Boston Dec. 2. 1825

My dear Mrs Gibbs

Altho' you have quite convinced me of the infinite importance of a Thumb & that your humorous manner of treating the subject made me laugh, placing it on a level higher than the Pope's Toe, and the welfare of your domestic comforts depended on it & equally that of his Holiness was no short affair [illegible] get along so much better without his toe than you can without yr thumb that the point of value cannot be questioned — but joking apart, I lamented your accident, the more so, as I can speak feelingly on the subject having met with the same accident in my right thumb about a month since & still have great dexterity in turning a lock &c. I think however that your confinement with an inflam.n of the lungs by far more serious, & I hope & trust that you are quite recovered from it — Your letter was a perfect treat to me, it was so long that I had not heard from you nor of your family, or Father — It is a long time since I have seen your Sisters here, but I hear that they are well, & that Mr. Channings health is much restored. We have had another great Fire here, but still, the City has improved wonderfully & so many new buildings & streets have been added to it that you will be quite astonished to behold them: I will not give up the hope that your presence will cheer me this winter & that we shall yet have many of those social cozy visits