

Flourace June 18th 1853

My dear Marsh

Your letter has given us much satisfaction. as your letters always do although you have not this time told us how your dear wife is. we presume that she is not in Julia's health than she was - as you would have told us so.

Min Pain is now here, but will leave in a day or two. I do not yet know in what direction - We hope that George will come back here - for we miss him much. The children especially, had become quite attached to him. George has sterling qualities in him, which will be more fully developed some years hence. He is now fermenting into solid manhood. Some days are sure - that is - as much so as they ever will be at 18, but this is not the case with George. The materials are there, but not yet ripened - What he hears he lays up in his memory and although it may be contrary to his notions at the moment and he may dispute it, if it really is the thing he finally concludes so, and adopts it - He disputes after conviction in order to make a handsome retreat -

I remember how I used to do this at his age, and I am afraid that I have not quite got over it yet - owing probably, to certain lumps situated near the crown of the head, and just above the ears - George has these lumps large, but he will control them - they are most useful where under the helm of prudence - They constitute the furnace and boiler of the mind, causality and comparison - The engine - George's character will be made up late -