need me before I arrive."

"I think you may, if you think best, tell Abby at once, (it is better you should advise it than I), not to sign any paper or make any agreement till I come. I think it will not be necessary she should sign, even for administration. Mr. Frye owed me \$1500, as I wrote you, (I think), and Abby has a paper, signed by him in Exeter in the Bank. I want to be there as soon as I can, and shall lose no time in getting away. I shall be very tender of Mrs. Frye, and of the family ties of Abby with the family of Mr. Frye, they have all been so kind always to her, and they are really of noble and generous character."

"Give love to Frank and Ellen. You [word unclear] echo to my word 'courage,' and I know your fortitude and cheerful willingness to do your part of all duty. This I especially recognize in your suggestion, by possibility, of taking Abby with you to N. York. We will see. You must not be allowed to take too much burden, or receive too much damage to yourself, by this late event. Again I say, we will see. When you say there is 'fun ahead yet, 'I know you only mean, there is hope and happiness. I trust this is the case, and I feel hopeful and cheerful."

"Send me the number of Frank's House as I cannot find it, without a new direction."

"I do not write to Ellen or Abby to-day, and if you are near either of them let them read this, as written to them and to Frank. With great love to you all, yr. father, Amos Tuck."

[TFP, Box 2, Folder1]

8 June 1871: Edward Tuck writes condolence note to Julia Stell on the death of her friend Mr. Richards. (TFP Box 8, Folder1)

11 June 1871: Amos Tuck (Ozark House, North Springfield, MO.) to Frank French. "I think I shall without fail leave St. Louis on Thursday Eve. next, (Instead of Friday), by which I expect to arrive at your house in N.Y. by 1 to 2 o'clock on Saturday. I at first thought of leaving a day later. Mrs. Tuck may stay a few days longer than I with Ellen, as I think I will go along, on Monday after, to Boston. By the 1st of July, at farthest, - as much sooner as I can – I am thinking to open our house at Exeter. I refrain from marking out any course for dear, stricken Abby, till I

know her wishes, and your views. Ned wrote me of your kind conduct at Boston, and your great assistance. What appalling events come upon us! The shafts of death fly thickly, and one and another disappears in rapid succession beneath the surface. It makes the task of working for loving friends while they remain, more easy, and it serves to make our own departure more welcome, when loved objects pass in such numbers to the other side of the river.”

“I have had two letters from Abby, and have replied to them with the redoubled tenderness which I feel for her. I have had several from Ned – all consoling as he always is, and one from Ellen doing justice to her loving heart, and one from you, about Mr. F’s business, of the kindest character. I shall not probably write again to Ned or Ellen, and you will of course report this fact. I leave here for St. Louis to-morrow morning – Mrs. Tuck to follow Wednesday. Ned as well as you have spoken of the Washington Bonds – I gave no limit, as I wished to pack away \$2000 more at current prices, with the \$8000 [?] I have, and left it to you to secure them in your own way.”

“With love to Ned, to Ellen, and to your dear children, whom I really want to see very much, as well as you all, in which Mrs. Tuck especially desires to join....”

“P.S. I have written Abby of my contemplate departure on Thursday.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

13 June 1871: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Edward Tuck. “I arrived last night from Springfield. You mother will come to-morrow, (Wednesday) night, and Thursday we leave for [the] east.”

“The weather is cool – I hope it will continue. I travel with ease, I do it so much, but expect your mother to be fatigued.”

“We must keep Abby’s mind off the details of the past. She has been perfect as the wife of Mr. Frye, and purified by the fire of her great tribulation. She is a novel, true hearted woman, and this affliction shows her worthiness to be beyond that of most women. We will love and nurse her as a most beloved soul. She has given me a long letter of detail. I have written several to her, with no word except of sympathy and encouragement – of course not one word admitting the least pecuniary perplexity. Though I have a mortgage on his place, I have not made up my mind to record it. I shall act very tenderly towards Mrs. Frye, without great regard to money. We will go over the whole ground when I see you. I wish you could go on to Boston with me.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

20 June 1871: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees’ meeting.

15 July 1871: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. “In haste. My very dear Ellen: I wanted to get business off my hands here to-day, to go to-night to N. York, to enjoy the happiness of being with you to-morrow and Monday, but could not possibly get through. So, I stay till, probably, next Friday night, when I will go to return Monday night. I have been unable to write you oftener. Frank says you are indignant, (grieved?), that none of us write you. Our excuses are good, but doubt not our undying love, nor be grieved – I am anxious for your health. Frank, as I

think, better say to Taylor his only doubt is about taking as low as \$18000 even from him. It is worth \$20,000. Ever aff. A. Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

19 August 1871: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to the Second Parish of Exeter for \$1.00. The tract contained ¼ acre and was on the northwesterly side of Court Street and was the same tract conveyed to Tuck by Edmund James on 7 November 1867.

[Rockingham Register of Dees, Book 435, Page 127]

24 August 1871: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. “Your favor of the 22nd inst. enclosing [a] draft on Foote & French for \$2283.77 is rec’d and I have endorsed same and sent it to my clerk in St. Louis, F.F. Randolph, with directions to pay our proceeds to W.S. Thompson Esq. of Marshfield, on receiving for you \$2500 in Marshfield Bonds. I will tell Randolph to keep the Bonds in [the] R.R. safe till I arrive, with my own, and after that will decide how to get them safely and cheaply into your hands.”

“You have at Foote & French’s \$2500 in Rolla Bonds, which you can take when you go to Boston.”

“I expect to leave for St. Louis about a week from Saturday. Abby is still sick and detains me. I must come east again in a month or two. Hoping to see you, and often to hear from you.” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

[undated unaddressed note] Amos Tuck to ? “Abby is improving at Exeter, rapidly, but her spirit is low sometimes.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

17 September 1871: Amos Tuck (Ozark House, North Springfield, MO.) to Edward Tuck and Ellen French. “It is Sunday. I have been at church, hearing a young, well-educated man preach a good, sensible sermon, such as is indispensable to hear, once a week, if possible, to a well-regulated mind, so that we may not leave behind our moral and religious sentiment and culture, by too uninterrupted devotion to affairs, and to pleasure. I bear testimony to you, my children, of a natural necessity, in a wise living, to give a portion, at least, of each Sunday, to religious worship, and to self-examination and moral effort to keep ourselves loyal to conscience, and to God our Father.”

“Your mother has been afflicted two days by an affection of the bowels, caused by cold weather, or change of water, or eating too freely of grapes, but is to-day up, and at the hotel table, though feeling miserably. I took cold, through the weather change, now changed back to warmth, and am to-day, as usual, as sound as a brick.”

“I have been busy here for 5 days, but the last two, I have controlled my work, commanded the situation, and consequently have been able to be somewhat at leisure. Friday I took a walking hunt for a few miles, with Mr. Harewood, one of my agents, but killed nothing but two pigeons shot by me, and a rabbit shot by him. Yesterday I rode out 8 miles through the woods, and into Grand Prairie, partly to see some railroad tenants, and partly to investigate the

Prairie Chicken question, but returned without a shot, except one more pigeon, shot on the wing by me. I see that sport with a gun must come later in the season. As we came out of church to-day, a nice little rabbit ran out from the platform in front of the door. We have enough of these, but the fleas upon them at this time of the year, render them an inconvenient game to transport. By the way, it is discovered that fleas encountered in the cars were the cause of the most of the troubles your mother suffered en route here, first wholly attributed to mosquitoes.”

“Nothing could be desired of careful attention and cordial fellowship instance upon us here. Charles Rogers and Mary are no more kind than several others, and we want nothing in the way of pleasant friends. The living is of excellent hotel character and except that nothing else can equal a good private family table, we could not wish more luxuries. Melons have lasted till now, when they are giving out, and the most delicious grapes are likely to continue in abundance some time longer.”

“To-morrow I think of going to Venita, the last town named by us, at the juncture of a North and South Road – Parson’s Road – on the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Road – about 135 [miles] west of here in the Indian Territory, 35 miles west of the west line of the state. If I go, it is for observation only, not business – returning at 11 o’clock at night.”

“I hear no more of the desired bargain spoken of to Ned and Frank, but am satisfied from Peirce’s not yet returning, that the negotiation is not yet complete. Our Superintendant goes to the Junction to-morrow, and that indicates incompleteness also.”

“If Ned and Frank were not educated beyond the pleasure of enjoying the simplicities of common avocations in this new country, they could manipulate money here, so as to make money as fast as necessary. I can let, on good security, as much money as I should want to handle, through two or three of my agents, at an average of 20%. If you get disgusted with living in the City of Thieves, let me know it, and we will form a Banking House out here, under the name of Tuck Brothers and French, and all of us get rich by the time we are 40 years old.”

“The Tribune comes to me at St. Louis, and is forwarded to me here every day. I am delighted with the progress made against the Ring of Plunderers at the head of your City Government. I imagine the whole country rejoices over a new hope of being able to sustain Government against the Corruption. The punishment of Tweed, Hall and Conolly must be secured, even if only by a Vigilance Committee, or the Evil One possesses the whole land of Manhattan Island.”

“I send you a Bill of Fare, suggestive of the quality of our eating, away own in Dixie.”

“Your mother sends salutations and I remain, most affectionately, your Father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

26 September 1871: Amos Tuck (Dixon, MO.) to Ellen French. “I think I wrote to Ned last, so here is to you, - and to him and Frank.”

“I came here to-day at 12, and at one o’clock started on horse back with an agent to scour the country and see some of the lands we have for sale. I think we rode about 15 miles, mostly through woods, over hills mostly too steep to ride down them, and where one had to take care of

his neck to keep from breaking it. I rode till I was very tired, almost faint with fatigue, and kept on till I was recovered – rested – and came back at six o'clock scarcely fatigued. Here I am in the newest of towns, on the heights of the Ozark Range, 140 miles from St. Louis, in the lower spare room of the 'City Hotel,' a one story building of a decidedly one horse character. I ate two eggs for dinner, boiled too hard, [and] have just had a fair beefsteak supper, eaten at a primitive table with 8 to 10 boarders. Four days ago a Robber of R. Road cars was detected and captured here, and the manner of his capture was interesting, decidedly of the frontier fashion, but the story of it too long for this letter. He had been a free will exhorter, an engineer on the Road, an always too exemplary to drink whisky, or tell Lincoln stories. He was a very scrupulous man, but was overtaken in a fault, by four men with pistols."

"I left Springfield this morning, and do not expect to return thither till a week hence. I go to St. Louis to-morrow (Tuesday) eve, or Wednesday morning, to remain there a week, nearly, attending the state fair for a day next week. It is the great jubilee of Missouri. They collect all sorts of products, from all parts of the country. I expect then to see California fruit of monstrous dimensions, and all sorts of machinery, and of manufactures. The school [words missing] is abroad in this country, and [word missing] I now discover I have this room for the night, a wide bed, and I trust I shall have no companions of the bedicrautus [?] description."

"But a man is waiting for me, – an agent – and I cannot make much of a letter of this, any how."

"So with great love, and warm affection for you all, I am, your loving father, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

15 October 1871: Amos Tuck (Ozark House, North Springfield, MO.) to Ellen French. "'Home of the Apple' etc. Your mother is not well enough to reply to your letter of last Tuesday, rec'd this morning, which on reading she pronounced a good letter, and so I will answer, or respond to it. Your mother has not been well for over two weeks, having almost a slow fever, with a tendency to diarrhea and general miserableness which she found hard to bear before I returned here from St. Louis, and not agreeable to [word unclear] since. Yet she is not now confined to her bed, but is even around the room, 'picking up things,' while I write, though she does not go down to her meals. I shall stay here till she is better and I have strong hopes that when it has fully cleared off after a day's rain just had, (with gratitude), she will brighten up, and even be well enough a week hence to go with me to St. Louis."

"As it happened, I was not involved in the Chicago fire, in any respect, further than the general interests of business and humanity concern us all. I have often accused myself of lackness [?] and stupidity in not going to Chicago 20 or 30 years ago, in spite of the temptation of politics which then beset me in N.H., and the timidity of risk which rendered me very cautious. I now see that I might have spent a life time in Chicago building up a huge fortune, only to see it disappear in a day, at a time when want of means would approach the actual of misery. We can only do what seems best, and meekly bend to the inevitable, and to all vicissitudes."

“We are glad you are well moved, and that you find everything so agreeable in your new home. It costs badly to become well situated in N. York, but it is of course within your and Frank’s province only, to consider expenses, and I shall assume that you have both done what seemed to be best, in establishing the present arrangement. I am glad your Dorchester traps [?] worked to so good account, and congratulate you on the helpful assistance you had and still have, from Miss Wells, during the principal period of moving. May the Lord, (and you), suitably reward her.”

“I am at ease about Abby, and feel that I gave undue weight to the doleful letters I rec’d from her. She was the victim, for a period, of gloomy thoughts and of despair consequent upon being shut up in the house, and upon giving herself up to grief and introversion. She went to Boston, broke up the continuity of her thoughts and went back in a healthy state. I did not reply in any impatience to her grievous letters, but in affection and patience, and I have my reward in the letters she now writes. It is not necessary for Ned to hurry in visiting her, nor yours, but in time each of you better run on, and in love and sympathy poultice her wounds, which are the wounds and arrows of a widow in deed. I always reverently regard a widow, who really feels that her only lover is laid low in the tomb, and visible to her love and to her woe. Such is Abby, frail though she has been, and weak though she now is. We will all bless her, and pray the Lord, our Heavenly Father, who observes even the fallen sparrow, to bless her also, and infinitely more than we can.”

“Stephen W. Dearborn is writing at my table at this moment. He sticketh close as a brother. I go quail shooting with [him] to-morrow, and next day we go to Verona, 37 miles west, to shoot for a day or two, having telegraphed my Land Agent there to get all things ready. Game is plenty, - quails and pigeons, etc. – and we have no doubt that with our dog we shall get ‘some.’”

“We sometimes compliment, and some times make fun of this country. In one of my advertisements, I called S.W. Missouri, ‘the New England of the Southwest.’ John Dearborn started the joke upon me of enquiring after ‘the New England of the Southwest,’ the ‘home of the apple, the pear, and the grape,’ and Rogers and S.W.D. keep up the changes on these phrases. Dearborn said yesterday he thought this country the ‘home of the jackass,’ also the purpose [sp. ?], by and by, to go hunting into Stone County, a hilly district, which I tell Dearborn is probably the home of the bear.”

“If I must speak the truth, I shall confess I am not killing myself with hard work for the A & P R.R. My clerk, Mr. Deane, is very competent, and I have discovered that he can locomote with ease, and do things satisfactorily, which a year ago I should have done myself, or rather did myself. So I send him over the Road, often, while I sit at the center, without doing anything hurtful to my strength. Inaction usually does not agree with me, still I must report myself, if I keep nothing back, telling the whole truth, that I am ‘awful’ well, as Jimmy Carty [?] would say, and two days ago weighed 175 lbs. plump, a gain of 6 or 8 lbs in 2 or 3 weeks.”

“Of course, Ned will see this letter, and regard it as considerably written for his eye as well as your own.

“Hoping Amos and Bessy, as well as the rest are all well, I am, your mother joining me, affectionate to all, your father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 October 1871: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. “I want to assure my daughter Ellen of the continuance of her father’s consideration. I have nothing of special interest, and very little time, to write, though I know it is I who am at fault, with even such material as I have, and not circumstances that prevent my writing a good letter. You would, out of my material, make a good epistle. Let me tell what you could say. You might say, I called at the Fealeys [sp?] last eve, and saw 4 young ladies, all full of fun, and I may say of cordiality, one old maid, two aged widowers, and Dr. Randolph and wife and one Parker, a Harvard boy, small, but bright as a pin, an attaché of the R.R. At 10 o’clock I went back to Stickney’s, resolved not to be so averse to going out, where an experiment I found so much enjoyment in Company. I have the reviews, and N.Y. Tribunes, and not hurting myself by too great official labor, I put like reading, evenings, and enjoy myself very well every night, as well as every day. Mr. Dearborn is ‘around,’ as usual, and quite earnest for a good trade. Just now he is on the scent of an iron mine. He always wants me to go in with him, for though he would like all the profits, he has not the courage to go alone into anything of importance. So I go in, but I don’t expect to get money, by my wits, but the rather by steady gains. Mr. Odlin is here, and delighted by attentions shown him, which cost me little, and give him comfort. As a specimen of your mother’s letters I send enclosed. The Woodwards, mother and daughter, [who] have been at Ozark Ho. 6 mos. are nice people, and have just gone to Seneca, at West line of the state, to a place that comes near being unrighteous, where they can’t be happy after the novelty is over. But business compels me to close, and that I will do, with renewed assurances of tenderest love, Your father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

18 November 1871: Amos Tuck (Ozark, Missouri) to Ellen French. “We to-day rec’d your letter yesterday [sic] on the great topic of interest in our family – Ned’s engagement. We have meditated upon it for a week, and every day vote a unanimous satisfaction. We may congratulate him and one another, for what is good for him is good for us all. I feel stronger myself, when I see one of my children strong. I anticipate great comfort in seeing you and him both well established in N. York. I hope it will not transpire that he will have to go to Paris. We cannot enjoy so much by half, of him and his coming wife. I cannot doubt her superior character, for it required more than an ordinary girl’s head to carry her over these last few years of flattery, without being beguiled into a flirtation and engagement with some one of many suitors that must have been around her. Ned is a fortunate boy, but deserves the fortunate alliance, by his uniform good behavior, by his talents, integrity and accomplishment. As you say, she is also fortunate, for her mother could not have desired for her a more worthy, reliable and faithful man and husband.”

“I rejoice in your ability to do things, socially, as well as the best, and that your loving family can safely trust you to be equal to any demands made upon you. But as you have a time

of hard work, I shall be glad when you shall have paid your debts in reciprocating entertainments and especially that class which requires the finances of a rich man to sustain. However, I am aware I cannot judge for my children, and hence with unflagging interest in their success, I yet must learn that they alone can order [sp.?] their lives and habits aright.”

“I have a horse belonging to the Road which I use daily, in the [word illegible]. I am well and your mother is ditto. In a week I expect to be in St. Louis, there to remain for a month or two before coming again here. The weather here has been agreeable till lately, when we have had several abundant rains. To-day there are scattering flakes of snow, with a cold wind and chilly, freezing sensations. They have had a great flood at Portsmo. and Hampton Beach, on the same evening or night, when you had a severe blow in N. York City. I can command my time, and until I can enjoy better weather, I shall not be likely to be troubled again with drawbacks regarding health.”

“Sunday, Nov. 19 – It is a cold raw day, the ground frozen so as not to fully thaw during the day. Mr. Dearborn and I, after dinner, took a long walk, he insisting upon allowing his bird dog to take exercise out of prison and go with us. He started up a fine flock of quail within easy gunshot, not far from the hotel. We have quail on toast, every day, and venison constantly. I eat the former, sometimes the latter, but like a soft boiled egg in the morning, or a broiled beef steak, and roast beef at dinner, as well as anything.”

“I hope Abby will go to N. York before spring. In her widowhood I doubt not you will see the propriety, and Ned too, of affectionate assurance to her, and of her being included in all the family prosperity. Her daughters and herself must not be let go of, as the other members of the family go marching on. I should be glad to hear from Frank, but know he must be worked hard, and that he requires recreation at home, during all leisure time.”

“I want the children’s and you and Frank’s photographs, if you have any to spare. With much love to them, and to yourself, your most affectionate father, Amos Tuck.”

“Your mother joining herein.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

30 November 1871: Columnist for the *Decatur Republican* (Decatur, IL) reports that he had met Amos Tuck (apparently in St. Louis) who was selling good land in southwest Missouri on behalf of the Atlantic & Pacific Rail Road.

3 December 1871: Amos Tuck (Ozark House, North Springfield, MO.) to Ellen French. “Your very welcome letter came to hand this Sunday morning – a drizzly day with a chilly wind from the south – and was enjoyed by both of us hugely. How pleased your Paternal is that the game he sent was so much enjoyed, as well as thankfully received! Frank’s letter of acknowledgement came yesterday. In as much as I requested a portion of the [word unclear] forwarded to Abby, I shall at least once more, send you some of the same sort, say about Christmas, or sooner, impelled thereto, also, by the fact, that, if my memory serves me right, I have a vagrant son, somewhere on the Atlantic coast, at or near Boston, N. York, Philadelphia or Baltimore, who, I understand, allays the pangs of hunger at your hospitable board. If he is within the range of your

observation, take him, and tell him, when the things come smoking on the table, to remember his father, just as gratefully as though he was a married man, had a home of his own, and was not a wanderer up and down the coast. It is not necessary to tell him and your respected spouse, that red wine only goes well with game. I have 'risen to explain' on that topic so much, that the poor fellows already stagger under a weight of gratitude, and I don't wish to make them boo hoo, by loading them too heavily."

"If Amos can help carry venison, he is better – this is my consoling argument."

"I and your mother are both very well now. The weather has a healthy cold snap to me, which I have enjoyed. It was more than your mother wanted, and gave her a cold, which she is now getting over. [Word unclear] anything in my office business works well, and I am now quite sure of going to St. Louis with all our traps by Thursday next, to stay for a month or more at John Dearborns. There is no snow here."

"I will not enlarge on the notable event in our family circle. I think Ned is not going to drift further from us, in consequence of it, but that we shall all be happier in consequence. The fulfillment of my life's labors and hopes, is in seeing my children loving, confiding in, and helpful to each other, and sufficiently prosperous, and deserving to be such, to render them reasonably independent. If one be in lowly circumstances, I wish it to be a condition in our league, that the others shall not allow the burden to be heavy, by lightening it, by bearing a share of it. I have often, in pride of my children's mutual love, said that should I divide my estate unequally between them, I thought the first thing they would do, when it fell to them, would be to re-divide it into equal parts. Such is my happy opinion of them still, though I begin to think that the strong ones will perhaps do more than that, - I know they will, if needed by the weak ones. But I have to inform my children, that according to present health on my part, there will not be much pecuniary profit made out of me for a long time to come. As I am getting to the bottom of the page, and the dinner Bell rings, I will close, most affectionately to you all, yr. father, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 December 1871: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Edward Tuck. "We came last night and are nicely situated at John Dearborn's – both in good condition. I am in recpt. this morning of yours of 4th inst., (Monday), enclosing photographs which are very fine, - very dignified. I like the longest best, however. Had not Wednesday passed, and Mr. [?] A.S.H. been at N. York already, and encountered Mr. N.C. and yourself, I should be tempted to telegraph my strong repulsion against allowing Stone's terms of partnership. He is attempting to extort money from J.M. & Co., on the unexpressed threat of blowing upon the house, in case his terms are not acquiesced in. It may not be Mr. H.'s course, but it is mine, and always has been, to say to such men blow and be _____ blessed. If I live by another man's permission, I always like to find it out. I am a very poor subject for blackmailing, and I should be, even if I had offended. So it is better to have a jolly fight at once, and when it is over, it will be ended. There is no end to the exactions of a black mailer. I am interested to hear the result of Mr. H's visit. Commend me to Mr. Chandler."

“As to the loan of \$22,000 to M.T.S., in which you were, and Mr. Paul is invested, (\$5000), it is secured by a note, collectible without the security of land, Augustus Sumner, a joint and several promissor, being worth hundreds and thousands, - and the land security upon it is worth at least \$50,000, and could be rented for 20% of \$22,000. The other \$22,000 is secure on farming land in Kansas, out of which has been sold in the last 6 mos, \$4400 worth, to actual settlers, the money payment on which, a few hundreds, and the notes secured by mortgage have been passed to me, payments on which are to be made annually. I think this loan secure, but I do not like it. I shall press them as much as my conscience will allow, and my long acquaintance will permit, and I shall not be more lenient than I believe you would have to be, in like circumstances. Your business view of the case is perfectly correct, and I am gratified to see such emphatic characteristics. I have confidence I can keep this matter in condition not to afflict, or depress me in any case.”

“In regard to your getting money: - When you know how you have come out with Stone and Mr. Hall, you will be able to form your plan. Do not err on the side of putting too much money in the firm, till you command the situation. I do not incline to put eggs under such an old cock as Stone. I am afraid he would addle them, instead of hatching. See what you can do with my securities, then I will see what I can do by getting a note discounted, or by a raise of M & S.”

“Abby is satisfactory to me. She will be costly, but not more than she is obliged to be. I never jog her, or never have done so, but once, and then most mildly.in the last 8 months, and I am aware, as you are, that it is not healthy to her, or necessary, to say a word, or show nervousness on the subject of cost. The poor child knows well, and feels deeply her dependence. I must and do, hold her up, in all love and tenderness. If you think best, gently tell her not to tax her brain by indulging in long laborious letters. She has a weakness of too much writing, which I fear damages her. I never allow myself heavy writing, except in the fore-noon. She has acknowledged the birds [?]. Continue, (I know you will), to love her tenderly, and if I pass off, be a father to her, and to her children – as I know you will be.”

“I am glad you write of Frank’s satisfactory prospects. He does not speak of them. Let him and Ellen know that his interests and hers are as dear to me as ever. I should say more to Frank, but don’t wish to seem officious and over curious.”

“Now for Julia. I am flattered by your thinking so well of my note to her, and hope she will receive it kindly, as also your mother’s, which went to you a day or two after mine – of which I cannot doubt. I perceive you are in love for the first time in your life. If you have had fancies before, they were only puppy loves, which all children have, as they have the measles, of which it is a pity so many die. You are to be congratulated on having got well of all such, and for now having fallen in love as a man falls in love. I know some early loves, continuing till manhood, are all right, as for example, Frank’s and Ellen’s, which is worthy their maturity, but how few there are, not all ill advised, and serious incumbrances! Your allusion to your engagement ring, is a gem of loving eloquence: ‘a solitary diamond, worthy the finger that was to adorn it.’ Good; the finger adorns the diamond; all right, good for you Ned. But bear in mind, my son, I do not laugh at you. I glory in you, and in your devotion, and furthermore, I believe

Julia deserves all your tenderness, for her. In herself consists chiefly the measure you get, in marrying so wise and good a girl, only 21 years old. What fools, most boys and girls, - or if you will, - most men and women are, at 21! I was greener than a green snake at that age.”

“I give up calling you Edward, at your own request, - except on state occasions.”

“Geo. Gill has gone to Iowa to see his father, who is there dangerously sick. Poor man. I pity him. He has suffered much, has some good traits, and it gives me pain to think of him, as sick and probably dying.”

“Most affectionately to you, Ellen, Frank and all – your father, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

19 December 1871: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees’ meeting.

20 December 1871: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. “I never had a knack of making Christmas Presents, and shall have to rely upon you to make such amiable explanations of your father’s peculiarities, as not only to persuade your children, but also their mother, that notwithstanding the efficiency referred to, I have full as much love as is usual, both for them and for you; yet I confess to a desire to compel you to think of me on Christmas Day, with at least your usual tenderness, and therefore I have directed a Box of Game sent you, and hope it will come from Springfield in time to leave here by Express Friday morning and reach N. York by Monday at farthest. I intend to send a like Box to Abby, (I was sorry afterwards I imposed on you any division of the first I sent you). The box is expected to contain 30 quail, a dozen to 20 Prairie Chickens, a few ducks, two turkeys and some venison. I am vexed that my order was not sooner filled, as I see you can hardly wait on possible uncertainty till Monday morning. But Mr. Crowner of the Ozark, was sick and so was tardy. If hung up in the cold, the birds will last some time, (not dressed). If you dress them, they won’t last half as long.”

“Your mother is quite comfortable to-day, but has had the very worst of colds. Thermometer was at zero here this morning.”

“With love to all, your affectionate father, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

22 December 1871: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. “A box of game will go from here, by Express, to-morrow morning, directed to Frank, at his house, expressage paid, (or dead headed, I can’t tell which). I am sorry it cannot reach you till after your Christmas Dinner. I send a similar Box to Abby.”

“After a severe time we are having a thaw. Colds are prevalent, but one passing off in our family. I have not been afflicted. Christmas is striking here, and the shops are crowded with women.”

“I hope to be in N. York in a few weeks, timing it, if I can go as to see your Baltimore lady, the prospect of whose alliance with our family gives us all so much pleasure. I am relieved to-day, in hearing that Ned’s status in the house of J.M. & Co. is not to be disturbed for the

coming year. I judge that Frank has hardly time to breathe, as he does not write to me. Yr. aff. father with love to family A. Tuck”

[Marginal note] “Hang up the game where it is cold, without picking, and it will last a long time, - except the turkeys. I do not prohibit giving away, if you have more than you can stand. The venison will be good a long time.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1872

6 January 1872: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to John Tuck [letterhead of the Land Department of the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad Co.]. Amos encloses a check for \$100 to help John, who has been sick. He explains that he considers that the two brothers had formed a partnership years before to look out for each other and each other families. Tuck says he will go east in a week, stay in Washington, D.C. a few days, stop in New York, then Boston and finally Exeter. Tells John to write to him in Washington, care of Mrs. B.B. French. Tuck’s wife Catherine would be staying in St. Louis. [TFP, Box 1, Folder 1]

17 January 1872: Amos Tuck (Washington, DC) to John Tuck. “My very dear brother: I am this morning in receipt of your letter written to me here, and I cannot tell you all the sympathy I feel. You know that I have all a brother’s interest and good will, of course, and I send not make [word unclear].” [?]

“It was an inspiration that caused me to write, and to remit, so that the letter and new assurance of my interest and affection for you, her, and your children, were received so as to be read to Harriet the beloved, on the last day of her life and to call out that benediction. I value it exceedingly. I rejoice too, that the evidence of my lifting hand was felt by you at the time you needed all sympathy and kindness.”

“But it is all right. Her life has been an eminent success, and she has been translated, leaving none but friends and blessings upon her on earth.”

“I shall be detained here some days.”

“Most affectionately to you and children, yr. bro., Amos Tuck”

[Marginal notes] “On the death of Harriet Wiggin the first wife of John Tuck – an intellectual and most admirable woman.”

“Letter Amos Tuck Jan 17 1872” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

26 January 1872: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French. “I receive this P.M. your happy announcement of the addition of a son to your family, and of Ellen’s comfortable condition. I feel much relieved and rejoiced, and pray that all may go well henceforth. I congratulate you, and beg you to give all cordial assurances and congratulations to dear Ellen, in which Abby joins most fully. She has thought so much about Ellen of late, that she has dreamed about that she has dreamed about her nights, and now says she wants ‘dreadfully’ to see ‘that Baby.’”

“I go to Boston to-morrow, but not to New York till Monday night – via Fall River.”

“Yrs. affectionately, A. Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 January 1872: B.F. Prescott (Concord, NH) to Amos Tuck. [On letterhead of the Office of Republican State Committee, Statesman Building – E.H. Rollins (Chairman), B.F. Prescott (Secretary), and Asa Fowler (Treasurer). “My dear sir: You will remember that I wrote you in relation to a portrait of Prof. Hoyt. It is now finished and framed, and I consider it perfect. All who were acquainted with him are perfectly satisfied. Mrs. Hoyt was at Concord town while the artist was at work and she is perfectly satisfied and will no doubt have a copy for herself sometime. I sent you a paper a few days ago containing our account of what is being done towards a portrait gallery in Exeter, but fearing it may not have reached you, I send the slip cut from the Monitor of Jan 27th 1872. The papers are helping the matter along all through the country.”

“We shall make an effort to get as many of the eminent graduates as we can, the instructors, and those of the Trustees who served for a long time and were eminent men.”

“We want yours and Messrs. Peabody and Bowens [sp?] of the present Board. They will be invited. Now Mr. Tuck will you accede to the wishes of those interested in this matter? I t would be very gratifying to us all. I want to get a fine gallery there and it will be a pleasant thing for the School, for Exeter and the State. I have secured one of Hon. J.P. Hale which was painted in his prime.”

“You will find give me an early reply. You can get painted her in the spring if you are here, and perhaps you have a good artist there.”

“Truly BF Prescott” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

6 February 1872: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. “Because I want excuse for writing you, I send the enclosed to you instead of Ned, and ask that he, Frank and yourself, tell me what you think better be done. If my Pictur will not be regarded as an intrusion, I am inclined to have sent to Prescott the Portrait, (the big one), at Exeter, and have it copied at Concord for the Gallery. Or would you take Abby’s or yours? I should not have to send the frame, I suppose, but only the painting, taken out. We are well, and joyous in the belief you and Benjamin Brown French, and all of you are enjoying the same blessing. I am anxious to hear that Julia recovered of her tendency to be ill when I saw her. I was ahead of the storm in coming here.”

“Yr. father most affectly, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

3 March 1872: Amos Tuck (Washington DC) to Ellen French. “I sit down this Sunday evening in the Major’s Library to write to you. It is nearly seven o’clock, we have just come up from tea, Sarita sits in front, with Molière in French, in her hand, commenting and addressing your mother, she [?] plays, while Mrs. Morrill, Fanny and Mrs. French, sit, or stand around, as audience. Things are arranged, exactly as in the days of Mr. French, as you well know, and every chair, table, ornament and picture, in this whole house, make us feel the Major cannot be far off. The last week has been agreeably passed here. Not too much labor, though busy, the

weather agreeable, and a good many agreeable friends met, after years of separation. I read the newspapers in the morning till the mails arrive, when my St. Louis letters occupy my time in answering for an hour or two, and family letters often require an hour longer, so that I seldom get out till 12 o'clock, or later. I then have usually gone [to the] Land Office, and been occupied till near dinner time, (5 o'clock), either there or at the Capitol, after which little can be accomplished beyond reading the evening papers."

"Mr. Senator Morrill is a cheerful, agreeable man, who I always ready to play at cards, or to converse, and through him I get all the inside view of politic and of Congress, which I desire. I am impressed constantly with the unprofitableness of political station, and the unsatisfactory character of the highest honors obtained by the present race of Congressional aspirants. Frank and Ned are both much more successful, by my estimation, than the most successful politicians in the whole country. How soon their glory passes away! Not a man is now on the surface, who rejoiced in his laurels 20 years ago, - or scarcely any. The best success is obtained in a private sphere, where a man does his duty to his family, rearing his children to industry, virtue and usefulness, doing good to those near him, and enjoying with cheerful thankfulness and sobriety, the good things of life. Such success is scarcely ever realized in political life. If Frank and Ned should ever become rich, I trust one of the chief objects of them and their wives, will be, to solve successfully the problem of rearing children in the best manner, in spite of the disadvantages and positive hindrances of wealth. But as I do not intend to preach in this letter, I will go no further in this strain."

"It is now ½ past 7. The women ran on so volubly in the Library, after I specially requested them to do so, notwithstanding my writing, that I was a little disturbed, and when I saw Edmund's son and daughter enter I gave out and went to our room, with pen ink and paper. I had written but a few lines, when Mrs. Morrill and your mother followed me, making particular request, if I must write, that I go to Mr. Morrill's room, where there is a drop light, Mr. Morrill being out. I acquiesced, to stop discussion, rather than because of more convenience. But you see this sort of vagrancy has scattered my ideas, and I am not bale to be entertaining. Please to explain, on this hypothesis, my inability to write a good letter."

"Your mother has a passion for Theatrical Comedy, you know, and as she had not been indulged in St. Louis, I resolved to gratify her in Washington, by allowing her to hear Owens. On Monday night I took her and Fanny, and on Friday night Senator Morrill and Mrs. M. went with us. I bought matinée tickets for her and Mrs. Morrill on Saturday, but the storm prevented their going, which I regretted, as they thus missed Solon Shingle. However, she laughed to her heart's content at the other representations."

"Mr. and Mrs. Chickering have been here to see us and are exceedingly cordial. He was here for hours by himself, and never seems to weary in rejoicing in his escape from Exeter. Professor Stearns has had his salary reduced \$500, and is in a bushel of trouble, writing to me, and his wife to your mother, in the greatest consternation. They could scarcely live on \$3000, not having the nack of economy, and cannot possible live on \$2500. Had he health and youth, I

could lift him out of Exeter, but as he has neither, I see nothing but endurance for him, till a miracle is wrought.”

“What a snowstorm has come! Not in two years have I have seen anything like it. I have not been outdoors to-day, though it has been clear. I prefer to have the paths well trod, or well shoveled before I interfere with the foot of snow I see on the ground.”

“I have not been quite at ease about you, dear Ellen, for a week, but am now more so, as Ned writes that you have come down to dine, and are ‘doing nicely.’ But I want now to hear that my beloved is well on her legs again, and she and her new boy are running about the house.”

“I have thought I should go to N. York, possibly next Saturday, but I now think I shall not, but shall arrange to go there some days before sailing, - in time, if need be, to go on to Boston for a day, and see Abby. It may be I shall not need to see her, in which case I shall now go beyond N.Y. This matter of going to Europe is, of course, on all our minds a great deal. I should not go for the Railroad, if Ned’s and Julia’s desire for my presence at their marriage, was not superadded. I wish to have some of our family present at the ceremony, and since the ease and rapidity of modern locomotion, it is not quite excusable to allow the great event to pass off, without some of us being there. How I should enjoy your and Frank’s going with me! But that cannot be, neither business, children or family permitting. In truth, no one can go, unless I go, and as it happens, I can as well as not make business abroad, as I will not allow lassitude, natural inertia, or minor obstacle to deprive me of the great pleasure. Deo volente, I will go, and be present at the happy ceremony. It is a nice thing to take the voyage with Ned on such an occasion, and he and I both shall, I trust, remember it all our lives, with delight, notwithstanding sea-sickness. I do not expect much sickness, for I have of late ridden so much on Railroads, by night and by day, that I think my head will be more reliable than it has ever been before for a sea voyage. I would like to spend 2 or 3 days in England, having Ned with me, and then to go with him to Paris, and stay there till the time he leaves. It seems to me he will have a great many things to look after, before he can take his bride to America., if she has as many consarns to attend to, as usually appertains to a snug little property. However, ‘sufficient unto the day’, is, I suppose, his motto.”

“I am satisfied with establishing Mary and Nellie at Auburndale, and if Abby can now sit down at Milton and rest, it will be well for her, and we shall all feel comfortable, in the belief of her being among some of her best friends – her very best, out of our family. I hope she will be able to be happy there, till my return, at least.”

“Your mother intends to write to you in a few days.”

“Give my love to each of the children with a kiss, to Frank and to Ned with kind regard to Miss Welles, in all which your mother would join, if she were here, as I close this letter at half past eight, P.M. – Sunday Evening.”

“Most affectionately your father Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

13 March 1872: Tuck applies for a US passport in Washington DC. Gives his address as 137 E. Capitol St., care of Mrs. French. The passport agent reported Tuck had grey hair, blue eyes and 5' 11 ¾". [Ancestry.com, U.S. Passport Applications]

16 March 1872: Edward Tuck applies for US passport in New York County, New York. Ancestry.com, U.S. Passport Applications]

17 March 1872: Amos Tuck (Washington DC) to Ellen French. "It is now Sunday eve. The morning began in a snow storm, and that has prevented any stepping out doors to-day, though it need not have done so, for it cleared off before noon, and the cold has not been severe, and I am in good health. The truth is, this moving about, to which I have been subjected in the last 20 months, has been damaging to my well formed habit, previously, of regular attendance at church. I have seldom been able to hear such preaching as I wished, have known I should not be missed at church, and consequently have degenerated. I shall be glad again to have a habitation, and to resume my lost art of enjoying good preaching."

"I was anxious about you a few days ago, and wrote Ned to write me how you were, and I rec'd a letter from him yesterday, saying you could not sleep, but yet were steadily improving. I am really sorry to know your nerves, so early in life, control you in such a damaging way. Are the responsibilities of children and a large house too much for you? Is there too large a family, and too many things to think of, or what is the matter? I shall be anxious still about you, until I am assured of your substantial improvement, and till your final recovery."

"I have concluded I must go to Boston before I sail. Besides Railroad business to be attended to, it is indispensable, I think, to see Abby, and to make arrangements for her in my absence. (Thus far on Sunday evening, in the library, amid much confusing talk)."

"Monday morning Mar. 18th – I was as usual. The first to come down stairs, (at 7 o'clock), and have enjoyed the newspaper for ½ an hour. Breakfast will come in another ½ hour, then the mail, necessary business correspondence till 11 when I shall go to the Capitol and to the Land Department, and be back at 4 or 5 o'clock to dine. In the evening, we are usually in the Library, talking and sometimes playing euchre, to please the ladies. Mr. Morrill is a very good natured, humorous man, enjoys games, and lover to play with your mother, or Fanny, while I and Mary Ellen, or Mrs. Morrill maintain an opposition. Sarita does not understand the game, and besides more than ½ the time is occupied with suitors. Fanny has none, but seems just as happy as Sarita. I began, as usual, saith your mother, with some interest in the quality of the young men who pursue her, anxious that she should only smile on the most hopeful. I have got over that. I imagine I should become disagreeable to show any considerable interest, and so I show none. Her fumigated lovers some and go, with a cloud of repulsive odors about them, and I take no note thereof. She is predestined to grace some of their bowers, having a heart that lays up no malice against young men with weaknesses."

"We spent a good portion of one day with the Chickerings last week, who were very cordial, of course, and saw the mutes, Mary Gordon, Mr. Ballard etc. etc. Called out young

Nelson, who seemed very grateful for attention, enquiring with interest for his aunt Mrs. Gordon at Boston.”

“It seems Julia is anxious to see Ned. She misses his brotherly care, to say nothing of his ardent love, having found in him a helpfulness and protection she has not before found since her father’s death, and probably never; and having found it, and enjoyed it somewhat for months, now is incapable of dispensing with it. In two weeks, if all goes well, he and I shall be rocking in the cradle of the Steamship Atlantic, on the broad ocean. Except for being present at the wedding, I should not take the voyage. I confess to being obliged to press matters somewhat, in a Railroad view solely, to discern the necessity of my European trip. Yet I think it will fortify my own health, which having been damaged by railroading in the West, may properly enough be patched up, by recreating in the east, and on the High Seas.”

“Your mother is seriously afflicted with her nose, and she shall be rejoiced with the advent of milder weather, if it ever come, which never fails to afford her relief.”

“When my mail arrives, if occasion occurs, I will add a P.S. With love from your mother to you all, as well as from me, I am most affectionately your father, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

2 April 1872: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French [?] “The enclosed is for delivery next day after to-morrow, (Sunday) on her birth day. Affectionately, Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] I sent to-day some Paris letters to Ellen.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]]

2 April 1872: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “This will be put in your hands, as I expect, on Sunday morning April 4th, your blessed birth day. I only write it to remind you that your loving father, though generally unmindful of anniversaries, is not unmindful of this, but insists upon making it the occasion to renewing the expression of his love, and of assurance of his fervent aspirations, continually, for the best of Heaven’s blessings upon you. I bless God for every year of your existence, during which you have at all times so well filled the successive positions of life, that I see nothing wanting. I would not show my weakness by asserting your perfection, especially as I have so often admonished and chided; yet I can truly say, that in the now long retrospect I behold such a general current of good, in childhood, youth and womanhood; in the daughter, sister, wife and mother, that I can say, and do say, that you have been a perpetual blessing, solace, consolation, comfort. Receive then, my darling daughter, a birthday embrace from your ever loving, ever rejoicing Father, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

12 April 1872: Amos Tuck (Steamer Atlantic – 100 miles more, or less, off the coast of Ireland – Southwest of Cape Clear.) to Catherine P. Tuck. “My very dear wife: The journal which I send you herewith, is too general to answer the purpose of sending back to you the assurances of the devoted love which is your due, and the warmth and tenderness which I feel toward you, at this distance from our quiet home in Exeter. It is my prayer morning, night and always, that

good angels may protect you, and God give you strength, health and happiness, till we again meet. Till then and ever, my dearly beloved, be assure of my abiding and confiding love and husbandly tenderness and devotion.”

“I can tell you no news beyond the journal. I shall next write you from London, if detained there over a day, and if not from Paris. Thus it will probably be ten days after you receive this before you receive another.”

“Ned is at my side and sends his love, while I remain – your devoted, faithful, husband, Amos Tuck.”

[Note on Edward Tuck’s calling card included with this letter] “Dear Ellen, It is now 2 P.M. and we are passing the battery (Wednesday). Father is better – decidedly. We have been impatient at our delay, but nothing could be done. We both send love, to you and all – Abby, Frank, Laura, Bessie and Amos. Your affectionate brother, Ned”

[Marginal note, probably by Amos Tuck French] “White Star Line S.S. Atlantic was wrecked ---- 1872” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

16 April 1872: Amos Tuck (Langham Hotel, Portland Place, London) to Ellen French and Abby Frye. “I have just written to your mother, covering the four sides of a sheet of this kind of paper, describing our pleasant experiences after leaving Queenstown, to the present time, and I shall not have time to go over the ground so fully with you. Yet you will get a letter from Ned, which with mine, will give you conjectural ground for constructing our current history. In brief, it was a passage from Q. to L., as smooth as ever experienced on Long Island Sound, yet we arrived, just in time to be too late for the tide, and so could not disembark till Sunday morning. To-day in London we see that had we taken the Baltic, which sailed a week later than the Atlantic pretended to sail, we should have arrive one day later and saved a whole week in N. York City, to the advantage of the business of Munroe & Co., and to the health of the subscriber, who could have got well of his cold, on shore, instead of having to so that job in connection with sea-sickness, which usually takes up one’s whole time at sea. I am now well of all ills but the diarrhea, which is temporarily bothersome, on account of a cold taken in coming from Liverpool to London. Ned and I shopped yesterday, and he did much business in the time of etiquette besides. [?] I nurse my weakness, being determined that none of the things mentioned by St. Paul, (height, depth etc.), nor any railroad interests, nor ‘any other creatures’ shall ‘separate’ me from attending first to my health, which I am sure will be restored by due care. Ned has me in control, and is tender and careful as a mother, and I am even more obedient than some younger children, to his parental directives, doubting even though I may, the occasion for his precautions. You may feel the utmost assurance that I shall have the utmost care, and I doubt not, return in good health.”

“Julia is here, and Ned is with her (12 ½ o’clock) and I shall not see him much, of course. I know the exigency, and I urge him to attend to business with little interruption on my account. Yet I can’t ‘humbug’ him into staying long away. He is happy as man can be, and does everything on the double quick. Julia plans for herself, and is wise and circumspect. I observe

she was careful not to go to any hotel, but to the house of a friend, - Mrs. Taylor's, where she will stay, probably till Thursday morning, when we all expect to go to Paris."

"Tuesday eve. - 8 ½ o'clock. Julia has dined with Ned and me at this hotel, and we all leave to-morrow morning at 7-40 for Paris. She looks well, but is slight and needs the tenderest of husbands - if any - and of that I have no doubt, for till now it is more and more manifest she has not dared to love any body with a whole heart. She has arranged all her affairs with her guardian and lawyer, and done it satisfactorily, though declines to sign any documents till she has looked over the business - and been married."

"I have been to the Houses of Parliament from 4 to 6 o'clock to-day, heard Gladstone, seen D'Israeli, and attained a fair view of the courts, judges and general dignitaries of the realm, finding them much like other mortals, though the judges were more dignified than can be found elsewhere in the world, I doubt not."

"If Abby is not at N. York, you will of course send this to her, and she will send it to Laura etc."

"To you both, to your children all, and to Frank, I subscribe myself with much affection, yours paternally, Amos Tuck."

[P.S. "I have seen a homeopathist, recommended by Mr. McCulloch, who has been very kind, and he (Dr. Bell) says he will send me back to America perfectly cured. I am to see him on my return here. A.T."]

[Letter continued by Edward Tuck] "My dear sisters: A variety of misadventures has kept us back and we are not yet in Paris. In a month or two we can relate them to you at length. Suffice it to say that we shall finally start for Paris to-night. I have been hard at work, yet am happy as I well can be and hopeful that in a week's time Julia and I will be properly married and shall have less of preparation and more of leisure to occupy us."

"Father is improving. I wish I could give particulars of my doing [sp?], but it is impossible for lack of time, and I am afraid will be till I get home."

"We think of you and yours often though we cannot stop to write"

"With love to Frank and all the nieces and nephews, your affectionate brother Ned."

[P.S.] "I suppose father has told you Julia is at a friend's, Mrs. Taylor's, and goes back with us." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

17 April 1872: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees meeting.

19 April 1872: Amos Tuck (Grand Hotel de l'Athénée, 15 Rue Scribe, Paris) to Catherine P. Tuck. "We came to Paris yesterday morning, arriving at 7 ½ o'clock - Ned, Julia and I. We were detained one day in London by a telegram from Mrs. Richards, stating that it had been ascertained that the marriage of an American with an English citizen could not be consummated at the American Legation in Paris. We came here, after a day, knocking about in London, in the belief that it could take place at the English Legation in Paris. Yesterday, however, Ned ascertained that neither the English, or American Legation, nor by the French authority, (short of

4 weeks), could the marriage – the legal part of it, in distinction from the ecclesiastical – be consummated at all. The consequence is, that Julia and Mrs. Richards with Ned, return to London to-night, intending to procure a special license from the Arch Bishop of Canterbury, (which can be got, for money, and by special influences through Gen. Schenk, our minister), and to be married in some church in London within a few days; then to return here, and about Thursday next to have a ceremony and nuptial benediction in the Episcopal Church; from which period will date the full completion of the marriage. You may judge that these vexatious impediments are scolded at, and laughed at, just according to the state of mind of the parties conversing. Ned says he should pity any other bachelor friend thus opposed by the allied powers of three nations, soon perhaps to be re-enforced by Germany, if not Russia. The coming marriage is in the mouths of all the American residents in Paris, and likely to be regarded as quite an event. I do not go to London again, as Ned refuses to allow me to do so, lest the fatigue by night, and exposure on the Channel bring on a return of the diarrhea, of which I am becoming entirely relieved. Gen. Schenk will give away the bride, in London, if he is disengaged, and Mrs. Richards will afterwards, as before, retain motherly care of her till she hands her over to her husband, after the ceremony in Paris.”

“Having been on the way all night, I went out little yesterday, beyond visiting the Bureau of Munroe & Co. and going with Ned to dine with Mrs. Richards and Julia, at their home, at 6 ½, and afterwards calling for an hour on Mrs. [?] Munroe. These calls not only were satisfactory, but extremely gratifying, as I saw such abundance [of] evidence of universal good will towards Julia and Ned. Julia is naturally reserved, but the fullness of her happiness is manifest in her eyes and face, and in her overflowing cheerfulness, in spite of a natural or cultivated caution. The loving confidence mutual between her and Ned, is quite touching.”

“I shall stay here, quiet, till Ned’s return, and dine at Mrs. Munroe’s when not invited elsewhere, retaining my room at this Hotel, though asked to [word unclear] quarters at Mrs. M.’s. Yet I shall not attend formal dinner parties, requiring swallow tail coats, and white cravats, as I shall guard my diet, taking no wine or malt liquors, by which I am assured I shall soon be cured, once and always, of the thorn in my flesh. If so, you see I shall do better than St. Paul could ever do.”

“Ellen wrote two days after we sailed enclosing a few business lines from Frank, which is all the letter I have yet rec’d. I am waiting with anxious expectation to hear from you.”

“Paris is beautiful. The leaves are out, shrubbery and plants in blossom and the weather that of the last of May in N. England. The buildings are more or less scarred by bullet holes, and damage by shot and shell, and many new buildings are going up, to replace those burnt or destroyed otherwise by the Commune. But a stranger uninstructed would not know he was in a damaged city, except in a few localities, where the destruction of Palaces tells the sad tale too fearfully to be covered up.”

“I have not, of course, yet attended to any of your commissions, beyond having it arrange that everything shall be done as near to your taste and gratification as possible before our return. I will now write a few other letters.”

“Remember me affectionately to Sarah, if she is with you and to our kind neighbors, while I remain, as ever, your most affectionate and faithful husband, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “Ned says he cannot get a moment to write any one, but wishes to send to you and to all the family assurance of abiding love. A.T.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

[undated printed calling card or invitation] “At Paris, France, April 23d, at the American Chapel, Edward Tuck, Esq., of Messrs. John Munroe & Co., of New York, to Miss Julia Stell, of Manchester, England.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 April 1872: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Abby Frye. I have for three days felt perfectly well, which I have not before been able to say for weeks, having a discomfort about my bowels, even when I could truly call myself pretty well. Now I hope for long exemption from any infirmity, and in due time to return home as fat as a cub, and as hard as a brick.”

“You cannot expect to hear much of anything else until the marriage is fully off our minds. I have written at length to your mother up to a few days ago, and Ned tells me that on Sunday last, in London, he wrote at length to Ellen, to be by her sent around, what had occurred up to that date. Well, they were married in London on Monday, by special license, Gen. Schenk, our Minister, giving away the bride. I was not there, of course. The parties, (Ned and Julia), with Mrs. Richards left London the same eve. at 8 ¾ o’clock, and the next morning I met them at 8 o’clock at the R.R. station here. Of course, ‘Mr. and Mrs. Tuck’ were happy though weary. Mrs. R. took Julia with her, and Ned came to the Hotel with me. He was busy, here and there, and with this and that, till one o’clock when, as arranged in his absence, necessarily, a coach with driver and footman, called to take him and me to Mrs. R’s, thence to proceed to the church at 2, to receive the nuptial benediction, according to custom here, but really to be married a second time, (I hope the second marriage will be even more happy than his first marriage, considering that the first was spent almost entirely in the cars, and all [the] time under Mrs.R’s supervision). At Mrs. R’s we found Mr. Stone and the Munroe and R. family, in a whirl of fussiness, excitement and satisfaction. Five big baskets of most gorgeous flowers were in the parlor, received from as many of their friends, whose cards were in the baskets, some addressed to ‘Miss Stell,’ other to Mrs. Edward Tuck. In a small room adjoining were some presents from friends – among them – silvered bronze stand holding a glass and silvered bronze candlestick, from Dr. and Mrs. Evans; a fan from Mr. Stone; elegant sandalwood portfolio, from Mr. and Mrs. De Horrock; coffee spoons, (looking like gold), from John Munroe; fan, Mrs. ___; parasol, Mrs. R; ivory toilet apparatus, Mrs. Munroe. A most elegant little clock, to be carried in travelling, or kept in bed chamber, - a perfect gun [sp.?], from Mrs. Reed, and my and your mother’s present heretofore described to your mother, Vienna apparatus for writing, etc.”

“At about 2, Julia came in, most gorgeously dressed, in a white silk of richest quality, trimmed with ruffled trimming, with tulle, (so said Mrs. M., I don’t know where it came in), with a bride’s veil, as long as the dress, and the dress the longest you ever saw. She had large diamonds in her ear rings, and a diamond cross hanging from her neck, - once her mother Stell’s

– and she looked as rich and beautiful as any princess could look. Some one cried out, as she appeared, what a long tail our cat has got, and every body was joyous, and seemed proud of her. Ned was as quiet and modest, as though he only had a humble part to perform, and caused remark on account of his gentleness and propriety. Soon after we started off in our carriages, Ned with Mrs. R, Mr. Stone with Julia, I with Ned, etc. each carriage taking some children also. We rode close by the Arc de Triomphe, near which Mrs. R. lives, and in five minutes reached the Church. We entered, Ned first, then Mr. S. with Julia, then I with Mrs. M. and then the children. We surrounded the altar, and the ceremony was read, and prayer made without delay, Ned and Julia kneeling devoutly, after which Ned took Julia on his arm and we all followed, without salutations or delay. The Chapel was half full of invited guests, and they all looked a benediction upon the married pair. About 30 people were invited to the lunch at Mrs. R., where we spent pleasantly 2 hours, until Ned and Julia left at 4 ½ for the train to Fontainebleau, 2 hours ride from here, where they spend a day or two. As they rode away, all the young tribe followed them out, and John Munroe threw a slipper after the carriage as they drove off. Thus closed the scene without a draw back to the general satisfaction, and the particular happiness. In the forenoon it rained furiously a part of the time, but the afternoon was a perfectly beautiful day, as it had been in London the day before. No notice of the marriage will be printed in London, because Julia thinks her friends there will think it strange they were not notified. But here it will be noticed. The last week has been a great tax both on Julia as well as Ned, but she stands it well and Ned says he does.”

“I received yours and your mother’s first letters yesterday, and I need not tell you how welcome they were. I regret, of course, very much that Ellen does not at once get strong, but have faith that the approaching genial weather will restore her. Give my love to all your children, and Ellen and her family, and your mother will, of course, know I send much love to them too. Send this letter around. Yr. most affectionate father, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 April 1872: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Ellen French. “I will not omit to write you a few lines, though I did not expect to have time to do so, when I wrote the enclosed letter to Abby. I conclude too that I will send Abby’s letter unsealed, that you and Frank may read it, seal it, and forward at once to Abby to go from her to your mother and Abby’s children, or at all events, to Laura.”

“I think I shall stay here till Ned’s return – a week hence. People pay great attention to Ned, and think he is fortunate both in business and in his marriage. Mr. Cowden told Mrs. Munroe, yesterday, that Julia was as fortunate as Ned, for he knew no young man in America, who for integrity, ability and promise, he should put above Ned, and he knew very few whom he could put along side of him. I am engaged with Ned, to dine at Mr. C’s, on Thursday of next week. To-night I go to Mrs. Andrews; and to-morrow to dine at Mr. de Horrock’s. I shall stay here till my health is perfectly assured, and only leave when I know I am tough and strong. Mrs. Reed is full of feeling, and thinks Loeza’s [sp?] spirit hovered over the scene yesterday. Her

present was costly and beautiful beyond that of any others. She is quite motherly in her tenderness, but does not wish any one to be aware of it, except Ned. Mr. Reed said to me, with feeling, at his house on Sunday eve., that he went on working, but he had no love of money, having no one to leave it to. I pity them both. They manifestly think Louise, if alive would now be in Julia's place. But these thoughts of mine must not go beyond our families – not including Julia, of course. Charly Reed wants to be a banker. Mrs. Reed told me this; and did you know that last year Mr. Reed said to Ned he would give Charles \$200,000, if that would get him into the house of M. & Co.? So it seems true, that men are scarcer than money. This will encourage Frank and Ned both, who have got inside of business, 'ahead of the other boys,' as Ned would say. I think every day of what has been written about Mr. F's [Fahnestock's] talk with Frank, encouraging the hope of a re-arrangement as to Frank's compensation. I shall not be sanguine, but shall be [in] a state of expectancy, not forgetting, however, that \$10,000 a year is not to be sneezed at, if nothing more be got."

"I walked yesterday morning to the station, a mile, to meet Ned and Julia at 7 ½ o'clock, and enjoyed the air, the view of the noble streets and buildings, and of the simple, neat men and women I met and saw going to their work, and to and from market. They do not look wicked but the contrary, and I feel assured the mass of these people only want to be left alone, to work diligently, and to live honestly, the men and the women too. The Bonaparte morality, with the many bastards of [the] Hortense stamp, has been below that of the nation, and I hope they will none of them, or their progeny ever again govern France."

"I walked last night 1 ¾ miles to near the Arch, to dine at 7 ½ with Mrs. Munroe, again enjoying greatly the view – the perfectly smooth side walks as wide as a street in Exeter, and the whole street swept every day as clean as a floor. Here and there I passed points where there had been fights, as proven by the pieces broken from the walls, and by shattered plate glass. But they are putting out of sight these things, as fast as possible, and except in a few locations, where extensive ruins must mar the outlook for years, the signs of the late outrages will be soon incapable of being traced, and the places be known only historically. Mrs. Munroe is to drive me in to the suburbs some day."

"Now I will close with assurances of my utmost love, and injunctions to protect your precious health, so dear to your father, as well as to your own family; and with love to Frank and the children, your father, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 April 1872: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Mary Ellen French. "My Dear Mrs. French: I think of my voluntary promise to write you, even at the distance of 5 hours on the sun's dial, between this city and Washington."

"First of all, as I am so selfish, I will speak of myself, to say, that till within 3 days I have not seen a well day since I bade you and your family good-bye. I had a most remarkable talent to get cold, which I have exercised on all occasions, with the consequences of 'feeling like a fool' all the time. We had a smooth passage, but I had a miserable existence on the Atlantic for 11 days, and on landing availed myself of the opportunity to get a fresh cold between Liverpool

and London, during a 5 hours evening ride in the cars. Though 'sick a-bed' for 3 days in London, I yet kept about, conferred with Dr. Bell, a homeopathist, recommended by Mr. McCulloch, and have taken his pilules twice a day ever since, and now I am well. I shall never know, however, whether nature has done the whole, or not. I am still in doubt about homeopathy, and in fact, about all other pathies, but nature."

"Having cast my eye over this letter thus far, I pronounce it of no interest except to myself, and I only send it, because I know how benignant my dear friend Mrs. French is, and how catching her benignity is, in her family, including not only Miss Sarita and Miss Fanny, but also Mr. and Mrs. Morrill; - to all of whom, I send my affectionate and respectful regards, individually and collectively."

"If I should tell you all the vexations Ned has had about getting married, you would laugh at him heartily, if you did not pity him and his Julia. Firstly, Julia came to London, two days after we arrived there, visiting a friend and doing some business, necessary to be at once attended to. While there a telegram from Paris announced that Mr. Washburn had concluded he was not authorized to marry an American to an Englishman. Julia said she knew that such a thing had been done at the English legation at Paris, and so we all came here, expecting to have the ceremony, already arranged for the 23d in the Church, take place before the English legation on the same day. You know they have a legal form, and an ecclesiastical form here, both thought necessary. But Ned found a new rule had been adopted, and that he could not be married before Lord Lyons here. What could he do, thus hedged in? He must have Julia, and she was nothing loath, and he applied to the French authorities, only to learn he could not be married here, by French law, except after long delay. Thus denied by 3 governments, he went back to London, applied for and obtained a special license from the Archbishop of Canterbury in London, to be married at once there, assisted to this, by Gen. Schenk and Mr. Moran, the Sec. of Legation. So over went Julia and Mrs. Richards on Sunday, Ned and Julia were married there on Monday, Gen. S. giving away the bride, took the next train for Paris, arriving here yesterday morning, and were married once again here, in the American Chapel at 2 o'clock, and left last eve. for Fontainebleau and elsewhere, to be gone a week."

"You wanted me to tell you of the wedding. Julia had on a beautiful white silk, orange blossoms, a bridal veil as long as the dress, and that very long, to my eye; with inherited diamonds in her ears, and on a cross she wore about her neck, said to be precious, and I observed they were large. Five baskets of most exquisite flowers graced Mrs. Richards' parlor, whence she went to the Church, as from her home, and some elegant presents were in a side room. Among the presents were a very rich fan from a banker in Paris, a set (12) of gold looking little coffee spoons from another banker, a most exquisite little clock, for the bedroom, or to be carried on a journey, from Mr. and Mrs. Reed (of the firm Tiffany Reed & Co. New York and Paris), and sundry other things of beauty. Julia's dress, they said was trimmed with ruffles, and tulle, but I don't know particulars, and you and the ladies may imagine all, if it has interest enough for you."

“I have seen some only of the ruins of Paris, but enough to make anyone feel sad. The marks of desperate fighting are numerous, though the people are fast covering up or removing all such in their power. The streets, however, are beautiful beyond what does, or ever will exist elsewhere. A sort of despotic power was necessary, and was exercised in laying out and building up new and wide streets, and Napoleon 3rd will be remembered more indulgently for the beauty of the city of Paris than for all else he has done. The change is very great since I was here 7 yrs. ago. I forgot to say many friends were at the Church, and that a lunch was given after the marriage at Mrs. Richards’ house. Remember [me] to Mr. Edmund French and family.”

“Affectionately your friend, Amos Tuck.”

[Marginal note] “I have taken passage to return on 30th May.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 April 1872: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Catherine P. Tuck. “At length they are fully married, twice married, but no second spouses. They arrived yesterday morning having been married the day before in London and I met them – Ned, Julia and Mrs. Richards – at the station at 8 o’clock. Julia and Mrs. R. dropped us from the carriage at our Hotel, and then went on the mile and half further to Mrs. R’s house in the easterly part of the City near the Arc de Triomphe. All the forenoon Ned was busy, fussing n arranging, happy as a boy, once in a while saying,, ‘gracious, father, I don’t feel like a married man, - where is my wife.’” He had had no time get new clothes and had been and was to be married in the new frock coat and suit he had before leaving N.Y. At last, at one o’clock a carriage called and took him and me to Mrs. R.’s, where the Munroe family were to meet us, and all to proceed to the American Chapel at 2, to receive the Ecclesiastical benediction, necessary by custom here, but not necessary in law. The five baskets of flowers, the bridal presents, Julia’s dress, and the cordialities of the families are set forth in my first letter to Abby written to-day, which she will send to you. I have not time to go over the ground again. The ceremony came off, as you may have anticipated from the [word unclear] plans before sent you. It would have brought tears into the eyes of you, Abby and Ellen, as it did into my eyes, besides a choking sensation, to see Ned and Julia meekly kneeling before the altar, receiving a touching benediction, and remaining in mute prayer, (I trust), a minute after all had been said. Ned received the blessing of all, about 75 people present, invited friends, as did Julia, and the 30 or 40 particular friends afterwards at the house to partake of refreshments were extremely cordial. Lizzie Gardner was present at both places. She is getting much reputation in Paris, and is a remarkably excellent and successful person having more than she attend to, and working at remunerative rates, that will make her rich, in time, as I conjecture.”

“I am treated most kindly by Mrs. R. and Mrs. M., and indeed by all the friends of Julia and Ned. She looked like a princess, (I suppose, I never saw a princess), that is, she looked very grand and beautiful in her marriage dress – a very rich, white silk, trimmed with ruffles, - and tulle, (somewhere, Mrs. M. told me but I can’t remember), with orange blossoms in her hair, diamond dear rings, and diamond cross (inherited), on her breast, and a bridal bouquet in her hands of pure white roses and buds, (if there is any flower more proper than the rose, then she

had it!!). I was trying to see everything and everybody, and so may not be entirely accurate. The happy pair left the house to take the train for Fontainebleau, 2 hours ride in the cars from here, and will stay there till they get rested of the two journeys in one week to London and back, and the two marriages. In a week they will be back here, just as soon as is proper, as they have heaps of things to do before leaving for America, as they and I hope to do on the 30th May, in the same boat from Liverpool, in which we came.”

“I received your most welcome letter – your first – yesterday, and was relieved to learn you had no worse time in getting settled. Margaret must recover her former habits of attention to business or I fear she will not answer your purpose, which would be a misfortune to her, if not to us.”

“I feel perfectly well of all complaints whatsoever, and so have felt for 3 days – the first perfect sensations of the kind for weeks, not to say months. I shall stay more probably a week longer, yet may go away to come back in a week. You may be assured I shall not neglect writing you often, though you must not be surprised if you do not receive a letter sometimes for two weeks or more, as that may occur, if I go into Germany, and especially to Sweden. Be assured too, I shall keep constant guard upon my health, and will only ask that you guard yourself as carefully as I shall guard myself.”

“I go to Mr. Andrews’ Reception to-night, and dine out to-morrow night. I have had my trunk nicely repaired and name put on the end, (new leather, Frank), my coat (dress) fixed over, and new black pants for dinners etc. I have given your letter of commissions, to Ned, telling him when he has taken breath, to look it over with Julia, and when they come back to Paris, to be prepared to fulfill your and my wishes. With love to all loving friends, and ever so much to yourself, I am your loving husband Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 April 1872: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Catherine P. Tuck. “Where did I leave off, when last I wrote? I know not, and so will begin at a venture, without having much to write. I have rec’d only one letter from you, a mail is due to-morrow morning, and I am anxious to hear further, but as the mail for America closes this P.M. at 5, I am obliged to write without attending to anything you may have written in your second letter.”

“I am entirely well, except that I am still obliged to avoid red wine, and an excess of dishes, which I should not even speak of, except that I am under bonds to you to speak of everything, little or great, that concerns my health. As I said in one of my letters, I only wish still that you may be as well as I am.”

“I shall stay here a week longer, more or less. I have been attending a little to emigration business in the last few days, and have besides examined the interesting ruins all around – yesterday (Sunday), going to St. Cloud 6 miles out, to the Palace, whence Louis Napoleon took his leave for the late war, 4 weeks before he was taken prisoner, taking his simple hearted boy with him, for his ‘baptism of fire,’ as his father termed it. The Palace had been completely destroyed and also the entire village. I dined at Mr. Reed’s, having first lunched at Mr. DeHorrick’s [sp?], of the House of Tiffany Reed and Co., who are all as kind as if of our own

family. They associate Ned with Loeza, whom they think of all the time, and often speak of – they evidently feel that Louiza might have been Ned’s Julia, had she lived. Mr. and Mrs. R. have real affection for Ned, and have engaged him to dine there a week from to-day – with me, if I am here. Wednesday next Mrs. Munroe gives a small dinner to me, Mr. Washburn, and some half-dozen other gentlemen being present. Thursday night Mr. Cowden gives a dinner to Ned and Julia, of twenty two persons, - the most honored Americans here. I dined Sat. eve. at Mrs. Richards’, alone, and since I wrote dined also at Mr. de Horrock’s (with the Am. Consul, where I met the Persian minister, who dined with a cap on his head). So you see I use my digestive powers. I am careful, and having got rid of my cold am strong and cheerful.”

“Ned has not yet returned from his nuptial tour, but is to be here on Wednesday = the 1st proximo. He wrote me from Fontainebleau that he was perfectly happy, which of course could not be unless Julia was, also. He is wanted in the house in Paris, and except for his being indispensable to Mr. Chandler, I fear he would overstep our objections to bring him from America, and come here. Julia is much thought of, and though not ostentatious is believed to be well qualified to perform her post in any station.”

“As Ned got ready to leave Mrs. Richard’s house, after the wedding, and entertainment on Tuesday, he came into the parlor where Julia was waiting in her travelling dress, with parasol in hand, surrounded by her smiling friends, and said, ‘Well, Mrs. T., I guess it is time for us to go.’ It seemed an electric sound to Julia, as she rose with a shower of blushes on her face, and followed Ned most meekly, soon taking his arm. He put her proudly in the carriage, with the happiest face you ever saw him have, and the young people, ten or twelve in number, crowded about in great glee, kissing Julia, and clinging to her hand from the carriage. Then they threw the slipper after them, for good fortune, and away they drove, glad no doubt at last to be left to themselves.”

“Most affectionately, your husband Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 April 1872: Amos Tuck (Paris) to John Tuck. “My dear Brother: I am still in Paris. My health is much improved, in fact I can call myself well, except that I am obliged to guard myself in quantity and quality of food, else it operates like physic, till the surplus, or pernicious portion is disposed of. Ned was married the 23rd, and went to Fontainebleau with his wife the same evening, and telegraphed me, yesterday, from Nismes in the south of France, that he should return May 1st. They will stay here a week or two probably, and then go to London, to remain in England till the 30th May, when we all propose to embark at Liverpool in the same ship we came in – the Atlantic – for N. York. I have a little aversion to leave here for Germany and London, but think I shall get away in a week. I have several acquaintances in Paris, and am at no loss for occupation. I am invited out almost every day – by my own or Ned’s friends – and am treated with hospitality and kindness by all. I have long known Washburn, the Minister, but he is away, and Paris seems full of American travelers from almost all the states, save the late Slave States. Thank Heaven, the race of slave-owners from the U. States, who formerly flaunted their gains from selling their own progeny, is blotted out forever. Not one of them remains to command

attention, and few, almost nobody from the late Slave States, can be heard of anywhere. I asked an old American resident here yesterday, what J.Y. Mason, an old Virginian, long the U.S. Minister here, was accustomed to do, to kill time. ‘So,’ said he, ‘he gambled night and day. When he lost, he would not pay, but when he gained, he was sure to collect on the spot.’ I told him that was a fair sample of the character and horror of slave holders, - one and all; to which he assented.”

“I yesterday went to St. Cloud, a half hours ride from here in the cars, circuitously, lying west of the city – the residence most of the time of the late Emperor, as it was of many monarchs before him. The Palace was one of the finest in Europe, and the grounds and Park almost equal, if not altogether equal, to any in the world, for beauty. A village of rich peoples’ houses were situated within a mile of the Palace, but the whole was destroyed last year – the Palace included. Horse Chesnuts, 100 years old, as tall as our tallest elms, in rows of long collonades, lined walks and drives 2 or 3 miles long, over swells of land, with flowers on each side, and all together made a Paradise of beauty. It was from here napoleon went with his boy, for a ‘baptism of fire,’ to the late war, - to become a prisoner in 4 weeks. He is now generally regarded, as a weak man from his youth, but for years controlled, or chiefly directed by men of talent.”

“I have been about the City, considerably, and am appalled at the ruins, and the proofs of slaughter and desperate struggle in many places. There is scarcely a limit to the loss of life. It would seem that none could have escaped from many of the scenes, where bombs, and balls destroyed houses, walls and everything in large spaces. Every French man says the nation is going to take vengeance on Prussia, or be annihilated. If they even try it, Prussia will again whip them to death, and France will be partitioned, as Poland was, the adjoining nations helping themselves, in satisfaction of old scores.”

“I have heard from America only once or twice, and have now been absent about a month. I am beginning to get hungry for news. I suppose it is cold in N. England and that you have to protect yourself from the horrible spring weather. Here it is somewhat chilly, and I have usually worn my thick overcoat. Yet most people are less protected, and some days are quite hot.”

“I cannot ask you to write me. Hoping you are all in fair health, in all the families of Province Pond origin, I am with love to all, yr. aff. brother, Amos Tuck.”

“P.S. When in the night I am wakeful, I think over our old home at West Parsonsfield – not so much the people, as the roads, hills, the Pond, and the whole Marston district, and the Kimball and Parker shores, - and find I am often put to sleep upon contemplating the view.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

3 May 1872: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Ellen French. “I have only a few minutes to write – having written to Abby and your mother, and sent a Carton to Laura. To-day I bought you some sleeve buttons, beauties, engaged a ring for your mother, and arranged to buy something nice for Abby. The dinner by the Cowdens last night, to Julia and Ned, was very recherché. I have been with Julia and Ned most of the day. I am perfectly well and think of leaving on Monday for

Germany, not to go further, if I do not continue to be perfectly well. I may come back here in a week or two.”

“In greatest haste, with love to all, yr. loving father, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

3 May 1872: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Catherine P. Tuck. “I have but little to report since I last wrote you. I have to-day selected a ring for you, which I know will please you. It was first recommended by Mr. Reed, but as Julia was away I would not decide till her return. She has been with me, and fully endorses Mr. R’s taste, and Ned said, when we described it to him, and told him the cost, ‘Well, father, I am glad you buy a nice ring for mother. She deserves it.’ These were his exact words. As you want to know particulars, I will tell you, I pay 875 francs for it, equal to \$175 in gold, or \$200 in currency, Mr. Reed charging no profit, and exerting himself to give me a beautiful thing. It would cost \$250 at Tiffany’s in N. York. I do not get a cluster, but 3 diamonds, thus set [sketch of three faceted stones in a row] which Mr. R. and Julia, notwithstanding my telling them of the affection you had for the lost ring, as I gave it to you when we were both young and sentimental, were of opinion you [would] like better than the cluster. The setting will suit you, the center diamond not being high, but being a little higher than the two at the sides – (I make a sketch of the representation of the setting, of the diamonds). Julia takes charge of your other commissions. I think now I shall leave here the 6th – Monday morning for Strasbourg, Frankfurt and the North. I am in perfect health. I hope to be back here in 2 weeks. Our berths are taken for May 30th at Liverpool.”

“A dinner party – 20 people at table – was given last night to Ned and Julia by Mr. Cowden – in fine style, and with the best company – Mr. Washburn etc. etc. being present. It will not do to tell any body of the honors to Ned, or we shall be laughed at. Now I have not a moment more, but must close. Your loving husband Amos Tuck”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

6 May 1872: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Catherine P. Tuck. “As I write this at 6 o’clock P.M., I incline to leave here to-morrow morning, 1t 5 o’clock, for Strasbourg and Germany, only tempted not to go, by the fact that I wish to receive news from home before going further away, so that I shall not hear for some indefinite time. I might disregard this consideration, had you not been just getting rid, as you averred, of a week’s confinement to your room. I rely generally on your veracity, but you have been under bad influences so long, that I cannot feel quite sure that that you were rid of illness so fully, as to render it possible for me to be comfortable, without further assurances of your welfare. I may therefore not go till I hear from you again, to-morrow, or next day, especially as Ned and Julia try all sorts of dodges to keep me from leaving Paris. Privately I say to you, that though I am perfectly well, they have nearly made me promise not to go to Sweden, because it is a long way off, and cold up so far north, and they are so fearful I may get sick without their oversight. Yet they have no reason for this, and acknowledge it, but somehow refuse to consent to my going. What excuse can I give the R.R. for only going to

Germany? Keep this private, and I will do the best I can with the R.Road, and probably not go beyond a ten days absence from Paris.”

“Tuesday, May 7th 1872 – at Paris – I rec’d this forenoon your letter, your letter, written on the 24th of April, the very day Ned was married in London, on which day you had rec’d a telegram announcing the event! How strange that news could go so far in so short a time! I am greatly relieved to know you could go out on the banking [sp?] to trim the rose bushes, (I can almost see you), and that the weather had become pleasant. Yet how appalling to learn that the frost was not out of the ground, when wheat was 6 inches high here, and grass abundant for the fed of cattle. Every line of your letter was full of interest, and I was pained to see what a lonely sick time you had had. No, I will not again allow an ocean to be betwixt us, while we live. I may conclude to come to Europe once more, but if so, you will come with me, and I shall be influenced to it, by the hope of lengthening our lives, avoiding dangerous inaction, and performing my duties at the same time to other members of our family. We cannot enjoy life anywhere unless we think we are doing all that devolves upon us, as members of a family especially.”

“Of course, I shall be home by the middle of June, and hope to be at the Academy celebration. I saw Jacob Cram’s death in a paper. How sad the cause of his death! I pity the family deeply.”

“I go from here to-morrow, and it will be some time before you again have a letter, as I go farther away. I shall look at the moon 6 hours high, and hope you are seeing it rise; but why will not the sun do as well; it shines daily on us both, only when you see it at sunrise, (if you do), it is 11 o’clock in the forenoon here. Julia and Ned both said an hour ago, give mother our love. Julia calls me father, quite charmingly. The dinner last night at the Reeds’ was of two [word unclear], and given to the Bride and Groom, who were seated and escorted, as proper on such occasions; - Julia on Mr. Reed’s right, and Ned at Mrs. Reed’s right at the table. It was a jolly crew of old acquaintances mostly, and went off well. You would have enjoyed it, for you could appear as well as need be, and been as reasonably happy as any of them. The dressing was not as elaborate as at the Cowden’s some days ago, when diamonds were displayed with freedom. I find a lively, bright woman in our Exeter Parlor, as bright and agreeable to general company, as most of the women, to say the least, I meet anywhere else, and I would not admit that my own dear wife, and our very kind and dear Mrs. Long would have occasion to be ashamed of themselves in the highest company. Sure enough, I should not be ashamed of them. This is honest truth, but don’t tell Mrs. Long I say so, for even now she thinks I am a flatterer, and I am about old enough to be anxious to have a good reputation even on the topic of small talk.”

“Well I must now close, for in a few minutes I shall be too late for the mail. With utmost love, your faithful Husband, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

9 May 1872: Amos Tuck (Strasbourg, Alsace-Lorraine) to Catherine P. Tuck. “Here I am in the 4th story of a Hotel, called Hotel d’Angleterre, writing at a small centa [sp?] table, by the light of a one tallow candle, Room 81, my thoughts and my heart, 3500 miles to the west, while my body

is here at the ends of the earth, as seems to me to-night. I confess to a desire to be at home., so strong on me here all alone, that it would not be a great mistake to call it home-sickness. Yet I must not name it that, for I am in good bodily health, and know that when duty is done, I shall soon be with you in America; - yes, in that good, quiet home of ours in Exeter. When there, I will be thankful, and you, I and all, I trust, be happy. I came here yesterday from Paris, leaving there at 8 ½ o'clock, Ned coming to the station with me, and seeing me well off. I am now over 300 miles east of Paris, so that it is 6 hours earlier time here than in Boston. When you rise at 7 ½ o'clock in the morning, it is past one o'clock P.M. in Strasbourg. Still, I am only a few hundred miles further from home, than I should be if I were in San Francisco."

"As you may remember, I visited this city in 1865, and I stayed at this very Hotel, on the same floor, where I now am. I feel I may well say, coming back here after so many years, still in life and health:

'Thus far the Lord hath led me on,
Thus far His mercy crowned my days;
And every morning shall make known,
Some fresh memorial of his praise.'

Especially do I feel the sentiment of the two first lines when I remember the dead among our near and dear ones as well as the mortality among others of our acquaintances. The two last lines express my hope and trust."

"I took a guide and interpreter to help me in Railroad business to-day, and to my surprise after a time found him to be the same man I had in 1865. He had been here during the bombardment and taking of the City by the Prussians a year and a half ago, and showed me many interesting things. The City was partly destroyed, whole sections being burnt. The House I am in was struck many times, though not burnt, and I saw some buildings where I could scarcely spread a handkerchief without covering marks of exploded shells. The roof of the Cathedral was hit, and the wood part burnt, but the building not seriously damaged, as it was arched with stone masonry. To-day is Ascension day, and a holy day. Mass was said in the Cathedral, and I was present for a time. It was imposing, and pious souls were present, even if the Priests have no piety. German is generally spoken here, although many of the people also speak French. When in Paris, I did not speak French, or pretend to be able to do it, when with Ned and Julia and their friends, who speak it as easily as English; but I have quite a respecting for my stammering ability in that tongue, when I find myself among Germans who cannot speak English, but can, some of them, speak French. I can then get along well."

"To-day I have walked about, after doing my R.R. business, as far as it could be done, and have been out of several of the gates of the City. The walls are double, and about 35 feet high, and between the walls is a canal filled with water, and a port cullis and a bridge is next to each gate, so that it, (the bridge), can be lifted at one end by chains, so as to prevent entrance. All this was arranged in old times, and such defences are now of little account, when a besieging army can throw shells 3 or 4 miles into a city and burn it down, without entering it. This city was thus starved and burnt into subjection, without trying to force an entrance."

“To-morrow morning at 10 I leave for Frankfurt, 6 hours distance from here, where I shall stay possibly till Sunday. If I stay there, I will write you Sunday – in which case you will get the letter a week after you receive this, I suppose.”

“Ned and Julia continue to enjoy the attentions of their friends and the company of each other. Never could persons have been better matched, or more fond of each other. They like the same things, and the same way of living, and to a great extent have the same range of acquaintances. It seems as if they were made and educated for each other. My fear is that this education has been too European for comfortable living in America. The customs of the people who depend at all on concerts and theatres are not to my taste. I like simplicity and economy, even when money is plenty, and I wish my children could rear their families as simply as my father did his. How absurd to spend one’s life for riches, and then wish to be rid of its unfailling accompaniments!”

“In regard to James and Margaret, I hope you can get along comfortably till my return. I shall, of course, go at once to Exeter, and intend to stay there till the Acad. gathering, and after, except so far as a period my R.R. duties require me to be elsewhere. July and August I must spend at home, and in regard to going again to St. Louis, it must depend on further light and knowledge. I shall run no risks or perform dangerous labor, be sure, but shall not find it for my interest peremptorily to resign, if I can do some things without being obliged to be where I wish not, and to do what I wish not. (Private) Most afftly., your husband, Amos Tuck”

[Marginal P.S.] “Dear Abby, I rec’d this Sat. at 5, together with one from Frankfurt, which I do not send. Please send directly to Ellen when you have read it. I wish to have it returned to me, together with all others directed to me, of his or Ned’s, particularly as it was his wish for me to preserve them for future reference. Aff. Mother”

“I’m afraid your poor papa felt very blue in Strasburg: he writes more cheerfully from Frankfurt, dated 12th.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

10 May 1872: Amos Tuck (Frankfurt) to Ellen French. “Remembering your request that I should write you often, even if only a few lines, I avail myself of a half hour before going to be to speak to you.”

“I left Julia and Ned enjoying connubial bliss in Paris [the] day before yesterday morning, and that day went to Strasbourg 300 and add. miles easterly, in Alsace, being that portion of France lately conquered by Prussia, and now held as part of Germany. I gave satisfactory attention to emigration matters, and left them this morning, coming here – 200 miles distant – to-day. That city was battered and partly destroyed, and I heard numerous tales of woe from my English guide, who attended me in Strasbourg 7 years ago. (This miserable pen is the best I can get in this Hotel – the Westend hall.) I find my imperfect knowledge of French was capable of better service than I supposed, for in Germany it is difficult to get along. I often find myself in places where no one knows English or French, and then I have to go by signs alone – which is very troublesome and disheartening. When I find one who speaks English, he generally knows so little, that I put him into American French, if he knows French, and often we mix it

together in a sort of salt fish hash. I stay here to-morrow, and next day expect to go to Hamburg, still 2 or 300 miles farther off, to stay there and at Bremen 2 or 3 days, then face about towards Paris, but possibly going to Bale in Switzerland, to look there after emigration. I have about concluded not to go to Sweden. Ned and Julia both held me to promise not to go so far into the cold north, and I promised – almost – not quite, not to go. I am well, but can safely say to the R.R. Co., on my return, that my health was not deemed, (by Ned and Julia), safe to undertake that part of my contemplated tour. I will to get back to Paris by the 18th inst, and in a few days after to go to England to be there a week before sailing from Liverpool on the 30th inst., as we have engaged passage to do – in the same ship – the Atlantic in which we came to Europe.”

“I have been so much nursed in Paris, that I feel quite lonely out in Germany. When lonely I feel inclined to ask myself why I am at the ends of the earth, leaving wife and daughters in America, - 3500 miles towards the setting sun. Yet I hold to the conviction that to stir about is to keep alive, and that I shall last longer by doing at my age, and as long as I can, what younger men usually do. Here I am on the ground occupied by the Romans before the Christian Era! It is beautiful and fertile, (the field country), after these centuries of cultivation. I see everywhere buildings that were constructed long before America was discovered, and some of them are of majestic beauty still. Grain is headed out, and apple and other trees are in blossom. It is beautiful here, I can hardly advise any one to leave, when I know how rough and uncomfortable the new portion of America is, but I do not see the working people, who are as poor, as the others are rich. The people here are more sensible in dress etc., than in Paris, or N. York, though they are richer. I rode to-day with some millionaire bankers’ family, and they wore gloves, and had travelling clothes which even my daughter Ellen would hesitate to don. Wear out your old gloves, and you will have the sanction of German ladies of the highest position.”

“I seem to be writing a dull letter, but I cannot do better. I am in a Hotel where no American, English man or French man is found – besides myself, - so I can write little, except out of my cogitations. To return to Ned and Julia. They are dead in love with each other, she being the tenderest of wives, and he the most solicitous of husbands. If their tastes do not lead them into too expensive living, they will be likely to be very happy. Ned says he cannot very well count the cost now, but that he and Julia shall come all right in N. York. I rely on good sense of both. They seem to me to be much alike, and perfectly adapted to each other.”

“My thoughts are much in America – in Exeter – Milton – N. York – etc., and I ask you not to doubt that I survey you all, with the same love and interest I have always felt, and that I do not doubt how often you speak, and how constantly you think of, and pray for my safety and happiness. To all I send renewed assurances of affection – Your loving father Amos Tuck”

[Marginal note] “Sat. morning – May 11 – Have taken an early walk. Half the pleasure is lost in not having some one to enjoy the stroll with me. I see that the people are more like us than are the French – wide floor boards, houses, dress and the faces of the men and women show the relationship we bear to them through the old Saxons. You see I am at the bottom of the paper. Yr. Father” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

12 May 1872: Amos Tuck (Frankfurt) to Catherine P. Tuck. “Here I am, this Sunday evening, in the 3rd story of a German Hotel, in which no one can speak much English except myself, and what makes it worse, not much French. I was here with Ned 7 yrs. ago, and remember no difficulty; but then we staid at a larger Hotel, and the City was full of strangers, and besides he spoke French better than I do, of course. But with pen ink and paper I can speak to you, tho you won’t hear, or rather see what I say, till two weeks have passed, or more. When you receive this letter, think of me as in England, where I shall spend, or intend to spend, a week or more previous to our sailing from Liverpool on the 30th inst. I cannot tell where in England I shall be, but if I find Railroad interests will not suffer thereby, I intend to go to Gornston, the little seaport town on the east coast of England, from which Robt. Tucke emigrated to America about the year 1620. If I remember correctly there was quite a fever of emigration in that town, when we left, and it has been so long since I was there, I fear the fever will die out, unless I go back and tell them we have concluded to stay in America, and would like have all the family come over, with their neighbors and all our old acquaintances. If they are coming, why don’t [they] come along. Yet I may miss the pleasure of visiting my relatives in that place, and if so, I trust they will not be mad about it. I shall go if I can.”

“I dined with Mr. Seligman, brother of those in N. York, who is a fine, jolly, hospitable fellow, with a wife of 35 years, plump and handsome still, who has 8 ruddy and nice children as I ever saw. He is building a \$100,000 house, and has a beautiful turn out, in which he took me, his wife and his wife’s married sister, in a drive of several hours around and out of the city. Last night I spent a long evening with the American Consul, Mr. Webster of Lowell, who was in college with me, at the ‘Palm Garden,’ hearing music and taking refreshments. It is pleasant to find that all Americans in office in Europe know of me, and are all ready with attentions cordially rendered. Most of them too, know of Ned, whose marriage they have seen in the English papers, printed in Paris and elsewhere. Mr. Webster said he saw an account of a dinner given by Mr. Cowden to Ned and his wife, in which mention was made also of me. They all understand Ned has married an heiress, and that he is a successful young man in other respects. Although I would not have it said outside of the family by any of us, I think no young American in Europe has created a better sentiment toward him, and more esteem, than Ned. Others are richer, but all seem to think he is a remarkable success. It would be natural for us to be laughed at, if we allow ourselves to talk about him. He and Julia are as happy as they can be, - so happy they may have no time for seeing much of me. But I only wish them to be happy and gladly step aside, not poking myself into their sanctum too much. Julia says ‘father,’ as poetically as an own daughter, almost, and is proud of her husband, but not prouder than Ned is of her. At dinners the guests are announced in a loud voice by a servant, as they enter the room, and as Ned and Julia come late, I hear them announced – ‘Monsieur et Madame Tuck,’ in a loud voice. It sounds funny. I look on, and see them go the rounds, and then I pay my respects to Madame and Monsieur. I wish you could be present. We are all in white gloves, white neck ties and dress coats, and all look as nice as so many waiters – and not much nicer. (My coat looks as well as the others.) I did not tell you what a beauty your ring is, though I told you the cost. Mr. Reed

told me he did his best for you, and that no more perfect, or whiter diamonds could be had. I think he made nothing, and possibly lost, in selling to me. Julia and Ned were delighted with the ring, and it is good enough for my wife – which is saying a great deal for the ring, and all I can say. Your dress too, will be beautiful, for I see Julia intends it shall be, and I shall let her have her way. But this is only between us for the present.”

“I am now fully determined not to go to Sweden. I can avoid it, and so I shall avoid it, and the R.R. will not suffer either. I shall form a plan respecting emigration, that will be satisfactory, I think, to my employers. I can’t bear to think of spending Railroad money, unnecessarily, by going to Sweden! – when I can spend it just as well, in France and England.”

“I am not far from anxious thoughts about you, and about Abby, and about Ellen, but I can not do anything, at this distance, and so I must rely on the good Providence which thus far hath led us on. God bless you, I say from the bottom of my heart.”

“When I get back to Paris, a few days hence, I expect news from you. I told Ned to retain all letters. I expect to stay but a day or two in Paris on my way to England, and to leave Ned there. With love to all enquiring friends, whom you think deserving, I remain your loving faithful husband, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

13 May 1872: Amos Tuck (Frankfurt) to John Tuck. “I will write you once more before I sail on the 30th from Liverpool for America. I have been in Germany four days, and within three days expect to return to Paris, there to stay a few days only, and then go to England to be there 8 to 10 days, looking after emigration matters. I do not go further north than I now am, and of course do not visit Sweden. I ascertain that to affect emigration I must have agents travelling among the people, and I am advised, and have concluded to employ such to come from America - Germans and Swedes, who have seen our land, and to give such agents a percentage on the value of land sold to emigrants whom they introduce. That is, I shall do something of this sort, or shall conclude, after my return, to confine our attention to emigrants in America from other localities than our portion of Missouri.”

“My health is good, and I expect to be strengthened in health by the trip. The discomforts of travel have often ended in giving me better health, and I hope it will be so now.”

“This City I have seen thoroughly, assisted to it by some Bankers interested in our Road, and by the American Consul. The former are Jews, and yesterday I dine with one of them, and found the family and himself, so much like Gentiles that I can feel nothing but friendship and good will. The more I go about and see human nature, its weaknesses, misfortunes, and its virtues, the less inclined am I to condemn others, or to listen patiently to those who preach damnation to an unbelieving world. God looketh at the heart, and much Christianity is often found in a Jewish heart, or else very little, or none at all, is found in many, so called, Christian hearts.”

“I was at Strasbourg two days ago, and saw the ruins caused by the war there. The French people are terribly bitter towards Prussia, and would consent to annihilation, if they could annihilate the Germans at the same time. The Germans are not jubilant, because they know that

the French can fight as well as they, and that the war has entailed eternal hate, and the necessity of a constant, permanent standing army. All Germans at 21 yrs. of age, have to join the army for 5 years, and after till 45 to be subject to call, and this causes greater emigration this year than ever before. America is highly regarded here.”

“I expect letters when I return to Paris. Thus far I have heard little from home, and wish to know something about the welfare of you all. I trust your health is better. I have sometimes queried since I left America, whether instead of violent change involved in a removal to Missouri, with a probability of my returning permanently to the east, you might not get exemption from the chief evils of your sea-coast position, by retiring back into the country, away from the east winds, buying a choice small place. Consider this – how would Limerick do? I shall while I live I trust, be able to stand by you, as heretofore.”

“Your aff. bro. with love to all, Amos Tuck”

[Marginal note] “Ned and Julia were enjoying connubial bliss in Paris when I left. They did not need me a bit.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

19 May 1872: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Catherine P. Tuck. “It may be this is the last letter I shall write to you before embarking on the 30th instant, in the hope that in a little over a week after you receive this, I shall be with you in person. God grant such may be the case, my beloved wife, and that we may meet in health and happiness unclouded, as we shall meet in gratitude for mercies past. I have now been back from Germany nearly a week. But to recur to my return, - I may be detained in N. York a day after arriving, to put my cash right, and to see the Seligmans, Bankers, and to answer letters which may await me there from St. Louis, requiring immediate attention. Yet you may be sure I shall allow no avoidable delay in going to you, and shall write you as soon as I land – possibly requesting you to meet me in Boston. If you will have a letter in Ellen’s care, about the 10th of June, it will I hope find me there within 2 or 3 days after to receive it.”

“I go from here on Tuesday the 21st to London, Ned and Julia following in 2 or 3 days. I have stayed some days longer than I intended, as Ned and Julia have urge me much to do so, and stay to-morrow, to attend at night a dinner at Mr. Washburn’s. My life in Paris begins to be that of an ordinary life in a city. I have seen the outside of Paris, and could I live here, should take pleasure in studying the interior, but I have not time, and feel now ready to leave. I dine at the Reeds’ or at Mr. de Horrock’s every day or two, - when I please, - and am welcomed most cordially. As reported heretofore, Ned and Julia are occupied all the time, either in feasts or business. She is much esteemed, and the best of American society here, wish to honor her, while towards Ned, as I have said, there is universal good feeling. They are forced to allow me to be alone, so far as they are concerned, much of the time, but I have enough men of leisure to go with me at all times. Yet Ned, as a married man, can no longer be Ned the boy, or Ned the bachelor son, ready to devote himself to his father’s company. ‘He has married a wife, and can’t come.’ Thus said the scripture – Julia will make him a good wife, with less draw-backs than exist in one case out of a 100, I believe. No one could be more loving or happy than she is, and I

think she has sense that will keep her wise, even though she be rich and accustomed to all that an only child of rich parents could desire. Still they will have a manner of life, on a broader gauge than we have had, and will live differently from our notions. In many things they are as much alike as two peas in a pod – in taste, in amusements, wishes and aims, - as they ought to be. Ned says he has had to travel over the bodies of 8 suitors before he could conquer Julia's aversion to the marriage state. They have 3 rooms at the Hotel Splendide, where I now am with them, and the rooms are well occupied, what with their accumulating boxes etc., as they are getting ready to leave. She will not take her things with her, - I mean some household furniture and household ornaments, as it involved too much care to oversee the packing at present. Already they think of coming here again, and I have no doubt their trips across the water will be frequent, though a growing family may interfere materially with their present plans. Her fortune is about the same as it was represented to be, a portion of it given to her for life, and then to her children, but ample in all respects for ordinary wants."

"Shall I tell you what your dress cost? Yes, I will, but you alone must know. It cost \$160 in gold!! It is perfectly voluptuous, selected and ordered entirely by Julia. Thus I tell you all in advance. Your barbe {sp?} is beautiful, and cost \$7.60 in gold – selected by Julia. Some smaller trifles, besides the hose, added to the ring and dress, constitute all I shall have the pleasure of carrying to my beloved wife."

"Sunday P.M. Busy since going to church, in packing and helping Julia and Ned, and getting ready to dine at Mrs. Munroe's. You will query how I feel about Greeley. Say nothing about it, yet I now think I shall vote for him against Grant. With love to enquirers, your loving husband Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

26 May 1872: Amos Tuck (London) to Catherine P. Tuck. "I write once more on this (Saturday) say, expecting to sail on the 30th, - next Thursday. I have little new to say – We are here, Ned, Julia and I, at the Queen's Hotel, where we expect to remain till Wednesday. We are all well. I have been to Gornston, coming one day sooner than Ned, for the purpose, and regret to say the Tucks of the old Hive seem to have got tired waiting for me and Uncle Robert, or rather, very great Grandfather Robert, who left, with me, in 1630, and have all gone away! Not a name of Tuck was to be heard of in the place. Was it not queer that I found old Hampton, in the Gornston of Old England, - almost an identical situation and outlook, - easterly I looked out over the Sea, and fishing vessels, westerly on marshes and highlands beyond! No doubt one of the reasons for settling in Hampton was the similarity to Gornston. I am glad I visited the place but am not likely to go again, though I may, with you, for the next time I come to this continent my own beloved wife will come with me. That is a fixed fact."

"Julia and Ned have 'put me over the Road' to-day, in buying underclothes, socks, etc. I shall not buy summer suits. It is decided I better buy in America. Julia has bought you stockings, etc. as ordered. Ned and Julia are engaged considerably about arranging in regard to her property. All goes on satisfactorily."

“I received your letter of May 4th here – yesterday – I see you were anxious about me, but comfort myself you are long since entirely relieved. The way I have attended to emigration weighs on my conscience, but I think I shall survive any qualms. We will talk it over when I get home.”

“I came across the Channel – 25 miles – in a rough sea, when half the passengers were sick, while I did not wink, - that is, - was not a bit sick. I felt quite brave, and proud, and have strong hopes, that I shall not be at all sick in the voyage across the Atlantic. I am delighted with your achievements in the carpet line, and am glad of all your renovations. I never need have fears of your not doing just right in all expenditures. It promotes my peace of mind that you have urged Abby to visit you. I want her to feel that you would really like to have her come, so that the sentimental part of life can be right, and then I am content that she shall be where she enjoys herself most. I am interested in all you say about our neighbors, the new Academy etc. and find your letters all that I could desire in every respect. Tell Jim I regret I shall not be able to go through Ireland. With the utmost love, your ever faithful husband Amos Tuck”

“(Julia and Ned send love).” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

19 June 1872: Tuck spoke at the dedication of the new hall at PEA. [Laurence M. Crosbie, The Phillips Eceter Academy: A History, Norwood, MA: Plimpton Press, 1924, pp.195-6.]

29 June 1872: Amos Tuck (Saint Louis – Atlantic & Pacific Railroad Co., Land Department letterhead) to Judge William Stickney. “I have had no purpose of ever showing the halting, yet full apology which Mr. Hurlburd + Mr. Rollins made to me over two years ago, for the great wrong they did me in their Custom House Report, till I talked with you a few days ago. The insinuations they made against me gave me infinite pain for a long time, for no human reward would be sufficient to induce me to allow the world to think me capable of corruption, extortion, or willfully wrong behavior. After I had asked Rollins to examine the evidence, and consider the wrong he had done me, he sent me the enclosed apology [see previous letter] if such it may be called. It ought to have been a frank confession of malignant wrong, intended and perpetrated at the time, to damage my political prospects in N.H. and too late recalled to do me good - I shall never desire political position. But few things are of so much value to me, as a title to be thought honest and honorable. You are at liberty to show this paper, if you think proper to show it to anyone. You see I have kept it a long time without ever showing to you. It was because of general disgust with the topic of reputation, and a conclusion that I would endure wrong, rather than make use even of the recantation of my slanderers.

[P.S.] I will ask you sometime to return the enclosed.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 9]

30 June 1872: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. “My wanderings over the world disturb my old habits of regularly attending church twice every Sunday. The summer weather, not however excessively hot, or having no church of my own, or natural depravity, prevents my being at a place of worship to-day. Therefore, at 12 ½ noon, after lounging about my room till a late hour, I find myself at my desk at my office, which is close by the St. James, my boarding

house, writing to that fair haired, genial, loving, and beloved daughter, who has never grieved, but has always comforted and blessed her father, and comforted and blessed all whom she has met and loved, during all her life. This occupation is not divine worship, but I am sure it is as acceptable, up above, as is the worship, so called, of most people. I think of you, dear daughter, with great delight, and have some thankfulness, all the time, for the blessing which my two, three, or four children in New York, (just as you please to enumerate them), are to me. I certainly have reason to be proud of, as well as thankful for, each, and all of them. A Boston man said to me, not long ago, ‘Why, Mr. Tuck, Mr. French and Edward, are quite at the top of the heap, in prospects, and I should think you would be very proud of them. How has it happened that they turn up in the very best places?’ I felt obliged to play shy, lest I should show myself a mellow, foolish old man; but I confess I felt proud, anyhow, especially as I knew Frank and Ned to be worthy of the places they occupy, and of their prospects, however good. I do not reckon by money estimates only, because if they were not men of education and character, no matter how rich they might become, I should not have equal pleasure in them. Thus I think of your ability to promote and ornament [sp?] Frank’s prosperity. Julia’s access to our family is so recent, and still such a novelty to us all, that I think often and with special comfort of her and of Ned’s good fortune. I do not dwell too much on the incident of her having wealth, but more upon her being a true, faithful devoted woman and wife. I remember you said to me a year or two ago: ‘if Ned should get a wife who did not appreciate him, and was not worthy of him, I know I should hate her bitterly,’ or words more emphatic, (I notice you can use the English language quite forcibly, when you try). Well now, Ellen, that matter is settled, and Ned has a wife worthy of him, faithful and devoted, and in some respects an improvement on the old breed of Tucks! If she has faults, I confess I do not see them; but faults or no faults, she is such a good, wise, devoted, faithful wife to Ned and so affectionate towards us, that we all love her as aunt, sister, or daughter, as the case may be, with true and deep affection. As for myself, I can further say that I can almost hear Mr. and Mrs. Stell beseech me to give her a father’s love and sympathy; while she herself so naturally assumes a daughter’s position in regard to me, that I cannot resist her becoming a third daughter in deed, with perfect right to call me father. I love her, as you see, as a new addition to my children, in my old age – (please understand that I am not old). In regard to all her aches, pains, hopes and joys, I feel a similar interest and anxiety to what I have always felt for you, my dearly beloved Ellen. That her life and health, as well as Ned’s and yours, and that of our dearest inside circle, is now my constant and earnest prayer.”

“If you ask, after reading the foregoing, is our dear father getting into the ever pathetic period of age, I valiantly answer, NO. He has more to be thankful for than most men, and he is not such an ingrate, as to fail to see and acknowledge the same. It is not vaunting, but tolerably humble gratitude.”

“I guess I shall arrive in N. York, at the Everett, at about noon next Saturday. Don’t delay leaving the city on my account. I shall stay at the E. over Sunday, and go to Boston on Monday.”

“Most affectionately your father Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

July 1872: In July Tuck writes to his old friend Joseph Dow that he had recently been in Great Britain and had taken the opportunity to visit Gorkston in County Suffolk, the original village of the Tuck family. [Dow]

17 July 1872: Tuck attended PEA Trustees' meeting.

20 July 1872: The Daily Democrat of Sedalia, Missouri reported: "The Missouri Pacific Railroad has been merged into the Atlantic & Pacific. Hon. Joseph Brown retires from the presidency, and the western railroad king, Andrew Peirce, Jr., is now President of the magnificent combination."

20 July 1872: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "I think I was wicked in sending you that profane epitaph yesterday, and am penitent therefore to-day."

"I must see you next week. Will you not consent to allow Amos to be taken east, - you and Frank; to Milton for a time with Abby, and then here? Abby says she knows she can do well with him, and that he will for a time, at least, be well there, and that Mrs. _____ has a boy close by, of the same age, a good boy, and that the shade is abundant, and that she shall be delighted to take him, and move around with him, here and any where, with the greatest care. Besides the bed [sp?] has taken place of all discomforts to you and yours, here. Yr. mother really feels for you, and there is now no opposition to my every wish for household plans and for my children's society. I would be glad to take you here, now, with all your family, trusting with confidence to the making of happy arrangements all around. You need not answer these suggestions till I see you. But my beloved Ellen must not fade out, or be reduced to bones, by these family cares, by night and day, which you say tire out Frank in 2 days. I don't pretend to be more tender of you than he, but must help him relieve you."

"Abby goes to Milton with Dolly to-day, (Saturday), the latter improved by the visit. It is pleasant here, or would be if you and yours were here. So it is at the Beach. I am not reconciled that you are not still to look to Exeter's summers."

"Ned is in the honeymoon. Julia yearns for Ned's sole companionship. It is the demand of the solitary girl, when she has given herself in marriage. Comparatively there is no other world for her, but to be with him. This is a sweet imprisonment for him - silken cords - yet an imprisonment still, and bondage. He cannot but yield all of his dear self to her, because of his anxiety and love for one who has abandoned beautiful Paris for him, and endowed him besides with a fortune. But he is true to us all, - to you and to me, - though the time he has given to us, since his marriage, is ridiculously small."

"Most tenderly your loving father, Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

22 July 1872: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to John Tuck: “I think if you live a year in Missouri you will become habituate to the country, be improved by the climate, enamoured of the fruit, cheap living etc., and not wish to live permanently again at the east.”

“But lest this should not be the case, and to enable you during your first absence there to feel there is a bridge of retreat, and that you can reconstruct your old home, I advise that you retain and rent your house at Biddeford and so much of your land as would be needed, if you return, to give you a feeling at home, and sell at a future time – and give out word that you go away for your health to try a change till next year. You can then come back without mortification if you please. The same reasons would make me inclined to retain such things unsold as you might need on your return.”

“Or, if you think you have lived as long at Nebraska, as in any event you wish to, sell the whole box and dice, farm, waggon, carriage etc., and give out word, that your health requires an experiment elsewhere, and if you return you must get farther away from the Sea.”

“Make up your mind to an entire change in Missouri, as to roads, etc. and many solacing things, and then if you don’t happen to feel as lonely as some do, you will not be damaged by your anticipations.”

“Yet go on courageously, for with the prospect of health in Biddeford, and without the lassitude and sameness of your present location you can never be satisfied there – till you have tried elsewhere. With me to back you with a guaranty of no diminution of property, you need have no fears. We can only do what seems best later [sp?], and trust our lives, health and happiness, on our best judgment.”

“Yr. aff. bro. Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “I go to N. York Wed. to return at. night to Exeter.”

[Marginal note, perhaps by Ellen French] “To John Tuck whose health was always delicate – he outlived two wives and several children!” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

22 July 1872: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “I go to N. York Wednesday, by cars, and Thursday forenoon I propose to go to Newburg and spend a few hours with you, to go back Thursday P.M., to attend to R.R. business Friday in N.Y., and Friday night or Sat. morning to go to Boston, and by Express train at night to Exeter. This journey to N.Y. is fabricated by for R.R. business, but pertains mostly to my desire to see my beloved daughter Ellen, and to confer with her about her burdens and anxieties. I know you have a most affectionate husband, on whom you chiefly rely, but it seems to me, as long as a father loves and doats on his daughter, it is nature’s voice that he [word unclear] himself and at least propose to be serviceable, if he cannot be. So I want to see you, and if I can, want to serve you, darling.”

“I write Frank by this mail, suggesting his taking Amos to Milton and Exeter with me. He would be a little king here, and though it may seem cruel to take him from you and Bessy and the baby, yet health and life for yourself and him, are more imperious calls than anything else. It would be a poor show, if Amos could not be safely trusted with some of us.”

“But I will not enlarge, and I do not form any plan beyond seeing you. I have written Ned, suggesting that Julia take occasion with me to make a call on you on Thursday – but bear in mind we shall not eat or drink except at the Hotel, - at all events shall impose no care on you except that of seeing us – me alone mostly, perhaps; and it is uncertain if she goes.”

“Most afftly, Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “I think I will stay at your house in N. York, Wed. night.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

27 July 1872: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French (“At Mrs. Parkhurst’s,” Newburgh, NY)
 “Ned writes he shall come to-morrow at 5, having previously dined at the Revere, or Parker House, with Abby, who will come with him and Julia, to return to Boston by 12 o’clock train Monday, and back to N.Y. Monday night. He also suggests that we go to the Beach to dine on Sunday!! Is not this shirking our table with a vengeance. Now, daughter, this keeping away, and getting away, so carefully, from my house must not be kept up – by you and Ned. We cannot only entertain you comfortably to you, but comfortably to ourselves. Whatever of nervousness has ever been exhibited has passed away. Now visits from you all are welcomed by your mother as well as by me. Our supplies and our service are so liberal that we entertain with none of the disturbing, deranging consequence, and accompaniments of olden time, prior to going to St. Louis and you and Frank and all your tribe must come here for a week at least, before we go to St. Louis. Come and stay long enough to make the journey not fearful on account of fears, and we will have a good time. Let nothing past prevent this and go to counting on it, from this time forward. Your mother will write you soon after Ned has come and gone. Accept her invitation without a why or wherefore, and away with that temper you inherited from your unfortunate father, whose faults I am tired of reminding you of. Now let me kiss you and sit down.”

“I have a perfect family horse, - milk white, hired for the season, and kept with my carriages in the stable, and always in good condition. I wish to ride with you and Benjamin Franklin Brown French, or whatever you call that boy* you presented to me, nearly naked, at the head of the stairs when I returned from Europe, (the next morning after), and who almost twisted off his neck to keep his eyes on me, knowing instinctively the relationship. I shall long remember the presentation. I am ‘awful’ well and only regret you are not and Amos etc. etc.”

“It rains (4 P.M., but it may not in N. York. Your mother is sewing up stairs. How fortunate she does not take to spinning – street yarn as industrially! Laura is very agreeable to us both – much improved.”

[Last page is scribbled over largely, with another page pasted onto it, leaving the following.] “I have written your Sunday letters directed to Newburg, and expect in time to hear from you, or to see you. I am, most affectionately to you all, your father, Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “This house is pleasant, and you must have ownership in it, if I ever cease to be the owner of it. It is my pet property, and will do for the family gathering ground for 100 years, I think – for my pets at least.”

[marginal note by Amos Tuck French.] “*My brother B.B. French 3rd born Jan. 26th 1872, died Feb. 4th 1873[?]” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

27 August 1872: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. “I can only think of you as struggling for existence during the hot weather, reported to be in N. York. Of course, I am anxious about you and your family. Your mother wrote, as you enjoined her, and spoke of the happiness she had had from your visit. I will not again allow business to interrupt my enjoying, till the last, any visit you make to the ancestral house. They are of more value than dollars. The heat here is intense, but I endure it well, have no sickness, and shall try to get through my business by Thursday or Friday night, so as to be in N.Y. or Exeter, by Sat. night. I should be sure to take N.Y. in my path, only that I shall soon go from Exeter to Washington, on my way here, and be sure to lie over a few days to see you [and the] children. I have a letter from Frank to-day.”

“Most afftly., to all, yr. father, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 September 1872: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “I think much of you, my daughter, and pray that you may get sleep enough to secure your good health and good spirits. No one can have these blessings without getting their fill of sleep. Bless you dear soul, now sleep, sleep, sleep.”

“”Some fruit turns sour when it is ripe, some, sweet. All fruit has to be attended to, when ripe, not to spoil. There is just the slightest hability in the world, that people of our ‘breed,’ unless self watched, turn sour (‘cross’), at maturity, when the cares of the world, and a labyrinth of vexation, sickness and damaged sensibilities beset them. ‘It is the only weakness we have.’ But good sleep, and a great deal of it, makes us the sweetest people in the world! I pause to take breath.”

“Mr. Chickering dined with us to-day, and is hilarious. He said of Marm Gordon, who, you know, ‘hates’ thunder and lightning, that he had hoped in the abundance of thunder the past summer, that Mrs. Gordon would not have been overlooked; yet when he came to town he found her apparently immortal. I saw Ellen yesterday – she seems happy, and is really growing fleshy. But Mary, alas, what a spectacle of poor skin, poor flesh and a poor creature.”

“I have heard from your mother of your letter to your Uncle John. I guess he thought, that Ellen was a trump. It did not do him any hurt, and knocked the sentimental out of him, for 3 months, at least.”

“Miss Seavey [sp?] is with your mother, of course. That is the normal state here. But everything is agreeable, and I shall have friends to dine and to sup.”

“Most affectionate to all, Your father, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

21 September 1872: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “I got well soon after writing about my temporary illness and have since been about as usual. I only regret that I cannot eat as many baked apples, pears, peaches etc., as my appetite suggests. These New England changes, from hot southerly winds, to cold bracing breezes from the mountains, affect me, without taking

constant care of myself, and I find myself less regretful than heretofore, in leaving New Hampshire climate.”

“I was at Hampton Beach yesterday, to see Dumas on business, and to dine my friend, historian Dow, at the Boars Head Hotel. I enjoyed it, though it was slightly desolate, all the summer company gone, and Mr. Dumas packing up to leave. Besides such a throng of recollections surround me there, that after a time I am willing to leave. The period may come when we can enjoy our family assemblages there in the hot months, but it is not yet.”

“I have been to Biddeford, and we shall both go there next week, going to Portland to see Angie for a night. Lois was quite ill, as I may have written you, but was slightly mending as I afterwards heard.”

“We leave here Monday the 30th, going to Boston, where a Trustees’ Meeting is to be held to take action, which I have caused, in the direction of building a new Club House at the Academy, to cost about \$40,000. The Trustees will be unanimous. Board in families has risen to \$12 a week for students, and we are compelled to economise expenses or to consent to losing our pupils. I intend to leave Boston Monday (Spt 30th) Eve, for N. York to arrive at Ned’s Tuesday morning staying some days before going to Washington and thence to St. Louis.”

“It seems Ned and Julia are on the wing. It would not be strange, or a calamity, to have them ‘surprise’ us by a round about journey back to N. York calling here, though I suppose they I not think of it, when they left. Probably they will not think of it at all.”

“I am anxious about Dolly. Your mother met Abby in Boston. Abby does not seem anxious.”

Your uncle John’s goods have started for the west.”

“Your sweet letter was most welcome. How much comfort you give me by your loving solicitude, and your tender reproofs. Bless your soul. Love to all of you. I note with interest what you say of your domestics and am glad you are newly equipped. Now you will realize whether Ann was indispensable, and she will find out, as well as you, that she is/was not. I hope to learn that you will sleep freely and soundly. Don’t worry about Amos’ wheezing a little. I think he will out grow it entirely, and feel sure he will survive. Mrs. Wentworth, who is having children, and likely to live 30 yrs. has for years had five times the trouble that Amos has had. So, don’t kill yourself by jumping from your bed whenever he coughs.”

“Most affectionately Yr. father, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “Tell Frank I send the letters to your house because I suppose you get them sooner than you would, if sent to him.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 September 1872: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to Thomas Moher for \$100.00. The land was on the east side of Union Street and was land Tuck had bought from Henry C. Moses. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 441, Page 97]

28 September 1872: Tuck attended PEA Trustees’ meeting.

18 October 1872: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. “To-morrow, (Saturday), we go to North Springfield, and shall stay in the Southwest till Saturday following, (the 26th inst.), when we return here, and go into the occupation rooms at 1105 Olive Street, where we have rented a front and back Parlor on the 1st floor, and are to have our meals served us in our rooms. We expect to like this better than anything we have before tried in this city. To-day I am pressed with cleaning up business, so that I can be gone for a week, which respite I take to see and encourage my brother John and children, who are becoming blue at No. Spfld. and to confer leisurely with my agents, affording at the same time your mother opportunity to visit at two other places, besides Spfld., and myself the not needed recreation. I am well enough, but sort of cross because I cannot eat, ad libitum, of the fruits of the country, apples, pears, peaches, grapes et cetera.”

“I rec’d your sweet letter yesterday. I send my letters indiscriminately to the office, to Frank, or to your House. If you think are more certain, when I send them to Frank’s care, I will there send all. I wrote Bessy a few days ago. There is nothing I would not do for dear Abby, and for poor Dolly. Abby will always have recurring sorrows, I fear, and on that acct. we must well consider how she could be lifted out of climaxes, if we go to Switzerland. Ned, you and Frank will well consider this, before advising me. I think a letter from Dr. Morrison to Ned or Frank, substantially saying that Dolly has little, if any chance of life, without a speedy change, and that the alternative produce by a voyage at sea, is likely to do her good, if anything will, etc. etc. is the only machinery that will produce effect on Tom, and then the statement would have to be supplemented by a statement of Ned’s and Julia’s company and support. These things I know you all will consider. I shall then be likely to coincide with your views at N. York, you being unanimous. I shall write Abby a comforting letter to-day, but not mention this scheme, probably. My letters must continue to come here. Our office now is 25 S. 4th St.”

“I note what you say in reference to Frank’s prospects with Mr. Fahnestock etc. I wish him to have a guaranty of say 10 or 12000, and partnership besides; but if not, [then] the best he can get, till a better place opens. Your mother will write soon. I can’t write more to-day. Love to all. Yr. most aff. father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

23 October 1872: Amos Tuck (Seneca Station, MO) to Ellen French. “I cannot write to Ned and to Abby, as I have just done, briefly, without solacing myself by a line, at least, to you, if it only tells you for the 1000th time, of my abiding love. Here we are, farther beyond St. Louis, than Philadelphia is from you [?], and yet we are, thanks to the Woodwards, housed for 2 days in the most delightful of houses to be found any where. Some business, and much pleasure detains us, and in fact brought us here. I go out shooting this P.M. It is perfect weather and we shall gain flesh by this trip.”

“Most affectionately to all, yr. father Amos Tuck”

[P.S.] “Bessie’s nice letter reached your mother at Spfld. She would end love, if at Depot where I write.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

26 October 1872: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees' meeting.

29 October 1872: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. "If I don't write you, every day, it will not be because I do not every day think of you, and always with my ever-abiding love and tenderness. We returned Saturday, having had a good time in the S. West, and feeling well. We are in rooms which suit me, and which your mother will describe to you, as also suiting her. It seems like a home, to have double parlors on the first floor, a new carpet, good furniture, an open fire, though of soft coal, and some pictures on the walls, with a chance at the morning sun. We saw your uncle John on each of two or three days, for some time. He has times of great homesickness, and I am sorry I did not veto his coming here at all. I find his imagination is so morbid it not only colors, but creates, and that it requires constant tonic from his children and me to keep him up. If he can live through it, and go back in the spring, it is about the best I expect. He hankers after the grass widow, and really needs somebody in his house, stronger than himself to lean towards. But enough. Ned will acquaint you with my general views about Abby and Dolly, and you will see that I 'lean' too, much on him, you, Frank and Julia to enable me to reach a conclusion. If it is not probable that the voyage will do Dolly good, Abby is not so fond of going as to make it expedient, for diversion's sake, to favor it. If she goes and Dolly is hastened downward thereby, as is possible, she and we must all feel that we had a good reason for trying the experiment. I am rather expecting that the Doctors will favor the voyage. It will be quite an undertaking, and Ned and Julia show their affection, by their willingness to take the chief responsibility and labor upon themselves while they are in Europe. But I will await further facts and say no more. I have sent ink and pens to your mother this P.M., and hope she has written you to-day. I only steal from business a few moments to write this hasty note."

"I am, with the utmost affection to you all, your father, Amos Tuck"

[Marginal note] "Shall I direct my letters to the office, or to your house?"

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

31 October 1872: Tuck advertises in the *Cambridge City Tribune* (Cambridge, IN) land for sale in southwestern Missouri by the Atlantic & Pacific Rail Road. Gives his address as 25 S. Fourth St., St. Louis, MO.

22 November 1872: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Frank French. "Your two letters have given me pleasure. I was very glad of your thoughts on all the topics treated, and can say I fully agreed with you in your views. I am unable to write at length to-day, being much occupied."

"My impression is against asking for any interest in the 'Pool,' (it seems there was one), because my observation of Pools, and of Pool men, is not favorable. Except a man be a Giant, in funds and nerve and muscle, or a Desperado, he almost never comes out with a whole skin. I am more and more in favor of the Franklin method of accumulating, - laying aside, a little, every month or year, in an accumulation fund, and counting on that as one's hope. Ellen, (the dear girl), wants her beloved husband to get a big sum in a year or two, or few years. Gradual

increase, not very rapid, is all any one ought to count upon. Showers should not be expected. All this you know, without my writing it.”

“It is the most natural thing in the world that you should ‘hanker’ after the acknowledgement included in a conceded partnership. Yet if you get an increased salary after this year, without a partnership, I forewarn you I shall find in it consolation, and shall not decry ‘Providence.’ I do not like the responsibility generally attributed to J.C. & Co. about the N. Pacific Bonds, letting alone the amt. of money they may possibly lose in it. These frontier R.R.S. are _____ what they are. And look at the snows up there, already. Still you will not reject a partnership, and will desire it with a guaranteed amount to be drawn out, if that is feasible. [The previous sentence was added in after the rest of the letter was written.]”

“Keep private in your family and Ned’s, (it will soon get out), that our friend S.W. Dearborn is in St. Vincent’s Asylum here, hopelessly (almost) insane. He is not violent and raving, but all fragmentary and wretched. I need not tell you it affects my spirits to see him thus smitten.”

“Ned has not lately written about Judge R. I shall be glad of your views, when you ‘get round to them,’ as Piper said to us about paying a Boston Bill. Tell Ellen, that silver was no better than she deserved, and that I have footed the bills without wincing. Should have been ‘mad,’ if it had been less valuable. Love to all.”

“Affectionately yours Amos Tuck.”

[Marginal note] “I direct to Mrs. F.O.F. (sending it to your house) as you suggested, thinking it may reach at breakfast. A.T.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 December 1872: Same ad in the *Cambridge Jeffersonian* (Cambridge, OH).

12 December 1872: E.A. Stearns (Exeter) to CPT (St. Louis?). “I was surprised, but still more delighted when your last kind missive was put into my hand. My heart prompted me to send you an immediate response, with the selfish hope of once again getting a speedy reply. But, my dear Mrs. Tuck, were you watching me each hour, I am sure you would [word unclear] to wonder that I allow so many days to slip by without fulfilling even such an earnest wish as this of writing to one who is so very seldom out of my thoughts. I have faith that you will not doubt, even for a moment, after all the past, the real sincerity of my love and attachment.”

“First of all, let me attend to poor Mr. Dearborn and his Jennie. There are rumours of all sorts afloat here, but as far as I can understand, he has suddenly become mentally diseased, and there is danger of some incurable malady like ‘softening of the brain’. His son was sent for, as you related in your letter, and by the advice of physicians, he persuaded him to return to St. Louis with the hope that change might alleviate the sickness. I know nothing of his condition since he left here, only Mr. Perkins told me, a week or two ago that he believed he was still very ill, and that it was ‘very sad all around’, as he expressed it. Do tell me all you know about him as soon as you can. Jennie went back to the Seminary for three weeks simply to accommodate Mr. Stearns in the absence of one of the teachers. It had no reference to any change of relation

with Mr. Dearborn. She is at home now, probably suffering intensely in mind and heart, as I do not believe she gets any direct information from or in regard to Mr. D. I am afraid there is but little hope for them at present, but I know nothing definitely. It is terribly sad, if as bad as we fear.”

“I have not made many calls since receiving your last letter, and I do not hear much of the gossip of the town. Mr. Street [sp?] was warmly welcomed home. Minnie and I went to what they called a Reception in the new Chapel. I had a pleasant talk with the ‘minister’ and also with Joseph Chickering as usual when I meet him. Albert Buzell deigned a few remarks in reference to his western tour, and Mrs. Buzell descanted upon the various plans in reference to the new Chapel. The floor of the Chapel seemed forlorn and dirty, pieced here and there with new timber, which in contrast to the old, made rather a homely ‘mosaic’ for the eye to rest upon. As I had the opportunity, I suggested, I thought a portion.... [XXX]”

[YYYY pick up marginal additions to the first four pages above] “...not seen him here yet. Ms. Pennell is settled in her new home. She has this half of Mrs. Robinson’s house [unclear name]. There is to be a new [word unclear] bye and bye, but that is all I know about it. Mr. and Mrs. Odlin (Woodbridge) and family have taken a furnished house in Boston at No. 4 Allston St.”

“Mrs. Peale [sp?] died a week or two since. I hear nothing about the ‘disgraced colt.’”

“A brother of Woodbridge Odlin died suddenly Thanksgiving night after passing the day at his brother’s house and just after his return home.”

“I have joined a ‘Shakespeare Reading Club’ by invitation. We meet once a fort night at different houses. Next Tuesday night we meet here.”

“Our afternoon ‘Reading Club’ is kept up, but I have not been able to attend but once. They are reading ‘Life and Letters of Christopher North’.

“I cannot get time to read much. Sewing presses everything else aside and the pile does not seem to lower much either.”

“Now be very, very good and write soon. Then, I shall be sure you still care for me.”

“With love to yourself and husband and also to your daughters when you write. Your affectionate friend, E.A. Stearns”

[Tuck has scribbled “Answered” across the back of the letter.] [TFP, Box 3, Folder 8]

17 December 1872: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees’ meeting.

23 December 1872: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Abby Frye and Ellen French. “As I telegraphed, I arrived, without mishap, and perfectly well, 6 hours late Sunday eve. I was perfectly comfortable in the cars, but breathe freer, when I had got safely across the icy river at 8 o’clock in the eve. To-day the River is about impassable. The weather is as cold as it need be in Kamskatka. Your mother is all right, and I have regaled her with all I could think [words missing] about you all.”

“I enjoyed my journey east, but have a sense of regret that I did not see more of you both, and your children. I allowed R.R. and other business down town, to consume too much of the

time not needed with Ned. But we can only get snatches of sunlight in this life, as you already know, and I must wait to do better next time. I do not quite know why, but I parted with you this time with unusual regret. It seemed to me, I had not done and said all, and had not assured, and reassured you both sufficiently to satisfy myself, how much I sympathize with you both, and how much I love you both, but I know, you know all this. Perhaps in seeing that the cares of life were affecting you both, I am discomfited because I can't take your cares upon myself, relieve your depressions and make you perfectly happy. Still I have happiness in thinking how true you are in the relations you bear to others, to myself, our family and your families, - and I never cease to be thankful for my beloved children, and children's children, not one of whom I could bear to lose. I bless you and yours with fervency, and remain – Your most loving father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1873

13 January 1873: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Frank French. “My dear Frank: Your words to me ‘fall suit’ I read yesterday (Sunday) morning. I am sorry it was not a summer suit.”

“Since our arrival the weather has been very mild, almost tempting one to go out without an overcoat. But it is very damp. I am perfectly well, but Julia has had a very sore throat and cold generally, though she is to-day better.”

“Last evening we dined at Mrs. Munroe’s quietly. Friday we dined at the Andrews’, being of a party of 22. The dinner was a grand affair. Mr. and Mrs. Drexel (the elder D-1), and young Grant, were among those present.”

“John Munroe gave me a bachelor dinner the previous evening. Dinners are the order of the day always in Paris.”

“There are but few traveling Americans in Paris now and I am surprised at the small number of letters presented in the course of the day. But the aggregate of business is good. I am more than ever impressed with the fact that a strong man is needed here and that the man we are going to have is the best who could come. He will find a welcome greeting and an honorable position when he arrives and he will find an excellent field to carry out improvements of various kinds. But the old name ‘Munroe & Co,’ is a mine in itself and only these improvements in office arrangements and some other particulars are needed to make ours the most attractive and most business-like house in Paris. Mr. Kern says he is surprised to find that our credit, as indicated by the rates at which our paper goes, is as good in Paris as the Drexels, though he recognizes their greater financial strength. Though comparatively little paper has been negotiated outside of the bank for many months in Paris, yet the most (or at least one half) of your drawings on us have not borne the bank’s endorsement, showing that they were sold in the market at better rates. Many went to the Rothschilds’. Your drawings go largely to Belmont, also to Drexel, Seligman, Kühn & Loeb and some to Schurhault [sp?]. Those to Iselin you probably know of in N.Y.”

“The advance in pounds here from 25.50 to 56 within the last week appears to make the present rate of francs in N.Y. a high one and I have kept Mr. Chandler and you advised constantly thinking you would probably be able to profit by the information, and on a better margin than usual.”

“We speak freely now of the Judge’s coming and are seeking by quiet methods to bring the fact to the knowledge of our Continental correspondents, who have received our circular announcing Mr. Stone’s withdrawal and who may be disturbed by rumors we have heard that we were going out of business. I shall be glad when the Judge is out of the Treasury and we can go ahead without fear.”

“Julia and I this afternoon are to drive over to call on Misses Gardner and Robinson.”

“I hope all your matters are going on satisfactorily since the new year, and that at home all are well and you yourself more quiet in spirit since the solution of the partnership problems, and that you are taking life more easily at the office and find business promising.”

“With much love to dear Ellen in which Julia joins, to her and to you, I am yours affectionately, Ned.”

[P.S. “We have been here a fortnight and have not had a line from father Ellen or Abby.”
[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

22 January 1873: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Ellen French. “Julia received yesterday a letter from mother saying that you had taken cold on the Hoboken wharf and were obliged to give up on that account your expected visit to Phila. This is the first news we have had of you since we left and we were both very sorry to think we had been indirectly the cause of depriving you of so much pleasure. We hope you have recovered and have since been exempt from all inflictions of that kind. Although we have been here three weeks without receiving any letters from you, we cannot think you have not written.”

“We expect to sail March 6th in the Baltic and shall not be sorry to get home again, though we are having a very good time here. We got to the theatre once or twice a week, dine out 2 or 3 times, (I think Julia is writing upon particulars to you) and pass our time with much pleasure. Our friends are cordial and hospitable.”

“Julia is suffering from a sore throat, but otherwise we are perfectly well. I am better than I have been for months.”

“Julia and I think we know of a remedy for father that is going to do him great good. We shall take it along with us.”

“I have taken pleasure and pride in seeing Frank’s admission to J.C. & Co. published and hope you and he have the future smooth ways marked out for you.”

“With much love for Bessy and Amos and the sweet and model Major*, and yourself.”

“Your affectionate brother Ned.”

[Marginal note by Amos Tuck French.] “*Poor ‘little Major’ – B.B.F. 3rd – died Feb. 4th – two weeks after this was written. A.T.F.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 February 1873: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees' meeting. Dr. Soule submits his resignation effective at the end of the academic year. [p. 440, PEA Trustees' minutes not to be used without the permission of the PEA librarian]

4 February 1873: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Frank French. [Western Union Telegraph form received at 1302 Broadway, New York City] "Am in deepest sorrow with you specially anxious for sick Ellen telegraph judgment as to my going to you fortitude answer paid here Amos Tuck"

"Reply – Ellen calm. Realizing her grief and appreciative your sympathy she would not have you come now. We lay him at rest Thursday." [Reply in pencil by Frank on reverse of telegram form.] [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

4 February 1873: Catherine P. Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. "My poor dear Ellen: Your father has just come in with a telegram of the dreadful news, and now lies on the sofa overwhelmed with sorrow; and I can only write a line to say how deeply we sympathize with you in this terrible affliction. I hope and trust dear Ellen you will be able to bear it, but now is not a time to use words of comfort. The blow is so stunning that you could not listen. We shall wait impatiently for particulars. We can only hope the darling child was taken without suffering, as we infer the death must have been instantaneous. With love, and heartfelt sorrow for you all, Mother" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 February 1873: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. "No one can give you adequate relief. Your husband cannot, his heart bleeding with your own. Of course your father cannot, though he is with you in sorrow, and next to the father and husband, sits down by you in tenderest love and sympathy. Blessed be tears, that they can flow freely, when an angel on earth, spreads its wings and flies away to be an angel in heaven. Blessed be our Father in Heaven, who gave such a beautiful life for a year, so free [from] sorrow and pain, such a beam of sunshine during his short life. I have been taught of God, by experience, the rightfulness of praying for the dead. No prayer is more sweet to me, than my prayer that the spirit of this dear Angel be blessed among the angels, till we join him. So I pray for your mother, your four brothers, and one sister, now in Heaven. I can only say, be thankful that he was given you so long, that he suffered so short a time, that the end was one no human skill could have prevented, and that his end was ordained of God, fixed in his organization. He has, therefore, gone, because God called him. We must bow our heads in submission; why shall it not be in some happiness of submission, seeing he was so pure, had been so happy and perfect, and because, unlike the death of many others, older, his mother and father, and everybody, saw in him only perfection; no sin, no dross. Nor any thing unfit for Heaven? Let us thank God, in our grief, and say in our hearts: 'The Lord gave, the Lord hath taken away; yet blessed be the name of the Lord.'"

"I cannot well go upon other topics. But I can say we are both in good health. I could not reconcile myself not to go to you till I got Frank's telegram, which met me, which met me, in the hands of one of my clerks, as I was walking, valise in hand, to take the cars last night for N.

York. I then concluded to remain here. But I must have my thoughts, where my heart is, in N. York, at 146 E. 37th Street. Try to be calm and hopeful, darling, and remember all the time, how precious, and how necessary you are, to the happiness and welfare of us all; to Frank, Bessy and Amos; to Abby, to Ned, to me, and wait the partial cure of the great physician, Time, and the grace of God. Still we will never forget, or cease to love the dear Angel, now out of sight, but not out of existence; only in a higher existence. My love, with your mother's, to dear, dear Abby, happily with you on this terrible occasion. You own loving father, Amos Tuck."

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 February 1873: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Frank French. "I have written to Ellen by this mail. Next to one another, I wish to stand by and near you both, in this time when one of the bitterest sorrows penetrates the hearts of you both. I need not tell you, I know what such sorrow is. I know what it was, when it first took hold of me. You know it now. But how free it is from what sometimes accompanies the loss of children! Not one particle of draw-back from his angelic character troubles your remembrance! All angelic, all loveliness, all perfection. The Lord gave, the Lord hath taken. He lived too, the full measure of his life, as fixed by God's physical laws, as I judge by your telegram. Hoping you both will be sustained by natural fortitude, by considerate philosophy, and by the grace and strength which God, our Heavenly Father, somehow, to us unseen, but not unfelt, gives in his love to his afflicted children, I am yours very affectionately, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

7 February 1873: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Frank French (Jay Cooke & Co., NYC). [telegram] "Abby's letter rec'd how is Ellen is visit from me advisable I am well can leave if needed answer free at once. Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

7 February 1873: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. "I am just in receipt of Abby's letter to your mother, giving account of the Angel's departure, of your desolation, and I write this with swimming eyes, and a heart overflowing with love and sympathy. I have just telegraphed Frank, to know how you are to-day, and to advise whether I had better go on. I am well, and can go, but must go to-night, (Friday), or I shall gain no time by leaving till Sunday night. While awaiting his reply, which I expect to be such as will content me to stay here, I write this, to comfort myself, and to comfort you, if possible. Now that the last rites are done, it is your duty to fortify your mind, by considering all things. You could not do this at first. Now you must try, darling, on account of your own life, so precious and so necessary to your own family, of which you now seem to be the most precious member. We all hover around you, and spread our wings over you. Now be calm, and bow and bend, and do not break, under the load and the tempest of affliction. Begin again to smile, love. Never did a life pass away more apparently by the will of God, and leave less possibility of remorse, or even self-reproach on the part of the parents, in not having done all that human power could do, to prolong life."

“I am in perfect health, and would allow nothing to stand between me and a journey to N. York, if I can do you any good. But I am aware that with all my love, and yours for me, the re-opening of the flood gates, consequent on our meeting, might not be a benefit to you, and it may be better to postpone my visit. Tell Frank, that while I thus write to you, I yet am experimentally acquainted with the agony of his sufferings, and by no means forget him, or fail to sympathize with him in the fullness of his sorrow. I more anxiously turn, however, to the mother, who has always been with the dear child, whose lot is in doors, amid associations, who is sick, bless her soul; and more needs all the feeble help, which others’ assurances can now afford her. How Ned will mourn for you, and sorrow with you both! The Lord bless him, and bless us all.”

“Most lovingly, your father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

20 February 1873: The Daily Democrat of Sedalia, Missouri reported: “On the ‘Heckle’: Hon. Andrew Peirce, late President of the A&P railroad has been before the legislative investigating committee, and made some most extraordinary admissions. He virtually said, that his corporation was above the Statute laws of the State, and asserted that he knew of the law of ’71 at the same time it was passed relating to an equalized tariff for freights, but that he had disregarded it ever since. He shows a ponderous debt hanging over the road, and admits a falling off in the business of the Pacific for 1872 of some \$600,000 as compared with the business of 1870.”

“He assumes all the responsibility of the management (?) of the road during its dark days; says Mr. Talmadge acted under his orders and did as he told him.”

“The bonded debt of the Mo. Pacific is only \$14,400,000, aside from some half million ‘scrip’ which was issued on hand in the Indian country.”

“He admits the charges to be true as to charging Sedalians double – or nearly as – freights, to those charged to Kansas City, and does not attempt to justify this great wrong, which we record to his credit. We suppose he leaves that part of his defense to the Sedalia Times and other *feed papers* hereabouts.”

“Mr. Peirce says there are liabilities of more than \$40,000 on each mile of the main line. This is a very comforting piece of information for counties and individuals who own stock in this giant monopoly.”

“The legislature seems inclined to test the power of with this company. The sequel will prove whether the law is subject to the road, or the road subject to the law.”

“Let the supremacy be settled at once and forever.”

26 February 1873: E.A. Stearns (Exeter) to Catherine P. Tuck (St. Louis?). “My very dear friend, I trust my long, long letter of several weeks since reached you in safety, but as I have not heard from you in reply, I begin to feel anxious and more than that, I am hungering and thirsting for news from you.”

“I am afraid I cannot write very cheerfully, for I and very much troubled about affairs at the Seminary. The fact is the ‘drains’ have been out of order all winter, and the air there has

been horrible, *unbearable*. Mr. Stearns has said and done all in his power to have the matter attended to, but it has been all in vain, and now the consequences threaten to be fearful. Poor Mrs. Gilman, the Janitress, is very ill, partly from a heavy cold, but without a doubt, in great measure from the effects of the stench, which Fan. [sp?] and Mr. Stearns both say is sufficient to breed the worst fevers, and as Spring opens, I fear there must be both sickness and death, even, resulting therefrom. Mr. Stearns always attributed his illness of two years ago in great measure, to the same cause, and now he is suffering from this 'poison' in his system. His room, being just over the water-closets, is, of course, the most exposed, but he says he is obliged to be there a considerable portion of the time, and, that, for one so sensitive is enough to prove fatal. Last night he was threatened with nausea all night and other bad symptoms, and at eleven o'clock this A.M. he came home sickened horribly again by this pestilential atmosphere. He has written to Mr. Bell, entreating again that something shall be done. I am urging him to insist upon closing the Seminary until some remedy is found, but he does not seem to be prepared for such a step."

"Last night Miss May Bartlett announced her intention of leaving at once, as she has a better offer in Haverhill, and does not feel under any obligations to the Trustees. Coming during the last third of the year, and so suddenly, with the Trustees having it all their own way, and yet the responsibility resting so much upon Mr. Stearns, I fear this additional burden, with all the rest, will be the drop too much. The work and anxiety have been doubled, if not tripled, this year by the continual changing of teachers, and it is growing worse and worse. But, my dear friend, you must not think I am utterly depressed by all these things. I do feel very badly, and I have no one to whom I can confide my troubles but to you, so I open my heart fully, believing you will help me to endure by the same kind sympathy and wise counsel you have ever so generously bestowed. Could I only see you, I would be glad to tell you much. I cannot write, and I want you to 'keep this in mind', whatever the future may unfold."

"I saw Dr. Gorham yesterday, and he says that Mrs. Gorham is much better than she was a few weeks since, still she is far from well. Mrs. Sawyer was with her a fort. night, which, no doubt, benefitted her very much."

"Even in this mixed letter, my dear friend, allow me to give my heart-felt sympathy to you all in the sad bereavement which recently occurred in the family of your daughter. I was much shocked by the sad intelligence, and I know by similar trial, how to feel for those in the now desolate home. Please remember me in tenderest sympathy to your daughter, Mrs. French, when you write."

"The children are all as usually well. I have lost two calls from Mrs. Lang. The first time, I was unwell, and again yesterday, as I was out. I am very sorry for I always enjoy an interview with her."

"I hope Mr. Tuck continues well, and that the months will glide swiftly so that we can once more welcome you both to your Exeter home."

"You must excuse my scribbling so badly, for I feel too hurried and nervous to write decently."

“The inquiry in your last about ‘Margaret’ I forgot to answer in my last. She did not like at Miss Harris’. It was forlorn to her, and she was homesick. She has gone back to Mrs. Charles Moses, who keeps two girls and she seems to like them very much. I rather think she is as fond of being on the go as ever from what Bridget says. She went to a great ‘Ball’ last night.”

“The snow is very deep here, and the winter has been very severe. All looks right about your house, as far as we can see.”

“Now, my dear Mrs. Tuck, may I not have a few lines soon? Give my kindest regards to your good husband and accept for yourself very much love. Yrs. very truly, E.A. Stearns.”

[The next sheet, attached in the folder to the previous letter, completes the 12 December letter above. XXX marks the place of insertion.]

“...of their ‘Fair proceeds’ might wisely be used in furnishing a carpet, instead of wasted in building partitions which certainly are not needed. There is to be another ‘Reception’ this evening, but I do not propose to go again, although it is to be quite general. I think they should make things more attractive before sending out their invitations. It has been snowing lightly all day, and I think we shall soon have it in good earnest. I have not called upon Mrs. Street since her husband’s return and have seen him but once. The fact is I believe I am too comfortable and busy at home, to be troublesome in other people’s houses.”

“Our darling Wilfrid has been sick the last two days for the first time since you went away. He has been very strong and well all the time and has been out every day. He is doing nicely again now. Fae [sp?] is absorbed in school work. If we are all here next year, I suppose she must graduate, but I am looking earnestly forward to something better for us all. We have no light as yet, but we are striving earnestly for it. I hope there is somewhere, a great, good and remunerative work for Mr. Stearns to do. He is ready, willing even anxious to do better than suffer in this place, but if his faith and patience is not yet enough tried, then I hope we can say devoutly and truthfully ‘God’s will be done’. It may be that his reward of faithful labor is not to be obtained here, but we do not intend to doubt, but to be full of brightened hopes and fondest anticipations.”

“Our ‘Thanksgiving’ was a very quiet and pleasant one, with the only shadow of one recent sorrow resting upon it. My father was with us, but no one else, and we had all the usual accompaniments of the day very successfully prepared. My father and Mr. Stearns bro. Josiah will be with us at Christmas. The ten days vacation will not be unacceptable to any of us, and then comes the long pull and the strong pull, only broken by our tribute of respect to the ‘Father of his Country’. The year (school year) is more than one third gone already. Mr. Stearns has not lost an hour from school yet, and I hope he will not be looked upon as an ‘invalid’, many years longer. Still, should he choose to be sick even for a day, I fear, to use a homely expression, ‘the butter would go at the old price’.”

“Mrs. Dr. Gorham is very miserable in health, as she is apt to be at this season. We have not had occasion for the doctor this season I believe Mr. Stearns and I called there one evening, but we have...YYYY” [TFP, Box 3, Folder 8]

27 February 1873: Amos Tuck (Washington) to Ellen French. "I arrived here at 2 P.M. yesterday, in perfect condition. I expect to spend Sunday in N. York. I will telegraph Frank, this morning, to know how you are, and will call as I go along by the P.O. to see if I have a letter. I am at 137, Mrs. F. insisting, even after I had got located at the National. Daughter, cheer up, it is your right and duty now to resist the 'waves of sorrow,' which none but those like you know the full meaning of, and to let loose all the natural cheerfulness you can summon, so as to counteract grief. I shall not dwell on the mournful side, when I see you, and you shan't, darling. Let us close up our ranks, and march shoulder to shoulder, as good soldiers do, as long as there are two of us left. Then we shall do the last possible thing, and be in the line of our duty. No more preaching, but ever your loving father, Amos Tuck."

[P.S.] "Love to the household. Can't I relieve your household by staying at Ned's. Understand I can go to a Hotel even, without doubt of your, or Frank's whole heartedness. So work it all easy." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

9 March 1873: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Frank French. "Tell the family these things: I spent a long ½ day, with Laura, who enabled me to get a good view of Vassar College, in regard to which I formed a good opinion. Laura is happy and well, and she appreciated my visit, joyfully, and when I came away, in the early evening, walked with me quite a distance, and we had a good run, I having her hand, and we both acting like two romping children."

"A demolished freight train on the N. York Central detained us 3 hours, in consequence of which I was too late at Toledo to switch off for St. Louis, and so went to Chicago, arriving there at one o'clock, Friday, whence I came at 8 ½ P.M. and arrived here at 8 A.M. Sat. Mr. Tyrrell took me in charge at Chicago, taking me to his house, cordially, and coming with me here, as he had arranged beforehand to visit Mr. Dearborn at this time. Mrs. Tuck had been confined to her room a week by a bad, a very bad cold, and now does not go out of the room, though rapidly gaining. I am perfectly well, as usual, and have a pile of papers on my desk to dispose of in the next few days. I enjoyed the visit, very much to your house, and your household – thinking we all got a more perfect mutuality of thought and sympathy by means of it, and are all indeed happier, by our renewed assurances to one another, and counsellings together. Mrs. Tuck sends affectionate assurances to all, while I remain, as usual, Affectionately yrs. and to all, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

25 March 1873: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Frank and Ellen French. "It is a week or two since I have written either of you, and I wish to write you so often, even if I have little to say, that I shall not have reason to imagine an enquiry has arisen, 'why father doesn't write.' It has become a habit for me to write often, so that I imagine some one of the family expects me to 'rise to explain,' quite often. However, I may be mistaken, considering the variety of engagements and excitements of you citified people."

"I am more heavily engaged in the affairs of my office, than heretofore, finding that accumulation of outstanding contracts, on which payments are constantly becoming due, brings

an accumulation of questions, in addition to the business of attending to new comers. I have about 3300 different accounts against land purchasers, all of whom need attention. Of course, I do none of the details, but I must see that all is done, or not feel satisfied with myself.”

“We had opportunity to oblige Judge Stickney by taking Nelly [sp?] Stickney with us to Springfield last week, being gone 4 days.”

“I imagine you both to be a great deal with Ned and Julia, since their return, and it is a pleasure to think of you as being together. Ned and Frank, probably with mutual advantage, can compare notes on business, while Ellen, Julia and Abby, (I suppose Abby still to be with you), can discuss the intricacies of female attire, and other things, into which the ability of man does not enable him to penetrate. When you have got all rested from these investigations, I have no doubt I shall be getting accounts very interesting. Thus far I have nothing, and did not expect anything so soon.”

“A snow squall rages here this A.M., but generally for a month the weather has been agreeable, passably. I hear that you are still having mid-winter in N. York”

“Hoping you are enjoying fair health and comfort, and with love to Abby and the children, your aff. Father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 April 1873: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. “I shall think of you, with utmost affection, on your birth-day, and I wish this letter to reach you on that day, to give you assurance of my fatherly love. In my heart and remembrance, since your birth, your existence has been to me a perpetual blessing and constant stream of sunlight to my life, without an interruption. Not one moment of estrangement between us has interrupted this happy flow of love, and never can interrupt it, after our experiences of the past, without loss of reason, which God forbid. Not to me only, but to all of us, to Ned and to Abby, to Frank and to your children, and to those farther off in relationship, your life has also been an unmixed blessing. To the new sister, dear Julia, you are becoming cemented in the same bonds of family love. May a life so precious as yours be protracted many, many years. We must pass away, one after another, but I begin to think it possible for these successive, inevitable separations, to be preceded by such loving confidences, tempered by convictions of meeting again in the higher life of the future, which we cannot in this life comprehend the excellence of, that the separations will not be near so painful, and hopeless, to any of us, as they would have been even a few years ago. So let us joyfully go on to what of future God gives us in this life, be thankful for the sweet enjoyment of the past, though some of the most precious have been cut off, and fully confide in God’s will, as the very best that could have power over us.”

“I write this at my office, interrupted by men of business around me, but I will not on that account be prevented from sending even a hastily prepared note to you to-day. I well remember that day in Hampton when you were born. The sun shone pleasantly. The few clouds in the sky only seemed to make the day more beautiful. The streets were dry, the birds were singing, - spring birds, - small drifts of snow still being seen here and there by the fences, but rapidly

disappearing under the rays of the sun, and upon a southerly, genial wind, blowing gently from the marshes. Most affectionately, your father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

21 April 1873: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. “I am going out with a small party on our Road to-day, with Pres. Grant and Friends, taking a turn 30 to 40 miles, and lunching at 2 o’clock, with Hon. Henry T. Blow, formerly minister to Brazil. It is a courtesy of the R.R. Co. and Mr. Blow.”

“We are pretty well, and the weather is pleasant. Nothing especially new. In great haste. Most afftly, Yr. father, A. Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

22 May 1873: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees’ meeting. Trustees’ select Albert C. Perkins to be the new Principal. [p. 441, PEA Trustees’ minutes not to be used without the permission of the PEA librarian]

23 May 1873: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. “I only write as an excuse for telling you that I love you, (what [an] astounding announcement), and for sending my love to the other dear ones about you.”

“I am dreadful, or as Jimmy says, ‘awful’ well, just now, and if the Lord will only bless all my tasks [sp?], while we are away in Colorado, I shall be quite happy in going, as we still hope to do, leaving on Tuesday morning. Denver, Colorado Hot Springs, Cheyenne, Omaha, Kansas and St. Louis. Take the map, daughter, and see what a trip it will be. I wish you and Amos, or Amos alone even, could be with us. It is just the air for him.”

“Most afftly, yr. father, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 June 1873: Amos Tuck (Denver) to Ellen French. “I enclose herein a letter to Abby, which you will read and forward to her, wherever she may be. I was not sorry that she had thoughts of giving up her place, at Harrison Square, or at least so arranging her plans as not to pay for being there longer than she should choose, when the realities of Summer should be upon her. None of us can tell far in advance what will please us, and least of all can Abby. I have spoken of Abby and children being at Exeter. Both your mother and I wish you to give us the happiness to be as much with us, with your children, as you can be. Bessy will be a delight to us, if you will have her there – if you and Amos cannot stay as long as she. Our plans are made for hospitality and comfort, and we both realize that a few weeks of a northern summer soon passes, and are all too short for our family reunions. We think too we can make Frank more jubilant than heretofore at Exeter, dull as it always is, for a lively man in Exeter, and hope he will be with you there when he can. It is no small self-denial to us, that we cannot count on Ned and Julia, while Mr. Chandler is absent. It is a high price to pay, for business purposes, to be deprived, as Ned will be, of any respite this summer.”

“I am told by an asthmatic here, that this climate always relieves, and in time cures asthma. This town is as pleasant as a new town can possibly be. Its prosperity is based on

furnishing supplies to the neighboring country, which is more or less use for grazing, with scattered ranches, all over the territory, but more especially on being the center whence are furnished all sorts of supplies to the miners, and people scattered through the mountains for a 100 miles West, S.W., and North and N. West. It is growing rapidly. They have fine carriages and horses, the people are cleanly and well behaved, and the water running along the ditches at the street sides, gives a refreshed feeling, even to look at, in a country where it seldom rains for ½ the year and more. I feel sure Amos would be perfectly healthy here. Money commands 20 to 30 per cent int., and Frank could use his banking ability profitably here, though getting big interest and getting good securities, (not difficult), is all the skill needed. It is the pleasantest town in the west, and the distance from the sea-board, and old friends is the only draw-back, almost, to it.”

“We do not now think of going to Cheyenne, and home by the Union Pacific, as we have seen full specimens of all the plain country of the interior of the Continent, this side of the mountains, and as it is 180 miles farther to return by Omaha etc.”

“I will now write a few lines to Ned.”

“With love to all, Your loving father, your mother fully joining, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “Do not think I recommend Frank’s coming here, as I know that N. York is the place for him, if Amos can live there. But [it] is something to feel there is a place where an asthmatic can live. Amos can become a Banker, perhaps!” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

9 June 1873: E[?] S. Stearns (Exeter) to CPT. “My dear Mrs. Tuck, I write at the request of my poor suffering wife to tell you how much she was delighted to receive your kind letter this evg. and to thank you for the sympathy and love which it evinced....For the last few days, Sunday excepted, when she was very sick, she has been comparatively comfortable. How long this state of health will continue cannot be even predicted. We hope present indications point to some weeks or even months perhaps of comfort but she is very sick, and likely to become worse at any time.”

“When you come to Exeter I earnestly hope you will be able to [word unclear] in and see her very often. You may be sure that such kindness will be a great comfort to us all. We close our year at the Seminary on Wednesday of next week and I shall then be able to be near her all the time.”

“Yesterday completes four years since I was engaged here. I have much, very much to be thankful for during that time, but what a ‘sea of troubles’! Aside from all minor disappointments, and sources of discomfort, to say no more, the robbery of my silver – the robbery of my salary – my severe sickness, and now the great calamity which impends make me sometimes wonder whether the Lord sent me here in mercy or in judgment.”

“May God keep you and Mr. Tuck whom I long to see, now and ever more, and [word unclear] will ever pray [word unclear] respectfully and most sincerely, E__ S. Stearns.”

[TFP, Box 3, Folder 8]

17 June 1873: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees’ meeting.

17 June 1873: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. "The Picture gave me a strong and an agreeable impression. I am glad indeed, and surprised, that you have succeeded in saving as much of true representation. But keep it mostly covered, second: it cannot be looked upon or thought upon too much, as I think, without wearing upon the fabric of your life. At least such was my experience with my own bereavements, and similar is my feeling now in regard to him, almost as near to me. The whole heart melts, and such a feeling loosens hold on life."

"I shall consider seeing you, en route from N. York to Exeter, but shall not decide till we reach N. York, next week, where I think, now, that we can arrive by Sat. 28 or Sunday 29th inst. We shall go to see your house, of course, and you will be in our arms and hearts all the time we are looking at your rooms, chairs, couch etc."

"I send this mere note, to Ned, as you and Frank will probably be away from N.Y., and I know not your special address at N. Hampton, We are both well enough, just now, notwithstanding your mother's feverish fears of weakened bowels etc., pertaining to her husband. I hope Amos is well by this time."

"Most affectionately, your loving father, Amos Tuck."

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

22 June 1873: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. "We now think we shall leave here on Tuesday evening, hoping to arrive at New York on Thursday at one or two o'clock. We intend to stay there till Monday morning after, the 30th of June, and then leave for Boston, at 8 o'clock, via Springfield. We could leave our traps at Springfield, and run up to No. Hampton and see you, unless you could come down to Springfield (at my expense), and stay with us at the Massasoit till the next train for Boston came along, which will be about 9 o'clock. Think this over and write me while I am in N. York, which you will prefer. I can't think of passing by you, not to see you for weeks. If Amos is not well at N.H. go at once to Exeter. Sarah Lane will open the House by the end of this week. We are very well, and anxious to leave here. I send this to Ned, to forward you, but should send it to Frank, if I were sure he were in N. York."

"Your mother joins me in this, and with me sends much love to you all."

"Most affectionately, Your father, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]]

2 July 1873: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "We did not meet Abby in Boston, because of the rain, but I saw Marcia and husband, (a nice fellow), and sent messages to her."

"It rained here most of the time yesterday, and the consequence is a most delightful condition on our grounds, and a most perfect summer day, this 2nd of July. Sarah and the cook, and Jim's little girl had been in the house a week, and it looked perfect throughout. I feel now we can make comfortable all our progeny who will come to us this summer. I have seen a few people, - all very cordial - Mrs. Stearns and Mrs. Gorham cannot hold out much longer. Most lovingly, yr. father, Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 July 1873: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "It was all owing to that dear, good, tender heart of yours, that you could not say NO, to poor Amos' teasing. How sorry I am for you both, especially for you who will suffer both what he suffers, and a mother's sympathy and distress, added. But, poor, dear Ellen, she could not say no, when her heart was scarcely healed over at all, since the great woe, that happened to her and Frank, and to all of us [i.e. early death of her infant son Benjamin]. So my heart pardons you and pardons Frank, that he did not, when he came, take the Pistol and throw it over Mount Tom, in holy indignation. The hammer and looking glass, gold watch and jack knife, etc. etc. are comparatively harmless and appropriate playthings for small children; not so with pistols for boys of 8 to 12 yrs. old. In such cases, always send for the surgeon to be in constant attendance. Amos and the other boys got through the day better than could have been expected. I am glad you all escaped with your lives."

"How charmingly you tried to allay my fears! Did the shot take out bone as well as flesh? Did it go through his hand, or how did it strike? Was it a wad only, or ball, or powder only? Why did they not set all their powder on fire at once? That was to have been expected."

"We are well. Abby comes at 5 ½ and will stay till Thursday. I saw her at her rooms yesterday. She never appeared more satisfactory. She looks well, and there is no need to take great worriment about her head-aches. Dolly is really not well, and I was content to have her go to Rockport with Mrs. Frye to bathe."

"I have been to New Market to-day to see Mr. Paul, and I got along through the day quite luxuriously. I was sorry Frank was obliged to run back so hastily to N. York. He has become indispensable to the Firm, and that is what he has been trying to 'fix' on Jay Cooke & Co. But it includes labor and responsibility. I am proud of the growing strength Frank has with financial men, and want him to be so cautious as to be known as one of the safe men, as well as capable men, in Wall Street. And I think his eyes are open to this view of his case, as well as others."

"Most affectionately to yourself Amos and tp Bessy, your mother joining, actually, Your loving father, Amos Tuck."

[marginal note by Amos Tuck French, Dec. 21 1901] Amos French shot himself with a pistol thro' the left hand on July 4th 1873 nearly blowing off his forefinger and making an ugly hole thro' his palm. It was celebrating the Glorious Fourth! The muscles are still sensitive when he moves his forefinger in Dec. 1901 – as a souvenir." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 July 1873: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "Abby and your mother have gone to Boston to-day. Abby thought she ought to go back, and of course I wished her to do what was for her happiness. She has had a good three days visit here, and is a dear daughter, made more so, of course, by her misfortunes, and by the pains to which she is now quite liable. She knows the [word illegible] against her taking physic, but says her headaches are actually unbearable without the evasive power of such medicine. She is sincerely desirous of doing right in all things, and she goes back to Mrs. Whittington's with our increased love and sympathy towards her. Nelly went home yesterday, impelled by a lack of girls here and abundance at Mrs. Whittington's, with a prospect of her 'standing at a table,' or 'having a table' at the 'millenium'

of 25 years settlement of Rev. Mr. Means. I bought Abby a package of R.R. tickets, and she will come to Exeter often, we hope, and her children.”

“I have a good horse. I am glad Ned and Julia, as well as Frank are to be with you Sunday. Give them all my love. I may take Abby to N. Hampton for a day and night, before July is past, to help her to recreation, as well as to see you. I am glad to be re-assured, as to Amos. I fear that you have understated his accident, but am now satisfied you were pretty honest, - for a Tuck. It is cool and a little rainy to-day. I hope your complaint of yesterday was but temporary. Bear in mind, that whenever you get clied [sp.?] of N. Hampton, here is a warmly welcome place awaiting you and your whole family. Think of this, as saith St. Paul – Lovingly yours, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

19 July 1873: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “How does my dear daughter do, this stormy, cold weather? We have a fire in the fireplace, to warm the halls, to-day, especially because your mother was sick with terrific head-ache yesterday, and needs cosseting o-day, to keep her up. The storm and your mother’s illness prevented my going to N.Y. yesterday, as intended. I think to go there some time next week. Ned has written me of the enjoyment he and Julia had with you, but Ned said, ‘Poor Ellen was dreadfully tired,’ going to Mt. Holyoke. The look at that Railway frightened me. I hope the dear daughter has no serious consequences from going to that aerial height. Give Bessy and Amos my love, and tell them to be very obedient to that [3-4 words illegible]. If you were here we could [several lines cut off by the scanning.]

“...bestows the love of a new-born into our family. She seems never to have been in a loving nest before. Ned finds wedlock a sort of slavery, she clings so close; but he likes it, and said to me last winter, that a man must be a slave to bachelor habits, ‘or something,’ anyhow. But, as you say, (or Abby), it seems a pity the poor boy can’t get exercise enough.”

“Mrs. Stearns and Mrs. Gorham are both a little more sick.”

“Jim has cleaned out the weeds from our very limited garden. My birth-day pears are abundant, and will be ripe in two weeks, but we must beware of cholera, as well as of play-pistols, when you come with your children and cheering presence.”

“I was at Portland, on Thursday. Angie and husband were at the paternals, vacating. Did not call at Biddeford. Yr. uncle John and children are at Effingham, - glad to be back in N. England.”

“Your mother sends love – Your loving father, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 August 1873: The Daily Democrat of Sedalia, Missouri, reported: “A.&P.R.R. – Important Changes in the Management – A New York special says that a heavy bull movement is going on in Atlantic & Pacific stock. Owing to the purchase of large amounts of stock by Pennsylvania Central railroad parties, important changes have taken place in the management of the road. Messrs. Bishop, Morrill, Curtis, and Billing have retired from the directory, and Mr. Thomas A. Scott, J. Edgar Thompson, A. Solomon and Alfred L. Dennis, of the Pennsylvania Central

railroad, re-elected in their places. The board has accepted the resignation of Mr. Bishop as President, and elected Thomas A. Scott as President. Mr. Stout has also resigned the treasuryship, and Clinton B. Fisk, of St. Louis, is elected in his stead. This means the consolidation of the Atlantic & Pacific and the Texas Pacific railroads, and the speedy extension of the joint road to the Pacific. Andrew Pierce, Jr., has been retained as Vice-President, and will have general management of the West.”

2 September 1873: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French. “I am very glad to hear that Amos and Ellen and all, are thriving at Babylon. I know it was once a thriving town, with ‘hanging gardens’ and sich, but was under the impression it had latterly ‘fallen,’ etc. But that may have been merely a rumor, started by the Bears.”

“I have watched the gold market, guessing in my simplicity, how the changes affect you and Ned. I am glad to be told you are ‘outside that market,’ which I trust means that your pots and kettles are not exposed.”

“Afftly. to all – Amos Tuck”

[P.S. on reverse] “Tell Ellen that Sarah [Lane? Two lines obscured] ...her, as Ellen suggested to me that I should ascertain: - to take the place of a New Haven woman – and stay a month or so. A.T.”

{Pencilled note probably by Frank.] “But Sarah says, don’t let go of the other woman till I know certain.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

13 September 1873: Amos Tuck (No. 2, E. 34th St., NYC) to Laura Nelson. “I think it is rather more than you expected, to see all obstacles, and all objections to you going to Europe, so completely removed as they now seem to be. It is a novel condition to you, to find yourself at the end of your school days, and in contemplation of a trip to Europe, of a longer or shorter period, and after that of settling down to be a young lady in one or another of the several pleasant homes which you are welcome to enter.”

“If I mistake not, you have periods of doubts and misgivings, as to the wisdom of cutting off your studies at Vassar, and of now making an end of your pursuits at the College, and of quitting the companionship of girls who are to finish a through course of education. I am not disappointed in seeing that you have doubts and instead of thinking the less of you for having these doubts, I think the more of you for them. Seeing your doubts, as well as feeling my own, I have been made to re-examine the grounds of my judgment in favor of your going to Europe, and I come to the following conclusions – “

“My judgment has been controlled by my great desire to gratify you. I thought you had so set your heart upon it, that you felt you could not give it up. I therefore felt I could not comfortably go without you. My sober judgment is, that if you can feel happy in completing your course at Vassar or at least staying one more year there, it will be better for you in the long run. You cannot, I think, get abroad compensation for what you lose at the College. I have great fear that you will have life long regrets, if you now leave College. But you may go, or not as you

feel you must. No one knows I am writing this. I will show it to Ned and Julia, and see what they think. I can go without you now, if you think best, but shall count on going with you at the close of your studies at Vassar, if you do not go now. I can but feel that in no other place than at Vassar, can you get such an education, and such general culture as you aspire for, and that to stop short now, with the necessity of soon coming out as a young lady, is what you are not prepared for, as some one, who mature[s] young, and what you do not desire.”

“Most afftly, yr. grandpa Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

18 September 1873: Amos Tuck (St. Louis) to Ellen French. “In this trouble my heart goes out to you, who, while I am writing, I know to be, with your dear husband, in great grief, disappointment and chagrin. I know full well, that Frank’s honor is safe, as I know him, as every body does, to be incapable of dishonor. I am proud of him still, and I fully believe, that as to him, he is to be an eminently successful man. He has talents, reputation and character. He has friends who will stick by him, and I want him and you, in this matter of suspension of the Main House, caused by affairs, I suppose, independent of him, to believe and to feel, that it is a check – severe, it is true – but not permanent, or lasting, to his eventual prosperity. Let it develop fortitude, darling Ellen, self-control, and closer love, not only between you and your esteemed, beloved husband, but between us all. To you both – Your most loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “I will be in New York God willing on Sunday Father”

[Marginal note by Amos Tuck French.] “Jay Cooke & Co. failed a few days before. Northern Pacific busted ‘em. FOF was admitted a member on Jan. 1 of that year – Hard luck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

15 October 1873: Amos Tuck (At Sea aboard the Steamer Ville de Havre) to Ellen French and Abby Frye. “We are all well, and in a smooth sea within 250 miles of Brest, as we believe, hoping to arrive there by 2 o’clock, to-morrow, and to be reported in the N. York papers of the evening. We apprehend you have begun to be a little anxious to hear of the ship’s arrival for we have been out a little beyond the usual time. Did you have storm the day after we left? We think it may have been so, for we seemed to be on the outskirts of one for the first week of our experience. The weather was not very bad, but the roll of the sea was ugly for the first 6 days, and exceeded anything I had before experienced, and all that Ned and Julia had felt, except on one trip. Our speed was spoiled on the night of the second day out by breaking off one of the 4 flanges of the ship’s screw, and within 12 hours after, by breaking off another, and since then, our motion and speed have been something like that of a fish, minus half its fins. We were all sick unto a crisis [Tuck scratched out ‘vomiting’], for say 3 days, Julia, strange to say, being the greatest sufferer. Your mother has stood it bravely, and now claims to be an old salt of the first water, unaffected, as we all now are, by the worst motions of the ship. Laura had a melancholy air, bravely resisted for the first ½ week, and was tenacious of her couch, but is now as well and as happy as she ever was in her life. Ned has been full of fun from the first, making sport of his own qualms, and helpful towards the feeble minded. Julia has looked pale oftener than any other

of the party, but has borne her ills in silence, or extenuated them in her language and [unclear] of endurance. 'The Subscriber' was sick with the others, but has not endured the suffering on this voyage he has always felt before. The unburdening, consequent on the rough weather and rougher sea at first experience, cleared my head of the lightness always felt on past voyages, and having so many of our family with me, and feeling so hopeful of all the dear ones at home, I can pronounce this voyage the pleasantest of all I have ever taken. I am in the saloon, at about 3 o'clock P.M. (it is 10 ½ A.M. by my watch, denoting N.Y. time); your mother is at my left, reading the last of a book she took from N. York. Ned is near me at the right, also reading, Julia is re-arranging her trunk while Laura is amusing herself with someone of several pleasant acquaintances on board. We are on the 11th day from America, and know nothing of what has occurred since we left, of course. Our prayer is that no ill has happened to those we love. We hardly expect to learn anything at Brest where we only stay a few hours, not going on shore, nor even at Havre, where we expect to land on Sat. morning, - two weeks after leaving - nor till we arrive in Paris, say, Sat. eve. at 5 o'clock, when we expect to meet John Munroe at the station, and to be posted at once on all that is marvelous in the news. Early next week, we hope for letters, when we shall know your 4 days experience next after we saw you all. Send this along, of course. All send love and I remain Your ever loving father, Amos Tuck."

[Marginal note by Amos Tuck French.] "S.S. 'Ville de Havre' was sunk in a collision shortly afterward with great loss of life in Nov. 1873." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

19 October 1873: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Frank French. "I wrote Ellen on board ship, three days ago. The next day after, we posted letters at Brest, but were able to do so, as we discovered, only by asking special favor of the Purser, and then without paying postage. We were sorry to do this, as if the letters went to America, they were to be charge double postage. You may not have rec'd the letter to Ellen and you all, in which case you escaped punishment of postage. The last three days on ship board were perfect days, and we were on a most placid sea, - just like a smooth passage on Long Island Sound. We were 24 hours between Brest and Havre, and the passage was perfect, in sea and in weather. We disembarked at Havre at 4 ½ o'clock, on Friday, and had all our baggage passed without trouble, and without being opened, and at a little past six, sat down to a table d'hote dinner at Fascati's Hotel, where we had rooms which filled Mrs. Tuck and Laura with perfect delight. Indeed they almost went crazy over their first view of a foreign city. At Brest we had not landed, nor been so near the City as to see the place to any advantage, consequently the novelties burst upon them all at once at Havre - old Houses, old churches, walled docks, clean streets, a foreign tongue and foreign garbs, and nameless other things greeting them all at once, in a new world because so old. My chief pleasure was in looking at them and hearing their exclamations of delight and surprise. Saturday morning, Ned and Julia left at 6, while the rest of us remained in Havre till 12 o'clock, yesterday, spending the fore-noon in seeing the place [and] visiting the great Aquarium etc. From Havre to Paris is about 145 miles, and we arrived here at 4 ½ P.M., going into rooms at the Hotel Splendide, where we are now comfortably established with some dozen other fellow voyagers. The Railroad ride was

delightful, as the weather was perfect, and the country almost a continuous garden. We all came ashore fresh and vigorous, and could enjoy everything to the best advantage.”

“I went with Ned to ‘the Bureau,’ this morning at 9 ½ o’clock, and returned to our Hotel at 12, to take our second lunch, our dinner to be at 6. After this lunch, we all walked to the garden of the Tuilleries, and thence to the Place de la Concord, and saw the statues, the Column of Luxor, the two fountains in full flow, and then walked to our Hotel, by the way of the Madeleine and the Boulevards, Mrs. Tuck being thoroughly tired, and now here I am writing to you. It may be of interest to say, that by our delay we lost our reserved rooms, but Ned and Julia have a Parlor and bedroom, satisfactory for the short time they propose to board, at 30 francs a day, while we have a room and Laura a room at 6 ½ francs a day each, including ‘service,’ and thus shall we probably abide till apartments are secured, when we shall, if no change of plan intervene, all go into one suite of apartment rooms. I will also add, that I am pronounced pretty well by the family, and am able to asseverate my very good health on my word of honor. This especially for my daughters, who are somewhat inclined to infidelity of opinion on paternal topics.”

“Thus have I written you on the current topics of a family letter, not alluding to business, or to the exceptional condition of affairs still existing in N. York, and elsewhere. Do not, however, suppose we are not impressed with these matters. We talked, and talked of you, and the circumstances surrounding you, before we landed, and our greatest interest on arriving was to get a knowledge of such events, if any, as might materially and especially affect you. We notice nothing, except the fact that, in spite of the continuing stringency, J.C. McC & Co. of London are still on their legs, which we, of course, attribute mainly to your ability and fortitude. We await your letters with very great interest. While I do not wish you to spend time to write out the trifles of your experience in Wall Street, or those things which you may think best not to put on paper, even to us, yet Ned and I wish you to communicate to us all that you may deem important in your own affairs and progress, which you think appropriate, assuring you, as I know there is yet no need of doing, that our interest could scarcely be greater in any business matters, than in those which now concern you. At present writing, I am rather appalled at the price of gold, the price of stocks, and the rate of interest, and cannot keep my mind off from the terrible stringency which has brought about such results.”

Besides American affairs, the political outlook here is full of grave interest. It now seems that the Duke of Chambourg [Chambord] will be installed as King of France before many weeks, and that we shall be in Paris during a revolution. It is not doubted that it will be a peaceful change, as MacMahon has charge of the army and is committed to keep the peace, and knows how to do it, - with bayonets. I should be, naturally, all on the side of the present government, if I were sure it did not include as well Thiers, as the extreme of Reds and all sorts of Come outers [sp.?]. I do not find anybody with accurate knowledge, and so I do not dare to hope or pray on either side. With all the rest of the world, I stand and look on, to see what will come next.”

“Laura is writing to her mother at the other side of the table, and the next mail will carry out several letters to our tribe, no doubt.”

“With love to Ellen and the children, affectionately yours, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 October 1873: Amos Tuck (Paris) to John Tuck. “We arrived, safely, on Friday 17th inst. P.M. at Havre, having had at the last four days of as smooth sea as is often had on the Sound between N.Y. and Boston. Previous to that for the ten or eleven days subsequent to our sailing the sea had been constantly rough with a heavy swell striking us constantly at the side of the ship, which produced a rolling of the vessel, more turbulent than I remember to have ever before felt. Some of the Passengers were frightened, especially as we were most of the time having a succession of Squalls and rains, which drove us below, and occasioned rapid orders, and much running to and fro on the decks, as though some thing serious was the matter. Two wings of the four of the ship’s screw were broken off in the first four days, and apprehensions were had that the other two might be broken, in which case we should have been obliged to depend on the sailing power alone, which was small in proportion to the ship’s size, in which case we might not have been heard of for 4 weeks, and might have been a month in getting to Port. In fear of this, we were put on economical food for some days, but soon had full supply, as we went successfully on our way, rejoicing. There was nothing at any time, I think, more alarming than that our relatives in America might fear we were lost for some time, and thereby be sorely troubled. This thought alone troubled me at any time. Looking back now, I feel we had a good passage, and thank God for his ever present mercies. We went into rough sea, the next morning after sailing, and all of us were sick for from 3 to 4 days, but at the end thereof, came our bright and shining. My peculiar infirmity was no better on board, but since our arrival here, I am improved, have consulted a physician, and expect to be well, by exercise of continued care in diet and exercise. We are now at a hotel, but to-morrow go to a furnished house, or ‘apartments,’ as they are called, which Ned has rented for 4 to 6 mos., where Ned and his wife will keep house with us with them, bearing a portion of the expense. There is enough to see in Paris to occupy attention for all the 4 to 6 months Ned will be here, and I think we better stay with them, while they stay in Paris, and then go elsewhere, if we remain here in Europe any longer. My wife and Laura are much excited and delighted over the novelties of all kinds, seen on all sides, - language, houses, dress, pictures, statues, monuments, churches, cathedrals, etc., and rejoice that they came to Europe before dying. This being my third visit, I have not the same sensations. Laura will go to work, hard, at once in study of the language, so as to speak it, as I shall do too, to the extent of my strength. I cannot work very hard, without its going to my bowels, but cannot be content without achieving something, from week to week, for the occupation of a loafer is not congenial as you know, to our breed of people.”

“Be not surprised if there be a revolution, or an attempt at revolution, in France, even before this letter reaches you. A trial of strength is to be made between the present government and the Monarchy, as at present the balance in the strength of contending forces is a matter of doubt. It will be decided next month. Some apprehend the shedding of blood, here in Paris. We are assured that even in such case, all that our safety will require, is to keep in doors, and let

them bang away. The houses are all made of stone and our flag and discretion will no doubt carry us through.”

“It was refreshing to receive, just as we were leaving, your affectionate assurances in behalf of yourself and our dear relatives at Effingham, to all of whom, and especially to our dear, faithful, loving sister Betsy, I and my wife, and especially Ned, desire to be remembered in great affection. So also to all at Biddeford. Your aff. brother, Amos Tuck.”

[Marginal note by Amos Tuck.] “Forward to John if he is not at Effingham.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

30 October 1873: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Frank French. “The deepest thing on our minds to-day is a clause in Ellen’s letter of the 17th, received yesterday, in which she speaks of ‘Poor Angie,’ and her ‘babies,’ alluding to a supposed letter rec’d already from Abby, giving particulars, in such terms, as precludes any other conclusion than that she is dead! Poor Angie, indeed! We have no letter from Abby on the subject. We await further news, in melancholy spirits, though we only expect accounts of a sudden change in her expected recovery, and of her sudden death. It relieves us from some anxiety for her babies, to know that Mr. Clark is a man of versatility, and tact, and that with a father and mother to help him, and he an only son, it is probable and quite certain, that the children will be well cared for, in some way. I have written him to-day.”

“Ellen detailed your exertions for sustaining J.C. Mc. & Co., by which I clearly see that not only have you done as much as any one else could do, but that you have done more than any one else could do, to sustain the House, and that it to-day exists, as a business establishment, still in running order, solely because you happened to be entrusted with the greatest part of the control of its affairs. We knew this, before Ellen’s letter came, but see it more clearly, when Ellen speaks of Mr. McC.’s general depression, of your labors, and what Mr. McC. thinks of the efficiency of your labors. She speaks of Abby’s having written about Angie, and of your having written. No letter of the kind, referred to, had come from Abby, and no letter of any sort has been received from you, except three lines from your clerk, accompanying Jay Cooke & Co.’s proposition to their creditors, and a slip giving account of [the] biography of Jeremiah Mason, for both of which I was obliged. If it be any satisfaction to your friends to know how Ned and I regard their proposition to creditors, say to those about you, that we have never read a document of this kind which suggested more honor and high-mindedness. It is a credit to human nature, to see such a proposition made by the members of a most distinguished House, prostrated by misfortune; and whatever may happen in future, in regard to the Bonds put on the market by them, their exceptional honor and honesty must be beyond question. The obligations of the nation to Jay Cooke & Co., in the critical period of the war, I believe will now run no hazard of being obscured.”

“We see much said, by telegraph, about resumption of specie payments, so far as silver is concerned.. From this stand-point, we do not believe it possible to exist, for any time. Why will it, (the silver), not all go into Customs, - till exhausted, - and is their enough, no matter how industrious the government officials in exchanges, to go the rounds even of that demand? Can

greenbacks be refused for Customs duties if they are equal to silver? – and if equal to silver, why not equal to gold? and will not Mr. Grant or Mr. Richardson find they have got farther away from specie payments, instead of nearer, by attempting to skate on that thin ice? I don't know much about these intricate questions, but shall not be much surprised, if Mr. Grant tries to become a financier, that Mr. Richardson will conclude it is a good time to get angry and resign. However, nous verrons.”

“Since writing thus far, Peter has come to the door, said ‘dejeuner est servie,’ and I, Mrs. T. Laura and Julia have taken our ½ past 11 breakfast. At the table I said, ‘I am writing to Frank, what messages?’, to which Julia at once replied, and all joined, ‘Give him my love, and to Ellen and the children.’ I go out with Julia at one o'clock to order a suit of thick winter clothes, it being voted by the Regency who govern me, that the one thick suit I have, is one suit too few for me, here. It is cold here, and thick clothes are essential. We are getting over the colds which most of us had in consequence of a change of latitude and of coming into a newly occupied house. We have wood and coal fires and are delightfully situated. We are conferring with a doctor, but none of us is considered likely to need even the perfect doctor to any considerable extent. I am obedient, almost confessing a degree of illness I do not feel, so as not to quarrel with my anxious guardians. Even they, however, cease to be much troubled, I think, about my infirmities. We hope Amos was not seriously sick, and as Ellen wrote two weeks ago to-morrow now, and we have heard nothing, of course we feel relieved from anxiety. With love to all, from all – Affectionately yours Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

2 November 1873: Catherine P. Tuck (Paris) to Ellen French. “I will address this letter to you, as Laura writes to her mother every week. Or course I expect you both to exchange letters, should you deem them worth the extra postage. Do you know, I hardly think myself fairly used, for while my letters undergo general inspection, I on the contrary never know what Laura, Ned, Julia; nor always what your father writes, as he frequently indites his epistles from the office. So you see I am liable either to repeat them, or else to send you a very stupid letter. I rec'd a very nice letter from you on Thursday last, and I have had two from Abby. It seems we do not get all the letters sent. You allude to some we have not yet seen, - one from Frank, and one from Abby, which would have explained what is the misfortune that has occurred to poor Angie: we infer that she is not living, still it is just possible she may have become insane, in which case there might be room for hope. Your father wrote to Mr. C. however, assuming she is dead. Poor Angie!”

“Since I wrote you and Abby before, we have gone into apartments, and are now living in great splendor! At 154 Champs d'Elysee, apparently but a stone's throw from the Arc de Triomphe, quite an aristocratic part of the City, and close by Mrs. Munroe's. The Arc de Triomphe is the center from which many of the principal avenues radiate in the west part of the City, built within the past fifty years. These avenues are wide, straight as an arrow almost as far as the eye can reach, line with trees, elegant mansions, and are beautiful beyond expression. Our apartments are at present on the third floor of one of these mansions. We occupy them

temporarily until the floor above is vacated, when we go up one floor. They are all alike however, so in describing one suite, one gives a description of all. The building like the neighboring mansions is of stone, five stories high and a handsome style of architecture which I will not attempt to describe, not being skilled in that art - or science. You enter thru a court or port cochè, where sits the concierge. The staircase, which is of marble and carpeted with Brussels, is easy of ascent, each step being low and wide. On each landing are two large massive double doors, of a dark wood, one opening into a narrow passage, and the into the main entrance Hall, or entre-chambre, which is a large oval room containing seven double doors. The wainscot, ceiling and paneling are painted in different shades of brown and deep red, decorated with gilt. Carpet, centre table and high back straight chairs with deep red upholstery to match. On the back side of the room and opening into the inner court, is a large bay window of crown-glass, probably twenty feet wide. Directly opp. the main entrance, are the doors to the dining room; at your left, and opp. The bay window are the two parlours (which are of different size). Still standing at the entrance, at your left – the doors leading to Julia's room; at your right, doors opening into the passage which leads in to our and to Laura's rooms. At the end of which passage is a door which opens on to an elevator which can use at will. Between the dining room and bay window, another passage, leading by other bedrooms at the left, to the kitchen on the right hand. So you can see the whole suite forms a complete circle, a bed and bath-room on one side helping to make it out. The two parlours, one quite large, the other smaller, are finished alike in dead white, pink, and gilt, with paintings of little cupids over each door, with a back ground of sky-blue."

"The parlours open in to each other by two double doors on one side of the room and a large glass partition between, having a curtain which can be raised on occasion of throwing all into one. By taking off doors from their hinges (which they do for parties) the dining room, parlours, Julia's room, and ante room can all be thrown in to one, making it very magnificent. The large parlour is upholstered in tapestry of sky-blue and white with chints colours with small gilt chairs and large easy chairs. Muslin and tapestry drapery at the four windows. Our smaller 'salon' has crimson satin damask instead, which I like better, inasmuch as it looks warmer and seems more cosy and two windows. The bed-rooms all have heavy draperies, as well as each a mantel clock and ornaments, mirrors and mirrored wardrobe like yours in your room. And now I think I have spent space enough on this subject, but your papa admonished me in the beginning that he had left all such descriptions to me. Good of him!"

"We are all in tolerable health. The Dr. has not repeated his visit, altho he was due last week, which goes to show either that he does not consider his patients in great need of his services, or that he has too much on his hands. I think all you father needs do, is, to act upon the knowledge he has, and be true to himself, which [requires] a degree of patience that I fear he will not attain to. His pet vice is to exercise too much [by] walking. We have not been sightseeing very much as yet, the weather having been chilly and rainy at times, and we all have had bad colds. Still, we cannot drive out without being ravished by the beauty of Paris. We have been into the Louvre and the Madaleine but one might spend weeks there without becoming satiated.

We have been obliged to give our attention a little to shopping before being presentable in polite society. Laura has a beautiful blk. Silk and ha, besides many sundries. I have a new garment which takes the place of my velvet, (which was vote not fit) and a new bonnet and veil. We have had quite a number of calls, and Friday your papa and I returned several, while Julia and Laura were out shopping. Yesterday was fete day, and we all intended to drive out to the Bois, but the rain prevented. People are very social here, most too much so, as I have been several times caught in my morning gear; and now since writing, while all the rest are at church, the oor of my slaon was thrown open, and Madame Munroe announced. She sat down and chatted much the same as tho I had known her all my days, when I had seen once only: not finding her at home when we called. People are very pleasant and all that, but I must say I would prefer to be less exposed. The riving in this part of the city, is constant, and as I sit now, I have only to raise my head to see hundreds of carriages of every variety, some elegant equipages. They have all come here from church and we have had our breakfast. We have (on week days) café at 8 ¼ and breakfast at 11 ¾ and dinner at 6 ¼. Sundays we vary by having each, a little late. Julia has gone out driving with Ned for an hour, after which he invites me to go with her, while Ned and Laura take a walk. It has been raining, but is now pleasant again. Laura commenced with her new teacher – Mademoiselle Patin – yesterday, and is delighted with her. But she will tell you all about that. Last Friday Julia gave her first dinner. Miss Gurney from N.Y. and Mr. Rhodes, of whom I dare say you have heard. Mrs. Richards and her daughter Marion, and Mrs. Russell, came to tea. Laura wore her new silk, and looked and appeared quite charming, never once indulging in a scowl. Marion evidently took quite a fancy to her an kissed her on both cheeks on parting. Alice Munroe is a lively girl too, not far from Laura’s age, and every thing seems to work favorably for enjoyment as well as for improvement. I miss the warm rooms of N.E. as well as some few other comforts, but there is nothing Ned and Julia are not anxious to do for our comfort, and happiness. Your father says he is situated ‘exactly to his mind’ and so I am satisfied, but time can never drag in Paris. It is a world of itself; but summer is the time to be here. We shall probably remain here while Ned is obliged to stay, and by that time we shall be better qualified to travel by ourselves. At present, I for one, feel like a deaf mute, and do not expect to recover from that condition while in this country, but your father is improving in French, and I expect Laura to be quite an expert in six months.”

“It seems by the papers that Count de Chambord declines the honor of the French crown, so we may not have the pleasure of witnessing a Coronation after all. But I cannot write any more this time, as yr. papa and Laura are watching the driving from the windows close to me, and into my ears are constantly din’d exclamations, such as ‘Oh Grandpa, do look at that carriage’ and ‘see this – and see that’ – and ‘Oh there is a donkey!’ and ‘see that with a knapsack on one side’ and ‘Oh! Do look at that horse,’ and ‘There is a dog cart.’ – ‘Oh Grandma do look once, just see that whole family in that funny carriage’ – etc. etc. So I might as well give it up. I think I shall not go out, as Lizzie Gardner has sent word she should call to day; the second time she has attempted to call. Julia left her love for you all before she went out, and papa an Laura

send ever so much. And with heaps from myself for you and yours, and Abby and her – I am ever affectionately, Mother.”

[P.S.] “Nov. 4th – No more letters as yet, but have just learned thro letter to Geo. Gier [sp.?] of the death of Dr. Gorham! Can it be so! We wait impatiently for letters, and expect them to day. How sad to think of Ex. without Dr. Gorham! All well with us to day. Mother”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 November 1873: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees’ meeting.

1 December 1873: Catherine P. Tuck (Paris) to Abby Frye. “We are nearly paralyzed this morning by the shocking news of the loss of the ‘Ville du Havre;’ with probably nearly all on board! We have been anxiously looking for its arrival since last Tuesday, the time she was due, and this morning as Ned went out to his office at 8 ½ [I] said to him, to send us word if she had been telegraphed. He had been gone but a few minutes when he returned with the startling report, that Mrs. Munroe had rec’d a telegram from Miss Mixter – who with her father, mother, grandfather and sister were on their way to Paris – dated Cardiff, Wales, saying, ‘My sister and I are saved: shall we come to you?’ Of course we inferred there had been a terrible disaster, and soon after Ned Left, your father took a carriage an with Julia and myself, went down town to learn what more we could, but nothing further had been heard. At about 11 a dispatch from the Captain of the ship gave information that she was cut in two in mid ocean, and 108 passengers lost. This is horrible! and makes our blood run cold. There were quite a number on board who were well known here by our friends, and who would have come right into our circle. The Mixters have been here before, and their apartments are close by us, awaiting them. Ned and Julia know them very well, and so does your father. Mrs. Binniger, who is lost, is mother of Mrs. Post with whom we have exchanged calls; she was coming on to be present at her daughter’s confinement who is within a month of her time. It is too dreadful, and I will tell you now, that the ship was a miserable unseaworthy vessel, and we all had made up our minds we should not return in her at any rate. I tremble to think what peril we should have been in, with our broken screw, had a storm befallen us. As it was, it seemed as if she certainly would capsize, and we had not what was said to be a very rough sea, altho I pray never to see a rougher. Passengers acknowledged to each other too, that there was great want of discipline.”

“You may rest assured we shall take great precautions in returning, then we shall at least not be to blame. I shall adhere to my first instinct and insist upon a Cunarder. It seems to me we are fated to hear nothing but bad news, so much has happened since we left home, two short months ago. I am thankful to be able to say however, that we [are] all in tolerable health. Yr. father has been under Dr. Acosta’s care ever since we came, and we think he will be entirely cured, tho, as the r. says, we cannot expect a chronic disease like his to disappear at once. Ned is very much better, and improving every day, tho still under treatment. I am as well as usual, and so is Laura. It makes her highly indignant to have any one intimate that she is growing fat, otherwise I might venture. Julia is having her throat treated, but as yet, it does not seem to be

much better; still the Dr. says he shall cure her also, and we hope all to return home, strong, Providence permitting. And trust we may find all our dear ones well and happy. I cannot bear to think of Ex. It seems to me there will be no one of our friends left by the time we reach home. How shocking about Arthur Gorham!”

“We have not heard one word direct from [word obscured] since we left, except the letter from [word obscured] written at Utica soon after his return [word obscured] Dr’s funeral. I feel quite neglected. [Word obscured] to me. I have done nothing but write letters [word obscured]. I have only done so twice to you, on account of Laura’s weekly letters, wherein I suppose she tells you nearly every thing that [word obscure] interest. We do not go about as much as we should – sight-seeing, on account of the bad weather. This is not a good climate and I for one feel that much exposure is very bad for your father. The Dr. laid great stress upon his avoiding colds. He calls his disease a Catarrh of the bowels, and says it is induced by the damp climate of St. Louis more even than the water. Julia has dinner company very often, and Thanksgiving day dined twelve besides our own family. To please Ned and Julia particularly, I produced some mince pies which were highly complimented. Friday eve. Geo. Gill dined with us. It is astonishing how stupid some people can be! Laura has gone to her dancing lesson this P.M. and is quite delighted with this branch of her studies. I am sorry you have been sick. Hope you are quite well again. We ought to be very happy and are. Ned and Julia are as kind and affectionate as they can be, and Ned says Julia never seemed more happy in her life – showing that she does not chafe under the infliction of so many of her husband’s relatives. She is a dear good child. I am only afraid that the climate of Paris is damaging to her. Papa is asleep in the sofa. With much love to Nelly, Dolly and kind regards to all our friends. I am ever affectionately Mother.”

[P.S.] “Your and Ellen’s letter gladly rec’d. Send this to Ellen.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 December 1873: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Ellen French. “I do not read Laura’s letter, though I send it in this envelope. I will not enlarge on the loss of the Ville du Havre. Was it not horrible! The survivors are here, generally, and our friends are stirred up on all sides. It was a happy and Providential escape for us, for neither the ship or the management of it, deserved our confidence. The Line has been losing money, and everything indicated penury – table, discipline, and [wor unclear] throughout. We will return by a Cunarder.”

“McCulloch and Company’s Circular was noted in the City article of the London Times, of the 3rd inst. (I think), in a most flattering manner. Ned and I said, of course, that the House had been save only by Frank, and he ought to have all the honor. This we say to all we are say it to, only restrained by what no doubt restrains Frank and you, - that claims of talent or merit of any kind, cannot, as a general rule, be safely indulged in, except in one’s family. Other friends, though very near, are too human to listen to such claims, without being less our friends than before. However, this is true, that Frank’s services have been so manifest that no one can blink them, and such as we think we will insure him a gratifying position, almost anywhere he wants one. All our friends think very highly of Frank.”

“I know you will like to know, really, how your mother and Julia get along together. I answer, capitally. Julia takes the lead, and there is no jealousy, no jars, and mutual affection of a warm character. Julia and Ned are equally tender in their solicitude for all our comforts, and for my health especially. It is certainly very remarkable that a wife should have so much real love, as Julia has for her husband’s relatives. She loves you and Abby with real sisterly affection. She likes to play cards, and is as jolly as any one could be. Ned says she never appeared so happy as now, and he is the ever frolicksome boy, at times, always when we are alone evenings, that he was 10 years ago. He lies down on the carpet, stands on his head, against the ceiling, affects to be mad, and stamps, as his mother says he sometimes did, when a child, and jokes all of us all around, in the funniest manner possible.”

“Laura is in good spirits, and is happy generally, and improving. To speak the French, is a difficult achievement, but she is progressing, and will succeed. She dances, and is improving in society tactics. I think I am near well. I do not drink red wine, and feel all the better for avoiding it. The weather is despicable – almost all the time foggy and chilly. I had present of a gloriously warm dressing gown, last night, from Ned and Julia; and Laura a beautiful Porte monnai. These are Christmas gifts anticipated. I hear there is snow in N. England. I look on a dry American winter with complacency. It is better than a S.W. Missouri, or a French winter. It is my native air, my native element. Still I am not sorry to be here, but yet am sorry that being here, puts me so far away from those who are a part of myself on the other side of the ocean. Be assured, dear Ellen, of the love I bear you, of which you remember I have often tried to assure you, and with love to your husband, children and Sarah – in which all here would join, if I should suggest it, I remain yr. loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[Marginal note] “2 P.M. P.S. I am just in receipt. of Frank’s, enclosing biography of John P. Hale. Laura has written [word unclear] – I once – Let us know if Frank is let off of J.C. & Co. in bankruptcy.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 December 1873: Amos Tuck (Paris) to (Dr. William H. Gorham. “Dear Doctor William: You cannot have a disposition to endure mere words, nor to welcome many words, though they may convey to you sincere thoughts, deep sympathy and the good will of true friendship. Accept what I write to you as suggestions of my own state of mind, and the expression of sentiments, which, if they can do you no good, cannot be actively suppressed, without a feeling of self-reproach. I have not dared to write to you sooner, for I have been too near to the sad realities of your case, not to know how worthless at such times is the language of even the sincerest friendship. It is some consolation to know that our friends think of us, and love us, and mourn with us, but I think it is difficult for any friend to open his mouth to us, in such case, without giving us addition pain. My impulse then is, only to assure you that though so far away, and apparently dumb, while the events of the past two months have transpire at Exeter, our thoughts have been very much with you, and our conversation very much about you. Mrs. Tuck, and Laura too, wish you to know how heavy has been to us the blows which have smitten your household, within the last few months, and especially the last. But to talk, or write about them,

is idle, and I feel rebuked to use words, which seem inadequate to express appropriate sentiments, and therefore I say no more. I have written twice to Mr. Sawyer, and Mrs. Tuck has written Mary, and from Mr. Sawyer I have heard twice, detailing to me all. On them we still depend to know what we still crave to learn about you and them.”

“In friendship, Yours, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

23 December 1873: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees’ meeting.

31 December 1873: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Frank French. You are aware that we shall await with interest to know what will be the upshot of your arrangements in N. York, to supplement the McCulloch & Co. arrangements in London. Ned and I often speak of it, and utter our guesses. I would say something about the Munroe & Co. matters here, only there is nothing to say. I do not think the Richardson prospect is often spoken of, all parties acting as though they had said their say, and must take the result of what has been already said. A man is needed here, who expects to stay, and who will therefore reform according to his notions. Now, Mr. Kern does all the responsible business, and can’t be taken from it with propriety, excepting a competent man, who is to stay here. Ned declines to disturb the routine, when he intends to be in N. York by May. With competitions springing up he is fully impressed with ideas of enterprise in business, and the necessity of them.”

“Yours afftly, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1874-5:

Tuck spent much of his time in New York where he and Austin Corbin were active in the early development of the Manhattan Beach Rail Road and other properties.

1874

7 January 1874: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Frank French. “Your letter of Dec. 24th, rec’d yesterday, was very full and satisfactory, noting your relations with J.C. & Co., your visits to Boston, conferences with T.N. [Tom Nelson], your agency after the 1st, (as well as before), for McCulloch & Co. of London, etc. etc., and the hitch in forming a Partnership in N.Y. --- all of which was of deep interest. As it takes so long for letters to go and come, I write by return of post.”

“We have felt, as I have intimated before, that you might have difficulty in including three of the late Company in a new Co., because of the expectation of a share, quite large, in yr. prospective profits by the man, or men, who might supply the money. Yet as we know little, we cannot go beyond guessing, as to what is best, or what will be the final solution. In the mean time it is no small matter to you to represent the interests of the London Co. in N. York. We have confidence things will work themselves out pretty well, under your direction. We were indignant yesterday in reading a London letter in the N. York Tribune of about Dec. 20th, which,

no doubt, Puleston got some servile fellow to write, stating he had saved McCulloch & Co. at [the] time of the Jay Cooke & Co.'s failure. Such devices of weak men surround all politics, as well as all business. No laurels can be deserved by one man, unless another man appears and seizes, in an attempt to seize them and put them on his own head. I suppose it was ever thus. I need not tell you, that I had a lasting disgust against politics, because the laurels for all political foresight and political revolution, in N. Hampshire, were always put on brows that were undeserving – to a great extent – from John P. Hale, down, down, down to E.H. Rollins, Bill Chandler and Ordway. However, I have lived long enough to see the worthlessness of political position to any man's honor or happiness. Seldom it is, a man gets out of politics with reputation untarnished, or in fact, with character undamaged. So be reconciled to Puleston's injustice to you."

"You deserve thanks of all of us for your labors with T.N., whatever be the result. I may enclose in this a letter for you to show him, - and may not, according to my ability to satisfy myself."

"Mrs. Munroe is impatient about the Richardson negotiation, supposing she had arranged it so it would result in assurance by telegram that he would come by Apr. 1st, or that it would be given up, and Chandler not telegraphing. Your telegram from Washington did not decide the matter as to him, or terms, or arrangement with Mr. C. But perhaps a decision will come even before this letter leaves."

"It seems Abby is so well situated she ought to be happy. I shall get her out of debt, gradually, besides sending her enough for board and washing, Ned affording generous help."

"I think I shall go back to N. York, cured. I eat well, sleep well, feel well, [Insertion – "fit well E.T."] yet have not been able to take long walks without more fatigue than I willingly admit the necessity of."

"Julia writes Ellen to-day, and so I do not dwell on the topics she will take up. The history of our goings to the theatre, of our dinners, past and prospective, of our general enjoyment of life, - is it not all written in the book of Julia, by this mail sent unto Ellen, the wife of Francis, who dwelleth in Gotham, in the street named after the battle of the fathers, to wit, the battle of Lexington. To whom, as well as unto the children of the said Francis and Ellen, loving assurances are herewith unclosed. Yrs. aff. Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

12 January 1874: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Ellen French. "Your letters are a ray of sunshine upon us, whenever they come, and the one you sent Julia, rec'd two days ago, was no exception, and Ned spoke of you, as we walked down the Boulevard together, afterwards, in this manner – 'It is a comfort to have Julia and Ellen love each other so warmly, and I am glad we live so near together in N.Y., that they can often be together.' The dear boy seemed proud of his sister, and proud of that sister's love for the woman he had chosen for wife."

"I should not write to you to-day, except that no one else writes to you, or to Frank, by to-night's mail. I enclose in Laura's letter to her mother a few lines to Abby. All are pretty well here, so well that we need send special messages as to our unimportant aches or ails. Some days

the weather is atrocious, and then of course, some one feels a gripe, yet not of much account. It is nice and cheering to have you write such good accounts of you all, and especially of yourself and Amos. I hope Abby gains gradually, for it seems from Mr. Ritchie's account that there was ample room for improvement when he left Boston. If Abby send to you Laura's and my letter of to-day, you will see that we dine out sufficiently, and that Laura's time is fully occupied. She does not fall much into the company of marrying young men, nor is it well she should, since she does not yet seem to incline, strongly, to that class of bipeds. But she is improving, and will return in a more mature condition, and with improvements. As to her wardrobe, do not fear it will not be attended to. She will have all that she, or Julia think needful. She will not be kept back or put forward, without well weighing the probably advantages."

"Mr. Ritchie and a Mr. Wiley dined with us last evening, and Laura appeared to better advantage than I had seen her before. We were at the theatre twice last week, and dined out once – at Dr. Evans, - he who took the Empress to England, when she fled, in 1871. We saw the hat she left in the library when she went there in disguise, and the Guide Book she penciled in, as they went the next day, in the Doctor's carriage, to the sea-shore, to embark secretly. The Evanses are very proud of what they did and of the confidence the Empress placed in them, in her extremity."

"Just now, there is commotion about Judge Richardson, and because no telegrams come from Mr. Chandler, who has been called on, by telegrams, three or four times, to report progress, and has not replied. The rumors of R's promotion to different posts, do not give assurances to Mrs. M. that he intends to turn his back on politics. Ned feels deeply, but tries to behave so as not to assume responsibility beyond what is appropriate to his age, and his interests. Sometimes he is vexed, and says he has no strong desire to remain in the House, with so many drawbacks to perfect bliss."

"Most afftly., yr. father, Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

28 January 1874: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Abby Frye. "My dear Abby: I am in receipt of your frantic letter of Jan. 9th. I cannot go home at once, as you request. I am somewhat in the condition of a man carrying another, on a plank, across a furious stream, amid a shower of arrows. He can't run, he can't stop, he can't even pull the weapons from his backsides, unless he throws his burden into the stream to be drowned. So he has to go on, as though nothing hurt him, and even to act as though he rather liked it. I am compelled to protract my pleasure journey, on Laura's account, and for other causes equally potent."

"Prior to Feb. 1st, (including draft of Jan. 19th for \$50), I sent you after leaving America \$238, and Ned sent you, including checks left with you 275, making in all \$513, - an average of \$191 a month, without including the supposed provision for October made when we left. No one has spoken about your living on \$125 a month, - except yourself. I send you besides, herein enclosed, from Ned, a check for \$50, for no other use than to go on your debts. You will tell your creditors to wait – and wait they must. We will pay them, in time, sending you always, at least \$100, to pay board and washing, monthly. When these bills are paid, if they ever are, (they

grow in size marvelously), I will not pay another bill, but will pay more than is needed for your comfort if there be no bills. Your aff. father, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 January 1874: Tuck (Paris, France) to John Tuck. “I send you a check of \$70 which is to pay, (about \$50 on the life insurance of Nath. Wiggin, and the rest to pay you interest to Feb. 1st/74 on what I owe you. The Wiggin papers are in Mr. Clark’s hands. As nothing is to be done about surrendering them and taking a paid up policy for part, I think it well for you to have the papers till my return, if convenient to get them, but it is not a matter of great importance.”

“...We attended an official reception given on the 26th by President McMahan at the Palace of of his official abode here. I saw there the officials of all nations in gay attire, and men and women of the high and the rich, and the gay and the foolish of all nations, and of all languages. Probably 5000 people attended, all by cards of invitation, which alone gave admission. I got ours through Mr. Washbourne, the Am. Minister, who urged us to go. My wife did not attend, because ball dresses were necessary, and she thought that low neck dress and bare arms were too much for her age and habits. So Ned + Julia went with me + a Mrs. Dr. Havrack [sp?], a special friend of the family. We started at 9 o’clock, and only got in, at a ¼ before one, on account of the crowd, and left at 3 o’clock in the morning, leaving a multitude still in the Halls.”

“I am better, but not yet able to eat or drink except within limits. I, wife and Laura go next week to Nice, in the south of France, on the Mediterranean Sea, and we expect to take a turn to other localities, but can now hardly say where. I take this turn now more readily, because I wish to be in readiness to go home if I have cause to do so, on any sudden impulse, without feeling we have missed seeing what we ought to see before we leave. I intend to be in Exeter by June 15th next any how, if the Lord blesses.”

“Frank French, frustrated in business by Jay Cooke’s failure, has made an arrangement for a position in the 1st Nat. Bank of N.York, which gives him a good support now, and is likely to be fruitful of much more by and by. I had a good letter from John T. Hodgdon [sp?] a few days ago.”

“Direct to me here, as heretofore, and my letters will be forwarded wheresoever I may be. Ned says he expects you to use those blanks, as long as they hold out, and then to send you more. He hopes to be at home by May 1st, on account of business exigencies. His earnings have been satisfactory the past year, notwithstanding the panic, and he is in good spirits. No children are in prospect in his family to our regret. Twombly pays \$25 a month by forcible arrangement of deduction from his pay. Otherwise he would have “lain down”. Affairs are dull at No Spfld. Stewart pays something monthly. Merrick and Stickney have gone into Bankruptcy, but I am wholly closed up with them. I made my loss with them last year by selling out at a discount, for cash, all the securities I had against them.- a lucky course for sure – I am glad we are all out of Mo.” [TFP, Box 1, Folder 1]

2 February 1874: Amos Tuck (Paris) to John Tuck. "As I, wife and Laura leave this morning for the South of France, I have but a moment to write to you. I had a frantic letter from Abby yesterday, in which she said she had invited you to loan her money. I am glad you did not find it convenient, nor probably accordant with your good judgment to let her have any. You may always safely assume that she will be supplied within my immediate family, and that if she frets, it is because we think it will do her good to fret, and even to suffer. Her wants have been now supplied, after we had let her be dunned for a month or two, and we shall have peace a while – at least. Send your letters heretofore to Munroe [sp?] & Co....have engaged passage home in June...." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 1]

8 February 1874: Amos Tuck (Nismes, France) to Ellen French. "Ned forwarded letters from Paris, so that on our arrival here last evening at 4, we found a large package of them, which gave us a feast, - among them, Frank's and yours of the 21st January, which constituted an essential portion of the very best of the enjoyments of the hour. We had heard nothing, even from Ned, since we left Paris, last Monday morning, and we began to hunger and thirst for mementos of those we love. Let me say at first, that it is duplicating the satisfaction I had in aiding Frank, to be assured by you and by him, of the comfort it has given you both, and of the affectionate gratitude you feel and express. I feel so sure that Frank is now embarked on the road to reliable competence, that I feel no uneasiness about any risks assume by me, and am only anxious that his and your lives may be preserved, and the lives of your immediate family, so that you may have some enjoyment of the good fortune which thus far has seemed to tantalize you, rather than to rest for any time with you. Frank has learned a valuable profession, and been fortunate not only in selecting a branch of business in which competition is not very great, but one for which he has made himself, aided by natural abilities, peculiarly an expert. Ned and I both appreciated at once the importance of his securing the position and the interest he struck for so wisely and courageously, and Ned at once said he would assume with me an equal risk in possibilities, so that we could together help Frank to all that would be needed. I have since only thought of the possible difficulty of turning to money the property I put at his disposal. But as he has a few months to work in, and as he is at the head of money power, I will not doubt."

"I hope and pray your children will not incur the diseases you say prevail in N. York. Tell Amos I left orders for his watch, (and chain), to be delivered to his Uncle Ned, as soon as ready, and that his uncle will send it before long, by some private person, to be delivered [to] his father at the Bank."

"Now let me speak of our course of life since we left Paris. Ned and Julia came to the cars with us, and had we been their own children, they could not have been more considerate of all our wants, present and anticipated, nor more anxious to guard us against perplexity and trouble on our journey and journeyings. Ned made a schedule of progress, fares, places an hotels, and gave me directions about tickets, checking of luggage etc., which have been of great use. Most of the time we have been entirely dependent on our knowledge of French, and have got along so well, that we now prefer to be entirely aloof from all English speaking facilities.

We are gratified, too, in this respect, for at Avignon, where we staid for two days, and here, where we may stay a week, we find no person who knows a word of English.”

“Our days since leaving Paris, have been days of almost uninterrupted interest and pleasure, accompanied with much labor, however, which has increased our pleasure, as I think. Your mother, as well as Laura, has shown more ability to enjoy, and to appreciate, than I expected of either of them. The houses, the fields, the trees, the highways, the ancient look of everything seen, have not ceased to call forth their exclamations. We conclude, before leaving Paris, that it was more important to us to see the places generally overlooked, than to rush to Nice, and other resorts where people go, as to American watering places, to see people, be seen and to flirt and frolic. We were advised not to stop at Lyons, but we found great satisfaction in the three days we were there. It is a town of very great interest, historically, and otherwise. We did not go out into the silk manufactories, for we found that the beautiful fabrics of that stuff, are made at the houses of private people, generally, by hand power, but we found in rides, in churches, museums, and in historical localities and monuments, all that we had time to look at. Look at the Encyclopedia for the history of Lyons.”

“Next, at 7 ½ o’clock on Thursday we left Lyons for Avignon, arriving there at 12 ½, where we staid till Sat morn at 10 ½, enjoying very much indeed. You will see in the Encyclopedia, that both Avignon and Lyons ha experiences in the French Revolution of 1789, which alone would render them of great interest to travelers from the New World especially. But add to this, that they were Roman towns for many centuries, and are chuck full of Roam ruins and antiquities, and you will not doubt. We rode around the wall of the town, now in the condition it was 2000 yrs. ago, perhaps, and saw stones in structures where, cut out and fitted as they are never fitted now, they were seen as antiquities not only as far back as America was undiscovered, but as far back as the Christian era.”

“The people were inferior to the England people, very, very inferior, but none the less interesting. We saw women in all churches, saying their prayers, but few, almost no men. So also we saw children. One dear little innocent was sitting, way forward in a church at Lyons, separate from the others, not over 7 or 8 years old. I asked her what she was doing there. She looked up with a sad expression, unfit for the innocent heart I felt she had, and said ‘Je repente ici.’ I shall never forget her appearance, and the sad exhibition she presented of the effects of priest craft and superstition.”

“We left Avignon, as I said, yesterday at 10 ½ A.M. We arrived here, after a ride in a carriage across the country of about 30 miles. We stopped an hour at ‘Pont du Gard’ and crossed the bridge at an elevation of 160 feet above the Gard River. It was the most grand of any thing we had seen. It is 1900 years old, and has been a ruin probably 1500 years. It is a poor country we passed over, except the 1/3 of the distance at this end, but not so poor, probably, as it looks to be, with the arid powder of lime stone, and small rocks which cover the country. Olive trees and mulberry trees, (for silk culture), prevail all the way, with small towns here and there. Few people live out of the towns.”

“Now, my dear Ellen, for want of time, I will draw to a close, leaving Nismes, for a future letter, or for others to speak of.”

“Your mother has a cold to-day, got yesterday, and previously. Laura and I have been to a Protestant church, and we are trying to get time to go out in the sun. We saw almond trees in blossom yesterday, and a few flowers by the way side.”

“With much love to you all in which your mother and Laura join, I am your most affectionate father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 February 1874: Catherine P. Tuck (Nimes) to Edward and Julia Tuck. “Here we are at Nimes, having arrived by private conveyance from Avignon yesterday afternoon at about 4 o’clk. We are all in tolerable health, especially papa, who has been wonderfully well all the time! I have a bad cold and sore throat, which is not of the least consequence, provided yr. father remains in ‘status quo’. (that last in Latin, and not French!). I wish I could enumerate the sights and wonders we have seen even thus far, but dare not undertake: suffice it to say we should have made a grand mistake had we rushed thru to Nice without stopping to investigate these old Roman camping grounds. We found Lyon more interesting than we expected to, and Avignon still more so, the Pope’s Palace not being the only attraction by any means. The old, old streets scarcely wider than the passage leading to our bedroom at 154, and houses so old and smoky as to compel us to summon all our credulity to believe they ever meant residences for men. All the old women are at least [word unclear] and the young people are black, dirty and unattractive. Young boys and girls, there are none, except the very poor, or those hidden from the naked eye, shut up in convents. The walls of city are a great curiosity, and extend all around, except when the P.’s palace towers up like a grim monster forbidding approach. Oh the huge serpent that winds in coils around this part of the world, that refuses to die even tho its head be severed, what a different country it would it be, could its power be laid low!

“I shall never forget the little face at a Cathedral when we were wandering about: a little girl probably five years old, all alone by herself was kneeling before a crucifix, but still could not refrain from looking towards us. Strange Yankees. We asked (to hear what she would say) what she was doing. She looked up with her dark melancholy eyes and dirty little innocent face and said ‘I repent ici’. Poor little wretch: but this is wandering from the subject. We did up Avignon and Villeneuve very faithfully, keeping on the wing the whole time: paid our big bill for very miserable fare, and bade them adieu forever at about 10 ½ Sat. morning. Our drive all along was full of interest tho. somewhat cold for me being in an open barouche. Papa and Laura were plenty warm however, and we staid an hour at ‘Pont au Gard’, climbed that wonderful and ancient relic and walked thru. the aqueduct on the top, to the mountain on this side, scrambling down at the risk of the old lady’s neck, but not of the young people’, whose knees are in better repair.

“We have found cold weather all along except in mid-day at Avignon and here, hence my cold; but nothing seems to hurt yr. father. He walks miles and drinks his brandy, and is not

fatigued much, or if he is, sleeps like a top o' nights and gets rested. I have not known him so well since we arrived on this side."

"We like this hotel thus far better than any other we have fallen into, and their terms are more reasonable than at Avig., so I should not wonder if we should stay a week, or long enough for me to recover from my cold and get some washing done in Diana's Bath, as I believe that institution has been exalted to a blanchisserie! We saw them washing there, as we took a short walk before dinner yesterday. Our sightseeing here lies all before us, as we only walked around the amphitheater. Today I have not as yet step'd out. Yr. papa and Laura went to church (Protestant) which much resembled our old church of fifty years ago. This letter, such as it is, you may send to the children at home, if you think it would give them any satisfaction, and I know it would rejoice their hearts to know how well your father is. I have written very hastily and imperfectly, having been obliged to stop and [three words unclear] every other minute. Laura is writing to her mother, and yr. father to Ellen. With ever so much love to you both from all of us, I am ever affectionately, Yr. Mother." [TFP, Box 3, Folder 8]

20 February 1874: Amos Tuck (Cannes, France) to John Tuck. "I had not heard of your accident till I received your letter...." Points out how blessed he is with helpful children and neighbors. "Besides you have your own house to be sick in and adequate means to the supply of every want." (John has a broken leg.)

"We are on the Mediterranean Sea, in a mild climate. It is not very warm, and there is snow on the mountains not far away north, but there are orange, olive and fig trees all around, and in good condition, and flowers in blossom We are pretty well. Shall go home in June, and as you advise, then intend to stay home. My wife and I both feel like doing this. Going to N.Y. to see our children. When we [word unclear] Ned + Julia return in April It is not safe for us to go till May or June."

"I note that you sent Abby \$20. I now have hope she will not again bother you, or any body. I have been rigid with her, and hope she has been so mortified she is cured of getting into debt. I send you \$40. \$20 to pay int. to Mar 1st to you and \$20 to pay Abby's debt...."
[Postscript] "I think I pd. you to Feb 1st -inst." [TFP, Box 1, Folder 1]

18 March 1874: Amos Tuck (Rome) to Edward Tuck. "This is Wednesday Evening, and we propose going to Naples to-morrow, to stay about 3 days, then on the 3rd or 4th day, to return here. Therefore, send letters, once, after you receive this, to this, 'Hotel Quirinal, Rome, Italy,' as I propose to stay over here, one day, to review the ground, on our return. After that, we shall wend our way northerly by Florence, possible Venice, then Milan and Turin to Paris, staying briefly as we touch chief points, and arriving in Paris by April, with regrets not to be with you and Julia longer than that will allow."

"I rec'd enclosure of letters sent by you here, Abby's, Mr. Dearborn's, Frank's etc. Abby's was the first letter which she has sent me, which did not disquiet me. It was quite satisfactory. I do not think it best to call Frank's attention to his once-estimate of Richardson till I see him. I would not recommend that you express any thought on the subject till you leave

Paris, yet I will say to you that I shall be disappointed if Richardson lets go of his present place so as to come out in May. At the last pinch he will ask for delay, and you will refuse it. I may be mistaken, as there is some evidence his wife is sick of Washington. But I have heard people say they were sick of Washington, and known them even to think they were sick, when they were not, that I apprehend R. to be still wedded to folly, and to be adulation [sp.?] hungry.”

“I shall draw for 1000 fcs. in a day or two.”

“We have seen marvelous ruins here. It is of no use to describe them. Suffice to say, we are pleased, and I and Laura have been almost to all desirable places, your mother to most. We have little to ‘do’ on our return.”

Laura does not think Bessie has a waterproof. Say so to our Julia. Your mother and we all were pleased with Julia’s nice letter. I am interested in what you say of your being busy and liking it, and that you shall hand off from work on Mr. K’s return. Let us be much together in Paris, after our return, for when shall we again spend a day ever together in that city?

“Most affectionately to you both, my ‘nieces’ joining, I am you father, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “All well” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

20 March 1874: Amos Tuck (Naples) to Edward Tuck. “We are here in Naples. We had an agreeable journey from Rome yesterday, finding the weather milder, and the ride and changing views interesting. Barren mountains, snow-capped, were in sight all the way, and the contrast strong throughout between Italy and our country, and wholly in favor of America. One can have no doubt, after seeing such country as this, or even any other on this side of the Atlantic and the people inhabiting them if he had doubts before, that whoever is born in the United States, and especially in New England, has reason to thank his stars every day of his life, that he was not born anywhere else. To-day, (it is now 6 ½ eve.), we have been, by carriage, 7 miles to Pompeii, and gone all through the excavated city, and viewed it thoroughly with all the advantages of an excellent guide. A city, buried in a day 1800 years ago, by a cloud of ashes, followed by hot water and ashes, thick as pudding, running into every hole and corner, has already been largely uncovered, and is daily being more so, disclosing the tools, implements, shops, houses, streets, every thing, including the bodies, or bones of many people, just as they were destroyed, in the days when some were alive who had seen Jesus Christ, - some, no doubt, of those little children, whom our Savior took in his arms and blessed. No words are needed to intensify the interest of such an exhibition. But the beggars and the rags, seen in going and returning, defy description. I am glad to believe such poverty, dirt and ignorance exist no where else.”

“To-morrow, (Saturday), we visit the museum where are many of the choice things found in Pompeii, and elsewhere, and are now hoping to be able to go northerly on Monday morning. I think we will go to Venice, and stop at Hotel Danieli, (Hotel Danieli), and wish you to send your last letter to me there; unless you send, as you can, and I think you may, send a letter to me at Hotel de la Ville, Milan. Lest some mis-carry, keep memory of what you send me. I hope to arrive at Venice Tuesday next, evening, and to leave there Friday morning, a week from to-day, (27th), to stay at Milan Friday night, and to leave there Monday the 30th, arriving 31st (eve) at

Paris. Write me, both for Venice and Milan, so there shall be no mistake, when you have engaged board for us in Paris. I have no more time before mail closes. We are well, except that Laura has a cold, and I am, to you both, your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “It gives me comfort to think about you, and to believe that all is well with the family in America; though this matter of travelling and seeing makes me tired every night – too hard to write much. But I am in excellent health.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LOC]

22 March 1874: Amos Tuck (Naples) to Edward Tuck. “ I left out one link in my expected journeying north, in the last letter I wrote you. My plan is Naples to Rome, Monday 23rd – Rome to Florence Wednesday 25th – Florence to Venice Thursday 26th – Venice to Milan Monday 30th – Milan to Paris by the 1st or 2nd of April – This is our probable speed and course.”

“It would take weeks to make all the desirable excursions around this place, and from this place, some of which would incur the risks of brigandage, added to the other incidental possibilities of locomotion. Without much regret we can give them all up, and turn our faces towards Paris to-morrow. We have met here some old acquaintances, among them Gov. Kent of Maine and his wife, and Mr. Swett of Portland, formerly member of Congress, a native of Parsonsfield, with his wife. The latter go from here to Egypt, and the former to Athens, thence back by Venice. Had I more time and our trunks with us, (which we left at Rome), I should be tempted to go to Athens with them – two days and nights from here by steamer. Naples is all that has been said of it in beauty and interest, and in beggars and beggary. There are more American tourists in the place, than any other nation, and English is the usual language heard among guests of the Hotel and of all the Hotels, here and in Rome. I incline to think the passion for travel is some evidence of the verdancy of a nation because I see such a majority of American tourists who have little ability to appreciate what they see. Some excellent, learned, educated people travel, of all nations, of course. The majority of all nations are unattractive, and carry with them evidence of ignorance and want of culture. It is well to see the world, and it is well also to know that most people who travel, know little of the world, little of their own countries, and little of the extent of their own ignorance.”

“Yesterday we visited the Museum until 2 or 3 o’clock, when we went on a 6 mile ride, were caught in a shower of rain and violent wind, and were not much wiser for the excursion. To-day Vesuvius makes its first full appearance since we arrived, except a brief view last night, and the smoke lazily rises from its crater, 6 to 7 miles off, continuously rolling in volumes [sp.?] from its sunken peak. I gazed at it from the terrace at the Bay Side in front of our Hotel this morning, all alone, with admiring pleasure, interrupted only by the beggars and vendors of all sorts of trash, who would take no negative in any known language, until I hit one boy a good slap, when the crowd drew back and left me to me reveries and pious reflections, looking at me with manifest reverence.”

“It is now almost ‘meeting time,’ speaking after the manner of civilized America, and we ought to be getting ready. But the older of my ‘nieces,’ as you call them, is sitting near me in our pleasant, sunny room, reading ‘The last days of Pompeii,’ and the younger, writing to her ‘Uncle

Thomas,' and I fear we shall be so late at Church as to make it not worth while to go at all. Besides the elder 'niece' is very weary to-day, and the younger has a cold in her 'ed,' and though I am hale and hearty, and have had no cold for weeks, thanks to double drawers and my knit waistcoat, we will all, for this day, omit the church, and by and by take a ride, and admire the hand of the Creator without the translating interference of pope, priest or King. Such shall be our worship to-day, and to-morrow at 1 P.M. we will leave for Rome."

"If you and Julia can come to Rome and Italy (don't hurry about it, it will do as well ten years hence as now, and the ruins will be all the older), leave at home your summer clothes, and bring a double set of winter clothing. One of our trunks has been entirely useless, and costs considerably for transportation. Bring one only, and that well filled with clothes unfashionably thick etc."

"I shall want, before going to America, and as soon as I get to Paris, where I have respectability to support, a suit of black broadcloth, - frock coat, pants and vest. If you think it best, have our tailor get each of these garments ready to try on the very hour I arrive in Paris, so that he can have them fitted and finished by the time I show myself in the streets, and to our friends. Black frock coat, and black pants and vest. If I want other colors, I will procure them the same afterwards."

"I drew on M. & Co. for 1000 fcs yesterday at ½ % change on Paris, selling 400 fcs gold, at 14 ½ premium. I shall fight shy of Italian currency, as I leave the domain of Victor Emanuel, getting out 'jest about square with the world,' as Major Blake told Patterson was the case, he thought, 'with Mr. Tuck when he went to Boston.' I don't write to those I love in America, by the next mail, but they know I am 'experiencing' travel, and will not think strange of it. The two nieces send love, as do I to you both, your affectionate father, Amos Tuck."

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

28 March 1874: Amos Tuck (Venice) to Ellen French. "It is a long time, weeks certainly, since I wrote you, or indeed have written any of the family, in America, so far as I recollect. It is strange, but true, that in the care and the labor of traveling and seeing with two women on my hands, I have had my time, and I am compelled to say, my strength too, so fully use up, that I had none, or little of either left, to us in writing to even my children, except now and then letters to Ned, some of which he may have sent to you 'in the old country.' Yet I have none the less, but rather all the more enjoyed the letters I have received. I found awaiting me here last evening, on our arrival, a good letter from Abby, a very short one from Ned, who is exceedingly occupied [sp.?] and a nice letter from Mrs. Dr. Soule, in response to one I wrote her husband a month or two ago. A week ago, Ned sent me, at Rome, a good letter from you, which covering all the ground of all the interests of the family, and wise, affectionate and true, gave me much comfort. Without going into detail, I join you in the affectionate allusions to Abby and in sympathy with her, all of which I have assured her of, and I agree with you in your general views. It is true, as you remark, that she must and ought, in all periods of her depression, to remember what she had, in the children, father and brother, (and you should have said sister), as well as remember her

losses and privations. My heart is tender, on all sides, towards dear Abby. I am only obdurate in regard to unlimited payments, unnecessary if ordinary sense is used, and in regard to this matter, having other duties also sacred, and my own confirmed judgment to guide me, I am incapable of anything but growing firmness. We shall pay her money enough to abundantly cover her expenses and she must make that money cover them, and use her own judgment to secure that object. As to Laura, and her going to Vassar, I have no bone to pick, or issues to make on any position you have taken. She has decided notions on all subjects, and I find it best to let her work out her problems in her own ways, not failing in my interest to have her reach wise results. She was at first bent on going back to Vassar. I now have no doubt she will be glad to accept your generous offer, and I do not overlook, in the generosity of it, Frank's acquiescence in a matter so important to your family arrangement. As to Dolly, she ought to be getting views of her own, now that she is so mature and smart, and I cannot doubt that she and her mother will be agreed on some course of solid development. Nelly seems to be doing as well as can be expected. It is not best to try to force her into ordinary scholarship.

"Assure Frank, and be assured yourself, how much I have been, and am interested in all that he and you have written about his business, his prospects and all his labors. I cannot enlarge on them without taking up all my paper. Consider many things said by me, and keep up your writing. I hope Jay Cooke's 'cold corpus', (in business respects), will soon be entombed for a finality, and 'Pax bobiscum' be inscribed over the door."

"Amos Tuck French's watch was basely forgotten by Mr. Reed, on my leaving Paris, otherwise he, (the said Tuck French) would have long since been regulating the time of day for all N. York, if not for the great luminary of day. Tell him to wait in patience still. Apropos of my figure, I will say that after finishing Florence, Mark Twain said that as he understood it, the creation was effected on plan furnished by Michael Angelo. You would appreciate this, if you had seen all that we have seen and heard all that we have heard, of the great Architect, Engineer, Sculptor, painter, musician, etc. etc. Certainly Michael Angelo was almost a universal genius."

"Now we are here, in Venice, and I doubt not you almost regret, in reading this letter, that I have not begun to speak of it. We have been to Naples, Rome, to Florence, one day at Pisa, one at Boulogna, and previously, two days at Genoa. We have enjoyed every place, and at every point regretted we had not time and strength to see and enjoy longer and more. Here we have an interest not less than we have felt at any other place. Indeed, we should vote unanimously today, that Venice caps the climax of interesting novelty. We have visited the chief squares, been into St. Mark's, seen the 'Bridge of Sighs,' and sundry other bridges, of all sizes, the Doge's Palace, the feeding of the doves, many shops, and taken an hour's ride in a Gondolo. We intend to see all these things, over and over again, and to stay here till Tuesday, (it is now Saturday), partly because it is so clean and so novel and interesting, partly to rest, for we, that is, I and your mother are weary. We then go to Milan, staying one night only, and the hurry along to Paris, as fast as strength and R.Roads will allow. We are well, having all got over our colds, I having the last visitation, just finished up, caught in Rome four days ago. I am willing that while you shall believe I am taking a journey that gives me, and gives us all, much present pleasure it is harder

work than any former journey, and that when I get to Paris I anticipate the comfort of a long rest, especially the portion of our there before Ned and Julia leave. But the journey will be pleasant to recollect all our lives, and is of importance to Laura even greater than to us old fogeys, and in this view, I consider myself, probably, 'the right man in the right place.' Yet I sometimes have queried whether this could be so, with all my diverse relations on the other side of the Atlantic. I only content myself to stay till the 16th of June, before sailing, - so long after Ned and Julia leave, - in the belief that it will be then certainly safe to go into a New England climate. With much love to you all - your loving father, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 April 1874: Amos Tuck (Paris) to Ellen French. "Here we are, in good condition, again back in Paris. We arrived last night, at six o'clock, Ned and Julia meeting us at the station and escorting us to No. 22, Rue de la Paix, Hotel Isles Britanniques, where they themselves abide, since they gave up house-keeping. We were very tired, having ridden a long, long distance, from Vevey, over the lake in steamer, to Geneva, and thence to Dijon by Rail, on Friday, arriving at 12 at night; and on Saturday, (your birthday), starting at 11-18, and riding 178 miles to Paris, without stopping over five minutes once, and three minutes another time, and a mere slacking several other times. To-day is rainy, and dull, with final sunshine at 4 P.M. and we are spending a delightful day, in resting and in social, family chat, with two walks by Ned and me, a short ride by Julia and Laura, and a final ride, now in progress by Ned and Julia. It is voted that I look better and am better than when I left Paris, the fact being proved by my face, and elastic action, and as I feel like a well man, I expect, as soon as rested, to be acknowledged by all, as gay, festive, and good, every way. Apropos your birthday, Ned and I drank your health last night, in brandy, and all the rest cheered, drinking red wine, instead. Brandy suits my case better lately than some time ago, and no liquor could hurt me, if drunk on such an occasion."

"As to our trip to Italy and the South, it has been laborious, yet pleasant, and must be fruitful of pleasant topics of thought and conversation for a long time. Besides, it has given us occasion and impulse toward historical readings, which cannot fail, after our return, to lead us to pleasant and profitable use of our Encyclopedia Britannica. But I must not play by the way side in writing you my first letter after our return here."

"Your letter to your mother, written on St. Patrick's day, awaited us on our arrival here, and your subsequent letter to Julia was received to-day, both giving us aid and comfort. We all indulge hope that the measles may do permanent [sp.?] good to Amos, and not injure Bessy, to both of whom give my special, and our general love. Tell Amos I have been annoyed as well as he at the delay in sending his watch. I now conclude to send it on by Ned and Julia, their departure is so near, [and] by whom, if they go safely, I know the watch will go safely too. On many accounts we, that is your mother and I, should be glad to go home with them, for it is being on the wing, to be travelling. But we cannot change for an earlier ship, if we would, and even if we could, it may be best, and is probably best, that we stay till the appointed time, June 16th. Laura is not anxious to return, and if it were easy to arrange, which it is not, would be quite willing to remain here after we leave."

“I note with interest all you say about your house, about Frank and business, about the journeyings to Philadelphia and Washington, McCulloch & Co. etc. etc. Tell him (Frank), I should write him by this mail had I time, (and may enclose herein a few lines to him). I regret that he has occasion to be so much away from you, and from the Bank. Except for certain particular reasons that I may state to him, I regard his labors for McC. & Co. with regret. But I hope and trust he may be rid of all the dead wood of McC. & Co., before a long time, and have his mind untrammelled to devote it wholly to his family and to the First National.”

“Paris is pleasant and warm. I have banged out the beauty of my winter suit, and ordered new ‘store clothes,’ here, hoping, in a black frock coat and vest, and mixed black pants, and a new silk hat, to be able to walk the streets of Paris, without discredit to the friends of the family circle here. My tailor had them ready to try on to-day, for you must know that a French tailor never suits fully at the first trial.”

“I am glad to think that Abby is with you by this time, or will be, by the time this letter reaches you. Give her my love, and our love, and tell her I shall write here, as soon as I get rested and get time. A letter from her to Laura awaited us, and it was a good, cheerful letter. I hope Marcia is, by this time, safe. It is an awful thing to have a baby, I do believe Ned says he agrees with the remark in your letter, that it is peculiarly difficult for you mother’s family to reproduce, (suggestive).”

“Give Sarah our love. I shall myself write her before long about keeping us in mind for July 1st, or a few days earlier. I don’t see how we can be rightly and comfortably at our home without her. She knows our sentiments, and I know she will take into account what she knows. With unbounded affection, dear Ellen, [word unclear], to Abby and you all, yr. father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

30 April 1874: Amos Tuck (45 Half Moon St., London) to Ellen French. “One week ago to-day Ned and Julia embarked on the Celtic, and on the 20th of May, we confidently expect to embark on the same ship for New York. We received a letter from Ned, dispatched to us from Queenstown, in which he states that they like the ship, were having a good time, and that our room, No. 5, was one of the best in the ship, of which we were glad to be assured, having had some fear, that it was not. So we shall feel that we have done all that we could, to the right people in the right place.”

“As to our general doings, since Ned and Julia left, and our going to Parks, Gardens and Museums, are they not written down and recorded in the Epistle, which the Elder of the Girls, herewith sendeth unto Julia, surnamed Stell Tuck?”

“As to our previous experiences, those two children will gradually make known to you, and to all others interested, all the material matters. So I will leave the past as secure, and needing no comment.”

“Frank’s brief letter announces the confusion [sp.?] of Mr. Chandler. Before this Ned has told you how impossible it has been to keep posted with him. Ned’s experience has been one of anxiety and uncertainty, and any solution became better than none, long before he left Europe. I

comprehend from your letter and from Frank's the impracticability of Judge R.'s leaving Washington for the present, without permanent damage, which scarcely any consideration would reconcile him to, and I see no course better than that which has been resolved upon, - giving up the negotiation. I do not doubt, nor does any one doubt that knows anything previously about him, that the Judge is wholly above corruption and malfeasance; yet I comprehend that the public ought to see more of him in official position, in order to free him from the obloquy which he has incurred during the Sanborn investigation, and that he cannot now retire with honor. The Veto of the President cannot fail to do him credit, as it will gradually bring him (R.) out, as really at the bottom of it, and it will not be comprehended if the Tribune and Eve. Post, and their echoes yet see reasons, and obey them, for speaking respectfully, and even honorably of him. I am much worried because I know how much annoyed you must be, about the House matters, and much regret I cannot be of service."

"I hope the boy, Amos Tuck French, has before now, been made happy by his watch, and also by his chain, which was a beauty."

"If the family go to Jersey Heights, when can I expect to see you in Exeter, to go to Beach, to Parsonsfield Pond etc.? Plan for something agreeable. Recollect our house will be all right this summer, if Sarah Lane can be with us."

"I have hardly expected Abby to go to N.Y. and am not disappointed that Nelly writes she has given up intention to go there at all. I wish Nelly and Dolly to be in Exeter this summer, as much as they can be, but it seems to me there is little sign of them going there at all. Abby ought to plan to stop all expense for Nell and Doll, in the way of board, from the time the summer vacation begins, till fall schooling commences - and to use the saved money for clothes etc. But man proposes, not disposes. Love to all - Your loving father, Amos Tuck."

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

3 May 1874: Amos Tuck (London) to John Tuck. "We have now been here two weeks yesterday, and expect to leave to-morrow morning for Leamington, a city lying 106 miles N. Westerly, in the country, where we are advised to stay a few days and may stay, possibly, the rest of the week. It is a delightful place, from which we can make short excursions to localities of interest, including the place of Shakespeare's birth, and several palaces and castles. I expect, however, more pleasure in seeing the English at home, and their lands, trees and hills, than in seeing the great buildings which nobles and kings have built."

"Though I have been in London several times before this, I have not before seen comparatively much of it, and have been agreeably surprized to find so much as we have seen, of marvelous interest. The Parks, Public Grounds of all manner, Gardens, with all sorts of plants and trees and shrubs, and with all kinds of living, and dead, things, from every part of the world, collected and displayed at untold expense, and open to the public, mostly without fee, make London the most interesting City in the world, and enable one to see the wonders of all lands by looking over the treasures and collections of one City. Paris is a splendid poverty alongside of London."

“I should be willing to be at home now, were it not that I dare not go into the range of those winds from the gulf of the St. Lawrence, and of the Bay of Fundy, till June. I am afraid of their stiffening power upon the bones of 60 odd years, which bones I wish to use for some years yet, notwithstanding this tendency to looseness of bowels, which I am still obliged to look to, to keep reasonable, - but which I am gradually mastering.”

“Ned and wife are to-day, I hope, in sight of America. As you know, we sail earlier than we thought of sometimes ago, that is, on the Steamship Celtic, leaving Liverpool May 28th, - hoping to be in Exeter by 10th to 12th June. This is a White Star ship, and you may observe that all their steamers have names ending in ic.”

“I have not time to-day to enlarge, but will postpone particulars till my return to America. I enclose check to make another months interest - \$20.”

“I may not write again, but Ned will keep you posted on to any interesting change in my affairs.”

“With love to all our relatives in which my wife joins, I am your affectionate Brother,
Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

6 May 1874: Amos Tuck (Red Horse Hotel, Stratford on Avon) to Ellen French. Yesterday we were delighted to see telegraphed in the Times that the Celtic arrived at N. York at 5 ½ Monday morning the 4th inst. Of course, our dear Ned and Julia are safely landed, and we breathe freely. I have no uncomfortable apprehensions about crossing the ocean, yet confess to a feeling of relief when I know that possibilities are out of the question. We staid only one night at Leamington, as it was dull there, and came here yesterday, where our expectations have been more than realized, as we have had good weather to walk and ride, and have had health and strength and elastic spirits adequate to the occasion. We have seen, of course, Shakespeare’s birth place, and the cabinet of books and memorials of him, preserved by the Government in whose hands is now the Shakespeare house, in one room of which the curiosities are kept, and have visited his ‘New House,’ (the site of it), where he passed the last years of his life, ‘writing two plays a year,’ as saith history. Besides, we yesterday walked across the fields, and in the path where he went to court Anna Hathaway, visited the same thatched cottage, and saw the chimney corner and the same ‘settle,’ where the presumptuous Willie paid his addresses to the too indulgent Anna. Of course we were properly reverent and affected on such sacred ground. The woman who showed us the rooms, the bedstead, 400 years old, and other curiosities, claimed she was a descendant of the Hathaways, and so I gave her a shilling and my blessings, and left. We had a truly romantic walk, out and back, and saw, as we have again seen, in a ride to-day, the most gorgeous landscapes to be seen on the face of the earth. This county of Warwick is the garden of England, and this vicinity the cream of the County. We leave to-morrow, going back to Leamington for the night, thence to Scotland, probably.”

“We imagine you ‘up in arms,’ living at some hotel or boarding house, while your house is being got ready in 37th St., and I imagine you worn out by the taking up of carpets, and by the general vexation inseparable from moving. But I hope for the best, and that life and health may

yet be continued to you all. Laura is too busy enjoying everything to write to anybody, except now and then to her mother. She is now out, reconnoitering while your mother sits near me reading Shakespeare, in front of a coal fire in the Coffee Room of this Red Horse Hotel, rendered famous by Washington Irving, whose room and chair we have part of the time occupied."

"Yes, Amos' watch would have been lost, I suppose, had Mr. Reed taken it. Now, I imagine him to be enjoying it, with enhanced good opinion of himself, and of the rest of mankind."

"I cannot expect to have reply to this, as there is indeed no need of it, but yet shall expect 'lots' of letters before our embarkation. However, I send my blessing and my love, in all fullness, to you all. Send this to Abby, as written also to her, after Ned and Julia and of course Frank have got all out of it you can. Most afftly yr. father Amos Tuck"

[P.S.] "I am well. Your mother looks up and says send my love."

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

17 May 1874: Amos Tuck (Melrose, Scotland) to Edward Tuck. "This is the last letter I expect to write for any of you at home, while I am in Europe. It will therefore be, in general, for all of you in the family, and even for my brother John, if the last that reads it among my children, thinks it worth sending to him. I know his anxiety to keep the run of me, or should not suggest this last. In 10 or 12 days after receipt of this letter, I hope and trust you will, in N. York, be in receipt, also, of the subscriber and his accompanying 'plunder', (wife and grand-daughter), in good condition, and may you two who receive us be in like good condition. Since we left America, we have not been so long without news, having had no letters in 10 days. I allow my letters to accumulate, if there are any, at Paris, or have done so, for two weeks, but shall to-morrow order them to be sent to the Adelphi at Liverpool, and to so continue, to the time of our embarkation, the 28th inst."

"After being at Stratford-on-Avon for two days, we went back to Leamington, - to the Regent, where I saw your names enrolled [sp. ?], - and stayed some days, with much satisfaction. We went over the same ground you and Julia traversed, and thought of you and talked of you by the way, as we looked out upon the same beauties you had surveyed so short a time before. The weather was cool and drizzling, or rather showery, and possibly you had the best of it; but we had enough to be charmed."

We went to Edinburgh on Saturday the 9th inst., and tarried there 6 days, seeing the City, its interior and exterior, quite faithfully. I read, there, two lives of Mary Queen of Scotts, and some other things, with great interest, and am somewhat posted on her history, that of John Knox, the martyrs, etc. etc., and especially brushed up in traditions, and local associations connected with Sir Walter Scott. But I must not waste paper, when I have so little space. Suffice it, that we have chosen to come here, instead of farther north, and remaining near the Abbey, in the 'George Tavern', from Friday last till to-morrow, going in the mean time to Dryburg Abbey, 5 miles off, to Scott's tomb, and to Abbotsford, 4 miles off, in another direction, and seeing the most delicious of landscapes for these 3 days, and we are feeling abundantly recompensed and

justified in our choice. We go hence to-morrow towards Liverpool, halting in the Lake Country of England, which you will see on the map, in the County of Cumberland, south of Carlisle. We shall leave the main R.R. line at Penrith, and go to Windemere, to Ullswater and Derwent Water, and around among the lakes, minding to arrive at Liverpool, the Saturday night, (next Sat.), before sailing. We go there thus early, so as to have time to visit Chester, and go elsewhere in the neighborhood, before departing, and also to receive letters early and get where we can hear something of American affairs from the newspaper. Here, there is less in the papers about America than about New Zealand.”

“We are enjoying ourselves very much, and are all really well, yet should desire to embark for home at once, were it not that I have fears of dropping down into the N. England climate before June. That climate is safe to me, if I do not leave it; but if I flirt with quieter [sp.?] dames, she tries to break my head when I return. The apple tree blossoms, and many others, are now in full beauty. The walks and rides are gorgeous and glorious here, fit for a Poet to render classic by the sanctity of his genius. I have read ‘The Lay of the Last Minstrel here, Laura is devouring ‘The Abbot,’ and your mother has nearly perused ‘The Monastery’, all romances of the region (6 [word unclear] editions). With love to you both, and to you all, from us all, Your affectionate father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

25 May 1874: Amos Tuck (Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool) to Ellen French. “Your and Amos’ good letters just at hand. Two points suggested by yours I will touch on, though I can hardly expect you to receive this letter much before you will greet us.”

“1st, Laura – We have had generally comfortable relations in our late journeyings, and I have no bias in my heart towards abdicating my fatherhood of tenderness and due regard. Yet I wish, and your mother wishes, that she may, at N. York, Peekskill and elsewhere, find place of resting until the summer is well past. We anticipate pleasure, - a great deal of it, - in having you and family, (that is, Frank and children), and Ned and Julia, considerably with us at Exeter, and we do not want Laura at the time, nor until after the visiting season is over. Cogitate on what is best to be done.”

“2nd Abby – I see Abby’s aversion to go to N.Y., and her unmistakable purpose to be as little with any of us, - she or her two younger children, - as she can escape being. We both, - (yr mother and I), - wish Dolly especially, and Nelly, so far as convenient, to be at Exeter, considerably, this summer, so that they may get some of our notions imbued with sense, and see something outside of the circle which their mother insists on throwing around them. We want Abby too, to be at Exeter. But I see she seems to require only money from us, and avoids our society, and our influence. She is almost uncontrollable too. I will do what I can, when I get home, after consultation. Yet my expectations of a smooth sea, with her, are not high, because she has made the waters rough around her ever since she was born. However, I long since resolved and have often re-resolved, that doing all I can, I will myself acquiesce and will urge acquiescence on the rest of the family, in the inevitable, and will not allow myself, or others, if I can help it, to be made miserable by her continual and persistent courtship of misery. Two such

children as you and Ned are abundant compensation for all the consequences of my married life, and the unnecessary vexation cause by Abby, shall only be allowed to be vexations, not destructive calamities. The Lord bless you, my darling Ellen, and all yours, and Ned and all his – Your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “This is, of course, only for N. York consumption.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

4 June 1874 [?]: Tuck advertises land for sale in southwestern Missouri in the *Allen County Democrat* (Lima, OH) as land commissioner for the Atlantic & Pacific Rail Road. Gives his address as 25 S. Fourth St., St. Louis, MO.

16 June 1874: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees’ meeting. Trustees voted to establish a committee to recommend how to manage the funds of the Academy with the Treasurer, Tuck and Hale to be members of the committee. (pp. 446-9, PEA Trustees’ minutes no to be use without the permission of the PEA librarian)

17 June 1874: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “We are at home, - well, - putting things aside and getting settle. I have been engaged most of the time in Academy matters, - examination, and Trustees’ meetings. Yesterday we chose Dr. Wm. H. Gorham, his father’s successor in the Board of trust, much to my gratification – and his, I think. This P.M. I attend the Robinson Seminary anniversary. Our neighbors are cordial and kind, and if we are not content in Exeter, it must be for radical causes, not visible to the human eye. The town is in its best dress of abundant foliage and flowers. I have a letter from Abby, and Laura, each, both cheerful and of happy auspices. Ned writes almost every day, and Frank has written once. I trust you are all well and happy at the ‘Summit,’ and that you or Frank will let me know all about you all, often.”

“Most affectionately your father, (mother joining) Amos Tuck”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

23 June 1874: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “Gracious, how hot it is! Jim is on the roof, scraping the tin, preparatory to the soldering tinkers, who are to come to-morrow to tighten it all over, and I have just come down, astonished at the powers of endurance of a Son of Erin. So of Sarah, too, for she told me as I passed her at her sewing up stairs, that she was not uncomfortable. The thermometer is 86 at this present writing, 3 ½ P.M.”

“How are you, my own dear daughter, at this stage of the thermometer, and how are those two good children of yours? I trust you have a breeze, and that Frank and our family in N.Y., are having some relief from this weather, exceptionally hot as it is, for June. I send you enclosed a letter from Dolly, to let you see what a nice little letter she can write. Few girls of any age have as much sense as she manifestly has. I hope and believe she is destined to be of the greatest comfort to her mother, and of solid satisfaction and pride to us all. Send that letter, (Dolly’s), to

her mother at Ned's, that she and Ned, and Julia, as well as you and Frank may see how sensibly and properly the dear child is able to express herself. (Four robins, close by my library window, are conversing together, as I write this, looking archly up at me, now and then, as they pick a morsel from the short cut grass, and discuss it, much as an epicure would select huge straw berries and eat them, one by one. A good omen, I trust)."

"I visited Biddeford on Saturday. I think Lois Ann [sp.?] will recover, though now feeble and lowspirited, but there is no hope for Arabel, even for 6 months, as I think. The little presents I carried them cheered up, even the sick girls, and they all seemed in good spirits when I left. It is my duty to visit them again before many weeks. The people here are very demonstrative of their pleasure at our return, including even the Irish. Margaret is happy in being with us, is doing well, and in the case that she have help in all the hard jobs of her department, we expect she will gain in health and strength. She has had hard service elsewhere. Sarah is very useful in every thing, especially in the branches of damaged linen, and neglected ward-robos. Jim has made our place as beautiful as it ever was, and even more so. I have never seen more gorgeous rose bushes than one now in blossom on our front, and another on our side terrace, and several in the garden. Our lettuce is now tender and perfect, and our asparagus abundant and excellent. Bananas stand on our side board, Boston strawberries have been had, and in a few days the greatest abundance of natives will be sent around by Mr. Hayes, Mr. Moulton and other historical characters, of whom you long ago heard, and whose good deeds are in all the churches. So you see, I am not insensible to the pleasant prospects regarding the smaller luxuries of the season, albeit I have had to carry my chin carefully not to bedew this shirt with the dropping perspiration, - or perspiration, as Mrs. Stephen Dearborn always called it. (That same convention of Robin Redbreasts is still in full session, as I write). I have no letter to-day my 'galls' or 'boys' in N. York, as Mrs. A.T. Hall calls the children of her queenly daughter, Mrs. Munroe. With love to all - Your loving father, Amos Tuck."

[P.S.] "I shall be in Boston to-morrow, and shall see Dolly and Mrs. Lewis, and Marcia, or her husband." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 July 1874: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "It was well for me to see Frank, and I was glad on all accounts, that he telegraphed me to meet him in Boston. We all hoped he might return with me to Exeter, to swell, if but for a few hours, the small family gathering. But he could not."

"Frank's tenacity of friendship and high esteem, is a credit to him, though in our instance it has carried him to excess, and caused him, with some blindness, to tolerate a course of behavior that ought not to have ben endured. For three years Frank has embraced every opportunity which special advantages gave him, to magnify, dignify, benefit and serve Wm. A. Richardson. For three years, Wm. A. Richardson, loaded with obligations to serve F.O. French, and with special opportunity and power to serve him, and to serve the country at the same time, has used none of those opportunities, nor conferred one substantial favor upon him. During all this time, Frank has been generous and self-sacrificing, taking journeys, furnishing ideas,

spending money, and not thinking of self; while Richardson has been ungenerous, self-seeking, bound up in himself, thinking nothing of Frank's interests, or if he thought of them, ready to sacrifice them to his own, as he has done throughout, and at last becoming powerless, and a political cast-a-way, (deservedly such), without power to recollect a favor, beyond flattering emptiness, done to a most generous friend. I care little for his ingratitude, and I never wanted to speak of him to Frank. But when I saw he was determine to sweat Frank on 10% interest, to the last moment possible, I spoke, and I was exceedingly gratified at the nearness [sp.?] in which Frank listened to, and, I thought, approved of what I said, and I trust the saving which he can cypher up, out of the changes of indebtedness, will be a monthly, and a constant satisfaction. There, I have done with W.A.R. forever."

"You are aware Frank is to pay me 10% in the cash which I raise, being \$17,000. Why do I charge him so much? In the first place, he offered to pay this, saying the profit would be so great to him that he could afford it. But this is not all; for in the second place, I have called in a portion of my very best investments, to enable me to loan this large sum, a portion of it paying 10%; and besides, I lend to Frank, (acting for you), \$23,000 of my other property, bonds, in addition to the \$17,000 cash, on an indefinitely long loan, by which I put out of my power the changing or improving of the same. I want you, and him too, to know why I consent to take 10%, and to know too, that if it turns out, that Frank can't properly pay so much, then I shall take smaller interest. Ned owes me some money, and pays me only 7.3% interest, but he helps me, as you know, a large sum [remainder of the letter either not in the folder, or I made a mistake in scanning the page]. [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

10 August 1874: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French. "In the few words I passed to Ellen, regarding the vexatious demand on your father's estate, I do not know that I expressed any idea of value, additional to those discussed with you. Yet I had attempted, and have since attempted to take a business view of the case, shaded by all the hues which your relations with Mrs. French should lend to the subject. Her legal and equitable claim, shaded by all genial hues to which she is fully entitled, is the enjoyment of life, of the estate, or rather what there is left of it, after the debts are paid. You will of course see, that she being not much above your own age, it could not have been contemplated by your father that the debts, or this debt, should have been bequeathed to you, and your father's estate, so far as you are concerned, he bequeathed, free of debt, to Mrs. French. Even your father's generosity could not have contemplated this towards the son of his first love, with whom he had passed most of his life, and who had with him accumulated the property. It is rather difficult for you to touch this liability without in effect, accepting the debt as a personal legacy. I exceedingly regret that when strained to death, almost, this vexation crowds [ap.?] you so inevitably."

"Mrs. French's interest in your father's estate is just this: - the right to enjoy it for life, less the amount of this government debt, if it be now paid, first taken out of the corpus of the estate; - or if it be not now paid out of the estate, less the interest from time to time, on the standing debt, which interest she must pay. If she does not pay the interest, but you pay it,

instead, then every payment of interest is an out and out, and clear gift to the life tenant. Mrs. French is a just and noble woman, and she would not consent to your inheriting a burden, besides Ben, when you will not in your life probably inherit anything else. It is easy for one to say, 'Pay the \$5000, that is the shortest way.' But it is not easy to pay \$5000 even by using one's credit, (already loaded), and I advise you to act very circumspectly before you do any such thing; - that is, I advise you to have a full conference with Mrs. French, and that you go not beyond your duty, on account of advice from any quarter. Mrs. F. does not, I know, wish you to. Some may think, that with your Bank, and prospects, and ready friends, you can bear \$5000 more, some how or other, without vexation to Mrs. F. or to themselves. But till some assistance in your affairs, beyond ready advice, is given by relatives, you had better, as a general rule, form your own conclusions, as to your duty and your ability, to your own father's property and your father's worthy widow."

"This occurs to me – If any portion of the estate can be sold to pay the debt, sell it. If it can't be sold, without exceeding damage to the remainder, then sell the whole; if that can't be done now, then, before you raise the money, (if you can do it), let Mrs. French execute a Bond to you, reciting the facts and binding herself, while the amount raised by you shall remain unrefunded, to pay you semi-annual interest on the amt. you raise. When you pay the money it should be done in another's name, and a note signed by you as Executor be given by you, so that if need be, the estate could be sued, and a portion of land set off, equal to the execution, to be your own, relieved of any life interest, or Trust interest in Ben's acct. I am willing this letter be shown to Mrs. B.B. French, as well as to all others. Afftly, A. Tuck."

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

12 October 1874: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French. "I arrived at Fall River, and at Boston, and likewise at Exeter, on time, and might have attended church in the fore-noon, had Mrs. Tuck been ready herself to go in the forenoon. As it was, I attended in the after-noon, and took a walk with Mr. Buzell besides, but in the evening was tired and sleepy and went to bed at 8 ½ o'clock."

"The town's talk is the robbery of our neighbors – Mr. Stickney has called and given the particulars, but there is nothing exciting in it. I am satisfied burglars, or a burglar, were/was imported here to do the job, by the job, as was no doubt the case when my house was entered. Yet I cannot give expression to my suspicions, even with safety to life. Hence I am reticent."

"I have regaled Mrs. Tuck, with an account of my pleasant sojourn in N. York, not omitting many of the kind words and deeds of you all, - and the pleasant things planned and executed to make the three [sp.?] voyageurs feel the love of those they left behind. I know full well how the vision of benedictions on the wharf, to the very last, as well as the recollection of the last embraces, and the other previous nice demonstrations, will stand by them, throughout the voyage, and afterwards, sea-sickness even, not being able to dispel the happy recollections. When in mid-ocean, it does not come amiss to have the happy things to look back to, and to talk about, sitting on the deck and looking out on the limitless water, or lying in ones berth, getting rid of tedious hours and days in the best way possible."

“I am entirely well of that cold, about which you heard me lectured by loving daughters.”

“With love to all – Affectionately yours Amos Tuck

[P.S.] Mrs. Tuck says why not send my love too – and so let it go – to you all.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

16 October 1874: Amos (Exeter) to Ned and Julia. Describes family’s feelings at seeing the two off on the ship in NYC.

“One event of some interest has transpired here. The sureties with me on Mr. Shute’s Bond have agreed on a settlement of the suit. We have agreed to pay, each, \$1000 by Jan. 1, 1875, and are to be released. I took the matter in hand, and through the Merrill’s, and the settlement is satisfactory, all around. We pay about 40% of the full amt. claimed, and get off easily, as was possible, without a long suit, and a trial, in which we should only have prevailed by discrediting the ability or fidelity of the Directors – some of them my most intimate acquaintances and friends – for example Mr. Stick[ney], Mr. Merrill etc....”

[Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 70]

20 October 1874: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French. “I am glad to note to-day, the arrival of the Republic at Queenstown, yesterday. She is in Liverpool to-day, and the voyageurs are now en route, or already arrived in London, without much doubt.”

“I have been well occupied since my return, - for the last 3 days, effecting a compromise of the Bank suit against me and 8 others, sureties on the Cashier’s Bond of the absconding and allsconding and defaulting Shute, who ought to have been shooted years ago. We have got the affair settled by paying \$1000 each. It was well to buy our peace, - and safety, thus.”

“I have written Abby [a few words obscured] inviting her to come [few words obscured] her the balance [words obscured] her allowance of [words obscured] month. I suppose [words obscured] constrained to contribute considerably to Dolly’s, and somewhat to Laura’s supposed needs.”

“I have gathered 125 bushels of apples. I wish your family had some of them, but the obstacle is that we cannot conveniently get barrels to market them in.”

“Give Ellen and children much love – Affectionately yours, Amos tuck.”

[P.S.] If anything occurs to report, regarding your loans, let me know – the syndicate of U.S. , and of Cincinnati Bonds.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

30 October 1874: Amos (Exeter?) to Ned. Much anxiety over Julia’s health. “...Frank surprised me the other day by sending \$750, which, with the \$250 before paid, reduces the loan to Ellen and him to \$16,000. I was glad to see him up and doing. I sent it to J.M. & Co. on whom I had drawn for \$1000 to pay the Shute penalty. Did I tell you that Stickney and 5 others, sureties on the Lav. Bk. [sp.?] Bond, had settled, by paying \$1500 each?”

[Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 70]

5 November 1874: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "I enclose Ned's letter, and hope to receive to-day from N. York, some of the letters sent to you there, or to learn at second hand from some of you, further accounts of the travelers."

"We are in good condition, very well indeed. I find agreeable exercise in needed repairs and fixings up, around our buildings, and do not yet cease to have pleasure in being at home. As yet I have not had much leisure for books, still I am dipping into Shakespeare, Milton's life, and the lives and writings of those who lived about the time of these worthies, in a desultory manner, but with a relish and pleasure quite unexpected to me, and reasonably unexpected, since I have not had inherited or other title to much literary taste, and have so busy a life in affairs, as to create a reasonable fear that I might not now have much pleasure in my library. Yet I am happy among my books, and am continually starting new topics, and getting a taste of new things, which I design to explore and enjoy according as I have leisure."

"Last night we had Barnaby and his Company, in a crowded and funny concert, at the Town Hall."

"I have written Abby, and want to write Laura a few lines, and so will close."

"Your mother would send love to you, Abby and Laura and Frank and the children, as do I – if she were not out, - gone to invite some-body to take a hand for an hour, this evening, in some cards. Your loving father, Amos Tuck."

[P.S.] "Dear Frank: I do not mourn over the overthrow of the Administration, lately experienced, provided it do not cause trouble to the Syndicate, and dampen your hopes of gain. What do you, on the whole, think. Affectionately Amos Tuck."

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

6 November 1874: The Exeter News-Letter reported: "Shute's Bondsmen – The sureties of N. Appleton Shute, the defaulting cashier and treasurer, have settled with the two banks. The bond of the National Granite State Bank was for \$20,000, and signed by N.A. Shute, Nathaniel Shute, Hervey Kent, Isaac S. Shute, John F. Moses, Luke Julian, Joshua Getchell, Woodbridge Odlin, Amos Tuck, and Thomas Conner. To avoid expenses and uncertainty of litigation a compromise was effected, - the bank receiving \$9000, or \$1000 each from the bondsmen."

A bond for the Exeter Savings Bank was signed by N. A. Shute, S.W. Dearborn, William B. Morrill, William P. Moulton, Nathaniel Gordon, George A. Wentworth, William W. Stickney, Edmund Elliot, John J. Bell, and J.C. Hilliard. The bondsmen agreed to pay \$1500 each.

11 November 1874: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. "I find it will cost \$2.50 a barrel to get apples from Exeter to your house, No. 112. As the apples are worth, in Exeter, about \$2.50 a barrel. This makes the cost \$5 a barrel, delivered, at your house. Supposing them to cost, by purchase in N.Y., not over \$4, I delay sending as I fear your taking them would be more to please me, than yourselves. Such a bargain, being 'poor business,' as Frank could estimate, if you could not, by spending an evening on his Arithmeticon. So I will wait till I hear again."

“Though I have not written about it, tell Amos I am interested in his printing business, and wish to learn how he is getting along. I was surprized to hear of his large order. Can he fill it? I fear not. Yr. mother likes those buttons, notwithstanding. She wore them last night at the Shakespeare. I read an essay on Stratford on Avon, and others read 3 acts of King John, - some of the language was a little strongly flavored for the maidens, but they endured it. Read it. The last two acts, we shall read next Tuesday night, and I shall read what King John has to say. Read the play, throughout, if you have them. The reading is not the only occupation. We have assigned talks, historical, literary, biographical. It may be dull, yet we shall get some out of it. It will do, as a small help in a small town.”

“I am enjoying books very much, and have no unoccupied time on my hands. I am well too, with not so much modification of this unqualified assertion, as most white men have to admit. Abby writes that Frank goes often to Washington, returning in good spirits. So I infer he still lives, as to fair business, which I do not incline to doubt. Now I will go and have my hair trimmed, and then will lunch. Your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

18 November 1874: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French. “I suppose you yesterday rec’d the note for 500\$, acknowledgment of the recpt. of that sum.”

“Mrs. Tuck joins me in expressing thanks for the kind, regardful urging invitation; but she says the letting go of the servants, and the cold of travel, and the press of passengers on the Road at Thanksgiving time deter her from the journey now that she is getting in sight of her 60th birthday. But she says, give Frank and Ellen my love and thanks, with my ‘regrets.’

“As to myself, the proposal is a tempting one, yet I reckon only 46 days between Oct. 10th and Thanksgiving day; - and 7/46 [equals] 6 weeks and 4 days, as a short vacation. Is it best to go, when I know it would be a feast of other enjoyments, besides mince pies, or to stay at home till Christmas? I will see, and in due time write you.”

“This day is the anniversary of my coming to Exeter Nov. 18th 1838, - 36 years ago, - I, with wife and three small children, came here, moved into a house for which I doubtfully had agreed to pay \$60 a year rent, on as cold and snowy day as any of a cold winter, made a fire in the huge fireplace, with green wood, aided by scanty kindling, and thus set up a humble home. I now hear, almost, the children crying of cold, remember well the improvised comforts (?) of that 5 roomed house, that had been unoccupied for months, and the difficulty I had to keep my little colony in good spirits. But I remember no depression myself, no discouragements, no belief in a hard lot, though I do remember that I had not \$500 in the world, that my prospects of business were dubious, and that when in two weeks after, I had collected two or three dollars, and had charged enough to make twelve dollars, I felt successful and happy. Not to be sentimental, I must yet remark, what a world full of events, to me and mine, have happened since! In looking back, all of you, we may all say, and will say: -

Thus far the Lord hath led us on,

Thus far his mercy crowns our days;
 And every morning shall make known
 Some fresh memorial of his praise.”

I will not enlarge my vision at this time, as to what has happened in our associate families, and in the country, for the thought only almost confounds the mind.”

“How charming and perfect the day! I am glad Abby is to be with you still, and that tempts me to go. But I will not now decide.”

“Affectionately to you all, yours, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

23 November 1874: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “It has rained, continuously, ‘pitchforks’, since 9 o’clock this morning, when the snowing changed to raining. The ½ of a foot of snow is rapidly melting, and what of it was on my house roof is making haste, with the speed of a defaulting cashier, to get housed in my heretofore ½ empty cistern. What of it lying on the expansive earth, is doing great good, by mulching the parched ground, and moistening the foot-deep drought that has so alarmed the farmers, and so annoyed the owners of dried up wells all about New England.”

“I return, herewith, Julia’s letter sent me by you, and with it send a letter rec’d from Ned to-day. It seems everything goes on well with those of our family in Paris, and about them we all have reason for satisfaction. I am glad Abby has such cause for thankfulness that her pet child could scarcely, by a possibility, be better situated, that we all have such reasons for comfort, in thinking of her, as well as of Ned and Julia. Give Abby our love, and tell her I have written affectionately, and with interest in all that concerns to-day, to Laura and to Nelly. I do not allow either of them to have reason to think my earnestness for their welfare, or my affection flags. I was particular to commend the neatness, and the accuracy in spelling, of Nelly’s last letter, and to assure her it was a creditable letter, notwithstanding, for the moment, she did not remember that the travelers could go no further towards Paris than Liverpool, in an English ship, and that no ship could get up the River Seine to Paris.”

“We had a small tea party, Saturday night, - Mrs. Long, Miss Stearns, Mrs. (Gorham) Sawyer, (happening to be in town), Col. and Mrs. Green. It was agreeable, and an odd bottle of ‘Golden Seal’ made them all feel especially well about ten o’clock. To-night we have invited Mr. Stearns and his three children, all alone, the driving rain forbidding us to extend, as we had expected to do, invitations to a few other people. So you see we are trying to pay off social attentions, and are adding to existing credits, in our favor with a few around us, always in debt.”

“Major Blake is failed all up, and gone into Bankruptcy. He owes young Butcher Haley \$500, who will lose every dollar, as Blake has scarcely enough to pay expenses of Bankruptcy. B. and H. have some sympathy, the latter a great deal, the former some, but not as much as an honest man usually receives. Mrs. Sawyer takes her boy away from the Academy because of hard study. Dr. Wm. Gorham has an awful cough, and to me seems alarmingly frail. Capt. Chadwick an family go to Boston for the winter, shutting their house. Capt. Cobbs’ wife has

quarreled with Sarah Cobbs, to the death almost, and so Wm. and his wife go to Boston, too, leaving Mrs. Cobbs, Sarah and Horace alone in their glory.”

“Our minister has had a call at a salary of \$2500, and the pious ladies of the parish are in tears. Mrs. Stephen Gordon can be tracked over the Parish, or could, before this wetsfull [sp.?], by the watered path behind her, - coming from her eyes (mind you).”

“There can’t I write gossip as well as some women? I could tell you more, had I paper, about Buzell’s low spirits and how he hangs around, almost as dependent as Stephen Dearborn once did, but I must close. I expect you to send other letters if rec’d from Paris. With love to all, your mother joining. Yr. affectionate father Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “According to present signs I shall not go to N. York – this week.”

[Marginal note] I cut the enclosed from the Chicago Times of Nov. 12th. If you think it would give Ned any gratification send it to him.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

[Undated – top of letter clipped out. November 1874?] Tuck to Ned. “...two weeks ago. I wrote Dolly, intending she should pass her letter to you and dear Julia, and a week ago, I was particular to have your mother write, when I was going to Biddeford, and to-day I am particular to write myself. By this I intend to let you know you are not out of my mind long, though 3 weeks silence has transpired with me.

We are well, I will announce first. The gradual coming of the old time cold weather of our New England climate is manifestly working well upon my physical system, giving a sense of elasticity as well as of strength, comfortable to enjoy, and in contrast with my general feeling for a long time, beginning three years ago. The weather has become cold enough to freeze the ground somewhat, tho no snow has fallen, and instead of ...

[reverse of clipped section]...at the front, and wishes...Still I trust she too will get hardened in time.”

We are enjoying ourselves so well at home that thus far we can get up no disposition to turn our backs upon our genial comforts about our own fireside. By the help of stoves to supplement the furnace heat in the dining room and chambers, and a blazing fire, both for heat and ventilation in the Parlor, evenings, we ender our home always pleasant to ourselves, and so attractive to our neighbors, that we are seldom alone when we desire to see our friends. Books give more enjoyment than heretofore, on account of our travels, a good Lyceum lecture once week or fortnight, a Shakespeare Reading, generally at our house, once in a fortnight, with the receiving and visiting of relatives and friends, fill our life with sufficient occupation to make me repel business engagements, which might [word unclear] command me, when I wish to be the commander every hour.

Frank has paid me \$1500 since you went away. I cheer him for doing it, and think he must be doing well. He writes me once a week, or so, and is regardful and affectionate. His last letter was one inviting us to be with them on Thanksgiving day, the 26th inst. Yr. mother will not go, and I do not now think I will go. The weather will be cold, and travelers too abundant on the cars for comfort. Frank sent your letter to him to me. It was rollicking and cordial, and gave me

comfort as well as it evidently did him. Won't you need your ulster coming back? It was thoughtful to send it to him, so far as he is concerned. It is rather wonderful that Abby seems to be so sensible of her many blessings. It was a most healthful thing for her, to have the children disposed of, as they have been. To have them about her, distracting her already half-distracted brain with difficult and changing plans, was enough to keep her and them constantly in boiling water. I might say much more on this topic; I only say, it is great relief that she stays with Ellen, and is more like herself in the best days, than she has been for years. I have sent her the allowance, regularly, in semi-monthly installments and with it she supplements Laura's revenue and solves her problems as best she can. It was uncomfortable experience to her to find that the cord which held her, had a definite length, and that she could not forage beyond its length, however hard she pulled, even if the cord cut into her own neck, by dint of her exerted strength. It was uncomfortable to us, to hold fast. The result, however, seem, is profitable to her and to us. I am inclined too, to think that Dr. Warren may have done something for bodily reparation, which gives her more ability to control her impulses, and restores her somewhat to a normal condition. Yet I don't take full courage, and I have my sails always set for a squall, though always hoping for continued good weather.

Every body here is glad at the Political revolution. If the once good old ship of the Republican Party can be raised from its submerged condition, and the floating rats not rush to it for prolonging their pestilent existence, I wish it raised. If it is raised, and they do again get aboard, I will vote for immersion again as cordially, and as reverently, as brother Hooper holds to immersing his converts on Water Street, and more so, for I will let every rat go down stream under the ice (changing the figure badly but no matter).

So John Munroe is in Boston. If I go to Boston, I shall call on him, and be cordial. If I see him I must invite him to lunch, at least, with us, and must trust that we can do, for once, as well for him, as Andrew T. does, sometimes. Your mother can do as well 'every time [?]' as the woman who told me her daughter, (Mrs. Munroe), 'had four boys and three gals'. I shall note with interest your progress as to Vera [?] and Mrs. Munroe.

Abby writes that you and Julia 'do everything' for Dolly. It seems a very nice thing to locate her at Neuilly. Avenue Josephine leads from the Arc de Triomphe, between Rue du Roi and Champs Elysées, does it not? If so, you are in striking distance, or a short ride, of Dolly. Have you a good carriage? Of course you have, why do I ask? Yet 700 fr. Is a cheap rent, compared with last year: but then you were young, and had to get your name up, and, besides, had the old gentleman of the gold headed cane with you, and that was no joke. Give our love to Dolly, and take, as Ellen says, a good hug for yourselves, you and Julia, from us both, and present regards to all inquiring friends. I now go to the Post, and if I get the next installment of letters from you will so note at bottom – (yours of 30th ult rec. last week). [I enclose a slip about that courtesan, Mrs. Eckel.] [Tuck struck out the line bracketed.] See Boston and [word unclear] issue of about 15th inst. for account of Mrs. Eckel's book. Most affectionately, yr. father, Amos Tuck." [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

4 December 1874: Amos (Exeter) to Ned. "My dear Ned, I enclose a letter to daughter, from your mother, who has read it to me, in regard to which I told her, I liked it, except that she had no occasion to speak uncharitably of Abby, since Abby had behaved in the best manner, ever since your departure. Even Abby's hand-writing indicates favorable change, and though I take no fearless confidence in her continued self-possession and comfortable state, yet am thankful for every week's addition to her quiet existence. Ellen writes that, Frank being so often away, Abby is an actual comfort and help to her. I shall not urge her staying in N.Y., lest I hurry her away, yet shall hope and pray, inside, that she remains long there, because the excitement of newly settling in Milton may hazard her peace of mind.

Your letter of 16th is to-day at hand. I perceive, Mr. Stone, is Mr. Stone still, as his conundrum indicated. The old adage was, I believe, 'oh vanity, thy name is woman.' It is as true to say, 'oh vanity thy name is Stone'.

Abby writes that Dolly says she begins to try French words and sentences, and that all the girls speak French, more or less. Dolly cannot help being inspired to try, and if so, she cannot fail to acquire a great deal of the language during the winter.

I see you are living from day to day, as you did a year ago. I can conceive you are a little tried, that for a moderate net result, you are obliged to do a large part of all the beneficial thinking for the House, while the figure head and sign-board of the concern though pretty to look at, is of little or no account whatever; and I know you continue to chafe, notwithstanding the swell dinners, and the dinners, en famille, which you enjoy, after a fashion, at numero cent cinquante. Still I will not fail to commend you for not taking a position till events fully ripen, and that in the mean time you enjoy the passing moments, inventing and putting in practice such improvements as occur to you, (and to Mr. Kern), but not worrying yourself by feeling obliged to infuse immortality into the House, or to make it greater than it ought to be, if you should find it not large enough to stay in after Jan. 1/76. I am glad, all the time, that you are able to live without your business connection, if need be. (At this point, your mother interrupts, to say, that she wrote a letter to you, which you ought to have received at the same time the one was rec. sent to Dolly: and that if you did not receive it, the fault is 'yours' (mine). I say not guilty.)

As you say of yourselves, that we can see exactly how you live, so I say to you. We write so fully and frequently that you know all our little experiences very well. I send you a slip cut from a Chicago Paper, which refers to me, and so will have interest enough to be read, but is hardly worth sending so far. Yr. Uncle John is well, busy and happy. Lois Ann [?] is in more hopeful health. John had a ridiculous experience with a servant girl of the obtuse kind. She has been at his house two months, and notified him that she is 4 months 'gone', and that the other bugger has gone and married another girl. John sent her to a lawyer, - and to another place. So you see France has no monopoly in small vices, or large.

I am glad you rejoice, as I do, in the downfall of the Demagogues, and that it is approved by the Am. Colony in Paris. Frank has not written me for some weeks, and I do not know how his syndicate, or his Cincinnatis thrive. The weather is superb, and, as your mother says, I am getting back to normal health and strength. I note your assertion, and rejoice in it, that Julia is

getting stronger and more robust, and that you are the wellest man in Paris. After this I will write so that Dolly may see my letters, but this not. Lovingly to you both, your father, A. Tuck.”
[TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

11 December 1874: Amos (Exeter) to Ned. “In regard to our leaving Exeter for a time, I only say, that we think of it, but as yet are so comfortable and occupied at home, that we form no plans. I don’t think Mr. Peirce can reasonably expect anything from Congress, and I do not now expect to go to Washington. However, I shall not commit myself to staying here, or going away, but shall hold myself ready to do what at any future moment I may find to be pretty clearly the best....”
(Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 70)

18 December 1874: Tuck (Exeter) to Ned. “My dear Ned, We have an inch of snow on an icy covering of ½ an inch thickness, by which good sleighing and excellent skating is made, and with the thermometer usually between zero and 20 above, mornings, we are able to announce natural and pleasant winter weather. My health is good, and I still believe, in the present demands of my system a New England winter is the best possible climate for me. I have not yet thought seriously of going to Boston, or to N. York, because I find myself so nearly settled to my mind here. I find my library a luxury, as I have intimated in a former letter, always warm and inviting from morning till 6 P.M., and even after. Yet the Parlor light, from the alabaster shaded burner, on the table standing in the evening always in front of a liberal wood and cannel coal fire in the grate, is too tempting to admit even my spending an evening in the Library. Your mother likes books, and we usually sit till 10 o’clock, before retiring, resorting to a game of California Jack to wake me up, when I get to nodding over my book, as I do once or twice every night. She does not often nod over her book, but does sometimes. Abby is still in N. York, as you know, and while she stays there, it would seem they might have enough of the Tuck breed in one house, even if I wished to go there, which, as yet, I have not wished.

I have a letter, this morning, from John Munroe, written in N.Y., on the moment of his departure for Philadelphia, cordially replying to my invitation to come to Exeter, saying he shall do so, if possible, on his return to Boston, a week hence, when he will write me again.

Frank wrote me that Cyrus W. Field was in negotiation to buy out the Thompsons in the First National. I replied that I did not like the Fields, any of them, and that I thought he would be officious, would grumble at their high salaries, and become generally hateful. He first replied to my letter that the negotiation was given up, and then that it was resumed. I answered his last, that he ought to forestall differently, on the points I had mentioned etc. etc. What the result will be, is of course not known.

You and Julia both speak of interruption in the receipt of letters from me. I have mentioned to our P.M. the non-arrival of my letters to Paris, while Boston and N.Y letters go regularly; and if there be a hitch here, I think it will not occur again.

The Academy term closes next week, to be resumed after Jan. 5th, and the Trustees, next week, will take up and consider the subject of building a Gymnasium.

Letters from Paris come regularly, and we enjoy the pleasure of keeping quite a connected thread of your life there. Ellen often sends her letters here, knowing we can not have too much of a good thing. Abby sends none of hers. She wrote me some days ago in such a way as satisfies me. I cannot, and scarcely any of us, correspond ever with her children without being misunderstood, and suspected of interfering with her rightful sovereignty. Still nothing occurs worth describing. Her children (here) are now getting on as well as usual, and as I see no evil likely to befall them, I am willing to leave 'hands off', and I wrote Abby, that I thought the only means I had of serving her was to send her, semi-monthly, a sum of money, and that I should not write any of her children, for the present, unless by open letter sent through her. In the mean time I propose to be comfortable. If I can't do any good by standing watch on deck, I shall not stay there in the cold, but keep warm and nice in the Saloon, and not worry about a collision, till it happens. Smooth things only about Dolly should be written to N. York. Abby's imagination is so liable to run riot. I have no doubt Dolly is doing excellently well, and if not, that you will do the best thing possible. Do exactly as you think best, and then put it as smoothly, as it will bear, and trust the event. My hope is that Dolly will get many valuable and unchangeable notions of her own, while separated from her mother, and will make them the frame work of her plan of life. It is certain her mother will only be influenced by her children, and they must be wise, or they will all slump together.

I expect a letter from you by tomorrow, and have not had one since I wrote you last, - a week ago to-day. To you both, and to Dolly, Lovingly, your father, Amos Tuck.

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

22 December 1874: Tuck attended PEA Trustees' meeting.

24 December 1874: Amos (Exeter) to Ned. "...One of the Harwoods of Mo. has paid me \$700, part of \$2000 (plus interest) which he owes me. I shall have \$2000, or more, to re-invest in January. My account is ow nearly square at J.M. & Co.'s. I do not speak of your relations with our house, because I know nothing I can say that will be of value...."

[Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 70]

1875

8 January 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "...I am receiving my dividends all around, without the likelihood of any exceptions, I believe, not even of Geo. R.P. & Co., though we have to take it out of our reserve. The St. Louis Nat. Bk. in which I have 150 shs. (cost \$15000) paid 7% for 6 mos. prior to Jan. 1st, and the Pres. wrote me he had reserved several per cent of the year's earnings besides. The Merchant's Nat. Bk. (St. L.) in which I have 50 shares (cost \$4000) has advanced to par and above, and is reliable for 5% semi an. Dividends, as Mr. Crow of St. L. writes me. I hear nothing of the other Bk. (the Continental), in which I own 40

shares, (cost \$5,800 (high)), but have no doubt of a dividend, though I doubt its being worth what I paid (145\$ a share)....”

[Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 70]

11 January 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “How are you, my child, and how is Amos, and how are the others of your family? I have not been out for 3 days. I got cold upon the cords of the neck, which had been strained by my fall, and it gave me a head-ache, which caused me to keep in doors, since Thursday night last. I am to-day nearly well, and have at no time been confined to the bed in the day time. It is very cold here, but our house is warm. Yr. mother is out, to make calls, or a call. Charly Rogers has sent me a Wild Turkey, 12 Prairie Chickens, and 24 Quail. I wish I could easily divide with your family. I send you herewith a letter from Julia and one from Ned, which send back. We rec’d Bessy’s Picture. It suits me, exactly. She looks as if she was just going to fly.”

“We have her’s and Amos’ on the what[-not] in two little frames, bo[ugh]t in St. Louis. I wish we could have yours and Frank’s, of the size of Ned’s and Julia’s, in frames, to hang in our Parlor. You know we have theirs, Henry Townshend’s, Mrs. Townsend’s, John P.’s, and Mr. B.B. French’s. Now get yours, and Frank’s. If you are in doubt as to frames, I will get some like Ned’s; you know it won’t be well to have much difference.”

“Lovingly to you all, your father Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

12 January 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “My darling little Ellen: I am better to-day, and doubt not I shall go out to-morrow, or next day. My head-ache is gone. Pond’s Extract has done me great good, and then the cold is leaving me.”

“I rec’d the enclosed from Abby last eve., with directions to send at once to you. Julia is a good girl to write so wisely, and so lovingly. How incomprehensible that Abby does not fully realize her generous affection for Dolly, and for herself, too! I feel sure that Ned and Julia together, may be trusted to every extent, to do all that Dolly ought to have done, and that we all ought to express to them our confidence, as well as our appreciation. What an opportunity Doll is enjoying!”

“It seems, by letter from Abby that Laura has had an abscess, which I should not dare to say to her, is only a boil, on the face. A doctor was called, and it was opened. She is better. Say nothing of my writing about it to Abby. Lovingly, yr. father, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “It is 10 o’clock. I suppose I may have a line from you or Frank to-day, possibly I have not yet sent to the mail.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

15 January 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “My dear Ned, I enclose a letter from your mother to our Julia. I should remonstrate against the graphic and tragic account of a not serious accident, given in the first part of her letter, did she not conclude it, at a later date, by exhibiting the groundlessness of her first apprehensions. I am now well and happy, the day is a cold, clear, nice winter day, the house is warm enough, and nothing of moment affects

unfavorably he complete happiness of the family. Abby is now in a state of mind, and in truth, always will be, probably, to allow Dolly to remain in Europe after you return, and under the circumstances I am very glad Dolly inclines to that course. Her mother could not fail to turn her head, if at home, that is, in America, and the Ocean will be a nice pretty barrier between them, I trust, till Dolly gets her ideas of herself and of other people established as well as they be, by intercourse with strangers, not having too much sympathy and consideration for her. Had she an equable, mentally healthy and wise mother, it would be different. I am fully appreciative of the wise as well as tender course you and Julia take. Let her do as she has a mind to, but see to it that she has a 'mind to' only what you approve. Govern, but keep government out of sight. Come to the pinch, see to it that no folly be perpetrated.

But this is enough for one letter, on this ever recurring topic. Mr. Paul has persuaded me to heat my house with steam, and by the end of next week, I expect the works completed. It was not necessary, but he has it in his house, he says I ought to have it; that it is healthier, cleaner, and more genial, every way, than furnace heat, and so I allow him to do it. It will cost 500\$, I suppose, but as I see a margin of about 2000\$ in the last six mos, of receipts. (income), above expenditures, I allow him to go forward.

Mr. Chandler has written you about coupons, because I forgot, till a few days ago, that Frank necessarily had them, instead of them being left at No. 8 [Wall St., John Munroe & Co.], as I had stated to him. I expect a letter to-day, saying Frank has produced them, and had them to my passed to my credit. Frank has paid some further small sums, so that his debt to me is about \$15,000, my Harwood notes are mostly paid, and with income receipts., I am able to invest \$5000 at least, in something, the money for which is on deposit at No. 8. Frank offers me Cincinnati, (if for myself) at par, and int. I may take them, to hold for a time, in case nothing better offers soon. I wrote to St. Louis for more St. L. Nat. Bk. Stock, but hear that not a share has changed hands in 9 mos., and none can probably be got at any fair price. Mr. Chandler writes loving letters to me. He is the best natured old purring pussy in ten cities. I shall go to N.Y. soon. We may go to Washington for pleasure, or I to St. Louis, towards spring, but not soon. It is pleasanter at home. Pierce and Tom Scott can't do anything with this Congress, and so they will no seriously try. Our politics grow interesting. Char. M. Bell again has failed to be nominated for Governor, and political adventurers are generally at heads and halls [?]. I am interested to hear about your affairs. Does Andrews' withdrawal affect you favorably yet? No doubt it will, to a mall extent, at least. Is any light seen ahead? John's revelry in this country of course amounts to nothing. Andrew T. must see this. He was ½ mad with John for not being more at his house. I don't think you better worry, however. The whole concern is growing more and more dependent on you, and you can utilize your position, as time elapses, judging from your past. Frank talks more and more of going to Europe, and may start, any week. Yet he shivers at the idea. I shall not advise, or oppose, but yet am deeply interested, of course. Now, my son, if not too much trouble, kiss your wife, regardless of expense, entirely on my credit, and I remain your loving father, Amos Tuck. [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

20 January 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "I send you enclosed a letter from Dolly, which you better send to her mother as soon as convenient. Abby writes that the cold is so severe, and Laura so much in need of her, that she will not come to Exeter at present. I have replied that I could not expect her, under the circumstances, but that whenever she, or children come, they cannot come amiss etc."

"I still am willing, if you think it best, to have the Fur Cloak recalled and sent to Abby, and will repay to Frank, to the extent of \$125, if you think it best to send that sum to Abby, to pay Mrs. Gregory. But I do not recommend, that is, do not urge it. I only speak of it, to show my mind, (heart), should you think Abby ought to have her fur cloak this cold weather."

"Ned sends a brief letter, not of consequence to send you. They seem to be all well, and nothing new, as you may probably have heard direct."

"Lois Ann and husband start for Florida next Monday, in company with friends and she writes me that as they take a Palace car, it will not be well for them to leave their company to visit you, or us, en passant, though they will write so I can see them, if they go through on this Road."

"It is excessively cold here – from 10 to 20 below zero, though we keep a good fire in the furnace, and ourselves warm enough."

"Last night the Shakespeare Club met at Brad. Cilley's. I gave a talk of 10 or 15 minutes on Language, with special regard to the English, and am requested to say more on the same topic at the next meeting, which will be at our house in 2 weeks. Twenty five or 30 people get considerable entertainment, and some good out of these meetings. They are regarded as a great success."

"For three days men have been in our house and cellar, putting in steam apparatus. It is little trouble to us, as the Radiators are easily placed, without interfering with carpets. They are all in position, now, one in Entry, one in Parlor, one in Library, one in Dining Room, and one in back entry, just as left of the door, as one passes out of the Library towards the kitchen. It is supposed there will be ample for all the house, upstairs, back entry an stairway and all. The hammering and work in the Cellar will take all week."

"Nearly all my apples are frozen, principally cause by a window to the cellar blowing open, or in, one of the cold days, and not seen till the next day. It is no great loss, however, except to those to whom I shall, or should have given them. It will take little money to buy all we want, if I have to buy any."

"We are both well, now, except that I have be very steady or virtuous to keep irritation from the bowels. This very cold weather."

"With ever so much love to you, my own dearly beloved daughter, and to all the family, in all of which your mother joins, I am you own father, Amos Tuck."

[P.S.] "Yr. mother is 60 yrs. old to-day, and I have given her a gorgeous boquet. She has rearranged the entry, since the radiator was put in (and done it to-day), making it look very much improved, and is almost tired out. Father" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

22 January 1875: Tuck (Exeter) to Ned. "My dear Ned, I ought to have said in my letter, part of which you have sent me, that it had been 3 weeks since I had recd. a letter from you. It was unaccountable, that I wrote that I had not before written for 3 weeks.

Abby is nursing Laura, who has had a swelled face, bad tooth, abscess etc., from which I think she must have suffered considerably. Abby has been for weeks in an undisturbed condition, and undisturbing condition. Your comments on Laura [I think he means Abby] indicate generous, magnanimous purposes, in spite of all obstacles, and I am comforted thereby. She will need fatherly tenderness from you and me, for her peculiar character will her much affliction if she lives to an ordinary age. She will be entirely oblivious of many of her peculiarities, until they involve her in troubles, which will disgust her with life, and alienate most of her relatives. But stand by her, to the last, my Ned, not forgetting that she inherits much that she ought to, but can't, get rid of, from the father's and mother's side.

My steam heating apparatus will be in condition to start, to-morrow. The last hammering salutes my ears, as I sit at my Library table, on this, Friday, morning at 9 o'clock, writing to you. It is ornamental, the radiators, in the Entry and other rooms, and though I may double the expense of my cold weather appliances for warmth, I can have no doubt I shall greatly improve them, probably in reference to health as well as to luxurious comfort. The rearrangement of furniture rendered expedient by the radiators, improves the entry and all the rooms. It would be a luxury is we could have you two with us next week, to enjoy the house with us.

We can now probably beat you, out and out, on winter and weather. Zero and below, has been upon us, for nearly a week, and this morning presents an outlook of $\frac{1}{2}$ a foot of snow fallen since last night, on top of $\frac{1}{2}$ a foot before on the ground.

Yesterday the politicians met at Dover to nominate a Republican Candidate for Congress. A.M. Whitehouse of Rochester, mediocre, took the honors. I guess the Rum Democrat, Jones of Portsmouth, will take the election. C.H. Bell too again missed his tried for nomination for Governor. Marston has been trying to get up into a nomination for something, but has run only as a hog on ice. I think he will be still hereafter.

I bought of Frank \$5000 Cincinnatis, at par. He says he expects within two months to have them at 105. Of course I am aware of the uncertainties. They are on deposit with J.M. & Co.

What terrific weather has been experienced on the Atlantic! And how glad I am you and Julia were on terra firma, and all the rest of us! Dolly's letter to us came with yours of the 31st ult two days ago. Tell her it gave us much pleasure to hear from her direct, and so good accounts. By her perseverance and talent, she will before long get beyond the difficulties of French, which usually limit the acquisitions of American girls. American French will hardly be the limit of her ambition.

Abby imagines that Dolly will be opposed in carrying out her declared purpose of remaining in Paris, or vicinity, after your return. She little comprehends us here or you and Julia there. She does not know that her unfortunate condition compels us to favor anything that shall

separate Dolly, as much as possible from her morbid alternations of judgment and temper. I judge that Dolly writes that she wishes to go into a French family.

Has John arrived? When any change takes place in the aspect of your affairs, I know you will write, and so I dwell not on what I can throw no light. If the last year has not even paid office and family expenses, do not fail to rejoice that, it has been no worse, during a period of such calamities to many others.

We are so comfortable here, we cannot at present think of going away. Jim is reliable on fires, paths, and things in general, and we are living very comfortably indeed. Baring a cold, we are both in good health. With much love to dear Julia, as well as to yourself, and likewise to Dolly, in all which your mother expressly joins, I am yr. loving father, Amos Tuck”

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

28 January 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “....Abby is at Milton and for some weeks has been in a placid state, for her, and so rational as not to give me any anxiety. I commend the wisdom of you and Julia, in not allowing her unnatural state to interfere with your enjoyments. It will do no good for any of us to be much moved by her altercations.....”

“...The M.K. & Texas Bond holders may imagine the Indian Territory will be opened this session in a way to favor the Railroads, But I think there is no prospect of it, and I know there is no prospect of legislation, such as Tom Scott and Mr. Peirce want; and it is on this account I am not asked to go to Washington. Peirce knows from me, that I know he can’t do anything in the present state of politics and parties. Besides, I am getting to feel above the business of working for any scheme in Washington, however good, because of the characterless throng which have lately hung around the Halls of Congress.....”

“...Did I write you I could get no Bank stock in St. Louis, to suit me, and that I bought 5000 Cincinnati, of Frank, at par? I think I so wrote. I have a letter today offering me 91 ½ for the Beloit & Madison R.R. Bonds I bought last year of Judge Stickney at 90. I decline to sell....”

“I cannot enlarge on politics, here, in France, Spain, or England, any more than you can; yet I take considerable interest, all around. I see foreign financiers laugh at the financial skill or political demagoguing of John Sherman and our other Congressional wise men. I am querying how we may all best regulate our affairs, in view of the prospects ahead, and shall want you and Frank to enlighten me as well as to decide for yourselves.”

[Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 70]

9 February 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “I am now perfectly well, darling Ellen, though I confess to necessity of great care, as to quantity and quality of food. I apprehend nothing serious in any weak tendencies I now have, for I am sure of great advancement towards perfect health and strength, as compared with a year ago. So do not think strange that I do not go to see Dr. Palmer. Care of myself, is what I have occasion to practice, and that alone is all I need.”

“Did I tell you I went last week to Concord, and passed a night with George G. Fogg. He devoted himself to me, and I enjoyed, as did he, our long interview. He wished my cabinet sized picture, to put among his friends, in his library, which he has fitted up elegantly.”

“I need not tell you it is cold, not in our house, where steam heating apparatus is triumphant, taking Jack Frost in hand, and thawing the icicles from his nose, with great ease, - but outdoors, where the world’s people say there has been nothing like it, since 1835. We, that is, your mother and I, agree that we have suffered less of the cold, this winter, than in any winter for 5 yrs. past.”

“Last night we attended a small party given especially to John Gardner and wife, at Miss Harris’. It was agreeable, and we played for an hour or two at [two words unclear] with John and his bride. We vote that she is pretty, agreeable, and likely to make John happy. Maria was in usual high glee. I saw Lizzy Stevens at Concord. The poor child looks quite passible [sp.?].”

“To-night your mother has Mrs. Long and Miss Harris to tea.”

“I enclose Ned’s last. What a pity it is that Ned is tied to such a concern; or rather, what a pity that such a concern is so encumbered that a successful future seems impossible.”

“I am much interested in the late negotiation at Washington, in which Frank and his friends had an interest, but I am content to wait till I see Frank, before learning particulars.”

“I rejoice that you can say you are all in fair health. With love to all the family, Yr. aff. father, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “Your mother sends love.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 February 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “My dear Ned: You anticipated two days and one mail in writing your last letter to me, and I will anticipate one day, not one mail, in my reply, impelled by more than my usual interest in your affairs, now pressing with some botherance on your mind. About this time, you will have made your figures on the last year’s business, and will be thinking you ought to announce a decision for the future, to Mr. Munroe. But if I were at your side, I should say, retain your option as long as you well can, though you may, even now, have settled in your mind what will be your action. I wish I could, as formerly, tell you, with confidence, what in my judgment you ought to do. But in your specialty, you have had experience, and I have not, and what I say, must be uttered with some doubt. I have intense interest, and wish I could tell my dearest son, what he ought to say and to do. Yet with all my interest, I have not the anxiety I should have, were I not aware of your independence, of your it will not be a fatal error. It is impressed on my mind, that it will be well for you to tell John and his mother, at the same time, and together, pretty plainly your whole mind, portraying the difficulties at N. York, and in Paris, and showing them, what would be the possibilities, with first class capacity in both places. You would not be likely to omit saying, that as things now are, the hazards, to say nothing of the discomforts, are too great for you to contemplate for a long time, and you would include a suggestive allusion to the deadheads, as to work, to whom the profits must yield a large payment. You could say all that you would say, on a dissolution, keeping back only so much as not to yield up your option.

Notwithstanding the undesirability being out of occupation for a time, I am inclined to your now showing to them signs of your withdrawing at the year's end, and by and by, if there be no remedy, to your actually withdrawing, or giving notice of withdrawal, when necessary. To have at the head of your house in Paris a Big Boy, without other capacity than infinite good nature, and indefinite extent of Digestion, not knowing scarcely the vocabulary of his profession, and utterly nothing of the difficulties and indisputable precautions of it; and at New York, an elderly gentleman of peaceful Good Nature likewise, whose talents, like those of the furnace I have just discarded, are out of date, and nearly worthless in comparison with the new ways of modern art, are causes of irritation so disturbing, that I cannot advise you to put up with them, without their being in some measure, at least, alleviated. I dare not, my dear son, advise more definitely, thinking it safer to cast you on your own inspirations. If vanity and pride, increasing and expanding, are likely to add to your discomforts, I can readily comprehend you will eventually cast them off together.

Now I will pass to our humbler affairs at home. The town presents nothing of exciting interest. Woodbridge Odlin has privately announced to the authorities of the Academy that he will give \$20,000 to endow a professorship of English, and the affair will probably take shape and be public in a short time. Mr. Kimball, Naylor's father, died a week ago, after a sickness of four days, of congestion of the lungs, generally regretted.

The back of winter has not broken, or not till to-day, when a driving southerly snow storm has set in, which bids fair to turn to rain, and to turn to wash, the high drifts of very heavy snow lying all about us. Zero weather has been the general rule for 6 to 8 weeks, with scarcely any interruption. But our house has been comfortable, and we have conquered the cold with great success in every encounter. We could not consent to dispense with our heating apparatus. Yet every evening, a gay open fire cheers us in the parlor, and without that we should hardly feel at home.

The scarlet fever is in town and Prof. Perkins' 3 children are sick of it, as they have been for some time. We are so well, that I need not say we are not perfectly well. Slight colds soon got rid of, are not worth mentioning, but I will be sure, my dear children, to speak of any serious ailments. When I look back a year, noting the difference in my physical condition, I lay aside apprehension, as to my recovering pristine health.

I sent Mr. Chandler a small draft two days ago, which put the balance on the right side in my account, and remarked in the letter, that if my slight overdraft had been noticed by him I hoped he would not blame me, but that boy in Paris, who had told me that if I did overdraw a little, 'Mr. Chandler won't care.' I enclose the good fellow's reply, which may amuse or interest, as you do not often see his sign manual [?]. It is hard to part with so good an old gentleman, and hard to stay with him.

It is all serene with Abby. Ellen writes that Frank, as well as she, wishes us to visit them, as soon as convenient. I shall go soon. With a great deal of love from us both to you both, and to Dolly – Your loving father, Amos Tuck

P.S. I have just read your mother's note, laid on my table to be enclosed. I do not advise attention to her requests, as I have little use for such gloves, and she can buy her silk here."

19 February 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "My dear Ned, Your last, dated Jan. 2nd (really written Feb. 2nd) was long, full and extremely interesting, going quite particularly into your affairs in your business. I wrote two days ago, about Mrs. Porter's affairs. I now write about yours – ours - which is more agreeable:

‘So turning to his horse, he said,
I am in haste to dine;
It was for your pleasure you came here
You shall go back for mine.’ (John Gilpin)

I am still at home, but shall sally forth to N. York, as soon as the zero weather breaks into a degree of tolerable mildness. I am – we are – completely defended, while at home, from inconvenience, or any discomfort from cold, in doors, by means of our incomparable heating apparatus, which gives us moderate and sufficient heat, in all the rooms below, without oppression, or high temperature; and out of doors, thanks to your mother's fur cloak, and her other warm clothing, and to my Paris overcoat, knit jacket, arctic shoes, warm under clothing, (London), we are always exempt from suffering, or dangerous exposure. But if I go away, I fear cold rooms, cold cars, undesirable food etc. etc.; and so, thus far, I have made myself happy at home, with my books, a few friends, and all necessary attention to business. Mr. Peirce did not invite me to go to Washington, as I think, partly because he could not – dared not – open to me the new ways of influencing members of Congress, but more because, from past experience, he knew I should be very likely to tell him and Tom Scott, at a glance, that there was no possibility for the scheme of the Southern Pacific Subsidy; and it did not suit Peirce's convenience to have the enterprise knocked in the head at once, as certain plans would be best subserved, by a lapse of time, deferred hopes, and death by lingering illness. I am sufficiently assured of P's common amount, at least, of friendship for me. His scheme is dead at Washington, as I hear, and as I knew it must be, long ago, while public sentiment remains as it is. I may add that I have felt, all along, too sensitive in regard to my personal dignity, to think it compatible with self-respect, to be a day's man, at any price, for any schemers dependent on Congressional legislation.

No, I have not participated in the rise in Boston & Maine. I would buy the stock, to keep, at 10% less than it is now selling at. Has not Mr. Falin [sp?] been 'stuck' on M.K. and T. Bonds?

And now to turn to yourself and your affairs. I note, with great interest, the penetrating eye, and the efficient hand, which you have applied to the affairs at the House, as well as in Paris as in N. York. You had to haul, and have hauled, in both cities, the load and the rest of the team. One thing is certain, Mr. C. and Mr. John, and consequently Mrs. M. cannot fail to be sensible of your efficiency, and I think, of your necessity to the business. It will be, with them all, an inside conviction, if not on all occasions an outside manifestation. If you had not carried them beyond their first convictions of need and of utility, you would not have the hold upon them,

which you no doubt possess. I admire your efficiency in regard to the Post Office, and I cannot see that there could have been, from the first, a doubt about the propriety of the circular which you sent me, except on the part of the most timid, trembling coward. De uno, disce omnes. I know from this, how craven and irritating to you, must be the views and the acts of Mr. Chandler on many subjects, affecting both comfort and profit, and I need say nothing new, to convince you I realize how rebellious your feelings must be, after seeing all that you see, and after doing all that you do, to have the ‘Head of the House’, waddled out on all state occasions, and on most others, with an Ecce Homo, which he and his mother swallow at a gulp, both of them well knowing, that if left to himself, he could not stand up long enough to tumble down. Yet what a clever, laughing fellow he is, and Chandler too! If pulpy goodness of nature could make up for capacity in business, how lovely they would be!

Now, having freed my mind, measurably, and intimated my admiration of your course, and my confidence in your ability, without enlarging on the topic of a needed partner of capacity in Paris, and of your needed presence, on this side, at all times, I will say that I am disinclined to have you take any course, till necessary, to prevent your staying in the House, on good terms, in spite of the discomforts, and drawbacks. Things may change. John is certainly growing older. Your name, on this side is needed, and may appear sooner than now seems probable. I repeat my confidence in your sagacity and in your likelihood of saying nothing to wound, avoid all provocations, and that in the end you will act wisely and have your reward.

I enclose a letter to Julia. With many loves to her and to yourself, my dear son – your loving father, Amos Tuck” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

25 February 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “My dear Ned, I receive from Ellen this morning, your letter to her, written just 20 days ago, in which you go at length into a disquisition regarding your relations with your partners in business, and as I take my pen to write to you this week, (Thursday), my first impulse is to refer to this letter, and to tell you it is sound (‘and sweet’) from beginning to end. Your idea of the indispensabil[ity], I you stay in the House, I applaud. If you have a House in London, your name should be seen there, and I am not quite clear that you should not demand it in New York. In business activity and capacity, having worked your way up, through many tribulations, you will have to be the real head of the House, whoever shall come in, and you should strike for recognition. You are right in fearing to trust Chandler’s good nature and ignorance of men, as to financial strength, and of course are right in your convictions of the weakness of babyhood headship to a financial house. If Chandler keeps that letter back, I hope you will at once tell Mrs. M. that co-operation and reconstruction are impracticable. She once said to me, that on a contingency (I forget what), she would wind up the Bank; and if you thus force her to contemplate your withdrawal for a time, even if afterwards you are brought to a reconsideration by amendment on their part, she will realize, and John too, what it is to meditate business, without bottom, (other than physical, for I would not be so unjust as to intimate a want of this latter on their part), and the meditation might be healthful. I forgot to say, last week, that I was particularly pleased that you had made the changes

described to me, in your office. It is worth a yoke of oxen to have smoked out Stone. You want no such fungusy [?] around your business any longer, and besides the general change is a capital improvement.

I am well, feeling strong and lively. I went to Boston yesterday and saw Abby two hours at Parkers. She is rational and sensible, and I have not in a long time had a conference with her, less unsatisfactory. Dolly had written her, February 9th, delighted with her new place. Abby wants Mrs. De Horrock to be her next friend, when you leave Paris, rather than to have Dolly bossed by Mrs. M. Dolly was inclined to stay for the summer where she was, as being both country and city, as well as healthy and nice. Mrs. De H. has mostly kindly written me, and I shall reply to her letter soon, but of course I shall not ask anything for Dolly. I think she will offer Julia to show Dolly the needful help, in an exigency, as soon as she knows you will leave her; and would it not be well to accept the offer, and be able to say so, when Mrs. M. shall speak, if she does, of her readiness to be at hand. Both can be accepted, but Mrs. De H. would be most genial, and congenial to Dolly, and be first.

The weather has broken, and we now have an effectual snow-eating fog, with thermometer at 40, that is, 40% above what it was for 40 days prior to 3 days ago. I shall go to N.Y. as soon as the streets there cease to be navigable, and locomotion on terra firma is renewed. Yr. Ma is out. With several kisses for Julia, to be faithfully applied, I am your loving father,
Amos Tuck.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder1]

26 February 1875: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Ellen French. “My dear sister: I am writing Frank to-day a long letter but will profit by another steamer to send you something also, be it only brief.”

“We are all well – all our extensive family. Dolly came in last night from her ‘family’ to dine with us, meeting the Evans and 2 gentlemen. She is as fat as butter – or posy as a peony. She is enjoying good health to such a degree that any further increase in her weight would be at the expense of her good looks. Julia has got over a severe cold, which is called here the gripe (do not confound with a similar English word) and has been epidemic.”

“We have had by wire wonderful accounts of cold and ice and snow in America. I hope you have kept well and comfortable through it. The extremes of American weather are certainly terrible and I don’t know how we shall enjoy a winter there, when we get the chance of trying it. Here the lilacs are beginning to bud, and also an occasional chestnut, betokening the end of winter. But we have had no genial weather yet.”

“We have not heard from NY. this week, though father’s hebdomadal letter has come as usual, reporting himself and mother well and happy at Exeter. He spoke of soon visiting Frank and you, which I hope he may be doing by this time, for Exeter and Buzell, though delightful for some months, cannot endure forever as sufficient nutriment for a live and active man. Abby and Laura are reported well at Milton – from Laura we expect never to hear, as we know full well her gracious and grateful habits. From Abby we hear through Dolly and occasionally direct.”

“I receive your good letter of the 5th. I see you are living quietly this winter. We are so few in our family circle that we need some distraction, which has been mostly in dinner. I think I have never dined out so much in the same time as during the last month. We have the resource of the theatres too, which only those who know Paris and French can fully appreciate. When you and Frank retire from business and dwell on the banks of the Seine, you will enter into their enjoyment as fully as we do. Parties and balls there are almost none of, I am happy to say.”

“The festive John, our senior partner, head of our House, etc. is handsome and agreeable as ever. He is a good fellow, and much sought after in society. In business he is a baby, though his mother’s pet and Chandler’s pride. I cannot tell you yet whether I shall continue to row the bow oar in the Munroe boat while John sits in the stern and seems to steer, after ’75, but I don’t feel as though I should. Chandler does not report on some matters referred to him, as he ought to do, but his silence this time pleases me, as it probably means that I can soon make up my mind to go, whether or not.”

“Dolly is where she hears and speaks only French, in a family composed of one (2) [sic] mother and four daughters and another girl boarder. They keep her and feed her and care for her well and she seems perfectly contented. She wishes much to stay after we go and it now appears as if it would be decided she should. We should put her under good guardianship, among our numerous friends.”

“How is the boy Amos in this cold weather? I hope well and with a kiss for him and Bessy, I am with many for yourself, your loving brother Ned.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

28 February 1875: Julia Tuck (61 Ave. Josephine [sp.?] to Amos Tuck. “My dear father, As mother has been in my debt for some time I shall today write exclusively to you. I do trust you are not all frozen up solid for the newspapers give us terrible accounts of the cold a day or two after your letter of the 11th which was received yesterday. We both enjoyed greatly your description of the ‘head of the house’ and the senior member. [Two words unclear] is more of a baby than ever and is probably incorrigible. Ned wrote you about his plans and thoughts for the future (which by the way you answered) and that he wrote to a new man [sp.?] through Chandler, leaving it to him to forward the letter and telegraph result but nothing has been heard so far. Eddy began to look for a dispatch last Sunday. How old C. must be shivering. [Six words illegible] too he must be having a good time. But I am sorry if he suffers much for after all he is a good sort.”

“Tell mother with my love that I will get the fur gloves certainly and the silk I will match if possible. We have had a very cold winter for Paris but now it is over and the March wind is howling today. The leaves are determined to show themselves for notwithstanding the snow and ice last week, there are large buds on all the trees and there is every promise of an early spring. We have been going to a good many dinners lately but they are about at an end now. We give one next Tuesday which will be the last ceremonious one we will indulge in this season. Being

Lent, balls of course have ended and people console themselves by eating and drinking and being cheery [sp?.] in a quiet way.”

“Dolly is well, fat and happy. She is wonderfully content where she is now and does not hear one word of English and is really learning rapidly. The family is a very nice one in reduced circumstances since the war therefore taking boarders. Two of the daughters are out teaching during the day and two are at home. Dolly came home last Saturday stayed till Monday she also dined with us last night as we had a few friends she wanted to see and is coming back tomorrow to stay till Monday. If she stays here after we go we should of course arrange everything in the best possible way and leave her under Mrs. de Horrack’s care or rather supervision [word unclear] that she would have some one to apply to in case of need. Mrs. Evans offered to have her on Sunday with her sometimes. Dolly has written to her Uncle Thomas to get his approval of staying and will look anxiously for his answer, for her mind is set on it.”

“The time for our leaving is drawing very near for we have it only to the first of April. If the landlord will let us keep it by the week we shall probably remain two weeks longer and then go to an hotel for the last ten days or so and leave Paris the end of April to sail the first part of May. As I know you do not like too long letters I will end with my paper. Abby writes you have not been and still are not well, is it so? Eddy wrote you I had a cold so let me tell you I am perfectly well now which you may take for gospel although I am a Tuck. Give mother a kiss and tell her to hug you for your loving daughter Julia.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

4 March 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter?) to Ellen French. “My beloved daughter: Don’t worry about your papa. He is so near perfect health, he will be very happy if those he loves are as well. Yr. mother has written without dictation of words, of odd ideas, from your everloving Father, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 March 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Abby Frye. “Read the enclosed and then Post office it, in Boston.”

“I have seen just such dishonest men, impudent, cool villains, as Bragdon, and I am up to snuff in dealing with them. I shall not approve any outrage on Nelly’s finances. I never knew of a more unconscionable bill, and it shall not be paid. His letter to you is an attempt at hypocritical blarney. He cannot harm you whatever he knows, or don’t know, and I will answer for that. You need give your self no uneasiness about him or his bills. You will have no more occasion to allow constructive, cheating charges to be made. Even in Exeter, I cannot allow anything to run loosely without extortion from me. So I pay as I go.”

“I hear nothing from Paris within a few days. No doubt they are all well. We are pretty well here. I will keep you posted as to what I hear from Bragdon and T.N.; who has written me, rationally and reasonably. Love to you and children, Yr. aff. mother, or rather father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 March 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French. "Ellen wrote last week you were in Washington to see Mr. Robeson. I hope you are not vexed by any arrangements heretofore made with that official, and that if you seek new relations, they may be made to your mind."

"We are greeted this Monday morning by an addition of 6 to 8 inches of the most perfect snow which ever fell in N. England; so that we now have, I am sure, more snow than has been on the ground at this date of Spring (?) in the last ½ century."

"I have thought more than once this morning of procuring a photographer to take stereoscopic views of the outlook, from and towards my house, to be sent to my children. I may do it yet, if the snow, now beginning to shine, does not too suddenly dismantle the trees of their snowy beauty."

"This little Republic of Exeter is now convulsed with the rising throes, incident to the coming election of to-morrow. Many a local patriot 'troubles for his Country, when he reflects that God is just,' and that his justice may sleep, so as to allow said patriot to get into an office he does not deserve. The bad outlook for travelling to-morrow, is favorable to the Democrats in the state, for they flourish best in a low [sp.?] time, outside and inside, [word unclear] apprehension of the consequences of exposure, ever keeps them from any place where duty and [word unclear] call them. It is uphill work for the Republicans to fight the battle, and though the Democrats will scarcely carry everything, it will not be strange if they divide the power this year in N. Hampshire, or possible make a clean sweep."

"We are all well. Affectionately to yourself and family, yours, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

13 March 1875: Amos Tuck attended PEA Trustees meeting at Boston. The Trustees considered a gift of \$20,000 from Woodbridge Odlin to establish a professorship in English. Accepted after a [rare] recorded vote: five Ayes (Peabody, Tuck, Gorham, Walker and Perkins against two Nays (Bowen and Hale). (pp. 452-55, PEA Trustees' minutes not to be used without permission of the PEA librarian)

19 March 1875: Tuck (New York City) to Ned. [On John Munroe & Co. New York letterhead] "My dear Ned, Here I am, at last, writing to you, at your own desk, at No. 8, opened to me by Mr. Lockwood, by direction of Mr. Chandler, who is courteous, as usual, and looking well, though he has just got so as to wear his pretty boot, and to talk in a musical, captivating way, as of yore. I did not write to you a week ago, which is the first omission of a whole week since you embarked from this Port. I was occupied a week ago, on some matters which concerned Exeter people, and concluded I would wait to send by tomorrow's mail. I came here last night at 5 ½, leaving Exeter at 6 ½ and Boston at 10. We can now go, back or forth, between Exeter and N.Y., on any day, which accounts for my coming here so often (!). It is over 5 mos. since I was here – Since you left. (If I write disconnectedly, attribute it to your Senior, who is at the mobatile [mobile?] table, at my right, talking to himself, while he is looking over the small red covered books kept by your bank).

I left your mother well at Exeter, and I found all well at Frank's. I talked with F. and Ellen, till 10 o'clock in eve. and then again this morning, for an hour and half, arriving with F. at Wall St. at 10 ½. He has had a R.R. scheme for a large individual profit to me, and to himself, in connection with his friend Kittell and Bigelow, calling from us \$15,000. It involved faith in man too large, and too much trust in R.Rs. and in Providence, and I have rejected all thoughts of investing, and have besides cooled off Frank to below zero, by discoursing to him on the wisdom, in the long run, of only investing in his own paper, by paying up as fast as he can. I think he adopts my views, and that they will influence him to great good. He was getting to think too favorably of taking 'flyers'. He is in good courage, though I do not think the Bk. Is doing wonders, but he says it is earning dividends, and is worth 200 a share. He has drawn only \$6000 salary, but out of the syndicate profit intends to reimburse himself to the extent of \$4000 per annum more.

I have Mr. Chandlers if he has anything to say to you, through me. He says no. I wrote him briefly, yesterday. I was tempted to feel his pulse, regarding a new partner, but on the whole concluded I would not solicit any information, or seem to know too much. But if I thought I could serve thereby, I would pump him with a 40 horse power Engine. Frank sent me your letter to him, wherein you went at great length into finance, and he and I think you discoursed understandingly – so much so, that I should not have been able to comprehend your meaning, except Frank had explained, here and there. He requested your letter back for re-reading. I would expand on your affairs, but I am not able to add to what I have said, or to what you have written, without fear of being supposed to be more positive than I actually am, in regard to your best course. Still the adipose head and tail depress my hopes of M. & Co. (Mr. Candler at this point, in answer to enquiry, when are you likely to come home, says: 'I have an idea he intends to be at home by the middle of May. I have told him, his convenience will be my convenience. I expect to go out soon after he arrives; - very soon as many people will be going out at that time.' I am again tempted to ask him about the Partner, but I will not. I conclude, however, that nothing makes nothing, Nothing taken from nothing, nothing remains. Q.E.D.

I shall stay here till next week. Yr. mother is rattle-te-banging, about cleaning and some inside painting. Jim [sp?] is keeping her warm, and she has invited me to stay till I want to get back. That is affectionate and kind, and I like it, - till the cleaning is over. Charles Conner's daughter, Mary, wife of Joe Chickering, died at Exeter last week, in consequence of child-birth, 4 weeks before. Great calamity to the family, and deep feeling occasioned in Exeter, generally. Tell Julia some dangers are escaped, if some advantages are reckoned, in the bearing of children. I think I wrote you that Woodbridge Odlin was to give \$20,000 to Ex. Acad., to found an 'Odlin Professorship of English.' He has done it. We recd. the money etc. the night before I left Exeter.

Abby gets along as well as she ever does, - and pretty well. Nell's school days are closed, and she is back at Milton, with her mother and Laura, who are hereafter to give her all the tutoring she is to have. By Tom's request I adjusted for him Nelly's final bill at school, getting a recast [?], and reduction which was reasonable, and which pleased Tom greatly. Abby and Laura reiterate conclusions to live always together, helpfully, and I incline to think the unavoidable

solicitude which we shall, of course, always have for them, will be less if they are allowed to be together. Yet I do not look into the future, as to them especially. Sufficient for the present, are the duties of the present. I am glad Dolly is to stay, and, as Julia writes, to be specially under the charge of Mrs. De Horrack. I think it will be well that Dolly be allowed to bury herself in French, as exclusively as she likes, and I hope you and Julia will let her take it, 'full strength'. You are doing for her, more than parents can often do for their children, yet what any of us do, is not sufficiently appreciated for my notions of propriety. Still, we settle, and perform our duties, not by any other standard than our own, rather irrespective of appreciations.

Steamers are not in, this week, and I guess there has been rough weather, out at sea.

N. Hampshire has gone, 'sort o' Republican. It would not have gone so, only the Demos. are bigger 'darned fools', than the Republicans, as soon as they allowed to have any life. They served the old Nick, badly, last year in N.H.

Bristow's face is towards Jerusalem, as you see. Yet gold is at 116 to-day. Frank says it can't stay up; - as seems so, from the price of Exchange.

Ellen is sweet and perfect, as usual, and pronounces loving encomiums on you both, as does your loving Father, Amos Tuck." [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

23 March 1875: Amos Tuck (New York City) to Edward Tuck. [Munroe & Co. letterhead]

"My dear Ned: I am still here, as you see, but am thinking to return to-morrow. I write by this mid-week mail, because I did not write by one of the late mails, and because since writing you from here on Friday, I have been driving about, and have some thoughts and facts to speak of.

Mr. Chandler, now near me, speaking with a broker, has just spoken of John's consulting him about letting to Bennett the front room of yr. P.O. [?] and making the change which you know all about, and has told me what he has written to John. He wished my advice, which he partially obtained before he told me of John's writing, when I erroneously thought he was himself suggesting it. After reading me his letter to John, I told him I should, if in his place, having stated his bias, tell you in Paris, that being on the spot, and knowing the considerations fully, 'they (you) must do as they think best' - So I should do, if in your place. You cannot handle a bull by the tail, when that tail is 3,000 miles long, and as Mr. C. is only in power here, you ought to do what is thought by you all at the Paris Bureau to be for the best. I told him, at the first, that as Drexel had a Reading Room, I suppose it a necessary, though disagreeable adjunct. Still you have been considered all that, and I advise to take the responsibility, if you are all agreed.

Mr. Chandler does not dream of any thought on your part of withdrawal. He told me in his pleasantest tone, yesterday, that up to the 20th inst. he had done more business here than in all the month of Mar. last year.

We have no letters from you for 8 to 10 days back, though Sat. and Thursday mails, delayed, arrive, and none are sent from Exeter, recd. as late as yesterday, (Monday). Of course we think and speak much of what you may conclude, as to your affairs. This morning Frank said to me, 'tell Ned if he opens a house in London, that we will do a great deal of business with

him.' He has become sick of McCulloch, as well as of Puleston [sp?] and Evans, and intends to claw off entirely from business with them, but told me not to speak of this, yet I need have no secrets kept from you, and he need have none. I suppose he only wishes to speak first to you about this. Ellen speaks of inviting you to their House, on your landing. Go there and don't say nay. You will wish to come to Exeter soon after your arrive, and it will be more feasible to do it from the base line of 112 E. 37th St.

Mr. Chandler has just at this point, told me of the failure of looking up the man west [?], and of his suggesting Walker, who, he says, is looking for a place, and has asked my impression. I have replied that it struck me favorably, and that, for Paris, it seemed to me he would answer very well, his weakness, if any, not endangering him, there. He (Mr. C.), then rejoined, 'I wish you would speak of Walker, in your letter, and not read your letter to me, for I wish your son to have your spontaneous, private judgment'. Will not Walker do? He will be modest, as to business, enterprises, after his sad experiences, will do as he is told, and be a good figure head. Still I write, fully aware that you are altogether the better judge, and may properly and wisely set him aside on the first mention of him.

Though I wrote you I had put aside the scheme suggested by Frank, I have investigated it further, and have taken a 1/3 int., with Mr. Bigelow of 30th St. West, (where Frank, Ellen and I dined luxuriously last eve.), and Kettell, (Frank's friend) in furnishing, within the next few months \$15000 each, to finish a 30 mile long Railroad, on terms promising perfect security and a large profit. It is too long a story, but I could not turn my face from the affair, without feeling I was more timid and adipose than a live man ought to be. I have been making some changes in some securities, which I think will increase my income somewhat, but I will not undertake to explain fully, till I have the happiness of seeing you.

Mr. Chandler (having become confiding), here interrupts to show me all about the \$48000 purchase by you of gold for April 20th, and he is puzzling his head to find how he can make the most out of it. He says it was a beautiful operation by you, and he believes he can work it so as to make an excellent profit.

We are all well, except Amos who is having a small crisis, not alarming.

Abby is quiet. Yr. mother anxious to have me return, but not till I shall have my business finished.

With much love to our Julia, - your own good wife, I am your loving father, Amos Tuck
[Ps.] Don't buy us any presents. [TFP, Box 2, Folder1]

26 March 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "My Dear Ned: Though I wrote you by Wednesday's ship from N. York, and previously a week ago, I have a few more ideas, that will cost only 9 cents to lay before you in Paris, and may not be damaging to receive.

Since arriving home, I have your letters of the 5th and 11th instant, both indicating a strong bias to leave the Munroes Dec 31st. I last spoke to you, (I mean in my last letter), of Mr. Walker, of whom, as I told you, I think favorably. That is, for such a place as he would fill in Paris, it seems to me his good breeding, good looks, patient endurance, probably, of the evils

there existing, and limited responsibility, he would be as good a man as could be obtained. I have had a strong disposition to discern, through all discouragements, sufficient reason to advise you to put up with everything, and to retain your connection with the House. Hence some reason, in part, why I have inclined to take a more favorable view of Mr. Walker's going to Paris. (Chandler says he has no doubt he would be delighted to go, yet of this there may be doubt).

But, my son, your last letter, detailing briefly your interview with Mrs. Munroe, has pretty much knocked out of my mind all disposition to take any view whatever favorable to your remaining. She cannot be enlightened ever, on the one point of John's weightiness on the House. She will live and probably die, in the conviction that John is adequate, and will become eminently so, for all the exigencies of his position, and that an indefinite string of other Munroes, with now and then a Richards boy, (reminding one of the counters in a Billiards room), and Kern assisting, in the necessary future, and all that is necessary, in Paris to perpetuate the glory and the success of her house and her name. She wants you and Chandler, after this summer, to stay in N. York, and to be content with making money enough to live on, after paying the losses that will be made by the general incapacity, and interest on her money. She realizes that in the mean time she will have a full run of vain show and amusement, that if the House does not make much, old Andrew will be happily approaching his final departure to another and better world, all her boys will become men and very rich, and then they will be able to take full possession and be independent of all the world. I see his, as you did, from her talk, and add to this [her] vain and foolish view, the fact of Mr. Chandler's liability to make bad debts, and to lose on all transactions, if there is a chance to lose, and my mind jumps to a conclusion.

I feel now that you need no longer hesitate. Yet hold your option, even if you feel you do not need it. It will be better to bring them all gradually, rather than violently, to a realization that you will leave. To leave, is the only course you can take, to be every way satisfactory. Honest statement will be the best, to them all – to Chandler, to John, to Mrs. Munroe, to Mrs. Richards, if she need to be spoken to. The honest facts are there: 'Mr. Chandler will be good for some years. He can manage the N.Y. end. John, with Mr. Kern, can get along in Paris. The business is not sufficient for all now in the House, and you will not consent that any man should go to enlarge your place, or your profits. If a very active man had been secured in Paris, you would have staid in, determined to double the business, but as such man has not been readily found, you will depart.'

It is 'new wine in an old bottle', for you to be in that House, as you say. After seeing what is constantly seeing what is turning up in N.Y., I do not doubt your ability to do better. You can leave with benedictions from all, and with regrets of all, unless Mrs. M. thinks that sparkling wines make such pressure on the corks, that it is more comfortable to use only such bottles as have had the corks out so long that the sparkle and pressure are all gone. You can then get out your money at the end of the year, before great calamity comes, and be at peace.

I enclose letter from Frank written the day I left N. York. Cattel gives him $\frac{1}{4}$ of a commission which he gets from the Govt. for selling \$160,000 worth of Iron. It will be 10 to

1500\$ to Frank, when the money shall be paid, months hence. Cattell is one of the 3 (he, Bigelow and I), who have $\frac{1}{4}$ of the profit for construction of the R.R. paying \$15,000 cash each for finishing it up, - in August. This is the whole thing. I hope still it will give us a round profit.

But I miss you, to talk with, and shall feel comforted on all sides, when you, my beloved son, are close to me. The Lord preserve you and your darling Julia to come to us safely and well.

We are glad you leave so early. I shall be content if I hear you have taken a White Star Ship, and shall expect you safely by any line you select.

The snow is deep still, but is daily melting. Paths required much shoveling yesterday. We are well. Sanborn is painting and papering, and new carpets are to be procured for some rooms. Yr. mother grows critical, and wishes particularly for comfortable quarters for the boy and girl who sometimes, (too seldom), spend a few days with us.

I am not idle, and find I can operate some matters, even from the stand-point of old Exeter, to a profit. We will confer fully about many minor and larger matters when you get home. With your general independence, and your special ability, I don't think it a fearful thing to turn your back on J.M. & Co., old lady and all, - or old ladies and all. Your mother will write to our Julia this week or next and now sends much love, with mine to you both. Your Parent, Amos Tuck” [TFP, Box 2, Folder1]

April 1875: Tuck finishes his second autobiography, published privately by his son in 1902. It was entitled, Autobiographical Memoir of Amos Tuck.

2 April 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “My Dear Ned: The great little things that have occurred here since I wrote you a week ago are not numerous or important. Your cousin John T. Hodgdon came on Tuesday last, and returned yesterday, enjoying his short visit, as it seemed, very much, and giving me pleasure too. No incidents in his humble life in the mountains were of a startling character. It seems he is a trusted man in his town, and that both political parties concur in opinion that the funds of the town are safe in his hands, as they keep him perpetual Treasurer of the corporation. He and his father have some money, and can always help the selectmen out of a short place, by loaning their own money, and he town are always in debt to them, for which they charge interest at 6%. His sister Sarah, (Mrs. Davis), is consumptive and gives them all anxiety. He spoke of you with much regard and interest, enquiring all about you, and mentioning the paper which you send him, appreciatingly.

The sleighs still are seen in our streets though carriages on wheels divide with them the current business of the place. It is remarkable, as I think we have had 4 months continuous sleighing. Yet the weather is not disagreeable and the winter has been pleasant to us. Yesterday the Blake House, next below the County Building, at the corner of Spring and Front Streets, was moved up by our house, to some back lot near the Freight Depot, making place of the new Baptist Church to be built this season. Last evening we attended a meeting of the Exeter Nat. History Society, and you would have been surprised at the real intelligence and value as well as interest of the general observations. The members are mostly people who have come to town

within a few years. The Unitarian Minister, Mr. McDaniel, taking the lead at all times. Men and women 'belong', paying \$3 each, a year.

I am now sitting, of course, in my Library, and even you would think it pleasant. It has been newly painted and tempered, and generally renovated, with change of pictures and some of the furniture. To-morrow we go to Boston to select some carpets and paper for some of our upper rooms, your mother being on the war path, and your father not resisting, though sometimes accused of lukewarmness. I shall strive to keep step to the music of progress, and if I feel rebellious, at times, to conceal it under an amiable expression of countenance. But shant I be glad when it is all over! Ellen promises to visit us in May, just before your return, so as not to be obliged to consider us during the warm weather, and we hope for you and our Julia to be with us a while soon after you reach our shores. Then you will see, in looking about the town, what simple pleasures are sufficient for virtuous and primitive people. There is a liability upon all business men, and I that I have suffered somewhat from it, that the strife for acquisition fills up too exclusively all our time and attention. Money is indispensable, yet its accumulation does not deserve exclusive attention. There is a multitude of workers in the world, who are pushing knowledge to extreme limits, and if we attempt to keep somewhat posted in regard to the newest discoveries in art and in science, in the history and theory of creation, the antiquity of the earth, the glacial theory, the mysteries of the telescope and of the microscope, etc., we shall be cooled off from the too hot pursuit of wealth.

I have no farther thought to suggest about your affairs, except the casual query, which no doubt you have considered: - Would it be advisable, on your part at all worth considering, if it could be accomplished; to let John and Mr. Kern do the business of Paris, and not expect anything from them, except to avoid holes, and to be in reality subordinates to the inaugurated business of the N. York House; to have the New York House, 'Tuck Munroe & Co.' (Mrs. Munroe telling Mr. Chandler that she had concluded, on your notice of quitting, that she must reorganize in the interests of the young men); to establish a London connection; to take in no new partners; for you to return to N. York, to stay, and to divide profits so as to satisfy Mr. Chandler, yet obtaining your rights? I only say the above, to show you that I cast about trying to see all sides.

No new aspect to my Railroad matter. Frank is to send me to-day from Mr. Bigelow, a copy of the R.R. contract with Gowan, and Gowan's contract with Bigelow, in the latter of which I have the 1/3 interest. Gowan is the man who raised the ships at Sebastopol for the Russian Govt. for which he was ennobled by the Emperor. Do you know anything about him? Enquire - He has a claim of 1/2 a million now against Russia.

Abby is still quiet, but evidently she, Laura and Nelly mean to keep away from us. My semi-monthly 'seventy-fives' are thankfully acknowledged by her. From us both to you both lots of love. Your father, Amos Tuck." [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

6 April 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "My Dear Ned, I write this on this Tuesday morning, expecting it to be the last I shall address to you at Paris, as I have heard, through Frank,

that you have announced to Mr. Chandler your departure by the Adriatic, for N. York, on the 23rd inst. We are all glad you are to come a little earlier than we anticipated, and I am pleased that you have selected a White Star Ship, and so good a one as the Adriatic. So, if you come safe, all well, and if disaster happen, we shall feel you have made as good a selection as your lights at the time afforded you the power. Since I wrote a few days ago, we have 24 to 36 hours of steady rain, which has cleaned the rivers of ice, has produced the usual, or more than usual panic about a flood, and ended in putting our surroundings into early spring attire, including the comings of robins, and several other descriptions of singing birds. Besides these, it has produced the usual effects upon housewives, as indicated by Jim's rods [?] upon the dusty carpets behind the shed, Sanborn's presence with paint brush, Batchelder's whitewashing materials, and kindred (dis)comforts. I am on my throne, in the library, having no part or lot in the whole matter, (except paying of bills), not denying however, that I do enjoy this new paper on the library, the new paint, and the generally clean sensation, which a woman's hands alone diffuse throughout any room.

Frank wrote me a few days ago, saying he was about closing up with McCulloch and Puleston, and that he now saw the possibility of connection with J.M. & Co. It seemed to be in his mind to go to No. 8, retaining his direction, but not management, (in fact), of the 1st Nat. Bk. With an indefinite idea of capturing the N.Y. House, (you and he), and letting the Paris House become disconnected, in profits, etc. etc. He suggested my telegraphing you. I replied yesterday that I thought no modification of Mrs. Munroe's views, or Mr. Chandler's, would take place till they had contemplated for a time the possibility of your withdrawal, and that it was now best for you to come home, and for a time 'let 'em swet' I further told him Mrs. M. evidently thought John and Kern adequate for Paris, and that she really did not want Chandler out there at all. But I wrote Mr. Chandler and sent a copy to Frank, wherein I said, that I had ascertained Mr. French was about closing his Exchange business with McC. & Co., and that it occurred to me as possible that it might be profitable to J.M. & Co. to have some arrangement with the First National on the subject; and that if he thought best he might show my letter to Mr. F. in order to open the topic for conversation with him. I told Frank I then wrote very shy, 'so as to rise if it was calf,' and that I had fears it was a calf he would encounter in the interview. Still one cannot help liking the good natured, musical old fellow with his white head. A white-headed fellow is not necessarily stupid, tell Julia. Ecce Homo.

And now my dear children, blessings safety and peace rest upon you, until in good Providence, you shall both be brought to our warm embrace.

With greatest and warmest love, in which your mother joins, I am yr. loving father, Amos Tuck.

[Ps.] I do not know whether I can well be in N.Y. at your landing." [TFP, Box 2, Folder1]

18 May 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "It will be out of the question for you to come from N.Y. to Exeter in one day. You could not, with your children, or even one of them, expect successfully to jump the cars, and do all that would be necessary, even with my help, to

make the connection. I expect further notice of your movements, though we expect Frank to come with you, and that you will not expect to meet me in Boston. We await you with pleasant anticipation, and are both now well and strong.”

“With love to the whole of your variegated family, your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

20 May 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “My Dear Ned, I went to see Abby yesterday, and saw them all. They were in a very satisfactory state. Laura is almost alarmingly thin, and seemed more subdued and free from faults than I ever saw her. Nell was happy, well, and rather captivating, Abby entirely rational, and ‘like other folks’. I carried them an abundant supply of bananas, and staid 2 hours. Nell and Laura walking with me to Wollaston to take the cars. Abby now feels that America is the place for American girls to be educated, and does not wish to go abroad but to have Dolly at home, in due time. Sensible.

So you and Julia go to Philadelphia on Saturday. Go safely and be happy. I have written to Frank, at the Bank. If he is not there, see that the letter is sent along. It is about Abby, principally, and I wrote it because I wished Ellen to know how Abby is, before she calls on her Saturday. I suppose Frank did not leave with Ellen, but will follow Friday night.

It will be hard leaving Chandler, I see. I think considerably about your reported interview with him. But you have ample time to think over, and look over the whole matters.

Don’t you think people are getting sick of Fancy Stocks, and are rapidly turning their attention more than ever before for many years, to paying and very solid investments? Jay Gould will again ‘operate’ to his disgrace, but will try for a reputation, and others will be powerless, while he is ‘loose;’ and Vanderbilt too has enough to do, in his own specialties, to keep him from desiring to make corners.

I still incline, within a few weeks, to ‘clean out’ the stocks, as I have told you. I shall gain something, by the dipping in, unless there is a change, and can not gain much by staying in. I fear the Gowen \$5000 is locked up for some time.

Your mother and I send love to you both.

Affectionately, your father, Amos Tuck” [TFP, Box 2, Folder1]

22 June 1875: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees’ meeting. The Trustees appointed the Principal to be the Professor of English. “Francis Bowen presented his resignation as Trustee. Voted that the resignation of Mr. Bowen be referred to the Principal and Mr. Tuck that they may attempt to induce him to withdraw it.”

A listing of PEA assets shows that Tuck guaranteed a 1,000 shares of 7% Madison City bonds (total Academy Funds totaled \$130,245. (pp. 456-59, PEA Trustees’ minutes not to be used without the permission of the PEA librarian)

3 July 1875: Amos Tuck (Summit, N.J.) to Ellen French and Julia Tuck. “My dear daughters: I have had a delightful visit with you, but think I now better leave for home. Your mother is

alone, is not quite well, as you saw by her letter yesterday, and the quiet of home, instead of the excitements here, may probably be best for me. I do not underestimate your loving invitations to stay, and could be very happy with you, as you know. Your love for each other almost gives me as much happiness as your love for me, and I have hesitated whether I might not disappoint your mother, and with reason stay a little longer, but think it better to go. Your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[To:] “Mrs. F.O. French
Mrs. E. Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

14 July 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “I send you check on Nat. Ex. Bk. Boston for \$807.44, and have drawn a check on you (J.M. & Co.) to-day for \$507.44, making balance of \$300 pd. me by Misses Stevens, who will still owe me \$1200 on 4th House on Lincoln St. Exeter. I hope and suppose a Boston check worth par to you, or I would not have taken the check from her. She told me the Bank here had not money to cash the check! Short, is it not?

Your mother is relieved having been sick for two days, by eating cooked raspberries whereby, (the cooking), the seeds were converted into gravel stones, just as I was killed, last year, by eating stewed currents, and caught a pint of gravel stones, to my fearful dismay. Don’t one of you, young uns, dare to eat cooked, stewed, or preserved fruit, that has stones or seeds. If you do I shall hold you over the cellar stairs, or something, as sure as you are alive. Now mind.

It is still glorious weather here. The wind is out, even in Exeter weather here, though the sun is out too. Last night we had refreshing showers. Strawberries, and several other berries are abundant. Last night we had refreshing showers. Strawberries, and several other berries are abundant, and our table is satisfactory to us.

Your aff. Father, Amos Tuck

[Ps Checks Ned] [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

26 July 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. [Marked ‘confidential’ at top of first page] ‘My Dear Ned, The other letter herein, I expect you to show Frank. I wish in this to write a little more fully than I have set forth in that letter. I enclose the letter Frank has written to me, to which I make answer to-day, enclosing him a Power of Attorney for you to transfer 150 shares of 1st Nat. Bank Stock. He will no doubt show you what I write him.

As I am liable to be paid what he owes me in cash any day, it is well to allow him to pay it now. Had I anticipated the payment, I should not have diminished the interest since April. As it is, should it occur to him, that as stocks have just gone up, that is, the Bonds in which I propose to invest; it will be fair to reckon interest to Aug. 1st, I shall not object. Yet as he says, squarely, it is more convenient for him to pay me, I shall write him I will take payment.

I feel sure these Bonds we own are reliable. I think I better buy \$9000 of C. & N. Gold Bds. At current price, perhaps at 83=\$7,470. Then I shall own \$20,000 there. Next int. will be due Dec. 1/75.

And \$6000 Mil. & St. P. L. D. at current rates, say 90 to 91 – or 92 = 5.520; whereupon, with the four I am to have in our pool, I shall have \$10,000. Both will come to something more than Frank pays me, but you will, I know, provide for the deficit.

I can pay my debts, with the money Frank pays, but am not quite willing to let go of Bonds which are worth more than they now sell for, unless I am greatly mistaken. With the Stock going up, how can the Bonds fail to be safe?

Your loving father, Amos Tuck

[Ps.] If you can come, I think we can have a gay old time at the Shoals. Of course neither Abby or her children can go. [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

28 August 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “We are very glad to learn that, ‘if nothing unheard of happens,’ you and Bessy will be with us next week. We should be glad to see all, if all could well come. Write me, and I will meet you in Boston, if you wish it. The cars now leave Boston at 6 P.M. every day.”

“Tell Bessy I think they will not close at Star Island, till the 12th or 14th Sept. and I think their music continues till the end.”

“It is hot here to-day, and I think next week will be weather when it will be a comfort to be out of N. York, and I hope pleasant, likewise, to be in Exeter.”

“Mr. Chickering dined with us to-day, and has now left, just giving me time to write this, and two other letters to be written, before the mail closes.”

“Most affectionately to you all, your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[Marginal note] “out of place chronologically” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 October 1875: Tuck (Exeter) to Ned. “Mr. Corbin came here yesterday, and spent the afternoon with me. He wished me to influence investments of Savings Banks, in the line of his operations, on a commission. But I shall not exert myself though I have confidence that his investments are as secure as anything. To get hold of people’s farms, which they are improving, at ¼ to ½ the value, is to get hold of growing property, that will not be abandoned, and would have value, if abandoned. The experience of the past throws encouraging light on such investments, as we have considered and discussed, before putting in our \$20,000.”

“He now presents to me, what seems a still more promising investment, and to you, if you choose to make any turn to invest. You may know of some Minnesota R.R. Bonds he has been buying in Germany, through the 1st Nat. Bank. The controversy about the purchase, he says, is to be closed up. He is to buy more of those Bonds, costing him about 40% currency, delivered in N.Y. These Bonds he has negotiated to sell at 60% to farmers along the line of the Minnesota R.R. which issued the Bonds, who are allowed to turn them over to the R.R. in pay for their farms. Corbin takes the farms as security for the bonds sold, giving 5 yrs. time, at 10%. He has invested in the farm securities all the money he had loose, - about \$25,000, - and offers to me, to take more farm mortgages, in my name, for such amt. as I choose, on the terms that I am to have 10% on my money and divide equally with him the surplus profit above which he thinks

will be 30%. Or, he will agree that I shall have 15% income out of the operation, before he gets anything, I to allow him all profit above 15%. He will return to-morrow to N.Y. and next week. I wish you to confer with him on this, before you come to Exeter. He is to manage the whole matter, and not to call on me for money till the mortgages and title are deliverable to pay. A connection of Mr. Moulton's (of his office) has the privilege of \$25,000, on these terms, who I the first to be served."

"If I go in, I must part with some of [my] property, to pay J.M. & Co. etc., and he thinks he should sell Bk. Stock, on the prospects now before the country."

"Yrs. affectionately, to both, yr. father, yr. mother joining, Amos Tuck"

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

11 October 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "My Dear Ned, Yours of Saturday is recd. Before taking your letter from the office, I had thought so favorably of Mr. Corbin's reasoning, that I had written to the Presidents of the three St. Louis Bks., to get their views of the prospects of their several institutions, preliminary to the probable sale of what I own in them. In postscripts to the letters, I asked the price of their stocks, at last sales. I shall now write to Mr. Deane to ascertain what I can probably get for the stock. When these letters are all replied to, I shall be able to decide more easily. The St. Louis Market is not so well supplied with men of means, as to render it safe to order any stock sold 'at best.' A minimum must be given a broker, and then a little time usually given him to hunt up a purchaser.

If you continue, after conferring with Mr. Corbin, to believe as you now do, that his proposal is one we better accept, (as I think it is), I shall be happy to go into it, with you. He will give us a chance, as deep as we choose to go, I think. I should propose for Frank to put Ellen's savings in, to an extent, if I did not think he is now doing so well, that it is best not to try to grasp more largely; that his whole energy should be given to developing the Bonanza he and his associates control. Say this to him.

I do not think N. Wstrn [sp?] has been inflated, as M. Pacific has been, and cannot doubt the coupons will be steadily pd. right along, for years. Still it will be well enough to let go, in time, of the whole of those Bds. I am content with the order you put out to sell at 87, though I prophecy they will be sold very soon at that figure. We will see.

Can you, by return mail, sent to Care of Geo. R. Paul & Co., 50 Union St. Boston, tell me whether the Brokers who have Sandusky Bds. to sell, (in N.Y.), are reputable, and whether you think their Sandusky Bds. are safe, (7%), for the Exeter Academy to take? I go to Boston, Wed. with Mr. Paul, and shall wish to know then. Possibly Mr. Buzell will go, up on the same day. I may wish to show your letter to him. So send a slip within for my eyes only, if there be occasion.

[Ps.] Expecting you as you say, the last of the week."

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

13 October 1875: Tuck carries petition to Boston for people of Exeter seeking restoration of the morning mail train. Tuck convinced the post office, but had to threaten shareholder action to convince the railroad president. [20 October Exeter News-Letter]

29 October 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "My Dear Ned: I am entirely well to-day, having cultivated flour pudding for two days and refrained from fruit. I shall not go to Boston, I think, till next week. I enclose Power of Attorney to transfer the Bk. Stock sold Rogers, which I wish you would annex to the certificate, and send at once to "Chas. W. Rogers, A. & P. R. Road Office, St. Louis, Mo."

I hear nothing, as yet, from Stickney or Charles, but may hear later to-day, in which case may write you another letter to-day.

If you put letters in the Office in N.Y. so as to be sent by the 3 o'clock train, or to arrive in Boston before midnight, I get them here by ½ past 9 train, otherwise not till 10.20. Notify the crowd.

We have most pleasant recollections of our common play spell and communion for a week [?]. We suffer some, now, because we can't send our ripening pears to 112. Tell Ellen and Julia of this, with our love to them and to you all.

Your aff. Father, Amos Tuck

[Ps. I am aware that to-day is the critical period with you and J.M. & Co. – and am anxious to know the event. 10 ½ o'clock.

P.S. Chas. W. Rogers has sent me his check on his brother at Lowell for \$4,050, but does not wish it paid till Nov. 1st. I shall cause a Boston draft to be sent from Lowell on Monday to you, so that you will receive it on Tuesday next. No other news from St. Louis.

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

29 October 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. [marked "11 ½ o'clock" at top of 1st page] "My Dear Ned: Abby is again in hot water, coming down with an unrelenting demand for \$100 a month from each of us. She expected her letter to reach me, while you were here, but it was not in hand till the mail after you left. I replied to her that I could not advance till I had considered the matter, and I sent her a check for the usual \$75 at the end of the month. She writes again this morning, saying her expenses were never so great, and will never be greater, and that no man could get along for \$5,000 a year with the family she has, and the style necessary, and that a woman is worse off than a man, etc. etc. She has evidently been sending money to Dolly, and is now short in various directions. My feelings have been those which are natural, considering the arrangement made with Tom, and the sense and economy which ought to be practiced.

If it be thought best to pay her \$100 semi-monthly, I shall agree to it, after a letter from you to me, (for I told her again I must take time to consider), and shall tell her that the last limit has been reached, and that this time must suffice for all bills, - 'Doctors' 'Dentists' Summer Seaside expenses, [word unclear], clothes, board and everything, and that on notice or

knowledge of any deficiency again, I shall demand a consultation with her, and with her children, (which she would revolt at, as much as skinning alive), and in no case add any further sum.

I am of opinion we better acquiesce, beginning Nov. 1st. We shall thus, I think, be most rid of perplexity. But how awfully she exhausts our milk of human affection, by her course. Do not mention this subject, that Ellen or any one, (but myself), will write Abby on the subject. Yr. mother does not know of this last demand, and I shall not speak of it at present.

Dolly, she says, sails in the Parthia, for Boston, Nov. 2nd, with Mrs. Harris – Good - Shan't we be glad, when they are all with one accord in one place! They will not be separated in a hurry, by me.

Nelly goes to the Public School, somewhere in Boston, I know not what school.

Your loving father, Amos Tuck" [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

29 October 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "My Dear Ned: Your telegram is recd. I am so impressed with the fact that you are better situated to decide wisely than I am, that I could not, in any case, contribute to overrule your deliberate judgment about any of your relations with the Firm. Mr. Chandler's demeanor, and his real character and feelings, can be so much more accurately estimated by you, than by me, that I dare say only a little, lest I influence you too much. Therefore believe that I shall think you have acted for the best, if you do not telegraph, as I shall, if you do. My impulse was, as yours was, to telegraph, influenced thereto by Mrs. M.'s allusion to the spirit of your letter, her notice that her next relaxation of her percentages would be for John, and her excuse for Mr. Chandler; - and somewhat by her appeal for the playmate, whom you hired in Paris to play with John, and brought to N. York as an ornament to the backside of your desks. Yet I am aware that some of these things were simply irritating without being important, and that in all the important things you have succeeded. Possibly it is best to remain, and that you are not so distant as some might suppose, from entire control, which you ought to have, in the N. York office, certainly.

Should you remain, you will, of course, reply to Mrs. M.'s letter pretty soon. Bear in mind our talks, as to what was more important to you than the money, and tell her, if you think best, that your close attention to business is not evidence that you prize money above all other things, but only evidence that is your wish that what you do, shall be done in the best possible manner. That when a loss is made, you are not so much annoyed at the amt. of money gone, as you are at the discovery in any case of an absence of circumspection which the best Banking have it in their power to practice, etc. etc.

I am, with much affection and sympathy in all your affairs, your loving father, Amos Tuck" [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

30 October 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "My Dear Ned: Our last discussions, and the exercise of all our minds over your business connection, have caused the whole affair to be turned on all sides, and thoroughly examined and estimated. I think you have done what was

best, or what seemed to be wise and prudent. I should now recommend to keep in mind a new House, organized as you spoke of, not surely to be formed, but to be fully considered, and to be talked of, privately, if you fall in with, or can reach just the person, or persons you would desire to be associated with. But let all things rest for a little while.

Without awaiting your reply to what I said Abby had asked for, I will say, that I have resolved no to add anything to her regular monthly allowance, but to see her the coming week, ascertain the exigency, tell her some things, plainly, not in passion, and if anything is done, to do it as a present emancipation from evils that must be avoided in future. But I shall not see her till I hear from you.

Yes, it is a special dispensation of Providence, that Dolly comes to Boston, and in good company. I shall try to be in Boston, on her arrival, and have written Abby that I will engage some friend at the Custom House, to act kindly to her, and to escort Laura and herself, if need be on board.

Love to all, yr. aff. Father, Amos Tuck

[Ps.] As I wrote you, I think, you will receive on Tuesday, from Lowell, a check for \$4050 for the stock sold Rogers. Rogers telegraphed me yesterday that he had my checks, but had just returned from the West to St. Louis, and had not seen Stickney. It does not look as if Stickney had closed with Summer [sp?] at 50%.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

10 November 1875: Tuck (Exeter) to Ned. “My Dear Ned: I am almost afraid some little word has been omitted in some of my letters, so that you have recd. an erroneous impression of my meaning, and that you are grieved thereby, since I have no letter from you for almost a week. Yet I think you know your father so well that even writing over his own signature could not mislead you. Therefore, I take comfort, and think you are only driven with work.

But do not, my son, allow yourself, if you can avoid it, to be crowded [sp?] or vexed.

It seems Ellen has not been herself to Washington, after all. A letter from her is recd. to-day. She says Julia has something ailing her, about the throat, but that she has been treated, and you are relieved, measurably, of anxiety. I shall only feel better about this, when I hear she is entirely relieved. Give her my love and sympathy. Abby is here, still, but returns to-morrow noon, gaining in mental fibre daily. Yr. mother’s throat ailment improves but is not removed. She is enjoying Miss Leavey [sp?] to-day.

I am entirely satisfied with your selling my N. Western and I got out well. The cars come and I close.

Yr. loving father, Amos Tuck” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

12 November 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “My Dear Ned: Yours of yesterday is at hand. Do not feel obliged to write every day, nor even every other day, because I expected more letters last week than I recd. Twice a week will be entirely satisfactory, especially when you are so closely occupied.

We are glad you report Julia is about wholly recovered. I have a vague recollection of Dr. Wagner at Mr. Bigelow's last winter.

I shall not expose myself waiting for Dolly, but shall be in Boston, to-morrow, most of the day, and shall meet her as she arrives during my hours of stay. I know that she will not require my attention, and that others will be adequate to her desires and necessities.

I am perfectly well. Your mother has a cough, but goes out. I send you a News Letter, with a communication written by me on Henry Ward Beecher. Do not show to our Ellen, if you think it will disturb the dear girl.

Jim and Luke have been impressed for two or three days to put my place in winter trim. I have had bushes removed, or trimmed, trees rectified, manures spread etc., and everything put in order so that I am prepared for snow, without notice, yet am glad that the weather is still genial and fine.

Abby will write Mrs. De Horrock, and so shall I.

In regard to business, let me say: I am pleased at the expression of your entire confidence in our last venture with Mr. Corbin. As the entire money is to be furnished very soon, let me roughly state how it stands, in a general way.

I have overdrawn, say, \$17 on my current account (a mere trifle).

I am to furnish you with \$5000 – the first investment of 5000 with Corbin, being made with your own money.

I am, then, to pay J.M. & Co. on Loan account as follows:

For the old debt	\$10,000
For my 1 st investment with Corbin	15,000
For my second & last ditto ditto	5,000
For <u>your</u> ditto ditto ditto	5,000
Total	\$35,000

I have already paid J.N. & Co.

By sale of St. Louis Merch. Bk Stock	\$4,050	
By sale of \$10,000 Mil. & St. P. Bds	9,417.50	
By sale of \$5,000 N. Western	4,293.75	
By sale of ditto ditto	4,287.50	<u>\$22,048.75</u>
Deficit		\$12,951.25

I am willing to have you carry this for me, for a time, if convenient. If not I wish to pay it by selling my 10 m Cincinnati, and 5 of my 10 m C.&N. Western Bonds.

Do I misapprehend the state of matters? Generally, I mean, for I do not claim to be accurate entirely.

I note the article in the Financial Chronicle, that claims that money is not about to become tight.

As I expect little more income, if any, before January, (except N. Western Company, Dec. 1), I may overdraw my current ac. somewhat if I sell my N. Western before Dec.

Bear in mind that I am entirely willing to increase my loan to you \$5000.

With much love to our Julia, as well as to yourself, and all – your mother (really) joining, Yr. loving father, Amos Tuck.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder1]

17 November 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “My Dear Ned: I see that Mr. Chandler of Boston died yesterday, and suppose you are again alone. If possible, avoid too much work, and too much solicitude. It is melancholy to see a man smitten down in the midst of business machinery and engagements, in which he seemed indispensable, and to reflect that two or three weeks ago he was as unconscious of the approaching end as any of us could be; yet it is more melancholy to see the mind go out, as in Mr. Hall’s case, while the body still maintains its hold on life. Mrs. Munroe will encounter problems she little anticipates. If her father continues, a guardianship will be indispensable, and his estate will have to be looked after just as it would, if he were dead, except that none of it can be distributed to his prospective heirs, inasmuch as eventual recovery is possible, and consequent accounting [short passage garbled] of the Guardian for all money recd. and for all business done; and besides no one knows who will be his heirs when he dies. Mrs. Munroe may die, and all her family, - before Mr. Hall.

But J.M. & Co. now have occasion to be thinking what shall be done to hold on to business in Boston. Of course you can do nothing at once, - till Mrs. M. arrives.

Your mother has invited Dolly and Laura to time their intended visit here, so as to [word unclear] us on Thanksgiving day, and Abby and Nelly to be here at Thanksgiving: ‘unless you have other plans and objects which will be more agreeable,’ a phrase, always expedient to insert.

I think I shall sell my Continental Bk. Stock before January.

I have advanced, by check on J.M. & Co., to-day, \$300 on loan to the man who is building a house on the lot I sold him on Lincoln Street Jesse F. Hiscock. I may have to pay Jim something, as he is building a house.

So, I am hoping Frank will sell \$5000 Cin Bds., as you say is not unlikely.

If Northwestern Bonds go to 89 or 90, as I think they may, before Nov. 1st [sic], when the coupons will be pd., I think it well to sell \$5000 of them.

Manage my loan, as you think best. I hope it does not vex you. I see you give me credit on J.M. & Co. books for your money, derived from sale of Mil. Bds.

Suppose you say to Mr. Corbin, that you hope he can preserve an option on \$10,000 bds more, for me and you, in case I shall on further reflection and arrangements of my affairs conclude I would like to go in further. I think, as you do, that at present we better not incur obligation to go in deeper. Still we would gladly do it, if we are sure the farm mortgages are all right. Let us wait awhile.

Yr. mother is not well, having cough and catarrh and does not go out this windy weather. I am well.

Have you been hit by recent failures?

With love to Julia, Ellen and all.

Your loving father, Amos Tuck” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 1]

11 December 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "I am going this Saturday morning to Epping, leaving at 11 o'clock, with Judge Stickney, Chas. G. Conner and Jos. (Judge) Wiggin, to Epping, 8 miles distant, to attend the funeral, at one o'clock, of Samuel Plumer Dow, an old friend and acquaintance, 60 years of age, who has just died of consumption. He was a son of John Dow, also a friend in his last years in my early political action, and was a brother of 'Anna Dow,' who 25 years ago married a Mr. Cheever, now a rich India rubber merchant of N. York. The weather is quite mild, as it has been for a week, and with ample clothing, I expect to receive no detriment from the ride."

"We were delighted with your good letter of a few days ago, and your mother has just spoken of herself writing to you in response, but says she does not feel life enough to do it. She has not been in her usual health for some weeks, though she goes out every day, and trudges along as well as she can. Last night we called at the new Hurd House and viewed the magnificence of Mrs. and Miss Merrill, with satisfaction to them, and to us. In the afternoon your mother was out for an hour or more, coming home at 6, to call my attention to the most delightful evening outlook she had ever seen in December. The moon was bright, and a benignant smile seemed to look down from the heavens through the fleecy clouds upon all below. There is the merest tinge of snow upon the grass while in the walks, which are dry, it has some days ago melted entirely away. Our house is genially warm. I am well, generally, and shall be entirely so, when a tendency to head ache has left the chords of my neck behind."

"You have spoken of Star Island, and wished for any facts within our knowledge. The fire was, I suppose, accidental, as I have heard no intimation of incendiarism. Mr. Poor was very well insured, though the loss besides must be very heavy. I think the building we were in was not burned, nor the one next north of it, but all the rest in that direction. It is stated a new house is in process of construction and will be ready for boarders next Summer. So we may all hope to meet there."

"Mr. Fogg is expected here to-day, to spend Sunday, and perhaps Monday."

"The last news from Lois Ann was that she was no worse."

"Abby wrote two days ago in good condition."

"We were delighted to learn from Ned that we may hope, next week probably, to see him and Julia here at the Hermitage. His next letter will probably tell us when. Give our love to him and Julia, and to Frank and the children."

"Now, last not least, your mother and I write in inviting you and Frank to spend Christmas with us. We assume that the children are so full of high hopes they would not think of giving up their N. York pleasures, and so make no point of either of them coming with you. Will it not be a relief to give up Christmas labors, and to leave home for a few days in charge of Julia and Ned? But if you and Frank do not see the way to come at Christmas, then we name New Years instead. Both come of a Saturday and so give two holidays to business men. We appreciate your loving invitation to name Christmas gifts. Give us your love, daughter, as we

know you do. All we want of earthly comforts is the love of those we love so well, and that we know we have.”

“We would send you all Christmas assurances, except that our habits are such, that we have no skill to select what would be likely to please. And so I expect only to send my love which we both do now, as ever, your loving father, Amos Tuck”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

20 December 1875: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “I might be content to send, by Julia and Ned, loving messages to you and yours, yet I shall ‘feel better,’ to write you a few lines, while waiting for them, and for your mother, to get ready to follow me own stairs, this December morning, with the thermometer at 10° below 0 at 7 ½ o’clock.”

“We have had three days of happiness with these two children of which we cannot be deprived. As Mr. Webster said on one occasion, ‘the past at least is secure.’ So can we say of this, and other visits of theirs, and of all the visits Ned ever made to us, and of all you ever made. I suppose we cannot expect you and Frank here, till I go to N. York, on Wednesday after New Year’s, though as I wrote you, we should have been very happy, had you and Frank been able to come, as invited heretofore.”

“This is the first letter I write from the new desk which Ned and Julia will tell you of, given by them to me, as a Christmas gift. It is a beauty, and changes the aspect, so your mother, as well as I, thinks, of the whole Library. There is no repressing their generosity. They deceived me at first, by saying they had taken my word, on Christmas presents, and I told them truly, I was glad they had, as I wanted nothing in the world. As I cannot get into the habit, myself, I was more than content thus to leave it. I am well enough assured of the love of my dear ones, without gifts. But here is Ned, and as they can now stay but a few minutes, I close by wishing you, and Frank and the children, a Merry, Merry Christmas.”

“Yr. most loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[Marginal note] “To 33 West 37th St., New York” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

21 December 1875: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees’ meeting.

1876

20 January 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to the editor of the Exeter News-Letter. Tuck calls for the publication of an account of the emergence of the Independent Democratic Party 31 years earlier. “It led directly to a change in the politics of the State, to a change in our representation in Congress, and to alliances which have caused the record of New Hampshire to be such in the last fifteen years as no man can be ashamed of.” Tuck points to the importance of the call for a meeting at Exeter in February 1845, signed by about three hundred Democrats of Rockingham County. He asks for someone to find and produce a copy of that call. (Exeter News-Letter, 21 January 1876)

17 February 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. “My Dear Friend: I have occasion to go to N.York to-day, but am to be in Exeter Monday. I hope we shall soon meet, and I would ask you to come to our Ladies Centennial on Tuesday eve. next, and to take lodgings, with us, only that our beds will be all occupied, or rather all the rooms, by Abby and her family, who will then be with us, attend the Levee. It would be nice to have you at the Levee – the Centennial, - and perhaps you will come and be my guest at Gorham Hall. If you think so, come along. We are going to send all our names to the Centennial Levee, now appointed to be held Feb. 22nd 1876, with our compliments. You are an Exeter boy, and ought to record your name [word unclear] News Letter.”

“I have not that ‘Call,’ but am in track of it. I wish to see the 1st vol. Ind. Demo., and if you can send it to me. I wish you to do so. I commence writing in the News Letter this week.”

“I shall go with my wife to N. York a month or 6 weeks. Then I would like to go to Washington with you, leaving her with the ‘Children’ in N. York.”

“But you ought to visit me before.”

“In haste – Truly your friend, Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

18 February 1876: The first installment of Tuck’s “Origin of the Free Soil Movement” appeared in the Exeter News-Letter.

“...the action of the Independent Democrats of New Hampshire, in successfully resisting the power of their before invincible party, upon the question of the extension of slavery, constitute an era in the history of Democracy, and exerted a wide spread influence throughout the country. It immediately checked the power of that party in the state, soon led to a change of representation in Congress, and eventually to the overthrow of the Democracy in New Hampshire. It was the first successful rebellion, anywhere in the country, by the members of that party, against its sovereign power; and because it arose and was successful, upon a question of national importance, against a party before irresistible, it assumed general and national importance....”

“It must not, however, be omitted to state, that the successful action of the New Hampshire Independents, which gave new courage, and inspired a new faith everywhere, antedated by more than two years the action of the ‘Conscience Whigs,’ so called, of Massachusetts, who secured the election of Charles Sumner to the Senate, and by the same length of time or more, preceded the action of the ‘Barn-burner’ element in New York....”

“It must also be borne in mind, that the union between the New Hampshire Whigs and Independent Democrats, introduced and inaugurated the combinations which in 1856 resulted in the organization of the Republican party at Philadelphia, upon a platform, identical in its chief feature, with the issue raised in New Hampshire eleven years before....”

25 February 1876: Exeter News-Letter prints the second installment of Tuck's retrospective on the "Independent Democracy in New Hampshire." Tuck traces the central role played by pro-slavery forces in the political history of the U.S. since the time of the Northwest Ordinance.

"...It is submitted that the fate of free institutions in the United States largely depended upon the solutions reached at the following crises in our history: the adoption of the Ordinance of 1787, which controlled the result of all subsequent conflicts; the Missouri Compromise of 1820, which limited the flow of slavery north; the admission of California as a free state, the unlooked for result of the Mexican war, by which the freedom of the Pacific coast was assured, an event indispensable to the maintenance of the Union during the rebellion, if not indispensable to the suppression of the rebellion itself; the triumph of freedom in Kansas, after the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, intended and expected by the South to assure the triumph of slavery; the election and re-election of Abraham Lincoln; and lastly the triumph of the North in the war of the Rebellion...."

"It is not claimed that [the Independent Democrats] were pioneers in anti-slavery action in America. It is claimed that they were pioneers in effective political action, in anti-slavery movement, inside the Democratic party, against the leaders of the party over whom they eventually triumphed, and by union with the Whig party, overthrew pro-slavery Democracy in New Hampshire, aided the success of enlightened action throughout the states, and constituted an essential element in the force which kept New Hampshire on of the most reliable supports of the government in the war of the rebellion."

3 March 1876: Exeter News-Letter printed the third installment of Tuck's history, the "Annexation of Texas."

10 March 1876: Exeter News-Letter prints the fourth installment of Tuck's History, "John P Hale in the 28th Congress."

10 March 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. "My dear friend: I am still thinking to go to N.Y. in about a week after election, and will write you again, to tell you when, hoping to make the arrangements we have conferred upon. Mrs. Tuck will probably remain in N.Y., while I go to Washington, and we intend to be away two weeks."

"I rec'd the Independent, and am greatly obliged. Shall read it more as I advance. As you see, I have gone to No. 1v., closing with John P. Hale in the 28th Congress. You receive the News Letter of course. I hope to be more interesting as I advance. Truly yours, Amos Tuck"

[Fogg Papers, NHHS]

14 March 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. "I recognize to the full, the third sentiment of your letter, and I share with you, and ought to exceed you, since I make the statements in print, in anxiety to be historically accurate about the events of the past, appertaining to my associates in 1845. In order that I may not err in the particulars to which you have called my

attention. I shall cause to be published in the News Letter, a week hence, as a necessary document connected with my last article, Mr. Hale's letter of Jan 7th 1845, omitting, perhaps, the Constitutional arguments against the annexation, but nothing which will be necessary to present his action fairly before the public."

"The letter is addressed thus: 'To the Democratic Republican Electors of New Hampshire;' as I find it printed in the Exeter News Letter of Jan. 20, 1845. The second paragraph of the letter begins with this Sentence:"

"The immediate occasion of my addressing you at this time, is to be found in the fact, that the President of the United States, at the commencement of the first session of Congress, Officially announced to the two Houses, that a controlling majority of the people, and a large majority of the States, have declared in favor of immediate annexation."

"In the second sentence succeeding, he refers to the resolutions of the N.H. Legislature, and it may be I did not give then the place I ought, or the force I ought, in my treatment of the subject, but it so happened, because of the subordinate position assigned to them himself, he only mentioning them, in the latter clause of a sentence, which began by a statement of Tyler's instructions to the two Houses. You are mistaken in thinking that the sentences in response to Resolutions of instruction by the N.H. Legislature, or, at least, in thinking that Mr. Hale predicated his letter, in turn [sp.], upon those instructions."

"Mr. Hale had not in his mind a state convention, but he well knew that the partizans, whom alone he addressed, acted by Conventions of nomination, and when he [word unclear] put himself into their hands, and when by an authorized Convention, his name was withdrawn, and another propounded [sp?], [phrase unclear] he gave up at once. I know this, because I saw it at the time, and because, when Hale had been elected to the Senate, he told me, at Dover, in the Fall of 1846, on a walk to Garrison Hill, that such was the fact, and that he had been saved by the action at Exeter, and never was more surprized in his life, than when, at New Bedford, he learnt that Woodbury was defeated. It was then that he told me of his arrangement for removal to N. York, his partnership etc. I have always thought that he considered himself committed to submission by the terms of his letter, and I think you will judge he was committed, when you read [word unclear] his address."

"I shall endeavor to do scrupulous justice to Mr. Hale, but I cannot, of course, as I proceed, endorse the delusion, and attempts to impress [sp.?] it into history, that he originated or carried on the organization in N. Hampshire, which through many years fought the good fight and kept the faith in the Granite State. He did the conspicuous creditably and satisfactorily, and we gave him the palm and the laurels. But in work, he was good for nothing. He never planned, or helped to plan a campaign, and except in public addresses never was of service. When Pierce was in power, and N. Hamp. was in the hands of the democracy, at the close of his service for his first term in the Senate, he again left the state, opened an office in New York City and was sent a delegate to a Free Soil Convention in Utica. His family were in Dover. We, that is, you and I, and others, fought out the Kansas issue, till we got the control again in N. Hampshire, and then Mr. Hale came back again, ignored but did not deny his removal to N.Y., and again we put upon

his brow, the honors achieved for him, not by him. We did it without grudging, for we were busy in our affairs, not being politicians. But it was not agreeable them, to have the papers of the country recognize in our achievement only the power of John P. Hale. Did any of us ever meet him in council? Did he even write for your paper? Did he ever lift the heavy loads in any way? And finally, did he when ranked high with the Majority in the U.S. Senate, and the responsibility of power and of government devolved upon him show [sp.?] statesmanship, which proved that he had the capacity attributed to him, when he was supposed to save N.Hampshire, and when he was amusing the country with his badinage with Foote of Mississippi? No, my dear friend, we both know the past, and while I intend to be very scrupulous, and all the more, for your friendly admonition. I must take care, as I proceed, not to belie history, nor strain it, as it has been in the past, for the purpose of confirming erroneous impressions. New Hampshire was saved from slave democracy in 1845-6, by the aggregate honesty and patriotism of the people, as the country was saved in 1861-5, by the aggregate honesty, wisdom, devotion, patriotism of the people, not even Lincoln being able to claim much more than that he followed the inspiration to action manifested by the people.”

“Your affectionate friend, Amos Tuck”

“[P.S.] We must go to N.Y. sometime next week. I will again [word unclear].”

[Fogg Papers, NHHS]

17 March 1876: Exeter News-Letter printed the fifth installment of Tuck’s History, “John P. Hale’s Letter of Jan. 7, 1845.” Most of this installment is taken up with the text of Hale’s letter, as it appeared in the Exeter News-Letter of 22 January 1845.

20 March 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “I only write to signify our sorrow to learn from Frank, that you have been suffering and have had a doctor. I am relieved by the assurance at the end of his letter you were better and were to be out in a few days. As he is not so amenable as some of the Tucks, to the charge of utter unreliability on health reports, I am the more encouraged. Many blessings upon you, my daughter.”

“So you have hooked another fish – a 50,000\$ house! From Frank’s account I judge it a good and judicious purchase. It is, of course, high toned, but I think you are not rash to strike at this time for ‘a roof to cover your heads,’ as said Mrs. Leonard [sp.?] on a well remembered occasion.”

“We now intend to arrive in N. York Sat. eve., at the usual time, by the 10 o’clock train out of Boston. It is well we have not been out of our steam heated house this cold weather of the past week. We are both now quite well. Good sleighing here, but prospects of a thaw and rain.”

“With love to you all from us both, your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 March 1876: Exeter News-Letter prints the sixth installment of Tuck's History, "Organisation in 1845." The following installment was delayed until 17 August because of Tuck's illness.

27 March 1876: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to William P. Furnald of Exeter for \$4,350.00. The tract contained $\frac{3}{4}$ acre and was on the west side of Lincoln Street. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 455, Page 447]

27 April 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "I fear greatly that you occupied too much time, that should have been devoted to rest, in writing yr. long, and most interesting letter of yesterday."

"Bessy has really had a very critical sickness, and I wonder not that Frank as well as you, throw all else aside. I rejoice in the hope left, that having endured so much she will be able to endure the rest, and come out safe and well, but I can but be anxious, and await a daily report with deepest interest. Let the dear child know how much I love her."

"I am very heavy about the shoulders, and weak in the legs and body, but feel a daily progress, slow, in the direction of health. My arms and hands are still stiff, though I am able to shave myself. May this centennial year bring to none of us any more serious sickness."

"I expect others, not you, to send the daily reports spoken of."

"I have walked on the Terrace the first time to-day. I take a raw egg every morning, and a 'picked up' meal at noon and night, light in character."

"I rejoice in the kindness shown you by your friends in the great City. I too have been greatly favored here. Flowers are constantly abundant, sent almost daily, while other evidence of sympathy and kindness are numerous and most gratifying."

"Your mother joins – Your loving father, Amos Tuck."

[P.S.] "It is consoling to know, that dear Julia has been so comforting to you and to Bessy." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

6 May 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "I perceive by your letter of yesterday, just rec'd, the occasion you still have for solicitude about Bessy. It seems to me she must now get well, but if otherwise, I shall believe it was an impossibility, growing out of original organization. I rejoice in the strong reasons you now have, that with your care, and that of Frank's, of which you justly speak with such unbounded appreciate [sic], the dear child will soon recover both health and flesh."

"I will consult Palmer as soon as I can go to Boston. I gain but slowly, and am now just getting over a draw back, which must have been a cold. The weather has [been] so unfavorable I have not been out for 4 days. It still is wet, raining freely at this writing, 12 o'clock."

"I thank Frank for Grimes' life, whom I roomed with, in 1830-1, at Hampton, and whom I knew in College, and once visited at Burlington, Iowa. I will send Jerry Parker's book, and Mr. Burley's, very soon, to them."

“With love to Bessy and all, in which your mother fully joins, I am yr. loving father,
Amos Tuck.”

“P.S. It is a great comfort to me, that Ned and Julia have been such comfort to you and yours, as you warmly speak of. How different it would have been to you and Frank in your anxiety, without them!” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

17 May 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French and Julia Tuck. “Should this reach you on the first morning of your being together, as inmates of the new home, No. 9, E. 61st Street, receive my and you mother’s congratulations. Receive our blessings upon you both, and upon those who appertain to your several families, and your joint family. I trust you will enjoy much together, and may soon be able to report yourselves all in health.”

“Julia’s letter of yesterday came today and gave us pleasure. It is a comfort to be constantly assured as to Bessy, for I was slow to get rid of apprehension. Tell Ned and Frank both their letters of yesterday are at hand, and as neither requires reply, I limit myself to writing you to-day.”

“I have ridden to-day, and though the wind is out, feel more inclined to be in the open air. I am stiff and heavy, but yet improved. I have a good appetite and eat sufficient, though with necessary discrimination. I am now looking for a horse, for I propose to ride more freely than heretofore, - perhaps go on trips at a distance into the hill country.”

“We have lettuce and some other green things in perfection [sp.?] No strawberries here yet, except for two boxes sent by Laura, which were very fine, but proved to be [word unclear] to my case at present. My house is to be painted on the outside next week, and this, and we hope to be in presentable order for our children whenever they incline to come this way.”

“I am going out with your mother to make some return calls on those who have watched with me, or sent flowers, or made many enquiries when I was sickest, and so will close.”

“With love to you both and to all, your aff. father, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “Your mother comes in and joins in loving messages.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

18 May 1876: Catherine P. Tuck (Exeter) to Julia Tuck. “This is a miserable rainy day here, else I should have gone to Boston to-day, to do some shopping. I have my dressmaker engaged for next week, and must get material for a suit, or Pollamain [sp.?] to wear with blk. skirt or something I do wish one could get along with a small outfit of fig leaves. It would save a deal of care and perplexity. If we should take a little tramp – as Mr. Fogg told you we thought of doing – I shall only take my travelling suit (on my back) and a few under clothes, and so avoid baggage. We should be delighted to meet you and Ned somewhere on our travels, and take you home with us, when we must come; but that we can plan later. Ned mentions it in his letter of this morning. The only trouble will be about our horse and carriage. We should not dare to trust ourselves very far up in the mountain region, lest we never get back with all our traps, but we could leave the animal in charge at some hotel, and take the car for a change. That is the way we

should have to go, if we went beyond Kearsarge. Now if you could only transport that wonderful little landaulet, wouldn't we be fine? I don't see any prospect of riding in that dainty vehicle, very soon, or of enjoy[ing] a sight of that small palace in 61st St., but as long as your father improves in health and strength, as he does nearly every day, we must be content. I trust this bad weather doesn't reach N.Y. lest it prevent the removal of Bessie to day. Thank Ned for his kind solicitude for my health. I intend to shirk all the care I can, and all the labor, but it cannot be entirely thrown off. My dyspepsia is very troublesome, but I am so thankful for the bright prospects for your father, and that Bessie is relieved, that I am almost willing to live on air and rye [sp.?] pudding: should be quite, only that even the rye pudding hurts me."

"I think I shall go to Boston tomorrow, your father accompanying me, if it should be very pleasant."

"Dr. Gorham's engagement has been the exciting topic of the past week. Tell Ellen, that it came out in full blast the day after I wrote her. The lady is a Mrs. Guild of Boston, niece of Judge Thomas [sp.?), who possibly, Frank may know about. Her husband was in College with the Dr., and died fourteen years ago, and about three months previous to the birth of their daughter. Consequently, she is a rich widow with a daughter of 14 years. They are to be married early in June. She owns an elegant house on Marlboro Str. (near Commonwealth Av.) and they will spend their winters in Boston. Abby writes that she is 'the bluest of Bos. blue blood!' and rich. So much for the Dr. He says Mary 'takes it hard,' but she may as well make the best of it, as it will make no difference. We are all quite delighted for the Dr. and he professes himself delighted also. Mrs. Guild was an acquaintance of his wife, and came up from Rye once, to call on her at Exeter."

"With very much love for all the household, for I trust this will find you all one family, I am most affectionately, Mother."

[P.S.] "Papa sends love to all."

[Notation on the envelope, apparently by Amos Tuck French] "From C.P. Tuck, who at this time was suffering from the Early Symptoms of the disease from which she died in the following October – 1876." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

31 May 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. [copy quality very faint] "Do you think you will feel inclined to go with me and Mrs. Tuck, to Proctors some time next week? If so, write me on what day, after Tuesday next, (if on any day), you would be so situated, as not to be shocked to have Mrs. Tuck and me. I rise up at 4 or 5:00 [words unclear] to stay with you over one night. We should wish to go the very next day to Proctors, and you with us."

"Now, if your good family will be occupied, and too full, or the session of the Legislature will make it [several words unclear] receive us, or to accompany us, things not improbable, for you know I cannot misunderstand your good will, nor the hospitable disposition of your household. Tell me what day you would suggest. Of course I have no interest in inaugurations etc., having got well [one or two words unclear] those complaints away back to me and the [word unclear] when I had the measles, and go [word unclear] them, using certain medicine I

will not name to you, only saying the [two words unclear] were better, in taste and quality, than what politicians now a day have for regular diet.”

“With cordial regards, Mrs. T. joining, I am, as ever, yours truly, Amos Tuck”

[Fogg papers, NHHS]

? June 1876: Amos Tuck (Fisherville, NH) to Edward and Julia Tuck, and Frank and Ellen French. “My dear children at Wigwam No. 9, E. 61st: ‘Thus far the Lord hath led us on,’”

“We are now at Fishersville, 6 miles north of Concord, whence we rode last eve. before tea, so as to have a shorter ride to-day, in going to the ‘Proctor House, Andover, N.H.’ where we expect to arrive this P.M., after taking dinner and spending some hours at Salisbury, en route. We have agreed to be at Mr. Fogg’s in Concord, at dinner, (1 o’clock), on Thursday next, and to stay there till Friday P.M., when we resume our winding-way towards home. You can address us to Fogg’s care on Wednesday and Thursday, and expect us to receive your letters before leaving Concord Friday.”

“We have enjoyed our ride very much, staying the first night in Chester, the second at the Eagle in Concord, and last night here. Our horse is very fine, though the intense heat has rendered slow advances absolutely necessary. The thermometer was 90° and above, Friday and Saturday.”

“We both feel benefitted by our mode of existence for the last 3 days, and we have hope for further gain. We are agreeably disappointed in finding better fare in our selected ‘country taverns,’ than in ordinary city hotels, like the Eagle, though we got their best room in the latter hotel. But skim milk prevails in the city, while cream is the beverage at our country stopping places. This morning the land-lord took from his reservoir there [one] of the nicest brook trout you ever saw, which he had had a year, and had had cooked for us. You may suppose that with beefsteak, 6 eggs and all kinds of bread toast, etc., we had the means before us of a good breakfast. I did the subject justice, but regret that your mother confined herself, and was so obliged, to a small trout, and to a limited quantity of bread and milk (fair city cream).”

“I will write you from ‘Proctors,’ and now with love and benedictions from us both to you all, I am your loving Father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

20 June: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees’ meeting.

20 June 1876: Catherine P. Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “My dear Nell: You will have been shocked (on this) to hear of another tragedy at the Dr.’s. We were awaked early this morning by the announcement that Willie Sawyer was thrown from a carriage last night, while taking a drive with a young lady, and died this morning at 5 o’clock. What will his poor mother do!”

“Your father was up before the rest of us this morning, and between six and seven rec’d a note from Mrs. Gorham, saying her husband had been sent for last night at 11 o’clk to come to Willie who had met with an accident about a mile and a half on the New Market road, and was lying at a farm house badly hurt. That the Dr. had not yet returned and she knew nothing further.

Yr. father went immediately over and staid a short time, learning before he went, that Willie was dead. The Dr. returned while he was at home at breakfast. We both went in after breakfast. I didn't see the Dr. only stopping a few moments. Mrs. G. appeared perfectly calm and self possessed and so – yr. father says – did the Dr. except that his hands shook very much. We had both called there last Eve. Mrs. G. will be a great support in this dreadful time.”

“We learn that Willie was backing the horse, when the wheel went into a hole, upsetting the carriage and throwing them both out. Willie hit his head probably: he neither moved or spoke as the young girl shook him. She ran into the house close by, and a man took him up and carried him in before he revived, which he did very soon, and asked the young girl to leave the room. He immediately vomited blood, and relapsed into an unconscious state, and convulsions till he died. The Dr. said there could have been no help for him, if he had been on the spot at the moment. This is examination day, the trustees are here, and there was to have been a dance this eve. at which Willie had invited Nell. Of course consternation is depicted in every face. A telegram has been sent to the Sawyers' physician in Utica, and I suppose Mary has the dreadful news on this. I cannot imagine how she will live thro. it. Willie has not yet been brought home. The curtains are all down at the Dr's and the house closed now at 10 ½. I suppose they will wait for the casket before removing the body.”

“Abby and Nelly are here, came yesterday. Yr. father is quite well. I can write no more now. With love to all I am, affectionately, Mother.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

23 June [July] 1876: Catherine P. Tuck (Exeter) to Amos Tuck. [Letter is dated Sunday P.M. 23 June, but 23 June was a Friday in 1876.] “My dear husband: I intended to write you yesterday afternoon, so that you should get a letter Monday morning, but before I was dress'd, Mrs. Long call'd, and it was too late before she left. We are all 'en status quo.' We drove out successfully yesterday morning, but it is showery this afternoon, so we shall not repeat it. It is hot here. I am afraid you find your clothes oppressive. Don't forget to buy what you need (thinner undervests and drawers!) as well as summer over-coat [sp.?]. I hope you rec'd the tonic med. which I sent. I am the same as when you left. Went to see Mr. B. as you suggested. Shall probably see their Dr. when I go to Boston, instead of Dr. Palmer. I do not believe in Dr. Guillemette's [sp.?] theory for now. Feel weaker, and shall not continue it.”

“There have no letters come for you. I trust you are well as when you left here. Do be extremely careful wont you? Mary is more calm than was expected by her friends. So Mrs. Long tells me. I have not seen her. She says perhaps Willie has been spared from a worse fate. Poor Mary! I shouldn't wonder if it should kill her. She had been very sick when the dreadful shock befell her, and had not left her room until she came here. She will remain awhile and let Sawyer go back without her. He will not go into school again, but is obliged to return to Utica for a few days. I sent Margaret in this m[orn]ing to enquire of Mrs. G., who reported them all as 'nicely' and all down for breakfast. Mary has seen no one yet, but Mrs. Long.”

“Abby and I call’d on the Bells, Mrs. Cilley and Maria Gardner Saturday. The Bells were not in. They leave here Friday. I suppose Ellen is gone. Give much love to Ned and Julia from us all, and to yourself also, Your loving wife.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

4 July 1876: Amos Tuck (Oceanic Hotel, Star Island, Isles of Shoals, NH) to Ellen French. “We have your letter of yesterday, and have all read it with interest. We feel relieved that you are able to write us in such good health and spirits, - all of you, - for we have more than once said, that if Frank and you, with the children were here, we should feel nearly devoid of anxiety, as we have heard of the extreme heat of the last three days. Of course, you have heard that it was nearly intolerable in Boston and N.Y. Here, we have known no sensation of oppression since we came on Saturday, but on the contrary have had to protect ourselves from the cold wind every evening, and in the day, have had no difficulty in keeping ourselves sufficiently cool. Ned and Julia enjoy the climate and the place extremely, and now think they will stay here till Thursday or Friday, going to N.Y. by way of Exeter, and from Boston by Fall River Boat, Sat. night. There are about 40 people, only, here, and Nelly feels weary, so that Abby and she will go to Exeter to-morrow, and on Sat. noon will go to Mrs. Brokenshine’s [sp.?.]”

“We went fishing and sailing to-day, Ned, Julia, I and Nelly, and each of us caught several fish, almost all small, except 3 good sized haddocks; and got back without being sick. We play cards, walk on the rock, and pass the days agreeably. Julia gains, and your mother holds her own. Yet I shall go to a scientific doctor for her early next week, as we all agree it will [not] be safe to neglect her any longer. She is in fair spirits most of the time, but is sometimes discouraged. I am glad you think of being here in August. We will meet you, and as with me and Julia, will claim to take you back, via Exeter, giving you and Frank, as well as Amos and Bessy a chance to see our house, horse and grounds, humble though they may be compared with what may be seen elsewhere. It is about time to mail my letter and I will close.”

“All send love to you all, Yr. loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

13 July 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “I have really worried about you lest the visitation of intolerable heat, should have been even more intolerable in New Jersey, than it has been in many other places, but your letter of 11th, just rec’d. measurably relieves me, by giving hope that you in a degree escape the oppression generally ruling in the Country. Here it is unprecedentedly hot, though we contrive, by changing our occupancy of rooms, to escape what most people have to endure without modification. We are still at home, though we have given no cessation to our thoughts of going somewhere, and doing something, which would promise restoration to your mother, entire exception from rheumatism to me. Yesterday we went to Boston and consulted Dr. Palmer. It was very hot, and your mother came home almost worn out. She took a pill in Boston, and that, or something else, gave her a violent diarrhea, during ½ the night, and to-day she is quite prostrate with the mercury at 90°. She has less difficulty swallowing, and in spite of her being now weaker and even more uncomfortable than two weeks,

or a week ago, I am not without hope that the disease which afflicts her, is really relaxing its hold. Dr. Palmer favors our staying at home, using Poland water and some medicine he had given, and I think it would be hazardous, even, to go away anywhere, before your mother gets better. Dr. P. says he can limber me out, without doubt, and treats the remaining stiffness about me as a matter by no means serious. I feel very well, and am only anxious to forestall any permanent old man's stiffness, to which I do not at present propose to become a subscriber. We shall resort to the seashore, as often as we can. Our horse is still an appreciable comfort."

"I will send the News Letter. The lightning struck here in several places, but it was more talked of, in the papers, than among the people of the town. Mary Gorham still refuses to see any one but Mrs. Long, and is gradually vexing even William and her husband, by refusal to see people, though cheerful in the family, thus sitting down rather heavy on the bride and bridegroom, to say naught of Mr. Sawyer. She owes duties to others, and I think she better attend to them, in some slight degree. William and wife, and Sawyer and wife, (William says) are going to Andover, Me., (to fish), for 3 weeks, leaving Aug. 8. That is the place, Sawyer and William have been to, for many years, for a few weeks in summer. Mr. Burley told me last eve., he had taken his wife, who has been in miserable health, to Andover, N.H., to the Proctor House, where they are to stay for an uncertain time. Mrs. Long calls frequently to enquire for your mother, but does not often see her, and frequently take Mary Gorham to ride."

"We are glad to know that Ned and Julia survive in N. York, and that Abby and children are reported well."

"With ever so much love to you and yours, your mother joining, I am your loving father, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

21 July 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "I suppose you will receive this letter tomorrow, and that Ned and Julia, and probably Frank will arrive at your retreat about the same time. Give our love to them all as well as receive much for yourself and children."

"Tell Frank, I have to-day received his letter from Washington, and am glad to learn the Certificate of Stock has at last been sent to him, as requested, from St. Louis. For a day or two I had apprehensions of an unfortunate hitch somewhere. Tell him too, that I share his views upon the superiority of the Republican over the Democratic nominations, and that I believe it has been a long time since we have had so good a ticket, or such well defined issues, presented before the Country. All my wishes are for its success, and its success I cannot allow myself to doubt. I hope Frank will accomplish some, and indeed all the pet objects which occasion his delay in Washington, during this roasting weather. So great has been the reported heat, too, in N. York City, that I have feared for the safety of Ned and Julia, and wished that they and you all could fully command your time, and be in the coolest place on the coast, (say, at the Shoals), during this trying season."

"I am well enough, only troubled, and in a slight and diminishing degree, with stiff fingers, and a little stiffness in some of the other muscles at times."

“Now as to your mother. She is not well, - not so well as she was when Ned and Julia were here, nor so well as she was a week ago. She is not fit to leave home, and does not sit up half the time. Her food distresses her seriously. Dr. Palmer’s medicines, though faithfully taken for a week, have done her no good. He has written me, in reply to letters, and taken a real interest in her case. I written him to-day, that I had called in our usual physician, Dr. Perry, and that I should probably ask Dr. P. to confer with him at some time, and that I should call an see him. We think it only dyspepsia, though I think of other possibilities. Dr. William has been in to-day, and will do his utmost, taking deep interest manifestly in the case. I have written to Sarah Lane, asking her, at my expense, to visit us, telling her, a visit from her would do great good. I have no reply, but rather expect to see her the next train, or by to-morrow.”

“Your mother worries considerably because her sickness confines me, but as I am well and strong, I do not allow her to be trouble much by this. I go out considerably, and knowing I am in the place of duty, I do not repine, nor am discontented with my lot. I am glad I can alleviate in some measure the wife who has been so faithful and loving and helpful to me for near 30 years past. I write this fully for the information of so many of our family as may be at the Mount over Sunday.”

“And with much love to you and to all. I am your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[Marginal note at the head of the letter, probably by Amos Tuck French.] “To Helen and all, Schooley’s Mountain New Jersey” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

25 July 1876: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Ellen French. [Letter is on John C. Munroe, 8 Wall St. letterhead.] “Your letter of Sunday (sent ‘quick’) arrived this Tuesday morning, postmarked Newark 24th. I at once telegraphed Julia to send you by express a bottle of our best brandy. When Frank returns he had better buy a case of the Fulton [sp.?] brandy at \$25, which is cheap for so good an article. I am afraid of fire water at \$17 – it may be good, but it cannot be honest and duty paid. The Brandy I send you is the best and dearest I ever bought, so do not use it for washing tatters or making preserves but keep it for your own and your children and your husband’s private and particular use on occasions of especial stomach-ache.”

“I know how you got your trouble. The cold came and found your bowels without flannel and your legs without a petticoat. You are having these attacks too often, and I feel that you are in constant danger from them. Julia is gaining gradually. We go to the Branch tomorrow. I shall not come to town on Thursday.”

“I shall be careful and avoid the under-tow and experiments in navigation generally, taking my baths internally, of fresh water and bourbon.”

“I have written Frank today.”

“I am sorry you cannot have Jip [sp.?], for Bessy’s sake. We shall leave him at No. 9 subject to your call in case you stay long enough at Schooley’s and can get him out easily.”

“With love to the convalescent girl and boy and to their Ma as well, your affectionate brother Ned” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

28 July 1876: Edward Tuck (East Milton, MA) to Ellen French. “I do not know if Julia has sent you my letter to herself, or not, but I hope she has done so. The other day when I went to see Dr. Palmer, he spoke rather discouragingly about mother. He said that of course, he could not swear to it, without a personal examination, but he feared she has very serious disease of the kidneys [sp.?] near the colon. Dr. Palmer’s greatest specialty is diseases of the stomach and bowels and blood [word illegible] he has had great experience. He says the difficulty of swallowing is caused by the great pressure of gas formed by this disease in the bowels. He will not be positive as to her disease without [word illegible] examination, but if she has the disease he fears, he thinks she cannot live six months. But she may not have it, and I [word illegible] hope she does not. When I saw Dr. Palmer yesterday, he was more professional in his manner and less inclined to [four words illegible]. I think he is a great stickler for professional etiquette and declines to say more without seeing Dr. Perry. He was, however, being kind and much [word illegible] in father [word illegible] he does not wish to be alarmed until he sees him. He says, with care, Pa can live to a grand old age, but that, at present, he is frail and [word illegible] – have no [word illegible] shock. I hope I have not one wrong in writing so soon to Julia. Perhaps I ought to have waited till I saw Dr. Palmer. But I was very much shocked that day, at what the doctor said, for I have all along thought [sp.?] it nothing more than a severe form of dyspepsia. You know, Ellen, Ma has always been ailing and going to die. I hope I have not been [word illegible] unfeeling. I am sure I don’t know what poor Pa will do without her. He has got so used to her ways, and she has always been true and faithful as a wife, though in the most [word illegible] and disagreeable way. But it is possible the doctor may be mistaken: she may appear sicker to him than she really is. You know, she always did look like [word illegible]. I wrote father today and advised him very cautiously to go and see Dr. Palmer next week, for I told him I thought it would be well. I hope he will do so. When I see a really great doctor like Dr. Palmer, then I realize how little beyond his nose Dr. Perry can see, though he is one of the most amiable of men. He will doctor Ma well under Dr. Palmer’s direction, but it is too critical for him to be trusted alone in my opinion. I asked Dr. Palmer if Pa could bring Ma to Boston and keep her there where he could attend her every day, if he thought he could possibly save her, and he said thoughtfully, after a moment, ‘No, if she has the disease I am almost certain she has, I can only alleviate her suffering – her life I could not save.’ He was very kind and sympathetic. [word illegible] Ned” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

2 August 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Frank French [addressed to Belmont Hall, Schooley Mountain, NJ]. “Dear Frank, (or Ellen): I have your very full letter of Sunday, which was, and is very interesting. We are all well, except Mrs. Tuck. She is no better. I write at P.O. so that the letter may go back by next mail, as it may influence your action as to coming this way. We shall be very glad to see you all Saturday. Mrs. T. will be sick, and the longer you stay away the sicker she will probably grow. Sarah Lane is indispensable and does us much good. I say, she will grow sicker, for an alarming swelling, I suppose a tumor, has appeared on the left side of the navel, perceptible to the hand, covering a space as large as the palm of the hand. Tell Ellen I

received her affectionate messages regarding this my birth day, and that a present is entirely unnecessary, as no proof can add to my assurance of her daughterly affection.”

“Love to you all, yours Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

6 August 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. “My dear friend: When I last saw you, I intended, ere this, to name a particular time when we should desire to see you at our home. I cannot name a particular time even now, though I shall always be glad to see you, as I always have been, here and elsewhere. But, my dear friend, we have at our home a sad prospect, and I look forward only to an indefinite period of watching and waiting upon my sick wife. The satisfaction will be great, but melancholy, to do every thing for her, and I shall be glad to spend my strength for her. Her apparent dyspepsia has steadily grown more serious until three days ago, when there became apparent a tumor just below the pit of the stomach, which the doctors pronounce the cause of all her late illness. It is of the most serious character, and though there is hope of its disappearance, yet it is hope merely, and not expectation. She is exceedingly depressed, seeming incapable of looking in the face, the prospect before her. We try all methods of cheering her up, but she does not fail to discern our real apprehensions, and little help is therefore in our power to give her.”

“Should you reply to this, speak hopefully, or should you come here, and she be able to see you, (which is improbable), speak cheerfully, for I know not how much it would hasten a fatal result, should we seem to her to give up hope. Her cousin, Sarah Lane, her most favorite friend as well as relative, is with her, and will not leave her while she is so sick. I expect both my daughters in the course of a week.”

“This state of my dear wife’s health is not generally known, but on account of our special friendship, I name it to you, and am willing you shall mention it to your good friends at your house, with expression to them of my kind regards.”

Affectionately yours Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

18 August 1876: Exeter News-Letter printed seventh installment of Tuck’s history, “Organization in 1845 Continued.”

“My communications to your paper were suddenly interrupted nearly six months ago, by violent illness, now recovered from....”

19 August 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “Yours of day before yesterday, and one from Ned of yesterday came to hand this morning, both full of affection, assurances of which now do your mother good. Every day she speaks of the cause of gratitude she has, in the love of myself and of the family, and of others who till now seemed to be afar off. Mrs. Means, among others, has given proof of real sympathy, and the attention of neighbors is so great, as sometimes to be embarrassing. I cannot report much change. Her bowels are very sore, so that she is obliged to move very carefully. Yet she goes to the table, except at breakfasts, up stairs and down, and generally, though not always, takes a short ride every day. Her countenance and

hands indicate less sickness than when Sarah came, and she can swallow her food with less difficulty, and really takes more of it, than two weeks ago. The only counter symptom to still alarm us, is the additional soreness, and the swelling, which is occasionally very hard, and then disappears. It may possibly be a case of bad dyspepsia, and it may be a malignant obstruction. The doctors confess nothing can be done till more is known. Nature is relied upon, with only a simple aid from medicine [sp.?], till the disease develops or disappears. You say you will be here one night, on your way to the Shoals. You err in respect to the annoyance you think addition to the family will cause her. I really think she would rejoice to see you all, and that she would be benefitted by your coming, and staying till your own convenience takes you away. So do not plan for haste when you all come. It is well to bear in mind, that if this is her last sickness we shall all regret that you did not see a great deal of her – more than now seems to be your plan.”

“Frank ought to have some advantages in the Treasury Dptmt. now. I hope Henry won’t get the erroneous idea that poor Richardson practiced on, that of being so straight as to lean away from Frank.”

“You see I have commenced writing articles in the News Letter.”

“Jacob Rogers and family are at the Gorham Halll – Sawyer and Mary come back from Andover, Tuesday; William and wife a week later. Gorham Hall has 20 to 30 summer boarders, - strangers.”

“Hampton Beach, - all the houses have been well patronized. Mary Batchelder is landlord at the Granite House, and Jos. Dow says she locks her father out of the Bar, and that he behaves well. This town is full of dust – no rain for 3 weeks. The Colorado potato bug is all over the town. My coal is being put in the cellar, - cost \$7.40 a ton delivered, the cheapest for years. Our flowers are kept in good life by daily watering, but the dust on the leaves mars their beauty, as well as everything else it can collect upon.”

“We abound in baked apples, all sorts of berries, tomatoes, melons, peaches and some kinds of pears. Tomatoes enable your mother to swallow other food with ease.”

“Love to you all, your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “I send you two letters from Mrs. Stickney at St. Louis. Send the ‘Husband’ letter to her when read. Address ‘Mrs. W.W. Stickney, 2841 Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo.’ If you think Ned and Abby would like to see Mrs. S.’s letter, pass it along to Ned, and let him send to Abby. Perhaps you better.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

25 August 1876: Exeter News-Letter printed the eighth installment of Tuck’s history, “Counter Attack upon the Democracy.” The same issue reprinted the editorial published in April 1845 relating to Tuck’s letter of 8 March 1845.

1 September 1876: Exeter News-Letter prints the ninth installment of Tuck’s history, “Election of March, 1845. Tuck recounts the election results that led ultimately to a special election between Hale and Woodbury, and tells of the speech that Hale delivered in Exeter on 21 April

1845. Looking back on the advertisement he had placed in the News-Letter for Hale's speech, Tuck observes, "This notice is given at length, to show that the ground assumed at that time was substantially that on which the great battles of after years were fought. In fact there was no utterance by the New Hampshire Independent Democrats of 1845 which had to be modified in any degree, in order to comport with the positions assumed by the great Republican party, when it came into being, eleven years afterwards. From 1845 to 1856, the Independents, with varying success in New Hampshire, kept up the fight, and gradually progressed in combining with all good men who would join them, and especially with the Whig party, whose members generally acted towards them with great generosity and with due regard to the good of the country, until the fullness of their time, when the great Republican party was formed, which saved the Government and the Union, and purified and perpetuated our institutions."

6 September 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "I direct this letter to Frank, as he is sure to be at the Bank, I suppose, - more sure than Ned, who does not go to his office on Thursdays, I think. I did not write to any of you yesterday, but intend to address some of you, as often as every other day, while your mother is sick. She is about the same, yet grows weaker and loses flesh, every week. It does not seem to be a tumor, for it grows and diminishes, with the rolling wind. But she is very sore in the bowels, and I am full of apprehensions, which I must keep from her, as well as try all ways to keep up her courage. If she loses hope of escaping a tumor, she will probably sink."

"We are now applying cranberry poultices every day, for the whole day, to try to get rid of the soreness. This is a prescription of Mrs. West [sp.?], a neighbor, who says she has been worse off, and was cured by cranberry acid, internally and outwardly used. Sarah has gone to Spfld. this week to see Ann, who is not well, but expects to return next week. I may have written all this to Ned. I do not keep the run of what I say, in different letters."

"Say to Frank, (but he will read this, before you), that I was glad to have his letter of 3 days ago, and pleased with his success at Washington, which was decided, and all that could be expected, when such strong houses were trying to exclude him entirely. I wrote the Secretary just in time to aggravate, as far as I could, his bias towards friendly recognition of Frank. Still I do not claim to have done any essential good. I was also pleased with the other items of his letter, except I was sorry to learn you not quite well. I trust you will well guard yourself against the labor of setting up the new establishment, so far as not to be injured by the unavoidable work and care. I counsel simplicity and economy, but am not so 'green' as to expect I shall have much weight, with my country notions."

"Dr. Wm. Gorham is weakly, damage by the hot weather, weeks ago, and is to have Dr. Ellis come from Boston to see him. We shall have him see your mother."

"Miss Lewis, a beautiful girl of 21, niece of Mr. Street [sp.?], is dying of consumption. She is rich and accomplished and good, but is fated."

"Our esteemed, though humble friend, Mr. Sanborn, the Painter, is at the point of death, of heart complaint. I have called twice to see him, within 3 days, but he was too low to see me."

His pulse only 28 for the last two weeks. He always enquires for you all, when I have been long with him. His work for me was among his last acts.”

“With love to Bessy, Amos, Frank, Ned, Julia and yourself, your mother joining, I am yr. loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “Show this to Ned and Julia.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

6 September 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. “Your affectionate letter some time ago rec’d, gave both me and Mrs. Tuck special comfort. Your sympathy and love we prize, as that which we can expect, in time of trouble, from very, very few, outside the family circle. I write, after conference with her on the subject, to say, that though she is sick, and constantly needs her husband to be within call, yet we are not so situated as to prevent your coming to see us, which will give us both pleasure. We know you will excuse my frequent withdrawals to attend upon her if her condition requires it. The swelling still continues, and she suffers considerably, though not acutely, every day. At night, she has usually got through quite well, contriving to sleep 5 to 6 hours at least, in spite of obstacles, - going to bed, usually, at 7 ½ to 8, after having been reclined much of the time from 10 to 12 when she leaves her bed to be dressed. I stoutly maintain, to her, and almost believe, myself, that the tumor is attributable to wind, cause by imperfect digestion, arising from an inflamed portion of the upper intestines. We are sure the swelling increases and diminishes by the presence of wind, which gives her most of her pain, beyond doubt. The Doctors assert nothing positively, though they gave it as their judgment, that there was a tumor. If Mrs. T. fully believed them, she would sink in despair. Next week, Miss Lane, her cousin, now absent for a few days, will return, and then you better come down and see us, - or me – anyhow, if convenient.”

“Probably you have seen that I have occupied odd moments and have resumed my articles in the News Letter. This week, I speak of the Establishing of the Ind. Democrat, but do not carry it forward to your assumption of its columns; and likewise take occasion to speak of two of our friends, who left the state, years ago, after doing good service, deserving recognition, and of two others, who have died, - one of them after leaving the state. I count upon your saying I have intended to do a good job, if you cannot say that I have done it well, which is of importance, but not so much as the good intention implies.”

“We did not know, till you wrote, of Mrs. Stevens’ sickness, and have not heard, though we have made enquiry, anything about her since. Had we not been in trouble here, one of us should have written to one of them. Remember us kindly at that afflicted house, should you call. We have thought of them, with deep sympathy, since good Mr. Stevens’ death, and Mrs. Stevens’ sickness.”

“And remember us both to your kind household, as being still mindful of their kindness and sympathy.”

“Afftly your friend, Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

8 September 1876: The Exeter News-Letter printed the tenth installment of Tuck's history, "Establishment of the Independent Democrat – Notices of the Prime Movers."

8 September 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "Yesterday Dr. Ellis, classmate of Dr. Wm. H. Gorham, cousin of Mrs. Gorham, and reputed to be the first physician in Boston, came by request of the Gorhams, to see and prescribe for Dr. William, who has, as I wrote you, been quite weakly for a month of more. As I mentioned yesterday I might do, I availed myself of the opportunity to have him, with Dr. Perry, see your mother. You remember that Dr. Perry and Dr. Palmer had pronounced your mother's difficulty to be a tumor, but that for certain reasons we had entertained strong hope, almost confidence, that it was not a tumor. As a part of the swelling was wind, we tried to persuade ourselves it was all wind. Yet we have encountered the ugly enquiry, always, what causes the wind? and the ugly fact, with little food, and less appetite, she was constantly growing weaker, which we could see, by comparing one week with another. We hoped, however, that Dr. Ellis, on account of certain changed symptoms since the first troubles, would lessen our fears, and strengthen our hopes. But I am disappointed, - or hardly disappointed, for my fears have been growing very strong. He agrees with the other two doctors, that there can be scarcely a doubt, that there is a tumor, that is progressing rapidly to a fatal termination. I think she grows sicker every day. She has spells of freedom from distress, but hardly perfect freedom. Her nights, which have been wonderfully free, till a week ago, are now broken, and she is much distressed at times. But the worst is not known to her, and must not be, as you will bear in mind in your letters. Doctor Ellis told her he had known people entirely recover with worse symptoms than hers, and that no one, from her symptoms, had a right to condemn her to a fatal disease. Yet he said this, after I told him it would shorten her life to pronounce her disease a tumor, which she would consider fatal. But he told me his full judgment, and in answer to my enquiry on the subject, said the period of life might be months, or only weeks, but that he should not be surprised at a very rapid breaking down."

"She now sits in my easy chair, from 10 or 11 o'clock till 7 or 8, when she goes to bed. I devote myself chiefly to her, and when she is not too uncomfortable, I try to amuse her with cards. She crochets, to occupy time, and reads a little. She cannot bear much. Sarah will get back as soon as she can."

"You see I have occasion to sanctify myself for the priestly service of walking down to the brink of the river, with her who must soon step in, and who relies on me, as much as one human being relies on another. She often has remarked, that she [would] rather die than I should, and her perfect devotion and love admonish me of the sublimity of affection, possibly for a true woman to exercise. Except what business may be indisputable for me to transact personally, I must for some [time] rely upon you. I shall write almost every day, probably, but do not expect to impose that necessity upon you. I know you are unavoidably engaged. After your return, and Mr. Chandler's, you may think it best to come on for a day. Send this letter to Frank and Ellen if you know where they are. I am glad you and Julia saw her, when she was not so sick, and had Frank brought his family here before Fall had come own upon us, and she

become so discouraged, it would have given her and me satisfaction. It will give satisfaction now, and perhaps some time hence, to her, as well as to me, to see you and them. I do not doubt Ellen's affection, and more than yours, but I deplore the necessities of business, the summer heats, health, and their house-arrangements and now their needed journeyings, which have prevented, and are likely to prevent their coming to Exeter. I have not requested them to come, but have suggested and invited, till I thought it best to cease."

"To you all, your loving father, Amos Tuck."

[Marginal note by Edward Tuck] "Frank and Ellen please read and return. E.T."

[Accompanying envelope is addressed to Frank at the Continental Hotel in Philadelphia, with this notation: "If not called for within 24 hours please return to Edward Tuck, P.O. Box 2958, NY City"] [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

15 September 1876: The Exeter News-Letter prints the eleventh installment of Tuck's history, "Independent Democrat – George G. Fogg."

26 September 1876: Tuck sold a tract of land in Exeter to Jesse F. Hiscock of Exeter for \$750.00. The tract was on the west side of Lincoln Street and included the house where Hiscock was currently living. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 460, Page 181]

10 October 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. "Your mother has suffered greatly for 48 hours past, and is to-day manifestly weaker than yesterday, yet it is impossible, the Doctor says, to tell how long the struggle may last. She cannot be raised in bed, and all devices are resorted to, to get along. I cannot tell when the melancholy close may be announced to you. In the meantime, attend to your duties at home if they are pressing, for the period is past when human agency can do more than we are already doing. Still she imagined yesterday you were here and we concealed it, lest it injure her to know it. Abby does all she can, day and night, and we have good watchers and kind neighbors, as you know. I have written Ned, substantially the same at No. 9. Love to you all, Yr. father, Amos Tuck" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

10 October 1876: Tuck's second wife, Catherine P. Tuck dies. Her elegy is delivered by Rev. George E. Street, pastor of the Second Congregational Church of Exeter, NH. "While her natural reserve did not allow many intimate acquaintances, those to whom she did open her heart, found her an entirely loyal and loving friend. Gifted with a clear, active mind, and with great decision of character, she was fitted to exert a commanding influence. To strength of character, she added superior intelligence. The unusual facilities she enjoyed after her marriage, for travel at home and abroad, and her cultivated taste for literature, gave her a large store of knowledge...." [Dow]

11 October 1876: Frank French (Exeter?) to Ellen French (23 W. 37th St., NYC). [Telegram] “Your mother died last evening at nine half oclock funeral friday afternoon. FOF” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

26 October [1876]: Mrs. Munroe (150 Champs Élysées, Paris) to Amos Tuck. “Mt dear Mr. Tuck: I was much pained to hear through your son’s letter of the sad result of your wife’s illness, and hasten to offer you my very sincere sympathy for your loss.”

“Friends are of little use at such times yet I know from my own experience that the voices of those who have known a kindred sorrow are the ones to which we listen. These trials are part of our life’s lesson and none the easier to bear that they come to all, the young, the old and to those whose share of trouble would seem to us to have been enough in earlier days, but God knows best, and we must accept these afflictions in patience and with submission if we cannot with resignation.”

“All that I would say to you seems so inadequate and is but a whisper coming in your solitude to [word illegible] you that three thousand miles away there are friends who grieve for your loss and your loneliness.”

“May I ask you to express to your daughters my friendly remembrances and best wishes and to believe me always sincerely your friend, [M.C.?] Munroe”

[marginal notation by Amos Tuck] “Madam Munroe, Paris – the only letter in my possession of condolence” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

9 November 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “If I did not take note that Ellen’s letter was dated the 7th, while yours bears date the 8th inst., I should exercise the privilege of being unhappy in regard to your health. She said yr. throat was reported bad, while you, a day later, say you have been bilious, but are now about well. I should be sorry to surmise that ‘there had been lying around this board,’ but I do think there is occasion for explanation, and I pause for a reply.”

“I received the papers sent and am reading them with interest. The result is better than a clean Republican victory, with Butler, Blaine, Morton et id omni genus, let loose, with fresh certificates, upon the land. Now that class of men are put down, and we shall have peace. Yet I prophecy, and wish you to mark it in future years, that this same race of men will keep the Republican Party out of power, at times when, except for them, the party ought to be re-instated. The Butlers and Blaines will demand to have the party resurrected under them, if resurrected at all. To this the people will not consent, and it is as well to bid farewell to Republican ascendancy till the Blaines and Butlers are dead. However, it will be just as well. The Republican Party will be strong enough to regulate, if not direct public policy, and the Democrats will be willing to govern pretty well, if that is the condition of governing and of holding office. In time, they will be turned out, but I apprehend it is a long way ahead.”

“Judge Stickney and many other honest, simple hearted men think the country nearly ruined, but I have raised their spirits considerably by telling them that the Democrats had elected

their best man President, and that he is a better man, and will do better, than has been represented and, moreover, the change may be for the best of all. They almost doubt my loyalty, but knowing that I voted for Hayes, they generally end by agreeing with me.”

“I have a good letter of sympathy from Mrs. Munroe, which I will send to you anon. Likewise from sundry other persons.”

“Pass this to Ellen, as I shall not write her to-day. I am glad they did not go again to Philadelphia. With much love to Julia, Ellen and all, yr. loving father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

15 November 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “Abby and I went to Hampton on Monday and obtained your mother’s portrait which was at John Nudd’s, and likewise a daguerreotype of her, holding Nell when a baby on her knees. It is my purpose, after having had constructed, out of what materials we have, a crayon picture of your second mother, if it be at all satisfactory to have one made by the same artist of your first mother. We saw only John’s wife and daughter who were very cordial, and made us welcome by all the arts known to them – Abby Paul and [two words illegible] were ‘down to Ruth’s’ which means that they were at Mrs. Leavitt’s, near the Fish [sp.?] Houses, who is Abby’s cousin. She is reported much better than a year ago, and able to walk without a cane. I called at Joseph Dow’s, to urge him along with his genealogy of the Hampton Tucks, and found him hard at work, copying for the printer.”

“Abby and Nelly do admirably well, and seem happier than I have ever before seen them. I do not declare, by words, such to be the fact, but I observe it, which is the best course to be pursued by us all. I do not omit, however, to let them know they are successful and acceptable in deed, as daughters and house-keepers.”

“I find the plan to be, and I approve it, that Nelly only, with me, shall visit N. York at Christmas. The other girls have moved enough for one year, and, besides, it is the demand of Abby’s heart, and their strong desire too, that she shall have them with her here, for a week between Christmas and New Year’s. I encourage, or rather approve this decision of the family. Laura and Dolly will come here, too, at Thanksgiving.”

“I suppose you know that Laura and Dolly are established on Newbury Street, Boston, at a Mrs. Dexter’s, an aristocratic lady owning her own house, with shrunk income, who takes four ladies, en famille, ‘just for company,’ no, avowedly for the money – they pay together \$25 a week, and Dolly goes to school, while Laura studies and helps. I think it is, on the whole, well. They are on the next parallel street to Marlboro, where Dr. Gorham resides. The price of their board is private, as the other boarders pay more.”

“I write to Ned by this mail, and wish the letter to him to be seen by you, and this by him and our Julia. Love to Bessy, Amos and to Frank, if he is not off McCulloching, in Washington. Tell Frank, I will go to Portland before long, by the time the Executors of Mr. Smith’s will have obtained a definite idea of the estate.” With love from Abby and Nelly, your loving father, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

21 November 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. "My dear friend: You wrote me last week a kind letter. I thank you. I can't avoid depressions, before unexperienced in my life, growing out of the great vacancy in my home, and my pitying remembrances of her who called forth from my heart all of individual love, which it was ever possible to be evoked from it; and your letter came in good time, reminding me of a friendship, still existing, which began farther back, even, than my love for the dear departed, and which I cherish still as of great value in all conditions of my mind."

"My daughter is all to me, at my home, which a daughter can be, being affectionate, extremely solicitous for my comfort, and very capable. I have great cause of happiness in all my children; yet in the midst of all these reminders of her who wished to die rather than I should, and having just come back from the river's brink, into which she was obliged to step, and to pass over, casting loving eyes back upon me to the last, why should not my heart ache constantly for her? It must, it ought, until I follow her to the other side."

"I did not intend to write thus, and you may be surprized, that after more than a month, since she left me, I speak more disconsolately than at the first. It may be that this inclement, mournful day causes something of the dejection I feel, yet I experience more and more of pitying, sorrowful remembrances, as the days and weeks pass away. But no more now."

"I went to N.Y. and Ned made me go with him and his wife to Phil. for 2 to 3 days. It struck me, (the Exposition), as it did you to be too large, for me, a curiosity, good in its general effect as an exhibition of comparative industries of different nations, but chiefly as [word unclear] to individuals, affording opportunity for specialists to study their several arts."

"Abby is to have her children here at Thanksgiving, which cannot be a very cheerful one, as it will be the anniversary of the first note of summons to depart to my dear wife a year ago. I shall be here, and would be glad to have you with us, if you could enjoy such an anniversary with us, which I don't think you could. I have agreed to be at Ned's at Christmas, and for ten days after, taking with me to N. York, Abby's second daughter, Nelly, to visit Ned and Ellen. If you can contrive to be in that city during the Holidays, I know it would give my children there much pleasure to see you often, as it would me to see and be with you. Think of this and write me. We might think it expedient to run over to Washington and spend a few days, after Jan. 1st, and save the country. It looks, somewhat, as though somebody will have to happen along about that time, and do that small job."

"I write this before the papers of this (Tuesday) morning come to hand and under the impression that, bull-dozing aside, Hayes ought to have the votes of Louisiana and Florida, as well as of So. Carolina, and consequently ought to be declared elected by one majority of the Electoral Vote. Still, it is strongly on my mind, that if Tilden shall be declared elected, and become President without actually recognizing democratic frauds it will be better for the country; indeed, I apprehend calamity, if the contrary takes place, and the certain end of Republican rule, in four years, or less. No one can foresee what may happen, if Tilden is counted out with suspicion, even, that he has been cheated by the Return boards, and by the Bill Chandlers, or even by the decent men sent south, 'to see that justice is done.' On general

principles too, Tilden having a majority of the popular vote, (though a sad minority only of the intelligent people of the country), and being better than his party, and our party being cursed by such a myriad of parasites, I am prepared to be glad and feel greatly relieved, if a plausible and just cause shall arise for giving one of the doubtful states to the Democracy. Still I feel we can see only a little way ahead, and that God will save the Country, perhaps more manifestly, in some way, if the worst, according to human vision, takes place.”

“Your friend, Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

23 November 1876: Edward Tuck (New York City) to Amos Tuck. “I omitted to write you yesterday, having nothing especial to say and thinking the ‘girls’ would probably write.”

“Frank apparently is on the eve of the final settlement of McCulloch and Co.’s a/c with the Navy Department. He went to Washington last night and it really looks as if the affair would be consummated at once.”

“He means to get a bite out of the settlement when made, and a good bite too, not the core.”

“Ellen is to dine with us tonight (we expect) and also Mr. Garland. Mrs. Whelen will stay a day or two longer, only.”

“Amos is getting on very well and the rest of us likewise, including Julia’s thumb. Bessie Keyes is contented at Ellen’s, and, vice-versa. She will not be shuffled off at present.”

“I am glad to hear how comfortably you are getting on at Exeter. Julia has read Abby’s letter to her, which was very interesting to us both.”

“Give Abby my love and to Nelly as well.”

“I am much obliged for your attention to the News Letter bill.”

“Do you and Abby receive papers from me daily? I send every day. The Herald articles have of late been excellent, on political matters, better than the Tribune’s.”

“I expect to see today the photograph you have sent Ellen.”

“You affectionate son, Ned” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 November 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “I will write you, even if briefly, that you may receive on Thanksgiving Day, a reminder that I think of you on this anniversary. Could I have all my children, and their several families, with me, at my house, on this occasion, there would be but one draw-back to my ability to be completely happy. So it now seems to me. If the past great event to me could turn out a dream, and you all could be here, how happy we would be. But I realize that we have very many occasions for giving thanks, being still possessed, in the love of each for all the others, and in many other things, which by slight misadventure we might be deprived of, [an] abundant occasion for gratitude. So I try to be really thankful, notwithstanding all that has been taken away in the last year, and before, from us all, and earnestly pray that the cup of sorrow may not soon come again to any of us.”

“We have scarcely seen a flake of snow yet, but the increasing cold reminds us of the snow-clad hills and plains lying west of us. But I am prepared for the severest weather having

taken in all my pots and kettles, and barricaded my house against Jack Frost. If he attacks me I am prepared

‘To seize him by the beard, and drag him in
And melt the icicles from his chin.’

Abby is jubilant over the prospect of a united daughterhood being with her to-night. She is now out, taking the air on a walk up Pine Street, saying she must have fresh air. Margaret has pies, cakes, chickens, cranberries etc. after the approved style of an Exeter Thanksgiving, and we expect to feast properly to-morrow. We are all well. The diphtheria is town seems to have abated. I invited Mr. Fogg to be with us, but he is to be at a sister’s, on ‘the Home Place.’ He wishes me to visit him, taking Abby with me, two weeks hence. Abby declines, and I doubt my going.”

“I saw Angie’s little girl, 5 yrs. old, a nice child, well cared for by a step-mother and gr. Mother. The boy is at his grandfather’s, and I did not see him. She is a nice child, with a delightful voice. Lois Ann is apparently better. I was most cordially greeted as well at Portland as at Biddeford.”

“I sent Frank yesterday, a newspaper copy of the Will of Mr. Smith. He will get something in time, but it is not a legacy to be counted on till it comes. He may get the whole eventually.”

“Abby commands me to send her love, (she has just come in), and I will close and carry the letter to the P.O.”

“With love to you all, yr. loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 December 1876: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “I write to-day, imagining you may like to hear from us, before Sunday, though the uniformity, not to say monotony, of our life here, has not suffered any interruption, by which I am enabled to afford entertainment or startling news. The health of the village is, we hope, improving. Yet there lies one dead child in Grove Street, a new comer, in a family living in the small house near the school, and four or five others are seriously sick, within thirty rods of the school house, but all in a hopeful state. Brad. Cilley and wife are greatly afflicted by the loss of their little girl, and prudent parents are keeping their children mainly indoors, till the scourge shall abate. Our neighbor, Mr. Faulhaber has sent his wife and children out of town, and I commend his caution.”

“Our streets are dry and dusty, and most of us will welcome a little snow. I am sure. I shall, although in respect to ordinary comforts of living I feel we have little, or nothing to complain of. Our horse continues a treasure, and the necessity of giving him exercise, is the occasion of our taking an airing every day, almost, to the benefit of both Abby and myself. Nelly sometimes goes, but she has skating so frequently that she does not eagerly crave a ride with us older people. She is very happy and has a full run of acquaintances, whom she enjoys to the fullest extent. She went to Boston yesterday ‘on business.’ Tell Frank Abby will pay that dentistry bill early in January. I think he can count on this. She will probably soon write him in

reply to his letter to her, and I make the above remark, not at her request, but only as knowing her purpose.”

“I am of your mind entirely in regard to the picture of your mother, my beloved wife. I cannot risk the loss of her expression, especially about the eyes, by attempting a crayon picture. Keep the photograph I sent you, - (Oh no, you have returned it) – I will take it to N.Y., and I will probably have it enlarged and touched with ink there the last of this month. I think now, as I wrote to Ned, that I will leave here the 20th of this month, going to N.Y. that day with Nelly. Our location, on our first arrival, I have to be settled by you and Ned and your families. Of course we shall visit you both, and Frank I bear in mind his special remark touching my stay at your house a portion of the time, and shall of course accept the invitation.”

“We are all in perfect health, - that is, - as near to it as could be expected. Nellie says her skating is interrupted till Monday, but I notice that not she nor her mother are anxious about her. I may go to Concord to visit Mr. Fogg a day or two next week, and to see the Constitutional Convention there in session, to break the monotony. Abby urges me to do everything, even to make visits, though she evidently feels better to have me at home, if I can be gratified thereby. I called at Mrs. Dexter’s in Boston, Wed., and saw that Mrs. D. is a nice appearing lady, living in a fine Boston House. I dined at 2 o’clock at Dr. Gorham’s, in a simple manner, rendered agreeable by great cordiality by the [two words illegible]. Love to you all, yr. loving father, Amos Tuck.”
[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

19 December: Informal meeting of PEA trustees.

1877

Joseph Dow writes that Frank French is one of the directors and principal owners of the First National Bank of New York. [Dow]

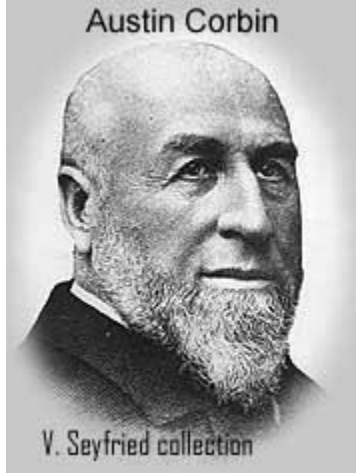
12 January 1877: Exeter News-Letter reported that Amos Tuck had accepted a position with a railroad that was “in the process of construction by some wealthy gentlemen of New York and Boston, connecting the former city by two of the principal ferries, and by two branches of a railroad encircling the city of Brooklyn, with Coney Island Beach...” The article reported that two miles of sea front and a large tract of land that had been secured by the railroad company. The company expected to have a railroad running by July 1878.

“We understand that Mr. Tuck will be occupied in securing the right of way, and pressing forward the work to an early completion, and will go to New York at once for this purpose. Mr. Tuck is an able, energetic and successful man of business, and the enterprise is very fortunate in securing his services. His management of the Land Agency of the Atlantic and Pacific won for him the highest encomiums from all with whom he came in contact. Ill health deprived the road of his services, and his recovery and return to active life is a matter for congratulations to himself, his friends and the community.”

[“The New York and Manhattan Beach Railway. [Wikipedia/LIRR History.com]

The origins of the New York and Manhattan Beach Railway system start in 1870 with the formation of the NY & Hempstead RR. This company hoped to build a line from the East River in Bay Ridge across Brooklyn to East NY and then to Valley Stream. It was thought, since Bay Ridge was the closest point to the busy New Jersey terminals of Elizabeth, Bayonne and Jersey City, that such a route would enable the company to provide cheaper freight rates than were charged by the other railroads. Much grading and excavating was done in 1871 to 1873, and in 1873 the company was leased by the South Side RR, which ran through Valley Stream. However, the financial panic of 1873 caused all work to cease on the project without a single rail having been laid.

The project was restarted in 1875 when the NY, Bay Ridge and Jamaica RR Co. was created. The ROW that was laid out follows closely the present Bay Ridge branch of the LIRR from the East River to a point where it approaches the Canarsie line (then known as the Brooklyn and Rockaway Beach RR) near Linden Blvd. By the summer of 1876, the line was completed to Bath Junction at 62nd St. and New Utrecht Ave. where it crossed the Brooklyn, Bath and Coney Island RR (the predecessor of today’s West End subway line – B train). A temporary agreement was made between the two RR’s and in August, 1876 passenger trains started running from Bay Ridge to Coney Island, even though it was still thought that freight traffic would eventually be the primary business of the NYBR&J.



In November, 1876 the NYBR&J was sold to Austin Corbin (later to become one of the most important figures in LIRR history) and was reorganized as the New York and Manhattan Beach Railway Co. Immediately the whole purpose of the new RR was changed from freight to passenger, in order to service Corbin’s proposed line to the site of his immense Manhattan Beach Hotel that was being constructed on the east end of Coney Island. In addition, Corbin decided that the NY&MB railway would be narrow gauge (3’ instead of the standard 4’8-1/2”), which meant that the rails already existing from Bay Ridge to Bath Junction had to be relaid. The branch to Manhattan Beach diverged from the main Bay Ridge line at Manhattan Beach Junction, and continued south on a ROW just east of the current Brighton line (at that time the Brooklyn, Flatbush and Coney Island RR). Corbin hoped that the Manhattan Beach line would draw passengers from both the Bay Ridge and East NY ends of the Bay Ridge line. On the East NY end, Corbin had negotiated a deal with the Brooklyn and Rockaway Beach RR to run his line all the way up to Atlantic Ave., using the outer edge of the latter’s ROW. The Metropolitan Hotel, on the corner of Fulton St. and Van Sinderen Ave. was used as the terminal station. On July 19, 1877 the new railroad opened with much fanfare. There were 13 trains a day each way from both Bay Ridge and East NY to Manhattan Beach. click [HERE](#) for an article from the Brooklyn Eagle of July 19, 1877 describing the event.

Next, Corbin focused his efforts to get a ROW from East NY to northern Brooklyn, and succeeded by buying the Glendale and East River RR ROW. The line was built from Oak and West Sts. in Greenpoint east to where it crossed the South Side's Bushwick branch at Varick St. (South Side Crossing), then between Wyckoff and Irving Aves. east to the Cemetery of the Evergreens (hence the current name "Evergreen" branch), then turned south to hook up with the Bay Ridge line in East New York. It opened for service on May 15, 1878, when the entire Manhattan Beach line opened for the summer.

The last, and very short-lived, piece of the Manhattan Beach puzzle fell into place on June 29, 1878, when the Kings County Central RR (which was leased by the NY & Manhattan Beach) opened for service. This line, owned by Electus B. Litchfield, started from the edge of Prospect Park at Flatbush Ave. and Malbone St., ran east through Malbone to Clove Rd., then south on Clove to Clarkson, then to a junction with the Manhattan Beach line. On September 30, 1878 the Kings County Central closed down for the season. It never reopened. It had been sold to a group which wanted to standard gauge the line and build their own railroad to Manhattan Beach, but due to both bad management and bad luck, the plans never materialized and they were forced to liquidate their holdings in the spring of 1879. By July, the ROW had been completely stripped of everything.

In 1881, after the entire LIRR had been bought by Corbin, the decision was made to standard gauge the entire Manhattan Beach Line and connect it to both the LIRR's Atlantic Ave. and Montauk (Long Island City) branches. By 1883, all this had been done. It also meant that the Greenpoint line was no longer needed, and the portion from Greenpoint to South Side Crossing was abandoned for passenger service after the 1885 season (it was completely abandoned for freight also in 1890 and was torn up). A connection was made at South Side Crossing between the Bushwick branch and the Evergreen, which was then standard gauged, and a new service from Bushwick to Manhattan Beach was started, which lasted until 1894.]

13 January 1877: Ellen French (33 W. 37th St., NYC) to Amos Tuck: News from you is very scarce. I can't [figure] out whether you were to spend yesterday in Boston or Exeter."

"We were very quiet in our respective homes – Frank rode in the morning and the rest of us staid in out of the raw air all day."

"At Ned's, Julia lay on the sofa, and very well, while Ned now and then took 'the boys' out walking."

"Today is fair and the sun shines. Julia [two words illegible] to lunch. I am 'at home' on Mondays so do not venture out lest I should miss a call."

"Frank is in good spirits. You will see that the Bank has kept busy and is to be investigated by Mr. Hewitt in due time. This does not seem to scare them one bit."

"This week we have no news from Germany – it is a long time since I have had a letter from Abby – because I have not written [two words illegible] since Nov, being busy and there is little to tell which would interest her."

"Neither have I any news for you, dear popsy, only to say I hope you are very well in this wintry weather and keep up your spirits by seeing people and reading cheerful books. Aren't you ready to come this way by next Sunday to spend the day with me – we shall be entirely

alone. Do write how you are and where you go – don't get blue or worried while we are all so well as now – after all, sickness is the worst calamity. The children are all right and Bessy from the next room sends a great deal of love. Ever your affectionate daughter, Ellen.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

27 March 1877: Tuck not present at PEA trustees meeting at Boston.

9 May 1877: Amos Tuck (New York City) to George G. Fogg. [on letterhead of The New York and Manhattan Beach Railway Co., 61 Broadway] “I gave Mr. Hazelton a place and he is doing well. The Road will be completed only on the South side of Brooklyn this year, but a fine hotel will be completed at the Beach in June, and it is hoped a crowd of people will use the Road this summer. I have found my occupation agreeable, and all my associates pleasant and appreciable. Still as summer approaches, I am impatient of confinement, or much responsibility, and if I can get myself release, without violence towards my kind friends, and damage to their interests, I intend to let go in two weeks. Mr. Corbin goes to Europe next week. I have kept myself out of pecuniary interest in the Road, so as to be free to act. My children and their families here are in good health, and speak of you as their good friend, as well as mine. I think I shall be in Exeter before long, and hope to see you there before a great while.”

“I think, with you, that Hayes is doing better than any body outside his immediate circle had reason to expect, though it was in my hope that he would be a patriot, and not a partisan; - which, as we know, is such a novelty in the Executive office, as to make us all look up with astonishment. If England interferes with Russia, I hope England will get whipped. All the papers here, to-day, seem to give it up, that England will take hold for Turkey. I do not believe it. But I must stop. Kind regards to all your household.

“Truly yours, Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

12 May 1877: Amos Tuck (New York City) to George G. Fogg. [NY and Manhattan Beach Railway letterhead] “I enclose to you a letter from W.S. Thompson of Marshfield, Mo., who has in Charge Coupons for collection on Bonds of Marshfield; - yours, and \$5000 of the Bds. belonging to S.W. Dearborn, of whom I am now Guardian. Mr. Dearborn, as you know, was very careful, as well as smart, and the School Bonds, were at the time of their purchase thought to be the best security out there. I am glad now to hear there is no thought of resisting them, and I think they are good, though the delay is vexatious, and I regret it.”

“I have secured my release from responsibility and attendance upon the Road, for the summer, unless an exigency arise, half promising I will take hold again in the fall. I hope to be at home in Exeter a week from to-ay.”

“Faithfully your friend Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

19 May 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “I am safely at home and find everything looking beautiful, in doors and out. As you know, Abby cannot but have everything very tidy. I

am just going to ride. She is looking forward to your visit with anticipations of much enjoyment. Laura and Dolly were looking very well in Boston.”

“Edna and Sarah spoke of you affectionately, and sent their love to you. Edna Cheney and her daughter breakfasted with them yesterday at 8 ½ , and a Mrs. ____ of Salem, and we had a pleasant hour at the table. A nosegay was at each plate, - John and Sarah were there – and on the middle of the table an immense basket of flowers. The ‘set out’ was very elegant. ‘Knight’ is a fine ‘Provider,’ and Edna is one of the [word illegible] Exeter girls. John and Sarah were cheerful, showing very little sign of regret at the contrast in situation between their two families (Sarah’s and Edna’s). The Cheney emigrants sail next Saturday, - id est, Mrs. E.C. and daughter, Mary Frank Littlehale and sister, and some others.”

“In Boston, I bought two neck stocks of [two words illegible] I have been using, tried to buy shoes, but not even Rogers had not any that suited me, called at sundry places, and got out of the city at 12 ½ glad to turn my back on Boston. It seems excessively dull there. My corn does not trouble me. Tell Ned and Julia I discovered the method of successful treatment the last day I was in N.Y., and that I suffered unnecessarily, previously for want of knowing how to put plasters on, just right. Now for a ride, with love to you, Frank and all, yr. Loving father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

26 May 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. “I wrote you the 12th inst., as within, intending to enclose to you Thompson’s letter herein enclosed, but in the hurry of my business, sent both letters to Thompson, by mistake. I now enclose them to you. I shall want Mr. T.’s letter to hold in judgment against him, if he does not collect the money, by January. Or you may keep it yourself, to make the basis of a letter, if need be. I hear you were in N.Y. two days ago. You discovered I was non est. I could not be tied to responsibility during the hot weather but am half-bound to return in the Fall. That, however, will depend on my feeling, when Fall comes, and on other things. Let me see or hear from you, or both, before long.”

“Your friend, Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

1 June 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen Tuck. As you said you wished a reply to your letter by to-morrow, I sit at my Library table, to write you a few lines, though Abby is occupied at the same moment, at her desk in the corner, writing to you likewise. I hope it is not so hot in N. York as it is here, for it is nearly intolerable here; yet this is hoping against hope, for you are farther south, and I am forced to believe, are suffering more than we are. I wish you were coming at once, and you will make all your plans on the confident assumption, that Abby, as well as I, shall be glad to have you come as soon as you possibly can make your coming compatible with your arrangements at your home at No. 33, and your duties to the household.

“I am made sure by your readiness to receive suggestions about medicine, that you are still far from rugged health. I imagine you need salt air, and when you arrive here, and become rested, I engage to be ready to carry you and the children to the beach, as often as you wish, and

to adopt any plan that may be decided to get the greatest amount of good out of your N. Hampshire vacation.”

“I am sorry that you are to leave for Round Hill so early in July, as the Connecticut Valley cannot equal the seaboard, for you, but I assume that you and Frank have given due weight to all considerations, and have done what you thought to be best.”

“You ask what I do, how I live. Well, I rise at 6, working in the garden till 7 ¼. At 7 ½ breakfast, at 8 ¼ go again to the garden. At 9 ½ to 9 ¾, take a bath and change my clothes, of course, throughout. Read the morning papers, and at 11, in my small carriage call at the P.O. for letters. Read the letters, if any and the N.Y. papers till 1, with an intermediate ride. Dine at one, lounge till 2 ½. Read books, and write letters till 5, ride till 6, then tea, and after that call, talk sentiment with callers, or do something else as [word unclear], till 9 ½, when I go to my room, and at 10, precisely, jump into bed. In 3 minutes after, I am asleep, oblivious sleep, which lasts till about 4; then a wakeful period till nearly 5, when I go again to sleep for an hour, and rise at 6 in good condition.”

“Our horse harness has been examined by me, and is strong. The horse is kept ready by Jim and Nelly, one of whom is generally here to harness him, and on the whole we are getting on very nicely as the girls of the seminary say.”

“As Abby is writing her story, I conclude you will frame us together, get all the facts, and so close with love to you all.”

“Your loving father, Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 June 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “It would give me happiness to be with you for a week, in accord with your affectionate invitation. But I am an important personage at the head of this household and full as necessary as I once thought myself to be to the Coney Island Road. No doubt the family can get along without me, when I choose, persistently, to go away, as does that Road. Yet without strong reason I better stick by for the present. Besides, the Exeter Academy Trustees are to meet on Tuesday of next week, and some of them think they cannot dispense with me. By the way, I carried the point of having Buzell buy for the Academy \$8000 in the Cincinnati’s, against his first purpose, as well against the grain of the other trustees; and when last at Boston, Foote told me Buzell had tried to get \$2000 on his own account, or on account of a friend, but he could not get them short of a ¼ to ½ % above what they were purchased for, for the Acad., and for me and so B. did not get any. I bought \$10,000, the day before the Acad. Invested, and my act for myself turned the point for the Acad., inducing Dr. G. and B. to fall in. I was glad to detect them buying for themselves, and rather tickled that they could not get what they wanted, except on a rise.”

“...I am glad you and Frank are among the few [doing well]. I am much gratified that the Syndicate is renewed, and that the First national is admitted to a status among the Bankers, and so published before the Country. The ‘Boys’ had to force the enemy’s works, at the point of the bayonet, and may well feel proud of their achievement. Tell Frank this, with my acknowledgement of his letter this morning received.”

“I have been trying to work myself up to selling my St. Louis Nat. Bk. Stock, or a portion of it, but have an aversion to act. So I refrain from agitating a sale of my Gas Co. Bds., though I know the litigation we have spoken about includes possible mischief....” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

16 June 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “...Yes, our Trustees are still waiting for a satisfactory price for Delaware & Hudson, and bid fair to hold on until their Treasurer can balance his books by charging the whole 600 shares to ‘Profit & Loss,’ especially the latter. For wanting of one strong, confident, capable leader, they are utterly powerless – as confounded as passengers in a panic on a sinking ship. I told Wentworth, when the stock touched 257 that I would say, privately, to him, that the course of the Trustees was simply damnable. He replied, ‘Yes, that is so. The stock has fallen \$15,000 since I came into the Board;’ I answered, ‘Since I advised you to sell at 52.’ He said yes – Marston is President of the Board, and he has no capacity, whatever, in money matters.’ I am dazed as to knowing what to do about selling the Bk. Stock in St. Louis. I rec’d the advertisement of the Broker in St. Louis matters and mat write him.”

Ellen’s visit to Exeter was delayed. Tuck quipped, “However, when the mountain did not go to Mahomet, he was polite enough to go to the mountain. I too, am a polite man, and intend to follow the example of the author of the Koran.”

Buzzel wants to resign the Treasury, and to have Abbot his own successor. I don’t like the present, or any such future incumbent, but it may be I shall acquiesce – provided he is made a mere clerk. I would not acquiesce, if my refusal were not likely to institute a never ending disaffection.

Tuck was visited by an old friend, Mr. Hunt.

“...To-day we have audited Buzzell, - Dr. Gorham and I, - and most of [the] next two weeks will be broke in upon by the closing of the to schools.”

“I hope Amos French will enjoy himself at Dorchester. I see Henry French has got into a ‘fix” with Sherman. Pity.”

“This 30 day privilege to the Bks. to subscribe for 4 per cents is a serious interference with Syndicate profits. I do not comprehend all the points.”

“...Tell Ellen she need not worry about intimacy with our ‘cousins,’ when we go to the beach. If we are not comfortable, we shall come away. But we shall be comfortable. It is hot and sweltering here to-day.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

19 June 1877: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees’ meeting.

21 June 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. “I should make apologies for not sooner replying to your letters. I have been overbusy with my household, - Abby and her three children, - and with other cares. Besides I have fallen into the bad habit of procrastination, and day after day passes, with a remorseful feeling that much time has run to waste. Just now I am oppressed by a nervous head-ache, but generally my health has been good enough. I expect Ellen and

family by Sat. night, and after that, shall be really busy for two weeks, with better excuse for mitting things outside the house. Abby and two of her children and myself go to Dumas' at Boar's Head the 5th August, to stay more of the month, probably, though I may be called away some, by sickness of friends at Biddeford, and may go to N. York for a few days. Can you not plan to be at Hampton while I am there? I shall be glad, at any time to see you here."

I do not overlook your cordial invitation to visit you at Concord. I should have pleasure in doing so, but have no wish to see the politicians at the State House. I do not read any Concord papers, but was glad to hear from you that the gamesters, who have generally had their way,, were defeated by John B. Clarke, though I have been told he (C.) is hardly to be trusted. I hope I have been misinformed in this regard."

"With a bad head-ache, but with kind regards to your generous household, I am, as ever, Afftly – Yr. Friend Amos Tuck." [Fogg Papers, NHSS]

22 June 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "Mr. Faulhaber, the French and German Techer at the Academy and Seminary, and at Cambridge, goes to Europe next week, and says he shall call on you to procure [a] Letter of Credit. If he asks any confidence or credit, understand that in money matters he is unreliable, and a 'dead broke.' He will have some money, and you can give him an equivalent for it, in a letter of traveling credit. Don't go an inch 'on tick.'"

"Did the Paragraph I saw about some Bank going to sue a member of the Syndicate etc. have anything to do with 'the Boys' at the First National[?]"

"Frank gained a point in public notoriety, and apparent importance, when Sherman concluded to address that important letter to him, instead of addressing it to any one of many others, who had made enquiries probably."

"Joe Seligman got Judge Hilton to a disadvantage, on the Hotel Question, and it will hurt Hilton, and ought to. Still, the Jews are a little too numerous, and too noisy at the flash Hotels, as the Swiss watchman said of the English, when one of them fell among the bears at Berne, and the watchman allowed him to be hugged to death. 'Too many Englishmen, and too few bears,' said the Policeman, 'and so I did [not?] shoot the bear.'"

Ellen and family will arrive in Exeter the next day. [TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

4 July 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "I received the letter in regard to Gov. Noyes [Minister-designate to France], and saw him yesterday at the Beach, whither I took Laura and Dolley to dine, and to spend the afternoon, Abby declining to go.

I spoke with him, or rather he first spoke with me about the Account. He said he had received from Washburn a recommendation, on account of their kind treatment of him to keep his account at the Seligman's, the letter forwarded to him by the [word unclear], but said he should keep his account with Munroes, where he had it before, unless it should be found to be his duty to keep it with a member of the Syndicate. I told him, that Seligmans were good people, that I knew those well in N.Y., and had met those in London, Paris, and Frankfort; but that no Americans resorted to Seligmans in Paris, or next to none, that the headquarters of Americans

was at Munroe's, that Seligmans were almost unknown socially, among Americans, in Paris, and that I was glad, for I thought it to be for his comfort, to have him say, that he should probably leave his acct. at Munroe's, independent of any value of the account pecuniarily, which was, of course, trifling. I told him the Consul had always kept their acct. at Munroe's, and that perhaps it was proper for me to say that the House was sound beyond possibility of serious disaster, etc. (stating the capital etc.) and that Washburn's course was unaccountable etc. etc. He said W. was regarded as mean, and had laid up \$100,000 out of his salary, and was loath to come home, having even requested him to postpone going over, till the last of the season. Noyes is very cordial and I think will almost surely place his acct. with you...."

(Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 70)

20 July 1877: Amos (Exeter?) to Ned. "...I wrote yesterday to Kelehers [sp.?] of St. Louis Brokers, enclosing an order on you for my St. Louis Nat. Bank stock, on payment to you of \$18,000, the last quotation; impelled so to write, because the President of the Bk. had failed for some time to reply to a letter to him, enquiring the condition of the Bk., and asking if the last dividend was made in the last 6 months. This morning I have his reply, which I enclose, and on account of it, I to-day wrote Kelehers not to sell till further order, but requesting them to report what can be obtained for the stock...."

(Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 70)

25 July 1877: Amos (Exeter) to Ned. "Yours of yesterday is at hand."

"It is a pity that by one discharge of musketry the boys who constitute a majority of the mob element, could not be exterminated, from one end of this continent to the other; and that by another discharge, the gang of orators, who stir up and lead the idlers of all classes, could not be hurled to 'their own place.' The real workers could then be pacified by reasonable concessions, and men would be free to enjoy the fruits of their industry and capacity. As it is, there [is] cause of apprehension, though my hope is, that their humiliating and damaging experience will lead to safe [word unclear] and stronger government over the dangerous classes in future."

"I am so much in doubt I do not dare do anything, and for the present shall probably continue to carry my [words unclear] St. Louis Bk. Stock."

"I did not know you had unloaded, to an extent, in M.K. and T.s, but I approve your action, as you do not need to spread yourself so as to be more in the power of chance than you are in you Banking business alone. Keep your mind at ease, and turn yr. 'works' as economically as you and Julia can bring yourselves to believe is wise. We know not what may come. I think sometimes, the burning of Cincinnati by a mob is within the possibilities."

(Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 70)

27 July 1877: Amos (Exeter) to Ned. "...I suppose the worst is over in regard to the strike. Still, what a plague has already been inflicted upon this country, a plague which more or less affects us all! It seems a pity that a cannon shot or two, from a U.S. Battery could not have been

sent through the streets of Chicago. Still it may be, that the lives already sacrificed may be sufficient, though I doubt it, to let the rabble know there is a government in this country. I hear from St. Louis that Bk. stocks don't sell in these times...."

(Rauner, Franklin Brooks Collection, Box 7, Folder 70)

3 August 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "Yours of yesterday to Abby is received. I returned from Bid. last night. Lois Ann has not failed as much as I expected and will probably live for a few months. Laura has failed almost entirely, and is not likely to remain so long. Both are measurably cheerful, as much so as is possible for young people looking up on the early certainty of dissolution. Laura says she has never shed a tear over her case, and she has a comforting confidence in a happy future. Both talk and smile, and sometimes laugh, and still enjoy happiness. They both spoke of all my children with affection, and talked with interest about Bessy and Amos. Polly and John have passed the most painful part of losses soon to occur, and now wait with submission. I believe I comforted them, in one way and another, by my visit, and I am sure, I shall hereafter think of them with less of acute sympathy and suffering in their behalf. I had writings made which passed to Polly for the benefit of Lois' children, all the property which went to Lois Ann, from her father's estate – at least all of it, which remains. This was a good thing."

"So Bessy will not probably come to Boarshead. I am glad of it, as I fear possible danger to her by mistakes in food. Abby would be constantly anxious as would you, and even I."

"I shall come back here Monday or Tuesday, - back from the Beach, - on Wednesday shall stay at night with John L. Hayes, Cambridge, Mass., and on Thursday go with him to a gathering at Downer's [sp.?] Landing, Boston Harbor of the Apostles of Freesoilism, got up by Mr. Downer, who has sent me an invitation. On Friday, I think I shall go to N. York from Boston, and Sat. to Long Branch."

"We are now all well, - no nettle rash, and 'not nothin,' the matter with us. But didn't my feet and hands itch for 3 nights?!"

"Abby has given me a 'Birth Day' of 2 vol. Harriet Martineau's Life, very elegant. I should have forbidden her doing it, as I did you, had I known of it in advance."

"To you all, Yr. loving father, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

7 September 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "I imagine you preparing to leave for N. York. It would have given us all comfort, if you could have come here, as you spoke of, and if Frank could have come too; but we accept the result as what has seemed necessary or at all events best."

"We are all well. Laura is to come home Monday."

"At the present time, it is the plan of Abby and her children to go to Dresden about the first of November. I prefer, however, that they shall disclose it to you and that they shall not know that I have 'blowed' upon them. I acquiesce in it, not as a thing which would certainly be best, if I could control their wishes, but as a thing which I should acquiesce in, seeing they are

strongly in its favor. It has weight with me, too, that there is the probability, if they stay in this country, that the two or three they propose to be absent, might slip away, without any valuable fruit, whereas it will hardly fail, that two out of the four will get a knowledge of German, and some other valuable knowledge, if they go abroad. The cost will not be greater in Europe than it is likely to be in America.”

“I shall not plan to go with them, and they do not consider my going with them necessary. They have conditionally engaged board, I think, at the place where the Rands lived in Dresden.”

“I shall be likely to be lying round loose in N. York, next winter, I suppose or going South, ‘or Something.’”

“I sent Julia some pears, but fear she did not receive them, and intend to send you some, later.”

“With love to all, yr. loving father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

30 October 1877: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees meeting at Boston.

31 October 1877: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “...Chas. W. Rogers wrote Mrs. Long, within ten days past in regard to the So. Pacific Bds. of Mo. Held by her, who is his aunt. Charles is one of the most capable men I know, is Superintendent of the Road and knows more about it, its resources, business and prospects, than any other man living. He says, unqualifiedly, that the Bonds are perfectly good, - as good as the Bonds of the Boston and Maine R.R. - and that if their security was well understood in the east, the bonds would stand 105 in Boston. He owns not only some of the Bonds, but some of those next after, - the 2nd mortgage Bonds, - and believes the Seconds perfectly secure. It would be no disaster, he says, to the First Mortg. Bds. to have the Road default, for other revenues cannot fail to pay a large surplus over and above the interest on those Bonds.”

“Now I bought my Bonds at 78 ¼ %; and I am going to keep them. I shall not allow myself to be fluctuated and agitated, nor shall I fluctuate and agitate you, who bought the Bonds for me, because they have fallen in price. There is a hostility in Boston and in N. York to Mr. Peirce, lately in control of the Road, and I can see that a temporary cry against those Bonds would gratify Peirce’s enemies. But you can see that the Bonds would hold up to 73, if there was any real defect, and it is my opinion that Boston parties are now slyly loading up with these Bonds.”

“Now I shall let you alone on these bonds, and beg you not to have any anxiety about them on my account. You did your father a favor to report how they stood at the time they were bought; and that ought to be the end of unpaid troubles taken by you for Your Aff. Father Amos Tuck.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

6 November 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "I received yours written to me at Biddeford, and John took possession of it, for preservation, the delicate sympathy and affection expressed in it being of so much comfort that he desired to preserve it forever."

"I received yours of yesterday this morning, enclosing [the] abstract of loans, etc. and have had explained all that has been hurriedly required of you in the week past...."

"I will have a correspondence with C.W. Rogers, making queries, and then will see about that transaction."

"I am well. Dr. Wm. H. Gorham came here last night, and is still with me, at my house, on Academy business touching the introduction of water into Gorham Hall. He arrived just before my return from Biddeford last evening, and I have been mostly occupied with him until this writing, at 4 ¼ p.m."

"And now having disposed of other items, I say, that the funeral was attended by crowds, and that a long procession followed the cortege to the grave. I never was at a funeral, where more sympathizing, sorrowing friends seemed to surround an afflicted family. Dr. Nichols pronounced a eulogy upon Laura, which touched all hearts. All our Biddeford relations, including some distant cousins were present, except Lois Ann, who rode to the house in the forenoon, but could not endure the fatigue of the services. John bore up with wonderful fortitude, not giving way to tears, while others not related to Laura were deeply affected. Amos was much overcome. So was Polly...."

"I go to Boston tomorrow or Sat."

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

19 November 1877 [?]: Ellen French (33 W. 37th St., NYC) to Amos Tuck. "Dear popsy, Frank and I now intend to leave here Wednesday at 3, sleep at the Parker House that night, and go to Exeter Thursday aft. as I have some dressmaking, Friday am which will occupy me all the forenoon. Haven't you business which will take you to Boston Thursday and I shall see more of you by going to Exeter in your company - we must be in N.Y. by Sat'y night. I am sorry for this short visit to you but can't make it longer for various reasons at this season of the year."

"We all hope you will come to us at Thanksgiving. No more news from Germany - is Amos with you - give him my love - I shall be glad to see him and Uncle John, tho' you do not allude to him being in Ex. I hope you are well, papa dear and keeping legs warm. Your loving daughter, Ellen." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

23 November 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tuck had dinner with Ellen and Frank at the Tremont House the day before, then the three came up to Exeter. Tuck will go back to Boston with them, then on to Concord to stay with Fogg...."

"I send by Frank \$4000 South Pacific R.R. Co. Bonds (of Mo.) with coupons cut off for January, which please deposit in safe and collect in time." [TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

26 November 1877: Amos Tuck (Concord) to Edward Tuck. "I have been here since Sat. eve. at 5 ½ o'clock, comfortably lodged with Mr. Fogg, who is very hospitable, with his school m'am

cook, giving me three country dinners a day, dough nuts, pie, Shaker apple sauce etc. etc., all the time. I eat bountifully, and so far without detriment. I attended the Unitarian Church, once, yesterday, though it was rainy all day, and made two calls in the evening, one on Judge Dana, an old acquaintance of anti-slavery times, and one upon Judge Fowler, whom I knew in college, and have known ever since, of whom you have some knowledge.”

Tuck is returning to Exeter that evening.

“I enjoyed Frank and Ellen’s visit very much, though it was so short. Frank was in the best of spirits, as he of course could well be, with his pockets just stuffed with the handsome return from the Syndicate dividend, and Ellen was correspondingly happy....”

“Frank gave me his note, in substitution of the House Security, for the \$15,000 advanced by me, and is to lodge 100 shares of his bank stock, as collateral, all of which I sent to you by him, for completion and lodgment in the Safety Deposit, as he has no doubt explained to you.”

“Mr. Paul and I have bound, upon security, \$1000, to put a man upon his feet who is serviceable to G.K.P[aul] & Co., -- or rather I loaned the \$1000, drawing upon J.M[unroe] & Co. for it, and Mr. Paul has given me his demand note for \$500, which he will pay before long. I have thus presumed upon your license to overdraw. Frank is to prepay to you his int. to Jan 1st (\$276), today, which will, pro tanto, lessen my overdrafts.”

“I suppose Ellen has told you all about me, and has been able to remove some of your anxiety regarding my relations with my fair neighbors, as well as some of your solicitude generally....I shall not rush into matrimony in a hurry, I can tell you, in toti dem verbes; yet I do not propose to dispense with my option, but on the contrary have matrimony in my mind, and look the whole subject over in all its bearings, in the next five or ten years, and at the end of that time, (not before), to act, and then to act promptly, as a man ought to do, who means business.”

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

27 November 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “...Frank told me of his loan to you of \$10,000, and likewise asked me if I did not think better hire the rest of his plunder until he could use it. I did not say yes, for I knew how much better you could answer that question than I. You say your securities are rather low, at present. How low? Do you feel that you will eventually lose? I conclude not. Your legitimate earnings and income are so great, it is probably best not to take any ventures, hereafter, tho the ‘fun’ of trying a short cut to an addition to wealth, is always tempting. Yet how often the fun entirely fails, when the accounts are settled!”

“I note Frank’s payment of \$276. Am glad So. P. of Mo. are recovering. If you have convenience to do so, I wish you would enquire if Saclede [sp?] Gas Bonds ae regarded well at present – and Chamber of Commerce Bonds, St. Louis.”

“I enclose the certificates sent by Danton [sp?], at 61 Broadway – and have to-day written a congratulating letter to Corbin on his happy return, just known to me.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

30 November 1877: Ellen French (NYC) to Amos Tuck. “Do you think you are entirely out of mind since I last saw you nearly a week ago? Frank wrote you at once that we arrived safe, tho’

he may not have mentioned that before we reached N.Y. the rain commenced and poured all night.”

“We found all the family up and had some oysters before going to bed about midnight. I felt very tired after the hurried journey of the week. Ned and Julia came down for a few minutes in the rain to hear the latest from you. They are well, even after the Thanksgiving dinner, at which we sat eleven and drank the health of the absent on both continents. The Taylors and Mrs. Whelan represented foreign cities. Today Bessy and Amos are nearly ready to confess that Thanksgiving is bilious in its tendency. Bess has a very sore throat and has just had the Dr.”

“Frank had an interview with the entire Syndicate at Belmont’s office on Monday, at which it was suggested that a committee should visit the Sec’y and President to strengthen their principles. Frank wanted to be of the number but had the feeling he might not on account of his interest in the Col [sp.?] plan. On Tuesday Belmont sent for him to inform him he was to be the only man to go down. Yesterday Belmont himself came up in the rain in his red wheeled coupé to question Frank’s integrity, as certain gentlemen declared he was not safe and undivided in his interests. After an hour’s [sp.?] talk B. left reassured, having left a letter with Frank to be sent to the Sec’y, announcing his coming. So F. departed this morning and has before now probably interviewed both Pres. and Sec’y. He is hopeful of course that he will achieve a reputation worth having, tho’ he must be ever on the alert to compete with aged sharpers with whom he is brought in contact. He will be here tomorrow at five.”

“I hope you are enjoying your new flannels.”

“It is a comfort to think Aunt Abby and her husband are with you. Tell her how much I wished I could see her, if it could have happened that we could have met them I should have enjoyed it – perhaps next summer.”

“Have you also told the neighbors whom I did not see that that in my short visit to you my time won’t allow going around about. I trust Mrs. S. [G.?] didn’t feel [word unclear].”

“Have you heard of Willy Chadwick’s condition and if Mr. Gordon [?] left any thing when with relations [?] might bless his memory?”

“I have written Abby about my Ex. visits, which I enjoyed very much. I think of you cheerfully now, which I did not before. Your independence is enviable in most respects, but must not be so agreeable as to keep you away from N.Y. altogether.”

“I have not yet sent off my letter to Uncle John because besides [?] want of time. I am not quite sure if he wouldn’t think it an interference, if it was suggested that he should systematically direct Amos’s acquaintance or he will direct his youthful affections toward the maiden he is most familiar with, and it will be impolitic to have a young kitchen maid. Amos is a very nice boy and I am so interested about him that I shld like to be able to do some thing for him.”

“Don’t keep your house too hot dear papa and let me know the minute you are not perfectly well.”

“With much love to Aunt Abby and [name illegible] I am ever your loving daughter, Ellen.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

30 November 1877: Exeter News-Letter reported that the Republican State Committee met at the Eagle Hotel in Concord on 27 November. William E. Chandler moved to exclude reporters from the meeting, "...was intended for purposes of conference only, and the subject of the next gubernatorial candidate was taken up...."

30 November 1877: The editor of the Exeter News-Letter made a "plea for harmony in the Republican here in New Hampshire....There never was a time when the necessity for vigorous and united action was greater than now...."

6 December 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "On returning from Boston last evening, I was shocked to read your letter, giving account of poor Mr. Chandler's preliminary summons to put his house in order. It is the ringing of the first bell, look at it in the brightest light we can, and we cannot fail to call up before us all his good qualities, and universally obliging disposition, and sincerely pity the poor man, as the heavy, inevitable and gradually rests down upon him. Yes, dear Ned, I look upon this even as you do, as a negative upon any plan that embraces your absence for any considerable time from New York...."

"I sent you, yesterday, from Boston, a Pamphlet setting forth the Gas Enterprize in which Geo. K. Paul & Co. have an interest of 1/5 of the profits, without putting in any capital."

As I wished to see Joe Dow to-day, I took Abby Paul, still here with her husband, and made to Hampton, intending to return before dinner. But Joe and his daughter Lucy were so clamorous for me to dine with them, and John Nudd and his family so persistent likewise, that I found not only difficulty in getting back before dinner, but if I staid, in deciding with whom to dine. However, I thought it a little in the family, to do so, and accepted John's demand, and dined there, on very nice fresh pork, broiled, with all sorts of sauces, and rice and mince pies - faring very well."

"I have settled with Joe for his work on the Genealogy. He says I cost him a half-year's work, of ten hours a day, and that while he was willing to take less, he should naturally ask for that amount of work \$300. I told him I was entirely satisfied, and I drew my check for \$125, which with the \$175 before paid, made up the \$300. He was made very happy. He said it would take just about ½ of it to pay every debt he owed in the world, and that the rest would enable him to get some clothes, and to help him along into the winter! What a sad spectacle that a man with a College education, and at 70 yrs. of age, should not owe more than sixty two dollars and fifty cents!!"

"He is to retain 30 copies of books and repay himself for some expenses out of the selling of them, and account for the rest."

"I have paid the Printers \$200, and still owe them \$70."

"If you can easily as not do it, you may pay to my account \$250 and we will at a future time, when books are sold adjust the accts. between us...." [TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

7 December 1877: The Exeter News-Letter criticized a negative report by the Boston Journal on the meeting for the Republican State Committee, which apparently focused on the exclusion of reporters from the session. “The exclusion, however, was not an act of hostility to the reporters, but the application of a rule which will commend itself to the good sense of every one. We have no fear that the dissatisfaction of the Journal man will create a rupture in the party, even though some distinguished Republicans followed him and consoled him with indignant remarks at the committee’s action, as he asserts.”

“The session on the whole was a pleasant one, and the result satisfactory. There were some expressions of dissatisfaction with certain acts of Gov. Prescott’s administration, but a strong feeling was manifested in favor of his renomination....”

7 December 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Tuck consulted with Dr. Perry, Sr. about the outlook for Mr. Chandler, without naming names. Perry’s prognosis was gloomy. “So that, as the poor man was not over sagacious in his best days, I see no chance for you to ever trust the office again under his direction.”

Tuck is going to Boston the following day.

Abby Moses and her husband left that afternoon after a lengthy visit that they enjoyed very much, but which Tuck seems to have been less enthusiastic. [TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

11 December 1877: Ellen French (NYC) to Amos Tuck. “Now that Aunt Abby is off, I wonder if you are lonesome, with the weather dull and not much stirring. Your last speaks of going to Biddeford where I [word illegible] the elements met you kindly. We are having rather mild days considering we are within sight of Christmas. The [word illegible] is still green and here and there a vine keeps its summer raiment on.”

“I am rather committed to inviting Geo. Foote and his sister to spend a few days here – am uncertain if they will come as their mother is very feeble. Miss Foote is a cultivated and agreeable woman of forty. I don’t mind Mr. Foote at all.”

“I sent Mrs. Burley a bottle of [two words illegible] which she acknowledged by a lovely box of flowers and a note saying she felt better decidedly from the medicine. Tomorrow I will dispatch you two nice long woolen night shirts with a pocket in each which my chambermaid has made. Any thing of this kind that you are in need of, do let me know.”

“I am glad sister Mary W. has provided you with red stockings. They must be very nice and in your case necessary.”

“Now dear papa, there are much worse things than beards [sp.?], in a step mother. Extra children for instance and since the delicate dream [sp.?] has been brought to light by unbecoming sunlight, we are inclined to worry lest the demure propriety of younger widows should give you [two words illegible] tenderhearted. I trust if there is danger you will have all the side windows boarded up or come to N.Y. or do something – widdies are so dangerous and you are comparatively defenceless. Hadn’t you better come here for a while?”

“Frank went this morning to Washington for a day or two. He can’t persuade or argue Mr. Coe to do any thing and Belmont is just now confined to the house – so that the wheels generally are motionless.”

“Frank thinks Mr. Coe could make important suggestions just now, but Coe is tired. F. meantime is heated with distinguished considerations by Fahnestock, - we were over there last night. I know it is [word illegible] imagined that Fahnestock feels F. is getting ahead. Wm. Taylor was here last week and told Frank his impressions after having heard Frank and Fahnestock talking business – he says Fahnestock is afraid of F. at the same time he can’t but feel that Frank’s ability was recognized by Fahnestock some years ago, when he asked him into J.C. & Co., notwithstanding, a contemptible salary for such a magnificent business was insisted upon.”

“We are all well except that I have been [word illegible] in rheumatism in my right leg the last three days. I limp a good deal, and the Dr. says it is sciatica, tho’ not bad. If it gets worse I shall have a battery [sp.?] attached to my locomotive powers. Julia was down Saturday and she too had a lame back. Their horse also is lame and we resort to hire vehicles, which as a change I supply, glad to spell Eddy and Julia who are so good in every way.”

“Mr. C. is better. Ned however will not feel safe about leaving for any time after this. A cottage at Monmouth instead of Europe will amuse their next summer.”

“I should like very much if we could take a trip thru’ Eng. and Scot. next year, but feel a little inclined to believe that the New Year may bring some new plan in business to F. tho’ nothing appears yet.”

“I shall send tomorrow a letter of 25th Nov. from Abby who seems very happy.”

“I have written a long letter dear papa which I trust finds you in perfect health and happy.”

“Beware of widdies, and with ever abiding love from us all, I am your devoted daughter, Ellen.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

12 December 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Ned’s latest letter confirms Amos’ belief that Chandler will never recover.

“...I am disgusted more than I can express with the way things are going at Washington. Pure cussedness seems in the ascendant. Other parts of the country act as if they hated the honest people of the east, and were determined to make the reputations of all our people to stink as badly as their own. Conklin, and even Edmunds, are paralyzed worse than our [sp?] friend. The former is only in earnest when he sees plunder ahead. In Fact, N. York politicians, from the time of Polk and Van Buren, Seward and Fillmore, Seward and Lincoln, Seward and Andy Johnson, down to Conklin and Hayes, have all shown, that to be patriotic they must be fed upon public plunder, and further, that they rather the country should be damned, than to seem to be saved by anybody but themselves.”

“Yet I am not without hope, strong hope, amounting almost to expectation, that the veto, and an overruling Providence, and further discussion, will carry us over this frightful danger.

Somebody in the Senate ought to denounce Senator Jones, as a thief, to his face; for not over 25 men, of whom he is one of the chief, are bonanza men, and interested in the contemplated robbery. He is attempting legislation in his own behalf; - to get a law passed to enable him to steal \$75 out of everybody's honest 1000, in or out of the country."

"How is it with your house in Paris? Can they do anything to render them more secure against the possible crimes of McMahan's advisers? Still I have confidence, almost, there, as well as at home, that the worst will not be realized."

"P.S. I have invited Dr. Peabody, and John G. Whittier to spend Monday night with me, next; and the latter to attend the Academy Examination on Tuesday, and the Trustees' dinner at Gorham Hall. Miss Harris is cousin of Dr. P., and I intend to induce her and Mrs. Lacy to come to preside at the tea table Monday night." [TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

12 December 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "Yours of yesterday is received, and though I have written to Ned and to Julia, I will add to the surfeit, by a few lines to you. I had loving letters from you all yesterday."

"I have been to Boston to-day, returning at 2 ½. Our Academy Examination is on Tuesday next, with a swell dinner to the Trustees and friends at Gorham Hall. Dr. Peabody has accepted my invitation and I have invited John G. Whittier to spend Monday night with me at our house. As soon as I am sure of my game, I shall invite Miss Harris, who is cousin of Dr. Peabody, and Mrs. Long, and possibly Mrs. Schaff, to come in, to tea, - Miss Harris presiding, - probably; - and shall ask other people to happen in, - a few only, - in the evening, but shall not have evening refreshments. What do you and Julia think of this? Write me suggestions."

"I am widow proof, - ironclad, - still I love most of them, in a mass, none of them more than all the rest. The same is true of maidens."

"I am kept warm, even without Mary Whitchen's footings. I thank you in advance of receipt of the nightgowns. Please consider yourself paternally embraced."

"I found brother John somewhat dispirited, but left him as bright as the boy was, on his return, when the schoolmarm had reluctantly allowed him to givot."

"You loving, trifling, faithful father, Amos Tuck."

[P.S.] "I am glad of the efforts of Frank, for himself and as representative of others, to moderate, if he cannot prevent, the evils contemplated at Washington. He certainly does himself great honor, and I congratulate him and you." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

13 December 1877: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Amos congratulates Ned on his election as director of the New England Society.

"I was likewise pleased to see what Frank said about silver legislation in the Tribune which Julia sent me. I cannot share his confidence, that the thieves will be kept at bay. They have got all sorts of bad diseases, down South, and out west, and it makes them mad that they are not equally stiff, and gaunt, and lame, with themselves. It makes them all the more eager to go ahead, when it is shown how rascally they are."

“If there is deviltry in their conduct, and disgrace before the whole world, and destruction of values, and of all confidences, they rush forward and into it all, the more readily, as they know they are infamous, and disgraced already, and here after the East will be alike unable to plead exemption from a deservedly bad name.”

[P.S.] Tuck is going to Amos Paul’s house that night and then to Laconia [NFI]. He’s going to Boston on Saturday. “I think gold will be higher. Are you all right, if it goes up?”
[TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

18 December 1877: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees’ meeting.

28 December 1877: The Exeter News-Letter called on Republicans “to wake up to the importance of the coming election. The convention is close at hand, and delegates must be chosen. Let them be men of clean hands and earnest Republican conviction. In state matters we have conciliated the Democracy all that is necessary. Now let us conciliate ourselves, one with another, and resolve to pull together for victory. Some very important interests are at stake....”

The editorial underlined that Republican control of the US Senate and the House of Representatives in 1879 could depend on the NH results.

1878

[early January. A notation suggests December 1877 however.]: Ellen French to Amos Tuck. “I feel as if you had been neglected by me since you went home, but I shall direct this to Concord and perhaps you will be glad to see it. Even if you are wrapt in politics [two words illegible] Ned says he has written every [word illegible] and [word illegible] know already there is nothing new with us.”

“I wrote Sarah Lane that day as you requested and have an acknowledgement. Very likely you have very cold weather to go to Concord in and I hardly believe you will go before tomorrow. I hope you will sleep under the Esquimaux dog if you have any difficulty in keeping warm. Our furnace behaves very well – the house is moderately warm throughout, but I have to shut all the ventilators and trust to our open fires for pure air.”

“Nothing new from Abby except the box of knickknacks which are very pretty, but cost considerable before they were rescued from the government officers, who took the liberty of breaking three of the articles, tho’ not seriously.”

“We dined at Ned’s last night with John Munroe, whom I have not seen for six years. He seems a good hearted, noisy big boy, without that elegance of manner which is supposed to cling to a Parisian. It is perhaps the influence of his manners which makes him seem rather conceited. He goes to Boston on Wed’y and after a visit there will be at the Brunswick. He and Ned called on Mr. Chandler yesterday. Nelly said today he quite used up her Father. However he was brisk and feeling strong today. Julia and I have been out making calls today, in spite of the severe cold

and I walked from the Park where Amos has been skating. I hope you will be satisfied with the result of the Convention and not get too excited, so as to keep awake my dear papa.”

“Frank says tell your father, I am glad to see there are some men of his mind in N.H. - so the morning paper says. Bessy takes this note out as she goes and I will close with much love, after sending you my little news and a bad looking scrawl. Glad to hear you are visiting widows and orphans. I begin to believe you are perfectly safe. With love from all your own loving daughter Ellen.”

[P.S.] “Please give regards to Mr. Fogg.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

4 January 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “I am at home, well. It is the most beautiful snow-storm, outside, I ever saw and I go out to call at a few widows, just for fun, before evening, for should I call after dark, I might never get home in such a blinding storm, and have to stay all night, which would be atrocious, as ‘you know yourself.’ I have not seen a widow to lay my jaws to since I came home.”

“Dr. Upham was very hospitable, ‘he and she.’ He says he will come and pass a night with me some time.”

“I enclose a letter from Abby, not of an exciting character.”

“Dea. Moses is dead. 85 yrs. old.”

“Your loving father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

4 January 1878: The Exeter News-Letter prominently commented upon “The Chandler Letter” that had appeared in the previous week. “The great political sensation of the past week has been caused by the publication of a letter of Hon. William E. Chandler addressed to the Republicans of New Hampshire, together with the comments of the press thereon, and the replies thereto of the persons incriminated. In the letter Mr. Chandler charges that Mr. Hayes secured his accession to the Presidency by means of a bargain, in which by the agency of Secretary Sherman, General Garfield and others, he agreed with L.Q.C. Lamar of Mississippi, General Gordon of Georgia, and others of that stamp, that if he were permitted to be declared elected Chief Magistrate, he would upon assuming the functions of the office, withdraw the United States troops from Louisiana and South Carolina....In plain words, the charge of Mr. Chandler is, that Mr. Hayes, in order to secure the Presidency, has sold himself and his position to the Southern Democracy....”

The editorial notes Chandler’s prominence within the party, and grants that his perspective may have some value. The editor defends Hayes, with little conviction, other than to note his valiant war service.

8 January 1878: Preliminary meeting of the State Committee of the Republican Party was held in Concord. The meeting “proved a very stormy one before it closed, which was not until the small hours of the morning. Speeches were made by W.E. Chandler against the Administration, and Messrs. M.W. Tappan, of Bradford; Amos Tuck, of Exeter; O.C. Moore, of Nashua; and ex-

Gov. Harriman, of Concord, in favor of indorsement. Bitter personalities were indulged in. Mr. Chandler, in a caustic manner, reviewed Tappan's course in the Greeley campaign. He made serious charges concerning Mr. Tuck, when the latter was Naval Officer of Boston, years ago. The gentlemen assailed replied, denouncing Chandler with abusive epithets. Mr. Chandler, however, rather lost the sympathy of the meeting by the violence of his remarks. It was made evident that every variety of opinion was represented, and when the meeting adjourned it seemed almost impossible to reconcile them. It turned out however, that the delegates worked off the violence of feelings at this preliminary session, and it proved, as one delegate remarked, 'The thunderstorm that cleared the atmosphere.' [New York Times, 10 January 1878]

9 January 1878: The Republican State Convention convened in Concord, with Charles H. Bell as chairman and Gilman Marston chairman of the resolutions committee. Bell appealed for Republican agreement on party principles, even if there were differences on how to implement those principles. He emphasized three central issues. On the Southern question, all Republicans demanded "the permanent pacification of the South, and the complete protection of its citizens in the enjoyment of all their civil, political, and public rights, upon the basis of the recent amendments to the Constitution of the United States. On the civil service, "no republican questions the duty of purifying it of all improper connection with partisan politics, of employing in it none but honest and competent officers, of requiring of them the highest efficiency, and holding them to strict accountability." Finally, on the currency question, Bell believed that "every hand and voice in this Convention will be raised in support of the resolution often affirmed by the Republicans of the State, that the honor and good faith of the country should be maintained in letter and in spirit by discharging every national liability in 'honest money.'"

The convention voted unanimously to nominate Governor Prescott to run again for the governorship." Gilman Marston then presented the resolutions.

Tuck spoke strongly for the amendment of the resolution condemning the recent vote of the Democratic-controlled House to weaken the government's efforts to resume the gold standard and retire the greenbacks in circulation. His amendment was aimed at highlighting the treachery of many Republican congressmen who voted with the Democrats. Although Tuck's motion received scattered support, stout opposition by O.C. Moore of Nashua and Gilman Marston led the convention to "almost unanimously" reject it. All resolutions were then adopted unanimously. [Exeter News-Letter, 11 January 1878]

10 January 1878: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Tuck is staying at the American House and will return to Exeter the next day or day after. "I came up here to-day to confer with the Editors of the Papers, here resolved to put them in possession of all the facts regarding our victory in N. Hampshire. I have seen the editors of the Advertiser, the Journal and the Globe, and I have not been greeted more cordially in 20 years, than by each and all of them, - never congratulated more heartily in having done something reputable for the country."

“I could not conscientiously abide by the resolution, half or more formed when I wrote you, not to go to Concord: so I got Jacob Tardisle [sp?] to resign and I was appointed in his stead, I went, as you see noted in the papers.”

“You can feel assured of this, and let Julia, Frank and Ellen understand too, that I am greatly pleased with the part I took at Concord. I manifestly did more than any other man to kill Bill Chandler, and to procure the passage of Resolutions approving President Hayes’ administration. There is nothing left of his power of mischief in the Granite State. The thunderstorm of Tuesday night made a clear sky on Wednesday.”

“The delegates were invited to meet the State Central Committee, and a hall full, - say 300, - assembled in a public Hall in White’s Opera House. Sundry people were called upon to speak, and all but one spoke of a general approval of the Administration, when I was called out, Chandler having previously spoken briefly saying he might say something later. It was evident he wanted to draw the fire of the enemy first. Those who spoke before me, M. Tappan and Ex-Gov. Harriman especially, said enough to make Chandler disgusted – angry – but did not fire hot shot. In fact before the meeting, Marston and all the trimmers said we must not go far: - we must make a platform, confined to state issues, and let the President stand on his own legs. Of course I had scouted this, from the first, and so had many others, individually, but not so as to give assurance that timidity would not control the action of the Convention. I made a quiet speech in response to calls, putting in all the good things I could think of, emphatically endorsing the President, pointing out his good record at the Bar, as a Soldier, in Congress, as Governor of Ohio twice, without alluding to Chandler or to his letter, and wound up by a eulogy upon the President, saying, the past with Mr. Hayes is secure, and that neither New Hampshire or the Country could make the record of his past life, other than it is, that of a pure and good man, accomplished, scholarly gentleman, a brave soldier who had shed blood for his country, a citizen eminent for his many virtues, a wise, Christian statesman. If any orator shall ever hereafter address the mourners over the dead Republican Party, he will never speak of wounds inflicted by President Hayes; but he may speak of wounds inflicted by others, and possibly as he raises the shroud and discloses the work of assassins, may say: - ‘Look, in this place ran Cassius’ dagger through. See, what a rent the envious Casca made! Through this, the well beloved Brutus stabbed.’ I commend a consideration of this contingency to some men eminent in the Republican Party.”

“Chandler was soon up again and went on in an angry arraignment of the President, and then took up every man who had spoken before me, attacking them in an insulting manner, disgusting to an extent many present. At last, after I began to doubt whether he would notice any of my remarks, he began on me, in a manner, and with language of insult and accusation, showing clearly I had reached clear through his worthless hide, much more effectually than anybody else. I replied in a way which the audience received with perfect cheers, so that it appeared to me every man was on my side. I stopped in my harangue, till the cheers subsided, and then said, ‘Gentlemen, I thank you for this enthusiastic vindication of my character which was never attacked before this villain, this political tramp, this lobbyist and blackmailer attacked

it.' A Methodist minister sitting near cried out, I have known you for 40 years, and I know that you were always a good man. Then they cheered again. I went on and said more than I can write: - among other things that Chandler's receipts for money paid him by carpet-baggers existed all over the South, and that in the Southwest, when in management of a Railroad there, I had discovered that he had extorted 3-5000\$ out [of] the corporation as a lobbyist."

"He sang out it is not so - I retorted, it is and you know it, and I tell this assembly what the Road was, and by whom the money was paid. The Road was the Atlantic & Pacific, and the money was paid you by Francis B. Hayes. Then they cheered again. I found the audience with me and I fastened on him the term 'Political Tramp,' and everybody says it will stick. The Editors here say they rub it on him on line [?] so as to be sure he is well labelled with this appropriate name. That night and the next morning I was congratulated upon having rubbed him out, and quite a number of perfect strangers congratulated me on the effectual work done. We adjourned at 20 min. before 1 o'clock Tuesday night. On Wednesday, there was no talk of considering Chandler as a power, and everybody was willing, anxious to endorse Hayes, and we did it, as you have seen, and we feel N.H. is vindicated, has achieved honor, and done great good to the Country. I send you a Boston Journal. You will see I offered an amendment. My object was to put myself right. I can't read this over. Yours afftly, Amos Tuck"

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

10 January 1877 [should be dated 1878, given that Anna Byrnes died on 9 January 1878] : Frank French (First National Bank of the City of New York) to Amos Tuck. "Dear sir: I was gratified after all that you went to Concord and had out the contest with Chandler. Perhaps you have extinguished him, as far as national reputation goes. I enclose the view which the Evg Post takes of the service you rendered, and, if the world is rid of a villain you ought to feel recompensed even for so disagreeable piece of business. Chandler's methods are well shown by his comments on your career in the Naval Office, as if that lie had not been effectually swallowed by the entire Concord set."

"I hope the excitement at C. won't unreasonably disturb your peace of mind. When I read Chandler's sneer, I only regretted your voluntary retirement from the councils of the party for a dozen years, which gave a sort of color to the charge. Once in business or politics, it is perhaps a man's duty to stay where he is useful if it does prove disagreeable. You know I fear that Sherman & co. have sold out our party and have no patience even with what they call civil service, but Hayes's methods are so far in advance of Grant's and we have only his firmness between us and unlimited silver, that I believe your practical conclusion to sustain him, is the only one position for us to take, no matter how much we growl, in the family circle."

"We had a rousing Bank meeting yesterday and my influence in a measure, shaped the result - whether we can make it practicable to really resume, little by little, remains to be seen. Ned thinks we cannot. I think it worth while to try, and at least we shall have an influence on public opinion."

"I go to Washington on Monday."

“I am also full of business over the funding of Southern debts: preparing circulars etc. I also enclose our Bk statement. Does it look strong and healthy? Affectionately, F.O. French”

[Marginal note] “Ned’s daughter Mrs. Anna Byrnes of Manchester N.H. died at Washington last night. She expected confinement, but I have no particulars.”

[Marginal note by Amos Tuck French?] “Mrs. Anna Byrnes was the eldest surviving daughter of Edmund and Margaret French of Washington, D.C. Edmund was the youngest son of Daniel French and uncle of F.O.F.”

[Letterhead shows that S.C. Thompson was president of the bank, George F. Baker was cashier, and E. Scofield was assistant cashier.] [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

10 January 1878: William E. Chandler is interviewed by the New York Herald in Boston immediately after participating in the Republican State Convention about the resolution that implicitly criticized President Hayes for his past collusion with the Democrats concerning southern policy. Chandler argued that the resolution had been deliberately ambivalent in order to avoid a bolt by either wing of the party, similar to that led by Mason W. Tappan in favor of Greeley in 1872. Chandler assessed that the vote would be so close in the coming elections that the party could not afford a bolt even by a small number of members.

Chandler avoided detailed responses to questions about his recent letters criticizing the corrupt bargain of 1876 that gave Hayes the presidency. Chandler is throughout clearly hostile toward Hayes. [No mention of any conflict with Tuck.] [Exeter News-Letter, 18 January 1878]

11 January 1878: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. “Knowing you of the two families in N.Y. City will take interest in the effect of the late battle in Concord, I send you extracts from this morning’s Boston papers, - all I have seen.”

“These extracts are fairly representative of the political opinion in N. England.”

“I go home at 12 ½, and shall come back to-morrow and then return to Exeter for Sunday.”

“I have not seen N. York papers yet.”

“Having done my last service for the Repub. Party, I now propose to let the thing run. It got a new base of life at Concord, by squelching the Little Villain and I shall never have a better place to step out.”

“Marston and Bell, I doubt not, are displeased with my defence, and my crushing of Chandler in the caucus, because they did not themselves get glory out of it, and add to popularity serviceable for personal success in some of the chances of the future. For myself the party has no place I would pick up in the street, if I could have it. Let the aspirants fight, I am already safe. Afftly Father.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 January 1878: William E. Chandler (Boston) to Gilman Marston. “My dear General: Thanks for your kindness to me during the Convention. I trust our relations may always continue as agreeable as they now are.”

“At noon on Wednesday W.E. Stevens showed me a memorandum of a resolution which the whole committee had agreed to, for the sake of harmony.”

“I decided not to oppose the resolution, particularly as he said the Committee including O.C. Moore had agreed that a construction should be attempted to be given of endorsing the past acts – the southern policy of the President.”

“When you read the resolution in the Convention it had the word ‘patriotic’ in it which was not in the resolution showed me by Stevens. This was a surprise to me but I decided not to disturb the desire for peace by publicly objecting to the resolution.”

“Mr. Stevens doesn’t explain to me satisfactorily how he happened to show me a resolution different from that reported by you. But I assume that he made a blunder. I make no point against you, I only state how I was misled.”

“But this is the point; if it be accepted in the state that the resolution does endorse the Hayes policy as patriotic we cannot carry the state.”

The outside newspapers say this, and say that I was rebuked etc. I care nothing for [it]. And it is folly to suppose the President himself will be influenced either way by a two line resolution in a New Hampshire Convention. He will only read Tuck’s letter to him about it and that will not influence him much!”

“But I tell you it is of importance that the voters of the state shouldn’t understand that the Convention endorsed Hayes’s policy. If they do we are gone; defeated and buried, never to rise again in your lifetime.”

I put this point before you – wish you would also consult Mr. Bell about it – and perhaps in your own time and in your own way you will be able to let the people know that a Republican victory is not to mean the approval of Hayes’s southern policy. If they think it is to mean that we shall not be able to get our voters to the polls. They will make no open protest but a few thousand of them won’t be there.” Yours truly, Wm. E. Chandler”

[William E. Chandler Papers, Box 8, Folder 24, NHHS]

16 January 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “After you and Frank have read the enclosed letter to the President, if you see no objection, mail it to that high functionary.”

“Tell Frank his letter to me was very comforting, aiding my spirits during the period of reaction. Tell him, too, that the Bank statement is a curiosity, of the right sort, which must astound ‘all beholders.’ I rejoice with him in it.”

“I send enclosed a Bank Statement for you and him, cut from a Missouri paper as a set off to that of ‘the First National,’ which will serve to instruct you and him as to true Banking, as practiced on the frontier, where they know a thing or two.”

“I am deliberating whether I had not better sell my St. Louis Bk. Stock, and thus clear off debt, pretty much. Nous verrons quand je vous verrai.”

[P.S.] “I have interest due from Hardy, of Marion, Ohio, (\$200), not yet at hand. I write him to-day.” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

17 January 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "I mentioned before I went to New York to a few people that I would like to be chosen a delegate to the Concord Convention, as I told you, to be holden on Wednesday. Saturday night they had the Caucus. I could not roll in the gutter of putting myself on an equality with the trimmers, and did not attend, as I have not attended a caucus in ten years. So they did not appoint me. I might get a delegate to resign and have myself appointed, but my present feeling is, that it is a happy escape from getting myself again rolled over and over with the politicians, and be [word unclear] by their abuse, and I feel rather more than reconciled to the circumstances. I now think I shall not go to Concord."

"I send you a postal card, today received, from the Chamber of Commerce Secretary, which notifies me of a 'complication.' I await developments. It may [be] a 'bother' concocted to make me take 6% bonds as does the Ins. Co. in Conn., which owns most of the bond, or it may mean something worse."

"I note what you say of Corbin. Of course we can now think of taking only \$20,000 with the Doctor, - one ½ of them for himself. Can J.M. & Co. carry the \$10,000 for me, which you have, till I can get light on the St. Louis Ch. Com.? I suppose you say yes, considering what has already been said."

"There is no skating here, but a foot of snow over all ice. I am glad Mr. C. is able,, as you say, to skate around his room, with a chair before him, and that his tongue is loose. He ought to be able to amuse John and play with him during his stay in America. I wonder if Widow Munroe thought John could do any good on this side [of the] Jordan. If so, give him slate and pencil and the hardest sum you can think of, and let him try his skill. Don't tell him more than you are obliged to. Mrs. M is probably fool enough to think her fat boy may be of use."

"Am glad Mr. Cobb opens well, and relieves you. I will write Corbin and Dr. U. [Upham?]" [TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

17 January 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Julia Tuck. "My dear Julia: Ned sent me two letters from Germany, rec' this morning, one from Abby, which I herein enclose, and one from Laura at Dresden, which I will enclose to-morrow to Ellen. Tell Ellen I have her loving, interesting letter of yesterday, and I am greatly comforted by the gratification which she and you all seem to feel in performance upon Chandler. He is a viper, and I think it is seldom a viper is crushed under the heel, more effectually than he has been by me. But it was unpleasant, nevertheless, and the reaction decidedly uncomfortable. I think it a good deed for the country to have the assassin destroyed, and I think he is destroyed."

"Tell Ned that until his letter came to-day, I did not apprehend I should be called upon to speak at the Bristow dinner, but as it is within the bounds of possibility, I shall think over a little nonsense to let off if necessary."

"I think I will send Fogg a Postal Card to come down and pass Sunday with me. To you both, In haste your loving father, Amos Tuck." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

18 January 1878: "Hon. Amos Tuck was among the distinguished company present at the complimentary dinner to ex-Secretary Bristow, at the Revere House, Boston, on Friday last." [Exeter News-Letter, 25 January 1878]

18 January 1878: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Tuck wrote on letterhead paper that reads: "Office of George K. Paul & Co. Manufacturers of and Dealers in Wrought Iron Steam and Gas Pipe, Brass, Cast Iron & Malleable Iron Fittings. Nos. 48 & 50 Union St."

"I have called on Mr. Bristow, and been cordially rec'd, meeting at his room several Boston men whom I before knew, and some not before acquainted with. They did not know, generally, that I was to be here, and have made their arrangements for the speaking, and I shall not be called out, I suppose, which will be quite as well, it being honor enough to be invited as a guest, as I find the letter to be construed to be. Every body is complimentary regarding the good work at Concord, and credit me withal I deserve of it."

"I augur unfavorably of Mr. C.'s return of gout, but hope he may weather the cape, though I can not hope that in his dangerous state, he will ever undertake business at the office. Don't you think business is growing worse and worse? It seems to me that we will not reach bottom till the common people content themselves with baked beans, brown bread, fish balls and salt pork, giving up dainty flour, roast beef, and almost everything they can't raise for themselves, off paternal or other acres, tilled by their own hands. My eyes opened upon such a condition of affairs, over a half-century ago, and it seems to me the bottom will not be reached, till the old simplicity returns. If not, the bones will keep breaking, breaking, breaking, till useless men are laid aside in their graves, for they will cling to their vacations till death closes the scene. I trust I shall save from the wreck sufficient for my needs, and for those who specially look to me, and that you and Julia, and Frank and Ellen may do likewise, which I in no way doubt."

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

24 January 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "I intend to leave here Sat. morning for N. York, intending to remain away till warmer weather, - longer or shorter. I will therefore omit writing at length."

"I passed last night in Boston at the home of my friend Horace Hunt, a Dart. Graduate who went with me to the Dinner of the Alumni last eve. at the Revere House. I spoke briefly, - about as well, I guess as any of them. This slip is cut from the Advertiser of this morning. I do not expect to write to-morrow now. Have no letters from any of you for some days."

"As usual I go via Shore line leaving Boston at 1 P.M. Do not meet me at station, if very cold or inconvenient."

In some haste, to you all Affectionately, Amos Tuck."

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

25 January 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "Have I seemed to the dear girl to have neglected her, by failing to write as she expected? I so judge by your letter of yesterday, just

received, and I cannot even wait till I see you, to-morrow night or Sunday, to tell you what violence it would be to my heart of hearts, to neglect my darling Ellen for one moment, or even to seem to do it. The love I bear you, and which I know you bear me, is a solace to me by day and by night, sleeping or waking, and whether I am thinking of you or not. An insupportable all-goneness would be upon me always, if our mutual love were not always as great, and as warm, as can ever be realized between father and daughter; that holy, happy relationship which binds your heart and mine ever and forever together.”

“As I have written Ned, I go to N.Y. to-morrow to arrive as usual at 8, or somewhat before, 7-40 P.M., and expect to see you as early as Sunday.”

“I have been so much on the move, that I have not kept the run of my letters, or hardly known whether I had written last to you or Ned.”

“I noted Frank’s presence in Washington, and was proud of his companionship there, and glad to hear what you said about Mr. Morgan’s dress suit etc. etc.”

“Mr. and Mrs. Lewis are gone to Europe, - to go at once to Madrid for the winter. I have no letter from Germany for nearly a week. I am well and a pretty good sleeper, if careful not to get excited.”

“Your loving father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 February 1878: Amos Tuck (New York City) to George G. Fogg. [on letterhead of John Munroe & Co., Bankers, No. 8 Wall Street] “Your letter removed the doubt as to the expediency of going to Washington. I hardly know what repels me from Washington, but I suspect it is the aversion, natural to me, of being obliged in that city to treat as superiors men I can’t help looking down upon. To go into the Senate Gallery to view the dignity of the Senators, is humiliating to me, who know how small fry most of them are. To go into the House and see the Blatherskites acting as though their dignity were immortal, and they themselves of superior respectability, is offensive in the last degree. This much for the Capitol. At the other end of the Avenue, I get among men who receive me, as from a throne, and this my pride revolts from. So, whenever I am in Washington, I turn and turn and find no rest. So, I shan’t go there at present.”

“I shall want to see much of you here, or on your way back. Ned sends regards and, as ever, I remain your friend, Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

14 February 1878: Tuck attended the 14th annual Dartmouth Alumni dinner in New York City, and gave a short light-hearted speech, which had a serious comment embedded in it. He took pretended umbrage at being introduced as one who was “guilty of going to Congress.” He noted that his time in Congress had been from 1847 to 1854 [sic]. This period was “long anterior to the period when the disbursements of the civil war led to the creation of the ‘machine,’ long before one party had any grounds for accusing the other of corruption in high places....It was also at a time I know when it was possible to be elected to high office without packing a caucus for a nomination, or asking a vote for an election....” [Exeter News-Letter, 22 February 1878]

25 February 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. "Lois Ann is low and may live a few days longer, but I think only a few days. I am to have daily postals, and if she lives, to go there on Sat. next to pass Sunday at John's. She is as happy as a person of sound mind can be upon her death bed. It was a comfort, though a sad one, to be with her twice while there for a ½ hour at each time, and to receive her blessing. She said I had been like a second father to her, and had been a comfort to her, especially, of late, by word and acts. I caressed her and blessed her, and she smiled upon me, through her tears and sick face, like an angel, which she soon will be. Her faith is firm, and she fully believes in the better world, where she will see all her family who have gone before her. She enquired with manifest love for you and Ned and your families. She suffers severely at times. Last night she rested considerably. She longs to be at the end, but fears the last suffering, in relation to which I comforted her, with the assurance that I had no belief whatever that she would suffer half as much as she has already suffered, and that probably it would like going to sleep."

"My friends are numerous enough to feel assured they can nominate me, and I suppose I am committed to being a candidate for nomination. The good people I know will generally go for me. Hoping you are all well, I am your loving Father, Amos Tuck"

[P.S.] "Margaret and Mary do excellently. Mrs. Long invited a few friends to her house at tea, Saturday, me among them. Of course, I could not be there, and at Biddeford too. I shall enquire of Mrs. Schaff how they got along, by and by. Some one calls. Father"

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

27 February 1878: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. On G.K. Paul letterhead. "I am in Boston to-day – nothing new....I see gold was down 1 and 7/8% yesterday. Nobody can guess how the wind will blow next week, or month, or year. I would about as lieu have no gold, long or short, till things settle. But you are pretty competent, more so than I."

"So Chandler has a nip, or did have, of the govt. I will therefore say, of him and you, it is 'Nip & Tuck,' most of the time. Yes, have a talk to some extent at, least, with John."

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

4 March 1878: Amos Tuck (Biddeford) to Edward Tuck. "Lois is manifestly failing every day, and it is unexpected that still holds out. She has not suffered greatly since my arrival on Saturday, except from a sense of extreme fatigue. Yesterday she dosed most of the day, and I did not think she would revive. But she did, and I saw her this morning a little before ten, when she smiled and spoke cheerfully but had changed since Saturday. I gave her your and Ellen's loving messages, and she wished me to assure you both of her loving response."

"I was prevented from going to Exeter this morning, by John's 'thundering' clock, which turned out to be 40 minutes late, for no visible cause, other than deviltry. Your grand-father Nudd once abused his old, long waisted clock for a similar trick, calling it all the ill names known at the Hampton Fish Houses or to the graduates of the First School District in Exeter, and shaking his fist in the old clock's face....." [TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

9 March 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. "Yours of 6th inst. came yesterday. I enclose another letter from Thompson, which is full, and I think, not far from an accurate statement of affairs, and opinions at Marshfield. It has convinced me, John Dearborn and Mr. Fletcher, my neighbor, that we better take the 65%, of Bonds and Coupons. I have no doubt on the subject. If you concur, say so, and I will reply at once to Thompson's letter."

"I am deep in the fight, and can only say most of the decent people are out for me, - almost everyone. Marston and his liars are aroused and another demagogue is running for himself, and will unite with Marston to capture the two vacancies, if possible. I hope strongly to beat the combination."

"Yours truly, Amos Tuck"

"[P.S.] Chandler's anomalous attack on Hayes and Prescott is scattered broadcast about here - rec'd to-day. A.T." [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

9 March 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "...I am making an honorable and gratifying show of strength in the canvass, and am sustained by every clean man in town, almost without exception. But I am opposed with a violence hardly ever before equaled, by the bummers, the hirelings and the ragamuffins. Chandler has sent Cummings here, with money, it is said, in a large quantity, and he is here, lying and abusive and vulgar, as any low-lived ruffian like himself can well be. But with all their abuse, they do not utter a thing, that even themselves believe, and strange to say, thy entirely abandon the Custom House slander, manifestly giving that up, since my flagellation of the 'Tramp' at Concord."

"I do not expect the nomination, but rather that I shall be outvoted, or cheated, by the hirelings. 'Tom' Leavitt is a prince among liars, but he is known to be such, and powerless to hurt my reputation, though not utterly powerless to hurt me vote."

"I rather think it best, both for reputation and comfort, to be voted, or counted down: for I cannot contemplate political occupation in the future with any patience. I am a philosopher on this subject, as I know the best people at all events are with me, and will be beaten if I am. So you may regard me as comfortable, anyhow. Let all the family in New York see this."

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

10 March 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. Yours came Sat. Lois fell asleep at last, quietly, not suffering, as I told her she would not, when I had the sweet privilege of kissing her and caressing her, and strengthening her faith in God's fatherly love and tenderness. It was a happy, Christian death, and happy deliverance, every way, - to her family, as well as to her dear self."

"I am well and quite happy. The hosts of my friends in town are a very gratifying surprise. The clique - machine, - will never hereafter try to count me out, as they have been allowed to do in the past. I think I am stronger than all my adversaries put together. Of course I may be mistaken, but we shall know to-night about the nomination and to-morrow P.M. about

the election. Marston's friends are now asking my friends to go for him, after I am nominated. I will telegraph by to-morrow P.M. to Ned, and he can tell Frank, at the office. If defeated I am not dishonored. Yr. loving father."

[P.S.] "Shall you not be here in a day or two?" [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

12 March 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. "As I telegraphed you I was beaten in the caucus by a combination between the Marston men, and the Sanborn men. Who finally contrived to elect both their men. On the first ballot, votes were thrown for each separately. Sanborn had about 90 votes, Marston 150, and I 184. This vote showed our relative popularity in the caucus. The next vote Sanborn's men, by agreement, left him and supported Marston, giving him 205, while I had 197, and Marston was nominated. The next Ballot the Marston men went in a body for Sanborn, and carried him above me, and he was nominated. The 'Amalgam' [sp.?] was money bro't by Cummings from Chandler at Washington, which fact is notorious. I am satisfied I have more warm friends in Exeter, than any other man, and have nearly all the good men with me. There was cheating at the caucus in taking hired votes from democrats, and by double voting, and if I consent in November next, to another attempt I think there is no doubt at all I can whip them to death. But I care little about the whole matter, and am quite delighted not to be obliged to look forward to spending the month of June in the State House in Concord."

"Let Frank see this, and show it to Ellen for I am at Town Meeting, or ought to be, and besides don't wish to go over this thing again. Of course Julia is to see this too."

"I am glad you give too hopely [sp.?] a hint at business, and have so much cheerfulness in the outlook."

"Yours of yesterday is rec'd. I heard by Ellen only of your taking the Robeson Cottage [sp.?.]"

"In haste lovingly to you all, yr. father, Amos Tuck."

[P.S.] "I am stealing Stickney's stationery."

[The letter has editing marks, apparently by Ned for the purpose of publishing the letter.]

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

14 March 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to George G. Fogg. "Yes, I was defeated, but only by such manifest fraud, by double voting, by boys and hired democrats, at the caucus, as insures to me, if I choose to be a candidate again, (as I shall be, if I live, 'you bet') an election beyond a peradventure. Marston, Sanborn, (an ignorant butcher), and I, ran in the caucus, on the first ballot, each on his own legs. Marston had perhaps 20 votes more than Sanborn, and I had 187, 30 odd votes more than Marston, in spite of frauds manifest and flagrant. I lacked 17 votes only of having more than both, - more than a majority, that is. My friends included nearly all the sober, good men in town. We made only one mistake, that a fatal one, of not demanding that the Check list be used, - of Republican voters. On the second ballot, by the use of money brought from the Tramp' at Washington, by another tramp, Cummings, Sanborn consented, for the payment of his outlays, to run his chances on the succeeding ballot with me, and on the second

ballot to throw all his forces upon Marston, which, with a fresh addition of repeaters and democrats gave him a small majority above me. On the next ballot, it being late, many had gone home, but the repeaters being bold and confident and by hired boys, Sanborn was carried above me, - more ballots being counter than was thrown on the 1st ballot, when all honest voters were present.”

“To prove the manifest fraud more clearly, the vote of the Republicans, together with the whole democratic vote of this town (not less than 160 votes), at the town meeting the next day, did not equal the night before! I had 197 votes on the second ballot.”

“But the machine is smashed. Already Marston and clique know it, and they are trying all their arts to repair it. But I assure you it can’t be done. Marston is on his knees to my friends, eating humble pie, and saying Tuck feels better than he does, which is the first truth he has uttered in weeks.”

“I have taken vengeance upon Bill Morrill, Chairman for 8 yrs. past of our Board of Selectmen. I held him up, before the town, by figures covering the past 10 yrs., and he was nearly speechless at the exhibition of his financiering, and the town, all parties, aghast at his having reduced the debt only to \$4000, though \$53,000 have been appropriated to the purpose since he ran the machine. I have strong suspicion he is a defaulter and a thief, but I shall move cautiously, yet Sarchingly. He looked a culprit, when he tried an explanation. I suggested to him in my speech, that inasmuch as he had been in office, since my remembrance, and with such disastrous results to the town, since he was Selectman, that he had better decline further occupation in the line.”

“I will write Thompson your acceptance, not having a doubt it is best.”

“I feel pretty tired, and so will not accept for next Sunday. I shall be happy if you will come to me to stay over Sunday, - Come -. Yours truly, Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

14 March 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. Amos tells Ned not to worry about his election defeat and the lies published in the Post. “I have convincing prove in almost every body that I meet, that I never before had so many, not half so many, warm, indignant friends in Exeter as at the present time. This is the fact, first, because it is believed by more than half the people of the town, that I was cheated out of the nomination, and second because I skinned Bill Morrill, in open town meeting, yesterday, and ‘hung his hyde up on the collar beams of the barn,’ by exposing his incapacity and believed dishonesty, in managing the finances of the town in the last 7 years, as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. I showed that before he came into office every Board had paid off several thousand dollars of the Town debt, every year, while he had run town in debt every year, although he had handled \$53,000, with which he was directed to pay the debt; and that the town now owes within \$4000 as much as we did, before we put the 53,000 into his hands. I called upon him to explain, and he could not, but looked like a thief caught in robbing a hen’s roost. He has been head devil, under Marston, with Tom Leavitt and few low scoundrels, to defame me, (and have made nothing stick), and deserved the treatment I bestowed upon him. I told him, that, under the circumstances, as he had been in office since my early remembrance,

and had been such a calamity to the Town, as financial man, it would be well for him to consider the expediency of declining a future election. Every body says to-day, (this discussion came off yesterday, the second day of the meetings), that he may choose the alternative of declining, or of being defeated. They beg of me to stay in town till Nov. and accept as a favor to them, any office in their gift, and I intend to be here, if I am alive. I am in good spirits. Truth will get her boots on, after the Chandler lies have gone over the world.....”

“I enclose Moulton’s 2nd call for funds, with a check for the amt.”

“Had you not better let the gold slide now? You can’t; gain much, and may lose what you have gained, or by sudden development of some strange thing, much more.”

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

15 March 1878: Exeter News Letter. “A letter from Concord in the New York Times concerning our state election, in referring to the contest in this town for Representative to the Legislature, says, ‘Mr. Tuck received in town meeting 25 votes, a number so small that it may almost be considered sarcastic.’ In justice to Mr. Tuck, it should be publicly stated that he (Mr. Tuck) refused to sanction any bolt, and that every effort was made in his own behalf to prevent his friends from voting for him. These 25 votes came from his implacable friends.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

15 March 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “Do not worry about my defeat. It is a matter of little consequence, - probably all for the best, - and as I have more friends in Exeter, I feel sure, than ever before, I cannot say I regret not being elected. My friends are as indignant as poor Ned seemed to be, by his letter of the 13th.”

“I am nearly through with ‘German Home Life.’ It discloses to me a new, and I must say, a disagreeable world I am glad Abby and her daughters endure it so well, seeing that it is necessary to endure, in order to get the good they are receiving.”

“Let Julia and Ned have this letter after it has done service at your house, as I cannot have time to write anther to-day.”

“I regret you, and Julia too, cannot see your way clear to come here, but no doubt you have decided wisely. I need not tell you how anxious I am to know you are recovered.”

“I had a good letter from Dolly, which I will send you as soon as I get it back from Florence Tucke.”

“All you write of a European trip I note with utmost interest. If Frank can arrange to do it, I think it likely to affect him as well as you, very favorably, as to health, enabling you both on your return to complete fully a begun improvement.”

“The ground here is settled upon all sandy in high places, there only being spots of deep mud in and around the village., - an unprecedented early opening of the ground.”

“Helen Littlehale died in Rome, two weeks and ½ ago, of typhoid fever. Mr. and Mrs. Gill are here at Gorham Hall.”

“Tell Ned and Julia, and know for yourself, I cannot leave till my house is cleaned for the summer, and Margaret and Mary begin next week. It will not be required to ‘scour’ very much, as Abby scoured it to death before she left, and as I see no prospect of having any of you with me this summer. But I appreciate the loving urgency to go to N. York, and shall go there by the first April - or sooner. To you all, Your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “I go to Boston to-morrow morning.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

21 March 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Edward Tuck. “Yes, the Champaign came safely, and I thought I had acknowledged it. I expected to pay the freight, as I did.”

I assume you rec’d slips of Boston papers, which I sent you some days ago – the Advertiser and Journal. I do not think all the abuse and lies about me have affected my good name, at all, but have simply proved how dangerous and serious an adversary I am, to the Chandlers. It is admitted by all that [Horace S.] Cummings is a dead dog in this Town. Bill Morrill is as crouching as a whit dog to me, and I put him to-day in the street. I do not now believe an opposition be raised against me in this town, that would command 1/8 of the votes. I suspect Morrill is lame on his accounts. I have not yet had time to go over them....”

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

24 March 1878: Ellen French (NYC) to Amos Tuck. “Frank is more comfortable today, tho’ flat on his back and not able to turn at all. Still the soreness diminishes, pulse and temperature all natural, so that there is no fear of rheumatism. He has seen Mr. Martens [sp.?] about the German [sp.?] [word unclear] this morning and the trade is sure of \$5,000,000 to D.G. Linderman [sp.?.]”

“Ned was at Monmouth Beach Saturday with Geo. Baker – he will be here during the day he says by telegraph.”

“Julia is still under treatment, but able to be [at] church, downtown, etc. – making neither condolence nor congratulation practicable.

“Mr. Chandler was at the office yesterday, but [the] same.”

“It is a dark, showery day, very mild. March has been all lamb so far.”

“I have spoken to Mr. Fahnestock about F’s going to Europe. He will favor the plan, tho’ at this stage in affairs, it is not altogether an amusement. I know F. would not live thru’ another attack. Mr. Shy says this morning there is a good deal to be done abroad, in order to build up exchange business and wants F. to go for the benefit of the bank.”

“I wonder what you are doing, papa.”

“Last week I tho’t of going to Ex. the first of Ap, now it is not so sure if I get thru at all, as Ned and I both think as soon as F. can bear a possible slight sea sickness he had better be off, before getting involved in more business affairs.”

“I hope you are well and sleeping well – think about coming here soon for your own sake and ours. F. will have to be and sit here for weeks. Ever your loving daughter, Ellen.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

27 March 1878: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Edward Tuck. Tuck is writing on the letterhead of George D. Otis & Co., General Forwarders, No. 10 Chatham St.

“Send your letters hereafter to me here, for I said I have to be here every day, indefinitely, to work on a bad job. G.K.P. & Co. – Jerry P. has been a fool and something of a knave, and Amos Paul and I have had him withdrawn to-day, and are to wind up the concern, and get rid of what loss we can. I shall close my house in Exeter Monday morning, and come here. Direct my letters to ‘P.O. Box 2644 Boston. Tell Ellen etc. I don’t know the loss, but if I get out with 4 to \$5000 loss, I shall be content. But I can lose all I shall lose, and not be much disappointed over apprehensions long felt. I began 3 yrs. ago to stir up Amos Paul, and he now acknowledges he was all to blame for not doing then what was needful. I am to blame for not fighting my way through....” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 2]

29 March 1878: Ellen French (NYC) to Amos Tuck. “Ned bro’t in your letter to him yesterday in which you explain how [two names illegible] & Co. now stand and the coming collapse which you advised so long ago. I am very sorry for your loss as you know G [sp.?] is disheartening for you and I wish you had been able to get out yourself when your convictions were of a downfall.

“I hope you are really able to sleep, meanwhile you must eat well and regularly to keep up strength and repair the waste of a discouraging business – you will require more than if you were occupied in hopeful plans.”

“Today I have your letter asking my opinion of breaking up.”

“As you say, Ned can hardly hope to leave home, whether Mr. C. be alive or otherwise. He (Mr. C.) is so far beyond doing business, that Ned finds him more of a complication when at No. 9, that at 37th St. only yesterday Ned and Julia were bemoaning that they must stay in N.Y. indefinitely.”

We have engaged passage on the Celtic for 2nd May, trusting to Frank’s getting perfectly well before that – that is five weeks from yesterday and I have all I can do to get ready so that it would be possible for me to get to Exeter before then. Ned will have a luxurious house at Monmouth, with three horses and a cow and carriages to make a comfortable turnout. They hope and expect you to stay there all that you can. Under all these circumstances, it strikes me as wise for you to shut your house this summer. You will be away a great deal even if it is open and servants cannot keep [it] first class and have so much leisure time to gossip in as Margate and Mary must have. Jim can keep it trimmed up, to look inviting and be ready for you. What will you do with the horse? How would it work to bring him on to Monmouth for the season? He would be well groomed and properly fed under Luke’s care.”

“Without making any provision for Margaret’s return to you, I don’t doubt she would prefer her old place to any other, so if you wanted her she would come for two, three or six months as you might in future require her.”

“Bessy sends you her love and says tell grandpa not on any account to sell that horse for I want to go there next fall and have a good time driving round. Possibly if you think of taking him to Monmouth, we could take him off your hands for the winter months.”

“If you close, tell Margaret to take off every blanket and air it on the line, fold nicely and put them in two of the chests in the attic with a large piece green camphor in each chest, then to move the chests into closet in the attic. Also to [word illegible] up the dog skin in a sheet with a piece of camphor and put in the same closet – to leave a sheet spread over each bed, and to fold the counterpanes, and leave on a sheet in the upper entry closet.”

“Be sure papa, to know before you shut up where all your dinner clothes are and have a drawer in the dressing room with a piece of camphor into which you can put heavy flannels and heavy pantaloons. You winter overcoat ought to be laid away in a drawer and the carriage blankets also. It would be better for Margaret to have them in that attic closet, and for you to take the key. I think of nothing else how to be taken care of. Of course Jim will carefully cover the carriages and occasionally take them out to dust and beat the cushions.”

“Before long I hope you will be able to extricate yourself in Boston, so as to come here for a while before I go. Frank is better every day but not yet able to be out of bed even to sit up for a few moments. I am quite well and sleep all the time I can. I am not now disturbed by Frank.”

“Bessy has had a cold – is better today. I shall think of you much of the time and I wish I could take the labor off you of shutting up. I suppose you will put the silver in the bank. You had better have all the table linen put together in a trunk and take the key yourself.”

“Ever your loving daughter, Ellen.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

April 1878: Exeter property tax records show Tuck was assessed for his house (\$9000), the Yeaton & Moses land (\$300), another house (\$100), and Doomage (10,000). This appears to be the highest assessment he ever received. [Exeter Town Clerk]

25 April 1878: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. “Some days passed after the 4th of April, before it occurred to me to send you your birth-day benediction. I was sorry for the omission, which is excusable only on account of the hot water which this Boston business soused me into, but I trust you cannot believe that in this year of Grace., there is less benediction inn my heart, upon you and upon yours, than in any former year, when I have given more prompt expression to the same. I want you, in sunshine and shade, in summer and winter, on land and on sea, in joy and in sorrow, in life and in death, always fully to understand and to know, that your loving father now feels, always did feel, and always will feel, that one of the very greatest joys of his life, has always been his daughter, born in Old Hampton on the 4th of April 1838. If a father can bless a daughter, you have my blessing. A model daughter, a model sister, wife and mother, I know my daughter Ellen to be, equal to any exigency, qualified for the highest domestic and social position, the blessing and the blest, of father, brother, sister, husband, children, and of all who know her truly. Receive, then, the warm embrace of your loving Father.”

“I have a letter from Ned this morning, worthy of his good heart. He, and I fear you too, think too seriously of the annoyances I have had in the Boston business. But you must not think it reaches the quick, or needs to shorten life, or materially to lessen happiness.”

“I have read with interest in the newspapers the contract of the Secretary with the Bankers, but know nothing, and of course shall not be inquisitive.”

“With love to husband and children, your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “I now hope to go to N. York by train on Monday next.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

11 May 1878: Ellen French (Steamer Republic) to Amos Tuck. “It is Saturday afternoon and we hope to be in Queenstown tomorrow noon. We are late, with very rough weather since Tuesday. Wednesday we were pitched and rolled in every direction. The passage has been rather remarkable for its roughness. No end of crockery has been broken and two spars have been snapped and taken down. The steamer has travelled on beautifully in spite of wind and wave – our confidence has not been shaken one bit. We have made good sailors. Frank has not been ill at all, but has steadily gained since we left, but does not look as well as he was. It has been a good thing that Jacland [sp.?] has not been with us since it has kept his mind entirely away from New York. John Townshend took cold and had a lame back for a few days. His wife and Mary have been more or less sick all the way.”

“Our staterooms are not nice – far forward very damp and smelling abominably - something from the cargo has nearly choked us at night. A blanket has been canopied over us for a night or two, the moisture was so penetrating. We shall be truly thankful to see land. There are a number of very nice Englishmen on board – all very civil and attentive. One of them, a Mr. Wood, insists on our stopping long enough in Chester to visit his house and make excursions into Wales. This will occupy a week. We shall not stop in Liverpool but go direct to Chester to dry and air our things, wash and dress ourselves like Christians. Even with our bad passage I would come again gladly. I wanted very much to bring you with us on that Thursday, but you would not have enjoyed the table – it is decidedly horrid in quality, but a great profusion of pastrys and trash. I shall write to Julia now. I wish more than any thing that we could know just how you are – if you went to Exeter last Monday and how your business is progressing.”

“We shall look for letters in a few days. We are all well tho’ weather beaten. The Tamas [sp.?] has been useful but is truly a nasty dog [sp.?]. We all send our love dear papa and I trust you won’t worry about us. Let us know often how you are. Your loving daughter, Ellen.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

14 May 1878: Ellen French (Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool) to Amos Tuck. “We reached Queenstown early Saturday morning. Had a rainy voyage from there to Liverpool. It rained in torrents as we were transferred by tug from steamer to dock.”

“We were very thankful to be on land once more, tho’ we made pleasant friends on board and on the whole had a jolly time.”

“We reached the hotel at about 9 yesterday (Monday) – found pleasant rooms ready – Bessy is rooming with one of the young ladies, Amos with Larry Townsend. Within an hour of our arrival, Mrs. White and her daughter had found us out – you remember they sailed by Scythia the day before us – they too had a stormy journey. Mr. Garland came in also – he joins our party tomorrow – has gone today to Manchester.”

“Frank is lively as a cricket, tho’ not able to keep up without resting frequently. We hear nothing from Abby as I hoped via London, but rec’d letters from Melville and others in London – all very cordial. We have telegraphed Abby that we shall be in Leamington on Sat’y and expect to hear what are her plans by wire by tomorrow morning.”

“We had nine heavy showers yesterday and today so far two. An immediate investment in umbrellas was necessary. We ladies have not been out – have spent our time resting and unpacking a little as well as drying our sea clothes and shoes, which were all musty and wet. Our berths were so damp that we must have taken some cold in our bones, for we have ached from head to foot. I have one lame leg, bruise by pitching from the saloon sofa against an iron fender, on our stormiest day, but nothing serious. Every thing is a joke [sp.?] while we are all well and have nothing to do, but amuse ourselves.”

“I think of you so often that it seems all the time. It must be at this hour, about eight with you and I imagine you just settling in your desk at 50 Union [sp.?] St. I shall write by every mail if only a note. Frank is out, the rest down stairs. With love from all, your most loving daughter, Ellen.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

19 May 1878: Ellen French (Leamington) to Amos Tuck. “We have accomplished our first week in England and it seems six, we have seen so much. From Liverpool on Wednesday, we went to Conway, leaving our trunks at Chester as we passed. At Liverpool we dried all our sea clothes and packed two trunks to repose there till our return. Mr. Wood, our fellow English traveler who is mayor of Conway met us at the station, showed us over the famous castle, which is a complete ruin, dating from 1284. We then walked to his house, overlooking the Irish Sea – a new house built entirely of our pitch pine. He has fine pictures and china and the oldest of furniture. We saw of his family, his brother, Sir George, who was knighted a few years ago and sister-in-law. We had an elegant profuse lunch served at one o’clock and tea at four – the best of Burgundy and tea with each. Mr. Wood is a bachelor of fifty and gouty – he has a liking for Americans, as far back as Washington, whose bronze image on horse-back stands in his vestibule.”

“Our party of thirteen let C. at five o’clk for Bethod-y-coed a small Welsh town between the mountains, where we found the Royal Oak Hotel, a most cosy resting place till the noon of next day. Amos’ asthma was tested there thoroughly. Our rooms almost overhung a small river yet we slept comfortably. We made excursions in the neighborhood the next forenoon and after lunch packed in open wagons and started for Carnarvon sixteen miles off round Mt. Snowden, the pride of North Wales. It was showery as we left but covered with rubber cloaks and capes and of course our umbrellas, we took no alarm. Before going five miles, a storm came down on

us like a whirl wind. It was hard to hold umbrellas and the rain rolled down over our shoulders into the bottom of the wagon making puddles for our feet. We were jolly nonetheless from Mr. Dutton of 70 to Bessy in her teens. Amos was brave and took a slight cold. We took the cars at Llanberis, where the rain held off and reached Carnarvon in time for dinner. We were soaked in spots and every wrap drenched. The Hotel Royal is old and poorly kept, being in such a secluded corner of creation we hardly expected more.”

“The wind howled and the rooks squawked all night – my first introduction to a rookery and an interesting nuisance only tolerable for one night. Next morning we explored Carnarvon Castle, well preserved considering it was occupied in 600 [three words illegible] room in which the first Prince of Wales was born. Above all associations with history the charm to me was the [word illegible] the arches and towers covered with old ivy and the niches filled up with beautiful wild flowers. We saw a Welsh wedding party, took a drive round the walls of the town, lunched and left for Chester that afternoon. Our bones ached – none but the gentleman investigated the Cathedral that night. The hotel was dingy with an odor, suggestive of its having been race week – the beds were good, likewise our appetites. Saturday morning we saw the Cathedral, my first – a wedding party entered while we were there, preceded by deans, canons and sub canons. The English women are as plain as I expected to find them and dress abominably. We bought souvenirs in the old curiosity shop and left Chester, without risking so long a stay as we wished. John Townsend must be in London tomorrow, 20th, which hurried us on to this point, where he leaves his family to Garland and Frank, while he goes to Spain for three weeks.”

“We find England cold – this could be a March day in America. To my delight, Julia’s letter met me at the breakfast table. I should have rec’d it earlier and in Liverpool where Mrs. Townsend rec’d Eddie’s by the same mail. I have two letters from Abby. She does not want the expense of travelling – it takes too much thought as well. I am anxious to get to her, and know how she is. Her experience in Germany has not improved her health, I fear. After a time we shall get on the continent making a short stay in Paris. I am glad Laura has at last left [word illegible]. That climate is far too damp for any person at all given to rheumatism.”

“From here we shall take easy excursions – probably tomorrow to Kenilworth. The children are very happy. The society of girls older than herself improves Bessy. Amos finds every thing needful in Harry Townsend. We shall look daily for letters from our dear ones. On Tuesday I shall write Julia, just one week from my last to her. This is my second to you. May it find you well and care for. Give my love to Nell and Loo, Mrs. Buzell, Mrs. Cobbs and all the neighbors. We can hardly realize you are having warm sunny days, nonetheless the vivid green about us and the heavy foliage gives us pictures such as we seldom see in America. Frank is off walking and is well. He tires easily and then feels weak thro’ his bowels.”

“May heaven bless you dear papa, and keep you from being lonely. We all send an abundance of love. Your affectionate daughter, Ellen.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

23 May 1878: Ellen French (Leamington) to Abby Frye. "We reached here last Saturday very tired and used up. Frank and Garland [Gailand?] were as fresh as new. J.B.T. [John B. Townsend?] started for Spain Monday morning leaving the T party on our own hands [sp.?] – they all are exacting and Lin [sp.?), I must say, is a perfect lady – as her back and mine are alike in worthlessness, we agree [word illegible] on plans. Frank will go tomorrow with G. to London to spend the night and look for lodgings probably at some hotel, which we possible may occupy some time next week. We have been to Warwick, seen the Castle and Cathedral, to Kenilworth and Stoneleigh, where we drove thro' ten miles of park scattered with deer and sheep, as well as seeing the pictures at the Abbey – Vandykes, Reynolds, Carrasci [sp.?) and hosts of others – Guido, Rembrandt, and Rubens. I enjoyed the pictures and wanted to see the hounds, but they were feeding. We have Stratford and Coventry yet to see, tho' F. has been there. Bess an Amos are very happy – two ponies have been found and the boys make their excursions on horseback – a pony phaeton also which Bess takes with one of the girls."

"English country life is well worth seeing. As I am not strong I feel in no hurry to go to London, where we may have some attention paid us, from letters which F. bro't over from Seligman and Belmont."

"I read your welcome letter on Monday – am glad you have so clear an idea of what you will do this summer and so far as we are concerned, you have taken the right course. You would suffer from the cold here, for we all do. I have worn my fur cloak every where and shivered even then. After an entire season of rain you would swear at the cloudy sky and showers which [phrase illegible]. It is impossible to tell when till later, but don't alter your plans. We have had in New York very strong feeling against your remaining in Dresden so long, in such a fiendish climate, but haven't said much, as there is such a party of you to talk plans over among yourselves. As soon as you have made a start from there, I can venture to tell you, that your first duty is to cure Laura's trouble. Go to a dry climate if need be, out of Germany altogether, but high land, there you may also get rid of some of your rheumatism. No languages are worth increasing physical ailments to you."

"If Laura should see Mary Wells she would realize to what an evil catarrh may reduce her. I warn you act without reference to education in this matter. Go where there are no winds, for wind always increases cold – avoid Rome and most of Italy. Some towns in southern France are very bad, others are mild. I hope the coast will benefit her." From what you have written of Germany, nothing would induce me to take myself or family there – Carlsbad or elsewhere. Father is beginning to talk of your going home, but I doubt the wisdom of you ever thinking of returning at present. Popsy is changeable and fond [sp.?) of the utmost grief. You have young people to be responsible for and Exeter is a tomb – do consider it all before you plan to bury yourself. Popsy has the smallest of bills [sp.?) and can go to Boston and New York as he likes [three words illegible]."

"You must have rec'd my letter about the linen. I am perfectly satisfied with what you have selected. When I am in London I shall buy your [word illegible] and crape. Later on I will tell you what to do with the linen and where to direct it. I wish you would not wear so much

crape, dear and I am sure our girls would rather you would not. I don't understand if you want the 4 yards cut for two veils, tho' I suppose you must intend it so, and shall wait till you write again. I have some shopping to do and shall do yours with the greatest pleasure. Do the girls want anything. I wish we had Nell here – she would be so happy and I always enjoy having her visit us. She and Bess would get along splendidly – the dear child has borne Germany heroically”

“Now about Miss Upham. I enclose Mr. Corbin's letter. You will have a letter about this time from Mrs. Upham and I trust before you have had time to answer it, you will have had my caution – there is some hocus pocus in her being left over here alone with strangers. I imagine she has had [word illegible] disgraceful affair with a man, perhaps low in character, or a married villain. At any rate, without misunderstanding the circumstances of her being in this country, the Uphams are to send her with us, and after she is once placid, we are to take her in all directions and have the [word illegible] of her finances – which for our own blood F. and I would cheerfully do. If you take her with you, stay longer or shorter, as you may, you will have her along and never get rid of her. I do not want it said that she is travelling with you. You must have an aid not a responsibility if you add to your own party and Frank's health is in such a state, that in addition to a party of 12 already, it isn't wise for him to take the case of a girl, who is not a relation and to whom, in a measure he must be formally courteous. Then she would room and sleep with Bess and I will not consent to taking any one to room with my girl who had been misbehaving. You of course would feel exactly as I do. Frank will to-day write to Mr. Corbin and will say that as your health is [word illegible], he does not think it wise for you to take the care of another young lady. With that to back you, you can write what you like to Mrs. U. I should think that your uncertainty of plans would be excuse enough. The Uphams have made a bold set upon us and even before we read Mr. C.'s letter we were convinced there was some thing amiss. If they can't keep her with propriety in America, I wouldn't take the weight upon my hands in Europe. Even father, evidently, is kept in the dark, which isn't honest. I decline therefore to serve them.”

“Poor Julia is having a hard time. She went to Dr. Emmet [sp.?], because she was having constant pain in her ovaries. He has tried to work the womb into place but said it was very difficult having been tilted forward for some years. I am sure Dr. See [Tee?] hasn't found out the trouble when he calls it a neuralgia. She wrote me, he had said she must come to Europe and Eddy too. Ned has written F. a letter and I know he is blue. He has all the weight at the office. Mr. C. is blandly unconscious of his being a dead man, practically, and worse yet, for he hinders Ned, very much. If he would retire 'or something', Ned could get a partner and he was [word illegible] a little of taking in J.P.T. [John P. Townsend?] who is ambitious of being a banker – that is a secret. Ned also feels, that he must hurry home to see Julia and the care will wear him out. Julia writes that she misses me, and I know she must, for never a day dawned that she didn't come own, or if she was sick, I knew it was my duty to go up. They must be busy now getting ready for the Cottage at Monmouth – that will recuperate Ned, too.”

“I have a letter from Popsy today. He had been to tea at Prof. Perkin’s [sp.?]. I am to write to him and Julia and Mrs. Upham, also to the daughter if need be. Mr. Gailand is to sail for home a week from Saturday...” [A portion of the letter has been cleanly torn away – about three lines.]

“You may send the linen to McCulloch in London where we shall probably have various things awaiting us from time to time. All express charge to me and report. I am somewhat anxious about Frank – he is not yet himself and you needn’t be surprised if you hear he is sick at any time. His digestion is weak and affects his bowels, giving him gripes. I don’t altogether believe the English climate the best for him – so damp and rainy.”

“Good bye dear – our best love to you all. If we were all well and hearty, how easy it would be to take care of every thing else. If you make any change, let us know. Direct to McC. As you have for the next three weeks. Then we may get to the continent. I hope you will enjoy the stops you make, and don’t get too tired. What a luxury the sun will be to you. Never mind the German language. I shall be anxious to hear you are improving. Frank sends love. Your ever affectionate sister, Ellen.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 May 1878: Ellen French (Leamington) to Amos Tuck. “Your precious letters written the 4th and 9th came here, within two days of each other. I was thankful to get them and know you were at home, well and invited out. We are enjoying the peep at country homes very much. We now begin to get over our fatigue. When I came my flesh and bones were sore from head to foot, so that it hurt so that it hurt me to lie on the hard beds. We have done most of our sightseeing and shall go to Oxford on Monday, perhaps.”

“This morning Frank and Gailand [Garland?] with the three Duttons went up to London. F. will return at 8.30 and ordered a hot supper by telegram, so I fancy he is feeling pretty well. I am not free of anxiety about him. He is much better when not taking too much exercise and eating moderately. His cups are very limited. He would not have gone to L. today except that Garland was crazy to have him as an escort. G. will sail on the 1st – he is much improved.”

“I enclose a letter from Mr. Corbin, which you will see must have influenced us to keep out of any added care. Whatever may have been the complications, it certainly is a queer one, which requires a girl to be dropt in a foreign land, dependent on strangers when she has a mother or a father living. Such a want of judgment would give cause for condemning the parents – more than the child. I have written Mrs. U. a non committal note, telling her I will write and see her daughter as soon as possible and confer with her about Abby’s leaving Germany, with the probability of not returning, assuming that she is anxious to learn German. I have done the best I could. Before Mr. C.’s letter came, I imagined there was some thing crooked – certainly I never heard of such management and want of pride. If you know what the trouble is, do write me. My hope is to get out of the case altogether on Bessy’s account, also to avoid having Abby responsible for her. She and Nelly would not be good companions and it would harass Abby to be a protector to another untrained [sp.?] female. I should hardly think it best to give Dr. U. any cause to suppose we have any feeling beyond grief, at not being able to carry his daughter all

over the continent.. The only way for her is to go back with Mr. Corbin. Frank has answered Mr. C.'s letter and it will result in his (C.'s) taking the charge. F. puts the uncertainty of our plans as cause for not asking with us. I think you will say we are right."

"Julia's illness makes me anxious – it is discouraging for her and for Ned, who already has too much to think of. I hope he will gradually propose the Chandler [word illegible] for a change. A hint now and then would have a healthy effect."

"The business at the Bank seems splendid. I am very much pleased at all the nice things you tell me, also at your being taken 'into the bosom' of them as you were. Frank is delighted with his letters of introduction, but shows less enthusiasm about every thing than before he was sick. It will take months of care to make him fresh, and I trust Ned will take warning not to presume on his strength as Frank has. After once breaking down, thorough health thorough health isn't possible."

"I wrote Julia a very long letter, intended also for you. Keep well dear Papa and have as good a time as you can. No doubt the place looks lovely just now with its green dress on. With love from us all, [word illegible] I am with you in spirit and often follow you up to Boston, as we sit here at lunch. Ever your loving daughter, Ellen." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

26 May 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French [envelope addressed to Frank French, care McCulloch & Co., Bankers 41 Lombard St., London]. "Your first letter has not been in a hurry to arrive. I rec'd it last eve., on my return from Boston at 5 ½, by which train it had come on from N.Y. I now receive the World, at 5 ½ on the same day of its publication, by which, you see, we are nearer N.Y. by 12 hours than formerly. Without this new speed, I should not have had your letter till to-morrow."

"Well, you did have a rough time of it, and I rejoice, that so far as you disclosed matters, you seem to have all been unrepentant of taking passage for the other side. I had the most anxiety about Frank, because of his miserable condition on leaving, and consequently am most relieved in your being able to say he was in such favorable condition at the time of your letter, that none of you were deathly sick, though, designedly, or undesignedly, [you] omit to say whether you or the children were sick, only saying Frank was not. However, I shall soon hear from Ned more truth, probably. It was abominable that you should have had such offensive state rooms, especially as you paid for the best. They impressed me as being too far forward, but I said nothing. That they should have required an awning to protect you, was sad. But thanks to Heaven, that you all lived through it, without serious damage."

"I am well, and have been pursuing my business of daily trips to Boston with daily labor, no less objectionable than before you left. In truth, I find it less tedious as I get warmed up in the harness, and gradually gather in the loose threads, and protect myself against further loss."

"It is delightful weather at this hour, (1 ½ P.M.), the birds chirping responsively, the sun shining gloriously, upon earth, trees and shrubs, this forenoon refreshed by a copious rain, and yesterday thoroughly wet by still greater rain. It is one of those days, when the world seems eloquent with grateful praise to the giver of all good. But yet we had a calamity in weather, only

yesterday; in the most abundant hail shower ever known in Exeter. It was at 4 P.M. I was in Boston, returning at 5 ½, when the hail which had rolled off the bank by the back steps was still an inch thick, and could have been gathered up in pails full. Flowers were nearly destroyed, and my big vases had taken their full share, having been put out, without my orders, an hour or two before the shower. However, they do not to-day seem greatly damaged, and it may be that sister Buzell's treasures are not so ruined as she feared."

"Joshua Getchell is dead, - of no disease, except worryment, mortification, probably remorse. His failure involved many in loss. The Irish say the dead have appeared to him - ghosts, Margaret says, - especially of a poor Irish woman who lost her \$1000 and died in consequence, buried at the town's expense. The truth is, he became so nervous he dared not be alone, or in the dark, and did think he saw spirits. Sad indeed, in any view. Poor Dr. Palmer is dead, - of congestion of lungs and kidney difficulty. Abby will feel this very sorely. Mrs. Dea. Moses is also gone. You did not know her, and of course have no interest in the event, except as an occurrence in this town. Her husband died a few months ago. Mrs. Long goes this week to visit Mrs. Sawyer at Utica for a few days."

"Our neighbors are all in good case. I like to keep the run of all my tribe. Capt. Chadwick said in the cars the other day, that Mrs. French and Mrs. Frye were splendid women, of whom I might well be proud. I acknowledged the charge and 'retaliated' upon his wife, as one of similar magnificence of stature with you."

"Frank, and consequently you, must be in some glee over the Syndicate operations, of which he probably has more knowledge than I, but which are a wonderful success. Ned remarked in a letter to me, that the First National had one more in govts. lately, than ever before in the same time. Probably Mr. Baker told him, as he and B. seem to be quite intimate. I rejoice that Frank has no occasion to be other than joyous over his finances. It is a sad pity that Julia is so miserable. I am growing anxious about her and have written Ned to cease all mechanical treatments. She wrote you two days ago, in bed, in pencil, and you know particulars better than I. If she grows any worse, I must go on next Saturday and see her and Ned."

"I imagine you to-day, at Leamington, in the Garden of England. But if there, or even at Stratford, close by, you cannot find a balmier or more beautiful out-look, or more fascinating scene, than that which lies before me, as sitting at my library table, with both doors open, I look out, under the shady trees, which break the sun's rays, towards Mrs. Lowe's house, the robins caroling forth their halleluiahs, to enliven the view. But however that may be, I rejoice in the thought you are well and happy, all of you together, enjoying the novelty and delights of seeing our father land, for the first time, under circumstances of fortune, family and condition, seldom equaled. That husband, wife and children, can, at your ages, and that of your children, all together, be leisurely drinking of the pleasures, with the justifiable belief that you have earned the right to enjoy them all, is a pleasure to you to realize, and a pleasure to me to contemplate, whom, to you all, are ever your loving father, Amos Tuck."

[P.S.] 'Boston, Monday May 27th - I have your to me dated the 14th inst. at Liverpool, and am delighted at the further account good account, repeated in your letter to Julia and ned,

forwarded to me by the same mail which brought yours. It was beyond hope, aver, that you would all prove good sailors. I trust your lameness is no more. With renewed assurances, your loving father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

18 June 1878: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees’ meeting.

21 June 1878: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. “I have little to write, as I go along to Boston daily, and being in good health. I take a ride every evening, when it is pleasant, before tea, with some of our neighbors; two nights ago, with Mrs. Cobbs and Sarah, (for which Mrs. Long pronounces me a saint), and last night with Ellen Gordon, for which I know you will not pronounce me a saint. She is just now in delight, because her brother has presented her with a new Piano, having sold her old one for \$60. Mary is en route for home, and I am hoping Ellen will recreate on your \$20, after Mary arrives. She says she cannot before, - hardly after.”

“The town of Exeter has been convulsed for a week by Commencement agitations in the Acad. and Seminary, - dances almost all night for two nights, one by the Boys at the Town Hall, with elegant supper, the other, by the girls at Seminary Hall.”

“The Academy have put Gorham Hall in excellent condition, water, bath rooms and all, and rented it to Mr. Dumas for 3 years; a great event for the respectability of Exeter.”

“Congress has adjourned, with joy to all people, - and sensible relief to the Country. It was a curse to the whole land. If you find a Kaiser, lying round loose, not assassinated, a Dictator, box him up, and send him over. I am not sure that a fortune could not be made on such an importation.”

“I go home at 12 ½, (I hope), to take a ride to the Beach.”

“I am glad to know that Julia is substantially better.”

“Ned just informs me you were not well in London and were going to Germany. I can’t tell you how sorry I shall be if you are much troubled. I trust your family and Abby’s will soon be in the same place. I had an interesting letter from Abby yesterday, written at Eisenach. To you all, Your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[P.S.] “I am still in the dark about Miss Upham and anxious to know you are all [word illegible.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

28 June 1878: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. I have been greatly distressed that you are one wing-broken, by over work. I had a letter, jointly and severally, written by those dear children, Amos and Bessie, on the day of your leaving London, and Ned has sent me a letter of the 14th inst. written to Ned at Paris, by Frank. I hope, ere this, you are with Abby at Shwalback, and if not well, rapidly improving.”

“I am well. The weather is hot – beach season has begun, our place at Exeter, is a little Paradise, (on the outside), with its abundant roses, overflowing vases, and clean cut lawn. I go home to-day at 12 ½, to ride this P.M. to the Beach, and I only write to to-day to tell you I have you constantly in mind.”

“Ned says Baker says, that the Bank’s Washington interests are made as good as cash, and that the 1st National is still on the upward flight. ‘Lucky dogs,’ them 1st Nat. Boys.”

“I shall answer Frank’s letter next time I write.”

“To you all, your loving father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

17 July 1878: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Frank French. “I hardly believe this will find you at Swalback, yet as I have intended to address my next letter to you, I do so, though I shall contrive to have it so directed, that it will be opened and read by others, if not by you. An intimation came from Ellen, that you would go to London, after a week or two at S., or that you were likely to go there, while she was passing the time with the children, and Abby and family, at S. I suppose you will feel nearer your castle at London, than you can possibly feel elsewhere. I hope, however, you will get all the benefit possible, from a feeling of entire emancipation from business during all your time abroad. You have had a ‘bushel of corn’ on your back for near 20 years, without putting it down to rest, and now you better let it lie on the ground for a good long time, and frisk about to your heart’s content.”

“Since writing the above, I have been interrupted for 2 hours, and must now hurry to an end, to get ready to go to N. York to-night, en route to Frederick, Maryland, where Geo. R. Paul & Co. expect to get a job to put in Gas Works, out of which to make something towards covering losses consequent upon Jerry Parker’s unfaithfulness and incapacity.”

“Last Saturday and Sunday I was at Boars Head, in part for sea air, in part to see Minister Noyes, home from Paris. He is exhilarated over his triumph, as he feels it is, over the Potter Committee. He gave me some of Hayes’ views, in the line of depriving Conkling of a Commissary department, at the Govt’s expense, while he is warring against the administration. Noyes expressed emphatically his wish to see you and Ellen in Paris before your return to America, as well as to see Abby and her family.”

“I returned last week from N. York, and it is unexpected that I go south again so soon. I am in good health, perhaps better, on account of occupation. I regret very much that Julia is still infirm, and that she sometimes feels much discouraged. I intend to pass Sunday 21st at Monmouth. Prof. Sawyer and Mary are at Exeter, and with Dr. Silas [sp.?]. Gorham and Emery Soule took a square tea at my house last eve.”

“Charles H. Bell is threatened seriously with Necrosis of the jaw bone, several pieces already having been taken out, after first removing all his upper teeth. He is in critical state, though now in full strength, and looking tolerably well. Mary Gilman’s hip complaint is in more hopeful condition. Abby will tell you of her case.”

“With love to all at Swalback, I am yrs. afftly, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

25 July 1878: Ellen French (Hotel Metropole, Schwalbach, Germany) to Amos Tuck. “We are still up here in these quiet mountains, with the addition of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, also in a villa nearby Mrs. Stearns and her five children from 37th Street who are resting here while Mr. Stearns

is away at Lyons. Amos' happiness is complete. I see him only at meals and at bedtime. It is a great comfort that he is so contented now, for before the boys came, Amos was restless and miserable. He slept badly on the 2nd floor, wheezing more or less at night. Finally I took three rooms adjoining Abby's on the 4th floor and we are very cosy altogether, while Amos sleeps perfectly well at this height above vegetation. Bessy has a beautiful time with the girls. Johans [sp.?] was here nearly a week – he is not in love with either of the girls. I even suspect him of having had some love affair elsewhere last winter. He is besides too young for even Dolly, who is quite mature enough for a man of forty.”

“Abby's plans are not made. I find her looking well and inclined to spend next winter in the South of France. Dresden is disagreeable in many ways. Abby needs sun and cheerful society, which she was without last winter. I think it would be an advantage to the girls to be gayer than they were in D. where the chance of settling in life is very small. They speak German very well. In time, Abby will be willing to go home, perhaps next year, but she seems disinclined to any housekeeping. In fact, tho' Laura may be a [word illegible] help to her [two words illegible] I am sure Abby will be unfitted after this for any thing of the kind. She has never seemed more contented than with these three rooms where the capacity for dusting is limited. She likes bare floors and strips of carpet which are easily shaken to their deepest depths.”

“Meantime, we are all anxious that our dearest papa should be enjoying himself. You must have suffered with the heat which everyone writes about. Some of the girls have written to Nell of the academic festivities, and Bessy has announced that she shall be there next year. I think she can be safely launched there after she has passed her seventeenth birthday.”

“Frank is in London, going to dine at the Morgans, Melvilles and elsewhere. He spent last Sunday at Melvilles. There he met the Bishop of Gibraltar and Jenny Lind's husband and military characters of local note. L.P. Morton and his family are now in Schwalbach and called upon me two days ago. The partners had also invited Frank to dine at L. I shall return the call tomorrow – living almost neighbors in N.Y. we might have spent years there without exchanging civilities. Frank may return here by Saturday but I think not till another week. We enjoy very much being together – it was what Abby needed, to see some of her old friends. Schwalbach is quite fashionable, but the sights are all foreign and scattered among the villas and [word illegible] the hills, so that we hardly realize what the society is. It is rumored that Empress Eugenie is coming to Schlangenbad for her complexion, another spring five miles from here, where we often drive. There are good horses and carriages here and every other day, I take Abby and the girls away over the hills unless the latter prefer to mount the donkeys. We bathe at 11 or 12 and drink from the [word illegible] spring three or four times a day. We wash our faces in Schlangenbad water for wh[ich] we pay 20 fennig a bottle, but we bathe in [word illegible], not immersing our heads. So the days fly and it is within six weeks of our sailing. [word illegible] in all dainties. The vision of a corn-muffin at breakfast time is tantalizing and meats and poultry are of the poorest kind.”

“We are all tolerably well. My ‘broken wing’ is mending. I hope to be not such a wreck in future and mean also to lead an easier life in every way.”

“Reports of that elevated R.R. have made me fear we shall be driven wild with the noise. Julia’s last gives cheerful accounts of life at the beach. We were glad to get a note from you on the way to the Cottage. I am glad Julia is improving and Eddy keeps well. Your news from Exeter is all most interesting – I am very sorry for Mary Gilman. I am afraid there is some scrofula [?] in that family, tho’ no doubt climbing mountains and stairs have aggravated it.”

With armfuls of love from us all, dear father especially from Bess and Amos, I am your ever affectionate daughter Ellen.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1 August 1878: Abby Frye (Schwalbach, Germany) to Amos Tuck. “My dearest father: Ellen and Frank and their children left us yesterday afternoon for Frankfort. I can not tell in a letter how badly I felt to part with them. I did not then expect to see the dear girl again. About two hours after their departure however I received a letter from Miss Wilson’s friend in Paris, Madame Lacombe. She lives at 58 Avenue Wagram and offered to take us to board for \$1.80 apiece a day including every thing except wine, which we do not care for. The temptation is too great to be resisted and I shall start tomorrow morning for Paris with the girls, who are delighted. We shall buy return tickets by which we get a considerable reduction. They are the same as excursion tickets at home and allow of a month’s stay in Paris. I shall reach Paris Sunday, the same day they will. Ellen will be so glad. She urged and urged me to go; but every where else they ask \$3 a day apiece. I should think there was something wrong about 58 Avenue Wagram, it is so cheap for Paris. But Mrs. Gray and Miss Wilson boarded there one whole winter and they liked [it] exceedingly – only it is not a fashionable place. What will Ellen say when we call on her at Hotel du Jardin! We leave all our trunks here, except two small ones, as we shall be on the go all the time. I have had no letters from you, or Julia, since I last wrote. We leave early tomorrow morning, so I am in the middle of packing.”

“Tomorrow will be your birthday, dear father - many blessings and happy returns for many years - with love, from us all. We had not enjoyed board at Kreuznach, so we feel quite free. Now I must close hastily – with much love, your affectionate daughter Abby.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

4 August 1878: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “I returned from N. York to Boston yesterday morning, and to Exeter at 2 ½ yesterday P.M. I found Moses Paul and Abby here, with assurances from them that since their arrival on Wednesday Evening, they had enjoyed themselves highly. They pronounce our horse the best ever driven by man, and our baked sweet apples, aided by sugar and cream, the sweetest dish ever served to mortals. I enjoy their enjoyment, and receive their compliments with real pleasure. I have so long been alone, that it is an agreeable novelty to feel that I serve anybody’s pleasure. They went to Hampton, they tell me, on Friday, to take Etta Nudd here, a few days, as I had invited her to come, but she was not then ready, but will come to-morrow, when Moses and Abby go to Hampton with my horse and

carriage for her. She will stay a few days, and then go home with Moses and Abby, who go to Hampton to stay indefinitely, intending to go to the Fish Houses, to 'Ruttis', to board for week probably. Etta was engaged to young Whittier, only son of Whittier, who keeps the Hotel at Hampton, (town); - a promising fellow they all say. A fortnight ago he was loading a gun which exploded, (the charge), prematurely, carrying away a portion of his hand, and then days afterward he died, of lockjaw. She is a pretty, and a good modest girl. I hope the novelty of being here will interrupt her sorrow in a measure."

"Julia was, for the time, better in health and spirits, when I was there, yet Ned is apprehensive she is in danger of chronic illness, of which no hint must be given, by word or letter. I was at Monmouth one night only, Thursday night. On Friday, after attending to some business I went to Coney Island, - rather, Manhattan Beach where I saw a great crowd of men, women and children. I returned early in the P.M., so as to take the Boston Boat at 5. I see by the papers that the shower that I saw, but escaped, so washed [out] the R.R., that a thousand people were detained at the Beach most of the night."

"Say to Frank that his colleagues in the Bank treat his beau père with cordiality, and insist upon my occupying a seat at their lunch table, whenever I may be in N. York. I said to them, the last time I was there, and in presence of Mr. McCulloch, Mr. Fahnestock, Mr. Garland, and Baker; 'well, I will accept as long as I hear that you are doing a living business. When I don't come, draw your own inferences.' They all laughed, and Fahnestock said, 'we are doing something now, that is sure: we subscribed for 2,000,000 4 % today.' On the boat to Monmouth, he asked me and Ned to sit for a train by him, and then said they had got the control of govt. business, and it could not be got away from them; that he began it, he and Garland, 16 yrs. ago, and understand it, of course. He and G. are very fun [?] in telling Ned, and me too, what they do, and evidently feel, what is true, that we are so interested, through Frank's interest, as to be counted in the ring of their confidence. I have learnt not to be inquisitive, as I need not be, now that prosperity seems assured to Frank, but am ready to listen. Mr. Baker is very intimate with Ned, and is as kindly disposed to me, as I could wish. They all seem, more than ever before, to really be glad to have me to talk to. I feel assured, that as human nature is, Frank could not be in a more friendly association. I believe they all like him very much. This, of course, is no novelty. But as you are all 3000 miles away, it will possibly be grateful to him and to you to be told the appearances, while you are absent. I am glad that your own cordial relations with the families of Frank's associates, and your ability, nearness and qualities, so decidedly supplement Frank's abilities, as to be of essential support to him, and that your children's qualities, and Ned's and Julia's character and position, and accomplishments tend, likewise, strongly in the direction of comfort to you and to Frank. I discern, however, that Mr. Baker wishes to be regarded as the potential force in many things, especially, in the late fortunate legislation in Congress, and that he must remain President; and that Mr. F. and G. claim the honor of the specialty of manipulating Gov. Bds. It is fortunate that these honors can be conceded to them, to a great extent, and still there can be left the honors, which Frank ought to have, among which I count this, and spoke of it to Ned; - that except for Frank's influence through Mr. Morrill, the First

national would never have been admitted to the Syndicate, and, consequently, would have had an altogether less successful career than it has had. Then, again, I am aware, and they, no doubt, more than I, because they know more, that Frank's skill, manners, influence, hard work, has done more, in the past year, in the most influential quarters, than those of any other member of the Bank, to secure what they are now working up and working off to great profit. But they must be indulged, and they do not more need tender handling, and magnanimous indulgence, than I have found required of me in my acquaintance with men, all along the course of the last 40 years. Frank and you may not feel that you ought to feed vanity, but you will both see, that your associates, male and female, are to be allowed to feed themselves on what they choose. It is a fact, too, that they all have a great deal to be proud of, but not, in my estimation, more than Frank and you have."

"I think of you all as in Paris to-day. I do not fear that you and Frank and your children, if you are all well, will not be happy, while in that beautiful city; the more happy, because you see a limit of a few days only to your possible stay there. But I have apprehensions, that Abby and her brood, will be more put to their trumps than you. The necessity of living more in the eye of the world, more in view of herds of Americans, more expensively and more laboriously, than has heretofore been the case, will, I fear, upset poor Abby, and derange the heretofore successful finances chiefly under the administration of Laura. In case of perplexity, or discouragement, you and Frank will, for a time, be near by to extricate them from difficulty."

"Tell Abby, I do not write her to-day, but shall do so, during the week. I suppose it was best for her to do as she has done, go to Paris, and I assume you and she, and all, talked matters over, and that she decided, after weighing properly all considerations."

"I saw Dr. Upham some days ago, and got over matters successfully. He said his daughter was in correspondence with his sisters, and would fall under their direction. She is still in London. He enquire after Mrs. Frye's health, of which I could not speak so confidently as a father would always be glad to speak. That difficulty is now over, and well over. You all did just right."

"I was 68 yrs. old on Friday. I had perhaps 20 pears on the Birthday tree, - larger and nicer than ever before. Abby and Moses attest their good quality."

"The weather has been wet for a week, by showers, rather than a steady rain. Our lawn looks beautiful, and our roses are superb."

"Willie Chadwick had 8 or 10 shot, from an accidentally discharged gun, picked out of his ankle, by Dr. Wm. Perry, last evening, which made him roar loudly, but did not injure him seriously. The Chadwicks always have made 4ths of July hideous by their free use of gun powder, and I am sure we shall have a little alleviation of the complaint hereafter. It happened as a camp, where the Scharff boys are lying out for a week, which above boys with guns visited, without invitation on Saturday."

"I attended the Episcopal service this A.M., the Orthodox churches being closed for a vacation."

"I am in good health, and with love to you all, I am your loving father, Amos Tuck."

[P.S.] “Abby and Moses send love. Mary Batchelder and Marcia, with Mary’s husband, are at the Beach. Martha is with George, down east.”

“Boston Aug. 5/78 – Mrs. Chesley of Dover, whom Abby knows, is about to marry Hon. Wm. Stevens of Dover, widower, 60 years old, a B. & M. R.R. director, and ex-Mayor of Dover; - an old acquaintance of mine, a fine man, and rich.”

“I send a News Letter, paying 2 cts postage – to Abby. Does she receive it?”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

10 August 1878: Ellen French (Hotel du Jardin. Paris) to Amos Tuck. “I believe Abby wrote you yesterday but as there is no news, we are unlikely to duplicate items. I have been try[ing] to write you since the 2nd to assure you I thought of your birthday and wished we could spend it together. I am thankful for your cheerful letters and that you are busy, tho’ I don’t much like your going South in the weather you have had. Our latest is from Julia to Abby and more favorable in its account of Monmouth Cottage.”

“We are all together here but not very near, Abby being near the Arc. Every day they come down to us and we stroll out in some direction. Thursday Nelly spent the night with us and last night Laura, who occupied Amos’ room, vacant now and then, when Amos goes to spend the night with Willy [sp.?] Spaulding”

“Abby looks very well and enjoys Paris thoroughly, except the cabmen who are a terror to any but the native Parisian. For the past week the cochers have been striking, consequently getting any vehicle is a matter of half an hour and endless fatigue. Last night we drove in the Boulevards and took ices and c. in a dense throng at one of the cafés. The night was too warm for wraps and every body was in the streets which were ablaze, putting out the modest light of the room.”

“Laura is so enthusiastic there is compensation in trotting her about. We are all well. Frank becomes tired easily as we all do, but is in excellent spirits. We shall be in London ten days from now, first going to Holland for a few days, next Friday the 17th, from there to the ‘Brunswick House Hotel,’ Hanover Square, where we shall have the Chandlers’ rooms, and the Townsends will go next Tuesday to the Royal, and we do not expect to see them again on this side, as they will be in Scotland when we arrive in L.”

“We arrived first and took a quiet apartment looking in the court. John took the same one we had together in June, tho’ I hardly think he pays the full price. Yet he would scorn [sp.?] the appearance of not doing without us what he could with us. We are the only ones of our Republic acquaintances who will not return by the Britannia of the 29th. I am very glad for the other fortnight in Scotland.”

“John Munroe dined with us this last week. Tell Eddy he has left off eating bread and thinks he is less stout for it. I am just now in pursuit of Mrs. Chandler’s parcels, which cannot be found, and Mrs. Munroe has been written concerning them.”

“The news from Charles Bell is sad enough. I have always known he was fighting scrofula in his neck and this is probably an outbreak from the same source. We are glad to hear

that Mary Gilman is better. There is no doubt that she was injured more or less by walking and climbing, which has made me cautious for Bessy.”

“Won’t you be in New York when we arrive, about the 20th Sept. We expect an easy....”
[possible missing page]

“If you keep well, dear papa, thro’ the hot weather, it will be a triumph. Don’t eat too much fruit and huckle berries. Remember me to all enquirers in Exeter. I congratulate you on the long desired [word illegible] carts [sp.?.]”

“You will have only time to send one return letter for this. I shall hope to hear up to the last day so that we may know going on board that all is well with the beloveds in America.”

“Ever your devoted daughter, Ellen.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

20 August 1878: Ellen French (Antwerp) to Amos Tuck. “We left Paris on Sunday morning, arrived at Brussels that afternoon and took a drive. Monday we spent at the picture gallery and came here in the evening where we find the city on tiptoe with the 400th anniversary from Spanish freedom, I believe. The streets are filled with people, plays and music. We have seen several churches full of wonderful carvings in wood and marble and many fine pictures. This afternoon we drive [sp.?] to the picture gallery and silk factory. After a night’s rest we go to Amsterdam, where Frank has some business.”

“We shall be in London Friday or Saturday and in a few days set off for Scotland. We sail in three weeks and our holiday will end very soon. We are all quite well now. I am not as dragged out as I have been at times – after sea voyage is over, no doubt I shall be vigorous and as strong as I look. We shall be anxious for one letter before we reach London. We are always uneasy lest we shall hear Julia is down again. Abby and the girls spent most of Saturday and after an evening call on the Whittiers [sp.?], we bade them all good bye in front of the hotel. Abby was in better spirits than when we parted in Schwalbach. She enjoys Paris enough to stay a fortnight longer, when she will be quite ready to return to Germany, to which notwithstanding the discomforts of last winter, she is attached.”

“Frank carded Gen. Noyes, but rec’d no call from him, tho’ we met several times, not, however, when he saw us. [?] The Noyes are inclined to be too miscellaneous in their tastes I find, and some times offend the old residents by wholesale introductions.”

“Now for dinner, or rather breakfast. I write in haste hoping you will forgive the scrawl for the sake of hearing just where we are. Love from us all to you all, and mostly to you, dear papa, from your ever affectionate Ellen.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

30 August 1878: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. “This is the last I shall undertake to send to you till you return to America. Assuming you embark on the 12th proximo, this will reach you a day or two, or more, before you all go on board. If all has gone as well with you, as had been the case when you last was written to me in Paris, on the 13th, (I think), you will have abundant cause for gratitude, that by sea and by land, you have all been saved from perils, seen and unseen, and in respect to health of you all, especially of Frank, results have been

accomplished, vital to the happiness of you all, and of us all. The Lord be praised, ought to be the utterance of us all.”

“No novelties of much account are to be reported here. Since Sarah and Ann Lane left I have dispensed no hospitality beyond entertaining for a night and a part of two days, John and Sarah Dearborn. People are returning from summer strolls. Last night I called at the Gorhams and saw them, and Miss Thomas, sister of Mrs. G. The Sawyers have returned to Utica. Mrs. Buzell with Anna Chadwick and Mrs. John Rogers of Lowell, (a very, very nice lady of 55 yrs.), go to the mountains on an excursion, on Monday, to be gone a week.”

“Yesterday your Uncle Locke called here, on his return from a weeks excursion to see relatives in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. He looks very old and feeble. He is 78 ½, and more. He has seen Marcia at Salem and said she was living in one of the best houses of the city, which ‘George’ was going to buy, after knowing he should like it well enough.”

“Now with every blessing I can invoke upon you and yours, I am, with love to all, your loving father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

4 September 1878: Ellen French (Palace Hotel, Edinburgh) to Amos Tuck. “I have had three delightful letters from you while we were in London, whi[ch] deserve a long worthy answer. I begin to realize how little time there is to write. It is but one week from tomorrow that we sail. We have come here for a week only, as London proved too attractive to be left as soon as we expected, notwithstanding the weather was as bad as possible even for England – and still is. This hotel is directly under the Castle, which is hardly visible for the fog which refuses to lift tho’ it is eleven o’clk. We have lovely rooms in a lovely English house that Mr. Melville recommended.”

“We go from here to the Trossachs then to Glasgow and Liverpool by Tuesday night, in order to change our state rooms if they are not desirable. At the last moment we hope some one will give up better ones. Those we were compelled to select, are amidships but small – only half as large as those on the Republic. I only hope they are quiet, so that I can sleep better than coming over, when I scarcely slept at all for the last five nights. I was entirely worn out on landing. Frank, Bessy, and Amos all took cold in London and are now trying to throw them off, making slow advance, however, in this wretched climate. I am well of mine for some days. We hardly saw the sun in London. I am inclined to growl at the pouring rain that has now settled upon us in Ed.”

“Later – 9 p.m. We ventured out to drive and saw the “Carstle” and Holyrood, beside other curiosities [sp.?] and not least, streets full of the wickedest looking, most degraded women and children I have ever seen in any city. This state exists in what I have understood to be the most pious city abroad. It was unpleasant to see the most respectable women drink beer at hotels and restaurants as they do, with their bright complexions and slightly [word illegible] noses. I am inclined to believe there is more real diabolism up here than in Paris. After all we have seen, America is pleasanter to look forward to as an abiding place than any foreign country.”

“Abby is very happy, or as happy as she can ever be anywhere. She sees windmills wherever she is and has to have a tilt with this one or that every few days – the result of disordered nerves. It would be hard for her to go home this year, but she will in time tire of this mode of life, and long for Exeter. Laura was not very well and Abby consulted Dr. Acosta [sp.?] with advantage, at the time I left. Laura has to manage all the finances, but Abby does as she pleases in all the plans. Of course they have spent some of their savings in Paris, which was necessary after a year’s wear of clothes. They managed excellently well in some ways and as prudently as possible in others, so you must not worry, papa dear, if they have staid three weeks there. They will now go into retirement and save for several months, before they make another move. Abby goes to Dresden as willingly as anyone. In spite of climate and people she seemed to be bewitched with the life there.”

“I am glad you have had Sarah and Ann at Exeter, as well as Aunt Abby and Etta, who must be a good deal depressed at her disappointment.”

“We shall have volumes to talk over when we gather our little circle at No. 9, for we expect their hospitable shelter will be ready to take in what is left after the voyage and Custom House have racked and ransacked us.”

“Mr. Arguimbeau [sp.?] who went over with us in May, and who returned in July. Was very urgent that when we went home, we should let him meet us, as he was on intimate relations with the officers, and might save us some annoying inspection. Frank has written him a cautious letter, saying we have nothing of great value to bring in, but shall be glad of his assistance in hurrying us thru, as we expect to be wearied out with the voyage – if we can get thru’ with only slight inspection we shall be very fortunate. I have eleven trunks, large and small, but only two will go to Eddy’s. If Ned will have the house opened on that day, so that the luggage can be carried in without extra delay, he will do his loving sister a great favor, tho’ it will be time to have that done when we are all in port. Tho’ we shall be crazy to see you all, if we arrive at an unseasonable hour, Ned must not make the attempt to meet us. We depend on seeing you dear papa as soon as possible after we land. I am afraid Julia has been disappointed in the comfort of her cottage, tho’ there is no better place than one’s quiet home, with a broken back. Her last was more encouraging as well as Eddy’s note. I will now go to bed. Am very grateful for your long letter and the two shorter ones, full of items. I am sure you have been the ‘belle’ of Exeter the last few weeks, with little tea parties and drives. I hope to go there this fall after settling the family.”

“With best love to you dear papa from your ever affectionate daughter, Ellen.”

[P.S.] “Bessy is in bed and Frank and Amos are out. Bessy had a very nice letter from Julia which gave us several items of news.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

20 September 1878: Amos Tuck (Boston) to the French family. “I cannot meet you on your arrival, so as to tell you in person of my joy and thankfulness at your safe return. But I desire very much to have you learn, among the first things after setting your feet upon native soil, that I am with you in spirit, rejoicing in all that gives you joy, and sorrowing with you in anything that

possibly may occurred, to mar your happiness. In good time, after you have rested, I intend to see you at your home.”

“Most affectionately, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

12 October 1878: Tuck attended the PEA Trustees meeting. “Voted that the case of the town of Exeter against Phillips Exeter Academy be committee to the care of Messrs. Tuck and Hale.” (pp. 478-80, PEA Trustees’ minutes not to be used without the permission of the PEA librarian)

18 October 1878: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. “Yours of yesterday was rec’d this forenoon enclosing one from Abby. I had imagined you to be as busy as you describe yourself to have been, and consequently have not been surprized at your reticence. I think I may go to your house by Sunday morning next, though having occasion to go to Frederick about Nov. 1st, I deliberate somewhat about further delay.”

“I thank you, my child, in advance, for the good deeds you propose to bestow upon me, when I arrive at your house.”

“Abby’s letter puts us in possession of the manner of life, and the course of thought, of herself and her daughters. They little imagine the perfect exemption they enjoy from the ills and anxieties and labors of ordinary mortals. Hence, food and clothing and little personal ills constitute the aggregate of their afflictions. They are disqualified for living as most people in America have to live, and are constantly becoming more disqualified still. However, they are probably in the best place for them to be, and I am content to wait upon Providence for what the future may be to them all, and to each.”

“If Bessie did not call upon Mary Gilman, with you and Frank, she ought to call at once. It is an important matter to Mary, and she will be very appreciative of Bessie’s attention.”

“I think the Horse a good institution, to Frank, and am glad he has him. Probably a similar institution for Ned would be a good thing.”

“So Bessie has a Governess - no matter how homely she is, if she is really accomplished in mind, heart and manners. Your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 October 1878: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Frank French. “Our troubles draw us out, and develop ourselves to ourselves, as well as to one another, welding us together in family affection. I was sensible of this, in the spontaneous feelings which came controllingly over me, when I learned what your colleagues lately did, and ascertained to what extent they wounded your honorable and sensitive nature. My first impulse was, never again to break bread in the Bank. Further reflection satisfied me, that my duty to you was, to seem to be what I had been to your colleagues, and for that reason only, I lunched with you on Monday. I am glad I did it, for aside from general considerations, I think I saw evidence that F. and B. felt that they had done a wrong thing, and an unwise thing, in respect to a man who would have behaved in a better manner towards either of them, under like circumstances.”

“Your solicitude for my happiness, as evinced by your letter just received, touches me in a tender spot. I cannot tell you how highly I praise it. With your standing beside Ned, in generous and affectionate support, and your wives full of love to the brim, I am a rich man, in the worst aspects of my case.”

“But I hope not to be robbed seriously in this St. Louis raid upon me. I shall make a business of attending to it, after about the middle of November, and if I must fight, shall put the best kind of work into it. Before I go to St. Louis, I shall see you and will [talk] over, somewhat in detail, the whole matter. I have sent the papers to St. Louis, or I would try to go into particulars.”

“A suit was commenced here, and afterwards, when they got an attachment of my Bank Stock in St. Louis; the suit here was discontinued, so that the one now in St. Louis, is the only one.”

“Sumner [sp.?] says there was fraud in concealing defects in the title of lands transferred to him in settlement. Other allegations exist, but none serious. I settled with him, Merrick and Stickney all together for \$35263, (about), deducting over \$9,000 in compromise, Sumner paying \$35,000, M. & S. about \$263. M. & S. knew all about the securities for I had them of them and Sumner constructively knew as much as they, and more than I. He says too he was only surety on a \$22,000 note, and that by release of a portion of the mortg. security to M. & S., prior to the final settlement, which he says he knew nothing about at the time of the settlement, he had been released, and was not held; and so paid his money in ignorance, when he was not liable. But the release had been on record 2 years, when the settlement was made. (It was real estate).”

“He was principal and I am sure I can show it. I think I can whip him to death. The discomfort is in being compelled to fight.”

“I cannot go more at length – to-day.”

“I have your telegram, and shall meet Ellen to-night and stay with her at Tremont House.”

“Affectionately yours, Amos Tuck.”

[Marginal notes] “As you know, things have shrunk since Feb./73, some. They expected, when they settled with me Feb. 1873, to make \$10,000 out [of] me. M. & S. paid \$263. Sumner’s name was on a joint and several note signed by him M. & S. for \$22,000. M. & S. owed me beside, \$22,263. I transferred all securities to Sumner for \$35,000.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP,LC]

11 December 1878: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. “I arrived in good condition, and am well housed at Young’s. My cold has now entirely gone, except a hoarseness, much diminished from what it was when I last saw you, and I am disposing of what remains, by potations from the vial which you gave me.”

“It was a luxury to see so much of you all, going to and coming back from St. Louis.”

“Your loving father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

19 December: PEA trustees

20 December 1878: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. "I am anxious, dear, fearing that out of love you do not tell me all, when you are unwell. Remember I can bear the truth, always, and that some how it always turns out, in our family, that the truth is better than fiction."

"I intend to go to N. York, Tuesday night, next, by the Stonington Boat, arriving on Christmas morning, going, I suppose, direct to No. 9, as of course. If this is not right, arrange with Julia. But I suppose it is. I take in charge from here, Kitty [sp.?] and Alice Stickney, going to Brooklyn, and Anna Palmer, en route to Philadelphia."

"I had a good time at Exeter, - two nights an one day, - the day occupied wholly for the Academy, the evenings occupied wholly in calls on the ladies, and am just back at 2 o'clock, P.M. Mrs. Long is a jewel. I was at her house the later part of both evenings, and took away four novels, to read and return. Her ideas and mine are just alike on essential topics, and I am, of course, content with them. We both know how to be wise in our age, which people of our age do not always know - Ecce old Bellows, foolishly trying by marriage, to be young again."

"As I am pressed for time to attend to neglected duties, I close - yr. loving father, Amos Tuck."

[P.S.] "Yrs. affectionately rec'd." [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1879

22 January 1879: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. "I am quite well, and very sorry that Ned reports that neither you or Julia is as well as each of you ought to be, though he reports you both as not growing any worse."

"I am well. I took tea Sunday evening with Dr. Gorham and wife, Edith, the daughter, and an uncle of his, a Mr. Crocker of Taunton, Mass., who entered Congress, as I left, in 1853. It was a very cordial, pleasant evening. I had attended church with the family at the Stone Chapel, in the fore-noon of Sunday, hearing a Baptist clergyman, Prof. Dimond of Brown University, preach in a Unitarian Church. Miss Thomas, (Mrs. Gorham's sister) was at the Church and invited me to tea at her house, that evening, but Mrs. G. had first spoken, and wished me to meet her uncle; and Miss Thomas 'let go'. She, the sister, is a nice young woman, (say 45 years old.), who has a house of her own, near her sister's, and is quite 'winning'. I am to dine with her to-night, in a frock coat, (by her permission), she to have an old lady, Mrs. Clark, who lives with her, and a Miss Frottingham, a neighbor, to make 4 at a game of whist, after dinner."

"I wish you would call to-morrow with Julia, upon Mrs. Bell and her daughter, at the Hospital. She has been there a week, and will be pleased, and it will please Mrs. Long, who set her life by Mary Gilman, who is indeed a lovely girl. I have written Ned at his office, to speak to Julia about it, but she will not see Ned till night, after you receive this. Mary took tea at Mrs. Long's, with me, two weeks ago. Let Bessie call too soon, on Mary, and let them get acquainted. They will love each other, I should think. Frank, too, will call, for I remember that soon after

you were married, Mrs. Bell said to me, that when her daughter grew up, if she should marry as nice a man as Mr. French, she would be perfectly satisfied. Let Bessie and you together, invite them to come to you on a Saturday and stay till Monday, if you are well enough, and would like it. Still, this is not necessary. If you should have them, it would not be best to your utmost, as it would be overwhelming.”

“I enclose a letter from Abby. I might write more but have no time to-day. Tell Frank I notice the 1st National is not include in the Newspapers here as in the new Syndicate. To you all lovingly yr. father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP. LC]

25 January 1879: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. “Yours of yesterday is received, enclosing the notes from Miss Thomas. The question between us, was as to the No. of her House, which I was confident she had stated to be No. 5, to which no., I addressed my reply; whereas it was No. 7, and my expectation was, that I might correct her of an error. However, it turns out she was right, and I was guilty, of the error, as might have been expected.”

“I go to Exeter this P.M. to return Monday. I will not say to Mrs. Buzell, that you will write her on business next week, for I suspect the business, and I should not be willing that you encumber yourself with any contract, on her selection, without consultation with me, who, by assistance of others, and my own knowledge, have some advantages, even above her. I know what is best for my well beloved Ellen. Remember, darling, your father can never feel burdened by giving thought to what concerns your dear life and comfort.”

“Your father, with heart full of blessings for his beloved daughter, Amos Tuck.”

“P.S. Write me the business, or ‘let the squirrel set’ till I see you a week or so, hence.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

22 March 1879: Amos Tuck (Saint Louis & San Francisco Railway Company, late Atlantic & Pacific Railroad, Temple Building, St. Louis) to Ellen French. “I have yours of the day you heard the case was pending. Before night of that same day, I telegraphed again to Ned at his house, which he replied to, by night message, rec’d the next morning. What would life be worth, without this loving sympathy which you all feel and exhibit! And how precious is life, when crowned with such loving, filial benedictions. I have every reason to be content with the result of the suit, and to be delighted with the expressions of kindness it has called out. It will bang along a while, just to break the fall of my defeated antagonist, but it will give me no anxiety. My two lawyers will attend to it, at the agreed fee, to the end, and I feel a freedom I have not before felt, for a long, long time. I dine out every night. To-night I dine with Chas. Hoyt and wife, who with his brother, Ned, is doing a profitable mercantile business. Last night I was with Dr. Randolph, and am to dine with Mr. Denere [sp.?] before I leave.

“I now expect to leave here Monday night, going by Frederick, and reach N. York about next Thursday or Friday. Write me about Wednesday next, directing to me at City Hotel, Frederick, Md., just to tell me you are all well. I have a letter from Ned, telling me that he and Julia are to visit Baltimore etc.”

“I congratulate Bessie upon possessing a young dog, and commiserate Tatters, - good, old Tatters, upon being measurably postponed to youth and beauty in a rival favorite. I can see how, and why Frank may feel very well over even moderate business in Exchange, and I take pleasure with him and you, in whatever solace you get out of it. Mr. Chadwick, Mary and Charles reciprocate your cordial messages to them.”

“Affectionately to you all, yr. loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

31 March 1879: Amos Tuck (Boston) to J.C.A. Wingate [?]. “My dear friend: I have written Mr. Evarts to-day, whom I have known previously, for many years, and have told him, among other things, that your appointment would satisfy every boy who knows you, and would be especially gratifying to me. I happen to know he would like to oblige me, if [he] thinks he can do so properly. Truly yours, Amos Tuck” [Fogg Papers, NHHS]

4 April 1879: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. “I am not willing to have your birth-day pass, without giving you written proof of grateful, ever rejoicing remembrance of you, and of your happy family, whose welfare contributes so largely to all the enjoyments of my life. Model daughter, model sister, model wife and mother, it is only just, that your loving father should bear testimony to the qualities of head and of heart, which bind us all to you with the strongest cords of human attachment, and should tell you of his love and appreciation, especially this year, in no measured terms of language. May our Heavenly Father have you and yours in his tender Keeping, hereafter as ever, and may you, loving and being loved, long be spared to bless the household to which you contribute so much of the sunshine and love that makes life desirable.”

“With affectionate assurances to your husband, of whose remarkable, yet merited success in business you know I am so proud, yet whom I esteem still more on account of his unexcelled love and devotion to his family; and with similar assurances to Bessy Richardson French and to Amos Tuck French, I remain, Your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

“Mrs. Francis O. French

No. 33 W. 37th St., N. York”

[marginal note by Ellen French] “This was his last year – he died in December.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

7 April 1879: Manuscript article] “For the Tribune – ‘When the wicked rule, the people mourn.’ Who expected a short time since, that the present generation, or any generation of Americans, in the enjoyment of a government, nominally ‘of the people and for the people,’ would see the day, when the national legislature would be regarded as a national calamity? When the earnest hope, and the sincere prayer of good citizens in all parts of the land would be, that God in his mercy would save the country from the calamity of the national Congress, and send into obscurity and comparatively harmless life, the men who had assembled in Washington

with authority to afflict and dishonor the nation? Yet such a time has now arrived, and such is the affliction and discouragement of the present moment.”

“A government of Brigadiers, lately in armed rebellion against the very existence of the nation, is now installed in the two houses of Congress, and the feeble interposition of the Presidential veto alone saves the country from control and administration, as offensive, as mischievous, as humiliating, as it would have been at any period of the war of the rebellion, to have had the government of Abraham Lincoln supplanted by that of Jefferson Davis.”

“The spectacle of presented crowds upon the mind of every loyal citizen, so much indignant thought, so many remonstrating, impressive utterances, that it is difficult to control and set any of them in order, in any brief article or communication. Let a few thoughts in one direction suffice for the present occasion.”

“When Congress assembled in December 1877, it was generally accepted that the termination of long discouragement in business had been arrived at, and it was justifiable to expect a long period of general prosperity. No sooner, however, had the democratic majority in the House of Representatives, sent forth their utterances, than depression returned, the people became discouraged and business everywhere languished. Dullness again returned, and apprehensions of disaster palsied the arm of industry in every state of the Union. The prospect, and soon the certainty of democratic control in the Senate confirmed the general despondency, which continued through the year 1878, notwithstanding it was one of abundant harvests and overflowing granaries. The troubles of the past year, which cause to vanish a quarter part of the wealth of many communities, and inflicted absolute ruin upon an immense number of individuals, were largely the consequence of the insane ravings and mischievous utterances of the blatherskite politicians, whose irruption into Congress, with the howlings of exultant democracy, pouring from their foul mouths, appalled men of business and good citizens in every part of the land.”

“Why do not these men, whose presence in the halls of legislation, produces such consternation and mischief, subside by their own motion into the obscurity to which the whole country so earnestly prays that they may be consigned? Why do they not take note of the mischief they create, and be influenced by the manifest welfare of the constituencies which send men to Congress? Simply this is the answer. The most of these men represent no industries, no wealth, no business, which to the vision of themselves or their constituencies, can be injured by Congressional legislation, no matter how absurd. The greater the hue and cry that is produced by their malignant utterances at Washington, the more important do they seem to be to their benighted, rebellious poverty stricken and ignorant constituencies at home. To produce ruin to business and general bankruptcy in that portion of the country which pays its debts, and maintains commercial honor, simply brings a larger portion of the people down towards their own low standard, and they extol their whisky-drinking, tobacco-chewing representatives, who contribute towards calamities in business and public dishonor. Take out of Congress the representatives of repudiating cities, counties and states, and the republican party would have overwhelming majorities in both branches. Take out of Congress the men who themselves are

bankrupt, or who seek to put bankrupts upon their feet, without payment of their debts, and the republicans would have still greater controlling power.”

“It is a marvel, at which people will never cease to wonder, that with a return to specie payments, a disproof of the prophetic utterances of leading men of the democratic party, on all points of importance in the last twenty years, the disloyal record of that party in the recent past, and the manifest disloyalty at the present time of the Brigadiers of the rebellion, who now lead the party, it can still hold up its head and aspire to power, in spite of the wealth, in spite of the learning, in spite of the statesmanship of the politicians which saved the country from disruption by these very Brigadiers!”

“Let them know that their full hopes cannot be realized. This nation is not [to] be ruined by these noisy, mischievous, idle, malignant men. The north and the west can again be aroused, and if aroused, - compelled again to defend their country with their lives, - will do their work so substantially and [word illegible], that never again will men elected to office by tissue [?] ballots and murderous combination of disloyal men ever again influence the destinies of the nation.

“New York Apr. 7, 1879 – T.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

9 April 1879: Amos Tuck (Boston?) to Ellen French. “You can put the accompanying document ‘on file, for future reference.’ It is true as the gospel, every word.”

“I arrived all safe. I have answered Mary Gorham, addressing her as ‘My dear Relation,’ after her style.”

“I write Ned to-day about a dinner at Parker’s last night. Look over the letter. I go to Bid[deford]. to-night, - to be back Friday, probably, and to go to Ex[eter]. Sat. – probably. Loving father, A. Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

12 April 1879: Tuck attended PEA Trustees’ meeting at Boston.

19 April 1879: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. “Yours of yesterday is at hand. It is storming furiously here, and though I had arranged to go to Exeter this P.M., I think I shall not go. It is, I hear, fair sleighing there, this morning, with snow still falling. The news of such a condition of the streets there, is sufficient, without my plunging into the realities. Yes, dear Ellen, Bessy shall have the room next [to] Ned and Julia, of course. I would not consent to any other arrangement for the dear child. I am glad ‘Gibson’ is to share with me my state room, for I get rid of some possible snorer who would make more noise than the engines of the ship. I shall write a line to Gibson, expressing my satisfaction with the arrangement.”

“I note with great interest the subscription to the \$150,000,000 of Govt. Bds. The First national are in, at the final dance, leading the van, as they deserve to do, thus putting the capstone to their previously well earned reputation of being at the head of the Government Bond Banking of the United States. It was unavoidable, that Baker and Fahnstock, Pres. and V. Pres. of the Bank, should stand out as the chief officials, but Frank’s clear head an ballasting influence in the Bank, are not unappreciated by those who know much of the Bank’s operations. Mr.

Foote, yesterday, showed me a scheme drawn up by Frank, a year or two ago, in connection with the Pres. of Bk. of Mutual Redemption showing that he was ahead of all others in such a scheme as had now been carried out; and Mr. Foote remarked, that he believed there was no man in New York, who has a more growing reputation than Frank, among the strong men of the city. I state this to you, that you may be justly proud, and that Frank may be encouraged, while Baker and F. seem to be the only men, mentioned by name.”

“Abby will be different, in her next letter. [She] boils over, of course, according to the [word illegible], or other influences operating upon her. [word illegible] wish to write her, next week, naming some place in Switzerland, as a suggested rendezvous, that she may have it in mind, and have a letter awaiting us at Paris, from her, stating her decision. There is not time for her to write us here. A week or 10 days will be all Bessie and I need in Paris, - don’t you think so, - an then we two can join Abby, - Ned and Julia following on, as soon as they get ready. Confer at once, you and Frank, - with Ned and Julia, and write me, or have Frank write me, your united judgment. I have no controlling [views] with Vevay and Interlaken, I know to be agreeable. I have not been elsewhere in that country,....” [rest of letter missing] [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

24 April 1879: Amos Tuck (Boston) to Ellen French. “I am just back from Exeter – came with Dr. Gorham, wife and Mary Gorham Sawyer. Took tea last night and dinner to-day, with them at Mrs. Long’s. Had a good time.”

“I send you two letters, - one from Dolly, one from Abby. Confer with Ned and Julia. It seems to me worth considering whether Bessie and I had not better go from London at once to Dresden, and see Abby etc. at their home, - in a city they know so well, which is so interesting, and which we can never see again under such favorable circumstances. From there we could go to Switzerland, in good time, and Bessy and I from there, in returning with Ned and Julia, spend all the time we wished in Paris. I should rather do this, if it is approved, than to allow Abby to arrange in advance where to locate herself and us in Germany or in Switzerland.”

“I am half inclined to go to N. York Sat. night, by Boat, if it fair to spend a few days. If so, I shall let you or Ned know.”

“Yr. loving farther, A. Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

17 May 1879: Amos Tuck (On board S.S. Baltic). “This is my first letter on ship Baltic. We are now about 2400 miles from N. York. It is about 11 ½ o’clock by the true time here, and 7.40 by orthodox Boston time, which by unvarying watch is to remind me of till our return. We have had a remarkable passage, thus far, and to-day the pleasantest of all, as we have a good wind, a bright sun, with occasional reservations, varying the outlook upon a boundless sea, lit up to farthest horizon by white capped waves, shining brightly in the glorious sun, being the first white caps seen since we left. It seems as though your and our prayers for quiet and safety had been answered, and that old Neptune has had peremptory orders, during the transit of out ship, to

restrain the savage traits of his character, and lie quiet and peaceful in the depths of the bottom of the sea.”

“We are all well. Bessie will tell you of herself, and how she soon became well. I will tell you that she has seemed to me the happiest person on board, all the time running over with abundant joyousness and glee. Gibson is devoted brother to her, and behaves with such becoming propriety and kindness to us all, that we have become quite attached to him. Send word to or tell his parents that we are all glad to have so excellent a young man in our company, and enjoy his society very much.”

“Until to-day, my head has been more or less uncomfortable every day, or part of every day; yet I have looked over three novels, - ‘Ernest Maltravers’, ‘Alice and her Mysteries,’ (Bulwer), and ‘Her dearest Foe’, (Trollope), in English, and one in French, bro’t by Bessie, - only to find them not worth spending much time upon. Besides, I have re-read Ivanhoe, more carefully, finding it as fascinating as when I first read it 45 years ago.”

“I now think I and Bessie will go from London next Friday, via Ostend, intending to be at Dresden by Sat. night, a week hence; but we shall write you from London.”

“I leave to Julia or Ned to tell you all about themselves, and remain, to Amos and you always, Your affectionate father, Amos Tuck.”

“P.S. Sunday noon May 18th – Beautiful weather still. Hope to see land in 3 hours. Bessie and all of us well, and happy. The ship has considerable motion, but we are none of us affected by it. – A.T.”

[Note written on separate scrap of paper by Amos Tuck French] “Bessie French went abroad in May 1879 with the Tucks and Grandpa Amos Tuck. Elsie was born June 15th ’79 while Bess was abroad. ATF” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

8 May 1879: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Frank French. “People say here that the sun has not shone since last September, and that it is the fault of the N. York Herald which has sent weekly predictions of low barometer and rain. Certain it is that it is raining today very hard, which the prophets say is the end and culmination of the previous long spell. But the weather does not prevent our having a good time. I enclose a letter rec’d yesterday from father which will give Ellen and you full accounts of his journey from London.”

“We should probably leave here the 8th or 10th to join the others in Switzerland. I find there is no good ship on the 3rd July and have taken our passage conditionally for the Britannic of July 10th. But we may change yet.”

“Can you give me an approximate estimate of what the Seligmans and Morton Bliss & Co. have made and are likely to make out of this syndicate operation, covering the present contract and those of the last two years? I would like it (confidentially of course) if you could make it for me.”

“If you would add to it what McCulloch & Co. are likely to make in [the] present syndicate and also some remarks on their present condition, I think I can use it where it will do them good.”

“We hope to hear again from Ellen tomorrow, with good news of yourselves and better news of Amos.”

“I have heard nothing from Mr. C. or 8 Wall St. since we left.”

“Yours affectionately, Edward Tuck.”

[P.S.] “I suppose Humbert took from you soon after I left 400 shares Am. Dist. Tel. stock, giving you about \$5850 cash.”

“The Munroe wedding is one week from to-day.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

29 May 1879: Amos Tuck (Dresden) to Ellen Tuck. “Here at 10 ½ A.M. at the Hotel Victoria, I commence this letter while Bessie and Gibson sit near me, awaiting the arrival of Dolly, who has engaged to go out with them, to enable Bessie to buy some china, which she thinks will be a delight to you, and incidentally to her, accommodating her in the way of service at a breakfast in her room at home. Afterwards we are to go to see the armor, and during the day, to carry forward our general sight seeing. Everything goes on delightfully. Bessie is still well, and as happy as she can be. It was an error to have her letters sent to another address than Ned’s and mine at Paris, for we neglected to notify McCulloch & Co. to forward letters here, and only account for her receiving none up to this date, by a letter rec’d this morning from Ned, in which he says he had rec’d two letters from you in one of which you spoke of having written Bessie care of McCulloch & Co. After recpt. of this, write to care of Munroe, Paris, until you think we shall be in London. But Bessie has contrived to be perfectly happy, and has [not?] been disappointed by delay of letters on two or three days.”

“We go from here to Nuremburg on Saturday, where we shall stay 2 or 3 days, and thence to the falls of the Rhine at Red Horse Hotel, Shaffhausen, Switzerland., where we expect to meet Ned and Julia on the 8th of June. It is not yet determined when we shall embark for home, - whether on the 8th July, on the Celtic, or on the 10th July, on the Britannic – but shall go, on one of these ships.”

“It does not seem practicable for any of Abby’s family to go home with us. She and her daughters have been doing well, over here, and are content, and I shall urge no change. They wish to do their duty to me, but I can see it would break up the continuity and agreeable course of their lives, to have a breach made, and I shall urge no change.”

“Bessie has written you voluminously and I shall attempt no particular description of our experiences. You and Frank can be assured of her entire loyalty to her loving parents, and to Amos, notwithstanding she is chock full of enjoyment, while so far separated from them.”

“Dolly has now come in, and she and Bessie, with the help of Gibson, are chattering behind me, like twice as many New England bobolinks, having a convention on as many butter cup stocks in a green meadow. I will therefore suspend writing and plan with them for visiting the Historical Museum after the china has been attended to. Gibson as well as Bessie and Dolly send love, and I remain to you both, and to Amos, your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

4 June 1879: Amos Tuck (Augsburg) to Ellen French. "I can probably add nothing of great interest to what Bessie writes to you. She has scarcely had an interruption to perfect health since she left home, and is now perfectly well. She continues perfectly happy, and is, as I have before said, I think, chock full of enjoyment. She with the rest of our company are now listening to a band of about 100 musicians, who are playing all sorts of marshal melodies in front of the Hotel, nearly under their windows, in honor of the Prince of Bavaria, who is at this Hotel, and has today given a dinner to the officers of the Regiment, of which he is Captain. He is very popular, and is now going about among the people, and the musicians, just as any genial gentleman might do, and my party are looking down from their windows upon him, gazing to their hearts delight. I have just come up from the crowd below, and told 'my folks', that I felt more pride and pleasure in their good looks, than I did in seeing a real Prince. Their windows are all on the second floor, adjoining the Prince's, are very elegant, and as all the girls and Abby had their windows open, they attracted attention from below, and presented a show of beauty, not often seen, over here, in one company. Gibson was at one of their windows, and aided to make the presentation agreeable. I soon joined them, and am sorry to say, I could not add much to the picture."

"This is a marvelously beautiful Hotel, finished two yrs. ago, at an expense of about \$600,000, too great an outlay for a small city so near Munich and Dresden."

"We go to Landau [Lindau?] on Lake Constance to-morrow, intending to be at Shaffhausen by Saturday, where we expect letters forwarded from Paris and London. We have had only one batch of letters from home, and none from you or Frank. Twenty minutes ago, I closed the last sentence, when Nell Nelson rushed unannounced into my room, saying the Prince is in Mama's room, and you must come right in. Of course I went, and then, true enough, found the Prince and his Adjutant, in cordial confab with the ladies, all present, with Gibson. I was introduced and we immediately exchanged assurances of pleasure, and I, of course, acknowledging the great honor of having a call from him. Bessie and Dolly, unbeknown to the rest, had sent their birth-day books, through the Landlord, for his signature, and the Prince who had seen the pretty faces from the windows of Abby and the girls, immediately proposed to call, and did call. Dolly and Bessie are jubilant over their success, and Laura, and in fact all, are joyous over the honor they have received. It was enhanced, upon his leaving, by his turning around in his carriage, after his carriage had turned the other way from our windows, and making a special bow to us, as Gibson and I waived [sic] our hats, and the ladies their handkerchiefs, in farewell to him. Bessie will write all about this, and I must not tell her I have first spoken of it to you."

"I am in good health, an enjoying the view I am having of German cities. Abby and the girls are in fair health and in good spirits. Laura is very capable in guiding us all about, and both she and Dolly, spoke German, for a time, to the Prince and his Adjutant, with great fluency. Both appeared well, as did Bessie. She could not have appeared better. We are getting anxious about you, dear, and I imagine this letter will reach you near a crisis. I can only tell you how

earnestly our prayers will and do go up for your safety and comfort. To your health and to Amos, Your aff. father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

6 June 1879: Amos Tuck (Newhausen) to Ellen French: “Bessie found I had written you about the Prince’s call, and she commanded me to keep my letter till hers had first left; for she said ‘I must and I will tell the news first of any body.’ So I allowed the dear child to send hers by the last mail.”

“This is a Paradise of a place, and we shall willingly stay here for some days awaiting Ned and Julia. The air is my native air, - Parsonsfield, to a charm. I am gaining strength constantly, and all of us feel invigorated. We are all well, Bessie included, of course. Your loving father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

10 June 1879: Amos Tuck (Falls of the Rhine) to Ellen and Frank French. “It is now 5 P.M. and we are expecting Ned and Julia to join us between 6 and 7. As I know you cannot hear too often about Bessie, I write you briefly, in the few minutes I have before going to meet them at the station. Bessie is perfectly well and happy. She with Laura and Dolly and Gibson went with me this fore-noon to Shaffhausen, 2 ½ miles away, without any perceptible fatigue, to speak of, by Bessie. We then took some beer and sandwiches, and a look at the village, and then hire a carriage to bring us all back by another road, arriving here before lunch time, when excellent beef steak, bread and butter made our mid-day meal. I think she is gaining in physical vigor, and besides think her intercourse with Abby and daughters is healthful to her, and elevating, inasmuch as Laura and Dolly, especially, aspire to elevated culture, and are manifestly attaining it. I think, too, that Nelly, who can learn only by observation, has greatly improved since coming abroad, and is now a superior girl in many respects. Bessie, I see, is inspired by them, and now often speaks of the delight she should have in being able to acquire a knowledge of German, and of enjoying the opportunities, generally, of the Nelson girls. She even became quite enthusiastic, to-day, as she, I and Dolly were together, while Gibson and Laura were at the Banker’s at Shaffhausen, over the idea of asking you to allow her to stay abroad with her aunty and the girls, so that she could study and be with them. I told her, I should not recommend such a thing, though I could see advantages in it. That it must be a matter for her father and mother and herself entirely to conjure of and dispose of. I now only mention it, to show you her state of mind, and to prove to you her contentment. She is a dear, good girl, and has given me nothing but delight since we left America; an Abby and the girls seem to love her as one of themselves, and to be even more tender and solicitous about her, than about each other.”

“We are all in good health, and happy. We have staid here and got fully rested, and shall be ready to leave as soon after to-day, as Ned and Julia shall have taken a satisfactory view of this locality. We then go to Zurich, and thence to Lucerne, where we have directed our letters, to be forwarded next after this place.”

“The time has now come, we are mindful, when we have occasion constantly to think of Ellen, and to bestow upon her our best thoughts and most loving benedictions. May she and you

both be joyful and happy, when this reaches you. Love to Amos. Affectionately, Your father, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

15 June 1879: Amos Tuck (Tip-top of Rigi) Ellen and Frank French. “We were called y a trumpeter at three o’clock and fifteen minutes, to make our toilet, and prepare to see the sun rise at fifteen minutes before four. We all responded and were at the very top of the mountain, by twenty five minutes before, except Mrs. Frye and Dolly Nelson, who were not quite equal to the exertion. The oldest member of our company, strange as it may seem, was the first arrival at the point of observation, wrapped in his afghan, put on over a thick overcoat. Soon all the others appeared, Bessie with her fur cloak, and the rest with good sufficiency of apparel. The morning was delightful and the sun-rise, and sun-shine upon the surrounding wilderness of snow covered mountain tops, and deep, dark valleys, a success too great to have a description now. We all wish to tell you we think of you, up here in the high heavens, and remain, with great affection, Yours, Amos Tuck, Edward Tuck, Julia Tuck, Bessie R. French, Abby T. Frye, Laura Nelson, Ellen T. Nelson, Dolly Nelson [all or most in their own hands]”

[Marginal note in pencil by Amos Tuck French] “Written the day Elsie was born. ATF”
[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

17 June 1879: Amos Tuck (Interlaken) to Ellen French. The joyful news, which delighted, and at the same time relieved us all, arrived, by telegram, last eve, at about 6 o’clock, or rather was put into our hands about that hour, as you will learn by letters from others of our party, who write you to-day, and we formed a congratulatory response, which we hoped reached you by 5 to 6 o’clock on [the] same Monday eve. Our anxiety to know how you get along for a few days, made us ask for another dispatch to be sent us to-morrow, - no, Thursday. I am glad, on your account, principally, that the child is a daughter. I need not tell you, that my poor prayers have already ascended in behalf of child and mother, and Father, and brother and sister, as in truth, they have, every day, since I left your faces and smiles and blessings on the wharf in N. York.”

“We are all well, as we said in our telegram. Bessie is as happy as she can be, and the pet of our whole company. She has been a joy to me, constantly, a constant comfort. She generally has a room next to me, and not seldom has one of her cousins with her. They are all proud of her, and take to her, and she to them, in great and mutual affection. Abby really doats [sic] upon her, and you know how Ned and Julia take to her, always saying, that Bessie will be sure to come out right, on all points, notwithstanding the pettings she gets at home and abroad, that would turn the heads of weaker girls. Bessie and I stay here longer than Ned and Julia, who have things to attend to in Paris, where we shall probably join them by the 25th inst. to stay there a few days. To you all, your loving father, Amos Tuck.”

“P.S. I do not speak of Bessie’s remaining here with Abby, as it does not seem to me, from this stand-point, with Abby’s fear she shall not do everything possible for Bessie and with your anxiety, and Frank’s good judgment, that the proposal is likely to stand much of a chance of

running successfully through all the ordeals, that it will encounter before execution. A.T.”
[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

17 June 1879: Tuck not present at PEA Trustees' meeting.

11 August 1879: Amos Tuck (Exeter) to Ellen French. “I arrived all right, at 5 ½. I met Mr. Paul in Boston and go with him to Dover to-morrow forenoon on business, to return at noon. I saw Mrs. Buzell at her door and I write to tell you what she said. When I told her I had seen you at Narragansett, she said, ‘How is the baby? The doctors say a baby should not go to the sea-shore until its age is counted by years not by months. Mrs. Cilley does not go to the beach, this year, on that account.’ She dilated on this, but said she nothing of it herself, ‘only that is what some folks say.’ It may be there is a tonic in the air which a young child cannot well stand. I know the sea air at the Shoals is too much for me, and it may well be that the mild air of the beaches is too much for an infant.”

“Do not think I write this because I want you here. I know you will not, - but only that you may have all the views of people to aid you in making up your mind.”

“I feel, dear Ellen, how imperfect I am in maintaining my convictions regarding my children's good; but I have no self-accusations as to the sincerity or the depth of my good will and love in their behalf, and my willingness to deny myself when necessary to give them or their children wealth peace and happiness.”

“With love to you all, yrs. loving father, Amos Tuck.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 October 1879: Ellen French (New York City) to Amos Tuck. “If you had not been coming here I should have made some how to write you before now. Even [sp.?] Saturday morning I rec'd your note saying you would be with us this morning but Ned's postal card prepared us for your non-appearance. I was disappointed not to see you and not to be able to give you the watch chain which I have ready when you come. It is similar to Ned's and I know you will like it. I found the house in some order and was glad to be at home in spite of the load of calls which is inevitable. Mary, the cook, was taken sick next day and had left temporarily – so we have been living frugally on the laundress' good-natured efforts. The house will not be in winter trim for some weeks. The spare chamber is to be fixed up and to be done by November. Frank's little snugery is still unfinished and gives the library a more roomy look but rather disorderly at present.”

“The dear baby is fat and well – just as good as she can be when she is well fed. You must come soon and not allow her to forget you. I take her out in a coupé every day and she is walked out in her [two words illegible] morning and afternoon. The weather has been hot every day since we came – as hot as I remember.”

“[Three or four words illegible] have given up some shares in the speculation for I did hope you were going to make a nice comfortable thing out of it, but if it was to worry you, then you had better be free from such [word illegible].”

“I have hardly seen Ned and little of Julia because I [several lines illegible]. Goodbye dear papa [several lines illegible].” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

3 December 1879: Amos Tuck (New York City [on John C. Munroe & Co. letterhead]). “Rec’d of Edward Tuck five thousand dollars, for which we agree to deliver him, as soon as issued, twenty five hundred dollars in bonds, and eight thousand and four hundred dollars in stock of the People’s Gas Light Co. of Paterson, N.J.”

“Amos Tuck and Amos Paul By Amos Tuck” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 December 1879: Amos Tuck (New York City) to John Tuck. “Your letter has been read by me, Ned and Ellen, with interest and pleasure, and all your cordial sentiments full reciprocated. By the same mail I had a good letter from Freeman. I intend to go to Boston and Exeter next week,* and hope to make a run to Biddeford before my return here the week after.”

“Ned says, fire away with your checks. He has no idea of stopping, and that you must call for ammunition, when you see you are getting short of paper. He prospers, very well, and will not suffer from your ‘monthly returns’, which he endures like a saint, without wincing, - on the whole rather liking the visitations, which is more than women can say.”

“Amos begins to be a real comfort to you, - or begins to vary the comfort, by gradually stepping into [a] manly position in just the right way. He gives us all pleasure, tell him so.”

“I am sorry for poor William’s widow – I believe she is a remarkably good woman. I would send sympathizing messages to her, but I think she thought I, or my wife, looked down on William, but in this she was mistaken. We were occupied otherwise, and could not attend to him.”

“To you both, all, Afftly, Amos Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

5 December 1879: Amos Tuck (New York City) to John T. Busick. “Dear sir: Your favor of the 2nd inst. is recd. The account you give of the working of the Gas Co. for Nov., is very gratifying. If well managed the works have value, other-wise not. I believe they are worth the trouble of managing well, and Mr. Paul and I shall be ready to co-operate with you in adopting the most feasible plan for solving every problem.”

“I agree with you that we cannot afford to litigate with Mr. Wiggin. The measure of his damage to the Company is the difference between its present value and 75% on every share of the stock. The Company, as I look at it, if well managed in the past, would be out of debt, at the very lowest estimate, at the present time.”

“I am not ready to suggest a plan, or to choose between those proposed for consideration by you. But I will be in Boston next Wednesday. I shall to-day send your letter and enclosure to Mr. Paul, and I would be glad to have you call at Geo. R. Paul & Co., No. 98 Milk St., Boston,

next Wednesday at 10 o'clock A.M., if you can do so. Mr. Paul will be in Boston on that day,, but will be engaged at the B. & M. R.R. office after 11. I will write him to come to Boston in the early train and meet us at 10. If you cannot meet us so early, I can see you later in the day, but wish to leave at 3 ½ P.M. for Exeter.”

“Write me at No. 98 Milk St., if you do not meet me. I shall be here till Monday next.

“Yours truly, Amos Tuck P.O. Box 2958 N. York City”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC?]

10 December 1879: Tuck arrives in Exeter on the 2:30 pm train. At 5:00 pm he announced his intention to meet Hon. Amos Paul at the depot, but was suddenly seized with a severe headache. A doctor was summoned, but Tuck had immediately lapsed into unconsciousness. [Scrapbook of Tuck's obituaries, held by the Exeter Historical Society. See Ellen French's account below, 31 December 1879]

11 December 1879: Edward Tuck arrives in Exeter from New York in the morning. Tuck dies in Exeter at 10 pm of apoplexy. Abby Frye was in Paris [Rome?] at the time of his death, and Ellen French was in New York.

13 December 1879: Tuck's funeral service at the Tuck home at 2:30 pm, conducted by Rev. George E. Street. Among those in attendance were: Gov. Natt Head, Hon. J.W. Patterson, Hon. E.J.M. Hale, Amos Paul, Esq., and S.A. Haley, Esq. [Tuck obituary scrapbook, Exeter Historical Society.]

19 December 1879: The Exeter News-Letter published an anonymous letter : “Geo G. Fogg and the Free Soil Party. I have noticed the interesting article of John L. Hayes, Esq., upon the rise of the Free Soil Party in New Hampshire, of the establishment of the *Independent Democrat*, and the connection of Mr. Geo. G. Fogg with the same. Upon the transfer of the paper to Concord, it was worked off upon the press of the *N.H. Statesman*. Mr. Fogg, years previous, had given the Democracy some trouble in old Gilmanton, and had been a sympathizer with Gov. Hill in his break with the Democracy. He furnished some articles for the *Democrat* before he became the responsible editor, which was brought about at the earnest solicitation of the late James Peverley. He had been and was then doubtful of the result of the contest, but Peverley assured him that he felt in ‘his very bones’ the assurance of success if he would go into the paper. How well he succeeded, how keen were his thrusts, and the ability be displayed, the files of his paper show. It is an historical fact that Mr. Hayes gave way to Mr. Tuck, and to his generosity was Mr. Tuck indebted for his success.”

20 December 1879: Large audience attends memorial service for Tuck at the Second Congregational Church of Exeter. Pastor George E. Street assisted by Rev. Jacob Chapman, who was Tuck's classmate [Where?]. [Tuck obituaries scrapbook, Exeter Historical Society]]

According to an undated press clipping (probably the Exeter News-Letter), Tuck left the following bequests in his will, just proved in the Probate Court:

1. Abby T. Frye, her heirs and assigns forever: \$30,000;
2. Stock of the St. Louis National Bank. If the stock is disposed of, the following legacies are to be paid in cash.
 - John Tuck [his brother]: 20 shares;
 - Amos Tuck [John's son]: 10 shares;
 - Betsy Hodgdon [his sister]: 5 shares;
 - Polly Tuck [his sister-in-law]: 5 shares;
 - Sarah N. Lane [of Springfield, MA]: 10 shares;
 - Ellen Gordon [of Exeter]: 5 shares;
 - James Manix [of Exeter]: 2 shares;
 - Margaret Noonan [of Exeter]: 1 share;
 - Amos Tuck French [his grandson]: 10 shares;
 - Amos Tuck Early [son of James Early of Springfield, MO]: 1 share;
 - Amos Tuck Davis [of Tamworth]: 1 share;
3. His watch and gold-headed cane left to his son, Edward.
4. He authorizes his executors to distribute at their discretion among his children and grandchildren all of his books, personal articles, ornaments and household furniture.
5. All the rest and residue of his real and personal estate he gives to his children, Abby T. Frye, Ellen T. French and Edward Tuck, equal third parts each; and appoints Edward Tuck and Frank O. French, joint executors. The will was in Tuck's handwriting and dated May 1, 1879.

Tuck obituaries scrapbook, Exeter Historical Society]]

23 December 1879: PEA Trustees' meeting. They decided to replace Tuck as trustee with Charles Henry Bell. [p. 488, PEA Trustees' minutes not to be used without the permission of the PEA librarian]

24 December 1879: PEA trustees send a letter to the family of Amos Tuck expressing their sorrow at his death. "While with the whole community we lament the sudden removal of a citizen whose high eminence has been won by faithful service, we regard the death of Hon. Amos Tuck as a loss to Phillips Exeter Academy not to be easily replaced or soon forgotten. We have been indebted to him for watchful care, judicious counsel and efficient aid in every way in which he could minister to the welfare of the Academy. He has been largely instrumental in

securing the increase of our endowments. He has taken a kind interest in our students especially in such of them as were poor and friendless. He has had the cordial affection, respect and honor of his associates on our Board, and has borne an essential part in the friendship and harmony that have uniformly characterized our meetings and deliberations. His name is among the foremost of those to be transmitted in our records as friends and benefactors of the institution under our charge.” [pp. 488-90, PEA Trustees’ minutes not to be used without the permission of the PEA librarian]

[31 December?] 1879: [Manuscript written by Ellen French] “1879 – The last year of my dear father’s life – He was more active than for some months. After a short visit with us – 33 W. 37th, New York, he left on Tuesday morning ___ December, to return to Exeter. After spending the night at Boston he reached Exeter at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday. While calling at a near neighbor’s within an hour, he was seized with severe pain in his head. Going to his own house, he threw on a wrapper and lay down to wait for a cup of tea to be brought by his house keeper, who found him ten minutes later quite unconscious, in which condition he remained until Thursday night at 10.30. His son Ned and I were telegraphed for and arrived Thursday morning. His daughter Abby T. Frye and her family were at this time in Rome.” [manuscript ends]
[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1880

18 February 1880: Aunt Abby [Paul?] (Malden, MA) to Ellen French. “I cannot tell you how I thank you for your letter, every word was a comfort to me.”

“When the first burst of sorrow for your father and the dreadful feeling of separation was over, it came to me – Will their children drop me out of their lives? For he had from time to time told me of you all and although we are so widely separated, it seemed to bring me nearer to you. I am very thankful that I was permitted to spend those days with him in Exeter, Ellen, I can never make you know the strange, strange feelings I had while there. Although every moment was pleasant – it carried me back many a long year – and brought up the memories of all you little children – and your mother – and an intense longing once more to stand face to face with her.”

“We talked of her – and of the old times – of Hampton – of his own home – and early life, and – as you alluded to it in your letter – perhaps it may be some guide to you to know the wish he expressed to me in regard to the disposal of his house. The evening before we left, I said to him that I hoped he would decide to close his house and go to New York, and stay with his children – that I could not bear to think of his going to and from there, exposing himself to the changes of our hard climate – he said that both you and Ned were anxious to have him do so, and that you would be glad to have him leave Exeter and make his home with you, but that would involve the necessity of disposing of his house in some way, and although he knew you would both do everything for his comfort, and happiness, yet he felt, as it was natural for all people at his age to feel that his own home was best – he spoke of his attachment to Exeter – and many of

the people – his interest in the prosperity of the place – of the graves of those who had gone before – and beside whom he would be laid. He then said it had been a matter which had perplexed him not a little, but that he had come to the conclusion to keep his house as long as he lived, and at his decease – as you and Ned were so situated it would only be a trouble to you – he wished Abby to have it, although she did not like Exeter. Yet he would leave it to her disposal, that she would probably after a time dispose of it. Of that, he had no concern, and should give it no further thought. We then talked of you all in a way which seems now almost too sacred to touch upon – for it proved to have been his last testimony to me of his children, and it was a testimony of his entire affection and approval of you. He told me of your prosperity, of his great pride in Ned who he was so pleased to see while sitting quietly looking on in his office – was referred to by the leading business men in New York – of his pleasure in his companionship. He spoke in praise of you as daughter, wife, mother – hostess – and with such entire approval that I could but infer that you had never given him one moment's unhappiness. On concluding he said, now Abby, I do not know but that you may think that I have said too much in praise of my children, but as they are your own sister's children, I know you feel an equal pride in all that concerns them. I assured him that I did, and should as long as I lived. He said that it was a great satisfaction to think that when his own time came to be gone, he should leave you with such good prospects in life.”

“And now I must tell you the saddest of all he said, that it was impressed upon him that he had but a short time to live, that he could make no plans for the future, because there was no future for him. I said every thing I could to convince him of the contrary – reminded him of his youthful appearance and step, of his having no settled disease. I told him with truth that he bade fair to live many years. I said every thing to reassure him but of no avail. I can never forget his look and the deep sadness with which he said, no, Abby, ‘when I look into the future, there is no future for me.’ On bidding him good night, I knew I had spent my last evening on earth with him.”

“And now, dear Ellen, when the longing and yearning comes, as it will surely come to look upon his face once more, to touch his hand, to see him come over the threshold of your door, be comforted and remember that you have been a good loving daughter to a loving Father, that he knew it and appreciated it and that he saw in you all which goes to make a true woman and that if in that last hour of consciousness his thoughts turned to his children it was with perfect peace and love. I was very thankful that he was dealt so tenderly with, it is my wish so to die.”

“If possible, do let me see you if you come to Exeter. I hope I may see all of your faces once more. I am glad to know that you do turn towards the old places and friends – it is not a symptom of old age, but I think natural to our family – as for me, I am completely isolated from all of my own, and what is worse, am with those before whom I must...” [apparent missing page]

the [word illegible] and make no sign. I wish I could tell you that I am better but I cannot and cannot see a ray of hope of being so. Moses is quite feeble, he wished to be remembered to you.”

“When you write Abby, please give her my love, and truest sympathy. She is continually in my thoughts. Give my love to Ned also. I hope that you and your family are all well. I know that your baby must be a great comfort to you. I presume you hear by Marcia how they all are at Hampton. With best wishes for you and yours, always truly your friend, Aunt Abby.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

31 March 1880: Albert C. Perkins (Exeter) to Ellen French. “Dear Madame: The sheaf and beautiful Easter lilies that you sent to Exeter last week were on Sunday placed on the Communion table of our church, where they remained during the service. It was known by many in the congregation that they came from you and that they expressed something of your regard for the memory of your father, a regard in which so many of us are glad to share. It was a bleak and stormy day and your message of remembrance did much to brighten our service and cheer the interior of our place of worship. It reminded us more deeply of our loss but it led more than one I am sure to renewed thankfulness for that lofty and noble life, and those traits of character that make our loss his gain. For one I am grateful, as I am confident many others are, that our eyes could thus rest upon these floral emblems before they were taken to the resting place of our friend. I am Madam very respectfully yours, Albert C. Perkins.”

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

1882

1 January 1882: Edward Tuck leaves position as partner in John Munroe & Co. for reasons of health. Edgar Lockwood made partner in his place. [TFP, Box 7, Folder 2]

1883

27 November 1883: Henry [Townsend ?] (Concord, NH) to Edward Tuck. “My dear Mr. Tuck, Last evening Laura, who is with us now, received from her Uncle Judge Nelson, a communication relating to his financial matters with her & with Dolly and Ellen (I enclose a copy of his letter); there with the letter cheques and receipts as he says. We were all delighted & there seems to be no reasonable doubt but that he is looking out for their interest, although so reticent; Ellen sends with this a cheque for Four Hundred dollars in payment of the balance of money you so kindly advanced for her when the bonds were bought this Autumn. She had intended using her January interest for that purpose, but now she is able to pay before and keep that when it comes. By January she will have Twenty five hundred dollars to invest and we should both thank you very much if you can give us some more advice about the investment. She does not care to make up a larger sum just now, but of course she may not be able to get an

investment which would take the exact \$2500 & a small amount more than that, she can easily make up. We shall be perfectly satisfied to do what you advise.”

“We have been looking forward to seeing you at Christmas, with great pleasure, and hope that Thanksgiving day will be a pleasant one for you. We are going up to Father’s on that day. Laura had a letter to-day from her Aunt Ellen, they were in London, all well, and soon to go to San Remo. Figaro is doing finely, he is as sound and happy as you could wish. I think his life here agrees with him, the dog biscuit, he will take all through the winter. He sends his love to his Master and Mistress in New York. We shall leave him in care of our girl, Kate, when we come to New York. She is sure to be careful with him. We have been considerably worried by reports from Exeter, but our latest news is best [sp.?]. Dolly seems now to be in earnest about getting well. All our friends in Concord are well and my business continues good. [word unclear] with love from both Ellen and me to our Aunt and Uncle. I am affectionately yours, Henry” [TFP, Box 2, Folder 3]

24 November 1883: Thomas Nelson (Bryant Building, 55 Liberty St., NYC) to Laura Nelson [copy made by Henry ____]. “My dear Laura: I enclose you three cheques: one for yourself for \$1332.93; and for Ellen for \$2658.15; and one for Mary for \$2901.08. These are the amounts which on our late accounting before he Surrogate of Westchester Co. were found due you and your sisters respectively over amounts received by you for the period covered by our accounting (which was up to the Summer of 1881) [word unclear] income of the estate. Please sign and get Ellen and Mary to sign the respective receipts, designed for you severally and return them to me. I write to you because you are the oldest and as I believe the business sister of the three. The reason for the difference in the accounts arises from the different amount paid to you on your accounts. I am glad to be able to send you this now that the time for the appeal from the decree (threatened by one of the parties) has passed. I believe your interests have been properly looked after, and that certain claims made in the accounting have rather redounded to your interest than for the Claimants. Although much labor and trouble was occasioned et cetera, we shall have another accounting some time in January, when I will try to see that the interests of yourself and sisters are protected. It gives me much pleasure to acknowledge the uniform affection of yourself and sisters as well as delicacy, if citations are sent as the law requires them to be sent, you will understand what they are for [passage unclear]. Thomas J. came home last week well and improved. I joy with you in the advent of Mary’s baby, with love to you all. Thomas Nelson

[P.S.] We are living at No. 127 Leffert Place, Brooklyn, where we will be glad to receive you and your sisters and friends whenever you choose to make us visit. T.N.

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 3]

[Undated, December 1883?] Aunt Abby Nudd (Hampton) to Abby Frye. Asking for money and support. “We are very glad to hear that Dolly has a little daughter – give her my love.” Asks Abby for advice in investing proceeds from sale of a wood-lot once belonging to father and

sacred to her. I wish that Ned could know how much I appreciate his noble regard for Father's memory – it brought the tears to my eyes.” She will send all she knows about the desk of her father, made by Capt. Simon Towle, who she thinks is a connection of Abby's father.

[TFP, Box 2, Folder 3]

14 January 1885: HFF (Treasury Dept., Washington) to Frank French. “After I left you Saturday, I went to the Custom House, then over the great bridge to Doctor Wells’, where I lunched and took the 5 P.M. train here.”

“My excursion was very pleasant and restful from my Department labors, and I especially enjoyed my visit at your house. Give my love to Ellen and Bessie, and the loveliest of all, little Elsie, who is an angel in the house.”

“Mr. McCulloch handed me your letter about the patent. While I have faith in your opinion, I think it best at my time of life to administer on what estate I have, rather than seek for more through speculation. Every patent of any value is the subject of long and expensive litigation to establish it, and my limitation is too short to justify engaging in such enterprises.”

“I am assuming that you were kind enough to offer me some share in the scheme, and I think you for remembering me. We are all in usual plight, not especially festive. The Underhills are here for the winter.”

“The Library bill is likely to come up soon, but nobody can foresee the result. We office-holders have our trunks always packed ready to move any day after the Ides of March. Our experiment with cholera germs and microbes so far, result in a practical joke! The critters after being thoroughly steamed, were found on experiment to be still live enough to kill rabbits! What next is the question?”

“We shall all be glad to see you and yours here at any time.”

“Your affectionate Uncle, H.F. French” [FFP Reel 11]

1898

10 February 1898: Ellen Tuck French of Newport, Rhode Island sold her one-third share in Amos Tuck's house on Front Street in Exeter to her brother Edward Tuck of New York City for \$5,000.00. Ellen signed the deed in New York City, where her signature was witnessed by Amos T. French [her son] and Amos Peirce. [Rockingham Register of Deeds, Book 562, Page 341]

29 November 1898: James O. Lyford (Office of the Naval Officer of Customs, Boston) to Edward Tuck (Paris). “I desire to enlist your assistance in a matter of interest to your family and contributory to the memory of your distinguished father. He was Naval Officer of this Port from 1861 to 1865, the first New Hampshire citizen to be appointed to this office. Since then the position has been held by New Hampshire citizens with the exception of four years. I am trying to secure the portraits of my predecessors to hang upon the walls of the Naval Office at the

Custom House. In the Collector's office, which is a coordinate office with this, are some fine paintings of Beard, Saltonstall and others who have been Collectors of the Port of Boston, none of them more prominent in our political history than your father and some of his early successors in the Naval Office."

"It seems to me there could be no more fitting place to perpetuate the memory of Amos Tuck than at the Custom House at Boston, the scene of his last official service."

"Will you, therefore, present to the Naval Office a portrait of your father to hang upon its walls. If so, I shall feel complimented in being instrumental in thus doing honor to one of New Hampshire's distinguished sons."

"A painting of one of your father's successors is soon to be prepared, and two others are promised at no distant day. Awaiting you replay....James O. Lyford, Naval Officer"

[Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LOC]

16 December 1898: Edward Tuck (82 Champs-Élysées, Paris) to James O. Lyford. "I have received your letter of 29th November, telling me of your efforts to secure the portraits of your predecessors in office to hang upon the walls of the Naval Office in the Boston Custom House, and asking me to present a portrait of my Father to form part of the collection."

"I regret to write anything that seem to you disobliging or non-appreciative, but I feel impelled to say frankly that I cannot accede to your request. My Father's holding of that position has most disagreeable associations in my mind. He was an intimate friend of Mr. Lincoln, and was appointed Naval Officer by him, as you doubtless know. In 1865 he was granted a leave of absence of three months to go abroad. I was U.S. Vice-Consul in Paris at the time, and he came here to see me. As soon as he sailed from New York advantage was taken of his absence by the political shysters who were then seeking absolute control of the Republican party in New Hampshire (and who have generally maintained that control ever since) to bring about his removal by all the dishonorable and dishonest means in their power. They succeed, and he was actually removed from office by Andrew Johnson during his official leave of absence, and while necessarily ignorant of and defenceless against the machinations of his enemies. He was stabbed in the back by leaders of the miserable political brood that sprang up in New Hampshire as soon as the splendid prestige of the Republican party, gained before and during the war, made it advantageous for all political adventurers to join it. My Father's feelings and pride were deeply wounded by the indecent manners in which he had been treated, and to his dying day he could never forget it."

"I hope, my dear Sir, that you will understand why, under the circumstances, I cannot take any interest in your proposition. I highly appreciate all the same your kind support of my Father and your most excellent intentions in this matter. Though not having the pleasure of your acquaintance, I have for you personally only feelings of perfect respect and esteem, knowing of you especially through Mr. Stevens and Mr. Corning. I am sure that you are incapable of approving any such methods as were employed by the professional politicians against my Father."

Thanking you for the highly appreciative terms in which you speak of him, and assuring you that I realize you may have sought only to do him honor, I am, yours very truly, Edward Tuck.” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

18 December 1898: Edward Tuck (Paris) to Ellen French. “The enclosed correspondence (copies) will explain itself. Do you think I was right? I would not care to see father’s portrait in a collection of N.H. nincompoops who succeeded him in that Naval Office.”

“You remember the circumstances better than I do and will come at me if I have made any mistake. I hope Lyford will show my letter to Bill Chandler. Lyford was recommended to me by Henry Stevens and a Mr. Corning of Concord, a very cultivated man. But the recommendation didn’t count. Affy, Ned” [Amos Tuck and family, FFP, LC]

12 October 1904: Edward Tuck to William Jewett Tucker. Ned’s letter accompanied his original gift for the Amos Tuck School. “In the conduct of the school to which you have done my father’s memory the honor of attaching his name, I trust that certain elementary but vital principles, on which he greatly dwelt in his advice to young men, whether entering upon a professional or business career, may not be lost sight of in the variety of technical subjects of which the regular curriculum is composed. Briefly, these principles or maxims are: absolute devotion to the career which one selects and to the interests of one’s superior officers or employers; the desire and determination to do more rather than less than one’s required duties; perfect accuracy and promptness in all undertakings, and absence from one’s vocabulary of the word ‘forget’; never to vary hair’s breadth from the truth or from the path of strictest honesty and honor, with perfect confidence in the wisdom of doing right as the surest means of achieving success. To the maxim that honesty is the best policy should be added another: that altruism is the highest and best form of egoism as a principle of conduct to be followed by those who strive for success n happiness in public or business relations as well as in those of private life.” [The Journal of the Academy of Management, Vol. 2, No. 1 (Apr 1959): 52.]