

Amherst, Dec. 22, 1856

Rev. Dr. Will.

Dear Sir,

It is my melancholy duty to inform you of the sad fate, which has befallen your friend & mine, Socrates. We left our Athens boxes in the care of Mr. Brown, acting U. S. Consul at Constantinople. After waiting some time for an American ship from that port, we sent them to Smyrna, whence they at length found a passage to Boston, where they arrived only a week or two since.

Long delay had greatly increased my impatience to see my old friend, the Moral Philosopher. Judge of my surprise & horror, when

on opening the box, I found
his skull literally broken to frag-
ments. My heart was almost broken
at the sight of such a catastrophe.

But thanks to the profound & almost
miraculous skills of ~~the~~ best sur-
geons & physicians, I am happy
to inform you, that the broken
skull has been repaired & our
honored friend is now in a fair
way to complete recovery. You
would little think, to look at him,
that he had ever experienced such
a calamity. Before the commencement
of our next Lecture Series, I expect
to see him enthroned in my recita-
tion room between Homer &
Demosthenes, a favorite teacher of
my classes, & a perpetual memento
of the fall of Athens.

But, my Dear Sir,

I do not need such a souvenir
to remind me of your kindness
& hospitality. I often think of
those tea-drinkings, & how much
I enjoyed, & how much at home
I felt with yourself & Mrs Hill
& the other American ladies. They
are among the pleasantest recollec-
tions of my tour. Please remember
me to the ladies; & also to the
gentlemen at Athens, for a pleasant
introduction to so many of whom I
was indebted to you - particularly
to Messrs Wise, Paylas & Kampare.

Will you also give my kind regards
to Dr King, & tell him I passed a
pleasant evening with his daughter,
who spent her Thanksgiving in Amherst.

It would give me the greatest pleasure
to hear from you, & through you from your beloved
Greek. Yours being truly W. L. Tyler