

Harvard class of 1850. He studied with Louis Agassiz and with Asa Gray, and he went on a Labrador expedition to collect data that would serve as the basis of a published work on the fishes of Nova Scotia and Labrador. He later became a doctor. One of the first gynecologists in the United States, he worked to decriminalize abortions and furthered the use of chloroform in obstetrics. Storer was married three times. In 1853 he married Emily Elvira Gilmore (1833-1872), daughter of Addison and Emily Patten Gilmore; in 1872 he married Emily's sister Augusta Charlotte Gilmore (1841-1874); in 1876 he married Frances S. Mackenzie (d. 1910).

<sup>1</sup> David Humphrys Storer (1804-1891), son of Woodbury and Margaret Boyd Storer, graduated from Bowdoin College in 1822 and from the Harvard Medical School in 1825. In 1829 he married Abby Jane Brewer (1810-1885), daughter of Thomas and Abigail Stone Brewer. Specializing in obstetrics, Storer helped to found the Tremont Street Medical School in Boston and joined the Harvard Medical School after it was reorganized in 1854. A distinguished naturalist, Storer published reports on the fish of Massachusetts (see pp. 294-295, note 1).

*Copy-text:* ALS (Dawson)

*Editor's Note*

This letter is addressed "Henry D. Thoreau, Esq. / Concord, / Mass.," postmarked "BOSTON {*illegible*} JAN 25," and endorsed "H. Storer".

*Author's Alterations*

Father] father  
in] *interlined above cancelled on*

*From Horace Greeley*

*February 5, 1847*

New York, Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>, 1847.<sup>a</sup>

My Dear Thoreau:

Although your letter only came to hand to-day, I attended to its subject yesterday, when I was in Philadelphia on my way home from Washington. Your article is this moment in type, and will appear about the 20<sup>th</sup> inst. as *the leading article* in Graham's Mag. for next month. Now don't object to this, nor be unreasonably sensitive at

the delay.<sup>1</sup> It is immensely more important to you that the article should appear thus (that is, if you have any literary aspirations,) than it is that you should make a few dollars by issuing it in some other way. As to lecturing, you have been at perfect liberty to deliver it as a lecture a hundred times if you had chosen—the more the better. It is really a good thing, and I will see that Graham pays you fairly for it. But its appearance there is worth far more to you than money.

I know there has been too much delay, and have done my best to obviate it. But I could not. A Magazine that pays, and which it is desirable to be known as a contributor to, is always crowded with articles, and has to postpone some for others of even less merit. I<sup>a</sup> do thus myself with good things that I am not required to pay for.

Thoreau, do not think hard<sup>a</sup> of Graham. Do not try to stop the publication of your article. It is best as it is. But just set down and write a like article about Emerson, which I will give you \$25 for if you cannot do better with it; then one about Hawthorne at your leisure, &c. &c. I will pay you the money for each of these articles on delivery, publish them when and how I please, leaving to you the copyright expressly. In a year or two, if you take care not to write faster than you think, you will have the material of a volume worth publishing, and then we will see what can be done.

There is a text somewhere in St. Paul—my Scriptural reading is getting rusty—which says ‘Look not back to the things which are behind, but rather to those which are before,’<sup>2</sup> &c. Commending this to your thoughtful appreciation, I am,

Yours, &c.

Horace Greeley.

Regards to Mr<sup>a</sup>. and Mrs. Emerson.

*Correspondent:* See p. 280.

<sup>1</sup> T was unhappy with Griswold's delay in publishing “Thomas

Carlyle and His Works" and about the decision to publish it in two installments (see pp. 279-280).

<sup>2</sup> Phil. 3:13-14: "but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

*Copy-text:* ALS (VtMiM, Greeley/1)

*Published:* HDT 1882, 222-224; Cor 1958, 173-174

*Editor's Note*

This letter is addressed "Henry D. Thoreau, Esq. / care of R. W. Emersons / Esq. / Concord, / Massachusetts," postmarked "U.S. EXPRESS MAIL N.Y. N. YORK FEB 5", and endorsed "H. Greeley".

*Author's Alterations*

Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>, 1847.] *interlined above cancelled* Jan  
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Mr] Mrs

*To Horatio Robinson Storer*

*February 15, 1847*

Concord Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> 1847

Dear Sir,

I have not forgotten your note which I received some-time since. Though I live in the woods I am not so attentive an observer of birds as I was once, but am satisfied if I get an occasional sight of or sound from them. My pursuits at present are such that I am not very likely to meet with any specimens which you will not have obtained. Moreover, I confess to a little squeamishness on the score of robbing their nests, though I could easily go to the length of abstracting an egg or two gently, now and then, and if the advancement of science obviously demanded it might be carried even to the extreme of deliberate murder.

I have no doubt that you will observe a greater number of species in or near the College Yard than I can here. I have noticed that in an open country, where there are but few trees, there are more attractions for many species