

Cambridge, Jan 22 - '92 93

My dear Smith.

It is Monday noon and I will write you something now while I have a good chance. I have several commutes before lunch + after that I must find upon Psychology. The next year examinations will begin Wednesday, and my first (French) comes Thursday. College shuts down for about those weeks in which time the students are supposed to be at work. I have made good resolutions but do not expect they will amount to much. They never do, as regards my studies. For instance, in French I am supposed to be thoroughly acquainted with the first book of La Fontaine's fables and able to quote four of them from memory, Le Foin d'Alouette, (Warreane (sic) Sans) "Les Fois Colombe" (G. de Puybrenne) and some old plays. But the bulk of the exam. will be the translation of English into French, and that is where I am generally at

sea. The former does not worry me - though I shall probably make a touch of the composition. I can get through the translation in some way or other. - I am very happy to say that I am at last able to send you a copy of the "Nation". My first number came Saturday, so you may best of all look for it with my letter - that is when I send it. I will try to be reasonably regular however, and hope you will find no cause for complaint. - No, I don't quite understand the paragraph in the "Critic" about Packard and Hardy. I should think that was enough to damn a paper of so character as a reliable sheet for reference. There is no excuse for such a blunder. It may be a printer's error, but I can hardly understand what the proof-reader was doing. I doubt if you find the copy of the "Nation" very entertaining; it is not a star number, and for that matter I am sure that I shall have to educate myself into reading it. Did

you ever meet a fellow brought up on the New York Tribune? If you have you will understand what I mean. — I have not been doing much of any reading lately — except an occasional story in the magazines, which I am getting more and more disgusted with every day. I think Harpers is really at the head now, and there is much to be said that nobody but a scholar or a fanatic would care to read. — I am getting more and more awed in Rudyard Kipling's poems, and I was glad to read of him in the "Athenaeum's" summary of my English literature for the past year. In listing the mentions Tompson first, William Watson, and then the "Barred" poem Ballads, mentioning in particular "Tommy" and "Mandalay" — "on the road to Mandalay, where the flying jinks play etc" — "Come you back you British soldier, come you back to Mandalay." And, by the way did you ever think what a figure Kipling and his kind must cut among the Vermont farmers?

especially when he (Kipling) goes to get his mail,
I have been hoping that the English club here would
get him to lecture, but have not heard it mentioned.
After writing the "Rhyme of the Three Captains," it seems
a little inconsistent for him to live in America,
but ~~it~~ it must be confessed that he writes a good deal
for effect — and he generally succeeds.

Well, the land of my club has come together
and there was a time when I could tell when they would
be in that relation again, but I could not now to save
my life. I can see occasional buildings with drifting
into Memorial from my window, and I will get
on my goloats and and try to find something to be
thankful for. Think I shall blow in five cents and have
some fried hasty-jawing. That is about the only
thing one can depend upon here. Hope to get
a letter to-morrow morning.

Yours as ever,
E. A. T.