

To Thaddeus William Harris

October 23, 1854

Concord Oct 23^d '54

Sir,

I return herewith the "Bhagvat Geeta":¹ Will you please send me the "Vishnoo Purana" a single volume—translated by Wilson.²

Yrs respect^{ly}

Henry D. Thoreau.

Correspondent: See p. 88.

¹ *Bhagavadgītā. The Bhāgvāt-gēētā; or, Dialogues of Krēshnā and Ārjōōn.*

² *Purānas. Viṣṇupurāṇa. The Vishṇu Purāna: A System of Hindu Mythology and Tradition.*

Copy-text: ALS (NN-BGC, Henry David Thoreau Collection, 1837-1917, Series III)

Published: Cor 1958, 346

Editor's Note

This letter is addressed "Librarian / of / Harvard University".

From Charles Brockway Bernard

October 26, 1854

Akron Oct 26. 1854

Henry D. Thoreau Esq

Concord Mass—

Dear Sir

Seeing your name announced as a Lecturer,¹ I write you a line to see if your services could be secured to give a Lecture before the Library Association of this place.²

We can give #50—

Thinking you might have other calls this way, we thought we would add our solicitation with the rest

Yours Respectfully

C B Bernard

Cor Sec

Correspondent: Charles Brockway Bernard (1828-1893), son of Rev. David Bernard and Harriet Billings Bernard of Warsaw, New York, moved to Ohio in 1845. He was first a schoolteacher and then the auditor of Summit County. He became a lawyer, served in the Civil War, then moved to Cleveland in 1865. In 1858, Bernard married Mary E. Gardiner (1835-1920). T did not go to Akron.

¹ In an article titled "The Lecture Season," which appeared in the September 20, 1854, issue of the *New-York Daily Tribune*, T's name was included in a list of lecturers available for 1854-1855. See "T's Lectures after *Walden*" 1996, p. 253.

² The Akron Library Association was not incorporated until 1866, but Bernard's invitation shows that it existed in some form much earlier. T did not succeed in making lecture arrangements with Bernard.

Copy-text: ALS (NN-BGC, Henry David Thoreau Collection, 1837-1917, Series IV)

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To Charles Sumner

October 30, 1854

Concord Oct. 30th '54

Charles Sumner Esq.

Dear Sir,

At this late date I would acknowledge the receipt long ago of three speeches by yourself, and the Coast Survey Report for '52,¹—and lately of the 2nd Report on the Amazon.² I heartily thank you for them all, and assure you that they have not in any sense been missent. I am quite greedy for the information which they contain. These faithful reports, with their admirable maps and plates, are *some* atonement for the misdeeds of our Government.³

Yrs truly

Henry D. Thoreau.

Correspondent: See p. 76.

¹ *Report of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey, Showing the Progress of the Survey during the Year 1852.* The portion for the