

Transcription_HSP_17170

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32. East 37th St.

My dear little boy-

I was very glad that you didn't undertake that long journey out to the depot yesterday, and of course understood your reasons perfectly for not doing so. Mrs. Boulton was at our house yesterday morning and hoped to see you in the afternoon that she might deliver an invitation to

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you personally to spend the time that you will be in New York with them. You have no doubt by this time received Will's letter to that effect. I wish I could go there, but of course you had rather stay with Mr. Hans Frederick Christian Augustus Wilhelm Johan Rembrandt Haas. Aunt Sallie wants us to dine with us Saturday evening. She said Friday at first but afterwards thought you probably wouldn't have time to get here- so will you come on

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Saturday, dear little boy? I did feel homesick for you yesterday, but it doesn't seem so bad to day as I have the prospect of seeing my boy so soon. We trotted around this morning to Goupil's, the Decorative Art, and one or two other places of the kind. My proofs came up on Tuesday, and, as there is a diversity of opinion on the subject, I'm not going

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to send them to you, but will wait to ask your opinion when I see you. Now dear please work too hard over the [W.N.C.?], and be sure never to do anything of the kind in the evening. Good bye dear. I hope to hear from you before night.

Your loving

Daisy.

P.S. I hope you will read the enclosed with the attention it merits.

April 6th-

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[News clippings]

The New York World says of the new edition of Worcester's unabridged dictionary: "A new edition of Worcester's Dictionary has just been published by Messrs. J.B. Lippincott & Co. Worcester's is, in the estimation of all scholars, the best dictionary extant for general use. There is certainly no real comparison, possible between it and its

most popular rival. The office of a dictionary is, of course, not to make innovations, but simply to register the best usage in spelling and pronunciation. This Worcester does, and this its rival conspicuously fails to do. In definitions and in citations no modern dictionary approaches the acuteness, in the one case, and the scholarship in the other, of ~~Johnson~~ ~~illegible~~, but in these respects also the superiority of Worcester to its rival is marked. It is on every account a matter of congratulation that this revised edition has been brought out, not before it was urgently needed. The old electrotypes are retained, and the new matter is added in the form of an appendix. This arrangement has obvious inconveniences, and it seems as if, in a work the demand for which is so steady, the publishers might have afforded to incorporate the additions with the body of the volume, instead of merely appending them to it. But with this exception, the work shows liberal and intelligent publishing throughout, as well as judicious editing. The new matter would of itself make a large quarto of some 300 pages and so much of it as is an addition to the dictionary contains some 12,500 words. Of these some 11,000 are new. The remainder are revisions of definitions, or supplementary definitions, in cases in which words have taken on new meanings since the latest edition of the dictionary was published. The new words seem, so far as we have examined the work, to be for the most part such as really demand admission. The definitions seem to be clear and good. In addition to all this, there is a table of synonyms, which is reasonably complete and which serves as a very good substitute for the work of the useful Roget. A novelty in the edition is the introduction of color-printing. The arms of the states and the flags and naval ensigns of all nations are presented in their proper colors. Altogether the

edition is well worthy of the important and valuable work which is revised."--The Nation says of it: "The lapse of more than twenty years since the last edition of Worcester's Quarto Dictionary would, if this were our only English lexicon, lend great interest to the edition just brought out by J.B. Lippincott & Co. But two editions of Webster in the mean time have forestalled by far the greater part of what the Worcesterian dredge could possibly bring to its own surface for the first time. Whoever, therefore, compares the Webster supplement of 1879 (reviewed in the Nation of August 3 of that year) and the Worcester supplement now before us will find comparatively few neologisms not common to both, though the addition--of titles and of meanings--to the original vocabulary of Worcester is, of course, very considerable. Worcester has now 'caught up with absinth, carpet-bagger, to boss (but not the substantive boss in the political sense, which Webster equally lacks), to interview and interviewer, negative (photographic), nexus, under-shirt (what a suggestion of ignorance of this article in 1859!) etc. Ablative, too, meaning the grammatical case, is admitted for the first time, and non-resistant (as a substantive), both of which seem tardy arrivals; just as astigmatism, though occurring in the 1859 edition of Worcester, first appears in the Webster supplement of 1879. A good deal belated, also, is nature-printing, a term certainly familiar in 1859, yet still overlooked by Webster. In Worcester only do we find John Bright's Adullamite, together with Nirvana, Upanishads, and Vehmgericht; recent inventions like artotype (probably a bastard formation and not, as suggested, a corruption of 'autotype') audiphone and photophone; ante-natal, unmoral, etc. A significant proportion of the words in the Worcester supplement is derived from Chaucer and other old English writers. The remaining feature of the new edition is a very welcome one--a list of synonyms of words in common use; and we must also praise the fair and open typography of the volume."

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D.K.

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